



Agenda for Change 2020

Supporting people to
achieve their goals in life.

colony47.com.au

colony⁴⁷

Our intentions for 2020

Wishing
you All a
Healthy +
Safe 2020

(Please add yours) ♡

♡ To LOVE... ♡
UNCONDITIONALLY ♡

To Watch The Pies
Win the 2020 flag!



(Make)

More
love

Stretch
hourly

be kinder
live a ne
keep
laughing to
Appreciate what
I have more
To be the
most awesome
I can!
Go to Vanuatu

To love
loves him
in myself
himself
Also I.S
B.B
7.1

maybe
too

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About this Prospectus

COLONY 47 IS COMMITTED TO CREATING POSITIVE CHANGE IN OUR COMMUNITY BY ADDRESSING THE BARRIERS TO HOUSING, EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT THAT ARE FACED BY YOUNG PEOPLE, AND PROVIDING THEM WITH SAFE, FIT FOR PURPOSE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND SUPPORT NETWORKS.

We are committed to ensuring that nobody is left behind and that young people are supported to achieve their goals in life.

We work to achieve tangible, positive change by working with young people and those at risk of homelessness, from the early intervention stage through to crisis support and everything in between.

We are independent and support people from all walks of life. We work collaboratively with a range of other organisations to ensure that people are supported.

This prospectus outlines some of the challenges that people in our community face, what we are already doing to support the Tasmanian people and what we believe needs to be done to help achieve our vision of a thriving, connected and diverse community where no-one is left behind.

Who we are and what we do

COLONY 47'S VISION IS "TO CREATE A THRIVING, CONNECTED AND DIVERSE COMMUNITY WHERE NO ONE IS LEFT BEHIND."

Colony 47 is an independent, proudly Tasmanian social enterprise.

We are community owned and operated and our services are independent of faith and belief systems and open to everyone.

From our pioneering beginnings in 1973 until today, Colony 47 has been at the forefront of identifying and addressing the complex needs of socially isolated and vulnerable Tasmanians.

We know from experience and research that whilst the roots of disadvantage run deep in

our community our role is to support individuals and families to take opportunities that lead to better lives.

Colony 47 is the lead agency for Housing Connect in southern Tasmania and works collaboratively with many other service and housing providers to put the keys in the hands of people who are seeking access to social and affordable housing.

Colony 47 is also one of the largest providers of integrated youth services in Southern Tasmania.

To meet the needs of young people, Colony 47 works at a state and national level to provide innovative services that help young people to access housing and education, develop vocational and life skills, find employment and build meaningful family relationships.

Colony 47 employs over 120 Tasmanians and is supported in its work by over 130 volunteers. Our annual turnover is between \$14 million and \$15 million.

Our advantaged thinking

1. I talk about people without stereotyping them.
2. I understand people by what they can do and aspire to be.
3. I work with people by coaching growth and positive risks.
4. I invest in people to promote their potential to thrive.
5. I believe in people.
6. I involve people so experiences can shape solutions.
7. I challenge myself and others to promote advantaged thinking.

**“Our purpose as
an organisation is
to support people
to achieve their
goals in life.”**



Our social impact

HOW DO WE KNOW WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE?

One of the most effective components in really understanding the impact of our work is ongoing detailed evaluations of potential and existing projects.

If we are going to be a continuously learning and growing organisation it is vital that we understand the benefits of the social investments in our services and which investments represent value for money.

In recent years we have partnered with educational providers and industry to conduct detailed social impact research so we can ensure that our programs are helping those who need our support the most and that this work is having an impact in our community.

In 2020, a preliminary review of our services using the Australian Social Values Bank methodology identified that for every dollar spent in our programs we were generating an estimated five dollars in social returns.

WHAT ELSE CAN BE DONE?

Develop an analytical tool to evaluate existing programs

Colony 47 is seeking to partner with the State Government or an accounting firm to second a policy or business analyst for 6–12 months (with the State Government or accounting firm to cover secondees' wages).

The secondee would work with Colony 47 to develop a detailed local dataset and a way of measuring the social impact of Colony 47's projects, bringing together fragmented information into a useful and powerful dataset. The dataset would be made available to other partners, such as other service providers and the State Government.

Social impact analysis of benefits generated by existing programs

To allow funders to assess and scale up services that can generate a positive social and economic cost-benefit Colony 47 is seeking philanthropic support for a business development expert to develop a robust methodology which can be trialled using a number of Colony 47's existing service innovations.

IF YOU WANT TO BE A PART OF THIS WORK, WE ARE ACTIVELY LOOKING FOR NEW PARTNERS AND SUPPORT.

Please join us.



Youth

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

We invest in young people, across all aspects of their life, to help them become healthy, capable adults who feel valued and make an essential contribution to their community.

The reasons holding young people back from reaching their potential are complicated.

THEY CAN INCLUDE:

- ▶ **LOSS OF A HOME ENVIRONMENT DUE TO FAMILY BREAKDOWN;**
- ▶ **EXPERIENCES OF ANXIETY AND DEPRESSION AND MENTAL ILL HEALTH;**
- ▶ **EXPERIENCES OF HOMELESSNESS INCLUDING PERIODS OF COUCH SURFING AND ROUGH SLEEPING;**
- ▶ **LOW EDUCATIONAL RETENTION AND ATTAINMENT RATES IN SECONDARY AND COLLEGE LEVEL EDUCATION;**

▶ **HIGH LEVELS OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT;**

▶ **INCOME SUPPORT PAYMENTS THAT MEAN THEY EXIST BELOW THE POVERTY LINE AND ARE UNABLE TO ACCESS AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES FOR PEOPLE SEEKING ACCESS TO SOCIAL AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN SOUTHERN TASMANIA?

As at November 2019, there were well over 3,400 households with open applications on the Tasmanian Government's Housing Register.

These households are comprised of over 2,000 households with a priority need and over 800 households under the age of 25.

The key drivers for this waiting list are population growth, competition for available housing stock from students and short stay accommodation providers, a lack of forward planning in the development

of housing to meet changes in housing needs, the lack of availability of low cost housing in the private rental market due to ongoing increases in the costs of living including high market rents.

This situation is particularly challenging for young people on Newstart/Youth Allowance with no affordable rentals available in Tasmania for this group according to Anglicare's 2019 rental affordability snapshot.

We believe that much more needs to be done to help more young people access safe, secure, supported and affordable housing.

Australia spends \$15.2 billion every year providing assistance and services to children and youth in crisis, as more children and young people experiencing hardship through high unemployment, low education and homelessness.¹

¹William Teager, Stacey Fox and Neil Stafford, How Australia can invest early and return more: A new look at the \$15b cost and opportunity. Early Intervention Foundation, The Front Project and CoLab at the Telethon Kids Institute, Australia, 2019.



What is Colony 47 doing to help our youth?



RECONNECT

An early intervention outreach program that aims to reduce youth homelessness by working with people aged 12–18 and their parents and carers to foster positive relationships and deal with family breakdowns. In 2018-19 the program ran 760 support sessions for 115 people with 93 per cent of participants experiencing positive change.



COLVILLE PLACE

Opened in March 2018, Colville Place is a 9-room crisis accommodation service for young people aged 12–15 who are at risk of homelessness. Over a 6-12 week period they are supported with wrap around services to re-engage in education, develop living skills, relationship and family connection support to get them back on their feet.



HOUSING CONNECT FRONT DOOR SERVICES

The Housing Connect Front Door service includes concierge services that allow people to access information and support, social housing assessment, advisory and application support services, private rental and bond assistance services and referrals to specialist homelessness support services and crisis accommodation.



STEP UP

A program for young people aged between 12–17 and their families aimed to address recurring violent behaviour by young people toward a family member or intimate partner. The program provides one on one support and aims to assist young people to understand consequences of violent behaviour, strengthen family and personal relationships and utilise appropriate referral pathways to other specialist services. The program works to empower parents and provide them with tools and strategies to assist them in keeping all family members safe.



EMPOWERING YOUTH INITIATIVE (BACKSWING)

An innovative employment program consisting of a series of projects for young jobsseekers in four communities in southern Tasmania. Each project involves a group of young people devising and implementing an advocacy campaign on an issue of priority importance to the local community.



TRANSITION TO WORK

An innovative employment service that provides young people with a youth development coach to support them to engage in future employment and education in collaboration with local industry employer networks.



MARA HOUSE

Mara House provides 24-hour supported accommodation for young women aged 13–18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. In 2018-19 Mara House supported 42 young women, the majority of whom sought assistance as a result of relationship/family breakdown and 65.6 per cent of those women had been diagnosed with mental ill-health.



EMERGENCY SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Emergency Support Program provides housing and support options for people who are sleeping rough in our streets by facilitating referrals to other services, providing support for preparing applications for private rentals and social housing; and providing support for people who may need intensive support, case management, crisis intervention and case coordination.



HOUSING CONNECT SUPPORT SERVICES

Housing Connect Support provides connection and support to creative housing solutions and initiatives such as social housing, the Private Rental Incentive Scheme; home ownership schemes, supported housing and disability and aged care properties.

Five key pillars

WE BELIEVE THERE ARE FIVE KEY PILLARS TO SUPPORT YOUNG TASMANIANS. TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL THEY NEED TO BE:

1. Healthy
2. Housed
3. Learning
4. Employed
5. Empowered

We believe that programs supporting young people across all five pillars of support are critical to helping our youth achieve their goals. Building and creating long term, meaningful support networks underpins all of our programs.



Five Key Pillars

1. HEALTHY

- ▶ Colony 47 knows that young people in transition to work and in youth accommodation facilities need support to manage their mental health which can be a significant barrier to achieving their goals. There is currently an urgent need for a youth focussed clinical mental health service to be provided to responsively address the needs of young people and staff.
- ▶ To provide a positive solution in providing specialist clinical support for young people across its services will require an annual investment of over \$200,000 per year to support the 250 young people in these programs.

2. HOUSED

- ▶ Colony 47 knows that the best place for young people to be is in a safe, supportive and nurturing family home. Yet we also understand that there are growing numbers of young people who are experiencing homelessness due to family breakdown. Colony 47 believes that earlier intervention for young people and their families can prevent youth homelessness and increase school retention.
- ▶ To support this goal, Colony 47 is seeking an ongoing commitment of \$300,000 from the Tasmanian and Commonwealth Governments for the funding of its Step Up service that it has innovatively designed and implemented in southern Tasmania and proven to be effective for over 40 parents and children to address and prevent episodes of adolescent violence in the home.
- ▶ To address the needs of young people under 16 who are homeless on our streets, Colony 47 is also seeking an investment

of over \$250,000 to develop and implement a new service based on the Geelong Project. This project has proven to be effective in preventing homelessness through a range of programs aimed at keeping at-risk and disengaged young people in their homes, in school and out of the justice system in a partnership with Swinburne University, Headspace Geelong, and other key schools and community groups.

- ▶ Colony 47 is also exploring the opportunities to create a pool of available existing housing stock that is safe, secure and close to services, education and employment opportunities for young people as they transition to independent living.

3. LEARNING

- ▶ Colony 47 knows that young people are successful when they can develop their skills and talents in an environment that respects and recognises that they may have vocational rather than academic pathways and careers ahead.
- ▶ To allow young people to effectively transition from education to work in their communities, Colony 47 is seeking to develop a flexible pool of funding of over \$200,000 that can support young people to undertake work experience boot camps in their areas of interest and to address barriers such as clothing, transport and tools.

4. EMPLOYED

- ▶ Colony 47 knows that young people having accommodation that is supported and is accessible to services, education and employment is critical to giving them the best opportunities in life. Colony 47 believes that industry pathways such as those provided by the tourism and hospitality industry

can be a breakthrough step for people to access vocational training and employment opportunities.

- ▶ Colony 47 also knows that with significant growth in employment in this sector that a purpose built and designed foyer model dedicated to meeting the needs of young people training and working in this sector would be an amazing opportunity.
- ▶ On that basis, Colony 47 is seeking Tasmanian Government support to develop an innovative pilot project for a industry focussed training and employment foyer model to be trialled in Tasmania that is focussed on supporting the needs of young people and the sector in the years ahead.

5. EMPOWERED

- ▶ Colony 47 knows that the voices of service users whether they are housing connect clients or young people is critical to getting the right services in place to meet their needs. It is also important that housing clients and young people have the skills and training to fully participate in our community.
- ▶ Colony 47 is a passionate champion of the need for our clients and young people to be recognised as experts and to share the experiences and insights they can bring to changing attitudes about people who can be disadvantaged in our community.
- ▶ On that basis Colony 47 is looking for funding of \$300,000 to establish a Peer Education Support Program (PESP), by seeking support from the government or private sector to employ project officer/s to run the program and also funding to provide the training.

If you want to be a part of this work, we are actively looking for new partners and support.

Please join us.



SOCIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS OF BENEFITS GENERATED BY EXISTING PROGRAMS

To allow funders to assess and scale up services that can generate a positive social and economic cost-benefit Colony 47 is seeking philanthropic support for a business development expert to develop a robust methodology which can be trialled using a number of Colony 47's existing service innovations.

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