

*The Oasis Youth Support Network provides a place of safety and care where, through compassion and skilful intervention, troubled young people find refuge and hope to achieve dreams and potential.*

The Oasis Youth Support Network is The Salvation Army's response to youth homelessness in Australia. The network offers more than 25 unique programs and services to homeless young people aged between 16 - 24 in Sydney's inner-city and gives disadvantaged young people the hope, help and opportunities to turn their lives around.

From case management, counselling and job placement to legal advice and workplace training, Oasis aims to connect with young people affected by homelessness and provide them with the support and opportunities to move from the street to independent living and employment.

**More than 32,000 young Australian's don't have a place to call home!**

Many of the young people that come to Oasis feel that life is hopeless. Some have experienced on-going abuse and a majority have no immediate or extended family support systems. Few have a vision for the future and they believe that life will always be a struggle.

The innovative and inspiring programs and services at Oasis provide homeless and disadvantaged young people with the opportunity to learn skills to rebuild their lives and develop self esteem, confidence, community engagement and employability. But most importantly Oasis helps create dreams and hope - the vital ingredients to turning shattered young lives around.



**Major Robbin Moulds (AM)** joined Oasis in January 2011, taking over the role of Director from husband, Major Paul Moulds.

Robbin is passionate about people and community and brings more than 25 years of experience in welfare work to this position.

Previously, Robbin was the founder and manager of the Streetlevel Mission - a service that provides support to the marginalised, homeless and disadvantaged people of Inner City Sydney.

Young people from Oasis often use the services at Streetlevel Mission, and so Robbin has already been able to build strong relationships with many of the young people she now works with. Robbin would also often assist Major Paul Moulds with training and program development for Oasis and so has developed a deep understanding of youth issues and advocacy.

A passionate communicator, Robbin's approach to helping others has always been to look behind the difficult circumstances and behaviours and focus on strengths and potential.

## Want to know more? Contact us:

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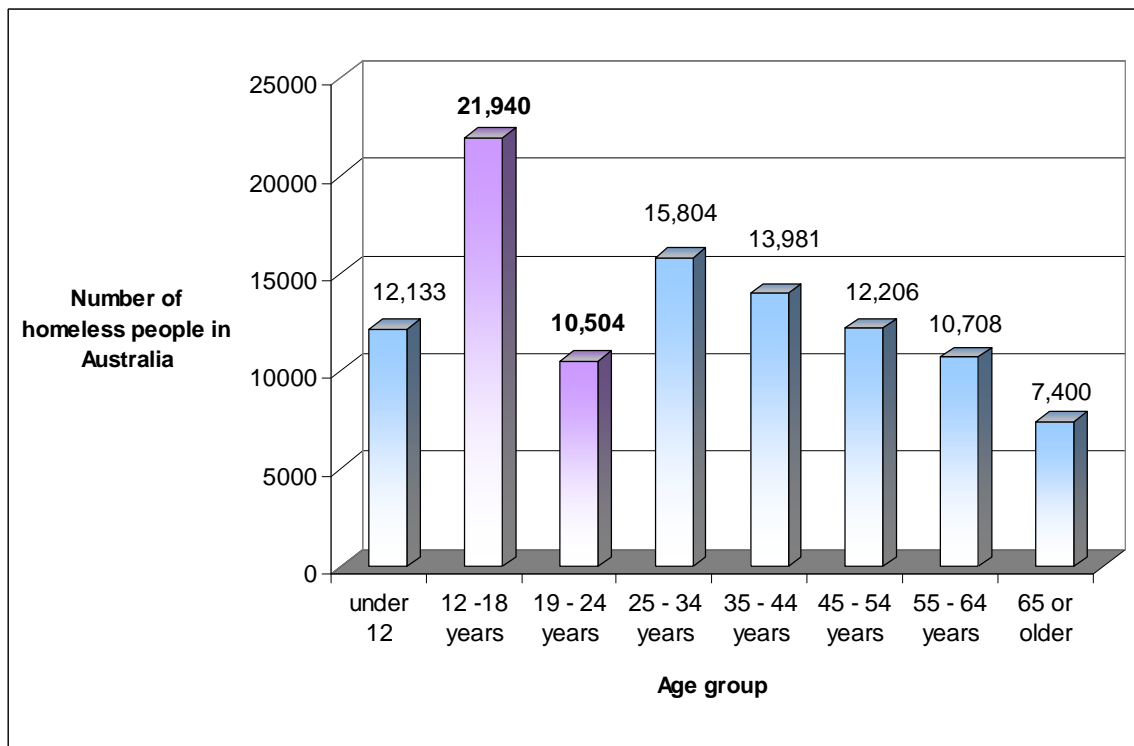
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## Homelessness in Australia

- A total of 104,676 Australians are considered to be homeless.
- One third, or about 32, 000, are homeless young people between the ages of 12 – 25 years.
- The number of homeless teenagers (aged 12-18) nearly doubled to 22,000 over the last 20 years.



### Most common reasons behind why young people become homeless

- Relationship/ family breakdown with parents, siblings and extended family
- Domestic violence/ child abuse
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Mental health issues
- Financial difficulty or unemployment
- Eviction/ Accommodation ended
- Being kicked out or feeling unwanted

### Key impacts of being homeless

- Poor health and little access to medical treatment
- No support network—no social, recreational or cultural ties
- Low education (basic numeracy and literacy) levels
- Low self esteem and increased anxiety
- Behavioural issues and mental illness
- May become involved in criminal or illegal activity to survive
- No work experience or job training

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