



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Vinnies Volunteers ‘make a world of difference’ to people in need in Mackay**

Almost 10,000 Volunteers are the backbone of St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland's (Vinnies) ability to help hundreds of thousands of Queenslanders each year and their dedication is being celebrated this year during National Volunteer Week (20-26 May).

Volunteers at the charity work in their 150 retail shops, their warehouses, support centres providing emergency assistance, housing and food support, and in education and housing programs among many others, giving a hand up to people in need.

Volunteer member Laurence Bonaventura who volunteers in Mackay, said his time spent giving back through Vinnies is always a satisfying experience.

“Volunteer at Vinnies is an opportunity to give back to the community and assist those in need. If I can help one person in a day, personally it makes it all worthwhile,” he said.

“Vinnies does a huge amount within the community and its rewarding to know that you are included in contributing to that as well.”

“If you are considering volunteering, please think of giving some time to your local Vinnies shop or becoming a Vinnies member.”

Vinnies, which celebrates 125 years of helping Queenslanders in 2019, is always on the lookout for more volunteers in its shops and programs and interested people can go to <http://qld.vinnies.org.au/join-us> for more information.

Vinnies has already assisted more than 2,826 people in Mackay so far this year, more than 1,165 were under the age of 16.

**ENDS.**

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