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Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing

Helping more Tasmanians into social and affordable housing

All Tasmanians deserve a roof over their heads and the Tasmanian Liberal Government is delivering a record investment in social housing and is continuing to deliver for Tasmanians in need.

Our partnership with the State's Community Housing providers is an important way to deliver more properties that will provide homes for Tasmanians from the Housing Register.

We know Tasmanians are doing it very tough, but we are also working as hard as possible to get Tasmanians into homes now and plan for the future through a historic build program.

Diesel and Laura are two Tasmanians who have recently been housed by Centacare Evolve Housing (CEH) and it was great to meet with them on Friday, to understand their story and how having permanent accommodation has helped them on their journey.

The Department of Communities Tasmania provided funding for the Glenorchy development of \$135,000 per home under the Community Housing Growth Program (CHGP), which will deliver 1,000 new social housing units around the State by the end of 2023.

The units were built by CEH's building and construction social enterprise St Joseph Affordable Homes, which employed eight apprentices on the project.

The units were developed on land owned by the Director of Housing and are subject to a 40-year ground lease to CEH, who will be responsible for managing and maintaining the properties.

This development is just one of numerous projects CEH is currently undertaking, with more than 430

units in its construction pipeline across the State, including 53 units coming online by this Wednesday, June 30 2022, and a further 54-unit subdivision in Bridgewater to be completed by June 30, 2023.

The Tasmanian Liberal Government provided more than \$4 million from the CHGP to help fund the construction of 30 of those units, with the remainder funded by CEH and the Hobart City Deal.

Our Government recognises the housing struggles facing Tasmanians and is responding with a massive 10-year, \$1.5 billion housing package – the largest housing investment in the State's history.

This will deliver 10,000 new affordable homes and accommodation over the next decade to meet the diverse housing needs of Tasmanians, including youth, the elderly, those living with a disability, men, women and families.

We have already delivered 1,127 additional new homes, lots of land and new places of supported accommodation and homelessness services since July 2019. Importantly, we are on track to meet our target to deliver 1,500 homes by June 2023, rising to a total of 10,000 new homes by 2032.

But we also know that there are Tasmanians who are doing it tough and need support right now. That is why we are investing more than \$36 million in wrap-around services to ensure those who need help now are getting the services they need. This includes funding for 17 existing Specialist Homelessness Services, including Housing Connect Front Door and Support, as well as crisis shelters and supported accommodation.

In addition, \$6.9 million has been allocated specifically for our Safe Spaces and connected support services, providing services and support to those who need it right now.

If you are at risk of homelessness, please contact Housing Connect, 24 hours a day, seven days a week on 1800 800 588.