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## **New Report Highlights Impact of Housing Crisis on Young Tasmanians**

*“Housing in Tasmania could be the key to supporting young people who are having a hard start in life, or don’t have access to a safe and supported home if done correctly”. TYF 2024 participant*

A new report released today by the Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT) highlights the significant challenges young Tasmanians continue to face when attempting to access safe, affordable and appropriate housing across the State.

The 2024 Tasmanian Youth Forum (TYF) Housing Report shares young Tasmanians’ insights on housing, revealing difficulties breaking into the rental market, accessing housing support services, and living independently in our communities.

YNOT CEO, Tania Hunt, said the report reinforces how important housing is to young people’s overall health and wellbeing, and safety.

“Young people have told us that housing is more than just bricks and mortar, that having a safe, secure and supportive home environment is essential for their social, psychological and emotional needs.” Ms Hunt said.

“The combination of unaffordable rents, high cost of living, and age-based discrimination towards young renters is making it almost impossible for them to find affordable and appropriate housing. Homeownership is seen as a pipe dream for many young Tasmanians.”

“Government and decision-makers need to seek the views of young people when designing housing solutions to meet their needs.”

*“Too often, policy-makers assume they know what is best for minorities, and make decisions based on these assumptions without consulting people from those minorities ...in this case, young people.”*  
*TYF 2024 Youth Advisory Group member*

Today, young Tasmanians and YNOT representatives met with the Hon. Roger Jaensch, Minister for Children and Young People, and the Hon. Felix Ellis, Minister for Housing, to discuss the report’s key findings and recommendations.

Key solutions identified by young people included greater financial literacy and life skills education in schools and communities, strengthening tenant rights to allow pets and minor changes, and expanding youth-specific housing programs and accommodation options. Young people also called for better access to, and awareness of, housing and related services to help them transition to independent living.

ynot is the peak body representing the voice of Tasmanian youth

Ms. Hunt added, "Young people want to be part of the solution. They are asking for practical support like financial literacy training, education on tenancy rights and responsibilities, and access to affordable and stable housing options close to essential services.

TYF is an initiative of the Youth Network of Tasmania (YNOT), supported by the Tasmanian Government. YNOT strives to drive positive change with young people aged 12-25 years and the youth sector in Tasmania.

**ENDS**

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