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MEDIA RELEASE

Affordable housing project, Stepping Stone Manor nears completion

A new purpose-built, affordable and supported home for 30 homeless and vulnerable Calgarians

Calgary, Alberta (March 8, 2016) – Stepping Stone Manor, a 30-unit assisted-living apartment building nears completion. This marks a significant milestone as the building is the first new construction project to be completed through the RESOLVE Campaign. The building is funded by generous donors, grants committed by the provincial government, and built by Cedarglen Living Inc. as part of a Visionary gift to the Campaign.

Today, media and donors were treated to a 'sneak peek' pre-completion building tour at the Stepping Stone Manor (222 – 15 Avenue S.W.) to celebrate the momentous occasion.

"This building has set the momentum for the Campaign," said Sheryl Barlage, Executive Director of the RESOLVE Campaign. "The completion of Stepping Stone Manor brings us another step closer to RESOLVE's goal, to provide affordable and supported rental housing for 3,000 of our city's homeless and vulnerable citizens."

The building, conveniently located in Calgary's Beltline, will offer 30 future tenants stability, security and a place to call home.

"Since this project's inception, we have felt extremely welcomed by the Beltline community," said Diana Krecsy, President and CEO of the Calgary Homeless Foundation. "We look forward to giving people a safe and affordable place to call home, where they can work towards living more stable, healthy and vibrant lives."

Constructing purpose built housing for the homeless sector is complex. The building must be functionally appropriate and provide opportunities for the tenants to build community while gaining self-sufficiency and leaving their homeless identity behind. Stepping Stone Manor has been designed to increase tenant integration through common rooms, shared dining rooms and meeting rooms.

When Alan Norris, Chair of RESOLVE Campaign and President and CEO of Brookfield Residential asked the home builders in Calgary to get involved in a new project to build homes for people experiencing homelessness in Calgary, our industry fully supported this initiative. My father always said "No matter how HUMBLE, there is No place like HOME." And it's true, says Haggins, "a home is a place of solitude and sanctity". No one born into this world chooses to be homeless, and it is societal issues that we have created and face today, that have resulted in homelessness. Choosing homelessness is not way of life, and many instances it is simply an individual's life have been turned upside down and they just need a helping hand. I believe that Stepping Stone Manor will provide these individuals with the "Stepping Stone" sanctuary to turn their life around providing an opportunity to have a normal life once again. Cedarglen Living Inc. was happy to join this group of homebuilders and be the first project leader to kick off this Campaign providing knowledge for our other building partners to continue to make this initiative successful. At the end of the day, this was our opportunity to give back to Calgary, a city that has given all of us the opportunity to manage very successful businesses.

The issue of homelessness in Calgary is intensified by a critical shortage of affordable and supported housing. Each of RESOLVE's nine Partners meets a particular need within the community. Together, they are magnifying their collective impact by creating and sharing the knowledge and best practices learned from decades of service to a broad range of vulnerable populations, and following the Housing First philosophy. RESOLVE Partners are: Accessible Housing; Bishop O'Byrne Housing Association; Calgary Alpha House Society; Calgary Homeless Foundation; Calgary John Howard Society; Horizon Housing Society; Silvera for Seniors; The Mustard Seed; and Trinity Place Foundation of Alberta.



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Construction of Stepping Stone Manor is expected to be completed soon, with staged move-ins commencing in the coming months.

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About CHF

The Calgary Homeless Foundation is a catalyst and enabler for Systems and Service Agencies to optimize client success. CHF Focuses on four strategic pillars of work; Advocacy, Research and Development, Systems Planning, and Funding (outcomes). In addition, CHF addresses gaps and identifies best practices to improve the system of care. Through mobilization of collective impact, CHF is committed to moving forward in partnership with the many homeless-serving agencies, the private sector, government partners, the faith community, other foundations and all Calgarians to end homelessness in Calgary once and for all. For more information, visit calgaryhomeless.com

About RESOLVE

RESOLVE is a tangible and measurable step in helping end homelessness – and the affordable housing crisis – in Calgary. RESOLVE’s mission is to raise \$120 million to building affordable, sustainable housing for 3,000 homeless and vulnerable Calgarians. Nine respected and established Calgary social agencies have partnered with government, business and community leaders, all resolving to make Calgary a better home – for everyone. Visit resolvecampaign.com for more information.

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