



MEDIA RELEASE

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Maryborough Vinnies Volunteers among 10,000 state-wide celebrated for ‘making a world of difference’

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 Julie Anne Hudson, who volunteers her time at Vinnies Maryborough shop said her time giving back through Vinnies is had been a rewarding experience and urged others to consider giving back to their local community.

“I’d encourage others to volunteer at Vinnies because you are able to utilise and hone old skills while gaining a whole new skill set,” she said.

“You meet wonderful people who entertain and challenge you. You work alongside diverse men and women who really enrich your every hour. Lasting friendships are made and personalities blossom.

“At this time in my life there is nowhere I would rather be.”

Fellow Maryborough volunteer Diana Darrel said she looks forward to her volunteering each week.

“I learn something new every time I work. We mostly have a lot of fun, but we get a bunch of work done,” she said.

“It’s like Christmas some days opening the donated boxes, and the workplace is comfortable for me with air conditioning in summer time. I look forward to seeing the Thursday ladies to catch up with them while we’re working.

“It’s also a good learning experience to liaise with the public and the needy on regular basis.”

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 is honouring its volunteers with a thank you campaign on social media during National Volunteer Week. Vinnies has already assisted more than 2,700 people on the Fraser Coast so far in 2019.

ENDS. Media contact: Joshua Paterson – 0408 675 567