



## Community Chest Our House Exit

8 July 2021

Community Chest prides itself on our work in social justice and humanitarian relief, and are strong proponents of the dignity and human rights of Cape Town homeless communities. As such, we have facilitated a dignified exit for the residents of Our House, Gardens, together with Ndifuna Ukwazi.

In May 2020, Community Chest responded to a humanitarian emergency following the closure of the Strandfontein homeless camp. We opened our empty Bree Street offices to provide temporary shelter and support to a destitute group for an agreed period.

On 31 July 2020, Community Chest supported transitional accommodation at Youth Solutions, Ubuntu Circle of Courage, while others moved to a Gardens lodge, which became Our House.

Our House was the realisation of Community Chest's independent living model. We entered into a lease agreement that terminated on 31 May 2021 and initially covered living expenses and provided support services for a specified period.

The model allowed residents time to seek employment, become independent and transition to more secure livelihoods. Many succeeded.

The former Our House residents vacated the Gardens premises on 5 July 2021, moving to the Observatory YMCA. We are proud of their progress and our role in it, and wish them everything of the best in their new, independent journey.

Community Chest remains committed to long-term intervention and advocacy on social justice and human rights issues, as per our mandate to support the vulnerable and marginalised of our society.

/Ends

[237 words]

COMMITTED TO INSPIRING A NATION OF ACTIVE CITIZENS

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