

# Media Release Template

[DATE]

## Local community backs plan to prevent persistent poverty rates

Local community organisations/[the name of your organisation] have/s today backed a new plan that shows a path forward for the NSW 2018/19 Budget to reduce the experience of poverty and disadvantage in [your region] and prevent it happening in the first place.

The plan is outlined in the NSW Council of Social Service Pre-Budget Submission and is the result of a state-wide consultation with health and community service organisations around the state.

[Your organisation] will today meet with [your local MP] to discuss the plan which identifies investment in giving children and young people the best start in life, creating homes for our most vulnerable, making energy more affordable, boosting support for people with mental health issues, building a fair justice system for Aboriginal communities, financially empowering women throughout their life cycle and giving a voice to all people with a disability as key priorities.

[Your spokesperson] said [your organisation] would be focused particularly on [insert the recommendation/s of particular concern to your organisation]

[Insert lines here about why this/they are so important to your region/clients]

[Your Spokesperson] said recent figures released from the NSW Council of Social Service that show levels of poverty are becoming entrenched across Australia indicated the need to start doing things differently.

“Things aren’t changing and they desperately need to. This plan comes from our community and communities just like ours. It’s time our leaders listened to the solutions we are putting forward.

“If we are to make meaningful change we must break the poverty cycle and ensure all people have fundamental human rights and access to opportunity. We know that our communities are diverse, strong and connected and have the solutions to the wicked problems they face. Together we can build a community free of poverty. .” See [NCOSS Pre-Budget Submission](#)

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