

State Election 2026

How you can help us help more South Australians



We build **strength, stability, self-reliance** through shelter.

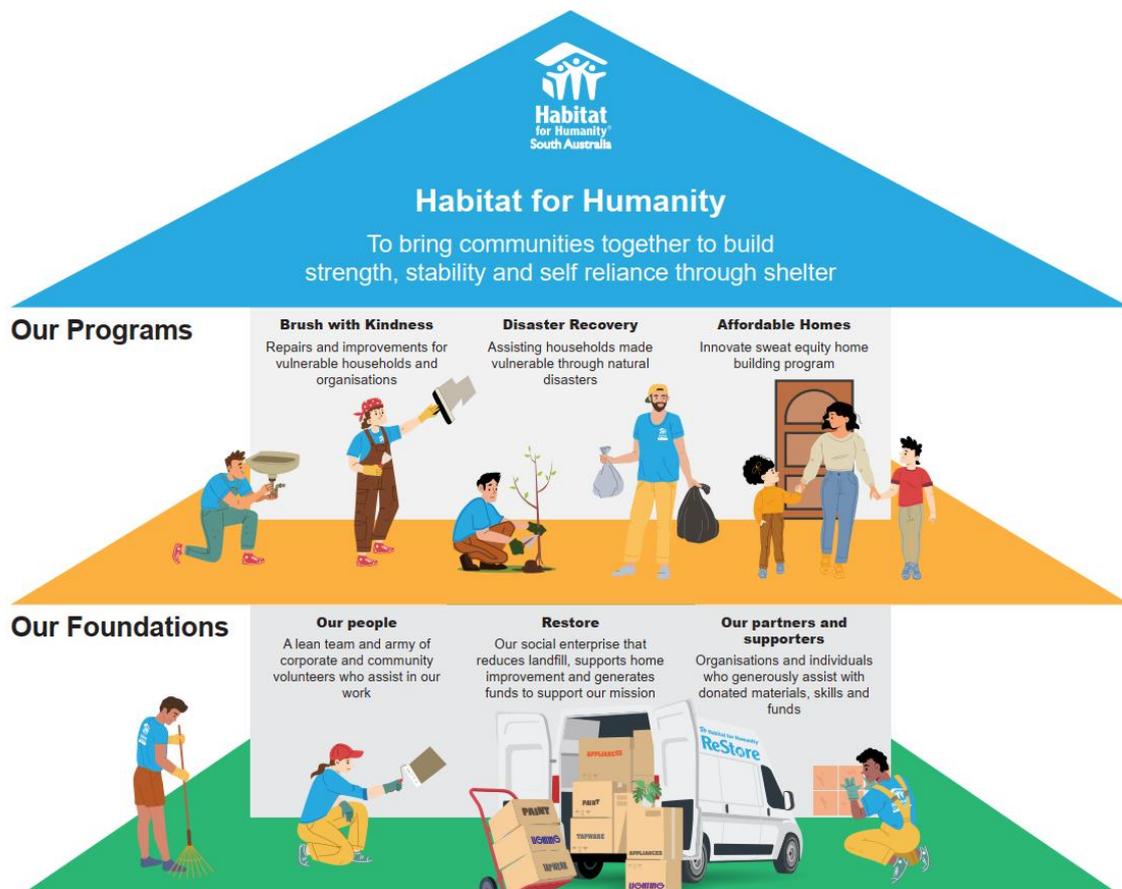
About Habitat for Humanity SA

Habitat for Humanity Australia South Australia is part of the global Habitat for Humanity movement, united in a commitment to world where everyone has a decent place to live.

We aim to bring communities together to build strength, stability and self-reliance through shelter. We know that access to stable housing is linked to improved health and wellbeing, better educational outcomes, greater capacity for social and economic participation, and community cohesion.

We've been working alongside South Australian communities for more than 35 years to deliver affordable homes, disaster recovery and a 'brush with kindness' to vulnerable households and organisations.

Everything we do is on the back of an amazing pool of corporate and community volunteers, generous partners and donors, and our social enterprise, Restore at Alberton.



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What we do in South Australia

We build strength, stability, self-reliance through shelter, helping South Australians get into, and stay in homes. We do a lot, for a little and you could help us do even more.

To provide more for the South Australian community we ask you to,

- Support our work with crisis accommodation providers, Grandcarers SA and other vulnerable people with a modest investment of \$40 000 annual funding.
- Provide access to government land to enable expansion of our affordable homes program which directly empowers local people into home ownership
- Establish a reimagined peak body for housing that can drive and coordinate housing innovation

For further details of how your support could help us continue to make a difference, please contact Kathleen Brannigan CEO, Habitat for Humanity South Australia kbrannigan@habitat.org.au or 0438 481 324 or Michael Arman, Chair Habitat for Humanity SA arman.michael@protonmail.com



We build **strength, stability, self-reliance** *through shelter.*

Our asks this State Election

1. Enable community organisations to innovate by providing access to surplus Government land and properties.

Organisations like Habitat for Humanity SA can mobilise significant community and corporate goodwill to deliver housing and shelter outcomes that would simply not occur otherwise.

The impact of this work is both transformative and enduring for the individuals and families involved, generating positive social and economic benefits across the broader community.

We achieve this through our ‘sweat equity’ affordable homes program, as well as once-off initiatives like Studio Purpose in Murray Bridge. This project transformed two unutilised duplexes into eight studio apartments, providing secure accommodation for young people at risk of homelessness.

Post-occupancy data compiled by our partners shows that these new apartments have played an important role in supporting eight young people to transition into new lives—some relocating to live with family, others securing private rentals, and 75% undertaking further education.



Our capacity to deliver these kinds of outcomes is limited by access to land and properties that are surplus to requirements but could be repurposed for positive community use.

We are calling for improved access to Government land and surplus properties as a means of enabling community-based housing innovation.

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2. Establish a reimagined peak body for housing that can drive and coordinate housing innovation

It is well known that Australia is experiencing a severe and worsening housing crisis, marked by deficits in available housing, high levels of unaffordability, poor tenure security for renters and poor quality of housing.

A systemic challenge like this requires a coordinated, multi-pronged response. Government cannot do it alone. We need innovation and action from all parts of society, including from not-for-profit organisations like Habitat for Humanity.

Habitat for Humanity SA stands ready to play its part in responding to the housing crisis. Our innovative sweat equity model has housed more than 40 South Australian families in exceptional circumstances, with two new homes currently under construction. With the support our partners, we can do more, but efforts across the housing sector need to be joined up.

The recent closure of Shelter SA has created an opportunity for a new peak body that can drive policy, leadership, partnerships and innovation across the housing sector. Critically, such a reimagined and rescoped body could help inspire and coordinate community based organisations who are leading their own housing innovations and leverage their goodwill to support the goals of Government.

We are calling for the establishment of a new, State Government funded peak body to lead, drive and coordinate innovation across the housing sector.



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3. Provide baseline government funding so Brush with Kindness can support more families at risk of housing insecurity.

With the support of both corporate and Habitat volunteers, our Brush with Kindness program delivers essential repairs and improvements for crisis and transitional accommodation providers, as well as vulnerable households. We help South Australians get into **and** stay in homes.

In 2024–25, we increased both project delivery days and paid corporate volunteering days, thanks to generous funding from Habitat for Humanity Australia and The Harvey Foundation.

Program highlights included 35 Brush with Kindness days, delivering:

- 17 days of repairs and improvements for crisis accommodation providers
- Support for 13 families referred by Grandcarers SA
- Assistance for 5 additional households

A major strength of the program is its deep volunteer engagement. In 2024–25, volunteers from Habitat for Humanity SA and our corporate partners contributed over 1,000 hours—equating to \$51,917 in value using Volunteering SA & NT’s 2024–25 rates (\$49.53 per hour).

Brush with Kindness delivers genuinely transformative outcomes for clients. However, even with extraordinary volunteer support and corporate contributions, the program remains financially difficult to sustain.



In 2024–25, we partnered with Grandcarers SA to deliver repairs and improvements for their clients. While highly impactful, this work often involves significant material costs—costs that Grandcarers cannot cover and that challenge the capacity of a small, lean organisation like Habitat SA.

To strengthen and expand this impact, we are seeking modest Government backbone funding in the order of \$40,000 per annum. This support would allow us to help more households who slip through the cracks of other systems, while also creating meaningful volunteering and social connection opportunities through the Brush with Kindness program.

Habitat for Humanity SA

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