



**22 December 2014**

### **Vinnies calls for donations as they are only halfway to their Christmas Appeal target**

With only three days until Christmas, the St Vincent de Paul Society is only halfway to its \$1.1 million target, prompting the charity to call on Australians to dig deep and donate to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal.

St Vincent de Paul Society spokeswoman Yolanda Saiz said that it is only through the generous support of the Australian community that the Society can continue to assist people at what can be an already stressful time of year.

“At what is a celebratory time for most, many Australian families will unfortunately struggle to make ends meet, let alone have anything left over to enjoy Christmas with their loved ones,” said Ms Saiz.

Throughout Christmas and the New Year, St Vincent de Paul Society members will continue to visit people in their homes, witnessing first-hand how tough Christmas can be for some families. Our members will be gifting hampers and toys as well as providing vital financial and emotional support.

This Christmas the Society in New South Wales expects to assist 40,000 people providing around \$3.7 million worth of assistance including \$2 million in food and \$1 million to help people cover energy bills.

Please dig deep this Christmas and donate to the Vinnies Christmas Appeal at [www.vinnies.org.au/donate](http://www.vinnies.org.au/donate), or by calling 13 18 12.

**Media Contact:** Yolanda Saiz on 0417 446 430