

MEDIA RELEASE

COVID-19 – We will get through this

25 March 2020

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia operates at the grass roots and provides material and personal support to individuals and families in local communities across Australia.

Our members and volunteers are the heartbeat of the organisation.

As the spread of COVID-19 continues, the St Vincent de Paul Society in each state and territory is responding to the specific needs in those states and territories in line with advice and direction from the authorities.

As the impact of this virus, on the back of the bushfires and drought, will emerge in the weeks and months ahead, we will continue our work with all communities in need.

Through our conferences in local areas, the Society is doing what we can to maintain ongoing contact with people who need support and to engage with people seeking help, perhaps for the first time, in these unprecedented circumstances.

We are absolutely committed to walking with people whatever their circumstances, while doing everything we can to preserve the health and safety of our members, volunteers, staff and companions.

Conferences across the states and territories are doing practical things like food drops at people's front doors and maintaining phone contact with particularly vulnerable people.

The Rule calls us to respond with commitment, compassion and respect and to work with integrity and empathy.

Things are changing rapidly, and the reality of what we're dealing with as a nation will take time to dawn on many of us.

These are uncharted waters, but we will get through this.

If you need help, please contact the St Vincent de Paul Society on 13 18 12.

The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia consists of 60,000 members and volunteers who operate on the ground through over 1,000 conferences located in individual parishes across the country.

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