

## Inauguration of the first Belgian Thomashome in Meldert

**Meldert, June 11, 2021. Thomashuizen Belgium and Inclusio will be inaugurating today the first Thomashome (Thomashuis) in Belgium. This marks the first step in a promising and ambitious collaboration with the goal to develop more than twenty Thomashomes in Flanders by 2025.**

The Thomashome of Meldert will accommodate 8 to 9 residents suffering from mental disorder. Three of them, including a brother and sister, have already moved in and the others will follow shortly.



**Willy Vertongen, chairman of Thomashuizen Belgium, explains:** *“The residents of a Thomashome are at the centre of our model. Each home will house less than 10 people in order to provide them with the high quality support they might require. Our residents can always count on the 24/7 attention of two dedicated care providers living on the premises. The objective is not a constant supervision of the residents but to assist them, together with a few committed collaborators, whenever needed. With this operating model, the Thomashome concept guarantees to all participants a maximum level of autonomy in a secure environment.”*

Since Thomashuizen Belgium chose not to develop themselves their buildings, they have been looking for a partner sharing their vision in the field of hospitality for disabled individuals. Very soon, Inclusio was identified as an ideal partner since its strategy is to focus on social real estate dedicated to housing and health.

**Marc Brisack, CEO of Inclusio, comments:** *“We were immediately fond of the concept of inclusive care, where the residents will be active members of the neighbourhood. This corresponds to our investor’s ambitions in social real estate. We are looking forward to exploring new opportunities in order to create more than twenty additional Thomashomes in Flanders over the coming years.”*

The first contacts between Thomashuizen and Inclusio took place in 2017 when the Flemish government adopted a new form of financing to support people with mental disorders. The new system allowed the development of this concept. The people qualifying for financial support can “purchase” the care and the support they need (either through a voucher or sometimes by paying cash). In the previous system, the care providers were directly paid by the relevant authorities and the resident had little or nothing to say.

Inclusio invests between 1,3 MEUR and 1.5 MEUR in each Thomashome.

Before the end of 2023, two new Thomashomes should be operational once the renovation works will have been completed. They are located in Keerbergen and Westmalle.



## PRESS RELEASE

Brussel, embargo until June 11, 2021, 07:30 AM CET

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### About Thomashuizen Belgium

A Thomashome is a place where people with mental disorders are lovingly cared for and stimulated in a beautiful home and a safe environment. The small-scale setting and the permanent presence of the same individuals create a real sense of home.

The locations for a Thomashome are extensively screened. We usually choose an existing building with a soul and adapt it to the needs of a Thomashome; sometimes a building is built from scratch. But we always look for a location that offers a lot of benefits in terms of inclusion and where there is room for entrepreneurship.

The care couple is the beating heart of a Thomashome. They manage their own team as true care entrepreneurs. All team members share this vision and enjoy a certain freedom in carrying out their job, without jeopardizing their responsibility and the safety of this environment.

At least one person of the care couple has experience with the target group. In addition, preferably they both have affinity with guiding people with mental disorders. They can develop their own Thomashome with the dynamics of care entrepreneurship and real involvement. Their Thomashome does not feel like their job but like a way of life.

### About Inclusio

Inclusio is a Belgian REIT specializing in the field of social real estate investing in 3 different sectors:

- Affordable housing (736 units to date)
- Housing facilities for disabled persons (115 units to date)
- Social infrastructure: schools, daycare centres, buildings for asylum seekers, offices for non-profit organizations (4 units to date)

Inclusio obtained its approval as a public **RREC** (Regulated Real Estate Company) in December 2020 and has been listed on **Euronext Brussels** since 10 December 2020.

Its equity capital combined with the use of its credit lines has enabled Inclusio to grow its real estate portfolio to **162 million EUR as of March 31, 2021**. The rental revenues are expected to reach **6,5 million EUR** for 2021.

[www.inclusio.be](http://www.inclusio.be)

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