## **KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN**



## Dear Minister Spence,

Strong communities start in shared spaces and shared moments. Neighbourhood Houses are essential for fostering those moments and connections. Every week, 185,000 people access Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria for resilience, friendship, wellbeing, learning, inclusion, and connection.

Neighbourhood Houses have faced rising costs, and increasing community need and an erosion of core funding in real terms. Our funding no longer covers staff wages, let alone operational costs. Around half of all Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria are running at a loss. **This cannot continue**.

We are asking you to urgently restore funding to historical levels through a 25% increase, allowing Neighbourhood Houses to continue providing communities with essential support and connection.

Best Regards,	
Sign:	
Name:	

Address:

- Increase funding for Neighbourhood Houses by 25%
- Support 25 Neighbourhood Houses who do not currently receive any NHCP funding
- Develop a fund for the establishment of 5 additional Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria's growth areas annually



Why I le	ove about	my Ne	ighbour	hood Hou	use:
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To:

## **Ros Spence MP**

Level 22, 50 Lonsdale Street Melbourne VIC 3000

If undeliverable, please return to Neighbourhood Houses Victoria, Shop B41, Level 4744 Bourke Street, Docklands VIC, 3008