

Find a local café, drink coffee and #helpyourhood

According to 2011 Census data, 105,000 people in Australia are without a safe and secure place to call home. The situation has drastically changed since 2011 - and for the worse.

Housing affordability, domestic violence and an ever shrinking social safety net is putting more people out of their homes than ever before.

Rough sleepers are the most visible people impacted by the crisis brewing in our communities - which makes it sobering to know that people surviving on the streets or in cars and tents are just 6% of those effected.

We believe that homelessness is the one of the most pressing social issues we face today and we want to do something to change this.

StreetSmart raises funds to support grassroots services who have seen their public funding shrink, while witnessing an unprecedented demand for their services.

When those governments fail to step up, local people are stepping in. In all 500+ small businesses all over Australia are on board to raise funds through the CaféSmart initiative.

CafeSmart is a major national campaign that is about driving community responses to homelessness.

CafeSmart grants pool locally raised donations and direct them back into local services that are delivering frontline services. These are services that are serving up hot meals, putting roofs over people's heads, and working towards long term solutions to the crisis.

"When more than 1 in every 200 people are homeless in Australia we know there is a problem. When services working on the frontlines are telling us that this is a figure is likely to be much higher, and we have coherent public response - that is a huge cause for concern. Most people want to do something about it, and to help people that are struggling in their own community. CafeSmart is really a grassroots movement that is giving people a vehicle to effect some change and positively impact people's lives." – Adam Robinson – CEO, StreetSmart Australia.

"If it weren't for the efforts of StreetSmart, and the focus on supporting grassroots organisations such as ours, then a lot of our work wouldn't get done. Without StreetSmart's support, many of the smaller organisations would be at risk of closing." - Kate Witherdin - Options Youth Housing (Sydney)

"The demand for our services is unprecedented. In the last six months our daily breakfast has doubled and for some of these people that will be their only meal for the day. We have experienced a 20% increase in the demand for meals over the past month alone." - Kathy Hogarthy at the St Mary's House of Welcome – Victoria

Now in its 7th year CaféSmart will be held on **Friday August 4**th during Homelessness Week.

Cafés are encouraged to find out more and sign up on line at <u>StreetSmart</u> Coffee lovers can find a participating café in their local hood on a google map <u>here</u>. Those who want to help but can't get to a café can donate <u>here</u>.

For interview opportunities with StreetSmart CEO Adam Robinson, images or further information about the projects that get funded and the local impact, please contact Under One Roof joanne@underoneroof.com.au| 0411 199 799

StreetSmart was founded in 2003 to support and strengthen smaller, grassroots community organisations helping the homeless.



These smaller organisations are critical in helping many people in crisis. StreetSmart helps out by raising funds and delivering financial grants, raising community awareness of the issues of homelessness and assisting these organisations to connect across their communities.