



Tweed Valley Weekly

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Rentals needed for flood victims

NORTH COAST Community Housing is making an urgent plea to property owners with homes to rent to struggling flood victims still reeling from the March/April Tweed Flood.

John McKenna, CEO of North Coast Community Housing, said they are urgently looking for property owners with homes for rent in Lismore or Murwillumbah.

Mr McKenna said that although the Tweed flood occurred seven months ago, there were many who are still struggling to rebuild their lives.

“Several local organisations played a vital role in the immediate recovery efforts, including Vinnies, who provided food vouchers and Lifeline assisted with clothes and furniture,” he said.

Across both Lismore and the Tweed Valley communities there are many families who are still homeless, sleeping on couches, staying in overcrowded family homes or temporary caravan park accommodation.

North Coast Community Housing shared a positive story from Jeremy Marsh, who was reported on in local media after he was made homeless by the floods.

However, Community Housing was recently able to find Mr Marsh a house and gifted him the furnishings he needed to make it a home, where his two children could stay with him.

Mr Marsh said the new house and furniture meant a new start for his family.

“Thank you from my heart you have made my week, month, year,” he said.

Mr McKenna said North Coast Community Housing manages more than 900 social and affordable properties from its offices in Lismore, Grafton and Tweed Heads.

North Coast Community Housing (NCCH), a not-for-profit organisation, has been providing community housing in northern NSW, since 1984.

“We believe that everyone has the right

to live in safe, comfortable and affordable housing,” he said.

“We are passionate about our role as the gateway for people who are most vulnerable and in need of our help.

“We offer our tenants an exceptional service, which is professional, responsible and responsive to their individual needs.”

North Coast Community Housing has also teamed up with Social Futures to secure leases for people who were flood affected.

Funding has been provided by the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) with a total of \$1.85 million available over a three-year period.

Property owners can receive market rent depending on location.

Property owners with homes to lease are being urged to contact North Coast Community Housing on (02) 6627 5300 or email: info@ncchc.org.au to help house the remaining flood victims.

