

## Lendlease and IKEA join forces to help QLD women and children escaping family and domestic violence

**Brisbane 22 June:** National charity [yourtown](#) will receive a combined \$125,000 donation from Lendlease's shared value initiative, [FutureSteps](#), and furniture giant IKEA to help build and furnish a new transitional home in Queensland.

Lendlease has donated \$100,000 in funding and IKEA has pledged \$25,000 worth of furniture to the project. The new four-bedroom home will provide safe and secure accommodation for women and children escaping domestic and family violence.

The home will be constructed by yourtown's social enterprise initiative, which provides training and employment to young job seekers at risk of long-term unemployment and supports them in gaining a certificate in construction. As many as 10 young people will work on the delivery of the project.

Women and children experiencing family and domestic violence face two high-risk transition points: when they leave a violent partner to access accommodation such as a refuge; and when they leave a refuge to settle into independent housing. There is currently an acute shortage of appropriate housing options for women and children exiting refuges, often meaning they are forced to stay longer in a refuge or consider unsafe alternatives.

IKEA will deliver items to assist with the build of the property, such as cupboards, bathrooms and in-built items in late June. A second delivery will consist of furniture and house-hold items and is estimated for August.

### **Quotes attributable to Tracy Adams, CEO, yourtown**

"The development of this home is a wonderful example of how community coming together can be part of the solution.

"Each family who find their way to this home, will know that they are not alone, that their safety and the safety of their children is something that really matters, and that the aspirations they have can be realised."

### **Quotes attributable to Kylie Rampa, CEO Property, Lendlease**

"Supporting projects such as yourtown's transitional housing and social enterprise via Lendlease's FutureSteps is the very reason we launched our shared value initiative.

"Family and domestic violence affects too many women in Australia, so being able to provide a safe place for women and children is of paramount importance. The project will directly support them as they are getting back on their feet for many years to come."

### **Quotes attributable to Bhumika Selot, IKEA Australia Sustainability Business Partner**

"We know how important life at home is, particularly for those experiencing hardship, so we're on a mission to create a better everyday life for people all over the world. We're committed to making a positive impact in the communities we're present in.

"We're proud to be supporting yourtown's new transitional home, and hope that in working with yourtown, our product donation will enable women and children find a place they can call home."



### **Additional background**

As a result of domestic violence in Australia:

- On average, one woman is killed every week by their current or former partner.
- One in every four women over the age of 15 has experienced physical or sexual violence by a current or former intimate partner.
- One in every four women has experienced emotional abuse.

### **ENDS**

#### **For more information, please contact:**

Tamara Lovelace

State Manager - Lendlease External Affairs QLD & NT

0427 226 316 | [tamara.lovelace@lendlease.com](mailto:tamara.lovelace@lendlease.com)

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