



Media Release

23 December 2019

Vinnies calls for financial support to assist bushfire affected communities

St Vincent de Paul Society in South Australia (Vinnies SA) has launched a Bushfire Appeal, calling for financial donations to ensure prompt assistance for those affected by the devastating bushfires that have impacted a number of regions across the state.

Vinnies Marketing Manager, Kristi Hermsen, explains that Vinnies is very thankful for the generous donations of material goods but would like to encourage people to make financial donations if they are able. Financial donations enable Vinnies to provide immediate crisis assistance in whatever form it is needed.

“Our hearts go out to those impacted - the individuals, communities, and businesses for whom it will take years to recover. The bushfires have affected many people, and what they need varies from person to person. The most effective way to meet those needs is by way of a financial donation, as this enables those impacted to be in control of their recovery process. If you are unable to contribute financially, donations of clean clothing, towels and linen are most useful at this time,” Ms Hermsen said.

Georgie Cornish, Director of the State Recovery Office which has carriage of recovery efforts in the wake of a disaster, echoed Ms Hermsen’s comments:

“While we appreciate that in times of crisis the community wants to assist through donating goods, we would ask that a financial donation is considered instead. A financial donation has a twofold benefit – those who are impacted by the fires can buy what they need, as they need it. In addition, that money is usually spent locally, which aids in the economic recovery of an area that has been impacted by disaster. Donated goods such as furniture can be costly to store and distribute – if specific items are required, we will request them,” she said.

Donations to the Vinnies SA Bushfire Appeal can be made online at
www.vinnies.org.au/SABushfireAppeal

Financial donations or donations of clean clothes, towels and linen in good condition can also be made at the Vinnies Mount Barker shop, 79 Gawler Street, on Monday 23 and Tuesday 24 December between 9am and 5pm.

- ENDS -

For more information including interview opportunities, please contact Jo Dinnison, Communications Officer on 0419 940 721, or email jdinnison@svdpsa.org.au