



St Vincent de Paul Society  
SA  
*good works*

**ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21**

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

This Annual Report covers the events and activities of the St Vincent de Paul Society (SA) Inc. during the 2020/21 Financial Year.

During this period, the organisation underwent a restructure in order to ensure teams were aligned with operational objectives, and together would deliver on our Mission.

After a period of consultation, four General Manager roles were confirmed to lead the streams of work below, and this report is presented based on those streams.

- **Mission and Membership**
- **Corporate Services**
- **Commercial Services**
- **Marketing, Fundraising and Communications**



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# WHO WE ARE

## Our Mission

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working together to shape a more just and compassionate society.

## Our Vision

The St Vincent de Paul Society aspires to be recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering a 'hand up' to people in need. We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing our hope and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

## Our Values

**Commitment** - loyalty in service to our mission, vision and values.

**Compassion** - welcoming and serving all with understanding and without judgement.

**Respect** - service to all regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender or political opinions.

**Integrity** - promoting, maintaining and adhering to our mission, vision and values.

**Empathy** - establishing relationships based on respect, trust, friendship and perception.

**Advocacy** - working to transform the causes of poverty and challenging the causes of human injustice.

**Courage** - encouraging spiritual growth, welcoming innovation and giving hope for the future.

## Vinnies lends a hand

Providing a hand up to people when they need support is at the core of who we are. We extend a hand of unconditional friendship to the people we assist, so they can restore their hope, rebuild their lives and renew their faith. Our helping hands take many forms and we are privileged to have so many South Australians reach out to us every day.



St Vincent de Paul Society (SA) is a registered charity under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

Names and images may have been changed to protect the identity of the people we assist.

## WHAT WE DO

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a volunteer-based organisation dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing practical support, advocacy and friendship to the most vulnerable within our community. Supported by dedicated staff, members and volunteers seek to alleviate the immediate requirements of people in need and also identify the causes that lead to spiritual, financial and social hardship; providing a voice for those experiencing disadvantage.

**VINNIES ASSISTANCE VISITS** - We are the only charity to run a home visit program in South Australia, through which volunteers provide compassionate support and material assistance including food, clothing, household goods, access to qualified Vinnies financial counsellors, and emergency funds. We also support people to remain connected to their communities by assisting with transport, visiting those experiencing ill health in hospital or in their home, and we bring joy to families at Christmas by distributing hampers and toys. This work is carried out by Society members who work together in groups known as Conferences.

**CRISIS ACCOMMODATION SERVICES** -The 20 room Vinnies Women's Crisis Centre and 47 bed Vinnies Men's Crisis Centre provide emergency accommodation, including for children and pets at the women's centre. These services include meals, laundry, access to other Vinnies services, government and agency services, and more.

**FRED'S VAN MEAL SERVICES** - Vinnies Fred's Van meal services operate from 10 sites across South Australia, providing hot nutritious meals together with social support. Eight of these operate indoors, meaning our guests dine with dignity and comfort. Blankets and scarves or beanies are given out in winter and food is often provided to take away. On average, more than 40,000 meals are served each year in South Australia.

**REFUGEE & ASYLUM SEEKER SERVICE** - This service provides a range of material assistance and advocacy services for recent arrivals who are struggling to make ends meet, many of whom receive no government support. In addition, support to participate more fully in community life is available, through English speaking lessons.

**DISASTER RELIEF** - We are the South Australian government's preferred partner in the event of a major disaster, supporting communities impacted by disasters by managing donated goods and, in some cases, by raising funds or distributing funding on behalf of the government.

**VINNIES YOUTH** - Vinnies Youth comprises young people aged between 16-35 who share their talents and skills volunteering in services and programs across South Australia, as well as advocating for relevant responses to poverty and disadvantage.

**VINNIES SHOPS** - Vinnies is one of the largest recycling organisations in Australia and is staffed largely by volunteers. Sales from the 34 Vinnies shops across metropolitan and regional South Australia fund our services, and are a valuable resource for people on low incomes, providing quality clothing, household goods and furniture, often free of charge.

**OVERSEAS PARTNERSHIPS** - The St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia is in partnership with our neighbouring Societies in the Asia-Pacific region. Underpinning our partnership programs is a belief that people are at peace with themselves and their neighbours when they have the hope and faith that through their own efforts, they can live and grow in dignity.

# STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – BRADLEY HOCKING

*“Let us do without hesitation whatever good lies at our hands.”*

*- Bl Frederic Ozanam*

2020/21 was a challenging but exciting year for the St Vincent de Paul Society in SA. In reflecting on the ups and downs of the past 12 months, I believe the quote above best captures the spirit of Vinnies people in these times of uncertainty.

2021 saw the introduction of a new Strategic Plan 2021-2025, which was contributed to by more than 100 staff, members and volunteers. While staying true to the spirit of the previous plan, our new strategy seeks for us to be bold where we can, and to step back and discern where we need to.

While some of our services reported times of lower need in their communities, this year saw a rise in many types of poverty. We recorded our highest ever volume of calls to our call centre in May 2021. Our people have been pushed through increased (and sometimes unexpected) demand at some Conferences, Fred's Vans and Special Works. This, coupled with the challenges of the pandemic, has forced many to dig deeper than ever before.

We have reinvigorated our focus on advocacy this year, to ensure that we are addressing the root causes of poverty and not just the symptoms. There are no greater areas in need of advocacy than the lack of low-cost housing and the plight of refugees and asylum seekers.

Based on feedback from conference members, an advocacy group was established to support our people to help those we assist to navigate the low-cost housing environment. The Vinnies Refugee & Asylum Seeker Service has continued to support the most vulnerable in our state and is now operating from the new Vinnies House of Welcome with an expanded service offering including English classes. We have further strengthened relationships with many government stakeholders and other like-minded organisations to enable our advocacy work to develop into the future.

A Spirituality Working Group was established with the aim of strengthening the spirituality of The Society and ensure it is accessible to all. It has been exciting to see this evolve over time into a Spirituality of Encounter which focuses on how we encounter our companions and each other. We have commenced sharing this with the broader Vinnies community.

Exceptional has become the new normal for how our staff perform during challenging times. I had naively assumed that 2019/20 was a uniquely intense year (with drought, bushfires and COVID-19), but it turns out that 2020/21 demanded a sustained, perhaps increased level of effort. Unsurprisingly, our staff have continued to step up to these challenges, looking for new ways to support our members, volunteers and companions.

From a financial perspective, we have had an extremely strong year. This is particularly from the generosity of our donors, the success of our shops, our best ever CEO Sleepout, and many more contributions. Importantly, this financial success enables success in our mission and allows us to look beyond the horizon to address systemic issues in our community.

There are so many people I would like to thank for their contributions this year. Cathy Beaton (State President until November 2020) was an excellent leader of The Society and mentor for me in taking on this role. State Council has continued to form strong bonds by supporting and challenging one another. The Vinnies SA Staff, and particularly the Executive Team, increasingly impress me with their unwavering commitment to our mission. Our thousands of members and volunteers continue through challenging times, to dedicate their time and themselves. Thank you.



*This report was written on the unceded land of the Kurna People.*



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT – LOUISE MILLER FROST

*“As I am writing this, we are emerging from the tentacles of COVID-19 although we must remain ever vigilant...”*

Those are my words from last year's Annual Report, and as you know all too well, COVID-19 continues to significantly impact the way we work, learn, socialise and play. While - in South Australia at least - we seem to have moved past the worst of the impacts in terms of serious illness and death, the threat of an outbreak is omnipresent and means we have had to learn to live with various restrictions to keep ourselves and our community safe.

It is now becoming apparent that some of the most damaging aspects of the pandemic are not the virus itself, but rather the repercussions of living with continued uncertainty including unstable employment, separation from loved ones, and not being able to pursue some of our interests such as sport and travel. All of these can take a toll on mental health to varying degrees, and the recent divisions between some individuals and indeed the States in relation to the vaccine rollout can easily result in the adoption of an inward-looking approach.

It is therefore heartening to see the way in which the St Vincent

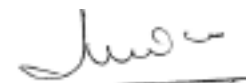
de Paul Society, comprising members, volunteers and staff, continues to focus on the needs of others to ensure that the most vulnerable in our community know they can rely on our support with some certainty. We have adapted our practices to respond to restrictions that may be introduced, and when challenged have been able to swing into action.

In our corner throughout the pandemic has been a large community of supporters that includes donors (financial and goods), shoppers, corporate partners, plus the 126 community and business leaders who participated in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout on the wettest night in Adelaide for five years, with the rain gauge recording 44 millimetres. While the rain fell, our fundraising record for this event tumbled, reaching \$935,452: by far the highest amount raised in the event's 11-year history in South Australia. Our shops and appeals have also been incredibly well supported, helping us to claw back some of the financial losses we incurred last year largely because of shop closures.

These financial results are pleasing, not because we like to look at a large bank balance, but rather because we know we need to prepare to meet

the growing need in our community. More people are sleeping rough, more families are accessing our Fred's Van meal service, and more people are coming to us for the first time for assistance to meet their basic costs of living. Some of this is due to COVID-19, but poverty and disadvantage are complex issues that require complex solutions. We are committed to both supporting people in immediate need and advocating for change that means fewer people are in such a precarious position.

I do hope that the next time you read the CEO report in this publication COVID-19 is a fading memory, but please know that whatever challenges the St Vincent de Paul Society faces, with the help of our supporters we will confront them head on, as we have done in South Australia for more than 135 years.







## KEY STATISTICS



### Vinnies Assistance Visits

782 conference members  
40,273 people assisted  
15,613 visits  
\$1.59 million in assistance provided



### Vinnies Women's Crisis Centre

Accommodation provided to:  
601 women  
447 children  
160 pets



### Vinnies Men's Crisis Centre

Accommodation provided to:  
503 men



### Fred's Van

10 locations  
27,756 meals served  
630 volunteers



### Refugee & Asylum Seeker Service

3,192 people assisted  
\$0.40 million in assistance provided



### Disaster Relief

\$4.89 million in drought relief  
\$1.55 million in bushfire relief



### Vinnies Shops

34 shops  
1,083 volunteers

# MISSION AND MEMBERSHIP: CONFERENCES

## Advocating for those without a voice

For some people in our community, many of the things we take for granted such as being able to pay the utility bills, access to health care and regular meals, are a daily struggle. For many, no matter how hard they try, they are still unable to make ends meet.

At the height of COVID-19, when the coronavirus supplement was in place, we experienced a reduction in calls to our assistance line as people on government support payments were at last able to meet their basic costs of living. It underlined how a relatively modest increase can have an incredibly powerful impact on people being able to live with dignity and hope for the future.

Dignity and hope is what our conference members provide for people we assist - when someone in need calls Vinnies they are put in touch with a member of their local community who meets with them in their home or in a confidential interview area. By meeting people face to face, members are given a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of their personal circumstances and the specific hurdles they face.

While the support we offer is largely practical in nature - a hamper of food or food vouchers; assistance with rent payments or school fees

- it is the concern and kindness shown by conference members that is of most value. The power of someone believing in you cannot be underestimated.

Beyond this, members advocate on behalf of people we assist, and there has been a concerted focus on this in past months with a particular spotlight on rates of income support, affordable housing and worker's rights. To strengthen our advocacy aims, an affordable housing group has been established to better equip conference members with information they need to assist people who are navigating this complex and confusing landscape.

Central District Region's Social Needs, Analysis and Action Working Group was created in June 2021. Through processes of encounter and listening, the Working Group will elicit new and responsive relationships and partnerships across the region (and beyond) to enhance the flourishing of children, and to draw attention to structures and systems that result in the often crushing effect of living in ongoing poverty.

Considerable work has also been undertaken to develop a strategy for conferences moving forward, to ensure they are operating in the most efficient and effective way possible.



# MISSION & MEMBERSHIP: REFUGEE & ASYLUM SEEKER SERVICE

## New location, new name, new beginnings!

The Vinnies Migrant & Refugee Centre moved from its home in Hindmarsh to the Vinnies House of Welcome at Kilburn. Together, volunteers and companions worked hard to get the premises ready, a particularly difficult feat given the impacts of COVID-19.

The new location provides improved access for companions, and volunteers and companions alike have certainly appreciated the permanent set-up, unlike the former premises which required some level of set-up and pack down each day.

The service was very fortunate to retain the services of Sr Mary Symonds, a lawyer and migration agent who had been assisting asylum seekers at what was then known as the Mercy House of Welcome. Sr Mary provides free advice to companions who are seeking assistance to obtain permanent visas, with a large part of her role assisting companions to appeal unfavourable decisions regarding their visa applications.

Since moving to its new home, the service is evolving from an emergency assistance focus to a much more varied approach to working with communities. This has been quickly reflected in the introduction of English classes and a broader program of community connections.

Soon after the move, a decision was made to rename the service to the **Vinnies Refugee &**

**Asylum Seeker Service**, to better reflect its purpose and the people it serves. The name change has also catalysed a more strategic approach in the way the service participates in community activism and advocacy to support refugees and asylum seekers.

The service was successful in obtaining a Wellbeing SA 'Open Your World' grant in partnership with Kilburn Community Centre and The Art Bus, to host Art Around the Table sessions which brings people together to make art and share stories. Art Around the Table is cross generational and cross-cultural, and provides a safe and dynamic space for building friendships while learning new creative skills.

Art was again a focus during Refugee Week with the Vinnies Refugee & Asylum Seeker Service holding an art and story-writing exhibition called 'WE ARE ONE'.

The intention of the exhibition was to provide a space for primary and secondary school children from refugee/asylum seeker backgrounds to express their lived experiences in coming to a new country and adjusting to new lives. Expressing these experiences also served to increase the understanding in the wider community of the challenges and obstacles facing people from refugee backgrounds.

We look forward to the continued expansion of the Vinnies Refugee & Asylum Seeker Service.



Agha paints sunflowers on the mural at the Vinnies House of Welcome. (Photographer: Nat Rogers, supplied by The Southern Cross).

## MISSION & MEMBERSHIP: CRISIS CENTRES

### Some highs... and some challenges

The Vinnies Men's and Women's Crisis Centres continue to operate at near capacity each night, and over the past financial year have provided a valuable service to more than 1,500 men, women and children plus 160 pets at the Women's Crisis Centre.

The Women's Crisis Centre has been operating for more than three years, and planning is well advanced to give the Centre a much needed face-lift after accommodating thousands of women and children during this time. As every room has been almost continuously occupied since the Centre opened, this has proven quite the challenge, however with support from Corporate Partners Scrap Hotline and Foodland, a commitment to freshening up the rooms and living spaces will provide a safe, secure and nurturing environment for guests, most of whom are fleeing domestic violence.

MumKind, a collective of women who are focused on sustainable efforts to improve the lives and livelihoods of women and children who face adversity whilst raising a family, were the drivers behind an incredible dining experience for women and children who were staying at the Centre in April. The three course menu was designed and delivered by caterer The Family Cook, with styling by interior designers Felkke and flowers by Kilter. It was a truly amazing scene to witness, as women joined together for a night of fun and friendship, while their children were entertained with their own mini feast.

It has been a challenging year at the Men's Crisis Centre, with the St Vincent de Paul Society unsuccessfully tendering to operate City-South homelessness services as part of a South Australian Housing Authority (SAHA) reform process. Under the reforms, service providers formed alliances with other organisations to bid for the right to operate the services, of which the Vinnies Men's Crisis Centre was one. Along with other high-profile organisations including Hutt St Centre and

Catherine House, we were stripped of \$1.2 million dollars in funding for the Centre.

Initially, it was thought that the Centre would be unable to operate in its current crisis accommodation form without this funding, due to the necessarily high operating costs of such a service.

While we considered other options to continue serving people experiencing homelessness, the successful alliance, 'Toward Home', offered to sub-contract the delivery of crisis accommodation in the city, which was accepted. It was a time of great uncertainty for guests, staff and volunteers - especially on top of the challenges presented by COVID-19 - and we are very thankful for the commitment shown by staff and volunteers to continue delivering a quality service under trying circumstances.

We continue to work towards a sustainable, longer term outcome for guests.





# MISSION & MEMBERSHIP: FRED'S VAN

## A constant in times of change

Fred's Van supports some of the most vulnerable people in our community who experience a range of issues such as homelessness, social isolation and unemployment. Those forced to live rough can access Fred's Van for a hot, nutritious meal, blankets, clothing and social connections. Helping not just those experiencing homelessness, Fred's Van also serves those who are simply struggling to make ends meet.

Operating from eight sites across Adelaide and two regionally in Port Lincoln and Port Pirie, the service is delivered by just one paid staff member, and more than 600 committed volunteers who come from all walks of life.

During the last year this service has seen a large increase in the attendance of families with children, which is a sad insight into the challenges that many in our communities are facing. A lack of affordable housing, low wages growth or insufficient income support payments mean that the basic costs of living are becoming even further out of reach. Fred's Van provides some certainty in what can otherwise be a chaotic existence.

In October 2019 we relocated one of the CBD services that had for many years been delivered in Gawler Place, to the dining room at the Vinnies Men's Crisis Centre on Whitmore Square. While initially the feedback was positive, it soon became clear that the preference was to return to outdoor dining in Gawler Place.

People who are experiencing homelessness or who live in insecure housing crave predictability, and knowing they could attend a central location in Gawler Place seven nights a week (Fred's Van delivers six of these) was more important than a dining room experience. It is likely that COVID-19 also had a role to play here, with social distancing easier to adhere to in an outdoor environment.

Fred's Van runs seamlessly on an extremely tight budget, with volunteers banding together to just 'make things happen'. During the height of COVID-19, this was critically important to ensure that vulnerable community members could still access a meal. When our short-lived lockdowns were put in place, guests trusted Fred's Van to keep going... and it did.

Fred's Van could not operate without its many generous supporters who provide quality produce, including Concubine Restaurant, the National Wine Centre, Fasta Pasta and many more. Without their ongoing support, we would be unable to provide the tens of thousands of meals that we serve each year.



Staff from Sage Group participated in a corporate night at Fred's Van. Companies make a financial contribution which assists with Fred's Van running costs, while staff enjoy a meaningful team building opportunity.



Volunteers braved the miserable conditions to serve dinner to participants at the Vinnies CEO Sleepout in June. Still smiling!

# MISSION & MEMBERSHIP: YOUTH & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Developing young leaders

Frederic Ozanam, the Founder of the St Vincent de Paul Society, was just 20 years old when he saw people in need and established what has become a worldwide movement in more than 140 countries. Frederic demonstrated that age is not a barrier to action, and just one person can make a difference.

The Vinnies Youth & Community Engagement program seeks to capitalise on these beginnings, aiming to help young people understand that the actions they take make a difference in their own, and other people's lives. The program invests in the young people of South Australia, and has largely worked in partnership with childcare centres, schools and universities, and the wider St Vincent de Paul Society network.

Over this past year the program has broadened its scope to include an increased community focus; engaging with young people wherever they are - not just in an education setting. There have been many fruitful encounters with young people who are experiencing poverty, or who want to make a difference in the lives of others experiencing poverty.

We seek to empower them to take action and many hundreds of young people have engaged with The Society to learn more about how we are working to address various justice and poverty issues prevalent in the community. With this process, we aim to develop the powerful servant leaders in our communities acting as strong Vinnies ambassadors.

Our work with young people, particularly in schools, also opens the door for them to make a practical contribution to the work we undertake. Fundraising events, donation drives, the supply of food to Fred's Van, and the collection of toys for distribution at Christmas time to children who may not otherwise receive a gift, are just some of the ways that young people are able to learn about the challenges that others face. It is often also a time for reflection and gratitude.

We once again experienced excellent support from young people in schools who participated in Sleepouts during the year. These always provide great insight into the experience of homelessness - even if just for one night - as well as being an important source of fundraising for our works.



Nazareth Catholic Community (Findon Campus) students held a pop-up Vinnies stall to raise funds and learn more about Vinnies shops.



# DISASTER RELIEF

## Bushfire and drought support continues



In many ways the bushfires of 2019/20 seem like a lifetime ago, but for those rebuilding it is still very much early days. And, their struggles haven't been forgotten by the general public, with many generous donations and offers of help continuing to flow long after we officially concluded our Vinnies Bushfire Appeal which realised in excess of \$2 million, 100% of which was distributed directly to those impacted.

Along with supporting bushfire victims, the drought relief program continued into the 2020/21 financial year, providing much needed financial support to farmers, farm workers, or suppliers/contractors who have been impacted by drought conditions.

As a trusted charity, our networks in regional areas enabled us to connect with people who most needed help, supporting them with relief applications as well as providing much-needed emotional support.



# CORPORATE SERVICES

## Taking care of our assets

Corporate Services comprises Finance, Human Resources and Work Health and Safety, and provides the resources (funds and people) to operate in a safe environment in order to deliver on our mission.

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a complex organisation, with more than 2,500 members and volunteers supported by close to 100 staff working in a challenging, unpredictable and ever-changing sector. Throw in a few natural disasters and a pandemic, and an already complex environment becomes much more demanding, and requires the careful balance of competing needs.

During the year the organisation underwent a restructure in order to ensure teams were aligned with operational objectives, and together would deliver on our mission.

After a period of consultation, four General Manager roles were confirmed to lead the streams of work below, and this report is presented based on those streams.

- **Mission and Membership:** focused on the services we provide to Companions, and how our people are supported to do this work.
- **Corporate Services:** provision of services that are required and shared by the entire organisation, including Finance, Human Resources and Work Health and Safety.
- **Commercial Services:** responsible for income generation through commercial activity which is currently largely focused on the Vinnies retail network and supporting operations including the warehouse.
- **Marketing, Fundraising and Communications:** responsible for fundraising activities including appeals and events, supports internal communications to develop a cohesive workforce, and manages the reputation of our brand.

This was an intensive period for the organisation, culminating in a re-organisation of desk space at Ozanam House to locate like teams together.

After a very up and down 2019/2020 financial year due to the events mentioned earlier, we have finished 2020/21 in a very strong financial position. Given the Finance Team has also experienced a number of personnel changes (largely due to maternity leave), this financial result is all the more pleasing.

The generosity of our donors and supporters, a record Vinnies CEO Sleepout, strong retail operation and a concerted effort to reduce operating costs - no mean feat considering the organisation was already operating in a very lean state - has all contributed to a healthy bottom line, which puts us in the best position to assist more people in need.

The Work Health and Safety function has focused on ensuring our policies and procedures are up to date, and that work sites comply with legislative requirements while also adhering to COVID-safe guidelines. It is a credit to our staff, members and volunteers who have adopted the directions with a minimum of fuss, ensuring their own safety, that of their colleagues and the people we assist. Effective collaboration across The Society has resulted in our policies with Catholic Church Insurance being renewed for three years.





## Vinnies shops respond to the challenge

It has been a rocky road for the network of Vinnies shops across South Australia, with COVID-19 necessitating the closure of all shops in March of 2020. Half of these shops remained closed into the 2020/21 financial year, as we grappled with the challenges of maintaining a volunteer workforce that was largely comprised of people in the high-risk category of serious complications were they to contract the virus.

This, coupled with a decline in foot traffic and insufficient floor space in some shops to easily adhere to social distancing guidelines, resulted in a significant downturn in the income which is crucial to enabling The Society to support as many people in need as possible.

Apart from the financial impacts, we were conscious of the effects closing the shops had on our customer base - particularly those who rely on Vinnies for affordable goods and clothing - and many of our volunteers, for whom their volunteer role is an important part of the social fabric of their lives.

When the shops did re-open, we were overwhelmed by the interest and community support - it was nice to know we really were missed. Sales were strong, assisted by the quality donations we had received as a result of people taking the slower pace of life as an opportunity to declutter.

There have been some hiccups since, including the three day lockdown in November which sapped consumer confidence somewhat. Other challenges include the fact that the second hand clothing market is a very competitive space, with many people electing to sell their clothes online, at markets or through the latest 'rent-a-rack' trend rather than donating them.

We continue to market our point of difference, linking the value of a quality donation with an outcome for a person in need. Our 'Compassion Converters' campaign recorded an uplift in donations, and various sales campaigns have

brought new people through the doors who we hope will be returning customers.

One of the many reasons shoppers support Vinnies is because we are one of the largest recycling organisations in Australia. This focus on re-use and sustainable shopping resonates with people committed to reducing the impact on the environment by minimising the manufacture of new goods, particularly fast fashion.

Through manual sorting processes we work very hard to give donated items a second life, and work closely with Charitable Recycling Australia, a not for profit organisation that represents the collective interests of charitable reuse and recycling enterprises through advocacy, capacity-building and education. With them, we advocate for a circular economy in which goods that are produced are used for a longer period of time and kept out of landfill. What a bonus that the sale of goods in Vinnies also does good.





VINNIES  
REBUILD

# MARKETING, FUNDRAISING & COMMUNICATIONS:

## APPEALS & BEQUESTS

### Our supportive community delivers, again

This past year we received some very generous bequests, and we would like to acknowledge the generosity and compassion of the individuals and their families who have left legacies to The Society. These gifts amplify the work we are able to do in local communities.

In addition, the response to our fundraising appeals, even during these uncertain economic times, has been heartening and we are grateful to our donors and supporters who provide The Society with the funds we need to support the most disadvantaged and marginalised people in our community. A special thanks must also go to conference members whose tireless work within parishes makes an enormous impact on our fundraising revenue.

Our Christmas Appeal focused on David and his family, who had been impacted by COVID-19. David was a hardworking man, the breadwinner for his family and the rock that his wife and daughters relied on. But when COVID-19 hit, his employer closed their doors overnight, and his job was gone.

*"I was going around and around in circles. I kept thinking, what if we lose everything?"*

Like so many other Australians, David was experiencing poverty for the first time. The income he used to rely on, the stability he trusted, gone. But David reached out to Vinnies, and with our support he was able to put food on the table and make ends meet while he searched for employment. Your generous donation has helped hundreds of families like David's to keep going during these tough times.

Heading into winter, we told our community of supporters about Olivia and her father Darren who had been searching for somewhere safe to sleep since Darren lost his job and the family home.

Six-year-old Olivia is the face of more than 19,000 Australian children under the age 15 who don't have a safe place to sleep at night. They are not necessarily sleeping rough, but rather moving from couch to couch, sleeping in cars or overcrowded dwellings.

There is no doubt that this type of unsettled environment has a detrimental effect on a child's physical and mental health and ability to reach their full potential, and that is why it is vitally important for organisations like Vinnies to step in when people have run out of options.

Thankfully, we were able to assist Olivia and Darren into secure accommodation, as well as connecting Darren with financial counselling and parenting support. He is gaining the skills needed to manage the family home, and give Olivia the opportunity she deserves to thrive.





# MARKETING, FUNDRAISING & COMMUNICATIONS:

## VINNIES CEO SLEEPOUT

### The rain tumbled, and so did the fundraising records

After the 2020 Vinnies CEO Sleepout was forced to move to a livestreamed event because of COVID-19, we approached the planning of the 2021 event with some trepidation, but also with confidence that should the event be unable to go ahead in the preferred face-to-face format, it would go ahead nonetheless.

And go ahead it did, with 44 millimetres of rain in Adelaide during the night failing to dampen the spirits of the 126 business and community leaders who took part in the event held at Lot Fourteen. A global precinct focused on innovation, entrepreneurship, research, education, culture, and tourism in order to grow jobs and the South Australian economy, Lot Fourteen is on the site of the former Royal Adelaide Hospital, and was still largely a building site in the lead up to, and during the event. This presented a few logistical challenges, but they were worth it to be part of the story of this exciting precinct.

Despite (or perhaps because of) the logistical challenges and the incessant rain, participants were highly engaged, and many commented on how fortunate they were to be able to choose to sleep out for just one night, highlighting the difficulties faced by those for whom rough sleeping is not a choice.

On the night, \$840,000 was raised, and this figure had climbed to an incredible \$925,950 by 30 June - both record amounts. What made this all the more remarkable was that BankSA, traditionally led by their CEO Nick Reade who had moved to a Government appointment, had taken a break from participating which meant that we were facing a shortfall of around \$200,000 based on previous years' efforts.

Undeterred by the challenge, this cohort of business and community leaders were made of tough stuff. While torrential rain earlier on the day of the event was a foreboding sight and was expected to reduce the numbers of those

participating, this proved not to be the case and those taking part embraced the wet conditions and continued to call on their networks throughout the evening to support their fundraising efforts.

Vice-Chancellor and President of Adelaide University, Professor Peter Høj AC, took out highest fundraiser honours, raising close to \$45,000. Professor Høj said he was motivated to take part in the Vinnies CEO Sleepout when, after returning to Adelaide after being away for eight years, he noticed more people sleeping rough.

The team from the Future Submarine Program took out the Team Award - they were better prepared than most to survive a wet night!

Funds raised will go towards Vinnies' homelessness services including our two Crisis Centres and the Fred's Van Meal Service. Funds will also further our one-on-one work with individuals and families in the community who are at risk of homelessness. Here we provide financial assistance, household essentials and aim to help them build capacity to face future challenges.

We look forward to another successful event in 2022.



Professor Peter Høj AC, highest fundraiser, accepts his trophy and personalised pillow from Louise Miller Frost, CEO of St Vincent de Paul Society (SA) Inc



# MARKETING, FUNDRAISING & COMMUNICATIONS:

## VINNIES PRINCIPAL SLEEPOUT

### Back for 2021

After bypassing a Vinnies Principal Sleepout event in 2020 due to COVID-19, we resurrected the format in May 2021.

22 school leaders came together at our host school Adelaide High, to learn more about homelessness and raise much needed funds for Vinnies' Homelessness Services.

It was a cool night to sleep under the stars with just a thin piece of cardboard and a sleeping bag to keep the elements at bay, but these leaders were well aware that it was only for one night, and that the conditions could have been much worse. Some commented that they felt a little 'too safe' in the school courtyard, but acknowledged that the noise, light and general lack of comfort made for a long night.

St Vincent de Paul Society CEO Louise Miller Frost spoke about Vinnies' homelessness services, and the 'big problems' of insecure housing and insufficient rates of government income support.

This set the scene for Tim Best, Operations Manager of the Vinnies Men's Crisis Centre; Fred's Van Coordinator Teresa Branch; and State President and Conference Member Brad Hocking to share companion stories in a panel discussion, and bring these themes to life.

Following the discussion, participants were asked to commit to an action such as conducting a fundraiser or donation drive; making a genuine attempt to connect with someone experiencing homelessness; getting their school more involved with Vinnies; sharing what they have learnt with their networks; and agreeing to participate again in 2022. Don't worry, we won't forget you!

Fred's Van volunteers arrived in their trusty vehicle to serve an evening meal comprising sausages and soup, the same meal that was served to Fred's Van guests earlier that night. This was followed by a short awards ceremony, during which Iain Elliott from Black Forest Primary School was announced highest fundraiser.

The total amount raised was more than \$50,000 to support Vinnies' homelessness services - a mighty effort by just 22 participants, backed by their school communities, families and networks.

Many thanks to all who were involved; we look forward to welcoming many of them back in 2022, along with a new group of leaders.



*"It was a small token gesture really, but did open up conversations about the safety, comfort and shelter I take for granted..."*

*"It gave me a bit better appreciation for what life would be like for those who are homeless every night."*

*"Very fortunate that it was only one night and the weather was kind. It was humbling receiving food at Fred's Van. Certainly raised my consciousness about homelessness and the terrific work of Vinnies."*

## OUR SUPPORTERS

St Vincent de Paul Society was founded on one individual's idea to take action to make life better for people in Paris who were living in poverty. However, Frederic Ozanam quickly got his friends involved, with the knowledge that to have a real and lasting impact, he couldn't act alone.

Centuries later, meaningful partnerships are more important than ever, and we are very grateful for the support we receive from the community, whether it be from individual supporters, parishes, schools or businesses. We would like to take this opportunity to recognise the formal partnerships we have with some key corporate organisations that are vital to Vinnies being able to continue supporting our most vulnerable.

### IGA

IGA retailers play an important part in their local communities, giving back wherever possible with various campaigns designed to raise funds and awareness about some of the challenges faced by vulnerable communities, or those who have been impacted by drought or bushfire. IGA has also been a strong supporter of Vinnies in the past by providing goods for Christmas hampers which were distributed to people in need so that they could have a more joyful and dignified Christmas. Last Christmas they raised funds by encouraging shoppers to purchase a \$2 token or selected 'community chest' products, proceeds of which went to Vinnies.



### Scrap Hotline

Recyclers SA/Scrap Hotline continued their generous support of Vinnies in a variety of ways, including a significant financial contribution to enhance service delivery in areas of need.

In late 2020 they partnered with Mix 102.3 radio station and put the call out to tradies and businesses to come on board and donate their time or products for a makeover of the Vinnies Women's Crisis Centre.

The 'Tinnies for Vinnies' initiative is ongoing, with 65 depots providing the option for customers to drop some or all of their refundable cans and bottles into specially marked Vinnies bins. The depots then donate the cash equivalent of those containers to Vinnies. We are also grateful to have Vinnies-branded donation banks at 15 depots to support the collection of clothing, shoes, accessories and blankets. This was particularly helpful when we were forced to close the network of Vinnies shops due to COVID-19.

Thanks Recyclers SA/Scrap Hotline for your ongoing support.



## OUR SUPPORTERS

### Foodland

The Mighty South Aussies at Foodland made a generous donation to build a playground at the Vinnies Women's Crisis Centre, enabling children who are guests at the Centre to enjoy a fun and safe play environment.

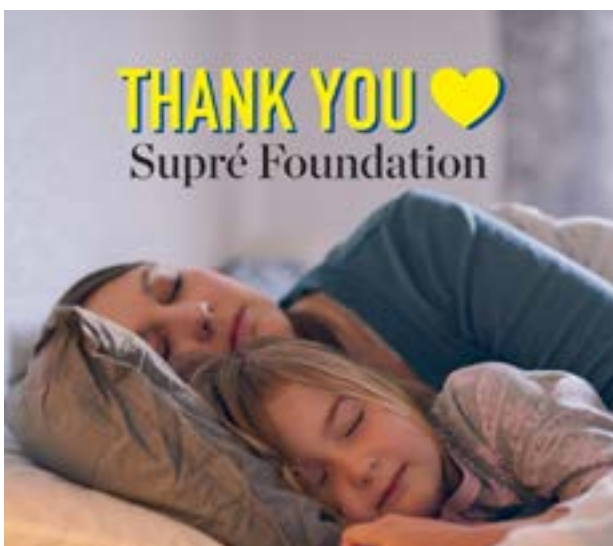
Foodland also held a fundraising lunch to mark International Women's Day, with proceeds of the lunch going towards the Centre.

CEO Franklin dos Santos went above and beyond by participating in a very soggy Vinnies CEO Sleepout.



### Supré Foundation

Supré Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Australian retailer Supré, helped raise much-needed funds and awareness for Australian girls and women directly impacted by COVID-19, specifically supporting mental wellbeing, women's safety and shelter, and equality. In South Australia, funds went directly to women and children who stayed at the Vinnies Women's Crisis Centre.



### LaDonna Hygiene

The team at LaDonna Hygiene continued to provide their very much valued practical support, providing hygiene services at no charge to the Men's and Women's Centres, a number of Vinnies shops and other Vinnies services. LaDonna are also actively educating their workforce and clients on the realities of those facing homelessness and disadvantage.



### MumKind

MumKind, a collective of women who are focused on sustainable efforts to improve the lives and livelihoods of women and children who face adversity whilst raising a family, continued to support women and children staying at the Vinnies Women's Crisis Centre with a range of initiatives.





# FINANCIALS

Summary Statement of Financial Position		
	2021	2020
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	\$	\$
Cash and cash equivalents	5,636,290	4,205,664
Trade and other receivables	176,563	700,301
Available for Sale Financial Assets	-	-
Inventories	64,468	88,347
Other current assets	240,184	316,646
Property Held for Sale	0	0
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>6,117,505</b>	<b>5,310,958</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	\$	\$
Financial Assets	1,629,222	1,378,710
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>	<b>19,535,797</b>	<b>19,534,852</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>25,653,302</b>	<b>24,845,810</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	\$	\$
Trade and other payables	400,705	1,941,275
Provisions	896,634	876,934
Other current liabilities	50,893	65,657
Lease Liability - Current	1,252,405	1,264,011
Borrowings	2,180,000	2,180,000
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>2,600,637</b>	<b>6,327,877</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	\$	\$
Provisions	123,960	133,558
Lease Liability - Non Current	5,257,833	5,046,776
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>5,381,793</b>	<b>5,180,334</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>7,982,430</b>	<b>11,508,212</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>17,670,872</b>	<b>13,337,598</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>	\$	\$
Reserves	603,931	353,877
Accumulated Funds	17,066,941	12,983,721
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>17,670,872</b>	<b>13,337,598</b>

# FINANCIALS

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other - Comprehensive Income		
	2021	2020
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Revenue from Contracts with Customers	8,993,475	7,140,843
Government Funding	4,400,409	3,670,404
Donations	3,115,662	4,450,830
Bequests	826,056	369,369
Companion Contributions - Accommodation	1,379,176	1,242,656
Interest	8,120	37,367
Dividends and Distributions Received	57,154	103,789
Other	110,556	182,524
Profit on Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	364	90,249
	<b>18,890,973</b>	<b>17,288,031</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Administration	481,485	368,003
Assistance	2,837,102	4,933,197
Companion/Resident Services	122,183	114,813
Depreciation and Amortisation	1,900,840	1,824,701
Interest Paid	228,850	259,846
Fundraising Expenses	163,901	142,803
Motor Vehicle Expenses	129,712	154,532
Personnel	6,354,520	6,559,626
Professional Fees	185,493	134,923
Loss and Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	38,422	39,063
Property Expenses	1,059,320	1,307,789
Purchases for Sales	286,933	233,861
Repairs and Maintenance	65,131	72,987
Telecommunications	147,063	137,172
Travel and Accommodation	10,351	39,344
Waste Disposal	227,713	186,826
Other	569,192	1,081,643
	<b>14,808,211</b>	<b>17,591,129</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS</b>	<b>4,082,762</b>	<b>(303,098)</b>
<b>TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		
Fair value gains/(losses) on financial assets	250,512	(44,077)
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss		
Total Other Comprehensive Income	250,512	(44,077)
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>	<b>4,333,274</b>	<b>(347,175)</b>

Statement of Cash Flows		
	2021	2020
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Receipts from customers	10,529,987	7,391,267
Government funding	4,400,409	3,670,404
Donations, bequests and sundry income	4,052,006	5,002,724
Interest received	8,120	37,367
Interest paid	(30,225)	(56,223)
Interest (AASB16)	(198,625)	(203,623)
Dividends received	57,154	103,789
Payments to suppliers and employees	(13,741,827)	(14,002,423)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>5,077,000</b>	<b>1,943,282</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	400	107,909
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(230,762)	(369,732)
Proceeds from Sale of Financial Assets		647,461
Payments for Financial Assets		(326,108)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(230,362)</b>	<b>59,530</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Reduction of Lease Liability	(1,236,013)	(1,134,201)
Repayment of borrowings	(2,180,000)	
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</b>	<b>(3,416,013)</b>	<b>(1,134,201)</b>
Net increase (decrease) in cash	1,430,626	868,611
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	4,205,664	3,337,053
<b>Cash at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>5,636,290</b>	<b>4,205,664</b>

## NOTE 1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Please note the following in relation to the summary financial statements of St Vincent de Paul Society (SA) Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2021

- The summary financial statements are derived from, and consistent with, the audited financial report for the year ended 30 June 2021 prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012; and
- The full audited financial report of St Vincent de Paul Society (SA) Inc. for the year ended 30 June 2021 can be provided upon request or downloaded from the ACNC website ([www.acnc.gov.au](http://www.acnc.gov.au))





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## REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SA) INC.

### Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the summary statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and summary statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and note to the summary financial statement are derived from the audited financial report of St Vincent de Paul Society (SA) Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2021.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

### Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

### The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 7 October 2021.

### The Responsible Entities' Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The responsible entities of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements on the basis described in the note to the summary financial statements.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

BDO Audit (SA) Pty Ltd

G K Edwards  
Director

Adelaide, 8 October 2021

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# GOVERNANCE

As at 30 June 2021

## Members In Office

State President	Bradley Hocking
Vice President	Sandro Canale
Vice President	Damien Lloyd
Treasurer	Des Quirk
Spiritual Advisor	Vacant
Youth Representative	Hannah Yates

## Regional Presidents

Central District	Geraldine Hawkes
Eastern	Maxwell Ormsby
Eyre	Alicia Griffiths
Fleurieu	Christine Jones
Hills Murray	Vacant
Northern	Vacant
Riverland/Yorke	Vacant
South East	Shane Gabriel
Southern	Vacant
Western	Vacant

# GOVERNANCE

As at 30 June 2021

## Ex Officio

Chief Executive Officer

Louise Miller Frost

Minute Secretary

Jenny Papps

## Committees

Centres Advisory Committee

Finance Audit and Risk Management Committee

Regional Presidents Advisory Group

Vinnies Refugee & Asylum Seeker Committee

Work Health and Safety Committee

## Working Groups

Central Districts Social Needs Analysis Working Group

Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group

Spirituality Working Group



# CONFERENCE LOCATIONS

Aberfoyle Park	Greenacres/Walkerville	Norwood
Adelaide/St Francis	Hallett Cove	Ottoway
Barmera	Hectorville	Para Hills
Berri	Henley Beach	Payneham
Blackwood	Hindmarsh	Port Adelaide
Bordertown	Kadina/Wallaroo/Moonta	Port Augusta
Brighton	Kingswood	Port Lincoln
Clearview	Lefevre	Port Pirie
Colonel Light Gardens	Lockleys	Prospect/Kilburn
Coober Pedy	Maitland/CYP	Renmark
Croydon	Millicent	Salisbury
Dernancourt	Modbury	Seacombe Gardens
Dulwich	Morphett Vale	St Marys
Edwardstown/Plympton	Mount Barker/Strathalbyn	Stirling
Elizabeth North	Mount Gambier/St Pauls	Tea Tree Gully
Elizabeth West	Mount Gambier Women's	Thebarton
Gawler	Murray Bridge	Tranmere
Glen Osmond/Parkside	Naracoorte	Victor Harbor
Glenelg	Newton	Whyalla/OLHC
Goodwood	Noarlunga	Willunga

# SHOP LOCATIONS

Adelaide	Naracoorte
Barmera	Norwood
Brighton	Parkside
Campbelltown	Port Adelaide
Cooper Pedy	Port Augusta
Croydon	Port Lincoln
Elizabeth	Port Pirie
Gawler	Prospect
Hawthorn	Royal Park
Kadina	Salisbury
Kidman Park	Semaphore
Maitland	Tailem Bend
Millicent	Taperoo
Morphett Vale	Valley View
Mount Barker	Whyalla
Mount Gambier	Whyalla Westland
Murray Bridge	Victor Harbor

# HOW TO GET INVOLVED

The St Vincent de Paul Society (SA) relies on the generous support of individuals, community groups, schools and businesses who are committed to building a more just and compassionate society.

## To support our mission

### Make a financial donation

Credit card donations can be made by visiting our website or calling the donation hotline on 13 18 12. All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

### Leave a gift in your Will

The Society is able to assist thousands of people because of the generosity of those who have remembered us in their Will. For more information or an information booklet, speak to our Bequest Officer.

### Volunteer your time

If you would like to make a direct impact on the lives of people in need, you can become a member of a conference or volunteer your time to assist people in your community through any Vinnies services or shops.

### Donate goods

Donations of quality clothing, small furniture items and household goods can be made at any Vinnies Shop.

### Involve your school

Get your school involved to support their local community and learn about issues affecting the community such as poverty, homelessness and social justice.

### Host a fundraising event

From BBQs to bake sales and everything in between, you can get creative and fundraise your own way for Vinnies. Fundraising is a great way to get your friends, family and community together to have fun and make a difference for people trying to get back on their feet.

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Adelaide, SA 5000

(08) 8112 8700  
Fax: (08) 8112 8799  
[svdp@svdpsa.org.au](mailto:svdp@svdpsa.org.au)

Donations 13 18 12  
or [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au)

ABN 73 591 401 592