

# ANNUAL

# REPORT

# 2022

**SERVING**

**WITH COURAGE**

**AND HOPE**



St Vincent de Paul Society  
TASMANIA  
*good works*

[VINNIESTAS.ORG.AU](http://VINNIESTAS.ORG.AU)

## 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 TO SHAPE A MORE JUST AND COMPASSIONATE SOCIETY.

## OUR VISION

THE 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 ASPIRATION

AN AUSTRALIA TRANSFORMED BY COMPASSION AND BUILT ON JUSTICE. THE SOCIETY ADVOCATES ON SEVERAL PRESSING SOCIAL JUSTICE ISSUES SUCH AS HOMELESSNESS, POVERTY, AND ASYLUM SEEKERS.

## OUR KEY VALUES

We have identified seven key values to which we are aligned. They are commitment, compassion, respect, integrity, empathy, advocacy, and courage. We are proud of the key values for which we stand.

### 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.

## OUR HISTORY

The St Vincent de Paul Society was founded in Paris, France in 1833 by a 20-year old Italian student, Frederic Ozanam. Frederic and his friends visited people in their homes offering friendship and support. This group became known as the 'first' Conference of the Society. The practice of visiting people in their homes, known as Home Visitation, remains the core activity of the Society's members. Today, the Society operates in 153 countries and has over 800,000 members. Australia has over 60,000 members, dedicated to assisting people in need and combating social injustice. The Society started in Tasmania in 1899 when founders established a Conference in Launceston. From humble beginnings, the Society has grown to 25 Conferences within three Regional Councils across Tasmania. Each year the Society, with the support of Conference Members, undertakes a variety of good works, the most recognised being the traditional Vincentian home visits and the annual Sleepout to draw attention to homelessness.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL (1581 – 1660)

As a young man Vincent ministered to the wealthy and powerful. However, an appointment as chaplain to a poor parish, and to galley prisoners inspired him to a vocation of working with those most marginalised and powerless. An extremely gifted man, Vincent took on roles of spiritual director to other priests, negotiator with members of the aristocracy and reformer of the clergy. He organised social welfare on a national scale in France and above all dedicated his life to serving the poor, sick and disadvantaged people, seeing in them the face of God.

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### PRIVACY STATEMENT:

The St Vincent de Paul Society (Tas) Inc. respects the privacy and dignity of the people it assists, our members, volunteers, and employees. As a result, the names of people featured in this report may have been changed and pictorial models used.

# STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**"I LEARNED THAT  
COURAGE WAS NOT THE  
ABSENCE OF FEAR, BUT  
THE TRIUMPH OVER IT.  
THE BRAVE MAN IS NOT  
HE WHO DOES NOT FEEL  
AFRAID, BUT HE WHO  
CONQUERS THAT FEAR."**

Nelson Mandela

**For me, the word that best describes the year in review is courage. As Vincentians, courage is one of our key values that allows and encourages spiritual growth, welcomes innovation, and gives hope to the future of our Companions.**

In August 2021 State Council made the courageous yet necessary decision to amend the governance structure of all four of our Incorporated Special Works. All governing bodies of Vincent Industries, St Vincent Industries, Tastex Knitwear, and Bethlehem House were wound-up, and State Council was installed as the governing body responsible for the governance, operations, and strategic direction of all four Special Works. This was a difficult decision; and I thank State Council for their courage and guidance throughout the entire process. In thanking State Council, I would also like to acknowledge and thank the management team for their patience and professionalism throughout the often difficult and challenging process.

I would like to acknowledge and thank all current staff of the Special Works mentioned above plus Marillac House. They continue to provide much crucial support to those in need; homeless men, families needing temporary accommodation, and men and women who may not normally obtain employment and training opportunities in the broader community.

The Society's social and affordable housing development situated in Smithton known as 'Rosalie Court' was officially launched in October 2021. Representatives from the Society, Centacare Evolve Housing and State Government were present at the launch. In recent days, a building permit has been issued with construction scheduled to commence in December 2022.

On October 3, an organisation called 'Laudato Si' Tasmania, of which the Society is a member, was launched at St Francis Xavier's Church in South Hobart. The aim of the organisation is to promote the teaching of Pope Francis' 2015 encyclical 'Laudato Si' and to seek to implement a seven-year program initiated from Rome called the *Laudato Si* Action Platform. The fundamental ingredients of the Action Plan invite us all to take a deeper look at the human roots of the ecological crisis outlined by Pope Francis in 'Laudato Si'.

In February of 2022, the Society's CEO, Lara Alexander resigned to pursue a career in politics. I would like to acknowledge and thank Lara for her contribution during her time with the Society. Following a comprehensive recruitment process, it is my pleasure to welcome Heather Kent to the Society and I look forward to witnessing Heather's leadership and achievements in the years ahead. My thanks go to Dr Les Baxter for taking on the role of acting CEO during the transition period of approximately six months. In welcoming new members, I would like to thank Kersti Evans for accepting my invitation to take on the role of State Council Treasurer

In March of 2022, State Council, in collaboration with all three regional councils, associated conferences, and community services staff, agreed to an emergency relief model. The agreed model involves case co-ordinators and members, working collaboratively, in pairs, to support our Companions. Once again, a courageous decision addressing the needs of Companions who present with complex needs. Many success stories emanating from this model of service delivery have been communicated to me personally, which is a great outcome.

During the first quarter of 2022, State Council commenced the process to prepare and complete the Society's Strategic Plan for 2022-2025. Chris Smith facilitated the process, which included all members and staff being given the opportunity to put forward their ideas and suggestions on the future strategic focus areas of the Society. The four central strategic areas include - Our Works, Our People, Our Spirituality, and Our Governance.

The Society's Advisory Committees play a significant role in guiding the decision making of State Council. I would like to acknowledge the contributions of our Finance and Risk Management, Governance, and Overseas Partnership and Development advisory committees. I would also like to thank Vin Hindmarsh for his work and contribution through his membership of the National Vinnie's Refugees Network committee.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our donors and financial supporters. We could not do what we do without your continuing help and support. We rely on your generosity to enable us to reach out and support our Companions. It is heart-warming to personally witness the many donations, some small and others not so small, from those in the community who can least afford to do so; yet they still donate to our many social programs.

Members events conducted throughout the year included Reflection Days held in all three regions, Presidents Day, and Founders Day. The theme of Founders Day was 'Working Together'; and it was great to observe members, staff, and volunteers interacting together and sharing their experiences of working with and on behalf of our Companions.

Finally, this report is my last as State President. I am so very privileged and honoured to have served you all over the past four years and want to thank all current and past State Council members, society members, staff, and volunteers for your support and the good works you perform in supporting and caring for our Companions.

Thank you

**Mark Gaetani**  
State President



State President, Mark Gaetani, with the Minister for State Development, Construction, and Housing, the Hon. Guy Barnett, MP.

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



**OVERALL, 2021-22 HAS BEEN A SUCCESSFUL YEAR IN TERMS OF FULFILLING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY AND ASSISTING THE DISADVANTAGED AND THOSE IN NEED WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY.**

This financial year, 2021-22, was another exciting but challenging year as we emerged from the restrictions associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The year was impacted by four significant factors: return to normal operations following COVID-19, re-integration of the Incorporated Special Works into St Vincent de Paul Society Tasmania, a major increase in the demand for emergency relief, resulting from cost-of-living pressures on vulnerable groups within the community, and changes to senior staff within the Society.

## COVID-19

As we emerged from COVID-19 it became apparent that many of our long-term and more vulnerable volunteers had made the decision not to return to assisting with Vinnies' activities including Vinnies shops, Vinnies and Loui's Vans and Dining with Friends. Volunteers are the life-blood of the Society and we appreciate their loyalty and tireless efforts. The reduced number of this cohort caused some major issues, including a regular requirement to close some of our retail shops.

A new appointment has been made to the role of volunteer recruitment, development, and retention. Maree Cole is already achieving success in onboarding new volunteers, for a range of Vinnies activities, which should serve to fill some of the volunteer vacancies. The temporary shortage of volunteers has been an opportunity for closer collaboration between members, volunteers, and staff. This has been a pleasing outcome and has furthered the mission, values, and ideals of the St Vincent de Paul Society in meeting the needs of our Companions and the disadvantaged within our community.

Re-integration of the Incorporated Special Works (ISWs) Bethlehem House, St Vincent Industries (SVI), Vincent Industries (VI), and Tas Textiles (formerly TasTex Knitwear).

The ISWs carry out essential work in the areas of services for homeless men and employment opportunities for workers with disabilities. A strategic and management re-integration of the ISWs into the Society was carried out in order to achieve synergies between the activities and efficiency gains in terms of resources so that these operations can further develop and continue to meet important needs in our community. The re-integration has been a major commitment in terms of resources, but due to the diligence, professionalism and commitment of staff, members, and volunteers these efforts are already demonstrating the advantages of this re-integration. This includes the sharing of staff and participants (e.g., supported workers from SVI assisting in retail shops), joint activities, and joint involvement in awareness raising campaigns.

## A MAJOR INCREASE IN THE DEMAND FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF.

This year, a number of issues affecting the disadvantaged and homeless in our community gained prominence, resulting in a significant increase in the demand for emergency relief and associated services. Homelessness was a major problem resulting from a shortage of affordable housing, a lack of short-term and transitional accommodation, and the effects of upward pressure on costs of living. The St Vincent de Paul Society Tasmania received Tasmanian Government funding for the construction of 28 affordable houses in Smithton in partnership with Centacare Evolve Housing. Construction of these houses is due to commence in November 2022. Vinnies was invited to be a member of the Minister's Housing Advisory Group and, in this role, we are able to act as an advocate for the homeless and associated services. We have also provided an increased level of wrap-around and support services for the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless. Our members and staff encountered an increase in demand for other services such as food, fuel cards, rent relief, and assistance with paying utility bills, particularly towards the middle of the financial year.

With the increasing costs of living and prediction for further increases in inflation and interest rates, we anticipate that the demand for these services will increase, which will inevitably put additional pressures on our resources, staff, volunteers, and members. The response to our request for donations of food, clothing, and other goods has been phenomenal. Tasmanian individuals, businesses, and the public have generously provided a wide range of donations, goods, and services to support our work in the community, without which our ability to assist the growing needs of the community in Tasmania would be severely restricted.

## CHANGES TO SENIOR STAFF WITHIN THE SOCIETY

Our CEO, Lara Alexander, resigned in February of 2022 to pursue an opportunity as a member of the Tasmanian parliament. Lara's resignation left a significant gap in the organisation, and this was compounded by the resignation of a number of key senior staff towards the end of 2021. A new CEO, Heather Kent was selected to commence in August 2022 and all of the senior management positions have now been filled. As we move into 2022-23, the Society is now on a firm footing with an experienced management team to implement the Society's new 2022-2025 strategic plan.

As Acting CEO of the Society, following the resignation of Lara Alexander, I would like to personally thank the members, staff, volunteers, and supporters of St Vincent de Paul Society for their commitment to the Society and for assisting me in my role as Acting CEO. In particular, I would like to thank State President, Mark Gaetani, and the members of the State Council for providing much needed support and direction and, especially, for your expressions of confidence during my time as Acting CEO. The job of the State Council is a challenging one, spanning governance and the ideals of a lay Catholic organisation. It is not always an easy task combining responsibility and risk and on behalf of the Society. I thank you for your commitment and stewardship of the organisation.

Overall, 2021-22 has been a successful year in terms of fulfilling the objectives of the Society and assisting the disadvantaged and those in need within our community. This work would not be possible without the enthusiasm and tireless work of our committed members, volunteers, and staff. The support of our donors, collaborators, other charities, and a host of other individuals and organisations within our community is also greatly appreciated.

**Dr Les Baxter**  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

# SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

**“BE KIND AND LOVE, FOR  
LOVE IS YOUR FIRST GIFT  
TO THE POOR. THEY WILL  
APPRECIATE YOUR  
KINDNESS AND YOUR  
LOVE MORE THAN ALL  
ELSE YOU BRING THEM.”**

BLESSED ROSALIE RENDU, 1833

A quick review of my last few reflections for annual reports will reveal a common thread. The word 'love' features prominently. This is probably no surprise since the St Vincent de Paul Society is a charitable organisation and the word 'charity' means love. So, are we a loving organisation; or are we "organised love"? The past year has got me thinking about what the difference might be. How would we respond, act, and be if we saw everything we do as love – organised love?

An organisation like the St Vincent de Paul Society takes a lot of organising. This last year has seen a tremendous amount of work undertaken by staff, members, and volunteers to organise: The integration of special works; new projects; events; properties to be fit for purpose; fundraising; recruitment; rosters; and all those daily tasks that go unseen. Why? Love. Love for the human being whose dignity and value are worth visiting and spending time with; and for whom we sort clothes, cook soup, raise money, build awareness, find shelter, work together, go to work, attend meetings, making decisions, and create new programs.

Love is the end. Organising is the means. If we only worked on being organised and made that our end point, we'd miss the real end point of love, then our means would become meaningless.

Jesus said, "love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12). How much 'love we have loved' is not a chart or graph or statistic you will find in this document per se. However, nor is the measure of love with which Jesus has loved us ever capturable in any way.

Love is at the heart of his gospel. May it always remain at the heart of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Tasmania as we strive 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."

*Belinda Chapman*

**Belinda Chapman**  
Spiritual Advisor



# STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS



**MARK GAETANI**  
STATE PRESIDENT



**DR LES BAXTER**  
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
(FEBRUARY 2022 - JUNE 2022)



**LARA ALEXANDER**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
(JULY 2021 - FEBRUARY 2022)



**BRENDAN MCMANUS**  
SECRETARY



**COREY MCGRATH**  
TREASURER



**VYVYAN ALLCHIN**  
PRESIDENT -  
NORTHERN REGION



**JOHN MOORE**  
PRESIDENT -  
SOUTHERN REGION



**ANNE ROWE**  
PRESIDENT -  
NORTHWEST REGION



**BELINDA CHAPMAN**  
SPIRITUAL ADVISER



**SAMUEL JOHNSTONE**  
YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE



**KERSTI EVANS**  
CHAIR, FINANCE & RISK  
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



## EMERGENCY RELIEF AT A GLANCE



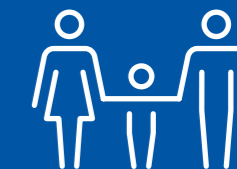
**\$1M**

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO  
TASMANIANS IN 2021-22.



**79%**

SEEKING ASSISTANCE,  
WHO ARE REQUESTING FOOD.  
9% UP ON 2020-21



**61%**

IN THE 25-49  
AGE GROUP  
4% DECREASE  
ON 2020-21

**22%**

IN THE 50-64  
AGE GROUP  
11% INCREASE  
ON 2020-21



**2,800**

REFERRALS TO OTHER SERVICES  
20% TO INTERNAL SERVICES &  
80% TO EXTERNAL SERVICES



**92%**

OF PEOPLE ASSISTED WERE  
RECEIVING CENTRELINK BENEFITS  
INCREASE OF 10% ON 2020-21



**35%**

OF THOSE WE ASSISTED WERE  
SINGLE AND 30% WERE SOLE  
PARENTS WITH DEPENDENTS

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR  
DEDICATED MEMBERS WHO  
SERVE EACH OTHER, AND OUR  
COMPANIONS, WITH LOVE AND  
COMPASSION. IT IS A PRIVILEGE  
TO SUPPORT YOU IN YOUR ROLE  
OF SERVING OTHERS.**

**The National Council Strategic Plan outlines the two key directives for Membership as recruitment of members and spiritual formation. The year of 2021-22 provided many opportunities for growth and engagement in these areas.**

As per the yearly Spiritual Formation plan, our Founders were all acknowledged on their respective Feast Days, including the Annual Founders Day event held on September 27, 2021, the Feast Day of St Vincent de Paul.

Annual Founders Day 'Called to Serve Together' was held at The Grange in Campbell Town, with an invitation extended to all members, volunteers and staff. Attendees were privileged to hear from the Society's National President, Claire Victory, who continued the theme of 'working together' in her key address.

Claire shared: "We at Vinnies are a broad church. We come from many different backgrounds and walks of life. We've lived very different lives and have a wide range of views across some really important issues. But anyone who shares our vision for a dignified life for all is welcome in our services – as members, as volunteers, and as staff. Our commitment to a dignified life for all extends beyond our Companions, to each other, to our fellow workers, volunteers, and members".

This year, our Founders' stories came to life through the storytelling of staff and members, complete in costume. This was a highlight for many attendees. Annual Founders Day was a spirit-filled day and was the epitome of the Vincentian 'family'.

Other spiritual formation events included a November reflection day in each region, titled "Called to Love and Serve", and a June reflection day titled "Organised Love", focusing on the life of St Louise de Marillac and the value of compassion.

A special thanks must go to our State Council Spiritual Advisor, Belinda Chapman, for her facilitation of all spiritual formation events.

The first 'President's Day' was held in Launceston in July 2021. Presidents travelled from across the state to gather for a day of formation and fellowship; and to reflect on the story of St Vincent and their own participation in living out this story, in their call to serve as President.

All new members, staff and volunteers are required to participate in a Society orientation session, "The Vincentian Family". The orientation session includes the Society's founding story and charism, our mission, vision and values, our organisational structure, and our good works. During the year, the Society assumed oversight of its Special Works entities of St Vincent Industries, Vincent Industries, Bethlehem House, and Tastex. It has been a privilege to work with the staff and volunteers of our Special Works, ensuring that all feel included in the Vincentian story.

The recruitment focus for the past year has been to engage members in a variety of different works within the Society. The Companion Program commenced in the Northwest during 2021; engaging new members to come together at the Somerset Community Hub and share morning tea with community members who may be lonely, isolated, or would appreciate company. As a result of the findings of the National Membership Research project, the Society has been working closely with National Council to look at areas of opportunity for membership, with new pilot models to be explored in the coming year. Forty new members joined the Society in Tasmania during 2021-22.

Thank you to all our dedicated members who serve each other, and our Companions, with love and compassion. It is a privilege to support you in your role of serving others.

*Melissa White*

**Melissa White**  
State Membership - Manager



# VOLUNTEERS REPORT

**VINNIES VOLUNTEERS OPEN  
OUR EYES AND MAKE US THINK  
ABOUT THE CONNECTION  
BETWEEN VOLUNTEERING AND  
CONTRIBUTING TO OUR  
COMMUNITY WHERE THE  
NEED TO ASSIST THE VULNERABLE  
IS GROWING YEAR-ON-YEAR.**

**Thank you to every volunteer who has contributed their time to the Good Works of the St Vincent de Paul Society during 2021-22. Whether it is as a Conference Member, volunteering to deliver a specific program or service to those in need, or assisting the organisation with fundraising activities to ensure we have the financial resource to help the vulnerable and disenfranchised, your assistance is vitally important and much appreciated.**

The reason that volunteers are such a critical part of the success of the St Vincent de Paul Society is because it is ingrained in our culture. Volunteering is part of our foundation – the fabric of the Vinnies community. The Society was founded in Paris, France in 1833 by a 20-year old student, Frederic Ozanam, who, with a group of friends, distributed bread and food to the poor. His legacy is continued today in 153 countries by over 800,000 Members and millions of volunteers, including the 960 volunteers across the State, who undertake vital work to ensure our community services and Retail shops continue to assist Tasmanians in need.

Over the past year, while we have at times struggled to fill the rosters at our Retail shops and Vinnies Soup Vans, other dedicated volunteers have stepped up to fill extra shifts and support the cause whenever possible.

In discussion with other organisation and councils, it appears that COVID-19 impacted many charities and community groups. One such impact was a reduction of people seeking to join up to volunteer.

We had a surge of overseas students and immigrants join our retail teams across the state. The students and immigrants were embraced and made to feel very welcomed. With the blending of cultures and new experiences, the students and immigrants bring a fresh outlook that has invigorated our volunteers and staff.

Our Fashion Parade, held in October at the Glenorchy shop was one of the highlights of this year. Our wonderful volunteer team and shop manager, Susan Walker, provided an afternoon featuring the latest fashions, which were modelled by five volunteers. With the combination of colourful clothes and dancing models, the customers were delighted with the show. Apart from encouraging our customers to support us, the fashion show brought the volunteer team of 24 together to make stronger connections.

Of course, our volunteers are much more than a resource to help Vinnies deliver our programs and services. Vinnies volunteers open our eyes and make us think about the connection between volunteering and contributing to our community where the need to assist the vulnerable is growing year-on-year.

Volunteers are the way we connect with the community. They help us understand the challenges faced by the people with whom they interact with and serve every day. Volunteers provide different perspectives on often complex and granular issues in the local communities where they live and work. Of equal importance, volunteering allows people to express themselves in different ways, it gives many a sense of purpose, and makes them feel like they are part of a solution, which of course they are.

The focus for future volunteering at Vinnies will be the implementation of social connection groups for our volunteers. We are looking forward to gathering likeminded people together to support Vinnies and to achieve their own personal goals.

*Maree Cole*

**Maree Cole**  
**Volunteer Engagement Coordinator**





# FUNDRAISING & MARKETING REPORT

WE WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SPECIAL MENTION OF ALL THE STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS AND OTHER COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS THAT ASSIST VINNIES, IN SO MANY WAYS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

The 2021-22 financial year has been another huge year for Fundraising and Marketing at the St Vincent de Paul Society Tasmania.

In March, we launched our workplace giving program. Joining the Vinnies workplace giving program builds corporate unity by taking employees on a journey for a common good cause. The Vinnies workplace giving program is a great way for any organisation to make a positive social impact on the lives of Tasmanians experiencing disadvantage. Pre-tax donations, are made without the fuss of receipts and claim forms. Whilst doing this, organisations are tackling social issues head-on by partnering with one of Australia's most respected charities. Most importantly of all, Vinnies receives vital funds to help support thousands of Tasmanians experiencing disadvantage. Workplace giving has the most traction because it is collective giving, supported by the entire organisation. Everyone giving a little together means more funds for the cause, and greater impact.

I want to thank Robert Karacic of "Total Surface Protection" for agreeing to be the face of our Workplace Giving Program. Robert and his wife Kristina, and their friends, Pete Leary, Kane Ashby, and Tyson Clements, have been participating in the "Point to Pinnacle" for the last four years, raising much-needed funds for our Vinnies Loui's Vans. They have raised over \$27,000 as a team. As no doubt everyone can appreciate, keeping these Vans on the road costs a lot of money. Their support is highly valued.

This year we also decided that we should have a Supporter Logo. The reason for having one is so supporters of Vinnies can demonstrate their commitment to assisting Vinnies work. It is also a way of Vinnies recognising the supporters' commitment. Without generous individuals and organisations, Vinnies just couldn't exist. Individuals and organisations give in a number of ways, either by giving up their time to volunteer, providing us with pro bono or discounted professional advice, or by donating money, goods or services; or simply having a donation tin in their business or placing our posters in the window of their business.

## COMMUNITY SLEEPOUT

On Friday June 24, the Society conducted its Community Sleepout; an event held to raise awareness of those in the community who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and to raise much needed funds to assist those in the community who are homeless. Friends and supporters of the Society may recall events of previous years, titled "Vinnies CEO sleepout". Late last year the Society decided to rebrand the event to a Community Sleepout to enable all members of the community, such as sporting and school groups, small businesses, families, and other charity groups and individuals to participate, and expand the message of homelessness within all corners of the community. The event was a great success with community members from across all three regions participating. It was particularly pleasing to witness the large number of students across all of Tasmania embracing the plight of far too many in our community who are either homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The event is not to give those participating a 'taste of homelessness' – one night simply couldn't do this – but to raise awareness of what it is like for those experiencing homelessness and the challenges they face. A big thank you to all those who participated and the many Tasmanians who donated to the event. An extra big thank you to Group CEO of RACT Tasmania, Mark Mugnaioni, who not only agreed again to be the Ambassador for the event, but for raising the most money. I would also like to thank Rita Oakley, Stacey Pennicott, and the whole team at the RACT, for their support and enthusiasm for the event.

As part of our fundraising activities for the 2022 Community Sleepout, we ran a silent auction and we have been so humbled and incredibly appreciative of all of the individuals and businesses who donated goods and services to Vinnies to auction. We were given a huge number of goods and services for us to auction through our online silent auction.

As we are still totalling the final results, we don't yet have a figure at the time of preparing this report to provide.

## PETS IN THE PARK LAUNCESTON

Pets in the Park occurred again this year and we saw a number of Companions and their companion animals in Launceston. It is great to be part of this fantastic initiative, helping give free veterinary care to those companion animals whose owners are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. We have a regular group of volunteers, including Veterinary Surgeons, Veterinary Nurses and Administration Staff, who all give up their own time happily and willingly to assist. I would like to thank Trish Bone and the amazing team at ARC for also assisting Pets in the Park with regular donations of dog and cat food, flea, tick, and worming treatments and pet accessories, such as collars, leads and harnesses. The Pets in the Park was featured in the winter edition of The Record, the National publication of the St Vincent de Paul Society.



# FUNDRAISING & MARKETING REPORT, CONT'D

**“VINNIES FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES  
ALLOWS PEOPLE, NO MATTER  
WHAT THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES,  
TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE GOOD WORKS  
OF THE SOCIETY. EVERY DOLLAR  
RAISED IN TASMANIA, FOR OUR  
TASMANIAN CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES,  
STAYS IN TASMANIA. BY DONATING  
TO VINNIES, YOU ARE ASSISTING  
HUNDREDS OF TASMANIANS IN NEED.**

## BEQUEST APPEAL

This financial year, we launched the Tasmanian Society's first-ever bequest appeal, which makes up our Vinnies Tasmania Bequest Program. One of the most important sources of funding for Vinnies' work in the community comes from people who have included a gift in their Will. Supporting the Society in this special way not only creates a lasting legacy of kindness, but it also plays a vital role in continuing to provide 'a hand up' to people in need for generations to come. When you leave a gift in your Will, you may never meet the person you have helped, but your generosity lives on in their lives. I am particularly fond of the saying, which is so relevant to bequests "those who plant trees, knowing that only others will enjoy the shade, are public benefactors". Leaving a gift in your Will to the St Vincent de Paul Society of Tasmania, enables us to plan with certainty in an uncertain world. Our Bequest Program is made up of our bequest appeal, 'Frederic's Fellowship Group', for those people who have told us they are leaving Vinnies a gift in their Will and wish to come and meet other benefactors and hear about our work across the state, our free Vinnies - TPT Wealth co-branded bequest booklet, and our Honorary Solicitor Program. I would like to thank all of our solicitors for agreeing to be part of our Honorary Solicitor Program.

## MARILLAC HOUSE

This year we started a fundraising project to renovate two of the bathrooms at our health crisis accommodation, Marillac House. Marillac House is situated at the quiet end of Brisbane Street, Launceston, and provides supported accommodation for individuals and families travelling from afar to Launceston for medical purposes. Vinnies is incredibly grateful to the generosity shown by a number of businesses and foundations that have donated money or products at cost price. These businesses are Bunnings North Launceston, Saputo Dairy Australia, Calvary Community Council, Walkers Supermarket (King Island), RW Earthmoving Pty Ltd (King Island), Burnie City Council,

King Island Council, King Island Hotel, JMC Launceston, and the Robert Fergusson Foundation. We've raised the money to renovate the bathrooms, now we need to secure tradespeople to undertake the work.

I would like to make a special mention of another great service I stumbled across and that's Escabags. Escape Bags are free, tote bags kindly made with love by volunteers and then filled with the necessities that a victim of abuse and his/her children may need when initially escaping a dangerous or abusive situation. Each Escape Bag contains high-quality products. The Escape Bags are not gender-specific and, by providing two variations, Parent and Child and Single Adult, they cater for all victims of abuse. Vinnies has received a quantity of these bags and our emergency relief staff report that they are excellent. As we use them, we re-order, so we have a supply on hand.

This year we raised \$250,000 for the 2021 winter appeal and we are extremely grateful to all those individuals, businesses and foundations who gave so generously to the appeal. I would especially like to mention The Examiner newspaper's winter appeal of which Vinnies received nearly \$57,000. Without these monies, we couldn't assist as many people as we do, who are unable to put food on the table, keep the heater going and purchase much-needed medicine. These are items people give up in order to pay the rent. We all know the cost of a rental property in Tasmania has increased substantially over the last couple of years and this situation doesn't seem as if it will get improve anytime soon.

The 2021 Christmas Appeal was huge success and we raised almost \$200,000. I would like to particularly mention the ABC Giving Tree and The Examiner newspaper for their support through the ABC Giving Tree and the Empty Stocking Appeal. I never cease to be amazed by the enthusiasm of the staff at the ABC and The Examiner newspaper for their appeals. We were gifted nearly \$41,000 from the ABC Giving Tree and nearly \$27,000 from The Examiner Empty Stocking Appeal. Without their devotion to raising this money, we couldn't do what we do for as many people. We sincerely and deeply want to thank and acknowledge them for all their work.

Even as times have become tougher, and COVID-19 has continued to disrupt lives and businesses, we are still receiving the most amazing support from individuals and businesses alike; and I would like to thank every person who has donated or given us much needed items to deliver to those people doing it tough. I think it is indicative of the generosity of Tasmanians that the number of individuals, businesses, and foundations recognised in this report has steadily grown over the last three years I have been with Vinnies. We regularly receive small and large donations of blankets, sleeping bags, jumpers and jackets, personal hygiene items, cleaning products, and food, which we give away to people via our food vans or through our emergency relief office or the shops.

We would like to make special mention of all the students and schools and other community organisations that assist Vinnies, in so many ways throughout the year. The assistance might be making soup for the food vans, volunteering their time, participating in and raising money through various activities, including the Community Sleepout, donating clothing, food, blankets, money or preparing personal hygiene packs for us to give out to people needing a hand-up. I want to thank you sincerely for all your work.

I would like to thank my fellow Vinnies colleagues, statewide and Nationally for their assistance and comradery.

*Bernadette Ulbrich-Hooper*

**Bernadette Ulbrich-Hooper**  
Fundraising & Marketing Advisor



# SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

**IN WHAT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A VERY CHALLENGING TWO YEARS, THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY IS EXTREMELY GRATEFUL TO THE MANY PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS WHO HAVE ALL CONTRIBUTED TO IMPROVING THE LIVES AND FUTURES OF SO MANY TASMANIANS IN NEED. WE WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ACKNOWLEDGE EVERY SUPPORTER AND PARTNER; INCLUDING THOSE WHO ELECTED TO MAKE DONATIONS, OR SUPPORT THE SOCIETY ANONYMOUSLY, DURING THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2021, TO JUNE 30, 2022. THANK YOU.**

## BEQUESTS

AG Cowley Trust Colin Bisdée Trust  
Estate of Betty Clemance Ann Smith  
Estate of Joyce Elaine McConnon  
Estate of Lesley Groome Johnstone  
Estate of Mary Allison Hodgson  
Estate of Nancy Pearl Graeme-Evans  
Estate of Patrick Langton Dunne  
Estate of Stephen Joseph Cooper  
Estate of Terence Marcel Le Fevre

## DONORS AND SUPPORTERS

ABC Tasmania  
Advocate Newspaper  
Amici Italian Restaurant  
Anaconda  
Anglicare  
Anglicare Financial Counselling  
Animal Tucker Box  
APawUp  
Archbishop of Hobart's Charitable Foundation (Samaritan Projects Tasmania)  
Archdiocese of Hobart  
Arnolds Ampol  
Aurora Energy  
Australian Government  
Backpack Bed for Homeless  
Banjos Bakery  
Behrakis Group  
Bellerive Bakery  
Bethlehem House  
Bins R Done  
Black Cow Bistro  
Blissenden Lawyers  
Blueline Laundry  
Bluestone Bar & Kitchen  
Blythe & Watchorn  
Bold Lawyers  
Bonney Energy  
Breadd Hobart  
Brian Mitchell MP  
Bridget Archer MP

Brighton Council  
Brighton's Best Bakehouse  
Bronwyn Waterhouse - New Mornings  
Bunnings - North Launceston, Glenorchy, and Burnie  
Burleigh & Dean Constructions  
Burnie Girl Guides  
Burnie High School  
Calvary Hospital  
Cambridge Primary School  
Camerons Accountants and Advisors  
Castrisius Law - Lawyers  
Catholic Parish of Launceston  
Catholic Women's League's throughout Tasmania  
Cecilia Kilkeary Foundation  
Central Highlands Council  
Circular Head Chronicle  
Circular Head Council  
Circular Head Lions  
Circular Head Youth Leaders  
Coles - Sandy Bay  
Commonwealth Bank of Australia  
Corpus Christi Primary School  
Cr Leigh Grey (Brighton Mayor)  
Creative Interiors (Innerspace Wardrobes)  
Cricket Tasmania  
Deloitte Foundation  
Deloitte  
Deloraine High School  
Derwent Estate Wines  
Derwent Valley Gazette  
Dexion Storage Solutions & GM Rogers Invermay  
Dianne Hunt  
Discovery Early Learning Centre  
Dobson Mitchell Allport  
Dominic College  
Duncan Warburton  
Emily Wilkins  
Emu Bay Lions  
Examiner Newspaper  
Eye See Tours  
Family Based Care  
Family Based Care Association of North-West Coast

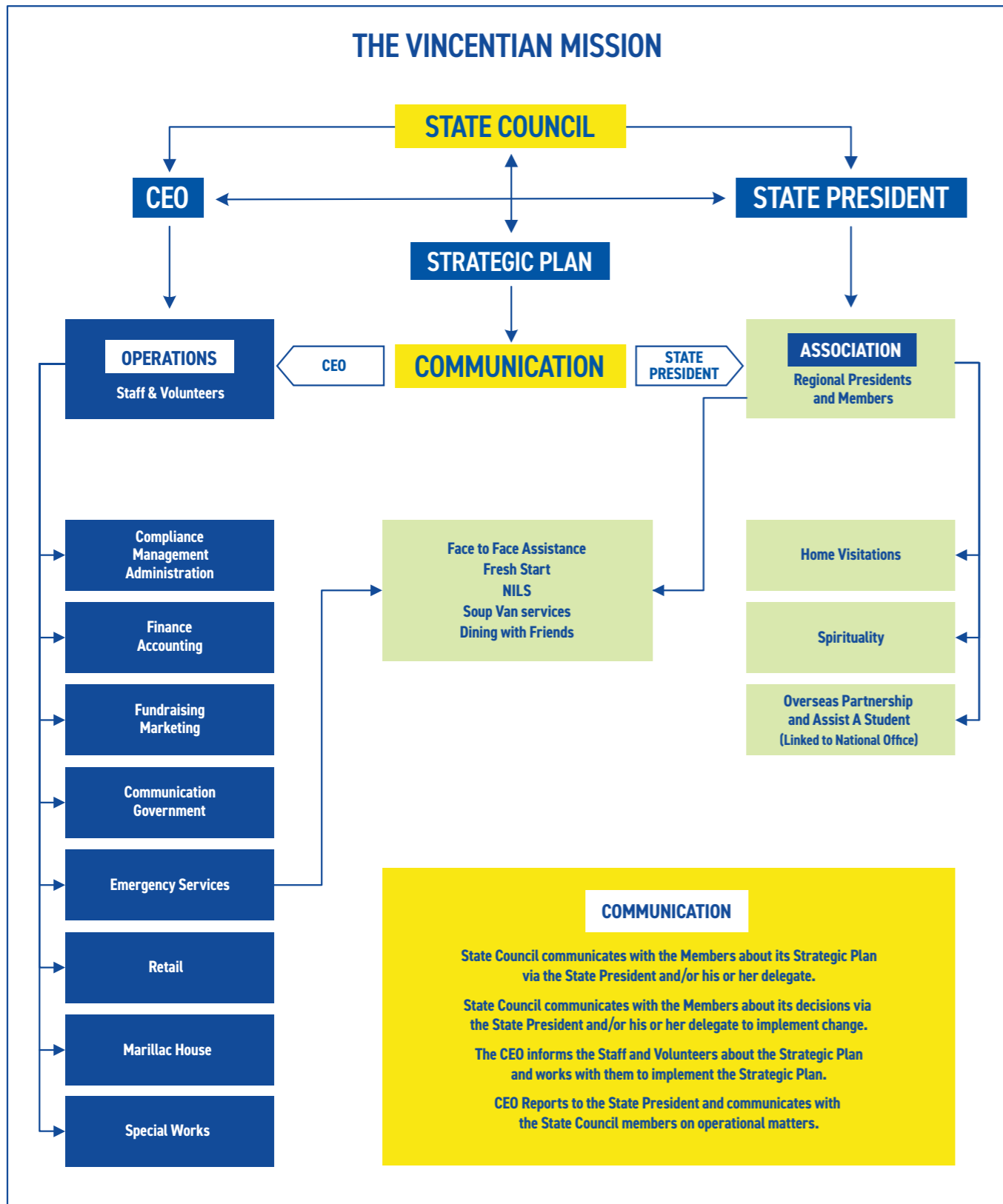
Farm It Forward Tasmania  
Farrell Foundation  
Federal Group  
Finlay Watchorn Lawyers  
Flying Colours  
Formby Road Motors  
George Town Council  
Givit  
Glen Dhu Primary School  
Glenorchy City Council  
Grains of Silo Hotel  
Grey Sands Vineyard  
Guardian Chemist Old Tudor Pharmacy  
Guilford Young College  
Hart Memorial Trust  
Hash House Harriers  
Hawthorn Football Club  
Hetty Binns  
Hobart City Council  
Hobart City Mission  
Hobart Friendly Care Pharmacies and Hobart Friendly Care Foundation  
Hobart Refrigeration & Appliance Repairs  
House of Anvers  
Hydro Tasmania  
Ian Guest & Associates Lawyers  
IGA/Tasmanian Independent Retailers  
Ilec Pty Ltd  
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic School  
Impress Print  
Inspiration Paints Somerset  
Jacksons  
Jacqui Lambie, Senator for Tasmania  
James Crotty Barristers & Solicitors  
Jane Karinya (Karinya Women's Shelter)  
Jen Butler, MP  
JGD Legal Lawyers  
Joe and Paul Foley  
Keith MacGregor Kingborough Helping Hands  
Kmart

Knights of the Southern Cross - Leven  
Kristie Johnston MP  
Ladies Midweek Tennis club  
Larmenier Primary School  
Latrobe Housing Connect  
Launceston Big Picture School  
Launceston City Council  
Launceston City Council Leisure and Aquatic Centre  
Launceston Parish Centre  
Launceston Travel and Cruise Centre  
Lions Club - Bellerive  
Loaves and Fishes  
Loui's Legends  
Mackillop Catholic College  
Maguire + Devine Architects  
Marine Solutions  
Marist Regional College  
Mark Mugnaioni (RACT)  
Matthew Stolp  
McDonald's Corporate  
Mercury Newspaper  
Midland Tractors  
MONA FARO Restaurant  
Monique Mackrill (Pharmacy Guild of Tasmania)  
Monotone Art Printers Pty Ltd Myler Law Practice  
Mount Carmel College  
My Style Work + Shop  
MyState Bank Community Foundation  
Nicholas Peterson (Presbyterian Care Tasmania)  
O'Connor Motors Pty Ltd  
Ogilvie Jennings Lawyers  
Old Woolstore Apartment Hotel  
Order of Saint John of Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller, Australia - Priory of Tasmania  
Order of St Lazarus  
Paul's Outdoor Products  
Pepper Silo Hotel  
Peter Willis Electrical Pty Ltd  
Philip Kuruvita Photography  
Presentation Sisters  
Pura Milk

RACT  
Rae & Partners Lawyers  
Rapid Relief  
Relationships Australia  
Richmond Gold Club (Ladies)  
RINNAI  
Riverside Golf Club  
Robert Fergusson Family Foundation  
Rod Glover Legal  
Ronald McDonald House  
Ross A Hart Barrister & Solicitor  
Rotary Club of Glenorchy  
Rotary Club of Hobart  
Rotary Club of Launceston  
Rotary Club of Salamanca  
Rotary Club of Somerset  
Rotary Club of South Launceston  
Rotary Club of Sullivan's Cove  
Rotary Club of Tamar Sunrise  
Rural Health  
Sacred Heart Primary School  
Sacred Heart Primary School Ulverstone  
Samantha Kuruvita Photography  
Scotch Oakburn College  
Select Foundation  
Self Help Workplace Youngtown  
Senator Wendy Askew  
Services Australia  
Share the Dignity  
Shaw Contracting  
Shell West Launceston  
Sian Butler  
Silo Day Spa  
SKAL International - Tasmania  
Smithton High School  
Smithton Lions  
Southern Cross Austereo  
Southern Waste Solutions  
Speak up! StayChatty  
Spotlight  
St Aloysius Catholic College  
St Anthony's Primary School  
St Michael's Association  
Work and Training  
St Michael's Collegiate

St Patrick's College Launceston  
St Paul's Catholic School  
St Thomas Moore's Primary School  
St Virgil's College  
St. Brendan Shaw College  
St. Brigid's Primary School  
Star of the Sea George Town  
Stella Maris Primary School  
Stuart Barry Financial Adviser  
Sue Hickey  
Sues of Invermay's  
Tahune Airwalk  
Tamar Valley Cruises  
TasGas  
Tasmanian Catholic Education Office  
Tasmanian Chess Association  
Tasmanian Community Fund  
Tasmanian State Government  
Tasmanian Walking Company  
Tastex Knitwear  
Telegraph Hotel  
TG & JM Matthews Foundation  
Thai Association of Tasmania  
The Hutchins School  
Top Centre Laundry  
Toyota Co-Op Hobart  
TPT Wealth  
Troublesmiths Youth Social Enterprise  
Tullochs Auctions  
Turner Stillhouse  
Ulverstone Neighbourhood House  
United Engineering Pty Ltd  
University of Tasmania  
Virginia's Beauty & Care Kingston  
Vos Construction & Joinery  
Walkers Supermarket  
Wallace Wilkinson  
Webster Lawyers  
Walsh Day James Mihal Lawyers  
Waratah-Wynyard Council  
Waverley Mills  
Wellways  
Westbury Baptist Prayer Shawl Group  
Westpac Call Centre  
Woolworths - George Town

# ST VINCENT DE PAUL TASMANIA ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



# OUR GOOD WORKS



# YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

## SOUTHERN REGION



### VINNIES – LOUI'S VAN

Vinnies – Loui's Van has returned to full capacity after the height of COVID-19. This year has seen the Van introduce an extra stop on the Eastern Shore, at Kangaroo Bay, after discussions with the Clarence City Council identified that there is an increase in people sleeping rough in this area.

Increased volunteer applications for the Vans have resulted in all teams being full and having at least five team members. This has meant that there has been a decrease in last minute run cancellations.

Our long-serving kitchen volunteer, Robert Kreshl, decided that he would retire from his role at Christmas. To cover for Robert, we have been able to recruit a team of daytime kitchen volunteers to fill the void left by his departure.

During the year, we received funding from the Tasmanian Government to replace two of our Vans. These Vans are currently being ordered. We are currently consulting with our volunteers and will alter the setups of the Vans appropriately, so that we can continue to provide assistance in the best possible way to our Companions.

We are also currently in discussions with the Glenorchy City Council and locations in the Claremont/Chigwell area to add a stop in this area moving forward.

We thank all our amazing volunteers, partner businesses, and donors that have contributed significantly to the operation of Loui's Van in the 2021-22 financial year.

### DINING WITH FRIENDS

This year saw the introduction of a new Dining with Friends Lunch event at our Bridgewater location. This initiative was made available for people who would benefit from a community meal; but may not be able to make it to a night-time event. This lunch has been successful in its first year with around 15-25 guests consistently attending. We thank the Brighton City Council for their ongoing support of both the lunch and dinner events in the Bridgewater area.

Our two Dining with Friends – Dinner events in Bridgewater and Hobart have continued this year with strong numbers attending both events. We would like to thank the volunteers that work hard every month to provide these meals, they are always delicious and the atmosphere is always lovely. We certainly couldn't do it without them.

### EMERGENCY RELIEF

It has been another big year in our Emergency Relief Program. This year saw a new conference being developed to provide assistance from our Argyle Street assistance office. The name of this conference is St Joseph's Hobart with Louise Wilson being elected as the first President.

This year in the Emergency Relief Program, an increased number of Companions are presenting due to significant financial hardship, brought on by cost of living and rental stress. This has resulted in many Companions needing assistance with food, significant debts, especially energy bills, and even rental arrears. Our members and assistance staff continue to do an outstanding job, providing assistance and Companionship to people who are doing it tough in our communities.

### YOUTH

It's been another strong year in the Youth Program area. We are so lucky to have such amazing relationships with so many schools across Southern Tasmania. Schools have continually provided soup for our Loui's Van service, taken part in Vinnies Winter and Christmas Appeals, as well as other amazing fundraising initiatives.

In December we were again involved in the Southern Catholic Schools Social Justice Leadership Day. This involved upcoming student leaders coming together to discuss the issues of social justice and brainstorming initiatives, in which their school can get involved, for the upcoming school year.

Our Youth Induction Mass was very well attended early this school year with many families of youth volunteers participating in the mass lead by Father Richard Ross and Deacon Michael Hangan at St Therese's Parish.

This year, we have seen two Buddy Days take place in the South of the State. Our First Buddy Day in Term 3 Holidays 2021 included a day at Bonorong Wildlife Park.

For our first Buddy Day in 2022 we met at a local community centre to make some team flags, then we enjoyed a few games of Laser Tag and after lunch played some more team-building games out in a local park, which was so much fun! For our second Buddy Day we went to the Tahune Airwalk, which had not only incredible views to enjoy, but also very knowledgeable staff that provided us with a tour and then a delicious lunch.

Our Buddy Days have a focus on building self-confidence, teamwork skills and of course having fun, and it was fantastic to see both our little buddies and our mentors jump into both days with enthusiasm and kindness towards each other! We look forward to the next round of Buddy Days, thank you to all our volunteer youth mentors who help to make these events so special.

Our Buddy Day Program could not go ahead without the support of MyState Financial that has provided us with a grant from their MyState Foundation each year. We thank them for this support.



# YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

## NORTHERN REGION



### YOUTH PROGRAMS

The 2021-22 has been a big year for the Youth Services with the review and reimplementation of existing programs and services amidst the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the 2021-22 there have been three Buddy Days in the north of the state, including:

- A Buddy Day on Friday October 8, 2021, at The YMCA in Launceston;
- The Annual Children's Christmas Fun Day on Saturday December 4, 2021, at The YMCA in Launceston; and
- A Buddy Day on Tuesday April 26, 2022, at the Vinnies Youth Hub

Vinnies Youth Hub, free after-school sessions were held twice weekly for children ages 6-13. In total, we delivered 2,374 hours of support for the financial year.

Our Youth Hub, as well as Buddy Programs and Project Revolution, also strive to offer opportunities for our leaders to learn new skills, develop their confidence, and work-ready experience; as well as the ability to provide invaluable mentorship to the children who attend our programs.

We thank MyState Foundation for its incredible generosity and commitment to the young people in our community.

The Christmas Appeal in 2021 had the involvement of numerous schools supporting those in need. We thank St Patrick's College, Sacred Heart Catholic Primary, St Finn Barr's Catholic Primary, St Thomas Moore's Catholic Primary, Star of the Sea College and Our Lady of Mercy Deloraine who supported our Launceston Region.

We have also had a number of school placements within our youth programs and retail store through Big Picture School and Scotch Oakburn College.

### COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Throughout the last twelve months, within the northern region, we have held various community drives to allow us to continue to support individuals and families. Some of the businesses and organisations that have supported us include Presbyterian Care, Calvary, Girl Guides Tasmania, TasGas and HR+.

TasGas were very generous in December 2021, donating several gifts for children that attended our end of year Buddy Day event.

In 2021 we provided over 500 Christmas hampers to families and individuals in the North of the State. Conference members, schools, and businesses took part in putting together and donating hampers. These included St Patricks College, Larmenier, Rotary Club of Launceston, Mount Pleasant Laboratories, Sacred Heart and St Thomas Mores and St Finn Barr's.

Together with Presbyterian Care we were able to build positive connections with schools, with the opportunity to purchase school uniforms in local primary schools and to provide increased Emergency Relief to rural communities.

Dining with Friends continues to run monthly events in Launceston, providing a social evening for people within the Launceston community and weekly in George Town, with the support of Star of the Sea College.

We have been resourceful in seeking community grants that may offer opportunities for development for our members, such as the Bell Bay Aluminium grant, which we received in December 2021. This grant will enable us to provide Mental Health First Aid training for several members.

We have also received grants to assist us to fund our two Dining with Friends programs in the North at our Launceston and George Town locations. These grants were generously donated by Calvary and George Town Council.

We have held various information sessions to engage our members and to continue to offer them an opportunity to progress their professional development. We have had sessions from Aurora Energy, Speak up Stay Chatty, Wellways, Anglicare Financial Counselling, Services Australia, Housing Connect and My Aged Care.

### EMERGENCY RELIEF

The Northern region continues to provide Emergency Relief services to anyone in need across Northern Tasmania.

We are experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance in financial distress, housing crisis, managing overdue accounts, and food shortages.

We continue to work very closely with Companions to provide the assistance they need.

Throughout the last twelve months within the Northern region, we have held various community drives to allow us to continue to support individuals and families. Businesses and organisations that have supported us include, Presbyterian Care, Calvary, Girl Guides Tasmania, TasGas and HR+.

Our Case Coordinator offers a case management approach, alongside the core of our member's support.



We carefully listen to the companion's stories and, in some instances, refer them to different providers, including financial counselling assistance, mental health, housing, shelters, Vinnies Van, and Vinnies Youth Hub.

We highlight the housing crisis that keeps reflecting the challenges faced by our Companions, as they are forced to wait sometimes for years to be able to find affordable accommodation suitable to both individuals and families.

COVID-19 has also created a new type of need. We see people that never had access to any Emergency Relief provider until now.

### VINNIES VAN

Our Vinnies Van in Launceston is continually supported by many school and community groups, along with our amazing teams of volunteers who run the Vans no matter what the weather.

We continue to see a higher volume of Companions accessing the Van at all stops in Launceston and George Town.

St Patrick's College Croagh Patrick's campus - supported by Vinnies, Loaves and Fishes Tasmania, and other schools donating food and fresh produce - have cooked over 1,000 litres of soup. This will be the first year that a single school has covered the entire soup quantity served from the Vinnies Van in Launceston.



# YOUTH & COMMUNITY SERVICES

## NORTHWEST REGION

**"IF I DIDN'T COME HERE TO HAVE  
LUNCH, I WOULDN'T HAVE SPOKEN  
TO ANYONE ELSE IN THE LAST  
FORTNIGHT, EXCEPT THE LOCAL  
GROCER, SO THANK YOU."**

### EMERGENCY RELIEF

Emergency Relief assistance, sadly, continues undiminished on the Northwest Coast. Conference members across East Devonport, Devonport, Ulverstone, Burnie, Wynyard, Smithton, King Island, and Queenstown continue to service those who are doing it tough. This year, with many impacted by the increase in cost-of-living expenses we experienced higher numbers of new Companions seeking assistance for the first time; and an increase in frequency for those on fixed incomes. Drawing on resources across Emergency Relief funding, Aurora Energy, Telstra, the general public, local schools, and the community, we have worked collaboratively to give those in need a hand up.

Additional support, made available for those on temporary visas, has proved life changing. In one instance, the recipients said:

*"I am beyond grateful for your kindness and thinking [about me], also [your] concern about helping people like me without see[ing] me as a 'visitor' or 'immigrant' to Australia; but you see me as a human who need a help."*

Our Case Coordinator on the Northwest Coast continues to work with our members to assist Companions across the region, with either face-to-face support or telehealth. This delivers support for conference members when working with more complex cases. This includes educational supports and resources, while also assisting those who are supporting our most vulnerable.

Christmas Hampers brought smiles and relief to close to 350 adults and over 300 children this year, with deliveries far and wide. We worked with Neighbourhood Houses, and other service providers and community groups, to bring as much Christmas cheer as possible to the region.

Lee Windridge from our Queenstown Vinnies store and St Joseph's conference, stepped away from the Emergency Relief area earlier this year to enjoy the store a little more, after an amazing 18 years at the helm.

### DINING WITH FRIENDS AND VINNIES VANS

Dining with Friends and the Vinnies Vans continue to provide smiles, laughter, friendship, and a delicious home-made meal for those want to break the cycle of isolation, reconnect with community, and fill hungry bellies. The dedicated volunteer teams at the Somerset and Smithton Hubs prepare healthy, wholesome meals made from donated and rescued product. These goods are supplied by terrific groups, such as Burnie High School, St Brigid's Primary School Gardens, and Loaves and Fishes. Our Christmas events prove to be very popular for guests and volunteers alike. The meals also act as a connector to the other activities at the Hubs; with Somerset's calendar close to full each week. Activities, such as working in the garden, scrapbooking, puzzle time, and making candles, appeal to the very young and through to the still young at heart. As, Joan, one participant said:

*"If I didn't come here to have lunch, I wouldn't have spoken to anyone else in the last fortnight, except the local grocer, so thank you."*

Any leftovers are packaged for distribution through our Emergency Relief conferences.

The Vinnies Vans continue to provide a hand up four nights a week in the Burnie-Wynyard areas and we have introduced a second night in Smithton. Along with our fresh homemade soups, sandwiches, treats and fruit, we distribute knitted beanies, scarves, and blankets that have been donated by local groups. These items, along with toiletry kits made up by local schools, are always appreciated. Again, we redistribute any remaining items via other service providers and local schools to ensure there is no wastage and that all food reaches further into our communities. It is a credit to the dedicated volunteers, that Vinnies' Vans went out every scheduled night throughout COVID-19, ensuring we were able to provide a consistent service for the community during a difficult time. By providing more than just food and essentials, Vinnies Vans are a connector to other services, including checking on the welfare of Companions to providing the comforting support they might need through trying times.

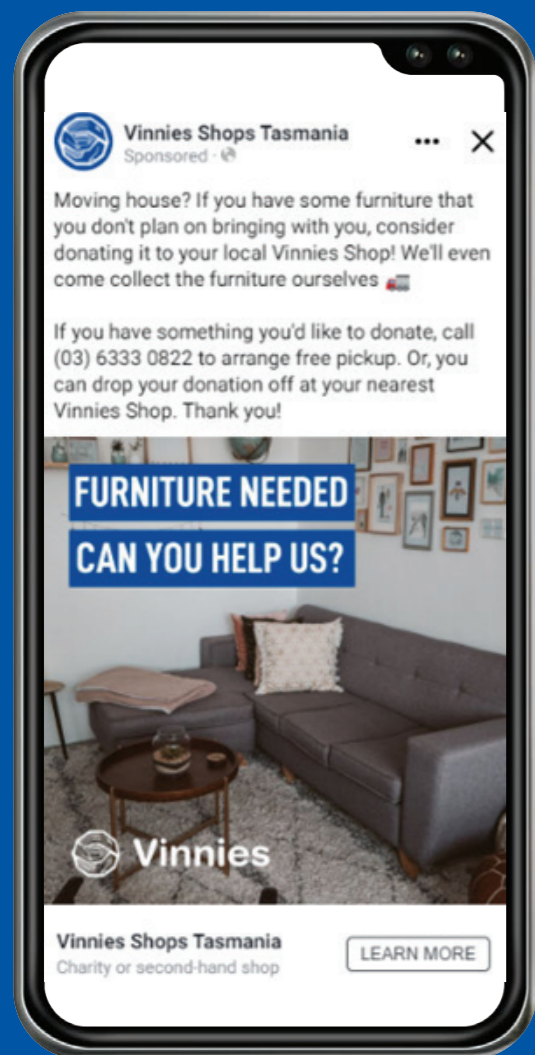
### COMMUNITY AND YOUTH

Our community and youth team continued to build relationships and connect with the community throughout the year. Connecting the Society's services, programs, and Hubs to those we assist also helps to raise awareness of the issues impacting many Tasmanians and provides an opportunity to engage with the next generation. Schools, such as Marist Regional College, Burnie High School, St Brigid's Primary School, and Sacred Heart Primary School, exemplify community spirit. Their thoughtful, essential contributions throughout the year, their engagement with social issues, work placements, and collecting fresh produce assists many disadvantaged people in the community.

Marist Regional College, along with our Vinnies Youth Leader, Sam Johnstone, had a great night under the stars and cardboard to raise awareness of homelessness during the Community Sleep Out. Vinnies Van visited participants early to serve an authentic meal, with lots of discussion and reflection about the experience of the homelessness and those at risk of homelessness. The event served as valuable experience for all participants.

Participating in events such as Harmony Day, Anti-Poverty Week and Homelessness Awareness Week, offers an opportunities to raise awareness of the issues, connect with other service providers, and demonstrate the collaboration that exists in the Northwest region to ensure our holistic and person-centred approach reaches the whole community.

# RETAIL REPORT



## SOUTHERN REGION

This year marked a return to more regular trading hours as we continued to emerge from COVID-19 uncertainties. While strict COVID risk management procedures and policies impacted on customer numbers and enthusiasm early in the year, we saw a gradual return to pre-COVID sales as these restrictions were relaxed.

Following the return to full trading, many of our long-term and dedicated volunteers decided not to return to working with Vinnies. North Hobart and Claremont shops experienced unavoidable closures on multiple days per week when volunteers or additional staff were not available. South Hobart experienced over 40 hours of cancelled volunteer shifts in one week alone; and Bridgewater closed regularly on some Saturdays due to the lack of volunteers. That said, volunteer numbers continued to increase towards the end of 2021 and the increased reliability of shop opening hours resulted in a return to near pre-COVID sales levels.

We have trialled a range of new products in several of the southern stores including socks, cosmetics, 'Envirowoollies', which are made by Tas Textiles, and Rexona mini travel packs with generally good success. Sales of mattresses, electrical goods, and furniture also continued to increase.

A revamp of the Argyle Street shop commenced, including a redesign of the layout of the furniture section and increases to the amount of clothing racks for menswear and children's clothing. This has created a better flow for customers in what is a high traffic area. The changes have received good feedback from customers and volunteers. Planning is currently underway for new capital works program at a number of southern Vinnies' shops; but it is being constrained by a shortage of tradespeople.

The success of the southern retail operations is driven by our donors, who provide the stock for our stores, the more than 430 hard-working volunteers, and the dedicated store staff.

Through the combined effort of these groups our Vinnies stores were able to support the most vulnerable individuals and families in Tasmania and to provide reasonably priced clothing and other goods to the community in general. Our volunteers are generous with their time and committed to the St Vincent de Paul Society across the whole of Tasmania. They typically provide between five and eight hours of time per week. Without these volunteers, our shops could not function. The store staff are a dedicated group of individuals who give 100 per cent effort to our shops, our Companions, our customers and the organisation in general. We acknowledge their efforts and we are grateful for their commitment and generosity.



## NORTHERN REGION

July 2021 saw the new Financial Year start with fresh leadership following the departure of Northern Tasmania Retail and Warehouse Manager, Mel Alty. The management of the Northern Tasmanian retail split into two sections, North and Northwest, each with their own Retail Area Coordinator, Sam Brough and Lauren Trewin. This decision was made to give greater "hands on" support to each individual retail shop and promote regional growth.

Our Deloraine shop underwent a total transformation in the first quarter, with a new shop manager, revised shop processes, and newly merchandised shop displays, which achieved a doubling of monthly sales - an incredible result and credit to all involved.

We identified a gap in our donation recycling processes, where electrical items were not able to be recycled and sold due to a lack of certified Test & Tagging employees. In the first quarter, a select group of employees, from across the state, enrolled in a one-day Electrical Test & Tag course facilitated by Master Builders Tasmania; becoming certified to test electrical items to be sold in our shops Statewide. This decision has proved to be incredibly successful, creating many happy donors and shoppers; with the shop experiencing healthy electrical sales.

In the third quarter, we held an exciting meeting with AT+M Marketing to discuss retail advertising opportunities, focusing heavily on increasing our customer base and promoting furniture donations, which had slowed considerably. We launched a dedicated Vinnies Shops Tasmania page, supported with targeted Facebook and Instagram advertising to focus on these areas. The campaign also highlighted our weekly and monthly sale days, new opening days, and requests for donations of clothing and blankets.

We celebrated Volunteer Week en masse at our Boland St shop in the fourth quarter, with a large morning tea to recognise and appreciate our dedicated workers. Balloons filled the back corner of the shop, with many a cup of tea and sausage roll enjoyed in the company of friends. Our state president, Mr Mark Gaetani, attended the event, along with media representatives from The Examiner, Southern Cross News, and WIN News who all featured the St Vincent de Paul Society in newsprint and on the nightly news. This highlighted the ever-present need for volunteers to help across the state and promoted the great works of the society.

Staff at the Boland Street Vinnies Shop noticed the need for op-shop Sunday trading in Launceston so we launched Sunday trading in the fourth quarter. We opened every Sunday from 10am-2pm. Vinnies Boland Street shop is the only known op-shop to be open in the greater Launceston area on Sunday, which has proven to be popular for shoppers as well as donors who can drop off any items they have been unable to deliver to during the week. We are excited to continue this offering to the community long-term.

## NORTHWEST REGION

Over the last twelve months, the Northwest Region has seen many changes, including:

- Having a paid staff member in each shop, supporting our great volunteers;
- Introducing new products to shops, including perfume, chocolates, and Envirowoollies;
- More community involvement with a Dressed by Vinnies Fashion show at the twilight market;
- New promotions, such as Rip & Reveal and half price sales racks with great success;
- The closure of the Devonport shop; and
- Upgrades to the East Devonport shop layout, making big impacts with customer satisfaction;

As a region, we have been focusing on the customer service we provide, training staff and volunteers to close a sale without being a pushy salesperson. We achieved this by holding monthly supervisor Zoom calls to discuss what works in each shop and how we can improve as a team. While volunteer numbers are still low, with Maree Cole coming into her new role as Volunteer Coordinator Statewide, we are slowly seeing more community interest in volunteering with Vinnies.

All of these activities have contributed to an overall successful year with all shops except Burnie City increasing their yearly sales. Latrobe is the standout shop this year, with a 24% increase in sales.

As a region we have also enjoyed a 10% increase in customer numbers over the past twelve months, with an average sales amount of \$11.20 per customer. This is a great improvement from the previous year average of \$10.44.

We held our first Northwest Volunteer of the year award, which we presented to Bethany Gibbons, a shy 18-year-old. Bethany has impressed everyone away with how much confidence she gained from volunteering with Vinnies.

We are all looking forward to what the new financial year will bring. With new ideas and great teams, anything is possible.





# NATIONAL HOMELESSNESS WEEK

## HIGHLIGHTS

### "A CRITICAL POINT"

### IN HELPING

### DISADVANTAGED

### TASMANIANS.

AUGUST 1-7, 2021

**The St Vincent de Paul Society is using National Homelessness Week, which runs from August 1-7, to highlight the growing need for affordable housing in Tasmania.**

Speaking about the issue of homelessness in Tasmania, St Vincent de Paul Society State President, Mark Gaetani, said that homelessness has reached a critical point in Tasmania.

"Tasmania is facing the same housing crisis as the rest of Australia. House prices are soaring, wages have plateaued, and housing affordability is now affecting middle Australia," Mr Gaetani said.

"The Australian Dream is fast moving beyond the reach of minimum income earners, placing pressure on a limited and overheated rental market. In Tasmania this is exacerbated by so many rental properties being used for short-term holiday rentals instead of long-term residential purposes.

"The oft quoted number of homeless Tasmanians is 1600. This figure is based on the 2016 Census. Regrettably, according to Andrew Tyson from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, this figure is likely to double when the next census is conducted this month. The State Government is being proactive in working with charities, such as the St Vincent de Paul Society, to build more affordable housing; but the demand for even more affordable housing is going to grow year-on-year.

"Homelessness has its roots in domestic violence, mental health, a shortage of affordable housing, escalating rents, and an aging population. There are currently an estimated 1,622 Tasmanians in need of support. This staggering figure does not include a further 943 Tasmanians who are at risk of homelessness or the growing number of otherwise functioning Tasmanians who are battling to save money for a deposit for a home. This in itself can cause onset mental health issues and lead to domestic violence.

"A report published in May 2019 by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, found that between 2001 and 2016 Tasmania recorded a 20% increase in the rate of homelessness. The data from the 2016 census shows that the total number of people in Tasmania experiencing homelessness was 1,622; up from 1,145 in 2006 and 1,537 in 2011. The regional breakdown shows greater Hobart and the Southeast had the highest proportion, 57%; Launceston and the Northeast had 23%; and the Northwest coast 20%.

"Homelessness is no longer that stereotypical person sleeping rough. It is everyday people who are just one life-altering event away from a devastating change in circumstances.

"We are drilled to save for a rainy day; but when that rainy day comes in the form of illness including mental ill health, substance abuse, relationship breakdown, loss of a spouse, domestic violence, or the loss of a job, many people simply cannot cope.

"Older women are now the fastest growing cohort facing homelessness; as are older people who do not own their own home. Women and children affected by domestic violence are also particularly vulnerable.

"The St Vincent de Paul Society is taking a long-term view of changes that need to occur in order to have a meaningful impact for the growing number of Tasmanians who are at risk of, or who are currently experiencing homelessness. The Society is working closely with other organisations, service providers and the government to better meet the needs of disadvantaged Tasmanians. However, to meet the critical and immediate needs of homeless Tasmanians we must adopt a whole of community approach, including State and Federal governments, the private sector, and not-for-profit organisations," Mr Gaetani said.



# STATE OVERSEAS PARTNERSHIP REPORT

## **In Overseas Partnerships we focus on our fellow Vincentian Conferences and Councils in the Asia Pacific regions.**

The Society has at its basic structural unit, the Conferences, providing assistance to those in need in a local area. The members of these conferences join together trying to live out the values of the Gospel. As in Australia, all other countries where the St Vincent de Paul Society is present have Conferences that are striving to support the neediest in their communities. We reach out to Conferences and Councils in our region where the need is greatest, offering to lighten their burdens by providing our spiritual support and some financial assistance so that they may be able to reach out to the very poor in their communities.

These relationships are ones of mutual support where we can share our stories and build friendships based on shared values and, in many ways, the shared experiences of trying to live out our mission. The assistance is highly valued by recipients in overseas locations where the challenges are often much greater than our own.

In the past few years with the impact of COVID-19, as well as many natural disasters, our ability to provide assistance has been reduced and the ability to have open communication between twin countries has also been impacted. Government regulations, in both Australia and in our twin countries, have required stronger financial transparency; the establishment of banking facilities and transfer processes has been difficult. This has resulted in delay and in some cases the stopping of funds transfer. While many of these constraints have since been removed, some are still causing delays.

At present, Tasmanian Conferences are twinned with 26 overseas Conferences, two Regional Councils are linked with Central Councils and our State Council supports the Thailand National Council.

We reach out to our neighbours offering support in two other ways. The Assist a Student Program (AAS), which provides a grant of \$100 toward education needs of individual students; and the second way is specific project funding.

At present Tasmania has joined with other Australian States to fund the construction of a pre Hospital facility for Tuberculous sufferers in India. Other smaller projects are seeking funding when Tasmanian Conferences are in a position to support them. These are usually in the order of a few thousand dollars and support local assistance initiatives in our region. They are usually undertaken by local Conferences or Councils.

The Society is not able to completely meet the need for assistance through Overseas Partnerships. Much more relief could be provided for individual students and our twinned Conferences in poor overseas regions if we could source more donations. The Overseas Partnership Committee in Tasmania is grateful to all those who have assisted with donations in 2021-22. Thank you.



## CENTRAL MEN'S SHED

**Our Central Men's Shed has continued to provide an environment for people to come together and take on woodwork and metal work projects in our fully equipped facility. The Shed operates on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Fridays, the shed now opens specifically for a group of enthusiastic ladies.**

The Shed is not only a great space to tinker and work on projects, but it also provides a great environment for connection and community between members.

**Central Mens Shed  
63 Creek Rd New Town 7008**



**"THERE IS AN ENDLESS AMOUNT OF MERCHANDISE IN OUR VINNIES STORES. WHEN YOU PURCHASE SOMETHING FROM A VINNIES STORE, YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE SUPPORTING OUR MANY SOCIAL PROGRAMS AND CHARITABLE WORK. YOU CAN BUY A PERFECTLY GOOD-AS-NEW ITEM FOR REALLY LOW PRICES, WHILE HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT AND TASMANIANS IN NEED."**

## **OUR SPECIAL WORKS**



# St Vincent Industries

INDEPENDENCE  
THROUGH  
EMPLOYMENT

**WE HAVE HOSTED 15 STUDENTS  
OVER THE PAST YEAR, WITH  
EACH OF THEM ON A FOUR-WEEK  
PLACEMENT. THIS PROGRAM  
HAS PROVEN TO BE INVALUABLE,  
AS WE ARE ABLE TO OBSERVE  
POTENTIAL SUPPORT STAFF IN  
OUR WORKPLACE.**

St Vincent Industries (SVI) located in North Hobart, is a Special Work of the St Vincent de Paul Society. SVI employs a total of 45 people, 39 of whom are participants in the NDIS. We provide training and support to our participants to assist them to work in our workplace.

We recycle unwanted clothing and textiles and we are the leading supplier of cleaning rags in Southern Tasmania, supplying over 500 customers in the region. Some of our larger customers include Incat, Clennetts Mitre 10, and the Mercury newspaper. Sales of cleaning rags remain strong, with sales for 2021-22 outperforming the previous two years.

Three new Supported Employees commenced employment with SVI this year, Heath Barratt, Alice Cockshutt, and Bradleigh Townsend.

The support team consists of Daniel Teague, Executive Manager; Angela Crombie, Office Manager, who also provides direct support to employees; and Mark Ewing, who has the dual roles of Training Coordinator and Work Health & Safety Officer. Brett Blackburn-Candlin remains as Supervisor, along with Scott Sherrin as Assistant Supervisor. In addition, David Blackwood recently joined the team to work alongside Brett as a Supervisor.

Chris Eldridge is our Rag Van salesperson and driver. Chris is accompanied on his sales run each day by one or two, supported employees. This is another way we provide a range of job and training opportunities to our people.

Charlotte Bell left us this year but remains part of the Vinnies team as a shop manager in the North Hobart Vinnies Shop. This has worked well for us and our supported employees as we now assist the North Hobart Vinnies shop on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This has helped with staffing issues. More importantly, we can now provide training in the retail sector to supported employees.

SVI is working closely with both TasTAFE and Work & Training to provide work placements to students working towards Certificate III in Individual Support in Disability. We have hosted 15 students over the past year, with each of them on a four-week placement. This program has proven to be invaluable, as we are able to observe potential support staff in our workplace. We also provide students with a disability studying at TasTAFE work experience, with each student being accompanied by their support person.

Our events calendar in 2021-22 was a relatively quiet, due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, but we were still able to celebrate International day of People with a Disability on December 3. The workplace spent the afternoon at the Tasmanian Botanical Gardens for a picnic and a relaxing walk.

Team SVI, our walking group, continues weekly walks around the streets of Hobart. This a great physical activity for everyone and provides a connection to community for all our employees.

For the upcoming year St Vincent Industries will be working with St Michael's to deliver training modules to our Supported Employees in First Aid/CPR, Food Safety/Cookery, and Manual Handling.

We look forward to continuing our work with St Vincent de Paul Society to provide new opportunities for training and inclusion for the whole team at SVI.

**Daniel Teague**  
Executive Manager

# Vincent Industries

INDEPENDENCE  
THROUGH  
EMPLOYMENT

The Financial Year 2021-22 has been one of contrast for Vincent Industries, with the first five months having a Committee of Management to support transition of the management and oversight of the business, and then moving to the model of the Special Works being under the umbrella of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Our core business continues to be the sorting of lightweight product to send either as export product or cut up into rags for cleaning cloths, which we supply to local businesses. Thank you to the Society for the ongoing support to provide us with product. Thank you also to the Society for providing us with re-branded donation bins that have been placed in four locations in Wynyard.

Product from the bins, which is unsuitable for Vincent Industries to process, is either passed on to the Vinnies shop in Wynyard or returned to the St Vincent de Paul Society warehouse for distribution to other Vinnies outlets.

Skills training for our employees remains a priority. Retail skill sets are scheduled to be delivered to five supported employees and one staff member in September. We are fortunate to have the Vinnies shop next door to enable these employees to have 'real life' rather than simulated training. A further twenty employees will have an opportunity to have skill sets extended in Manual Handling later in 2022.

A highlight each year is the packing of the Christmas Hampers for the Society. Employees enjoy the opportunity of performing a new task and achieving daily packing targets. A total of 555 hampers were assembled in just over one week in early December 2021.

The financial year closed with us saying farewell to our longest serving employee, Lorraine Morris. Lorraine has worked at Vincent Industries for 45 years and is also a resident of one of the Cape Country units in Wynyard, having lived there for 27 years. We had a special morning tea for Lorraine with all employees, then a more formal evening that included Lorraine's family, close workmates and Acting CEO, Dr Les Baxter, representing the St Vincent de Paul Society.

**Nellie McKenna**  
Executive Manager



# Tas Textiles

TASMANIAN  
TEXTILES  
& KNITWEAR



**Tas Textiles has been operating since 1946 and is the only knitting mill in Australia that provides training, support, and meaningful employment for people with intellectual, cognitive, and developmental disabilities in a supportive and inclusive environment. Currently, TasTextiles employs 26 people of which 15 are NDIS Participants.**

Whilst the first half of 2022 has presented some unique challenges, due to COVID-19, it has also been a busy and exciting year with any opportunities on the horizon. With schools placing larger orders than the previous two years, and our wool supplies affected by lengthy production and freight delays, we were forced to adapt and change some of our manufacturing processes. By working closely with our schools and corporate clients, we have managed to weather this rocky period with minimal disruption and delays.

TasTextiles' people are the main reason our workplace is such a diverse and rewarding place to work. We have welcomed several new staff members this year, each bringing new skills, insights, and enthusiasm that only serves to enhance our team. Our congratulations went out to our Knitting Technician, Carl Millward, who celebrated a milestone this year with 30 years of continuous service at TasTextiles!

In-house training programs continue to provide varied opportunities for our supported employees to learn and consolidate new skills with a large number participating in the 26TEN Literacy and Numeracy Program. This program, delivered by Work and Training on-site, is now in its second year. The program focuses on increasing literacy and numeracy skills, specifically tailored to our work environment. In our supportive environment, the program not only improves literacy and numeracy outcomes, but develops skills, confidence, and builds resilience, which can open doors to life-long learning opportunities.

Our partnership with the Federal Group has been one of the year's highlights. As part of a social conscience fundraiser, three of our iconic wildlife Envirowoollys were selected to be homed in every room and gift shop at Saffire, The Henry Jones, and MACq 01 hotels. Guests at the hotels are encouraged to take home a furry local to raise funds for three local charities. Tourists are increasingly looking for ways to give back to the communities they visit, and this program is a meaningful way to support local organisations that are doing great things in Tasmania. We are excited to be a part of this project as it provides us with a platform to showcase what we do; but more importantly, the reasons why we do what we do.

Sales of 'Saffy' the Tasmanian Devil, 'Henry' the Penguin, and 'Mac' the Tasmanian Tiger have contributed donations totalling \$4,968.00 in just two months towards Wildcare Tasmania, Inscap Tasmania, and NITA Education. Our team is very proud of our achievement, knowing that our delightful Envirowoollys – produced in our little factory in Glenorchy – are being showcased in the most exclusive hotels in Tasmania and purchased by visitors worldwide.

The year 2022 saw the launch of our newest addition to the Envirowoolly family, Billy the Bilby! Billy was understandably a big hit for Easter!

Furthermore, we have maintained our ISO 9001:2015 Quality Assurance with re-certification occurring in June.

Looking forward, the recent purchase of two Shima Seiki Knitting Machines, capable of knitting gloves, beanies, mittens and all manner of winter woollies, will add another dimension and income stream to our already well-known quality knitwear. Exciting times ahead.

**Linda Goram-Aitken**  
Business Manager

# Bethlehem House

SERVICES FOR THE HOMELESS



## EXECUTIVE MANAGER'S REPORT

This anniversary year - Bethlehem House's 50th year of operation - has brought about more big changes. The first being the reintegration of Bethlehem House into the St Vincent de Paul fold. The transition happened under the guidance of the Society's CEO, Lara Alexander, who has since moved onto a new role as an MP. I am looking forward to welcoming and working with the new CEO, Heather Kent. While the reintegration is not complete, and much work is yet to be done, the benefits of the new arrangement are already apparent.

We saw the closure of Hallam House, which has begun its redesign, and refurbishment back to transitional accommodation for men to assist with their reintegration plan.

We are in the process of consolidating plans for the New Bethlehem House in collaboration with the Tasmanian Government and are already delighted to be able to increase the numbers of the men we can assist from 23 to 50. This will run alongside 272 Murray Street, a long-term shelter for homeless men which Bethlehem House manage on behalf of the Tasmanian Government. The construction of the New Bethlehem House is well underway with major advancements witnessed weekly. In due course, new Bethlehem House will accommodate a further 50 men. We also have exciting plans for the existing Bethlehem House site, which will be announced at a later date, and potentially for a new Bethlehem House in the North of Tasmania.

The COVID-19 pandemic has not missed us with most, but not all staff, contracting the virus. We also battled a major outbreak amongst our residents. It was our diligence and good work that brought it under control, a fact recognised and praised by Public Health Tasmania. I am very proud of the way our team has managed all that has been asked of them over this period of time, not just the recent changes but also many significant challenges.

We have seen several staff leave, and new ones join the staff. Further recruitment will take place as we restructure ready for the move in July 2023 to the New Bethlehem House. We will be joining current practices with new operational concepts, to include planning and reintegration, rehabilitation, and social works, whilst developing a strong innovative partnership approach with other agencies.

Many people have been involved with Bethlehem House over the last 50 years and I would like to acknowledge their work. I look forward to leading us into the start of the next 50 years - a new beginning and an exciting future.

**Ian Robertson**  
Executive Manager

# Cape Country

SUPPORTED COMMUNITY ACCOMMODATION



Cape Country Accommodation is a Special Work of the St Vincent de Paul Society located in Wynyard on the Northwest coast of Tasmania. The first of the units were built circa 1993 with the last of the units being constructed circa 2006.

The site offers twelve independent units along with a house, that has been utilised for shared accommodation, and an attached independent unit, all for adults living with a disability.

All of the tenants in the independent units have a residential lease with the St Vincent de Paul Society, which allows them to be a part of our little community for as long as they wish. We find that tenant numbers are very stable and those that do leave us usually do so as their level of required support changes and they find that they are no longer able to live as independently as they once did. A statewide disability support organisation has held the lease on the main house and attached unit, with the property being used to support their services in the local area.

While the majority of tenants have access to NDIS packages, all of them have in place personal support plans that see support workers visit them in their homes to coordinate activities or provide personal support as required. A large number of the tenants are employed by Vincent Industries in Wynyard, which is also a Special Work of the Society.

A fire at the main house in January 2022, along with smoke and water damage to the attached unit, saw both properties become uninhabitable. We are very thankful that all residents that were at home at the time were able to be evacuated safely. The building lessee was able to secure alternative accommodation for the three tenants affected. The Society worked with contractors and insurance agents to secure and make the damaged property safe and in doing so it meant that we were able to arrange for personal items belonging to the tenants to be retrieved. Due to the amount of damage to the property the Society is investigating demolishing all or part of the structure to allow rebuilding of units to serve the Wynyard and surrounding communities.

# Marillac House

## HEALTH CRISIS ACCOMMODATION



**TOTAL REFERRALS RECEIVED - 627  
INCLUDING 167 NEW REFERRALS**

During the 2021-22 reporting period, Marillac House welcomed guests from the following areas:

EAST COAST	115
INTERSTATE	7
ISLANDS	253
NORTH	48
NORTHEAST	33
NORTHWEST	150
SOUTH	8
WEST COAST	4
OTHER	9

**Marillac House is in its fifteenth year of providing affordable accommodation and supportive care to the community.**

It is a privilege for our staff and I to be a part of this wonderful Special Work of the St Vincent de Paul Society. We see patients and their families through good times and bad. Marillac House becomes a haven for those who stay, and we are committed to making a difference for each of them, no matter how long they are with us. We continue to follow the work of St Louise de Marillac with compassion and kindness. To quote St Louise de Marillac:

*"All must be done with gentleness of heart and humility, as we consider the interests of those with whom we are working rather than our own"*

Volunteers are also an integral part of the Marillac House offering, as they assist the Society greatly with their dedication and commitment to all areas of service.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is still having an impact on the number of clients travelling for medical treatment, so numbers over the past year are still lower than usual. The impact of the virus on health services and staff is noticeable across all spectrums, not only ours. We received 627 referrals to the service and provided accommodation to 1,001 people during 2021-22.

## DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

We are currently in the process of raising funds to upgrade two guest bathrooms at Marillac House. With the support of the St Vincent de Paul Society State Office, we have been able to secure donations and grants from individuals and businesses across the North and Northwest of Tasmania. We are hopeful that the renovations will be completed within the next year.

Thanks, and recognition also to The Robert Fergusson Family Foundation for its generous donation and ongoing support for Marillac House.



**"A GREAT PLACE TO STAY FOR LAUNCESTON  
GENERAL HOSPITAL VISIT. EXCELLENT  
SERVICE BY ALL STAFF."**

HELEN & TOM - CURRIE

**"THANK YOU TO THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL  
SOCIETY AND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO  
ALL MARILLAC HOUSE STAFF FOR  
PROVIDING SUCH A CLEAN AND  
COMFORTABLE PLACE WHEN WE NEED  
IT. THIS IS A WONDERFUL SERVICE FOR  
COUNTRY PEOPLE & VERY MUCH NEEDED."**

PEGGY - ST HELENS

**"STAFF DESERVE 11/10 FOR BEING SO KIND."**

PAMELA - TURNERS BEACH

**"ALWAYS TREATED WITH SUCH KINDNESS  
AND COMPASSION."**

CHRISTINE - SULPHUR CREEK

**"EXCEEDED ALL EXPECTATIONS. VERY  
WELCOMING AND HELPFUL STAFF.  
THE QUALITY OF THE CEILING PAINTWORK  
AND DECORATION WAS ABOVE IMPRESSIVE."**

CHRIS - ZEEHAN

**"FROM WHEN I ARRIVED, UNTIL I LEFT,  
I WAS MADE TO FEEL WELCOME AND  
COMFORTABLE. STAFF WERE VERY  
HELPFUL. THEY MADE A VERY DIFFICULT  
TIME MUCH EASIER. THANK YOU TO ALL."**

VIOLET - SMITHTON

**"VERY NICE. BEDS COMFY. ROOM WAS  
CLEAN AND TIDY. CENTRAL LOCATION  
HANDY TO HOSPITAL AND THE CBD."**

BARBARA - ST MARYS

**"A VERY COMFORTABLE AND CLEAN PLACE  
TO STAY, SO CONVENIENT TO ALL SERVICES."**

SHARON - BELLERIVE

# OUR FINANCIAL REPORT

ST VINCENT DE PAUL  
SOCIETY (TASMANIA) INC



## ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TASMANIA) INC

ABN: 41 003 138 898

### STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE STATE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

In the opinion of the State Council of St Vincent de Paul Society (Tasmania) Inc:

- i. The financial statements set out on pages 48-53 present a true and fair view of the financial position of the St Vincent de Paul Society (Tasmania) Inc. as at 30 June 2022 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note1 to the financial statements and the requirement of the *Associations Incorporated Act (Tas) 1964* ; and
- ii. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- iii. The financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*

Signed in accordance with subsection 60-15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013* .

Mark Gaetani

Corey McGrath

Date 3/11/2022



**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC**  
**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

INCOME	2022 \$	2021 \$
Appeals, Donations & Bequests	1,346,399	1,582,670
Grants	4,404,518	4,354,787
Sale of goods	6,931,485	6,798,590
Investment Income	615,506	801,595
Realised/Unrealised financial investments revenues	(1,913,154)	1,345,810
COVID-19 government subsidies	-	3,471,870
Other Income	40,511	449,391
Contribution/Fees for service	1,227,039	894,614
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>12,652,304</b>	<b>19,699,327</b>

EXPENDITURE	2022 \$	2021 \$
Advertising	333,375	165,096
Assistance	1,291,497	1,258,363
Cost of Goods Sold	606,889	848,799
Depreciation	594,586	585,337
Depreciation - ROU	1,087,916	1,093,603
Interest expense	172,088	188,598
Transport Costs	174,331	144,364
Other expenses	1,268,745	1,179,050
Personnel Costs	9,768,728	8,969,835
Property Costs	940,695	761,481
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>16,238,850</b>	<b>15,194,526</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>(3,586,546)</b>	<b>4,504,801</b>

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT 30TH JUNE 2022**

CURRENT ASSETS	2022 \$	2021 \$
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6,330,177	7,304,067
Trade and Other Receivables	473,523	526,999
Inventory	541,334	427,356
Other Assets	219,099	220,847
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>7,564,133</b>	<b>8,479,269</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Financial assets	13,154,066	14,254,392
Property, plant and equipment	16,290,015	17,549,056
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>29,444,081</b>	<b>31,803,448</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>37,008,214</b>	<b>40,282,717</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Trade and other payables	2,054,604	1,154,955
Lease liabilities	875,981	969,468
Provisions	1,160,890	1,000,080
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>4,091,475</b>	<b>3,124,503</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Loans and borrowings	100,000	100,000
Lease liabilities	4,149,766	4,849,047
Provisions	178,587	134,235
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>4,428,353</b>	<b>5,083,282</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>8,519,828</b>	<b>8,207,785</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>28,488,386</b>	<b>32,074,932</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Reserves	4,485,516	4,485,516
Accumulated Funds	24,002,870	27,589,416
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>28,488,386</b>	<b>32,074,932</b>

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC**  
**SPECIAL WORKS FINANCIAL REPORTS**  
**SEGMENT INCOME STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022	ST VINCENT DE PAUL (TASMANIA) INC \$	BETHLEHEM HOUSE \$	ST VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	TASTEX KNITWEAR \$	VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	2022 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>						
Grants	437,041	2,507,870	503,663	271,674	684,270	4,404,518
Sale of goods	5,615,053	-	287,226	766,391	262,815	6,931,485
Contribution/Fees for service	316,912	897,791	-	12,336	-	1,227,039
Fundraising	1,265,168	81,198	-	-	33	1,346,399
Changes in fair value of Financial Assets	(760,056)	(1,153,098)	-	-	-	(1,913,154)
Other Income	240,750	374,013	13,659	69	27,526	656,017
<b>TOTAL REVENUE FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>7,114,868</b>	<b>2,707,774</b>	<b>804,548</b>	<b>1,050,470</b>	<b>974,644</b>	<b>12,652,304</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Cost of Goods Sold	136,577	-	47,285	376,582	46,445	606,889
Personnel Costs	4,701,420	2,899,622	666,427	858,655	642,604	9,768,728
Property Costs	651,266	171,429	30,072	42,759	45,169	940,695
Transport Costs	130,001	17,677	11,112	3,284	12,257	174,331
Depreciation	1,535,368	51,111	59,261	23,791	12,971	1,682,502
Material Assistance Provided	998,603	292,894	-	-	-	1,291,497
Other Operating Expenses	1,327,909	234,017	37,243	115,156	59,883	1,774,208
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>9,481,144</b>	<b>3,666,750</b>	<b>851,400</b>	<b>1,420,227</b>	<b>819,329</b>	<b>16,238,850</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>(2,366,276)</b>	<b>(958,976)</b>	<b>(46,852)</b>	<b>(369,757)</b>	<b>155,315</b>	<b>(3,586,546)</b>

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC**  
**SPECIAL WORKS FINANCIAL REPORTS**  
**SEGMENT INCOME STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021	ST VINCENT DE PAUL (TASMANIA) INC \$	BETHLEHEM HOUSE \$	ST VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	TASTEX KNITWEAR \$	VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	2021 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>						
Grants	652,231	2,534,707	472,144	210,068	485,637	4,354,787
Sale of goods	5,702,813	-	283,266	645,598	166,913	6,798,590
Contribution/Fees for service	270,399	617,726	-	6,489	-	894,614
Fundraising	1,557,963	24,678	-	-	29	1,582,670
Changes in fair value of Financial Assets	265,290	1,080,520	-	-	-	1,345,810
COVID-19 government subsidies	1,752,100	436,550	27,596	573,140	682,484	3,471,870
Other Income	835,721	374,013	13,657	69	27,526	1,250,986
<b>TOTAL REVENUE FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>11,036,517</b>	<b>5,068,194</b>	<b>796,663</b>	<b>1,435,364</b>	<b>1,362,589</b>	<b>19,699,327</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>						
Cost of Goods Sold	64,465	-	53,194	687,641	43,499	848,799
Personnel Costs	4,719,489	2,349,322	589,014	471,542	840,468	8,969,835
Property Costs	535,844	99,510	29,416	29,820	66,891	761,481
Transport Costs	118,194	10,969	9,992	2,471	2,738	144,364
Depreciation	1,559,614	20,809	59,943	24,937	13,637	1,678,940
Material Assistance Provided	984,473	273,890	-	-	-	1,258,363
Other Operating Expenses	1,170,707	156,327	41,851	72,213	91,646	1,532,744
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>9,152,786</b>	<b>2,910,827</b>	<b>783,410</b>	<b>1,288,624</b>	<b>1,058,879</b>	<b>15,194,526</b>
<b>OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>1,883,731</b>	<b>2,157,367</b>	<b>13,253</b>	<b>146,740</b>	<b>303,710</b>	<b>4,504,801</b>

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC**  
**SPECIAL WORKS FINANCIAL REPORTS**  
**SEGMENT BALANCE SHEET**

AS AT 30 JUNE 2022	ST VINCENT DE PAUL (TASMANIA) INC \$	BETHLEHEM HOUSE \$	ST VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	TASTEX KNITWEAR \$	VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	2022 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Cash and cash equivalents	670,476	2,972,491	1,127,029	413,678	1,146,503	6,330,177
Trade and other receivables	214,992	13,422	59,284	78,416	107,409	473,523
Inventories	43,466	-	24,773	466,983	6,112	541,334
Other assets	205,419	13,680	-	-	-	219,099
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>1,134,353</b>	<b>2,999,593</b>	<b>1,211,086</b>	<b>959,077</b>	<b>1,260,024</b>	<b>7,564,133</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Financial assets	6,537,834	6,616,232	-	-	-	13,154,066
Property, plant and equipment	15,208,702	197,678	520,305	70,542	292,788	16,290,015
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>21,746,536</b>	<b>6,813,910</b>	<b>520,305</b>	<b>70,542</b>	<b>292,788</b>	<b>29,444,081</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>22,880,889</b>	<b>9,813,503</b>	<b>1,731,391</b>	<b>1,029,619</b>	<b>1,552,812</b>	<b>37,008,214</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>						
Trade and other payables	769,667	1,133,783	37,222	83,853	30,079	2,054,604
Lease liabilities	875,981	-	-	-	-	875,981
Provisions	646,875	205,428	88,352	140,684	79,551	1,160,890
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,292,523</b>	<b>1,339,211</b>	<b>125,574</b>	<b>224,537</b>	<b>109,630</b>	<b>4,091,475</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>						
Loans and borrowings	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
Lease liabilities	4,124,180	25,586	-	-	-	4,149,766
Provisions	86,292	45,584	16,498	10,589	19,624	178,587
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>4,310,472</b>	<b>71,170</b>	<b>16,498</b>	<b>10,589</b>	<b>19,624</b>	<b>4,428,353</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>6,602,995</b>	<b>1,410,381</b>	<b>142,072</b>	<b>235,126</b>	<b>129,254</b>	<b>8,519,828</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>16,277,894</b>	<b>8,403,122</b>	<b>1,589,319</b>	<b>794,493</b>	<b>1,423,558</b>	<b>28,488,386</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>						
Reserves	-	4,485,516	-	-	-	4,485,516
Accumulated Funds	16,277,894	3,917,606	1,589,319	794,493	1,423,558	24,002,870
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>16,277,894</b>	<b>8,403,122</b>	<b>1,589,319</b>	<b>794,493</b>	<b>1,423,558</b>	<b>28,488,386</b>

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC**  
**SPECIAL WORKS FINANCIAL REPORTS**  
**SEGMENT BALANCE SHEET**

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021	ST VINCENT DE PAUL (TASMANIA) INC \$	BETHLEHEM HOUSE \$	ST VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	TASTEX KNITWEAR \$	VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	2021 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Cash and cash equivalents	2,677,991	2,069,387	1,024,136	617,304	915,248	7,304,066
Trade and other receivables	310,044	54,462	41,513	60,185	60,795	526,999
Inventories	38,617	-	32,500	349,781	6,458	427,356
Other assets	168,664	42,569	5,484	4,131	-	220,848
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>3,195,316</b>	<b>2,166,418</b>	<b>1,103,633</b>	<b>1,031,401</b>	<b>982,501</b>	<b>8,479,269</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Financial assets	6,797,890	7,456,502	-	-	-	14,254,392
Property, plant and equipment	16,361,820	219,842	562,950	98,686	305,758	17,549,056
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>23,159,710</b>	<b>7,676,344</b>	<b>562,950</b>	<b>98,686</b>	<b>305,758</b>	<b>31,803,448</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>26,355,026</b>	<b>9,842,762</b>	<b>1,666,583</b>	<b>1,130,087</b>	<b>1,288,259</b>	<b>40,282,717</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>						
Trade and other payables	626,182	422,812	19,494	51,534	34,932	1,154,954
Lease liabilities	969,468	-	-	-	-	969,468
Provisions	538,151	167,284	85,167	143,604	65,874	1,000,080
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2,133,801</b>	<b>590,096</b>	<b>104,661</b>	<b>195,138</b>	<b>100,806</b>	<b>3,124,502</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>						
Loans and borrowings	100,000	-	-	-	-	100,000
Lease liabilities	4,768,726	-	-	-	-	4,768,726
Provisions	77,977	93,480	10,584	8,589	23,927	214,557
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>4,946,703</b>	<b>93,480</b>	<b>10,584</b>	<b>8,589</b>	<b>23,927</b>	<b>5,083,283</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>7,080,504</b>	<b>683,576</b>	<b>115,245</b>	<b>203,727</b>	<b>124,733</b>	<b>8,207,785</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>19,274,522</b>	<b>9,159,186</b>	<b>1,551,338</b>	<b>926,360</b>	<b>1,163,526</b>	<b>32,074,932</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>						
Reserves	-	4,485,516	-	-	-	4,485,516
Accumulated Funds	19,274,522	4,673,670	1,551,338	926,360	1,163,526	27,589,416
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>19,274,522</b>	<b>9,159,186</b>	<b>1,551,338</b>	<b>926,360</b>	<b>1,163,526</b>	<b>32,074,932</b>

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### COMPANION

A person who receives assistance from the Society.

### CONFERENCE

A group of Vincentian Members who come together to fulfil the Mission of the Society in accordance with The Rule.

### LAY CATHOLIC

Ordinary members of the Catholic Church who are neither clergy nor recipients of Holy Orders or vowed to life in a religious order or congregation.

### REGIONAL COUNCIL

Coordinating body for a group of Conferences within a geographic area.

### SPECIAL WORK

A facility or service created where the need cannot be addressed within the normal scope of a Conference or Council's activity.

### STATE COUNCIL

The Society's highest governing body in the State.

### THE RULE

The governing document of the St Vincent de Paul Society internationally and is written for members and volunteers.

### VINCENTIAN MEMBER OR MEMBER

A person who is part of a Conference who may or may not also volunteer with other activities of the Society.

### VINNIES SHOP

Retail outlets that assist with our fundraising efforts but also sells and distributes quality second-hand items to people in need and the general public.

### VOLUNTEER

A person who donates their time to the Society and is not a member of a Conference.

## LEND A HAND TO VINNIES

The St Vincent de Paul Society appreciates the support of all of our donors, volunteers, and members. We are always looking for additional support in the form of donations and volunteers to help us to deliver services, compassion, and hope to vulnerable people in need. If this sounds like you, please contact Vinnies. We would love to hear from you.

### CORPORATE COLLABORATION

Allows your business to join with us to provide support in whatever way you can.

### DONATE

Consider making a donation to one of our Appeals or Special Works.

### DONATE

We are always in need of your good quality pre-loved items for one of our Vinnies Shops.

### GIFTS IN A WILL

Ensure your legacy lives on through the assistance you can provide by leaving a bequest in your Will.

### JOIN US

Become a member of a Conference and assist people in need in your community.

### VOLUNTEER

As little as a few hours per week of your time and skills at one of our Shops or Programs will make a real difference in someone's life.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC.

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St Vincent de Paul Society  
TASMANIA

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