

BHAVAN CARES

Visit: www.bhavancares.org

Call: 1300 BHAVAN (1300 24 28 26)

Youth issues

The Bhavan Cares provides a wide range of services for homeless and disadvantaged young people. Contact Bhavan Cares Youth Centre on 1300 24 28 26

Street Angels

Outreach workers make contact with homeless and at-risk young people on the streets to let them know someone cares and to target young runaways before they become entrenched in the homeless sub-culture. Outreach workers also assist those who are entrenched in homelessness, prostitution and drug addiction.

Drop-in Centres

In partnership with other likeminded organisations provide a range of services such as meals, medical and legal services, storage, washing facilities, and showers. Many young people are assisted to resolve their crisis and move on; others are referred to services to meet identified needs.

Accommodation

The Bhavan Cares in partnership with other likeminded organisations provides emergency, short and long-term accommodation options, with levels of support depending on individual needs. These services aim to provide homeless young people with a supportive, safe environment and to assist them develop the necessary living skills to achieve independence.

The Bhavan Cares assists young people who no longer need high level support to secure permanent accommodation through their own or community resources. An important part of this support is assisting them connect with local services in these communities.

Other Services

- **Prevention** - the Bhavan Cares is increasingly trying to prevent young people from leaving home prematurely by providing support to families and young people experiencing difficulties.
- **Drug & Alcohol rehabilitation** - provision of rehabilitation (or referral) is a vital aspect of The Bhavan Cares youth programs. For the benefit of the young people the Bhavan cares is developing innovative drug and alcohol programs which are relevant and accessible.
- **Employment** - The Bhavan Cares uses work training programs specifically designed for young people. Outdoor adventure projects also help long term unemployed young people build skills, overcome fears, and broaden their perceptions of what they can achieve.
- **Education** - Literacy programs use art, drama and creative writing to help encourage young people express themselves. Numeracy programs, computer classes and other work-related skills are also taught.
- **Health** - Outreach workers provide health information to young people on the streets and visiting drop-in centres. Doctors visit youth care centres as a free service and mental health workers are also being increasingly used.
- **Recreation** - The Bhavan Cares has accessible, developmental type recreational activities running as part of their program. Local young people are always welcome and invited to join in this caring community.