

A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding a small, light-colored wooden cutout of a house. The house cutout has a gabled roof, a chimney on the right side, and a window with two vertical panes. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a person's face and clothing.

**PATHWAYS HOME TRANSITIONAL HOUSING
PROJECT**



Overview

Pathways Home aims to provide women and children leaving violence with a safe and secure home to rebuild their lives and heal from violence.

Pathways Home is a partnership initiative between PAYCE, Women's Community Shelters (WCS) and Bridge Housing Limited.



The Partnership

- PAYCE owns the Properties and makes properties available for the purposes of the project.
- Bridge Housing provides property and tenancy management services under the partnership.
- Women's Community Shelters (WCS) operates crisis accommodation for women and children. WCS provides outreach support and identifies suitable tenants for housing.
- The Partnership is underpinned by an Agreement between all parties that sets out clear roles and responsibilities, governance, finance arrangements and dispute resolution processes.



The Project

This project offers immediate and comprehensive shelter services to women and children at risk of homelessness after transitioning from WCS crisis accommodation.

Homeless women and children (including those not eligible for Housing Pathways) can access stable housing and support services, for up to 18 months. During this time women continue to receive support to work towards achieving their goals, including the pathway to independent housing.



PAYCE - Contribution

Over the duration of the project PAYCE will provide a minimum of five properties (in North West Sydney) in kind and undertake modifications to ensure the properties are fit for purpose. The PAYCE Foundation will provide seed funding for the Pathways Home Project Fund to support responsive maintenance and other costs.



Bridge - Contribution

Bridge Housing manages the tenancy and undertakes responsive maintenance.

Lease or occupancy agreement has been implemented that sets out tenancy rights and obligations. Leases are renewed every 6 months and allow for case work to support and review strategies to enable successful transition to private rental at the end of the period.



WCS - Contribution

WCS provides ongoing case management and support services as part of their outreach programme and is educating women about their responsibilities as tenants.

WCS assesses clients suitable for housing and provide outreach supports. Effective support functions include: educating clients about their responsibilities as a tenant; advocating on behalf of clients to address tenancy issues; acting as an intermediary to facilitate communication between the client and housing provider; educating clients re: their financial responsibilities and budgeting skills; and assisting clients to heal from violence and work through substance use, mental health problems and other barriers to recovery.



Leveraging skills and assets

This project provides a practical example of how community organisations can work with private companies and leverage philanthropy to develop affordable housing opportunities for people in need.



Outcomes

To date, under the Pathways Home project six women and seven children have been housed in shared accommodation and others will follow throughout 2018.

We are hoping to expand the Pathways Home pilot to other developers.

Key questions

- What's been the most rewarding outcome for your company /organisation?
- Do you consider the project to be a success ? if so why? If not why?
- What are the primary challenges ?
- Has it been resource intensive, or light? Is there a value gain?
- Does the approach have potential to scale?
- Any advice to others wishing to pursue meanwhile-use housing options?