

JOURNEY TO HOME

Exploring the intersections between housing,
migration and health in Western Australia

APRIL 2022 PULSE MEETING PROJECT OVERVIEW

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

“Focusing on partnership,
participation, protection
and power”

**WE BEGIN WITH A QUESTION, A
CHALLENGE AND A PROMISE.**

THE QUESTION

Why are people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) backgrounds relatively invisible in housing policy and strategy and what is the relationship between housing, migration and health?

THE CHALLENGE

Lack of secure housing can result from and lead to a range of health issues. Approximately 13% of people in Western Australia accessing homelessness services in 2016 were born overseas. There is a range of structural inequalities for those from CaLD backgrounds that make accessing and maintaining safe and affordable housing challenging.

THE PROMISE

Journey to Home, funded by Healthway, is an exploratory research project that aims to inform approaches to increase access to secure housing and improve mental health outcomes for people from CaLD backgrounds vulnerable for or experiencing homelessness and social isolation. Underpinned by co-design principles the project and promises to work collaboratively to develop evidence supporting greater focus on the needs of people from CaLD backgrounds who experience housing stress.

[READ MORE >](#)

2016 Census findings

On census night in 2016, 116,000 people experienced homelessness in Australia, of which 9,000 were reported in Western Australia (WA).⁴ WA has the highest proportion of people born overseas in Australia (32%) and on census night in 2016, 12.7% of people who accessed homelessness services were born overseas.⁷

Although Australia is ranked third in the world for its resettlement commitments:

74%

Of those born overseas/arrived in Australia within the past 5 years were living in severely crowded dwellings.⁴⁻⁶

13%

Of those born overseas/arrived in Australia within the past 5 years were living in boarding houses.⁴⁻⁶

15%

Of those born overseas or who had arrived in Australia within the past 5 years were estimated to be homeless.⁴

Top 3 regions of origin:

sub-Saharan Africa
(563 people)

Oceania and Antarctica
(508 people)

Southeast Asia
(444 people).⁷

BUT:

There are limited statistical data regarding migrants from CaLD backgrounds resulting in challenges determining the extent of homelessness within these populations, and likely under-reporting.

Available data sources and variables are problematic.

Migrants from CaLD backgrounds are relatively invisible in WA policy and strategy and action related to housing (e.g. lack of mention in the Western Australia Strategy to End Homelessness 2018-2028; All Paths Lead to a Home: Western Australia's 10-Year Strategy on Homelessness 2020-2030 and the WA Housing Strategy 2020-2030)

There are additional factors contributing to housing insecurity risk for people from CaLD backgrounds in Australia.

**Overcrowding
due to cultural
obligations**

placing responsibility
on families of the
same community to
support others¹¹

**Exposure to
domestic
violence**

and associated
factors relating to
personal shame and
safety¹¹

**Negativity towards
refugees/migrants**

as a result of
being a
humanitarian
entrant or racism⁵

Social isolation

stigma and
discrimination¹⁴

**Lack of job
experience**

and unrecognised
foreign credentials
leading to difficulty
gaining
employment¹²

**Landlord
discrimination**

on the basis of race,
immigration/refugee
status and family
size¹²

**Limited language
skills and language
barriers**

which may contribute
to prejudice, social
isolation and
marginalisation^{6, 14}

**Recovery from
traumatic events
prior to migration**

such as sexual
assault, violence,
unnatural death of a
loved one and
extreme deprivation¹³

PROJECT OVERVIEW



GOVERNANCE

The project governance model is designed to integrate the research process with the translation of project findings for 'end-users'.

[READ MORE >](#)

DESKTOP + DATA

The use of literature is pivotal in guiding the study protocol, aim and objectives of the research, the development of project instruments, during analysis and in developing recommendations.

[READ MORE >](#)

STORYTELLING

Narratives are sought from target groups through in-depth interviews. As part of the exploration of the lived experiences of participants, journey mapping will be undertaken.

[READ MORE >](#)

SENSEMAKING

Sensemaking workshops will be held with target groups to consolidate findings, develop recommendations for research policy and practice and possible prototype intervention(s).

[READ MORE >](#)

PHASE ONE SEPT - JAN 21

- Develop a governance model and communication plan
- Seek ethical approval
- Recruit staff
- Initial stakeholder consultation
- Recruit RSG members
- Scoping review
- Cluster analysis

PHASE TWO FEB - JUL 21

- Stakeholder consultation
- Scoping review
- Recruit CaPAG members
- In-depth interviews
- Initial qualitative analysis and journey mapping
- Feedback from RSG and CaPAG

PHASE THREE AUG - MAY 22

- Stakeholder consultation
- Qualitative analysis and journey mapping
- Feedback from RSG and CaPAG
- Sense making workshops
- Development of recommendations
- Synthesis and write-up
- Knowledge translation activities

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MEET THE TEAM

“Community
engaged project
governance”

**RESEARCHERS, POLICY MAKERS,
PRACTITIONERS & COMMUNITY WORKING
TOGETHER FOR POSITIVE OUTCOMES.**

PROJECT ACTION TEAM (PAT)

Lead researchers and Project Coordinator from the Collaboration for Evidence, Research & Impact in Public Health, Curtin University (CERIPH) | Day to day running.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION TEAM (PIT)

PIT members and other researchers from the Curtin School of Population Health | Direction of the project and quality of the research.

RESEARCH STEERING GROUP (RSG)

PAT and PIT members and representatives from key agencies | Strategic advice to the PAT and PIT, ensures accountability for agreed outcomes.

COMMUNITY & PEER ADVISORY GROUP (CAPAG)

Volunteer community and peer advisors | Ensures research is conducted 'with' and 'for' end-users, with community ownership.

RESEARCH SUPPORT

Volunteers and students | A range of research support functions and additional research project exploring key areas of research as they emerge.

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GET INVOLVED

We are interested in collaborating with community services, government departments, universities and research groups to tackle real world problems. We also host interns, volunteers, practicum students, undergraduate, Honours and postgraduate students and those completing higher degrees by research.

Please get in touch.

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Honours student projects
- Master of Public Health student projects
- Practicum student projects
- Volunteer projects and internships
- CAPAG member opportunities

Please get in touch.

CONTACT

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email: home@curtin.edu.au