

# Your Home

December 2021 ISSUE 96



## Scholarships help our students shine

**B**enjamin is a bright, ambitious student who was first awarded a Youth Development Scholarship in 2018.

Benjamin has received a scholarship each year since 2018 and is now studying at the University of Sydney.

"It's not just a financial component," Benjamin says. "It shows you that you're valued and gives you the confidence to pursue your studies, get into university and have hope for the future."

### Inside this issue

- Youth Development Scholarships
- Aboriginal home ownership
- Online tenancy forms
- COVID Safe summer
- Jokes and tips





## Minister's message

### Welcome to the last edition of *Your Home* for 2021.

This year has highlighted the resilience of the people of NSW and their willingness to come forward and do what is best for our communities.

As your Minister, I have been pleased to see our social housing communities, from right across the State, come out in force to get the job. Thank you for doing your part to protect yourselves, your loved ones and your communities.

Earlier in the year, I had the pleasure of meeting Benjamin who features on the front cover of this magazine. Benjamin is an inspiring young Aboriginal man, who has benefited from the Youth Development Scholarships Program. He is now studying law at Sydney University. I would like to congratulate him on his determination and wish him success in his studies.

It is important to me that our young people are empowered and equipped with the tools they need to finish their education and reach their full potential.

I encourage students to apply for the Youth Development Scholarships so we can help fund your future. Read more about the program in the next article.

Once again, our holiday season may look a little different this year. Find tips for keeping yourself and your loved ones safe this summer, on page 3.

Best wishes for 2022.

**Alister Henskens, SC MP**  
**Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services**

## Scholarship applications now open!

### Do you know a student who could benefit from a \$1,000 scholarship?

DCJ has launched its annual scholarship program – now called the Youth Development Scholarships – to help young people finish their education and reach their full potential.

Up to 1,200 scholarships worth \$1,000 are now on offer for the 2022 school year. Students who received a scholarship in past years can reapply.

The scholarships help students to pay for educational essentials like IT equipment, school uniforms, textbooks and secondary support costs.

To be eligible, students must be completing Year 10, 11 or 12 at a NSW high school or HSC equivalent at TAFE. They must also be a social housing client or living in out-of-home care.

Applications are now open and will close on 18 February 2022. Funds will be available in Term 2 of 2022.

Applying for a scholarship is easy. You just need to fill in an online form at: **nsw-dcj.smapply.io/**

To find out more, visit:  
**www.dcj.nsw.gov.au/scholarships** or email **education@dcj.nsw.gov.au**





## Aboriginal home ownership – one step closer

The Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) has launched an exciting new initiative to support Aboriginal people who are ready to take the next step to home ownership.

The **AHO Home Ownership Co-contribution Scheme** provides grants towards legal costs and home loan deposits to eligible applicants.

To support the community throughout their journey, the AHO have a team of Regional Project Officers who can provide guidance and information.

If you are interested in finding out about the scheme and your eligibility, please visit:  
[www.aho.nsw.gov.au/aho-home-ownership-deposit-co-contribution-scheme](http://www.aho.nsw.gov.au/aho-home-ownership-deposit-co-contribution-scheme)

## Update your tenancy details online

**Did you know you can complete tenancy forms online?**

The DCJ tenancy online form makes it easier for you to update us on any changes to your tenancy without having to visit a housing office.

It's quick, secure and can be completed in the comfort of your own home.

You can fill out the form by selecting the options suited to your needs or you can call the Housing Contact Centre to email the form directly to you.

What forms can you complete online?

- Rental Subsidy
- Application for Additional Occupants
- Details of Property and Land Ownership
- Authority for Rental Deduction
- Income Confirmation Scheme
- Notice to Vacate

Search for *MyHousing* in the App Store (for Apple users) or Google Play Store (for Android users).

To complete an online form, visit:  
[www.facs.nsw.gov.au/myhousing/tenancyonline](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/myhousing/tenancyonline)



## Staying COVID Safe this summer

**This summer, let's enjoy the sunshine with our loved ones and stay COVID Safe.**

We can protect our families, friends and communities in so many ways.

You can:

- get vaccinated as soon as you are eligible
- follow the Public Health Orders and NSW Health advice
- get tested for COVID-19 if you are feeling unwell
- practise good hygiene, like wearing a mask, washing your hands, and regularly disinfecting surfaces.

Have a great break!

## Jokes and tips

### Jokes:

**Q: Why did the whale cross the street?**

**A: To get to the other tide!**



**Q: What do you call a lazy baby kangaroo?**

**A: A pouch potato!**



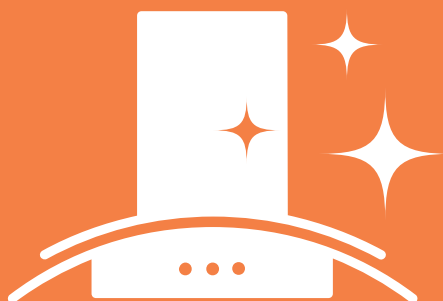
**Q: What is a rabbit's favourite dance style?**

**A: Hip-Hop!**

### Tenant tips:

**Not looking forward to cleaning your range hood filter? The removable sections have fat and oil trapped in them and can be a real pain to clean.**

Instead of scrubbing them, soak the filters in Napisan and hot water overnight...and presto! The grime is gone.



Napisan acts as a degreaser. Simply wash them with warm soapy water and leave them out to dry. They will come out looking brand new.

Thanks Fiona for your magical tip!

## Have a story for Your Home?

Are you part of a community group, garden, or initiative that you think should be featured in *Your Home*?

Submit your stories, ideas, tips and jokes to:  
**your.home@facs.nsw.gov.au**

If your story is selected, you could win a \$25 voucher.

## Contact us

If you need to visit a DCJ office in person, please call ahead and make an appointment. You can also contact us by downloading the *MyHousing* app, online or over the phone.



Download the **MyHousing app** from the App Store or the Google Play Store.



**MyHousing Online Services**  
[www.facs.nsw.gov.au/myhousing](http://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/myhousing)



**Housing Contact Centre** 1800 422 322  
24/7 for general enquiries

## Interpreting

If you would like someone who speaks your language to help you over the phone, call All Graduates on **1300 652 488** before calling the Housing Contact Centre.

Arabic

إذا كنت ترغب في أن يساعدك شخص يتحدث لغتك عبر الهاتف، اتصل بـ All Graduates على الرقم **1300 652 488** قبل الاتصال بمركز اتصال الإسكان.

Persian

اگر دوست دارید شخصی که به زبان شما صحبت می کند از طریق تلفن به شما کمک کند، قبل از تلفن به مرکز تماس مسکن با All Graduates از طریق شماره **1300 652 488** تماس بگیرید.

Simplified Chinese

如果您需要能说您的语言的人在电话中为您提供帮助，请在打电话给住房联络中心之前先拨打 **1300 652 488** 联系 All Graduates。

Spanish

Si desea que alguien que hable su idioma le ayude por teléfono, llame a All Graduates al **1300 652 488** antes de llamar al centro de contacto para asuntos de vivienda.

Traditional Chinese

如果你需要講你語言的人通過電話幫助你，請先撥打 **1300652488** 致電 All Graduates 翻譯公司，然後再致電房屋署聯絡中心。

Vietnamese

Nếu quý vị cần người nói cùng ngôn ngữ với quý vị giúp đỡ qua điện thoại, hãy gọi cho All Graduates qua số **1300 652 488** trước khi gọi cho Trung tâm Liên lạc Gia cư.