

## Media Release

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### **The State of Sydney Report 2010: New research highlights election policy vacuum**

People experiencing social exclusion are largely being ignored by our political leaders in the lead up to the Federal election.

New research released today by ANGLICARE Sydney shows that single parents, people who are single, Indigenous or have a disability experience deep social exclusion in Sydney.

“Where is the social inclusion agenda that the Government promoted a few years ago? It seems the poor and marginalised won’t even get a mention in the lead up to this year’s election as both parties race to capture the hearts and minds of middle Australia,” says ANGLICARE Sydney CEO Peter Kell.

“Just because peoples’ needs may not be visible doesn’t mean they are not legitimate – all Australians should be concerned at the lack of clear policy to help those at the margins.”

The Report focuses on entrenched need in three groups in Sydney; people using Emergency Relief, African refugees and ageing parents caring for their disabled children.

The Report finds:

- More people are seeking assistance from ANGLICARE’s Emergency Relief services because of multiple and complex issues;
- Refugees are struggling to find secure housing, income, employment and experience discrimination; and
- Ageing parent carers experience poor levels of well being and disconnection from their local communities.

The report makes a number of recommendations on areas like refugee housing and in-home respite care and transition care plans.

“A holistic and flexible policy response at both a federal and state level is required for each of these socially excluded groups,” said Mr Kell.

“The needs of the most marginalised and deprived people in our nation are being pushed aside. Let’s make sure we live in a nation where everyone counts.”

[END]

**The State of Sydney Report will be launched at 10.30am on Wednesday, 28 July 2010 at St John’s Anglican Church, Darlinghurst.**

For .pdf copies of the report email [jwackett@anglicare.org.au](mailto:jwackett@anglicare.org.au)

For fact sheets on key election issues visit [www.anglicare.org.au](http://www.anglicare.org.au)