**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**7 AUGUST 2020**

**CHL DELIVERS TWENTY- FOUR BRAND NEW AFFORDABLE HOMES**

**IN MELBOURNE’S NORTH EAST**

Leading not for profit social and community housing provider, Community Housing Ltd (CHL) has announced the completion of twenty-four (24) brand new affordable homes in Melbourne’s growing north-eastern suburb of Mernda – an initiative made possible by a three-way partnership between the philanthropic, public and not for profit sector.

The $6.1 million development has been jointly funded by the Philanthropic organisation Peter and Lyndy White (P&LW) Foundation who is the majority contributor with over $4.2million followed by $1.2 million from the Victorian Government’s Social Housing Growth Fund and the remainder by CHL. Designed and built by CHL, the new homes will be rented out to eligible people with local community links, at subsidised rent.

“The contribution by Peter and Lyndy White Foundation is truly inspiring. It shows the impact the philanthropic sector can make in the community. We are proud of the partnership with the Foundation and the Victorian state government in delivering this project which will provide real opportunities for those who are homeless and on low incomes”, said Steve Bevington, Managing Director of CHL.

Located in the heart of the Mernda township, the high-quality two storey development comprises of one and two-bedroom apartments and will be offered to those on the social housing waiting list. With medical facilities, schools, public transport, supermarket and retail outlets in close proximity, tenants will have easy access to essential services and local employment hubs.

“These homes are modern, well located and will provide much needed additional supply of affordable housing at a time where the cost of living is increasingly unaffordable. It will provide a new lease of life to those who have fallen into difficulties due to issues such as unemployment, family breakdown, illness and others that have led to their having ended up being homeless”, adds Mr. Bevington.

Announcing the completion during the National Homelessness Week 2020, Mr. Bevington said, “the completion of the development couldn’t have come at a more critical time as waiting lists for public housing and social

housing continue to grow. We hope to see more investment into building social housing to ensure everyone has access to safe, secure and affordable housing.”

“This project is a great example of three sectors working together to address the shortage of affordable housing. We commend the P&LW Foundation & the Victorian Government for their leadership and look forward to continuing the partnership in the future”, Steve added.

**Minister for Housing Richard Wynne** said, “Everyone deserves the safety and security of a roof over their head. This latest tranche of the Social Housing Growth Fund will deliver more than 780 units to make sure people sleeping rough, at risk of homelessness, and those escaping family violence can find a home.”

“This fund is delivering more social and affordable housing for Victorians that need support.”

**About CHL:** CHL is a national not for profit provider of community and affordable housing to those disadvantaged in the private rental market. In Australia, the Group manages over 11,000 properties across six states through its extensive network of 22 offices. It also develops affordable housing overseas and has offices in Timor Leste, Chile, PNG, Rwanda, Peru, Indonesia and India. CHL's service offering is diverse from crisis and transitional accommodation to long-term housing, property development, tenancy and property management, and community development.

In Victoria, CHL manages over 2,000 properties around the state through 6 offices through its subsidiary CHVL. CHVL's service offering is diverse from crisis and transitional accommodation to long-term housing, property development, tenancy and property management, and community development.

www.chl.org. au

**For media queries contact:**

Preeti Daga | 0430555241 | Preeti.daga@chl.org.au