

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
**16 December, 2015**

**Housing New Zealand opens new Community Group Housing property in Nelson**

A new six-bedroom facility opened by Housing New Zealand in Nelson this week has been warmly welcomed by the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board (NMDHB).

The Community Group Housing property has been designed to cater for a broad variety of people with different life needs, Housing New Zealand's National Manager, Tenancy Support Services, Karen Hocking says.

Community Group Housing are rental homes for government-funded organisations who have a contract to provide residential services for

- People who experience mental illness
- People who have physical and intellectual disabilities, including children and elderly
- Emergency Accommodation
- Residential alcohol and drug services
- Women who require refuge
- Youth at risk
- Supporting prisoner reintegration

Mrs Hocking says Housing New Zealand was pleased to be able to provide a new warm, dry, modified modern home that will meet the needs of residents for many years to come.

The property has been leased to NMDHB's Intellectual/Physical Disability Support Services.

NMDHB Disability Support Services General Manager Keith Rusholme says many of the people it supports to have a good life in the community have multiple disabilities that require specially designed houses to meet their mobility needs.

"This new accommodation ticks all of the boxes for the people who will be living there," he said.

Most of the houses that Disability Support Services lease have been developed and are owned by Housing New Zealand.

"We are very pleased to make this property available to our service users. The house has been completed to a high standard which is a credit to the builders, Fitzgerald Construction," Mr Rusholme says.

"The people we support, their families and our staff are grateful that Housing New Zealand are able to consider their needs despite the many accommodation challenges throughout New Zealand they are tasked with meeting."

**ENDS**

*For more information, contact:*

Glenn Conway  
Manager, Communications and Stakeholder Relationships (South Island)  
DDI: (03) 375 0117  
MOB: 021823308  
E: [glenn.conway@hnzc.co.nz](mailto:glenn.conway@hnzc.co.nz)