

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# **COMMUNITY HOUSING LTD APPOINTS INDIGENOUS WOMEN TO LEAD THE CHARGE**

On a mission to provide better housing options for Aboriginal communities across the country, Australia's largest not-for-profit community housing provider, Community Housing Limited (CHL), has appointed two proud Indigenous women to oversee the delivery of Aboriginal Community Housing Limited (ACHL)'s strategic objectives.

CHL has welcomed Stacey Broadbent as the National Manager and Cheryl Axleby as the South Australian Relationship Manager for Australia's first independent national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander led and managed community housing provider, ACHL.

ACHL is the provider of long-term affordable housing, and property and tenancy management for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities.

Maureen O'Meara, ACHL's Chair said with a combined 40+ years' experience working across the private, community and public sectors, Stacey and Cheryl's appointment will help strengthen local partnerships and inspire a just, equitable and reconciled Australia – a day-by-day vision for CHL and ACHL, and one that is particularly relevant in light of the National Reconciliation Week next week.

"The National Reconciliation Week is a time for all Australians to explore how each of us can contribute to achieving reconciliation across our country and with Stacey and Cheryl joining the team, we will undoubtedly see a greater connection between communities and our services to better understand how we provide appropriate housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples.

"Historically Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander communities have been overrepresented among homelessness and social housing services, however in recent years there has been an increase in home ownership. Whilst it's undoubtedly positive to see, there is still a lot of work to do to see these numbers trend in the right direction and ensure that appropriate housing options are available to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander communities", Maureen said.

Since first established in 2016, ACHL has grown to manage 1,600 home across Australia, along with managing remote and town-based communities in the Kimberley and Goldfields regions in Western Australia.

"The ultimate goal for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples is to be treated with respect and dignity and enjoy many of the things non-Indigenous Australians experience, including a life free of racism and poverty, longer life expectancy, and access to stable housing, employment and education.

“All of these factors impact one’s ability to feel empowered and independent so by influencing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ access to readily available and culturally appropriate housing support options, we can really ensure greater opportunities for people to live the lives they want,” Ms Broadbent said.

“Aboriginal Community Housing Ltd fills a much-needed gap within the community and I look forward to building on it’s good work within South Australia, focusing on seeing greater partnerships with our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait islander peoples and services,” Ms Axleby said.

**ENDS**

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#### **About ACHL**

ACHL is the first independent national Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander led and managed provider of long-term affordable housing, and property and tenancy management for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities. It is a Tier 1 community housing provider with a majority Aboriginal Board.

It provides meaningful leadership and influence in undertaking the management of existing portfolios, the development of new housing initiatives, and providing support to Aboriginal housing organisations across the country.

ACHL manages properties around Australia including in the East Kimberley and Goldfields in WA, on the North Coast and in Kempsey in NSW, within Gippsland in Victoria and in various locations in South Australia. ACHL is part of the Community Housing Ltd Group.

[www.achl.org.au](http://www.achl.org.au) | [www.chl.org.au](http://www.chl.org.au)

***For Media enquiries contact:***

*Communications Team at [comms@chl.org.au](mailto:comms@chl.org.au)*