



**22 October 2013**

## **Vinnies calls for financial support to assist bushfire affected communities**

The St Vincent de Paul Society thanks the Australian public for their great support of the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal and is calling for people to now make a financial donation so that the right kind of assistance can be provided to the people who need it most.

NSW State Council President, St Vincent de Paul Society, Ray Reynolds explains that the Society is very thankful for the generous donation of material goods received to date but now really require financial donations so that immediate crisis assistance and long-term recovery of the communities devastated by the fires can take place.

“With presence in over 400 communities across the State, we have many members who are part of the communities devastated by the fires and they will be feeling the losses suffered by their neighbours very personally. At this time, financial donations are crucial so that our members can help these people rebuild their lives long after the fires have subsided,” said Mr Reynolds.

Vinnies members have been working around the clock in the fire affected communities providing emergency provisions such as food parcels, food vouchers, clothing, bedding and other material assistance as needed. More food supplies will be distributed later this week with the generous support of IGA.

Best & Less have also come on board to support Vinnies’ work in assisting bushfire affected communities. When you shop at any Best & Less store in NSW you can donate with your purchase in store and all proceeds raised will be donated to the Vinnies Bushfire Appeal fund.

St Vincent de Paul Society NSW CEO, Michael Perusco says that the Society will also provide a range of mid to long-term help.

“Part of the long-term assistance will include financial support, budget counselling, assistance with bills, food vouchers, and other material assistance such as furniture and clothing. We will also be able to provide assistance through our network of over 100 services as needed, as well as provide essential advocacy and referral services.”

To make a donation to the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW Bushfire Appeal, please visit [Vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au), (<http://www.vinnies.org.au/nsw-bushfire-appeal-nsw>), call 13 18 12 or send your donation to PO Box 5, Petersham NSW 2049.

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