



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ADDITIONAL RESI REHAB CAPACITY DELIVERS OPPORTUNITY FOR INNOVATION

Windana receives additional residential capacity at Maryknoll and rolls out 'Welcome house'.

Melbourne, Victoria, October 30, 2017– additional and very welcome capacity to Windana's Maryknoll residential rehabilitation facility has been provided to address spiraling demand for this service.

We commend the government on increasing the capacity of this necessary service by 30 beds.

The new 30 beds are a welcome and essential expansion of Windana's Maryknoll residential rehabilitation facility. Importantly, this investment allows Windana to establish a new and innovative 12 bed Welcome House, a model practiced in a number of international jurisdictions resulting in overall better outcomes in residential rehabilitation service provision.

Ms Anne-Maree Kaser, CEO Windana says, 'we are proud to be part of this expansion of the AOD service system and to progress implementation of our Welcome House as an essential part of Windana's residential rehabilitation facility.'

A Welcome House (WH) provides an intake and orientation element to residential services, providing service users with soft entry into the larger residential facility. It also allows for an assessment process where we can clearly determine suitability for this treatment type, ensuring that the service user is keen and ready to engage in the challenging residential treatment program. Additionally, the WH allows for a step up – step down approach, where service users can transition to and from the WH when there is a clinical benefit.

Ms Kaser continues, 'in Belgium, the introduction of a Welcome House contributed to a 125% increase in the completion rate for those engaging in treatment. The simple metric demonstrates that the longer one engages in treatment, the better the overall outcome, so we are confident that the inclusion of this innovation at Windana will improve outcomes for clients and provide greater return on investment for government.'

Windana has confidence in the WH model, and the Windana Board has committed substantial funds to support this significant development. We look forward to the implementation of these new beds and working with government to develop permanent infrastructure to support this increased capacity.

About Windana:

Windana is a leading Melbourne-based drug and alcohol treatment provider specialising in holistic, client-focused recovery services including residential and supportive community-based recovery and rehabilitation, as well as medically supported withdrawal programs in addition to its pioneering evidence-based, non-medical treatment programs.

For further information:

Nicole Steers, Manager Business Development and Operations

Windana Drug and Alcohol Recovery Inc

E: Nicole.Steers@windana.org.au

T: 0428 741 433