

HANZA Board Director Recruitment Brief – 2026

About HANZA

Homeshare Australia & New Zealand Alliance (HANZA Inc.) is the peak body for Homeshare in Australia and New Zealand.

Homeshare creates mutually beneficial living arrangements by bringing together people seeking affordable accommodation with people who have a home and may value companionship or practical support.

HANZA does not deliver Homeshare services directly. We provide strategic leadership, advocacy, shared learning, evidence and practical resources to support communities and organisations to develop sustainable Homeshare programs.

The opportunity

HANZA is seeking **up to two new Directors** to strengthen the collective capability of our Board as we enter an important phase of development.

We are particularly interested in people with strong experience in:

- **Fundraising and philanthropy** – developing philanthropic relationships, major donor or fundraising strategies, trusts and foundations, or securing investment for social-purpose organisations.
- **Community development and social innovation** – supporting community-led initiatives, building partnerships and developing sustainable models.

We also welcome people who bring experience in government relations, policy, housing, ageing, disability, research or other relevant areas, but these are **not essential**.

We are looking for **complementary strengths** that add to the existing capability of the Board, rather than expecting every candidate to meet every criterion.

Victorian representation

Victoria is a particular priority for these appointments.

HANZA is currently working to influence the Victorian Government's strategy to increase access to housing in regional Victoria, including through the expansion of Homeshare.

We therefore particularly welcome candidates based in Victoria who bring relevant knowledge, networks or experience.

We remain open to strong candidates from elsewhere in Australia or New Zealand.

What we value

We are looking for Directors who bring:

- Strategic thinking and sound judgement
- Relevant professional, community or sector expertise
- Strong relationship-building skills and networks
- A collaborative approach to Board decision-making
- Commitment to HANZA's purpose and values
- Capacity and enthusiasm to contribute actively to a small, national Board

Previous Board experience is welcome but **not essential**.

We particularly welcome people with substantial professional or community leadership experience who are now seeking an opportunity to contribute their skills, experience and networks to a purpose-driven organisation. This may suit someone who is **semi-retired, retired or working part-time** and has the capacity for meaningful Board involvement.

HANZA also values lived experience and the perspective it can bring to Board discussions. This might include experience as a homesharer, householder, homeseeker, family member or carer, or relevant housing, ageing, disability or community experience.

A governing and contributing Board

HANZA has a **governing and contributing Board**. Directors provide governance and strategic oversight while also contributing their expertise, networks and time to progress HANZA's priorities.

This may include participation in committees and working groups, advocacy, partnerships, communications, fundraising and other strategic initiatives.

The Board is small, engaged and collaborative. Meetings are held **up to 10 times a year, primarily via Zoom**, with Directors contributing between meetings as appropriate.

Directors are appointed for **one year at each AGM in accordance with HANZA's Constitution**. HANZA is seeking people who are willing to make a **longer-term commitment** to the organisation and its development.

Why HANZA?

This is an opportunity to:

- Help shape the development of Homeshare across Australia and New Zealand
- Influence policy and practice at the intersection of housing, ageing, social connection and community wellbeing
- Contribute to an organisation developing new approaches rather than managing an established model
- Work with communities, organisations, government and sector partners
- Bring your expertise and networks to an organisation where Directors can make a tangible contribution
- Help shape HANZA's future strategy, partnerships and national role

How to apply

Please provide:

- A short cover letter outlining why HANZA interests you and the experience, skills and perspective you could bring; and
- Your current CV.

You do **not** need to meet every criterion. We are interested in the overall contribution you could make to the collective capability and effectiveness of the Board.

For a confidential conversation:

Rosie Lawn, Chair, HANZA

rosie.lawn@hanza.org.au

Expressions of interest close Friday 9 October 2026.