

# ACT REGIONAL COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ELECTION REQUESTS 2024

## ***Commitment to a Stronger, Fairer, and More Inclusive Community***

The ACT Regional Community Service Alliance is dedicated to advocating for and implementing initiatives that enhance the wellbeing of our community.

We support the election priority areas of ACTCOSS, in particular those of housing affordability and availability, and community sector sustainability.

Our additional priority election areas reflect our commitment to providing essential services and support to all residents of the ACT.

### **1. COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

**Renew Current Peppercorn Lease Arrangements of Community Facilities** which are pivotal in providing affordable spaces for community services. The renewal of these leases ensures service continuity of services offered by community organisations.

**Fund Facility Management of Ageing Community Facility Buildings** to maintain and upgrade ageing buildings, ensuring they remain safe, functional, and welcoming spaces for community use.

### **2. MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS**

**Establish a Mental Health Supports program** for those community members living with mental health conditions ineligible for NDIS to access support programs and resources to assist them in managing their condition and maintain connection with community.

### **3. COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

**Develop Community Transport Principles** to embed community transport within all ACT Government programs and policies ensuring transport services are accessible and inclusive for all residents. The Alliance can provide examples of such principles.

**Design and Pilot a Transport Allocation System** operating across all Alliance members' services that centralises requests for all community transport needs.

**Invest in a Three-Year Pilot Program for Family-Oriented Community Transport** that focuses on delivering family-oriented community transport options to provide vital transport services tailored to meet the needs of families, enhancing mobility and access to essential services including attendance at early learning centres.

### **4. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PERMANENT SUPPORT PROGRAM**

**Establish a Community Assistance Permanent Support Program** to provide ongoing, assistance to people suffering from long term/permanent/terminal medical condition/s or chronic illness, who are ineligible for the Community Assistance and Temporary Support Program (CATS), NDIS, My Aged Care Home Care Packages (HCP) or Commonwealth Home Support (CHSP) funding.

### **5. ADDRESSING DEMANDS DUE TO POPULATION GROWTH**

Many community programs are not being funded to match the ongoing increase in the ACT population. Expectations of what can be delivered needs to be matched with the resources received. The findings of the sector sustainability project are pivotal in this request.

