

Social Enterprise Finance Australia

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Social Enterprise Snapshot

King St Haven buys two more safe houses

King Street Haven has added to its portfolio of houses that address the extreme shortage of crisis accommodation in Queensland's Caboolture area.



'SEFA's recognition has added to our brand name, and given us confidence that what we're doing, we're doing right.'

Gail Torrens, Manager, The Haven

King Street Haven is a long-standing, community-supported organisation that provides safe, sustainable and affordable crisis accommodation in the Caboolture area, north of Brisbane, Queensland. It houses families and couples, and is attempting to tackle an otherwise unmet need – crisis housing for singles. There are no hostels or rooms for singles in the Morton Bay region and the wait through the Department of Housing can be up to five years.

Residents come to the Haven either directly or via referrals from police, corrective services and social services. Their needs are carefully matched to appropriate houses, and support is available to help ensure welfare payments are correct and that residents receive access to any additional services required, including mental health. The Haven also provides residents with programs to support reintegration into the community as they learn to live independently and to maintain a tenancy.

Having lost funding two years ago, King Street Haven restructured its business model, and is working to become financially self-reliant through property investment. Using a loan from SEFA, it bought two houses on a single block, which were fully furnished and filled with household items and linen that had

been donated by members of the local community. Each of the bedrooms were occupied within days.

With the addition of the new property, King Street Haven can now house up to 60 people across 17 homes.



What SEFA says

We are delighted to be working with King Street Haven. They deliver a significant and positive social impact in the community by providing crisis accommodation to those in need.