



Cut Out Youth Homelessness

Schools Handbook

lighthousefoundation.org.au/how-to-help/community-fundraising/cut-out-youth-homelessness





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Acknowledgements

This kit was created for teachers and coordinators leading a Cut Out Youth Homelessness campaign in their school.

The handbook is aimed at secondary students aged 11-18 years.

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Registering for Cut Out Youth Homelessness

Overview

The statewide Cut Out Youth Homelessness (COYH) concept for schools is founded on equal prioritising of student learning and community service. It is a thoughtfully planned service opportunity that meets an urgent community need.

Over the duration of being embedded in your school, the content and issues that your students (and the broader school community) will engage with allow them to be active change makers.

The ongoing impact of this campaign includes the immediate awareness of the issue of youth homelessness at a local level. The dual fundraising component allows for tangible learning as students grapple with the idea that everyone has a role to play.

Key Benefits:

- Focused youth topic
- Curriculum-aligned
- Promotes making a difference to vulnerable young people's lives in your local community
- Rich learning experiences
- Local and widespread issue impacting all ages





About Lighthouse Foundation

At Lighthouse, we're creating pathways to end youth homelessness, together.

We provide young people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, with the care and support they need to heal, thrive and achieve a lifelong sense of belonging.

Through community collaboration and our evidence-based Lighthouse Model of Care, we create therapeutic homes and deliver tailored support programs to transform the lives of young people.

Our Lighthouse Homes, Foster and Family Care and In Community care environments ensure our support reaches the children and youth who need it, where they need it, for as long as they need it.

Lighthouse is a registered charity with ATO endorsement for all Tax Concessions. We are non-denominational and independent, as well as accredited to provide homelessness services by the Quality Improvement Council Ltd.

Getting Started

Visit Lighthouse Foundation's website lighthousefoundation.org.au and find the Community Fundraising page under the "How to Help" section.

Follow the simple steps to create an account for your school (if you haven't already)

[SIGN UP](#) [CREATE FUNDRAISING PAGE](#) [SELECT DATES](#) [INVITE OTHER SCHOOLS](#)

Thank you for registering to be the representative for your School to take part in Curt Out Youth Homelessness for 2024. There is support available for you to guide you through the process and ask questions. A Community Fundraiser manager is available during business hours (Monday-Thursday), contact Hollie Fields via hollie@lighthousefoundation.org.au or 03 9093 7500.

SIGN UP SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE

Create your account to manage your fundraising page below

[CREATE ACCOUNT](#) [ALREADY HAVE AN ACCOUNT](#)

TEACHER DETAILS

Title *

First Name *

Last Name *

Email Address *

Password *

Phone *



During this process, Lighthouse Foundation will capture information on:

- Location of your school
- Co-ordinating teacher details
- The year levels participating and number of students/staff
- Your preferred date for the campaign to be launched
- Key information on storage and delivery of materials

Approval Process

Once you have registered your school's interest in hosting the Cut Out Youth Homelessness campaign at your school, we will contact you to confirm the date.

We will also liaise with the coordinating staff member to ensure the campaign has sufficient time to be planned and implemented.

Promoting the campaign to your school community

Once you have completed the registration process and have received confirmation of the campaign at your school from Lighthouse Foundation, it's time to promote the campaign to your school community.

Some of the most important steps you may like to follow:

- Adding the campaign to your school calendar to ensure your school community knows when your campaign will take place
- Sharing information about youth homelessness and Lighthouse Foundation with your community
- Organising an announcement in an assembly or year level meeting to promote the campaign
- Posters and social media tiles containing fast facts about youth homelessness have been created to include in your school newsletter or website
- If your campaign is student-led make sure your teachers and/or Principal are aware of the campaign

Checklist

	Check the dates for the campaign don't clash with other major school events
	Confirm the number of cut outs needed to represent the number of youth homelessness in your school's council area. If your school has multiple campuses, you may like to run the campaign simultaneously on each campus
	Ensure appropriate storage at your school for the cut outs once delivered (eg. locked cupboard, suitable size, under cover to avoid them being damaged or stolen)
	You may like to consider organising a guest speaker to speak on youth homelessness before or during the campaign to help raise awareness of the youth homelessness crisis in Victoria
	Plan your campaign. Make sure all staff and teachers who need to be involved in the campaign are aware of the campaign dates, purpose and fundraising targets.
	Check parents/guardians have access to the QR code and website link the week before the campaign

FAQs

How much should I donate?

Our dollar handles are only a guide of the necessities a young person may need to assist in their journey of finding a safe home. You may choose to donate more, knowing that the difference will be ongoing and life changing. At this stage the dollar handles range from \$2-\$20, however you can choose to give a higher amount using the 'Other' function.

Where do the donations go?

Lighthouse Foundation is committed to making lasting change to young people. With over 45,000 young people experiencing homelessness every night, these funds will go towards our various programs which you may like to read more about.

Can I donate more than once?

There is no donation limit, you might like to support multiple of the Cut Out Youth Homelessness figures. There are 10 figures to choose from in the donation portal however



any fundraising you do can benefit all the young people who are supported by Lighthouse Foundation.

Are there any incentives to donate?

Each school that participates will receive a certificate in recognition of their fundraising efforts. Currently we do not have any prizes for top fundraisers, however we know the cause to make a difference will be a big incentive.

Will donations stop on a certain date?

Lighthouse is grateful to all the participating schools and to recognise the impact of this campaign fundraising is open for one month after the Cut Outs leave your school. Ideally most fundraising occurs during the Cut Out Youth Homelessness week.

Will I receive a receipt?

Yes. You will receive a tax deductible receipt upon payment. Any issues with this can be directed to Lighthouse Foundation by contacting reception@lighthousefoundation.org.au

I want to support Lighthouse Foundation in another way

We always welcome enquiries to host a fundraising event or to raise funds in different ways. Find an event, choose a challenge, get your school involved, or think of your own way to fundraise for Lighthouse and the young people we support every day. Every dollar you raise will go towards our life-changing programs with youth experiencing or at-risk of homelessness. Visit lighthousefoundation.org.au/how-to-help/community-fundraising for ideas on how you can get involved.





Hosting Cut Out Youth Homelessness

When the week of your Cut Out Campaign has arrived, it is important to ensure all the steps run smoothly.

Read the “Cut Out Youth Homelessness Tips” enclosed with your delivery.

Delivery of Cut Outs:

Check your delivery and confirmed number of cut outs have arrived the week prior to your campaign start date.

The delivery will be completed by a Lighthouse Foundation Fundraising team member or other representative during business hours. It would be beneficial to provide any other essential information to make this process run smoothly.

Ideally deliveries will be made to reception to allow easy unpacking of the delivery.

The Cut Outs will be delivered in flat packed bundles with the number of Cut Outs listed.

Please double check the number of cut outs is correct and contact Lighthouse Foundation if there are any issues.

Setting Up

On the first day of the campaign, all Cut Outs must be set up in the desired location. The preferred location for this campaign is an oval or gym or similar space which is visible to the school community.

We recommend the location you choose for this campaign remains the same for the length of the campaign.

To display your Cut Outs, open up tabs at the back and press down to stand. Where possible, the Cut Outs should be laid on flat ground and may need to be reinforced with a cable tie or a tent peg supplied in the complimentary kit to your school.

An A0 corflute sign about Cut Out Youth Homelessness campaign is to be displayed alongside the Cut Outs to help raise awareness of this innovative campaign.

Once the setup is complete, we encourage your school to take photos and share with your school community to engage them in the campaign.



Photo of how to set up Cut Out Youth Homelessness



Side view of Cut Outs



Cut Out Back (collapsed)





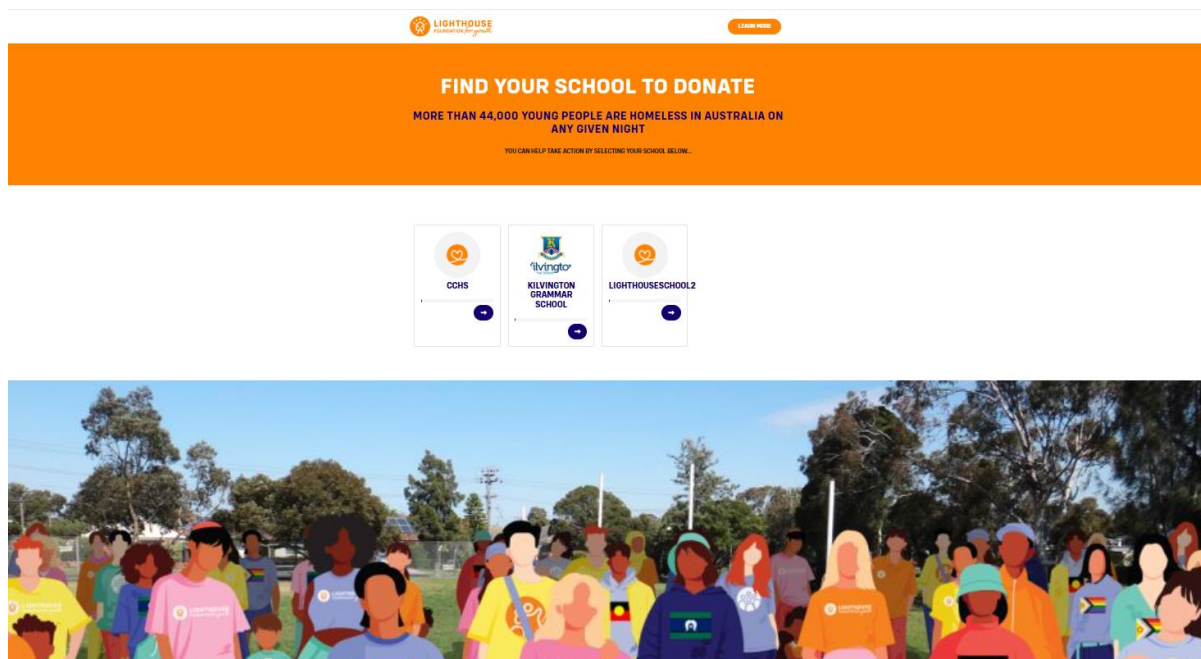
Raising awareness

Please share information about your Cut Out Youth Homelessness campaign across your various communications channels prior to, during and after the campaign to help raise awareness of the issue of youth homelessness and your school's campaign to help end youth homelessness within your school community.

Our donation platform is the go to place for regular updates and to connect with the stories of children and young people at risk of homelessness who are the faceless cut outs of this campaign.

Donation page

Your school will have access to a QR code that links to your school's fundraising page. If needed, you can also search and find your school at fundraise.lighthousefoundation.org.au/coyh-donate











Media

A range of social tiles, newsletter templates and other graphics are available to use for your staff and/or marketing department. We also encourage your school to share photos of your students engaging with the cut outs and campaign. Don't forget to tag @lighthousefoundation and include #CutOutYouthHomelessness when you share your campaign on social media!

Fundraising

When setting up your school's profile, you were given a template to fill in the gaps regarding the number of cut outs your school is hosting and the length of your campaign. Before the campaign starts do one final check of the information to ensure the best possible outcome in reaching your fundraising target.

Dollar Handles

Young Person	Handle Amount	Item \$ can go towards	Visual imagery/ specific cut out
Kamira	\$5	Sanitary products	
Ana	\$8	Top up public transport card for getting to school/Uni/work	
Billy	\$15	Teddy or soft toy to cuddle at night	
Hayden	\$18	Healthy lunch for school/warm meal for dinner	
Binh	\$20	A cake so I can celebrate my birthday like other kids	
Sally and Annie	\$50	A bottle and supply of formula to feed my baby	
Sam	\$75	Buying art and decorations to make my room a sanctuary	
Matt	\$150	Counselling/therapy sessions to support me in healing from trauma/abuse	

5 Day Recommendation

Day One	All Cut Outs to be displayed at your school
Day Two	Keep track of donations and remove the number of Cut Out's from your school's oval for a visual representation of the number of young people your school has supported.
Day Four	Check donations again and share the number you are up to with your community. For example, if 100 donations have been made in the campaign week, remove 100 Cut Outs from your display.
Day Five	<p>On the last day of your campaign, encourage your local community to donate as much as they can to make a difference to vulnerable young people's lives.</p> <p>If you have more than 500 donations (no matter the amount) you can remove all the cut outs and celebrate your school's fundraising efforts.</p>

Set a target number of donations for your school. This can be based on the number of young people who are homeless in your local area or the number of students in Years 7-12.

Support Services

Learning about social justice issues in society can be overwhelming and sometimes emotionally impact on young people as they can feel helpless. If the students or young people you work on this campaign find the information difficult to process, we encourage you to reach out to the following free services.

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800	Telephone counselling service for ages 5-25	24 hours/7 days
1800 RESPECT	National sexual assault, domestic and family violence counselling	24 hours/7 days
HeadSpace 1800 650 890	Young people aged 12-25	9am-1am
Beyond Blue 1300 223 636	Brief telephone support and counselling	24 hours/ 7 days



Opening Doors 1800 825 955	If you are homeless or at risk of homelessness	24 hours/7 days
Lifeline 13 11 14	If you are feeling suicidal, or want to support someone who is, talk to a crisis counsellor now	24 hours/7 days
Ask Izzy <u>askizzy.org.au</u>	Find the help you need now and nearby	24 hours/7 days
Your School Counsellor or other Support Staff	If you have a concern	During School hours

Completing Cut Out Youth Homelessness

Teacher Resources

Lighthouse Foundation has developed additional materials to be utilised in classrooms with Victorian students. We encourage schools to consider using the first series of worksheets which would be best completed by students at the start and end of the campaign to help measure the impact of the service learning.

See appendices for worksheets.

Conclusion of Fundraising

Once your school has finished the campaign, there is still time to donate. We hope that as a community you feel compelled to share the concept with friends and family to help more young homeless Australians in need.

Lighthouse's fundraising platform will remain open for another month post hosting. It is possible your school may complete Cut Out Youth Homelessness again soon.

Returning the Cut Outs to Lighthouse Foundation

After the campaign, the collection of the cut outs will be organised with the teacher representative who registered for the campaign.



This will most likely be in the week after as most campaigns run for 5 days (Monday to Friday).

If your cut outs were displayed for the duration of the campaign, we appreciate that they may be a little worn. Please get in touch with the Community Fundraising Manager, Hollie Fields, if any damages or repairs are needed.

Certificates and Awards

Each school will be given their total fundraising amount towards the end of their Cut Out Youth Homelessness campaign. Once this has occurred, the school will be awarded a Certificate of Participation in the campaign. We will also celebrate our two champion schools with a Top Fundraiser award at the conclusion of the year.

Appendices

The next section of the handbook includes the raw data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics with data from the last Census (2021)

For the purpose of this campaign, the data used is the collected from All-homeless persons (as seen for each council area below)

From this number, the approximate number of youth homelessness is calculated using the national average 23% for ages 12-24 year olds.

Definitions

The ABS uses six operational groups for presenting estimates of people experiencing homelessness on Census night. These groups are:

- people living in improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out
- people living in supported accommodation for the homeless
- people staying temporarily with other households
- people living in boarding houses
- people in other temporary lodgings
- people living in 'severely' crowded dwellings.

The ABS also compiles estimates from Census data for the following three groups of people who may be marginally housed but are not classified as homeless:

- people living in other crowded dwellings
- people in other improvised dwellings
- people marginally housed in caravan parks.

Regional LGA's Statistics for Cut Out

LGA Name	Total number of Homeless People (122,494)	Total number of young homeless people 23% of national youth homelessness statistic Decimals have been rounded to the nearest whole number
Alpine	24	6
Ararat	41	9
Ballarat	638	147
Bass Coast	66	15
Baw Baw	137	32
Benalla	21	5
Buloke	4	1
Campaspe	113	26
Central Goldfields	24	6
Colac Otway	95	22
Corangamite	32	7
East Gippsland	214	49
Gannawarra	20	5
Glenelg	99	23
Golden Plains	23	5
Greater Bendigo	571	131
Greater Geelong	1,546	356



Hepburn	39	9
Hindmarsh	32	7
Horsham	95	22
Indigo	12	3
Latrobe	392	90
Loddon	22	5
Macedon Ranges	83	19
Mansfield	19	4
Mildura	348	80
Mitchell	117	27
Moir	78	18
Moorabool	94	22
Mount Alexander	41	9
Moyne	33	8
Murrindindi	41	9
Northern Grampians	31	7
Pyrenees	5	1
Queenscliff	0	0
South Gippsland	50	11
Southern Grampians	45	10
Strathbogie	34	8
Surf Coast	55	13
Swan Hill	234	54
Towong	5	1

Wangaratta	125	29
Warrnambool	184	42
Wellington	126	29
West Wimmera	0	0
Wodonga	215	49
Yarriambiack	18	4

Metropolitan LGA's Statistics for Cut Out

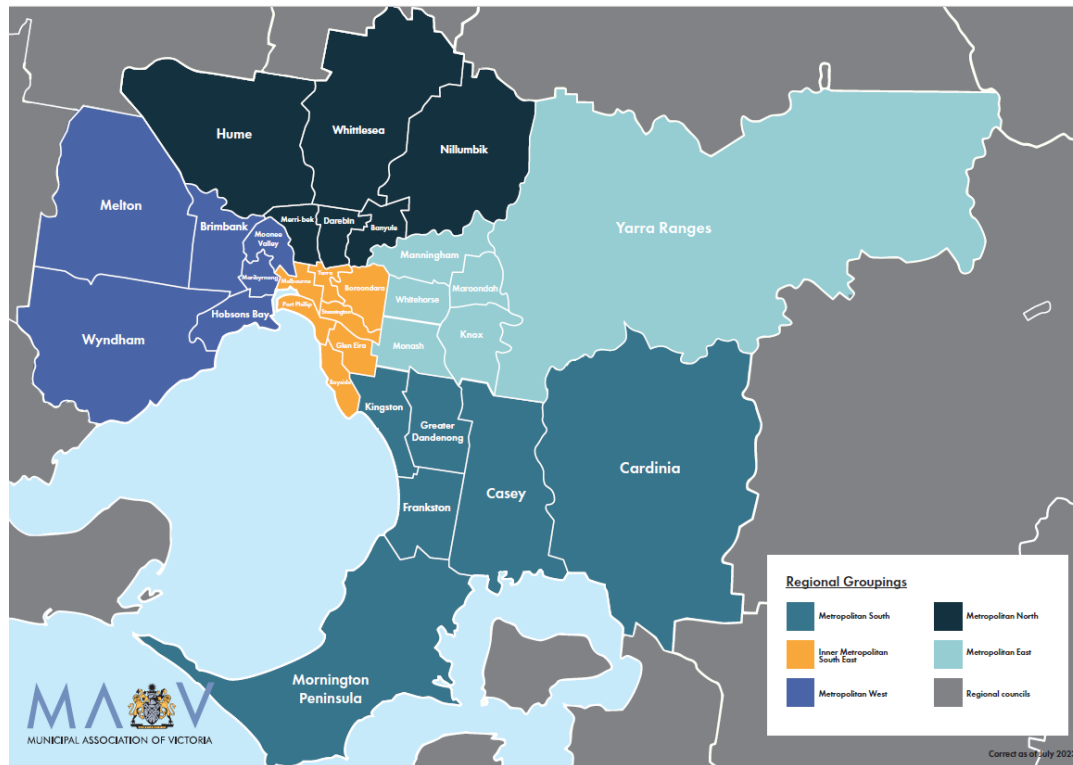
LGA Name	Total number of homeless people	Total number of young homeless people
Port Phillip	1067	245
Banyule	535	123
Bayside	147	34
Boroondara	320	74
Brimbank	1528	351
Cardinia	337	78
Casey	1852	426
Darebin	102	23
Frankston	785	181
Glen Eira	561	129
Greater Dandenong	2,366	544
Hobson's Bay	297	68
Hume	1,147	264
Kingston	544	125
Knox	427	98



Manningham	178	41
Maribyrnong	821	189
Maroondah	474	109
Melbourne	1166	268
Melton	569	131
Monash	1696	390
Monnee Valley	321	74
Moreland	712	164
Mornington Peninsula	421	97
Nilumbik	80	18
Port Phillip	1067	245
Stonnington	463	106
Whitehorse	1225	282
Whittlesea	854	196
Wyndham	1016	234
Yarra	571	131
Yarra Ranges	409	94

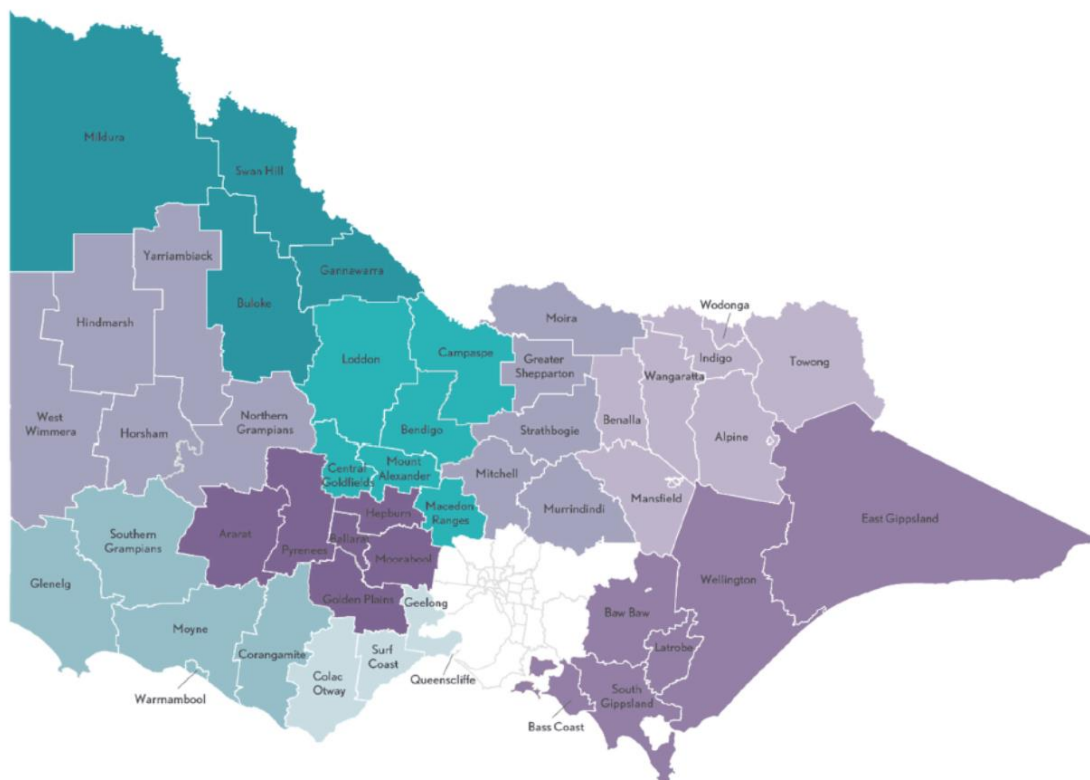


Map A: Breakdown of LGA for Metropolitan Melbourne





Map B: Victorian State LGA map



Statistics

- 122,494 people were estimated to be experiencing homelessness on Census night in 2021 (10 August 2021).
- Males made up 55.9% of people experiencing homelessness; females made up 44.1%.
- 23.0% of all people experiencing homelessness were aged from 12 to 24 years:
- 25,504 (20.8%) were aged from 25 to 34 years
- 17,646 (14.4%) were aged under 12 years

Young females had a homelessness rate of 70 people per 10,000 in 2021, up from 68 in 2016. Young females were more likely than males to be:

- in supported accommodation for the homeless (26.6%, compared with 20.3% of males)
- staying temporarily with other households (9.9%, compared with 8.5% of males).

Young males had a homelessness rate of 71 people per 10,000 in 2021, down from 77 in 2016. Young males were more likely than females to be:

- living in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out (2.3%, compared with 2.0% of females)
- living in boarding houses (15.0%, compared with 10.4% of females)
- living in 'severely' crowded dwellings (52.0%, compared with 49.1% of females).

Of the 122,494 people experiencing homelessness in Australia in 2021:

- Two in five (39.1%) were living in 'severely' crowded dwellings
- One in five (19.8%) were in supported accommodation for the homeless
- One in six (18.1%) living in boarding houses.

Between 2016 and 2021, there was a:

- 26.5% increase in people living in boarding houses
- 14.4% increase in people in supported accommodation for the homeless
- 6.9% decrease in people living in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out
- 6.3% decrease to living in 'severely' crowded dwellings.

The decrease in people living in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out and the increase in people in other temporary lodgings may be partly associated with measures put in place by local and state governments in response to COVID-19. The increases in people living in boarding houses and people in other temporary lodging are also partly associated with improvements in data quality through greater use of administrative data.



Student Worksheet #1

Introduction

Name:

Year Level:

Data of Cut Out Youth Homelessness campaign:

Briefly outline your current understanding of homelessness in Australia.

What council area is your school located in?

Insert school name and council name

Total number of young people who are homeless?

Visit Lighthouse Foundation's website lighthousefoundation.org.au and explore the work Lighthouse Foundation does with youth homelessness. Outline the work of the charity below.



Student Worksheet #2

End of campaign

Name:

Year Level:

Data of campaign:

What part of this campaign was most meaningful to you?

What *real story* did you connect with most? Why?

How might this young person's life have been changed by your donation to Lighthouse Foundation to help end youth homelessness?