More Beds to Tackle Homelessness

Work is underway to upgrade the YMCA in Darwin to secure more beds for people at risk of homelessness.

Member for Solomon Damian Hale, said $1 million is being invested in the upgrades through the Australian and Territory Government’s National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness.

“We’re delivering more affordable accommodation for people facing homelessness,” Mr Hale said.

“Work has started at the YMCA to refurbish the facility to keep an existing 63 rooms operational.

“These repairs will also bring online an additional 15 rooms, a three-bedroom and a two-bedroom unit.

“As part of our agreement with the YMCA, 60 per cent of the rooms at the YMCA Hostel will target medium to long term affordable accommodation.

“Work underway at the YMCA includes replacing roof areas, upgrading the kitchen, plumbing, rooms, dwellings and the reception area,” Mr Hale said.

Northern Territory Minister for Public and Affordable Housing, Chris Burns, said the Australian and Territory Governments are working with non government organisations to provide a range of social housing options.

“There is a massive construction program underway across the Territory to deliver a range of housing options for short and medium term accommodation,” Dr Burns said.

“The Darwin Christian Outreach Centre recently opened an extra 80 beds for short term accommodation that was funded by the Territory Government.

“Construction is also underway on 18 new dwellings in Berrimah and 28 new dwellings in Alice Springs for transitional accommodation.

“The Catherine Booth House site in Stuart Park is being redeveloped into a 12 room facility providing managed accommodation for homeless women.

“Another 20 dwellings are also being built at St Vincent de Paul in Coconut Grove for more affordable and supported housing.”

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