



21 December 2011

## **KERRY SHINE MP**

**State Member for Toowoomba North**

**Suite 2, ABC Building,  
297 Margaret Street  
Toowoomba, Qld. 4350  
[www.kerryshinemp.com](http://www.kerryshinemp.com)**

### **Funding helps house Toowoomba homeless**

A Toowoomba homelessness service will get a helping hand, receiving over \$1.1 million in Queensland Government funding over the next three years to continue its vital work.

Member for Toowoomba North Kerry Shine today announced the Salvation Army would receive the funding to support locals affected by homelessness.

“Organisations such as the Salvation Army are the backbone of our local community, reaching out to people who need their help the most,” Mr Shine said.

“This funding will help the Salvation Army run its Toowoomba Crisis Accommodation Services, providing immediate accommodation for families and individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

“This organisation has been working hard and over the past 12 months, they’ve helped 184 clients with 237 children.”

Housing Minister Karen Struthers said the Salvation Army in Toowoomba is one of 34 services across the state to share in more than \$34 million over three years of recently announced Queensland Government funding.

“The Bligh Government’s is committed to providing greater support services and building a brighter future for Queensland’s most vulnerable people,” Ms Struthers said.

“We recently announced an investment of more than \$1 billion in the State Budget to help more Queenslanders into homes and give homeless people a roof over their heads.

Ms Struthers also recently launched *Opening Doors* – the Queensland Government’s three year strategy for reducing homelessness.

“The strategy contains three priorities: helping people avoid becoming homeless; helping people get ahead; and working together for stronger services.”

“There are often multiple complex issues that need to be addressed when helping someone who’s homeless, which is why community-based services, such as the Salvation Army are so important – giving people hope and the chance to get their lives back on track.”

“We are doing all we can to turn around the lives of homeless Queenslanders by supporting them to find a way out of crisis.”

To find out more about Queensland Government housing and homelessness initiatives, please visit [www.communities.qld.gov.au/housing](http://www.communities.qld.gov.au/housing)

**Further information: Phone: 4638 5755 Fax: 4638 4056  
Email: [toowoomba.north@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:toowoomba.north@parliament.qld.gov.au)**

**Web: [www.kerryshinemp.com](http://www.kerryshinemp.com)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/kerryshine](http://www.facebook.com/kerryshine)**