More accommodation for women in need

The $1.6 million new Catherine Booth House was opened in Darwin today, delivering 12 rooms for emergency accommodation for women in need.

Senator Trish Crossin and Territory Minister for Public and Affordable Housing Chris Burns welcomed the official opening of the new facility.

“The Australian Government is proud to have provided $1.6 million through our Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan to fund the construction of this new facility,” Senator Crossin said.

“As part of our $60 million housing stimulus commitment to the Territory, over 200 units of accommodation are being delivered, and more than 200 units have benefited from repairs, providing more beds for Territorians.

“Work to build a new $2 million eight unit facility in Darwin for women and children escaping domestic violence is also nearly completed.

“I congratulate the Salvation Army for doing a terrific job helping women needing emergency accommodation and for their work to upgrade Catherine Booth House,” she said.

Dr Chris Burns said there is a massive construction program underway to deliver more accommodation to meet the diverse housing needs across the Territory.

“There is a huge amount of work underway to deliver more accommodation for Territorians otherwise faced with homelessness or living in overcrowded situations,” he said.

“We are working with the Australian Government and non-government organisations to boost their capacity to deliver more short-medium term, affordable and emergency accommodation.

“The Territory Government is also delivering more public housing and affordable options for Territorians to buy their own home.”

The new Catherine Booth House replaces an old facility and doubles its capacity. It also provides private rooms and bathrooms for their clients who previously had to share rooms.

The facility also includes an office, staff sleep-over room, kitchen facilities, living spaces, a chapel and is fully secured.

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