

# **Volunteer Roles at the National Housing Conference 2025**

The National Housing Conference 2025 will be held in Perth on 14-16 October 2025 at the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre. We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers to join our team in making this conference one to remember; there are a number of opportunities available.

Do you want to gain the first-hand perspectives of industry experts? Session Assistant role is an excellent opportunity to help staff our sessions while listening to presentations from housing and community service sector leaders, policy makers, researchers and more.

For those studying event management, our Concurrent Session Event Volunteer role is a great chance to gain hands-on behind the scenes experience, assisting with volunteer and speaker liaison.

With a variety of roles to get involved with, we look forward to having you join our team 14-16 October at the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre.

To apply, please click on the following link to complete the application form no later than Sunday 7 September 2025: APPLICATION FORM

# **About the National Housing Conference 2025**

The National Housing Conference (NHC) has been staged in partnership between state and territory governments and AHURI for 25 years. Convened every two years and attracting over 1,000 delegates, it is the largest housing conference in Australasia.

NHC is a 3-day forum where international and local evidence, best practice and policy come together to address challenges and develop the future shape of housing in Australia. NHC is the largest cross-sectoral housing event in Australasia and is a key platform for policy makers, housing and community service providers, industry, researchers, and planners to shape improved housing outcomes across Australia.

# **Roles available**

ROLE: Session Assistant	3
ROLE: Signage and Directional Assistant	4
ROLE: Information Desk and Registration Attendants	5
ROLE: Concurrent Session Event Volunteer	6

## **ROLE: Session Assistant**

**OVERVIEW:** Assist with execution of concurrent and/or plenary sessions by ushering attendees into the room, assisting them with any questions relating to the location of facilities, assist with use of the conference portal and assist with microphone running during the Q&A section of the session.

## **DUTIES:**

- Arrive at allocated room 30 minutes before beginning of session.
- Introduce yourself to the AHURI team member managing the session setup or Concurrent Session Event Volunteer.
- Liaise with the AHURI team member or Concurrent Session Event Volunteer as to when the door will open. One volunteer per door will be allocated a click counter which is to be used to count people coming through the door and reported back after the session at the Information Desk.
- Stand outside door to answer any questions from attendees waiting to enter. Engage with those waiting as to whether they have the conference portal loaded and if not, assist them to access it.
- As delegates arrive, direct them to empty seats (usually to the front, where they are less likely to sit) and encourage them to fill from the centre (unless have mobility issues).
- Check delegate name tags as they enter to ensure only people who are entitled to attend session e.g. exhibitors do not have access to sessions.
- Ensure you know where the 'How to use the portal' flyers are to pass onto any delegates who have queries regarding the conference portal.
- Ensure you know where the microphones are for Q&A and liaise with the AHURI team member orConcurrent Session Event Volunteer as to which part of the room you will cover if part of your role.
- During the presentation(s), usher any late comers to vacant seats.
- Microphone runner Q&A work with other volunteer to move microphones to attendees who raise hands. Ensure you are eye contact with the facilitator in relation to who is going to be asking a question, they will guide you.
- Assist AHURI staff as directed.

# **ROLE: Signage and Directional Assistant**

**OVERVIEW:** Assist delegates with directions to sessions, break areas, bathrooms and direct conference presenters to the speakers' prep room or the room where they are presenting.

#### **DUTIES:**

- o Arrive at venue for the briefing session where tasks for the day will be allocated.
- Stand in allocated area to be ready to assist delegates with the location of rooms and if a room has multiple entries (most likely the plenary room) direct them to a door that has less traffic and encourage people to more forward and into centre of the room.
- Be aware of where there may be designated assessable seating for people with special needs.
- Assist delegates with directional questions, such as locations of sessions, break areas and facilities.
- Assist delegates with general enquiries.
- Assist AHURI staff as directed.

Note: This role is likely to be done in conjunction with one of the other roles, such as Session Assistant.

# **ROLE:** Information Desk and Registration Attendants

**OVERVIEW:** Assist with answering delegate questions at the Conference Information Desk and assisting with people checking into the conference.

#### **DUTIES:**

- Arrive at Information/registration desk 15 minutes prior to allocated volunteer shift time
- Review the FAQ document and be familiar with answers or at least where to find them.
- o If you do not know the answer to a question, please ask an AHURI Events team member.
- Answer directional questions such as location of any rooms being used, timings, location of facilities at Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.
- o If required, direct presenters to the Speaker Prep room.
- Registration attendants assist people with using the self-check-in kiosks to print name tag and collect lanyard and Pocket Program if they want one.
- Assist delegates with accessing the conference portal (website to be saved to homepage).
- Alert the Conference Manager to questions repeatedly raised that can point to an improvement (i.e. directional signage, etc)
- Assist AHURI staff as directed.

Note: This role may be done in conjunction with one of the other roles.

## **ROLE: Concurrent Session Event Volunteer**

**OVERVIEW:** Assist with the coordination of allocated concurrent sessions, including speaker management, liaising with AV technicians and supervision of session Volunteers.

#### **DUTIES:**

- o Arrive at allocated rooms at least **30 minutes** before beginning of session.
- Introduce yourself to the AV technicians and ensure all is okay for the session –
   check the session briefing document for what should be in the room.
- Check the session briefing document for a session sponsor. If there is a sponsor, check if there is a banner for them in the room and if the correct holding slide being displayed. If the banner or slide is wrong use the walkie talkie to advise the issue what session, what room and what is missing.
- Greet speakers and facilitators and coordinate them getting ready for the session such as introducing to AV technicians for microphones.
- Ensure volunteers are at the doors and understand their role. At end of session, collect clickers and report the total attendance to AHURI Events staff.
- Ensure you know where the microphones are for Q&A and direct the session volunteers as to which part of the room they will be covering and ensure they are aware of their role: keep eye contact with facilitator as well as audience for where questions are coming from and cleaning microphone after delegate has asked a question.
- Where required, assist delegates with any technical questions relating to the conference portal.
- Usher delegates to seats making sure the front seats are filled up first.
- Assist AHURI staff as directed.

Note: This role is ideal for a person studying Events Management/Coordination or is highly organised with strong attention to detail.

### **AHURI EVENT CONTACT:**

Susannah Murray
Conference and Events Coordinator
susannah.murray@ahuri.edu.au
03 9660 2303