# Media Release



27 October 2022

### Property powerhouse backing homeless youths

Property powerhouse, Bruce Harper, joins the Property Industry Foundation's Board of Advisors aiming to improve the lives of Australia's homeless youth.

Widely recognised for his 35 years of industry experience and as General Manager Queensland of AVID Property Group (AVID), Mr Harper said he joins the Board eager to directly support and collectively create genuine change to a pressing industry and societal issue.

"Sadly, the number of young people experiencing homelessness is increasing nationally at an alarming rate with no single cause and no single solution," Mr Harper said.

"Joining the advisory board provides me with a unique opportunity to leverage industry connections and make small change which leads to bigger change towards ending youth homelessness.

"My appointment is a continuation of a longstanding relationship between the Foundation and AVID and a natural step in strengthening both AVID's and my support of young Australians in need."

According to the Property Industry Foundation, more than 116,000 Australians experience homelessness on any given night, and 42 per cent of Australia's homeless population are under 25 years old.

In extension to Mr Harper's Queensland-based involvement and commitment, AVID recently implemented a national partnership with the Property Industry Foundation.

"Part of AVID's vision is to deliver thriving, connected communities that bring people together – which also involves seeking ways to connect with different community groups," Mr Harper said.

"As property developers, we believe it's important to support causes that align with our company values, which is why our national partnership, and my Board contribution was a natural fit."

Aiming to increase the availability of accommodation for youth homelessness, the Foundation have distributed nearly \$30 million to youth homelessness causes over 25 years.

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#### **About AVID Property Group**

AVID Property Group (AVID) is an award-winning Australian builder-developer responsible for a diversified selection of residential communities in key growth areas across Australia's eastern seaboard.

With a mix of 45 projects including masterplanned communities, completed homes and apartments, AVID has a gross revenue pipeline of \$4.7 billion, quantified by its delivery of \$3.5 billion worth of projects over the past 14 years.

We bring people together.

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Combined with its builder Villaworld Homes by AVID Property Group, the business has a 35-year legacy, which has seen the delivery of homes to more than 45,000 Australian families.

Led by highly experienced senior management, AVID brings people together to deliver exceptional communities, valuable shareholder returns and thriving environments for its customers.

For more information, visit www.avid.com.au.

#### **About the Property Industry Foundation**

Every night there are 44,000 young Australians without a safe and secure place to sleep. Not every young person is able to live with their family and for many, foster families are not available. They need a safe and secure place to rebuild their lives. The Property Industry Foundation exists to solve this issue.

The Property Industry Foundation leads an industry-wide collaboration that has a tangible impact on youth homelessness by raising funds, building accommodation, and providing ongoing support for homes where young people can live safely. It brings together the property and construction industry to build homes for homeless youth through The Foundation's flagship home building program – the Haven Project. The Foundation fundraises to build each home in the Haven Project. Each \$1 raised is then matched with in-kind donations of skills, labour and goods from the property and construction industry. This unique partnership doubles the value of every \$1 donated.

The Foundation has been building and refurbishing homes for homeless youth since 1996 and aims to build 300 bedrooms for homeless youth by 2025

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