

# good works

PHILANTHROPY REPORT 2019-2020



St Vincent de Paul Society  
VICTORIA

*good works*

# our impact

Across Victoria, the St Vincent de Paul Society's 13,000+ volunteers are building compassionate communities. They provide practical assistance to help make ends meet by putting food on tables, heating homes in winter, educating young minds, listening in times of crisis and much, much more.

\$16.3M

MATERIAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CONFERENCES & VINNIES SHOPS



\$2.5M

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED FOR VICTORIA'S BUSHFIRE LONG-TERM RECOVERY



117,825

HOME VISITS BY CONFERENCE MEMBERS



250,735

MEALS PROVIDED BY SOUP VANS



40,668

ASSISTANCE CALLS RECEIVED



3,347

HOURS PROVIDED FOR STUDENT TUTORING & LEARNING



All figures appearing in this report are from the financial period ending 30 June 2020.

Our organisation's official name is the St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Inc. However, over the years and throughout this document we have used abbreviations and variations. The most recognisable of these are: the St Vincent de Paul Society, the Society, Vinnies Victoria and Vinnies.

Images appearing in this report are representative of our good works over the past 12 months including pre- and post-COVID-19. Where necessary, stock images have been used to protect the identity and privacy of the people we have assisted.

## OUR MISSION

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.

## OUR VISION

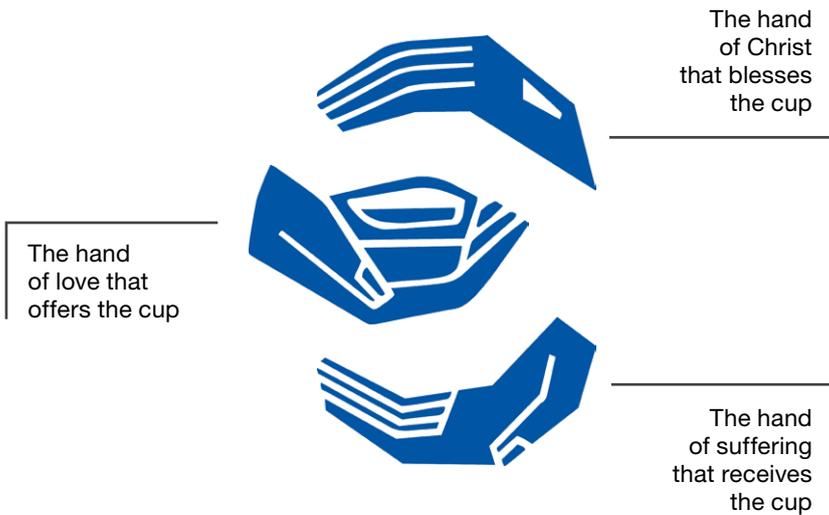
The St Vincent de Paul Society aspires to be recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering a ‘hand up’ to people in need.

We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing our hope and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

## OUR VALUES

- Commitment
- Compassion
- Respect
- Integrity
- Empathy
- Advocacy
- Courage

## OUR HANDS AT WORK



## OUR EDITORIAL TEAM

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*The St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria's Philanthropy Report editorial team would like to thank the community of writers and photographers who are captured in our year in review, as well as the people who have graciously shared their stories with us.*

*Front cover image courtesy of iStockphoto.com*

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# 166 years of service

**In Paris 1833 Frederic Ozanam, a 20-year-old student, was challenged to 'show us your works' and do something to assist the poor who were struggling to survive day to day.**

Frederic and his colleagues took up the challenge and provided practical assistance to people who were struggling and, as a result, the St Vincent de Paul Society was born on 23 April 1833.

His vision became a worldwide movement and, 21 years later on 5 March 1854, the St Vincent de Paul Society was established in Melbourne, Australia, by Fr Gerald Ward who, like Frederic, also witnessed a changing community following the discovery of gold in central Victoria.

Today, through a wide network of members and volunteers the Society's work continues to provide practical frontline support, advocacy and friendship to the most vulnerable members of our community.

For 166 years, the St Vincent de Paul Society has focused on serving people in need by meeting them and personally working through their issues to provide the best possible assistance.

In Victoria we have more than 13,000 members and volunteers providing assistance to people whose daily struggles can include putting food on the table, paying essential utilities and ensuring their children remain at school to obtain an education. Each person needing assistance is provided with care and compassion.

We are extremely grateful to the network of members and volunteers who are the backbone of our organisation.

To find out more visit [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au).

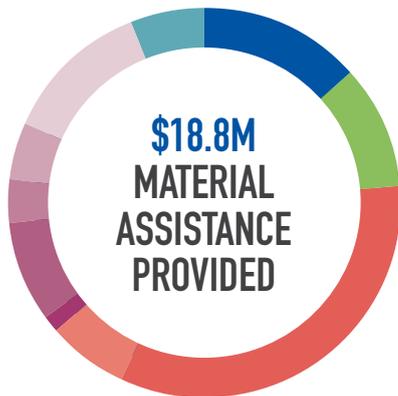


**"Let us do without hesitation  
whatever good lies at our hands."**

Blessed Frederic Ozanam,  
St Vincent de Paul Society founder

Image courtesy of [Stockphoto.com](http://Stockphoto.com)

The St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria is an organisation comprising a network of volunteers throughout the state whose key focus is helping to alleviate hardship and move people out of disadvantaged circumstances. We do this through our core work around homelessness, food insecurity, cost of living and education. These core services are supported financially by our social enterprise, Vinnies Shops. Assistance this year also included support to people affected by bushfire, drought and the COVID-19 pandemic.


**BUSHFIRE ASSISTANCE**

\$2,542,593 ● Bushfire Relief

**HOMELESSNESS**

\$1,940,338 ● Accommodation

**FOOD INSECURITY**

\$6,255,756 ● Food vouchers

\$1,265,249 ● Food purchases

**COST OF LIVING**

\$267,500 ● Medical

\$1,538,036 ● Household goods

\$690,977 ● Utilities

\$897,663 ● Other assistance

\$2,309,865 ● Welfare & material aid

**EDUCATION**

\$1,102,007 ● Education

## \$2.5M BUSHFIRE ASSISTANCE

The Society's response to the devastating bushfires in Victoria has been substantial and more support for affected communities will continue for as long as required to ensure the journey back to health.

## \$2.0M HOMELESSNESS

The Society's programs focus on preventing vulnerable people from becoming homeless and supporting them on their journey out of homelessness. Our programs include: assistance with accommodation costs, a rental assistance program to promote self-sufficiency and a no-interest loans scheme to assist with the purchase of essential household goods.

## \$7.5M FOOD INSECURITY

The Society's programs for the prevention of food insecurity provide essential meals, food vouchers and parcels to vulnerable people. Our programs include: nine soup van services that provide meals and friendship to people experiencing homelessness as well as food aid through our core work of home visitation.

## \$5.7M COST OF LIVING

The Society's programs focus on alleviating hardship and lifting people out of adverse circumstances. Through various means our members provide support and assistance to people in need, including emergency expenses, respite holiday homes and specialist service referrals, as well as advocating on their behalf.

## \$1.1M EDUCATION

The Society's programs promote learning, opportunity, compassion, diversity and commitment. We aim to create learning spaces that are safe and fun. We promote a growth mindset that develops the social, emotional and academic confidence of the young people who attend.

## SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

A key part of the Society's work is our Vinnies Shops, one of the largest and oldest social enterprises in Australia. Our shops generate income to fund the Society's programs and also provide goods to support people through our conferences. They play an essential role by recycling pre-loved goods and building communities.

# good works

The St Vincent de Paul Society is an organisation with a rich history of serving people in need providing practical assistance with friendship and respect. People are at the heart of everything we do and we will continue to work toward developing a more just and compassionate society for all.

## Our good works in the community include:

### CONFERENCES

Vinnies has local groups across Victoria, known as conferences, which provide assistance and support to people in need.

In response to incoming calls for assistance, our conference members visit people in their homes, or at a local assistance centre (we even have a prison visitation program for families of prisoners), to listen, assess and provide personalised support specific to their needs. Our members provide a range of assistance including: food, vouchers, clothing, furniture, budget support, back to school expenses – no act of charity is foreign to us.



### VINNIES SHOPS

Vinnies Shops are located across Victoria and, having been established in 1926, are one of the state's oldest and most respected social enterprises.

Our shops provide a major source of income for our local welfare programs, and are supported by an extensive network of volunteers and material donations from the community. The shops give new life to pre-loved goods; stock a range of new, affordable products for low-income shoppers; and provide a direct source of material aid for people experiencing hardship.



### SOUP VANS

Vinnies Soup Vans operate at nine locations in metropolitan and regional Victoria. In 1975 the first soup van service was established by dedicated university students and has been operating ever since.

The soup van service is run almost exclusively by volunteers, delivering meals, friendship and support to people experiencing poverty and homelessness. Shared meals create an environment for regular, face-to-face conversations, which can help people experiencing crisis to survive, recover and ultimately regain their independence.



### EDUCATION

Vinnies believe that education equals opportunity. We recognise the importance of education on a person's future and are committed to impacting long-term improvement by providing education support to people in need.

Our education programs promote learning, opportunity, compassion, diversity and commitment. We aim to create learning spaces that are safe and fun in order to promote the social, emotional and academic confidence of the young people who attend.



## OUR VOLUNTEERS

3,750

MEMBERS  
(includes Vinnies Youth)

857

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

27

CALL CENTRE

1,571

EDUCATION/TUTORING

1,272

SOUP VANS

5,700

VINNIES SHOPS

166

SPECIAL WORKS

## OUR PEOPLE

388

EMPLOYEES

## OUR ENTITIES



255

CONFERENCES



12

YOUTH CONFERENCES



5

ASSISTANCE CENTRES



112

VINNIES SHOPS



6

EDUCATION PROGRAMS



9

SOUP VANS

### CALL CENTRES & NILS

Vinnies has several call centres providing people with access to assistance and support. A generous group of volunteers give their time to listen, record and pass requests on to local volunteers who visit and provide welfare assistance as required. Our volunteers are an important first point of contact and offer support to people in crisis.

Vinnies NILS is a no-interest loans program providing safe, fair and affordable credit for people living on low incomes to purchase essential goods. It is designed to give vulnerable people a hand up and the dignity of controlling their own finances.



### YOUTH & SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT

Vinnies has a rich history of engaging with young people to build values-based leadership skills, facilitate fundraising, lead advocacy, run volunteer programs and much more.

We also run a Mini Vinnies program for primary school students and College Conferences for secondary school students.

Young Vinnies members continue their commitment to the Society by mentoring school age children through camps and days out to develop their confidence and provide respite to families currently assisted by Vinnies.



### COMMITTEES THAT CARE

Vinnies' volunteer-led structure allows for a variety of cause-specific committees to respond to areas of need.

Examples include the Overseas Development Committee, which supports people in developing countries; the Social Justice & Advocacy Committee, which facilitates research, advocacy and supports new settlers. The Emergency Response Liaison Committee also coordinates an important, locally led response to natural disasters.



# conferences at work



Last financial year, the St Vincent de Paul Society provided assistance and support to 282,628 people across Victoria.

If you need assistance, please call 1800 305 330.



Image courtesy of iStockphoto.com

Our conference members, associate members and volunteers are at the heart of what we do. They are happy to share what they have (food, clothing, shelter, advice and friendship) and assist people to get back on their feet but, more importantly, they empower people to decide where their future direction lies and work hand in hand with them to realise it.



### EASTERN CENTRAL COUNCIL

**29,073**

ADULTS & CHILDREN ASSISTED

**\$1,873,983**

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CONFERENCES



### NORTHERN CENTRAL COUNCIL

**27,659**

ADULTS & CHILDREN ASSISTED

**\$1,473,368**

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CONFERENCES



### SOUTHERN CENTRAL COUNCIL

**56,330**

ADULTS & CHILDREN ASSISTED

**\$2,984,353**

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CONFERENCES



### WESTERN CENTRAL COUNCIL

**49,887**

ADULTS & CHILDREN ASSISTED

**\$3,228,252**

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CONFERENCES



### GIPPSLAND CENTRAL COUNCIL

**27,091**

ADULTS & CHILDREN ASSISTED

**\$1,943,658**

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CONFERENCES



### NORTH EASTERN CENTRAL COUNCIL

**52,756**

ADULTS & CHILDREN ASSISTED

**\$2,491,443**

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CONFERENCES



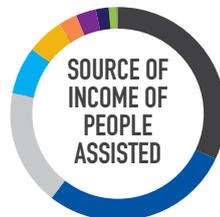
### NORTH WESTERN CENTRAL COUNCIL

**39,832**

ADULTS & CHILDREN ASSISTED

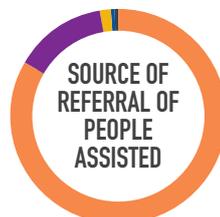
**\$1,655,326**

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY CONFERENCES



**SOURCE OF INCOME OF PEOPLE ASSISTED**

- 32.16% ● Disability support
- 28.65% ● Newstart allowance
- 17.32% ● Parenting payment
- 7.18% ● Other/not determined
- 5.53% ● Age pension
- 3.04% ● No income
- 2.88% ● Other government
- 1.99% ● Salary & wages
- 1.10% ● Youth allowance
- 0.15% ● WorkCover



**SOURCE OF REFERRAL OF PEOPLE ASSISTED**

- 83.40% ● Previous caller
- 13.95% ● Self-referred/friend
- 1.79% ● Church or similar
- 0.51% ● Non-government agencies
- 0.35% ● Government department

# state president's message

**The year 2020 had barely begun when bushfires, which had been raging since December, took hold across Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and the ACT. By the end of January, in Victoria, the fire had burnt through more than 1.5 million hectares of land and had, tragically, killed five people.**



The bushfires followed a crippling drought that had already impacted parts of New South Wales and Victoria.

During my first visit to Mallacoota – a then traumatised town immortalised in those news images of the sky turning deep red while the fire raged in East Gippsland – I spent time listening to the people affected by the bushfires. One thing was certain during that visit. The recovery and the picking up of pieces among these fragile communities had only just begun.

One of our largest focuses throughout the bushfire crisis was to ensure children got back to school and established some normalcy.

This school year brought untold extra pressures – going back to school was simply a reminder to families and their children of the stress they were under – and my heart went out to them. However, we knew that attending school would be a big part of restoring the wellbeing of young people.

Vinnies set up a helpline on 13 18 12 for this assistance with education costs – among other support. However, our main task began in the recovery phase.

We are proud to state that every dollar raised has been used to support the people impacted by the fires. In addition,

Vinnies has not, and has never, kept funds from disaster appeals for any other work or cause including administration.

We rely on generous donations from Victorians to support our good works and receive no government bushfire funding here in Victoria.

Our experience after the Black Saturday fires in 2009 and Bunyip in 2019, indicates that the initial recovery will take 12–18 months as people slowly return to their towns or to a new location.

From our home visits throughout the year, our members are well equipped to do the sort of assessment required in these circumstances: What assistance has already been given by the government, insurance companies, other agencies? What is still needed?

Our primary aim in all of this has always been to assist, as much as we can, everyone affected by the fires.

This is what drives me most during these testing times. For 166 years, our members and volunteers have responded practically and compassionately to social injustices and natural disasters, asking the most important question: “How can I help you to rebuild your life?”.

More than six months down the track, many of the town’s residents are still in crisis, traumatised by the experience, displaced from their homes – some are still living in sheds, caravans, tents – or temporarily relocated across the broader community.

While the pandemic has changed the way we assist people – no longer doing home visits, but doing phone visits and contactless drop off of assistance, for instance – we have ensured that the community knows we remain alongside them not only in spirit, but with caring, practical and ongoing assistance.

That day in Mallacoota, I realised that we must do what it takes to ensure that this once vibrant community – as well as every other East Gippsland community impacted by bushfires – would thrive once again. Vinnies will be with these communities for as long as they need us to walk with them as they rebuild.

**Kevin McMahon**  
State President

# ceo's message

Like many charities, the COVID-19 pandemic threw the St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria a huge challenge. Our 166-year tradition of face-to-face support suddenly became not only untenable but unsafe, and changes had to be made – often on the hop and in direct response to government directives which were themselves being finalised as they were being announced.



MESSAGES FROM OUR LEADERS

With the pandemic increasing its grip across Victoria it was becoming more and more certain that we had to make some hard decisions.

So, with our hands on our hearts, we had to ask many of our dedicated, yet older and more vulnerable volunteer workforce to step away for their own health and safety. This was one of the hardest things I have done at Vinnies, knowing, as I do, that volunteering keeps our 13,000+ volunteer workforce active and engaged, but once the government had announced its directive it was the right, responsible thing to do.

Asking our volunteers to step away also impacted how we delivered our services and operated our Vinnies Shops. It forced us to think long and hard about how we needed to adapt to ensure that Vinnies continued to keep playing a vital role in helping people who need it most.

One thing we did know was that we wouldn't stop being the charity we were born to be. Our charity rose out of the cholera epidemic in 1832 that killed thousands in Paris and left thousands more destitute.

It was a young university student who gathered around him like-minded individuals. When told that the situation

was too big to change, young Frederic Ozanam concentrated on the important things, such as feeding people who were going hungry.

There have been so many stories of how our Vincentian family have embraced the spirit of Frederic.

Inspired by him, our conferences quickly adapted to COVID-19 restrictions by activating their 'conference volunteer driver' program to keep the delivery wheels turning; putting together a "How-to safely drop off hampers during COVID-19" video and packing hampers for a regular delivery to caravan parks housing many people in huge need.

Our education programs went online (with our educators calling every single student they worked with) and despite the cancellation of Easter camps this year, our youth teams ensured families didn't miss out on the spirit of Easter (or Easter eggs) and made deliveries to each of the families they support, while our call centre volunteers continued to be the caring and consistent voices at the end of the line.

The Vinnies Soup Van teams continued to deliver an eye-watering amount of food hampers and meals to people struggling throughout

Melbourne, and Vinnies Shops kept their doors open (except in Melbourne when we all went into Stage 4 lockdown) by strictly adhering to government guidelines, being fitted with Perspex screens, hand sanitiser and social distancing markers.

Yes, even in the depths of COVID-19 our volunteers and employees have been flexible, adaptable and open to new ways of caring for people in need and responding to new forms of poverty that have emerged. When I think of our 'good works', I'm reminded every day of the words from South African human rights activist Desmond Tutu: "Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world".

Yes, this pandemic continues to impact all of us. It's large, overwhelming and, almost, immeasurable, but how comforting to know that even something as dark and menacing as COVID-19 can be put in its place – "overwhelmed" – by these simple acts of good.

**Sue Cattermole**  
Chief Executive Officer

# the unforeseeable

BUSHFIRE • DROUGHT • COVID-19

**“Uncertainty is the only certainty there is, and knowing how to live with insecurity is the only security.”**

John Allen Paulos



# GETTING PEOPLE BACK ON THEIR FEET

Prior to the pandemic, 2020 had already been devastating for the communities affected by bushfires that ripped through East Gippsland and Victoria's high country during the Christmas and New Year period. Bairnsdale Conference was quick to join the main emergency responder charities in the town's football ground clubrooms in the immediate aftermath.

As a secondary responder our presence was to provide additional assistance after people had had their emergency needs met by charities, such as the Red Cross.

It was unforgettably tough to see people slump before them, shell-shocked and barely able to say what they needed, Bairnsdale Conference President Cath McMahon recalls, "There was around 200–300 people in the room at any one time seeking assistance and we offered whatever we could, and that included a lot of hugs and shared tears."

As the emergency phase passed and the first responders left, Cath says she knew a long road to recovery was ahead. "People who had lost everything or had their stream of income severely impacted came to us. The fires' impact on local businesses is long term, and has a knock-on effect on people's employment. These are the people who we will be assisting for as long as they need it."

Early in the year, Bairnsdale Conference focused on helping families get their children back to school because it was important for students to re-establish familiar routines. With funds donated by the Jewish Community of Victoria, Vinnies paid for back-to-school costs, bought school uniforms and gave out laptops to high school students.

Vinnies provided \$2.5 million worth of assistance that 'answered the need' of impacted and traumatised communities. Some examples of how Bairnsdale Conference helped the community include paying for medicines, fuel, stock feed, utility bills, work boots, repairs on people's cars who had crashed escaping fires, generator fuel, tents, swags and car registration bills. In the high country, Vinnies provided electricity generators for outlying properties that were cut off from power, school costs and more.

Prior to the bushfires, Vinnies was assisting farmers gripped by the drought that had ravaged north-west Victoria and Gippsland in recent years. Conferences in Mildura, Swan Hill, Moe, Sale, Bairnsdale and beyond adapted to help farmers in creative ways. One East Gippsland conference bought hay from farmers Judie and Greg Trease, who were only able to make a fraction of their normal production, and gave it to local cattle graziers who were desperate for stock feed but could not afford it – thereby helping two drought-impacted farms.

Vinnies has assisted farmers, farm workers and businesses by administering the government's Drought Community Support grants (up to \$3,000 per household) in a number of affected local government areas. Conferences have worked hard to build relationships in the communities because stoic farmers have proven reluctant to ask for help. Vinnies has also provided assistance through our conferences by paying farmers' utility bills, buying stock feed and refilling household water tanks that had run dry.

Our efforts didn't stop there. North Western Central Council President Chris Pye and his brother John launched the 'Buy a Bale' campaign by driving a single symbolic hay bale from Bessiebelle to Millewa to raise awareness and funds to purchase hay. They raised more than \$15,000 and the first delivery of hay was received by the community in Merrinee, who were in desperate need of fodder for their livestock.

A total of 46 farms have each received 12 bales of hay, which is vital for the survival of breeding stock. Vinnies acknowledges the generosity of the White family, who have contributed a substantial cash donation to this worthy cause.

*Pictured left: Upper Murray Regional President Rosanne Hill (third from left) with representatives of the Jewish Community of Victoria visiting the Sacred Heart Primary School in Corryong to plan relief assistance required following the bushfires.*

## FROM HOME VISITS TO PHONE VISITS

Like many charities, COVID-19 impacted Vinnies Victoria on a number of fronts. Some conferences had to close, while others were quick to adapt, turning their signature 'home visits' into 'phone visits' and dropping food vouchers and other material assistance off on doorsteps while observing social distancing.

The JobSeeker pandemic supplement raised unemployment support to a more dignified and sustainable level, and while this meant that we received fewer calls for assistance from our regular friends, we saw a worrying rise in need among others, such as people on disability support payments, single parents and people with low or no savings.

Our Vinnies Soup Vans experienced a significant increase in demand. It quickly adapted and replaced its street stop service with the delivery of food hampers and vouchers to households. Vinnies Soup Vans served 109,334 meals between March and June 2020. There was a 38 percent increase in demand for soup van meals due to the pandemic.



*Toa Thredgold delivering hampers.*



*Buy a Bale campaign launched.*



THE UNFORESEEABLE

# good cares

The St Vincent de Paul Society's homelessness programs prevent vulnerable people from becoming homeless and supporting them on their journey out of homelessness and to regain independence.

Our programs include: assistance with accommodation costs, a rental assistance program to promote self-sufficiency and a no-interest loans scheme to assist with the purchase of essential household goods.



# WHEN YOU HAVE NOTHING, IT'S HARD TO MAKE SOMETHING

One of the most heart-warming stories of Vinnies Victoria's 'good works' in 2020 came in the shape of a gorgeous bundle of baby joy called Alek, whose parents were living in a tent when Vinnies first met them.

In March, just as the COVID-19 crisis began to bite, Ian and Sheila Hardy, two Vinnies volunteers in regional Victoria, were advised that a couple were living in a local park so they went to see if they could help. "When the woman came out of the tent and we saw she was pregnant, I thought 'We're not leaving her here. We've got to do something,'" says Ian.

The couple were Dallas, 26, and Karryn, 30, who met early in 2019, but had nowhere to live so had been couch-surfing with friends. After a series of incidents in which the people with whom they were staying became threatening, they decided that living in the tent was a safer alternative. They had been there for a month, which Dallas says, "felt like a lifetime".

Vinnies immediately moved Dallas and Karryn into a motel for a few days, then a caravan that had been donated after the bushfires, and provided them with food and essentials. Amazingly, Ian then received a call out of the blue from a Vincentian who had a vacant house in the area that he wanted to offer to anyone in need at the modest rate of \$100 per week.

Dallas and Karryn were assisted by Vinnies to move into the house and also provided with furniture and bedding. The icing on the cake was getting their dog, DJ, back after they had been forced to rehome him. "It was so hard to let him go, but after seeing how well we were doing in our own home, his new family decided it was the right thing to give DJ back." Then the cherry on top arrived – beautiful baby Alek in July. "He's adorable," says Dallas.

Karryn and Dallas can barely put their gratitude to Vinnies into words.

*"When you've got nothing, it's hard to make something out of it. Having Ian and Sheila believe in us when no-one else did, with no judgment, was a huge step in the right direction. We haven't looked back,"* says Karryn.

Dallas has recently had work concreting and since then, the couple have had enough money to buy extra furniture. "The house is fantastic and really peaceful," says Karryn.

Karryn has two older sons who are living with their dad and it is her hope now that they will be able to stay with her again. The pair have also re-established ties to their families.

*"Through the help and support of our Vinnies family, we are so blessed to have the opportunity to work on our relationships with our own families,"* says Karryn.

*"We want to thank everyone who has supported us moving forward. We feel so lucky."*

Pictured left: Karryn and Dallas with baby Alek.

## VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT GOES ONLINE



\$2.0M

HOMELESSNESS

When the COVID-19 pandemic hit in March 2020, we knew our flagship event – the Vinnies CEO Sleepout – needed a rethink in order to continue assisting Victorians who needed us most. The result was the very first online event live streamed across Australia from Sydney.

On 18 June, 1,539 CEOs, business and community leaders – and, for the first time, quite a number of their families and pets – tuned in to watch media personality and host Dr Andrew Rochford interview people with lived experience of homelessness, before retiring to their chosen venue that included cars, backyards, porches or couches.

While Vinnies had a more realistic – and drastically reduced – target, we underestimated the commitment of our participants, many of whom were determined to meet their fundraising goals to support people experiencing homelessness.

In Victoria, 291 CEOs registered with more than 6,000 donors supporting their efforts resulting in our two events raising: Melbourne \$975,251 (original goal \$500,000) and Geelong \$81,967 (original goal \$50,000).

These funds will support Vinnies' homeless services providing shelter, food, clothing and other support for people experiencing homelessness, or at imminent risk of losing their home.

Victoria's highest fundraiser, for the fifth year in a row, was CEO of Gandel Philanthropy Vedran Drakulic OAM, raising an amazing \$158,146. Since 2015, Vedran has raised more than \$600,000 and is a great ambassador for the Vinnies CEO Sleepout.

Vedran is an inspiring leader who encourages his friends and colleagues to support his fundraising efforts and to participate in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout.

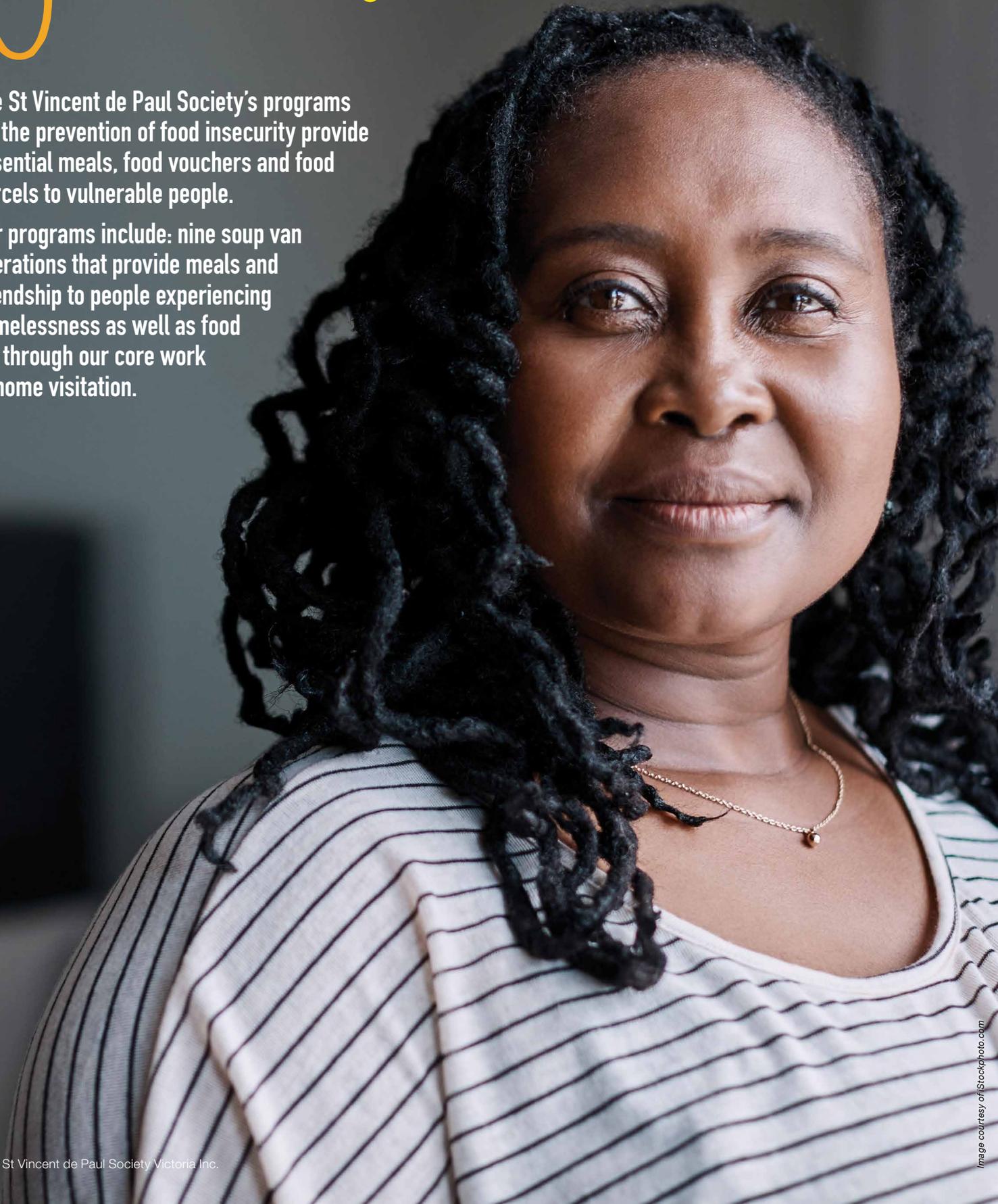


Vedran Drakulic OAM, CEO of Gandel Philanthropy during the 2020 Vinnies CEO Sleepout.

# good feeds

The St Vincent de Paul Society's programs for the prevention of food insecurity provide essential meals, food vouchers and food parcels to vulnerable people.

Our programs include: nine soup van operations that provide meals and friendship to people experiencing homelessness as well as food aid through our core work of home visitation.



# STRUGGLING TO PUT FOOD ON THE TABLE

Amira\* is a single mother with four children who, at times, struggles to put enough food on the table. Vinnies Victoria met her through one of our reading clubs that her children attended after our volunteer approached her to see if there was anything else Vinnies could do. Amira immediately asked if we helped out with food.

The family now receives a weekly hamper of dry food staples, such as rice and pasta, along with supermarket vouchers. Amira likes to cook and prepares meals like chicken with rice and vegetables, but some days, her family just has a little bread and cheese to eat. Her children don't complain and she tries to keep the stress of the situation away from them.

Amira moved to Australia from an island near Africa many years ago and her husband followed afterwards, but they have since separated. He visits the children occasionally and sometimes contributes small amounts of money, but this is far outweighed by the expenses she faces looking after their family.

They are privately renting and Amira receives childcare benefit. After paying their rent, she only has \$200-\$300 left a fortnight. Money for food shopping is only available on the fortnights when no utility bills are due. "On the fortnights when I have to pay bills, that is very stressful for me, because with the electricity and gas, it's too expensive," she says. So at times, the food Vinnies delivers is all the family receives.

*"I try to manage things well for the children," she says. "I don't want them to feel stress, so I don't show that I am in stress and struggling. I try my best."*

Amira is fearful about how long she will be able to remain in the house she's renting, and is on the list for commission housing, but has been told the waiting time is 12 years. She and the children have had to move eight times and were even homeless last winter for three months after a fire destroyed the kitchen in their house. They lived in friends' garages.

Vinnies conference member, Lina Pahor, who first approached Amira at the reading club, says that Vinnies looked for the family during the period that they were homeless and kept visiting their old house in case they returned, so she was very glad when Amira found new accommodation and made contact again with Vinnies.

Lina recalls how Vinnies helped make Christmas last year a special event for Amira and her family. All the children received presents and books at the reading club's end-of-year party which they loved, but Lina also picked up the family and took them to the Vinnies Soup Van's Christmas party. They were served a hot cooked lunch and more Christmas presents. "Amira was blown away," says Lina.

*"It was so lovely having them all join in. Amira does an amazing job with her children, but it's very tough for them."*

# FAMILY & FRIENDSHIP ON THE SOUP VAN

Vinnies Soup Vans take their 'food and friendship' motto pretty seriously, but when Davina joined Steph on the Berwick Soup Van in 2019, they added 'family' to the list.

Steph had been volunteering with Vinnies since 2012, and more recently on the Berwick Soup Van. Her dedication to helping others inspired her Mum Davina to check out what volunteering on the soup van was all about.

"Vinnies has carried me through personal hardship since the passing of my Father, Michael," says Steph who lost her father at 19 – right on the cusp of young adulthood.

"I was lost and so consumed by my own grief that I wasn't able to see anyone else's. When I found my Vinnies family, starting with Vinnies Cranbourne, I was uplifted with passion, drive and purpose. I became a better daughter and a caring neighbour."

Davina said that Steph's motivation was infectious and that she had to give volunteering a go. They are pictured below on their first run together; you can clearly see that Davina is just as proud of her daughter as Steph is of her mum.

Volunteering has given this pair a new mode of quality time, even spending their Christmas Day assisting Fitzroy Soup Van. They believe in the sense of community and friendship that Vinnies is able to provide, and has said it's put their faith into meaningful action.

"Vinnies is such a huge part of me and I wanted to share these special experiences with Mum. She has always been my biggest blessing and I felt this was the most important gift I had to give. As she began her community journey I was filled with pride, and Mum was filled with joy. Led by our faith, that very first shift together was one of strength, healing and above all, love. I felt Dad was right there with us, too."



Steph and Davina.



\$7.5M

FOOD INSECURITY

\*Name has been changed to protect identity.

# good helps

The St Vincent de Paul Society's Cost of Living programs focus on alleviating hardship and lifting people out of adverse circumstances.

Through various means our members and volunteers provide support and assistance to people in need as well as advocating on their behalf.

Our programs include: home visitation, emergency expenses, respite holiday homes and specialist service referrals.



# IT'S CONFRONTING NOT BEING ABLE TO PAY YOUR WAY

A health crisis is one of the most common life events that brings people into contact with Vinnies Victoria and this was how we met Ross\* and Peggy\*, through Martin Rowen, one of our tireless volunteer leaders.

Through his conference role, Martin assists people with medical and utility bills, rent arrears, food costs, bus fares and car repairs, to name a few. He first met Ross in 2018 when he began dialysis and was awaiting a kidney transplant, which was successfully carried out early in 2020.

The couple's life was turned upside down by Ross' illness. Peggy was forced to leave her university job to become his full-time carer, and Ross' successful career has been on hold for more than two years.

Rather than receiving disability support, Ross was put on Newstart, which sent them into poverty. In the end, with Martin's help, they took their case to their local Federal Government minister. This was an added stress, but after almost three years on Newstart, Ross was finally moved on to a disability benefit. "Applying for entitlements, let alone fighting for them, is difficult when you are going through health challenges," says Peggy. "Especially if you're not used to the system and all the hoops you have to jump through."

The couple, who have a son, hated facing financial challenges for the first time in their lives.

*"It's confronting not being able to pay your way. We've always taken pride in our careers, and capacity to provide for our family's needs,"* says Peggy.

Martin's help with bills, food vouchers and medical expenses was instrumental, but Vinnies also helped pay for the couple to travel interstate to attend a close relative's funeral. "That was extraordinary," says Peggy, because as an Aboriginal couple, it was very important to their family and community that they attended. "A lot of protocols came into play," she says. "It's an important part of cultural practice for us, and Martin developed a deep understanding of that."

Martin also helped Ross and Peggy apply for utility bill relief and to take a case to the energy ombudsman after they received a gas bill for more than \$3,000, which they discovered was related to a leak outside their house. Peggy said, "it was overwhelming because I didn't know where to go or what to do, but Martin was on it straight away."

Peggy also said that Martin was a great source of emotional support too during long conversations over coffee. "It doesn't matter who you are or what your station, everybody needs help at least once in their life," says Peggy. "It's what makes us human and I have a lot more faith now in those fellow humans who have reached out to us, such as Martin and Vinnies."

*"When you're in the trenches, the battle feels like it will last forever. But Martin was like a strong breeze that came down to say 'you're not alone'."*

"It has meant so much to know that Martin cares about what happened to us," she adds. "We have been lucky that at the time when we needed help, no-one better than Martin and Vinnies could have come along."

## WHEN MOJ MET MIRIAM

A young man that Vinnies Victoria has been working with for some time touched many people's hearts around Australia in May when he appeared in the ABC documentary *Miriam Margolyes' Almost Australian*.

Moj is a refugee who arrived here in 2010 as an unaccompanied teen after losing his parents and brothers in the war in his home country, Afghanistan.

Vinnies has supported him with rent, food and utility bill assistance and he volunteered for a time at his local Vinnies Shop, which is where Miriam Margolyes 'found' him. His story moved Miriam to tears when she learned that he doesn't even know his own birthday. Her response was echoed by scores of social media messages sent to Moj from the public offering encouragement, love and support.

Vinnies' media office worked closely with the production company, Southern Pictures, for many months to ensure Moj was adequately supported throughout the process of appearing in such a high-profile program and Vinnies continues to keep in regular touch with Moj.

Moj thanked people via a message on our Facebook page after the program in his modest and gracious style:

*"I would like to say thank you to everyone for being so kind and nice. You are amazing."*



Miriam Margolyes and Moj.



\$5.7M

COST OF LIVING

\*Names have been changed to protect identities.

# good educates

The St Vincent de Paul Society has always identified education as a key pathway out of poverty.

Our education programs offer essential support to students and families experiencing disadvantage with education expenses as well as tutoring programs, reading clubs and sporting programs.

In addition, Young Vinnies members also support children and teens through camps and days out.



# GIVING PEOPLE THE TOOLS TO HEAL

If all had gone to plan in Tegan Moore's life, she would still be working in the Federated States of Micronesia as a mentor for mental health workers helping vulnerable young people there. However, five months into her assignment with the Australian Volunteers Program Tegan was evacuated by the Australian government due to coronavirus. This meant that she was staying at her family's home in Melbourne with all her belongings still in storage and at a loose end when she saw Mallacoota P-12 College's advertisement for a Bushfire Recovery Practitioner.

This position, which trauma specialist and social worker Tegan took up in June 2020, was the result of a consultation process between Vinnies Victoria and the school's principal, Tim Cashmore, about how we could support students at the school with their emotional and psychological recovery after the devastating bushfires that ravaged the area.

Vinnies has been in constant contact with communities in the affected areas and developed a number of key initiatives, thanks to the significant financial backing of the Jewish Community of Victoria. Along with helping students to pay for school and college fees, travel expenses, laptops and uniforms, Vinnies is also rebuilding a major sports facility in Mallacoota and Tegan's year-long appointment has been a boon to the town.

The length of Tegan's appointment was critical to establishing trust with the community. "The first thing children asked me was, 'How long are you staying?' They were really pleased to know I would be here a whole year. It's allowed me to begin building those relationships that are so important."

The sense of displacement, ongoing uncertainty and struggling to reorientate one's identity in their new world are common experiences of people experiencing trauma, says Tegan, who has found parallels in her work at the school with her previous experience supporting refugees.

Since remote learning began, Tegan has been offering a range of therapeutic support working with students and, sometimes more so, parents via online sessions or phone calls. She has collaborated with staff to continue developing wellbeing and positive behaviour practices.

Children are exhibiting anxiety and some are struggling with engagement, says Tegan. "Some students are finding it hard to focus and concentrate, so those issues are impacting on their learning. Older students are more able to talk about feeling stressed."

*"Trauma work isn't necessarily talking about the traumatic experiences. It's about giving people the tools to do the processing themselves and understand their feelings,"* she says.

Tim Cashmore says: "We are incredibly lucky to have Tegan, thanks to Vinnies Victoria and the Jewish Community of Victoria. She not only has great knowledge of frameworks and programs, but Tegan also has a magnificent calmness and supportive nature, which shines through her daily work. She is making a huge difference to our school and the community."

Tegan is confident that the children's future is bright. "Natural disasters can have many knock-on effects, but most of the students here have had solid lives leading up to this point, which is a really strong protective factor. They also have good networks in the community and supportive adults around them. Along with the work we are doing, it all gives me a lot of hope their lives will be successful. I love the work we are doing and I am really grateful to have been welcomed so warmly by the community and to have the opportunity to get to know these amazing kids."

Pictured left: Tegan Moore.

# TRAVELLING THE WORLD THROUGH BOOKS



\$1.1M

EDUCATION

In late 2019, the St Vincent de Paul Society received an astonishingly generous bequest from Marietta, known as Marie, who had been a regular donor during her life, but had never made an inquiry about how to leave a gift in her Will.

Her executor and friend of 60 years, Kerrie, kindly provided some information on Marie, who donated the money, she says, because Marie "believed in the St Vincent de Paul Society and shared the charity's values".

What were the values important to Marie that she saw reflected in the St Vincent de Paul Society?

Kerrie says Marie believed that having a good education was the most important thing in life – she felt blessed to have had a full education and that you "can travel the world through books". Marie supported St Mary's Primary School in Hampton and donated money to build schools in developing countries.

Marie was generous, compassionate and "had an interest in people and, in fact, every sentient being," Kerrie says. She adds: "When we went out, she knew all the traders – she knew about their children, spouses and workers. If we all had a bit of Marie in us, what a wonderful world it would be."

After all her siblings passed away, Marie inherited the house in Hampton, but went into care at age 99. Marie was full of life until contracting shingles and passed away in 2018 at 103 years old.

While it is impossible to measure belief, least of all in monetary terms, Marie was clearly a woman alert to the world's shortcomings who put a great deal of stock in the St Vincent de Paul Society's good works and the power of education to overcome them.



Marietta.

# good welcomes

A key part of the St Vincent de Paul Society's work involves one of the largest and oldest social enterprises in Australia, our Vinnies Shops.

Our 112 shops, warehouses, call centres and logistics generate income to fund the Society's programs, but also play an essential role in our community by recycling pre-loved goods, building communities through volunteering and providing individuals with support, training, skill development and jobs.

Our shops provide an overarching support system to all the services we provide.



# VINNIES NEVER LET ME DOWN

Vinnies Victoria's shops pride themselves on selling quality pre-loved items and household products at prices affordable to all, but they offer their communities a great deal more. They work hand in hand with conferences to fund welfare programs that pay for food, fuel, medicine, utility bills, school costs and myriad other necessities for local people – which the following two stories illustrate beautifully.

Earlier this year, a woman on Phillip Island got in touch with her local newspaper, *The Advertiser*, because she wanted to publicly thank the “amazing team” at Vinnies Cowes for supporting her through five years of tough times.

Single mum ‘Bianca’ told the newspaper how she had turned to Vinnies after a bad family breakdown. “Vinnies helped me with my rent, with food ... they kept me going.” She added that Vinnies had paid educational fees and for her son to attend a school camp.

She recalled how Vinnies had even helped with a roadside emergency. “I was stuck visiting friends when my car broke down and I didn’t have enough money to pay for the repairs,” Bianca told *The Advertiser*. She needed to get home to pick up her kids, so she called Vinnies Cowes. Within a few hours, Vinnies had helped pay for the repairs and got her on the road again. She said this was only one example of the incredible support she had received. “Vinnies never let me down,” she said.

Bianca sent a big thank you in the newspaper to each of the volunteers by name.

*“They’ve moved mountains for me. A lot of people feel ashamed that they have to ask for help and I was like that. But Vinnies volunteers don’t look down on you. They are lovely people who are out to help.”*

Everyone at Vinnies Cowes was touched by Bianca’s efforts to thank the team.

Likewise, the volunteers at Vinnies Warragul showed what we are all about when they responded to a request posted on Vinnies Victoria’s Facebook page in April by the daughter of one of the shop’s regular customers, Elsa Rabin.

Before COVID-19 hit, Elsa visited the shop every week to buy novels, because she read four or five a week. However, when she had to go into quarantine due to health concerns, her daughter Lorraine, a NSW-based school teacher, asked Vinnies if she could pay for a “huge bag of books, and I mean huge,” over the phone that could be dropped to Elsa.

The Warragul team was of course keen to help. ‘Vollie’ Pam Dunlop went on a shopping spree on Elsa’s behalf handpicking titles of interest, and manager Lyn Parsonage dropped them at Elsa’s gate – all as a gift. Vinnies called Elsa to see how she liked the books. “I was so pleased with them,” she said. “I usually stick to the \$1 titles, but they put in some expensive ones. The books will all get recycled again at Vinnies Warragul when I can return to the shop. I’m so grateful, the books have really helped during isolation.”

These stories illustrate how our Vinnies Shops go ‘beyond the call of duty’ to serve their community in vital ways, especially in difficult times. Every day, in every one of our 112 shops across Victoria, Vinnies are there to help.

## A TOUGH YEAR

Vinnies Shops have had a tough year, with many volunteers throughout the state having to take a step back due to the pandemic and some shops having to close. Vinnies Shops are nothing without the dedication, hard work, passion and time that our amazing team give of themselves, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their bottomless resilience and support as we have rallied together to face the unexpected and varied challenges of 2020.

When the pandemic hit, the entire retail team, warehouses, logistics, support office, shop managers and volunteers were quick to incorporate all the health and safety requirements needed, such as having ample hand sanitiser and face masks available and installing acrylic till barriers. They worked hard to keep our shops open, unlike most charities in the retail space.

While our metro shops were unable to trade during Stage 4 lockdown due to government restrictions, all our wonderful regional shops kept the flag flying in their local communities and precious revenue continued coming in for the organisation. It is due to the incredible efforts of everyone in our social enterprise sector that the dire financial impact of COVID-19 on our primary source of income has been mitigated.

Jeff Antcliff, General Manager Retail, said: “Words cannot express my deep gratitude for the commitment the retail team has shown every day during the uncertain times of the pandemic. I would like to thank everyone for stepping up to the many challenges and supporting each other with their typical ‘can do’ attitude, good humour and calm Vinnies way.”



Social distancing at Vinnies Kilsyth.



\$2.3M

VALUE OF PRODUCTS PROVIDED FOR WELFARE PURPOSES

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE



**121,014**

CHILDREN  
ASSISTED



**250,735**

SOUP VAN  
MEALS



**161,614**

ADULTS  
ASSISTED



**286**

VINNIES NILS  
LOANS



**\$2.5M**

BUSHFIRE  
ASSISTANCE  
DISTRIBUTED



**71,732**

SOUP VAN  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS



**\$14.0M**

CONFERENCE  
ASSISTANCE  
PROVIDED



**\$275,961**

VINNIES NILS  
LOAN VALUE



**117,825**

HOME VISITS  
MATERIAL AID  
GIVEN



**112**

VINNIES SHOPS



**411**

YOUNG VINNIES  
MEMBERS



**1,800**

BUSHFIRE  
RELIEF CALLS  
RECEIVED





**13,378**

VOLUNTEERS  
STATEWIDE



**1,350**

PEOPLE ASSISTED  
BY SOUP VANS  
EACH NIGHT



**\$2.3M**

VINNIES  
\$25 CARDS  
USED



**3,339**

MEMBERS



**17,639**

HOUSEHOLDS  
ASSISTED BY  
FOOD RUNS



**3,359**

TUTORING  
HOURS



**\$44.4M**

SHOPS  
INCOME



**40,668**

ASSISTANCE  
CALLS



**255**

CONFERENCES



**\$2.3M**

VINNIES SHOPS  
WELFARE  
PROVIDED

# thank you

## The St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria is grateful for the generous support received from the community.

Thank you to all the individual supporters, groups, schools, businesses, trusts and estates who have generously donated their skills, gifts-in-kind and critical funds towards our work over the past year.

### TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

- ASCA Education Foundation Company Limited
- Australian Communities Foundation
- Desmond Prentice Charitable Fund
- DMSE Family Legacy Trust
- Gandel Philanthropy
- Gaudry Foundation
- Kevin Bailey Charitable Trust
- Orloff Family Charitable Trust
- The Lionel and Aileen Fowler Charitable Trust
- The Margaret Conway Charitable Trust
- The Mary Thelma Simpson Charitable Trust
- The Noel and Carmel O'Brien Family Foundation
- The Pierce Armstrong Foundation
- Wood Foundation

### BUSINESS, SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY

- 300 Blankets
- Abbey Auctions
- Alimak Group
- Alviss Consulting
- Anaconda
- ANZ
- Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation
- Belong
- Boost Juice
- Bosch (Australia) Pty Ltd
- Casamento Photography
- Catholic Diocese of Ballarat
- Clevertronics
- Colgate
- Compu-Stor
- Croation Catholic Centre
- C-Tech Laser Pty Ltd
- Deloitte Australia
- DHL
- Doran Printing
- Drouin & District Community Bank
- Epworth Healthcare

- FareShare
- Foodbank
- Glen Eira City Council
- Grill'd Healthy Burgers
- Guardian Pharmacy
- IGA
- Integra Land Pty Ltd
- Jeanswest
- Jemena
- Jewish Community of Victoria
- Knights of Malta
- Kookai
- L'Oreal
- Margadh Stoc Pty Ltd
- Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
- Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart
- Moores
- Nine Cares
- Northwest Healthcare Properties Management
- OOCL
- oOH!media
- Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception
- Oz Harvest
- Pinchapoo
- Quay Australia
- Reventon
- Sacred Heart/Emmaus Parish
- Secon Freight Logistics
- SecondBite
- Sisters of Charity of Australia
- Sky News Business
- SpairPair
- St Bernards Parish
- St Peter Chanel Parish Deer Park
- Talaria Capital
- Tasty Fresh Food Co
- Telstra Corporation Ltd
- The Australian
- The CEO Institute
- The Sisters of Nazareth
- Vietnamese Catholic Community of Melbourne
- Vital Healthcare Investment Trust
- Woodards Foundation

### ESTATES & BEQUESTS

- Cyril Mannix Memorial Charitable Trust
- Dibbs & Massie Foundation
- Estate Alan Peter Nielsen
- Estate Barbara Joan Nielsen
- Estate Beryl Joan John
- Estate Bryan Raymond Cotter
- Estate Geoffrey Charles McKay
- Estate Heidi Goldstein
- Estate John Edward Dineen
- Estate John Michael Brophy
- Estate Joseph Henry Costin
- Estate Lawrence Bernard Eaton
- Estate Malcolm J McLeod
- Estate Margaret Constance Lynch
- Estate Mary Cecilia Donohoe
- Estate Mary Kathleen Rebbechi
- Estate Michael James Grogan
- Estate Patrick Corbett
- Estate Paul Desmond Dickson
- Estate Pauline Adele Creese
- Estate Rosemary Joyce
- Estate Ruth Hollins
- Estate Sergio Tola
- Estate Suzanne De Villers Bosisto
- Estate Valerie Dunn
- Estate Veronica Constance Manning
- Estate Vincenza Andalaro
- Estate William George Thornhill
- S.T.A.F – Margaret Joan Widdicombe
- S.T.A.F – Guido Polano
- S.T.A.F – Jean & Gerrard Harper
- S.T.A.F – Maureen Bolger

### MAJOR SUPPORTERS

- Andrew Fox
- Barry Hooper
- Ben Beck
- Ben Burge
- Carmel Kilkenny
- Charles Balnaves
- Chris & Billie Christofi
- Chris Cullinan

- Christina Warren
- Claire Falconer
- Dana Rowan
- Dennis Nassau
- E Taylor
- Felicity Melican & Gerard Barker
- Glyn Davis
- Jane Ford
- Joe Buckley
- John & Angela Rutherford
- John & Sharon Piccolo
- John & Valerie Peyton
- John Dever
- John Lezon
- John McLeod
- John Ralph AC & Barbara Ralph
- Kai Kasad
- Liam Morrisroe
- Marion Mays
- Mark Gray
- Michael McGlade
- Mitchell Racoosin
- Nathan Rothfield
- Nicholas Merrylees
- Patrick & Angela Davies
- Archbishop Peter A Comensoli DD
- Peter Schreurs
- Rachel O'Loughlin
- Richard Thornton
- Rosalyn Facey
- Simon Madder
- Spurio Family
- Thai Hong
- Timothy Booth
- Tony Brady
- Tory Angele
- Vedran Drakulic OAM
- Vivienne Elton
- Was Attanayake



Vinnies often receives letters of thanks from people we assist. This letter, with artwork provided by their 5-year-old son Ben, was received earlier this year when a young family was struggling with sudden job loss due to the pandemic. We shared it with our wonderful supporters to show the impact of their generosity.

Dear Kim (volunteer),

Coronavirus had just hit and I felt my family's world beginning to fall apart.

To be honest, it wasn't easy to ring Vinnies. Ray and I had always worked hard, we never needed help.

Then suddenly, literally overnight all his work was gone.

It was like the floor just disappeared beneath us. How could we pay the rent? How could we keep the electricity on?

When you answered the phone, I just knew everything was going to be okay. You were an angel Kim. You treated me with such dignity, and respect, when I was at my lowest point.

As a mum, my biggest worry was the weather turning cold. Thanks to you, Ben will be warm in his winter clothes, and getting help with the groceries means we won't go hungry. It's such a relief.

I can't tell you how grateful we are for your help. You gave us hope in a very dark time. Thank you so much for everything.

Catherine, Ray and Ben.



THANK YOU

# how you can help

The St Vincent de Paul Society receives minimal government support and relies on the generosity of individuals, groups and businesses who are committed to building compassionate communities.



## MAKE A DONATION

Credit card donations can be made by visiting our website or calling the donation hotline.

 [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)  
 13 18 12  
 [donation@svdp-vic.org.au](mailto:donation@svdp-vic.org.au)



## MAKE A REGULAR GIFT

Become an Everyday Kindness partner by giving a regular monthly gift to help to support Vinnies good works, 365 days a year.

 [www.vinnies.org.au/everydaykindness](http://www.vinnies.org.au/everydaykindness)  
 03 9895 5959



## MAKE A LEGACY FOR GOOD

Vinnies assists thousands of people thanks to the generosity of people who remember us in their Will.

 03 9895 5821  
 [bequest@svdp-vic.org.au](mailto:bequest@svdp-vic.org.au)



## CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

Your business can become involved with Vinnies by introducing Workplace Giving, participate in the Vinnies CEO, Corporate and/or Community Sleepouts; and explore tailored ways to give.

 03 9895 5872  
 [corporate@svdp-vic.org.au](mailto:corporate@svdp-vic.org.au)



## DONATE GOODS

Donations of quality clothing, furniture and household goods can be made to any Vinnies Shop.

 1800 621 349  
 [material.donations@svdp-vic.org.au](mailto:material.donations@svdp-vic.org.au)



## VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Interested in volunteering your time to support a Vinnies program? Get in touch.

 1300 736 933  
 [volunteer@svdp-vic.org.au](mailto:volunteer@svdp-vic.org.au)

All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
VICTORIA  
*good works*

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY VICTORIA INC.

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 [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)

HOW YOU CAN HELP