

ANTI-POVERTY NETWORK SOUTH AUSTRALIA



MEDIA RELEASE
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For Immediate Release

“Stop Talking, Start Listening” – Low-Income Northern Suburbs Resident Challenges MPs To See Reality Of Poverty

Anti-Poverty Week comes at a time when **1 in 6 children, 1 in adults, live in poverty**, and 18 months into the Albanese and Malinauskas governments, there has been little action to combat this crisis.

Now, more than ever, it is time for MPs to listen to the experts: those out there in the city and in the suburbs who are living it. JobSeeker, public housing resident, and prominent Anti Poverty Network SA Northern Branch member, Rita, put her challenge to those in power:

*“Labor, get your s**t together, and fix this b****y crisis. After decades of punishing government policies, homelessness is everybody’s problem, including here in the north.*

Come on Mr Premier, come on Nick Champion, Susan Close, Amanda Rishworth, and Matt Burnell, (Just to name a few). Step down from your Ivory Towers, step down into our world.

Join me in Fremont Park, Elizabeth, on Saturday mornings, where many people experiencing homelessness and crisis seek support, to see how many people have been failed by our social safety-net and broken housing system.

We know that poverty is a political choice. Time to stop talking and start listening. We voted you in, we can always vote you out.”

We know from what people have told us about their day-to-day experiences, that we should be ashamed that in our country today, millions of people are struggling to get by. They simply do not have enough to make ends meet.

We know that mass investment in public housing is both the right and the smart thing to do. And we know that by strengthening our income support system, and ensuring all payments are above the poverty-line, including JobSeeker, we can ensure that everyone can live with dignity.

Further Info: Call Duncan Bainbridge on 0434 045 805, David Winderlich on 0401 380 782, or Brendan Folwell on 0428 741 601, or e-mail info@apnsa.org.

Ph: (08) 8451 1589

W: apn-sa.org

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