Homelessness Health Outreach Initiative

Fact Sheet | CQ Zero

CQ ZERO
Working Together to End Homelessness

Who is CQ Zero?

CQ Zero is a community-led initiative working to end homelessness across Central Queensland.

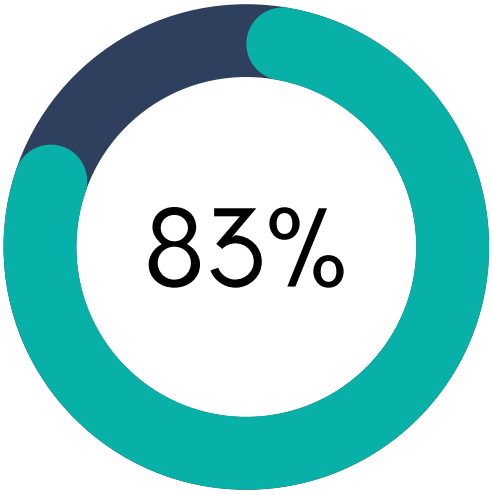
Led by Roseberry Qld and funded by Country to Coast Qld, CQ Zero brings together housing, homelessness, health and community service organisations to deliver a more coordinated, evidence-informed response to homelessness.

As part of the national Advance to Zero movement, CQ Zero uses real-time data, shared accountability and collaborative service coordination to identify people experiencing homelessness, understand their needs and support pathways into safe, secure housing.

Our Goal

*Not to **manage homelessness***

But end it



People on the BNL identified having at leaste one physical health, mental health, or alcohol and other drug related concern

Why is healthcare outreach needed?

People experiencing homelessness face significant barriers to accessing basic healthcare. Without a stable home, transport, financial resources or reliable connections to services, relatively minor health concerns can quickly become serious.

CQ Zero's local data highlights the intersection between homelessness and poor health, with **83% of people identified through the initiative reporting at least one physical health, mental health or alcohol and other drug concern.**

For people sleeping rough, untreated wounds, infections, chronic health conditions and difficulties accessing preventative healthcare can contribute to worsening health and avoidable hospital presentations.

We believe healthcare should be accessible to everyone, regardless of their housing circumstances.

CQ Zero is supported by Country to Coast Queensland with received funding from the Australian Government

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What is the Homeless Health Outreach Initiative?

The Homeless Health Outreach Initiative is a locally developed, multi-agency response that brings basic healthcare and support directly to people experiencing homelessness in Rockhampton.

The initiative will provide:

Basic healthcare and first aid

Wound care, basic health assessments and immediate assistance within the scope of participating health professionals.

Health advice and prevention

Practical health education, early identification of health concerns and preventative support.

Connections to services

Referrals and assistance to access GPs, community health services, mental health support and other essential care.

Housing and homelessness support

Connections to housing and support services through CQ Zero's coordinated approach.

Relationship Building

Creating opportunities for people experiencing homelessness to engage with healthcare providers in a safe, welcoming and non-judgemental environment.

The service will initially operate on a small scale, with the intention of expanding as community participation and resources grow.

A community-led initiative without dedicated government funding

This initiative is being established through the collective contributions of local organisations and community members.

Participating organisations are contributing personnel, professional expertise, equipment and other practical resources to make the outreach service possible.

It demonstrates the power of local collaboration and what can be achieved when organisations work together rather than in isolation.

Get involved

We welcome the support of local pharmacies, businesses, health professionals and community organisations who share our commitment to improving health and housing outcomes.

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Together, we can build a community where homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring and where access to healthcare is not determined by whether someone has a home.

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