



## ABIS Community Co-Op Project - Townsville

Provides long-term secure and affordable housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. ABIS work to support their Elders, the youth and people with disabilities as well as supporting multifamily approaches to housing.

With a 48-year track record, they use their housing to also provide training, skilling and employment opportunities for people in community. They have strong links to local TAFE and DATSIP, and use tradespeople to support the qualified trainers in bringing real life workplace training.

## FutureSteps Support

**\$75,800 (ex GST) was donated to support the refurbishment of Ruby Round, a house that had been vacant for 8 years and unliveable. This house can now provide space for a large family or multi family support across its two levels.**

The project was also used as a training ground for young people and provided work for long term unemployed community members.

## Support from other organisations

- ❖ Strathbogie Pty Ltd
- ❖ Brian Pool Electrical Contractor
- ❖ Townsville Gas & Plumbing



## Outcomes & Impact of Project



**up to 7 new beds**



**10 people to benefit**



**\$10K in-kind support**



**12 community people had work experience or employment**

The project completed in Sept 2023 with the first tenants moving in October 2023.

The house provides a rare opportunity for cross generational or large families to live together, which is culturally important for the indigenous tenants.

### Employment and training outcomes included:

- Youth training program for painting and cleaning.
- Youth receive Cert I Construction, White Card, small tool certification and working at heights certification, plus First Aid and CPR and Work Place Health & Safety.
- Long term unemployed man has been working onsite undertaking demolition and plastering.

## Last word from ABIS Community

“As an affordable housing provider, we receive no funding from any level of Government to maintain or refurbish our properties, which often means that due to increasing costs housing go vacant for a long period while the Co-op obtains the significant funds. The generous support of Lendlease in getting just one house tenanted is enormous, not only providing opportunities to provide training for our youth, but bring together a family under one roof improves the social and mental well-being of our community.” – Jan Pool, CEO



**FutureSteps**