

Working with Communities Policy

Version 1.0

This policy has been adopted by:

Name of Company	Adoption Date
Aboriginal Community Housing Ltd (ACHL)	February 2025
Aboriginal Community Housing (Vic.) Ltd (ACHVL)	February 2025

And any other entities within ACHL which adopt this policy.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Aboriginal Community Housing Limited (ACHL) acknowledges that positive relationships and partnerships within local community networks, serve to improve and sustain high quality outcomes for our customers and the broader community.

2. AIM

To provide some guiding principles in service delivery, work practices, community engagement and community development, which demonstrates the link between positive relationships with the communities we work with and the quality of customers' and community members' lived experience.

3. PRINCIPLES OF ACHL'S WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES POLICY

3.1. Service delivery

ACHL will work with community members and organisations to support high quality outcomes in service delivery and provide services that meet the needs of customers and are responsive to their ideas and feedback.

3.2. Capacity building

ACHL will maintain positive and collaborative partnerships with the communities in which it operates. ACHL supports the development of a diverse and proactive community sector which addresses affordable housing needs and assists customers to live independently, improve their wellbeing, increase their economic participation and develop skills that they can use to contribute to their community.

3.3. Analysis and program planning

ACHL will ensure that it maintains a current understanding of housing need and community support sector developments which affect housing need. This understanding will inform ACHL's future housing development and business unit planning.

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3.4. Community development

ACHL will undertake community development activities that support the aspirations of local communities and customers. Community Development activities will have a strength-based approach, understanding disadvantage and social injustice, and working authentically and collaboratively with customers and communities to identify their needs and aspirations.

3.5. Diversity and inclusion

ACHL understands that the communities it works in and services are diverse in identities and experiences. Intersectionality is a term used to describe an approach where the various identities held by an individual intersect, rather than just looking at one part of their identity. ACHL work using an intersectional approach to ensure inclusion, by the consideration of things like a person's gender, sexuality, ethnicity and/or cultural background, religion, linguistics and/or ability, all together rather than separately, when engaging with them

4. RELATED RESOURCES

4.1. ACHL Group References

ACHL Vision and Mission

ACHL Housing and Homelessness Policies and Procedures

ACHL Customer Participation Policy

ACHL Customer Feedback and Complaints Policy

ACHL Appeals Policy and Procedure

4.2. External References

National Regulatory Community Housing Standards

<u>Victorian Community Housing Regulatory Framework</u>

Western Australian Community Housing Regulatory Framework

Housing Assistance Act 1996 (COM)

<u>State Housing Acts (NSW 2001, NT 1982, QLD 2003, SA 1995, TAS 2022, VIC 1983, WA 1980)</u> <u>State Residential Tenancy and Rooming Acts (NSW 2010, NT 1999, QLD 2008, SA 1995, TAS 1997, VIC 1997, WA 1987)</u>

Community Housing Providers National Law Acts 2013 (NT, NSW, QLD, SA and TAS)

The National Affordable Housing Agreement

NRSCH National Regulatory Code

Consumer Charter for Community Managed Housing and Homelessness Services (VIC)

NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework

National Disability and Insurance Scheme Act 2013

NDIS Code of Conduct

The Human Rights and Responsibilities Charter Act 2006 (VIC)

Human Rights Act 2019 (QLD)

Privacy Act 1988 (COM)

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