

importance of maintaining wildlife corridors and native habitats.

More than 10 000 ha of native bushland in the Litchfield Shire have been cleared and much of what remains has been modified and fragmented. Parks and reserves cannot exclusively protect our plants and animals from extinction in the face of development. The Northern Territory Parks and Wildlife Commission, the Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries and the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment have all pledged their support in the form of advice and staff to work on the project.

I encourage all landholders, however small or large their holdings, to join the scheme. Groups can also be registered, and group registration is suited to a number of small blocks or several larger properties with a landscape approach to wildlife habitat. Horticultural and cattle properties, bush blocks, parks, school grounds and golf courses are all eligible. *Land for Wildlife* does not alter the legal status of the property and does not convey the right of public access. There are no fees and people may withdraw at any time if they wish. It is a fantastic initiative and one that the Martin government supports and encourages.

Special Housing Program Funding 2001-02

Mr VATSKALIS (Housing): Madam Speaker, I wish to report to the House information regarding funding for the Crisis Accommodation Program and Community Housing Program for 2001-02. The Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement 1999 secured \$1m in annual funding for these programs.

The Crisis Accommodation Program is a tied program in that it provides capital funding for the construction, purchase, upgrades and refurbishment of properties in conjunction with the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP), administered by my colleague, the Minister for Health, Family and Children's Services. Funds may also be used for non-SAAP funded crisis accommodation programs purposes.

The primary objectives of the Community Housing Program are to assist community agencies that provide accommodation services for people requiring ongoing support - those with special or complex needs who are at risk of homelessness. We achieve these objectives through property acquisition, property upgrades, and through community service resourcing where community organisations contribute financially towards the program. The Community Housing Program also develops and improves partnership opportunities

with community agencies to extend their range of housing needs and options that cannot be adequately met through existing public housing provisions.

I am delighted today to announce that \$1.3m has been approved for eight Territory community groups for a range of projects to enhance the lives of Territorians in need. The additional funding, on top of the annual allocations, has come from carryover funds from previous years. Newspaper advertisements in May alerted community organisations to the funding. There were numerous applications, all worthy, that were assessed and fitted to our funding allocations. The assessments are made by a joint officer group. The group is made up of senior officers of the Territory government, the Commonwealth government and, in the case of the Community Housing Program, from a major community organisation.

For the benefit of the House I seek leave to table the list of successful grant recipients.

Leave granted.

Mr VATSKALIS: Just briefly, the Katherine Women's Crisis Centre will construct a purpose-built children's activity centre and convert a bedroom to achieve wheelchair access. The St Vincent de Paul Centre will construct a disability toilet and shower facility. The Salvation Army Catherine Booth House will renovate their kitchen, install a carport and upgrade their driveway. Dawn House Women's Shelter will provide supported exit point housing for women and children leaving their crisis accommodation and moving back into the general community. The Mt Liebig Community Yututju Women's Aboriginal Corporation will renovate their premises to expand the Old People's Centre for aged men and married couples.

All funded projects will contribute to improvements in the lifestyle of Territorians and the Martin government will continue to support these programs.

Reports noted pursuant to Sessional Order.

FISCAL INTEGRITY AND TRANSPARENCY BILL (Serial 13)

Bill presented and read a first time.

Ms MARTIN (Chief Minister): Madam Speaker, I move that the bill be now read a second time.

This bill is the government's response to Professor Percy Allan's recommendation that fiscal