



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Letter to the editor – North Queensland's needs are long term

When natural disasters disappear from the headlines it is natural for those affected to slip from our minds, but the effects of disasters continue to impact people long after the event itself has passed.

With the water having receded and the extent of damage from the North Queensland floods becoming obvious, what is clear is those affected will need our help, not just in the short term but ongoing.

From the economic impacts of people losing their livelihoods, homes and possessions, to the effects a disaster can have on physical and mental health, the need to offer a hand up to the residents of North Queensland remains.

It's almost unfathomable that an estimated 300,000 cattle were killed by the floods, but this is the reality faced by farmers and the communities in which they live.

Just like the people of Townsville they too will need assistance as they seek to rebuild their lives.

Vinnies has been there for the people of North Queensland in the immediate aftermath of this terrible event providing food, clothing, companionship and more, as we will always will be.

With your help we can continue to support people as they transition from short term needs like food and clothing to longer term essentials like furniture, white goods and households items, all while buying local wherever possible to assist the economy to recover.

The aim of the Vinnies North Queensland Flood Appeal is to get the region back on its feet and help to restore their lives.

Whether it be through financial or emotional assistance, we will be there for those who are still struggling.

To make a donation visit <http://bit.ly/DonateNorthQLDFloodAppeal> or call 13 18 12.

And if you need our help please don't hesitate to call our Vinnies Helpline on 1800 846 643.

Dennis Innes  
State President  
St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland

## ENDS.

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