



Northern Rivers Echo (Lismore, NSW)

Thursday 17/11/2016

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slice

CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

press clip

Snapshot on Homelessness

GET a completely different picture of homelessness at an exhibition of photographs taken by people who have accessed Social Futures' Connecting Home service.

Homelessness Exposed is about sharing the stories of people who have experienced homelessness to raise awareness and challenge negative stereotypes.

Many people who present as homeless have experienced unforeseen circumstances.

They can come from all backgrounds and ages and are often suffering unexpected health or financial issues

"We handed out some digital cameras and asked

people to document their experiences of homelessness, drawing attention to both the negative challenges faced by people living out of bags and cars, couch surfing or in tents but also the positive aspects around support and what has sustained them," says First Response Team Leader, Holly Loveday.

"We wanted them to speak creatively about their experiences" says Holly.

The Homelessness Exposed Exhibition would not have been possible without the generous support of **The New Camera House**, **Officeworks Lismore**, **Premier Art and Framing** and **Flock Café**.



Exhibition opening @ Flock Cafe, Lismore, 4.30pm, Wednesday 16 November 2016



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land where we live and work and their continuing connection to land, water, sea and community. We pay respects to their Elders Past and Present, to their unique and diverse cultures, and to their past, present and future.



Baby On Board.

👉 Homelessness Exposed opens at Flock Cafe, Lismore, Wednesday November 16 at 4.30pm



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Extract from MADDI'S POEM

*It started off pretty early, seven weeks old to be exact.
Mum couldn't handle the greatness I was born with,
she palmed me off to my dad.*

*The first and only child he'd ever have,
The man went above and beyond for me, would always
go to extreme lengths.*

*He wanted for me the best and best only, he never
failed to provide,*

*Then one day he met a girl, id call her the love of his
life.*

*To say we didn't get along would be an
understatement,*

AVO'S DOCS and Cops, ended up in foster placement.

*I loved my family there, but it didn't feel like my own,
and when they finally let me back at dads the place
didn't feel like home.*

**'After moving out at 14 over family
issues and already having minimal
family, I was left with no support.
Without Connecting Home, I don't
know where I'd be.'**

Maddie



"Michael".



Walking The Streets.



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"T" is the victim of domestic violence who approached Connecting Home to help her find a safe home where she could 'nest' in the lead up to the arrival of her baby boy.



Phillip is a single man with Cerebellar Ataxia who had to live in a motel in order to be able to shower. Connecting Home helped him find accommodation in a new complex in Goonellabah with an accessible shower. When he walked into the unit he began to cry. He was shedding tears of joy.