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6 August 2019 NEWSLETTER

Community Providers Step Up Delivery

Community Housing organisations delivered 955 of the additional 2178 public houses for the year ended 30 June 2019, nearly 44% of the total. In a statement announcing the figures, Housing Minister Megan Woods stated "Registered Community Housing Providers are also making a significant contribution to increasing public housing supply."

The figures are based on data released in the Ministry of Housing & Urban Development's monthly dashboard for June. Community organisations are also supporting 2,789 households in transitional housing, assisting them to find permanent homes during their approximately twelve weeks in the transitional programme. This means over 10,000 households are helped each year.

The Housing First programme provided homes for 567, with nearly 40% of households remaining in a home after 12 months.

The figures show our sectors ability to deliver. And much more is needed as 12,311 eligible families are on the Housing Register. We look forward to further announcements from the new Housing Minister on how we can maintain the pipeline of new homes.

Habitat home repair work gets a \$1M boost



Habitat for Humanity's essential home repair work for low and moderate income families has received an unprecedented \$1M boost from Bank of New Zealand (BNZ). Habitat for Humanity Auckland General Manager Conrad LaPointe said the charity had been looking at ways to help more homeowners access essential repair work when BNZ responded with a \$1 million interest-free credit line.

Community Housing Aotearoa CE Scott Figenshow commented that, "This investment will enable Habitat to carry out more home repairs more quickly. It is a great example of how charitable community housing providers can work with commercial lenders to achieve social outcomes. We need more of these innovative programmes between the commercial and community sectors to ensure all New Zealanders are well-housed".

Please read more about Habitat's home repair work here

To view the youtube link click here

KiwiBuy Campaign Momentum Growing

The KiwiBuy team (Salvation Army, Habitat for Humanity, Housing Foundation, CHA) went to Christchurch on 30 July to provide an update on the KiwiBuy campaign. Claire Szabo, David Zussman, Campbell Roberts and Paul Gilberd all presented to a group at the Christchurch Methodist Mission whilst Campbell and Paul went on to the Tuesday Club at Smash Palace. You can read the summary by Garry Moore of the presentation to the Tuesday Club here.

On Sunday 4 August, the <u>Green Party announced</u> their formal support for a rent to own programme and endorsed KiwiBuy (see links below IN THE NEWS). The party also released its policy on Rent-to-own which can be read here.

You can help to maintain our momentum by: Adding your organisation's endorsement to the <u>KiwBuy campaign</u>; signing the <u>petition</u> and requesting a <u>briefing</u> from the KiwiBuy team!

Regulatory Updates

There are several pieces of legislation impacting Registered Community Housing Providers which came into effect on 1 July.

The Community Housing Regulatory Authority has written to all registered providers requesting they provide a certification statement regarding their compliance with the insulation requirements of the Residential Tenancies (Healthy Homes Standards) Regulations 2019 (the Healthy Homes Standards). The deadline to submit your certification has been extended to 12 August. If you have any questions you can contact CHRA by email at chra@hud.govt.nz or by phone on (04) 896 5344.

The The Family Violence (Amendments) Act 2018 and the Family Violence Act 2018 include changes which name 10 government agencies and a range of social service practitioners as family violence agencies, effective 1 July. Registered Community Housing Providers are named as a social service practioner in the Act. We are working with the Community Housing Regulatory Authority to clarify what this means for providers. CHRA is in contact with the Ministry of Justice and we will provide updates as they are available.

IN THE NEWS

- New laws for careless tenant damage, unlawful tenancies
- Board members sought for eastern Porirua Development
- Rising rents hit beneficiary budgets the most
- Allocating liability for tenant damage to rental properties
- Overseas people buy 75 inner-Auckland homes
- Rising demand for rentals puts pressure on tenants
- New building consents reach record high showing growth
- Biggest increase to public housing in nearly 20 years
- Public Housing Monthly Dashboard
- Greens' Rent to Own an idea whose time has come

KIWIBUY

- "Dear Prime Minister, help Kiwis own their home"
- Community Organisations welcome Green Party support for KiwiBuy
- Speech: Marama Davidson Green Party AGM

EVENTS



GRAND OPENING! - Monte Cecilia Housing Trust

30 x 2 Bedroom Apartments.

We are so excited our office facility and apartments are to be opened on Thursday 10 October at 9 am.

We hope you will join us at 30 Windrush Close, Mangere.

You are one of our valued supporters and we would welcome your attendance.

Tātou tātou e!

Community Networks Actearoa and the New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services are hosting a joint conference in Wellington on 27-28 August.

All of us, together

- Hear what the Minister of Social Development and other high profile Ministers/MPs have to say about better supporting the community sector.
- Explore how community organisations can build meaningful, effective relationships with the people they serve and with each other.
- Find out how the government's Wellbeing Budget will affect communities and community organisations.
- Explore how spirituality can enhance the wellbeing of older people.
- Discuss inclusion and diversity in our communities. How we can all make a difference for those who struggle to be accepted.

Register now for this exciting event!

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