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Young Tasmanians to have their say on Housing at Statewide Youth Forum

"I am concerned about the housing situation in Tasmania and for people that don't have families that can offer them a place to live while they save up the money to move out. My question is what happens to those people, do they end up on the streets with nowhere to stay? This is not okay. There has to be a better, more affordable solution for everyone." Ash 24, North (She/her)

Over one hundred and twenty young Tasmanians aged 12-25 years will travel to Launceston today to voice their concerns, contribute ideas and identify solutions at the 2024 Tasmanian Youth Forum (TYF) on Housing. Key findings from the event will be used to inform future policy and initiatives impacting young people living in Tasmania.

YNOT CEO, Tania Hunt said that young people are very concerned about housing in Tasmania.

"Young people have told us about the barriers they face when trying to break into the private rental market in Tasmania. Low vacancy rates, unaffordable rents, a lack of rental and/or employment history and aged-based discrimination by some landlords is making it near impossible for young people to find and keep a roof over their head."

"One way that we can respond to these challenges is to ensure young people are involved in designing housing solutions that meet their needs. Today's forum provides an opportunity for young people to share what needs to be done by the government and community to help young people find safe, appropriate and affordable housing in Tasmania."

"Sadly, for an increasing number of young Tasmanians, home ownership is a pipe dream. Right now, young people are grappling with how they can get a foothold in the private rental market and what it means for them if they can't".

Young people not only chose the topic for this year's forum, but they have also been instrumental in planning the forum content and delivery. An online survey is available for those unable to attend the forum, which will remain open until the end of May.

Key findings from the forum will be presented to Government and key decision-makers to help shape youth housing policy initiatives.

TYF is an initiative of the Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT). YNOT is the peak body representing the interests of young Tasmanians aged 12-25 years and the Tasmanian Youth Sector.

YNOT strives to drive positive change with young people and the youth sector in Tasmania.

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Media enquiries:

ynot is the peak body representing the voice of Tasmanian youth

Tania Hunt, Chief Executive Officer, Youth Network of Tasmania: 0427 466 189