

Everybody Counts

ANGLICARE
election 2010 AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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17 July 2010

Building a society in which everybody counts

Anglicare Australia has called for the interests of all Australians to be the focus of this election campaign – and those with little political sway not forgotten or ignored.

“Australia should aim to be a fairer and more equal society” Ian Carter, acting Chair of the Anglicare Australia Council said today.

“The focus of the campaign for the August 21 election must put the people doing it tough in our community at the top of the agenda.

“Anglicare’s member organisations work with more than one in 40 Australians in communities right across Australia.

“It is clear to Anglicare staff working in these communities that

- a proper home is out of reach for far too many
- there are families living with disability without the support they need
- mental health support across the community is grossly inadequate
- older Australians are not guaranteed of the care they need and deserve
- Indigenous Australians are still profoundly disadvantaged and we need urgently to close this gap in health, education and life expectancy
- and finally, that many government pensions and benefits are simply not enough to live on; with spiralling costs of living particularly rent, food and utility charges

“We believe that everybody counts.

“Rather than being continually adversarial, Anglicare would like our political leadership to adopt a politics of hope: by appealing to the generosity and the thoughtfulness of the Australian people, and commit to investment in a society that really includes everyone, no matter what their health, circumstance or background.

“We acknowledge the current Federal Government’s recent investment in homelessness services and social housing. We welcome the Opposition’s promise of a major investment mental health, but there is a lot more to be done.

“Over the next few weeks of this Federal Election Campaign, Anglicare Australia will highlight some of the projects that can make a difference and some of the challenges that confront us in communities across Australia. We hope above all else that this campaign, and the next government, will bring us closer together as a community where everybody counts” Mr Carter said.

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VOICE FOR ANGLICAN CARE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IN AUSTRALIA

This statement represents the views of Anglicare Australia, as the national peak body of the Anglicare network.
It may not necessarily represent the views of the Anglican Church of Australia
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