

PATHWAYS HOME TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROJECT



The Pathways Home Transitional Housing Project (Pathways Home) is an innovative tri partite partnership between PAYCE, Women's Community Shelters (WCS) and Bridge Housing Limited to manage housing land-banked for future development, to provide housing for women and children leaving emergency crisis accommodation.

BACKGROUND

- There is a lack of affordable housing for women exiting crisis shelters, particularly those not entitled to mainstream housing supports or private rental products until immigration/family law issues are resolved. Consequently, there is a risk that women will remain in a cycle of homelessness or return to perpetrators due to lack of alternative accommodation.
- Pathways Home aims to provide women and children leaving violence with a safe and secure home to rebuild their lives and heal from violence. Pathways Home is a partnership initiative between PAYCE, Women's Community Shelters (WCS) and Bridge Housing Limited.
- PAYCE owns the Properties and has undertaken to make properties available for the purposes of the project.
- Bridge Housing will provide property and tenancy management services under the partnership.
- Women's Community Shelters (WCS) operates crisis accommodation for women and children. WCS will provide outreach support and identify suitable tenants for housing.
- Through this innovative partnership, PAYCE has nominated Bridge Housing to manage the properties as transitional housing as part of Pathways Home and Bridge Housing has agreed to do so in partnership with WCS who will identify suitable tenants.

PATHWAYS HOME

This project offers immediate and comprehensive shelter services to women and children at risk of homelessness after transitioning from WCS crisis accommodation.

Homeless women and children will enjoy stable housing and support services, for up to 18 months and will develop skills necessary to sustain their housing independently.

WCS will provide ongoing case management and support services as part of their outreach programme and educate women about their responsibilities as tenants.

PAYCE will provide five properties (in North West Sydney) in kind and undertake modifications to ensure the properties are fit for purpose. The PAYCE Foundation will provide seed funding for the Pathways Home Project Fund to support responsive maintenance and other costs.

Bridge Housing will manage the tenancy and undertake responsive maintenance.

WCS will assess clients suitable for housing and provide outreach supports. Effective support functions will include: educating clients about their responsibilities as a tenant; advocating on behalf of clients to address tenancy issues; acting as an intermediary to facilitate communication between the client and housing provider; educating clients re: their financial responsibilities and budgeting skills; and assisting clients to heal from violence and work through substance use, mental health problems and other barriers to recovery.

Lease or occupancy agreements will be implemented that set out tenancy rights and obligations. Leases will be renewed every 6 months and allow for case work to support and review strategies to enable successful transition to private rental at the end of the period.

The project will provide a practical example of how community organisations can work with private companies and leverage philanthropy to develop affordable housing opportunities for people in need.

PROJECT STATUS

- The first families will transition from a WCS shelter to the transitional housing in early November 2017.
- The partners hope to grow the project and will engage with other developers to increase the supply of transitional accommodation for women and children in need.

PARTNER INFORMATION

WCS

WCS is a sector leader with a proven track record establishing and operating crisis accommodation shelters for women and children.

With a current network of four shelters across NSW they are working with communities in Penrith and Bayside to open two additional shelters by early 2018. Their aim is to open an additional 4 more shelters by 2019.

WCS operates under an innovative funding model involving collaboration with the local community, business people, philanthropic foundations and the Commonwealth Government. We believe that communities engaged around local initiatives are key to addressing women's homelessness and domestic family violence.

PAYCE/PAYCE Foundation

PAYCE is a leading property development and investment company. Founded in 1978, PAYCE has a proven track record in setting new international benchmarks with its landmark integrated, lifestyle developments.

PAYCE has also won a reputation for not just delivering exceptional, intelligently designed contemporary homes, but also in creating dynamic and cohesive communities.

The PAYCE Foundation was founded in 2016 to build on the long philanthropic tradition of PAYCE. The PAYCE Foundation's vision is a world where disadvantage and misfortune do not limit anyone's potential and are not determinants of quality of life. The PAYCE Foundation aims to become a best practice example of engaged and strategic philanthropy.

Bridge Housing Limited

Bridge Housing is an award winning community housing provider innovating to deliver better outcomes for residents and the communities in which we operate.

Bridge Housing is a registered tier one community housing provider with over thirty years' experience in the delivery of quality social and affordable housing services. Our mission is to improve lives and strengthen communities through the provision of housing and services for low to moderate income households.

Bridge Housing currently owns and manages more than 1,900 dwellings assisting some 3,100 residents across Greater Sydney operating in 20 local government areas.

**For further information please contact
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