

WORLD VISION AUSTRALIA

1 November 2009

To Whom It May Concern

Australia

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## Re: Purchase of the Winsome Hotel to provide low cost accommodation for homeless people and to relocate the Lismore Soup Kitchen

I have been Patron of the Lismore Soup Kitchen since 1997, so I have seen the important service it has provided to the Lismore community. It has been a priority for me to visit the Kitchen on several occasions over the years.

The Kitchen has been totally funded and supported by various church groups, individuals, businesses and service organizations in the area. For almost 20 years it has provided both breakfast and lunches every day of the year, thus providing an important 'first port of call' for homeless people with a range of issues, as well as socially isolated people in the Lismore area.

Throughout its history, its mission statement broadened to include providing accommodation as well as a referral service to other community support services.

The purchase of the Winsome Hotel is a magnificent community initiative – and will enable the Lismore Soup Kitchen to work in partnership with other agencies including the NSW Department of Housing, and St Vincent De Paul to provide support and a transition to more permanent and stable accommodation.

The Winsome Hotel will provide 20 bedrooms for crisis and medium term accommodation and a "One Stop Shop" for people to meet with counsellors, community Mental Health workers, pastoral care, a medical practitioner, community nurses and a housing outreach worker.

Yours Sincerely,

Tim Costello Chief Executive