



**PIF Victoria**

**DRAFT PRESS RELEASE**

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## **PROPERTY INDUSTRY LENDS A HELPING HAND FOR HOMELESS YOUTH**

PropertyBlitz, a volunteers program of the Property Industry Foundation, will hold a Workabee on 19 August to makeover the Lighthouse Foundation's Cheltenham home for homeless youth in Victoria.

Over 35 young industry professionals will volunteer their time and expertise to help deliver the project, assisting with general maintenance including painting and landscaping as well as erecting a covered walkway.

The home provides accommodation for up to five young adults and operates as a mid-way point for those leaving full-time care provided by Lighthouse and transitioning into the private rental market.

"The program is all about providing adolescents with the best opportunity possible to establish themselves within the community," said Lachlan MacGillivray, Chair of the PropertyBlitz Committee. "it will be great to see young property and construction staff helping out other less fortunate young people."

One of the young people living at the home becomes the 'lead tenant', a role which can be used to gain youth work qualifications through the Lighthouse Internship and Gradual Holistic Training (LIGHT) Program.

Property Industry Foundation corporate donors PROBUILD will oversee the project management and provide a number of apprentices for the day. Other donors include Guests Furniture, Next Home and Commercial Furnishings, Haymes Paint and ARUP.

The home forms part of the Lighthouse Foundation's Adult Community Transition (ACT) Program that supports young people in their steps towards independent living; with the initiative supported by psychological wellness and community care teams.

Since its inception PIF has raised more than \$12 million nationally for homeless and troubled youth through a number of charity events including the Charity Sailing Challenge and National Hard Hat Day.

For more information visit [www.pif.com.au](http://www.pif.com.au)

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For further media information, contact:

**Karen Gampenov or Kate Bailey**  
**The PR Partnership**

Ph: (02) 8088-8726 or 0411-795-131(KG), 8088-8727 or 0421-986-328 (KB)