

NEWS RELEASE IMMEDIATE

Five houses + five older people = five homes in time for Christmas *ALONE purchase fifth house under CAS scheme just ahead of deadline*

Dublin, 28th November ALONE, the charity that supports older people in need, have announced the purchase of five houses under the CAS scheme which will be refurbished in time to give five older people a home in time for Christmas.

Minister Jan O’Sullivan announced €10 million funding in May of this year, to be made available to approved housing bodies in an attempt to address the housing problem. The deadline for utilising the funding is 30th November, and today ALONE have confirmed the purchase of a final, fifth property under the scheme. In total ALONE were awarded €765,000 under the Capital Assistance Scheme.

Sean Moynihan, Chief Executive Officer of ALONE commented, “We are delighted to have finalised the purchase of a fifth house under the CAS scheme. It means that with the continued hard work and commitment of our staff and volunteers, and the support we’ve received from the staff in the DCC and DECLG, we will be able to offer five homeless older people the safety and dignity of a home in time for Christmas”.

Moynihan continued, “Over the coming weeks we will refurbish the houses with age-friendly appliances, fixtures and fittings, ready for their new ALONE residents. There is a lot to do but even if it means handing over the keys on Christmas Eve we are determined to get these homeless older people in their new homes before Christmas”.

Moynihan concluded, “We will be very interested to hear the results of how many new homes were delivered from the €10 million funding on offer under the CAS scheme when the report goes to An Taoiseach on Monday”.

For those who have concerns about their own wellbeing, or the wellbeing of a vulnerable older person in the community, ALONE can be contacted on (01) 679 1032. To make a donation and help aid ALONE’s work this Christmastime visit www.alone.ie

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Established in 1977, ALONE is an independent charity that works with the 1 in 5 older people who are homeless, socially isolated, living in deprivation or in crisis. We provide Supportive Housing, Befriending, Community Response and Campaigning services to hundreds of older people every week. We receive no Government funding for our day-to-day activities so we rely solely on the generosity of the public to continue our work. ALONE’s services are quality approved and are delivered 365 days a year.

For more information contact:

Roisin Furlong, Limelight Communications, roisin.furlong@limelight.ie, 01 668 0600

Kathryn Byrne, Limelight Communications, kathryn.byrne@limelight.ie 01 668 0600, 085 233 6033