

# Community Committees Fact Sheet



*“Volunteer Community Committee members are interconnected with our young people making a real difference to their lives.”*

Simon Benjamin, Lighthouse Foundation CEO

## What are Lighthouse Community Committees?

Lighthouse Foundation's Community Committees are a crucial part of our specialist Model of Care. They are made up of local volunteers who have a deep commitment to ensuring that their local Lighthouse home remains open and the basic needs of the young people within the home are met.

Each committee member provides a circle of support for their Lighthouse home, surrounding the young people within it with mentoring, work experience, financial support and other practical help in their journey into sustainable independent living.

## Responsibilities and commitment

Each Community Committee supports a specific Lighthouse home, its young people and its carers, by:

- Fundraising – each committee organises approximately four fundraising ventures each year including; dinners, trivia nights, movie nights, golf days, football clinics and BBQs raising funds to support their home's ongoing operating costs
- Organising – committees organise annual working bees for spring cleaning, garden work and other maintenance of their home
- Relationship building – committee members provide links and networks for the young people and carers within the local community
- Supporting – committee members support the operation of the home and act as an 'extended family' for the young people
- Meetings – are generally held monthly, on weekdays, outside of business hours
- Screening – all committee volunteers must complete police and Working with Children checks as well as Lighthouse Foundation's psychosocial screening process
- Training – for new committee members some training will be provided

## Interested in joining your local committee?

Lighthouse Community Committees are made up of volunteers with diverse backgrounds, experiences and strengths.

Each committee includes a Chairperson – who is the primary contact between Lighthouse Foundation and the committee; a Secretary – who organises and distributes minutes from the monthly meetings; the home's Primary Carer; and is supported by Lighthouse's Fundraising and Volunteer Coordinator.

To join a committee contact 03 9093 7500 or [office@lighthousefoundation.org.au](mailto:office@lighthousefoundation.org.au).

For over 25 years Lighthouse Foundation has successfully supported over 800 young people to break the cycle of homelessness. Lighthouse provides homeless young people from backgrounds of long-term neglect and abuse, with a home, a sense of family, and around-the-clock therapeutic care that is proven to work.

