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MEDIA RELEASE

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Opening of Wyong Outreach

Coast Shelter as Central Coast Emergency Accommodation Services Ltd started on 1st January 2002.

Originally auspiced by Centacare Broken Bay, Coast Shelter formally took over the auspice in its own right in September 1992 with its own Board of Directors.

Originally an accommodation service with two refuges it has now expanded to manage four refuges and three additional programs all targeted at meeting the needs of our homeless citizens or those at risk of homelessness.

In 2006/07 Coast Shelter accommodated some 500 homeless persons for in excess of 30,000 days.

In addition, with the support of local Churches and community groups it provided in excess of 60,000 meals to those at risk of homelessness in the community.

Coast Shelter is funded by the Department of Community Services through the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program.

Through its fundraising and with the support of the Central Coast Leagues Club, Sanitarium Health Food Company, Newcastle Permanent Charitable Foundation and the Registered Clubs throughout the Central Coast, Coast Shelter has been able to expand its service to the needy in our community.

Wyong Outreach, which today opens its office at 3 Alison Street Wyong, is an innovative program to support the homeless funded by the Department of Community Services, our corporate partners, the Registered Clubs in the Wyong Shire through their Community Development and Support Expenditure (CDSE) scheme and the numerous donations of Service Clubs and individuals.

Wyong Outreach is staffed by three part-time staff and supports families in twenty properties which are head-leased by Coast Shelter with funds provided by the Wyong Shire, Registered Clubs and Sanitarium Health Food Company.

Coast Shelter looks forward to developing its relationship with Wyong Shire Council and all of the other welfare organisations in the Wyong Shire.

-ENDS-

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