

MEDIA RELEASE



10 May 2016

PAYCE pledges \$90,000 to help support The Hills Women's Shelter

Leading Australian property development and investment company, PAYCE has committed \$30,000 a year for the next three years to The Hills Women's Shelter, The Sanctuary.

The Sanctuary is part of Women's Community Shelters (WCS), a charity organisation set up to provide a network of shelters around the state.

The shelters work collaboratively with local communities and councils to provide emergency accommodation and a range of support services to women and their children in domestic violence situations.

PAYCE Managing Director, Brian Boyd said the contribution by PAYCE would help provide specialist case management support to victims of domestic violence in The Hills district.

"The Sanctuary is recently established and already has a long list of families requesting their services," he said.

"It's important that women and their children caught in these terrible situations have somewhere to go for safe accommodation and support in the short-term in order to find their feet.

"The Sanctuary has had a wonderful response from the community and the business sector which has helped get the shelter off to a solid start.

"That's great news as this type of service is costly to operate and largely reliant on the generosity of donors and volunteers to run the services," Mr Boyd said.

"PAYCE is proud to be associated with such an important community service and we look forward to a rewarding partnership with the board of The Sanctuary."

Women's Community Shelters works with communities to provide short term emergency accommodation and support in a safe, comfortable and secure environment.

The support enables homeless women to rebuild self-esteem and achieve control and fulfilment in their lives.

Staff from The Sanctuary will help women to pursue employment and education opportunities that can lead to a fresh, new life.

PAYCE's Managing Director, Dominic Sullivan met recently with Chief Executive Officer of the Women's Community Shelters, Annabelle Daniel and The Sanctuary board member, Cr Raymond Harty to hand over the first of three cheques.

PAYCE General Manager, Dominic Sullivan said it was a pleasure to meet with Ms Daniel and Cr Harty and learn more about the wonderful work of the Women's Community Shelters organisation.

"We had discussions about the aims of The Sanctuary and how it intends to interact with the community to ensure as many people as possible know that there is someone they can turn to for help, both for themselves and any children involved.

"The Sanctuary ensures that both the mother and her young children have access to and receive the services they need to get them through these difficult times in their lives," he said.

PAYCE recently joined with two other industry companies in the Sutherland Shire in helping to raise more than \$30,000 to help Sutherland Shire Family Services secure much-needed funding for tackling the impacts of domestic violence in the shire.

Sutherland Shire Family Services offers a range of programs and services to deal with domestic violence and recently launched the second video in its "Pull Ya Head In" domestic violence awareness campaign.

The SSFS campaign calls on men to stand up against a mate, colleague, neighbour or anyone being abusive to their partner.

Ends

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