



Charity Youth Programs

An Initiative of the Property Industry Foundation



Stepping Stones House *Dulwich Hill* est. 1989

Stepping Stone House (SSH) provides for disadvantaged young people independent Family Counselling services operating within the house. The House was established by a local group of residents concerned by the number of homeless teenagers in our society. The Stepping Stone program is designed to help young people, often abused as children to take responsibility for their lives by nurturing them through their challenging past.

How do they help youth homelessness and young people at risk?

SSH's Residential and Independent Living Programs' can accommodate up to six young people at any given time. They receive specialist care from trained counsellors in order to learn the daily routines of a normal household. They are taught essential life skills such as cooking and budgeting. The training is extremely important as these young people have experienced neglect, drugs and poverty under previous circumstances. Youths receive 24 hour/ 7-day-a-week supervision plus family counseling under the Independent Living and Aftercare programs. They SSH's aim is to counsel them through their challenging past and empower them to successfully enter mainstream society. There is ongoing support for ex-residents with a constant contact network enabling them to seek advice, when in crisis.

What is the program that PIF is funding?

Property Industry Foundation is sponsoring their Youth Social Worker who provides full time counseling and guardianship - instilling a strong sense of routine and kinship. She is also the house parent at the facility.

Why did PIF believe that the project needed funding assistance?

PIF recognizes that SSH helps desperate young people in crisis, for whom would otherwise remain homeless and destitute, giving them education and employment, in a normal household environment and with constant care. This program has a proven reputation for helping young people, successfully improving the lives for over seventeen young people, supporting them in the transition from the Independent Living program to community based living such as; private rental, university accommodation or shared living.

What is the total cost of this program?

\$80,000

How much did the PIF Board approve for this program?

\$80,000