

CHL changing lives

Three months ago the community of Warrayu, a small Indigenous community that sits within the Wyndam region of the East Kimberley, was closed down by the DoH in preparation for a re-building phase. The locals were re-housed throughout the Wyndham region during construction.

The community now consists of three refurbished houses, three refurbished single men's quarters and four new homes currently under construction (due for completion by mid to late June). Due to the many years of wear and tear the community housing standard had dropped significantly for the Warrayu people which created low morale and despair throughout.

On Friday 20 May 2011, it gave CHL great pleasure in signing tenants to three newly refurbished homes.

When asked what it meant to move into these new homes Jean, Jonathon and Laura all said it was the first step in moving forward and it is a very proud moment. They all agreed that it was important to look after their homes but more importantly when the newly built community is completed it will bring everyone closer together which is critical particularly for the young and elderly. Jonathon pointed out that this was the first time in almost 10 years that something had been done to lift the community. Laura stated that now is the time to teach their children about respecting themselves and property.

Jean also pointed out that each community member must work together to look after the properties. Jean added that she and others are very happy with the service CHL are providing and has never experienced such quick responses to various needs or requests.

As part of CHL support plan, we will be attending the community on a weekly basis to provide additional support to the community in conjunction with the Nirrumbuk service who provide the living skills training in maintaining a healthy home. The Kununurra office will report on the final stages of construction when complete.



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For more info visit our website at www.chl.org.au

CHL awarded management of two new affordable housing developments in Tasmania



From L-R: Brett Wake – CHL, Cassy O'Connor – Minister for Human Services, Sid Sidebottom – Federal Member for Braddon, and the Rt. Revd. Dr. Chris Jones - Anglicare

Community Housing Ltd (CHL) will be managing the two recently opened affordable housing developments in Tasmania as part of a tenancy management agreement with Housing Tasmania. The 19 and 20 newly constructed self-contained one-bedroom units in Grove Street, Ulverstone and Thistle Street, Launceston respectively were the first two of the five new supported accommodation developments recently opened by the Minister for Human Services, Cassy O'Connor.

Funded through the Australian Government's Nation Building – Economic Stimulus Plan and delivered with the support of the Tasmanian Government the \$4 million housing development in Launceston and \$4.1 million social housing complex at Ulverstone will provide the much needed affordable housing for those on low to moderate incomes. This brings the total number of CHL dwellings along the North Tasmania coast to 94.

Anglicare Tasmania will provide intensive support on-site to those tenants who require assistance. Anglicare Tasmania provides a broad range of support services and has well established networks in the local area.

The developments include studio units, one and two bedroom units and on-site unit for a manager. It also includes common kitchen and dining facilities, common BBQ and garden areas, as well as a shared laundry.

CHL is a significant affordable housing provider in Tasmania. Its 94 properties are dotted along the coast and in addition to Ulverstone includes Launceston, Burnie, and Latrobe.

For more info visit our website at www.chl.org.au

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Who We Are...

Community Housing Limited is an international not-for-profit affordable housing provider. In Australia, CHL works with local communities including governments, social service organisations and local interest groups to deliver and manage affordable and sustainable rental housing in which tenants pay no more than 75% of the market rate.

CHL launches ecologically sustainable development in Bega

CHL, together with project partner Bega Eco Neighbourhood Development Inc, has launched a highly innovative ecologically sustainable ten unit development in Bega NSW.

Famous for its cheese, the Bega township can now point to another world-class product developed with heavy input from the local community.

The development, which is known as the Bega Eco Neighbourhood Development (BEND), is built on an environmentally sensitive sub-division adjacent to and above the river flats on the north edge of the Bega Township. In addition to constructing these dwellings, CHL is also responsible for property and tenancy management.

“These are quality built, environmentally sustainable affordable homes that offer a wonderful new living environment to the tenants,” says Steve Bevington, CHL’s Managing Director. “These homes will be a long term resource for the Bega community that will add to the level of much needed affordable housing stock in the area.”

The units are not only energy efficient that include water tanks, passive solar design, composting toilets, habel aerated conc. cladding etc. but also have access to a neighbourhood house with laundry, a centralized grey water treatment system, agricultural land on the river flats, and access to the Bega River anabranch in the Bend conservation area.

The \$2.5 million development was funded through a combination of State and Federal Government funds, a contribution by CHL, and a 10% commitment from BEND Inc. who are raising funds mainly through donations from the local community.

“This is another example of the effective local partnerships that CHL engages in to help build the stock of affordable housing across the State,” says Mr. Bevington. We look forward to many more partnerships like this in the future.

Ecologically sustainable units in Bega



INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Timor’s President applauds CHL’s new innovation

Jose Ramos Horta, President of Timor Leste recently visited one of CHL’s project at Loes Liquisa district to get a close look at the newly introduced construction methodology of making clay-brick for use in construction of the houses.

President Horta was very impressed with CHL’s innovation and congratulated Steve Bevington for introducing this method as it can be a possible solution to solving housing shortage in Timor. He also appreciated this new methodology of clay-brick construction as it is simple, quick, cheap and environmentally friendly. Due to huge clay deposits in the country he recommended this method should be introduced to communities in remote areas as it will create employment for the locals.

Steve Bevington along with President Horta and other visitors



Clay-bricks production unit



CHL to reconstruct houses in earthquake affected area

Recently CHL SpA was assigned a project for the reconstruction of 32 homes in a historical site in the VI Region, which was damaged by Chile’s last earthquake. This historical site was once Federico Errázuriz Estate, Chilean President between 1896 and 1901. This estate is called “Hacienda El Huique” and houses a Museum (the old owner’s house), a church and the houses of the farmer tenants.

These tenant houses were originally living in a two bedroom earthen construction, with clay tiles and brick floors, that every family has adapted through the time to their own needs. Most of these houses have been severely damaged in the earthquake, and CHL SpA aims to not only reconstruct them as much as possible, but also to improve the living conditions of the tenants.

Inside the house of Humilde Leiva, an earthquake affected local resident



Project in San José nearing completion

Despite severe shortage of labor during summer the project is advancing well with almost 85% of the construction complete. The project including 44 homes is anticipated to be ready by September 2011.

San José project

