



PROPERTY

1 HOUR AGO

BGC chips in for Aboriginal housing project

By [Claire Tyrrell](#)



Daniel Cooper and Mark Anderson at the Ravenswood building site.

BGC Australia has donated materials for a home near Pinjarra, to kick off its involvement in a [Foundation for Indigenous Sustainable Health](#) initiative.

The homebuilder's chief executive [Daniel Cooper](#) oversaw the slab pouring at Ravenswood today, where Aboriginal woman Jemma Salmon is building her first home.

[Mr Cooper](#) said BGC would look to help FISH with its indigenous housing program, in which it plans to roll out 50 homes across WA within the next eight years.

He said FISH chief executive [Mark Anderson](#) approached BGC to ask if it could help with the project, which will see the build cost reduce by 75 per cent.

“Members of the BGC team were keen to help as they believed it aligned with our purpose to build the future for more Australians,” [Mr Cooper](#) explained.

“This is a hand up, not a handout. Jedda has done a lot of work to get to where she has, but getting to that level of home ownership is difficult, so that’s the role FISH play.”

BGC is supplying the concrete, concrete pumping, bricks, windows, door frames and pest control for the three bedroom home, helping reduce build costs significantly.

[Mr Anderson](#) explained that FISH’s model was designed to break the cycle of intergenerational poverty among Indigenous Australians by getting them out of social housing.

“International research shows social housing traps people in poverty ... (and) ... that home ownership is a key circumstance to breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty,” he said

He welcomed BGC’s involvement, as well as that from concreter Neo Concrete, [Kardan Construction](#), [Wilco Electrical](#) and Tuart Architects, who each donated their services for the Ravenswood home.

“This is about real change, it is not just a corporate donation, it is about coming together to create sustainable change,” [Mr Anderson](#) said.

Ms Salmon is part of the Bindjareb people who have lived in the Pinjarra region for generations and were pushed off the land by white settlers in the 1800s.

This housing development marks the first generation of Ms Salmon’s family that will own their own home.

The Ravenswood house is the second in FISH’s indigenous housing program and the first BGC has been involved with.

In April 2020, FISH helped design and build a home in the remote Kimberley it handed back to a local Aboriginal community.

The Ravenswood home is expected to be built by November 2022.

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