



ANNUAL REPORT 2021/2022



St Vincent de Paul Society  
NORTHERN TERRITORY  
*good works*



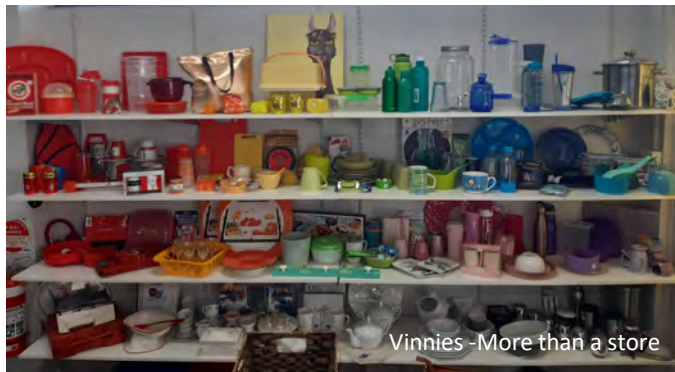
## OUR ORGANISATION

The St Vincent de Paul Society is an international, voluntary, Catholic organisation dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing assistance to the poor.

Founded in France by a group of young men in 1833, the principal founder was Blessed Frederic Ozanam. Today the Society has more than 950,000 members in 150 countries. The first Australian Conference was established in Melbourne in 1854. The first Northern Territory Conference, St Mary's Star of the Sea Conference Darwin, was launched in September 1949 and is still assisting Territorians today.

## OUR VISION

The St Vincent de Paul Society Northern Territory is pursuing our goals of spirituality and membership, governance and leadership, financial sustainability within key areas of growth and service delivery in our advocacy of the poor.



Vinnies - More than a store

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and live, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders past and present.

## OUR MISSION

The 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; to shape a more just and compassionate society.

## OUR VALUES

**Commitment** – be loyal in service to our mission, vision and values

**Compassion** – serving all with understanding, without judgement

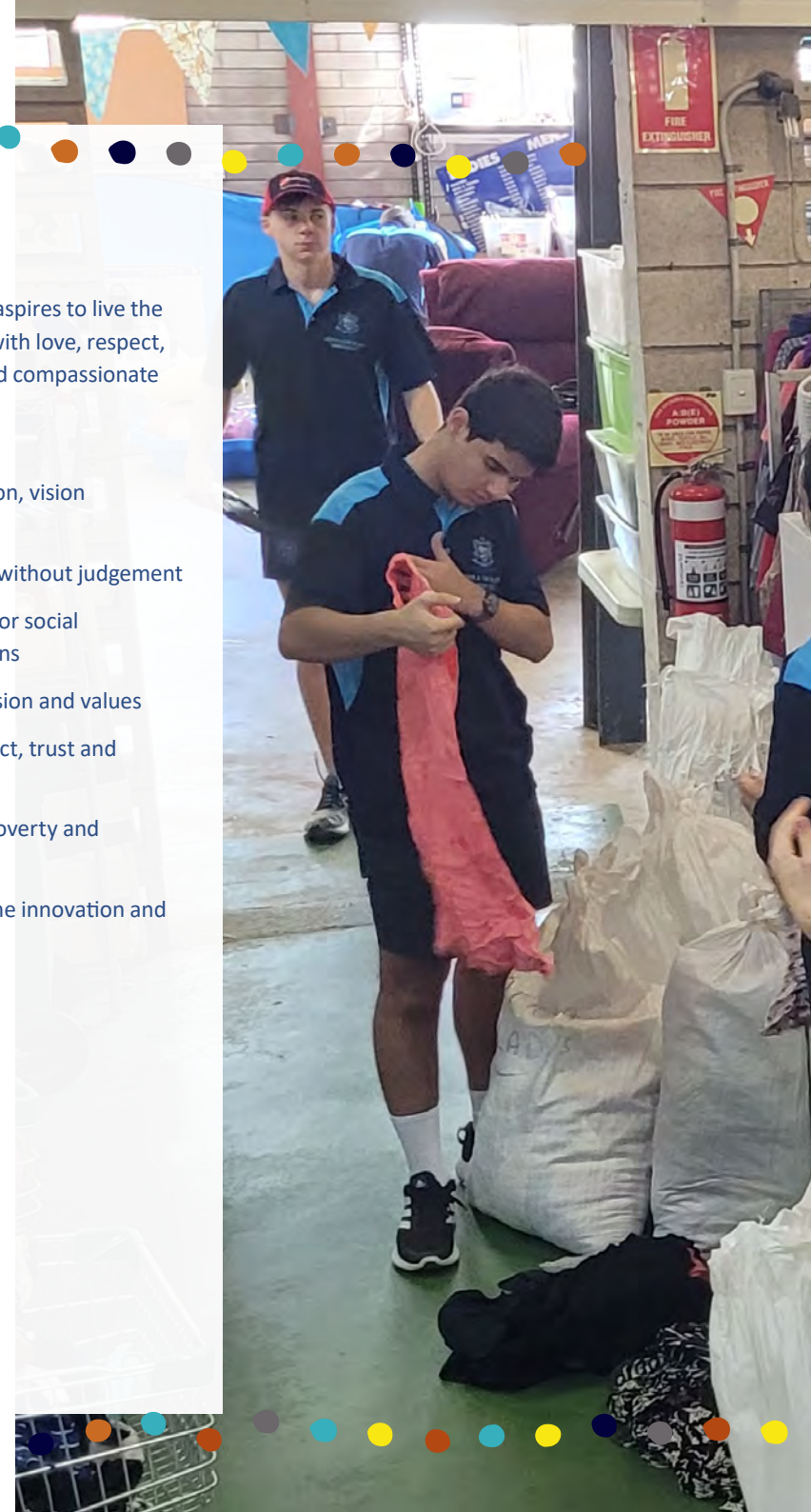
**Respect** – serve all regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender, or political opinions

**Integrity** – promote and follow our mission, vision and values

**Empathy** – foster relationships based on respect, trust and friendship

**Advocacy** – work to transform the causes of poverty and challenge the causes of human injustice

**Courage** – encourage spiritual growth, welcome innovation and give hope for the future





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## WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

JOCELYN CULL

Recently my family was fortunate enough to visit Broome in Western Australia. Transiting through the East Kimberly, we explored some remarkably beautiful areas of the Kimberley region, which is rich in breath taking natural beauty and the ancient history and culture of our Indigenous people. The major towns and tourist sites throughout the area attract visitors from all around the world promising a glimpse of its unique experience.

While I'd previously heard about the reputation of places such as Falls Creek, Warnum/Turkey Creek, Fitzroy Crossing and Derby, I'd never been to any of them, so was thrilled to have time and ability to visit. While extremely isolated and remote, the towns are long standing communities and solid social infrastructure foundations (e.g., schools and clinics) to support them. Despite the tyranny of distance, impressive initiatives have been planned and implemented by local leaders, supported by local businesses and government, to engage local youth and promote local culture and language.

However, there is a dark side. The sad but stark reality in some places (and repeated in the Northern Territory and across all of Northern Australia) is incredible social dysfunction and breakdown of families, culture and community.

Anti-social behaviour, domestic violence, alcoholism and substance abuse threatens to destroy so many good things in communities, or significantly impact on daily life of the most vulnerable. Having experienced this social dysfunction first-hand (although my own family was minimally impacted), we were still able to pack up and drive away to our next destination. Many people are living and experiencing this dysfunction daily have limited options to escape.

It is easy to lose hope in such desolate and desperate circumstances. Indeed, it seems that many have already done this or are well on the way. But in times like these, it is crucial that we as Vincentians don't give up and continue to offer our assistance. In the Society's work with people in need, we are often called upon to be the holders of hope. When people come to us in times of great hardship, it can be difficult to look up and see the road ahead. Our gift to those in need is not just the provision of resources, but our care for them and the relationships that we build with them.

2021-2022 has continued the trend from the past few years as being extremely challenging from an economic and social perspective. This upward trajectory of the cost of living through a perfect storm of COVID-19 impact, global supply shortages and increased interest rates has added



pressure to daily living. We are confronted with the increases in cost of filling up your car with petrol, paying electricity and other utility bills, purchasing food in the supermarket and navigating other daily living expenses.

A significant challenge is the extreme shortage of social and affordable housing options. Put simply, there is a real difficulty in finding somewhere to live, with rents increasing and extra competition for what little is available.

These pressures are contributing to record levels of homelessness. Hundreds of thousands of people across Australia are experiencing homelessness, are on long waitlists for public housing or living in severe housing and financial stress. On any given night across Australia, more than 116,000 people are homeless. Every day, our members, volunteers and employees see the human face of the homelessness statistics.

According to the OECD, the Northern Territory accounts for over 5.6 per cent of Australia's total homeless population. With a population of 250,000 people, there is an estimated homeless population of 13,727 people which is twelve times the per capita national average.

To help address these issues, the Society has been reviewing its service offerings across the housing, social services and community support

sphere. The result has been the formulation of an all-encompassing Transition to Independence Strategy (TIS) which addresses individual, cultural and family needs with accommodation and wrap around services addressing individual circumstances, which together with support from conferences, will help address the issues at the heart of the cycle of disadvantage.

The Society sees its TIS as a journey, meeting people where they are and accompanying them from high levels of support through to independence (from the 'system') and self-sufficiency.

Work also continues in areas of retail operations, emergency relief and seniors' support. We also continue with the provision of our wraparound services with our long-standing partners, including legal advice, medical services, case management and support. All of these services assist those in need, providing a hand up to those who need help.

We also continue to advocate and speak out on matters of justice, be it lobbying with politicians, sector groups or undertaking interviews for media.

The Vincentian ideal is to help relieve suffering for love alone, without thinking about any reward or advantage for one's effort. Indeed,

there is evidence for this approach throughout all aspects of our Society.

Our wonderful staff constantly operate above and beyond the call of duty. In recent years, they have faced challenging times with COVID-19 with the various lockdown and isolation requirements. This has impacted our operations resulting in closures or a shortage in staff. We have also seen some changes with team members relocating to be closer to family in other states and jurisdictions. While we are happy for these personal developments, it is always a sad time to say goodbye to these individuals.

We are particularly indebted to our volunteers and friends of the Society who give so much of their time and efforts to help our companions. I don't know what we would do without these people and thank God for them.

Our members are the bedrock of the Society, with many having served for a number of years. Their willingness to support and walk alongside our companions in their moment of need is the very definition of love and work towards holiness. I think our founder Frederick Ozanam would be very pleased with the activities of the Society in the Northern Territory.

I thank the members of the Northern Territory Council and our various subcommittees for so generously offering their time and expertise. I would also like to thank our CEO, Rob Lutter and his staff for their excellent work in guidance and continuing operation of the society.

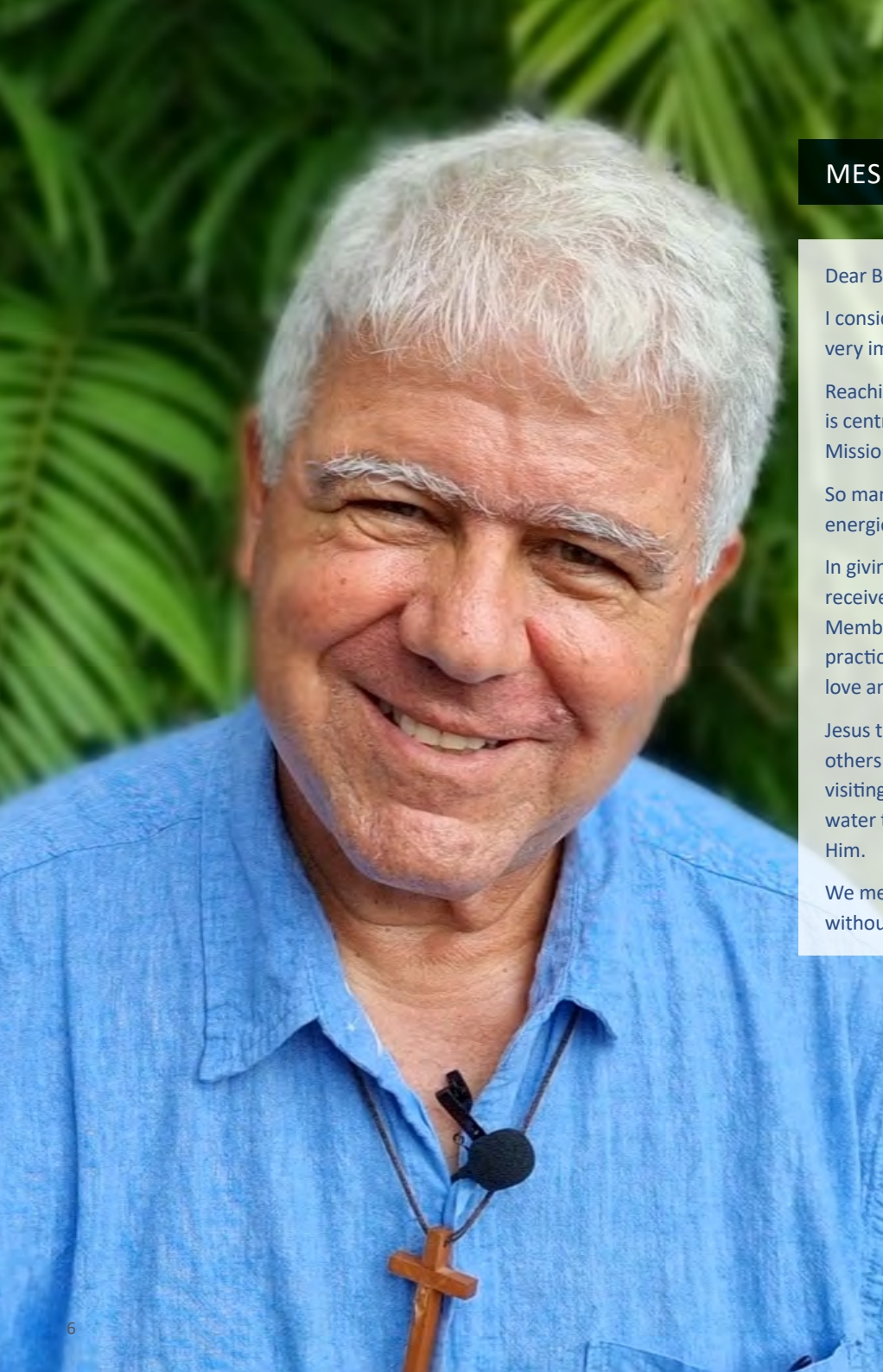
To echo the guidance of Frederick Ozanam,

**"It is our vocation to set people's hearts ablaze, to do what the Son of God did, who came to light a fire on earth in order to set it ablaze with His love."** (Frédéric Ozanam)



President  
St Vincent de Paul Society  
Northern Territory





## MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

### BISHOP CHARLES GAUCI

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

I consider the Saint Vincent De Paul Society a very important part of our Church Mission.

Reaching out to others, supporting those in need is central to the message of Jesus and to the Mission of the Church.

So many volunteers give of their time and energies in 'Vinnies'.

In giving we receive, but we don't give to receive, for love is sufficient unto itself.

Members of the society who reach out in this practical care of others are channels of God's love and compassion.

Jesus told us that when we do something to help others whether it's in providing food, shelter, visiting in prison, and even in giving a glass of water to those in need, we are ministering to Him.

We meet Jesus in each other when we truly love without expecting something back.

On behalf of our Diocesan Church family, I wish to express to you all a big 'Thank You' for your loving service.

I know that there is much reflective thinking taking place within the Society about possible plans to reach out to a lot more people.

Yours in Christ,

The Most Reverend  
Charles Gauci  
Bishop of Darwin

## MESSAGE FROM OUR SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

### FATHER ADAM CROUCH

When Jesus went for a meal with the leading Pharisees, he taught them.

“When you give a lunch or dinner do not ask your friends, relations or rich neighbors for fear, they will repay you by inviting you back. Invite the poor, lame the crippled so that they can not pay you in return. You will be fortunate that they cannot pay you back”.( Luke 14:9-14 )

The past has taught us that when times become economically challenging it is the poor and the vulnerable that suffer first.

With the pandemic and war amongst us we have a better understanding and times and life of St Vincent de Paul, what he faced and what he achieved in his day by inviting the poor into his life.

Every day we need to ask our Saint to intercede for us, so we have the power to serve and persevere in our important works and allow the Vincentian Spirit to shine through our clouded world.

St Vincent feed the poor and brought them to Jesus. This is our mission to reach out to clothe and feed the poor materially and spiritually.

Keep going...keep up the good works everyone.

God Bless,

Father Adam Crouch  
Spiritual Advisor Spiritual  
St Vincent de Paul Society  
Northern Territory







## CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

ROB LUTTER

"We are all visitors to this time, this place. We are just passing through. Our purpose here is to observe, to learn, to grow, to love... and then we return home." – Aboriginal saying

My first full financial year at the Society. It is always good to review how we have done and what we will focus on in the coming years.

We are still making challenging operations decisions to further the Society long term and build a strong foundation.

The positive impact is the change in our senior management team.

We have a new Retail Operations Manager Christine Jones and a new Housing Services Manager Mael Asendorf.

They bring a wealth of knowledge to the positions and we welcome their enthusiasm for the roles.

This adds to our amazing senior team of Angelina Yong Accountant, Programs Manager, Sameed Bin Ejaz Programs Manager, Aged Care and Emergency Relief Services and Kim Macdonald Executive Manager Program Services.

The office has grown with Luci Lloyd new Fundraising and Marketing Coordinator and Jay Setchell new Administration Assistant.

All of which have stepped up this year with new roles and responsibilities. Thank you to you all for your incredible commitment and dedication, it is an honour and privilege working with you.

Our teams have been busy upgrading software and databases in Housing, Aged Care, Fundraising, and Memberships. Robust ICT systems ensure the quality of data and provide strong cyber security measures.

We are investing in training in all our areas to value and support our amazing team of staff, members and volunteers.

Our financial position this year is strong with a surplus of \$ 627,204 and reserves of \$5,267,891. Retail sales were down mainly due to COVID lockdowns and disruptions. This also had an impact on our service delivery.

Society is committed to the growth of our Housing and improving how we manage our tenants and provide quality housing. We will undertake the Tier two accreditation process this coming year.

The Council undertook a Strategic retreat and developed the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan.

The Society now has a clear focus and direction, we are building a solid foundation to grow the organisation.

Moving forward we will continue to build our presence with our communities and key stakeholders through strong marketing, communication and lobbying. The Society will grow through strong financial management, outstanding service delivery, capacity building and looking after our combined well-being.

I am grateful for the support and guidance of our President Jocelyn Cull, and the Council who give so much of their time and reflection to direct and guide the writing of our 2002-26 Strategic Plan. Thank you to our members and volunteers without you we cannot achieve the amazing work we do. I also wish to acknowledge and thank my senior management team and all our staff. It is an honour and pleasure to work with you all.

It is the contribution of so many that has created such a strong and compassionate Society and I look forward to what we can achieve over the next 12 months.

"Knowledge of the poor and needy is not gained by pouring over books or in discussions with politicians, but by visiting the slums where they live, sitting by the bedside of the dying, feeling the cold they feel and learning from their lips the causes of their woes." (Frédéric Ozanam)

Chief Executive Officer  
St Vincent de Paul Society  
Northern Territory

Jimmy and Rob at Ozanam House



## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2021/2022

### AT A GLANCE

# 27,981

Territorians assisted

#### HELPING HANDS

0% increase in members  
50% increase in volunteers  
0% increase in employees



#### REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN NEED

Emergency relief services

## 3,105

Transport program



## 3,271

trips

Home maintenance



## 7,538

hours

#### HELPING THOSE IN NEED

## \$199,009

direct financial assistance

## \$152,633

in kind support



## \$351,642

total ER support provided

#### OUTCOMES

## \$2,493,761

in Centres of Charity revenue

-4% ↓

## \$2,800,458

in government funding

↓ -1%

## \$1,200,557

in client contributions

3% ↑

#### HELPING THE HOMELESS



## 12,350

showers provided



## 4,685

loads of washing



## 69,023

meals provided

#### ACCOMMODATION

## 79,089

nights of accommodation provided.

↑ 35%



## 134

tenancies under management



## WHO WE ARE

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY NORTHERN TERRITORY

We are principally a volunteer-based organisation with 52 members, 594 registered volunteers and 34 employees delivering emergency relief and other community services across Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

#### OUR PEOPLE

Our people are a gift of grace. 73 years on from the establishment of the first conference in Darwin, the Society continues to rise to the challenge of supporting those who are marginalized and disadvantaged.

#### OUR MEMBERS

At the core of our Society are our members known as Vincentians. They live out their faith and volunteer their time by joining together in a conference. Conferences may be established within a parish, town, suburb, school, workplace or social group. They provide expertise to the Society and support the delivery of good works. Today, in the Northern Territory we have four St Vincent de Paul Society Conferences:

- Holy Family Conference Karama
- Holy Spirit Conference Casuarina
- St Mary's Conference Darwin
- St Paul's Conference Nightcliff

Ask a member why they give of their time and their first response will likely be "it is the work of Jesus Christ and that is what we are here to do."

#### OUR VOLUNTEERS

St Vincent de Paul Society is blessed with devoted volunteers.

The important work of volunteers means that the Society can use its resources directly to serve the poor.

Internationally, the Society operates in 153 countries and has over 800,000 members.

In Australia, St Vincent de Paul Society has 45,000 members and volunteers performing good works, which if paid, would mean that the Society could not reach those in need.

In the Northern Territory we have approximately 594 people who give their time, when they can, to support the poor.

#### OUR EMPLOYEES

Our employees provide operational support in executive and administrative roles to assist in the development of the organisation. They ensure the Society functions sustainably and delivers on our commitment to the community and those who fund our community service activities.

Ultimately, it is the wholehearted commitment to our companions, those we assist, that galvanizes each of us to respond to a plea for help. Our companions, with their challenges, their strength and resilience, inspire us daily to do more. They are our blessing.



Information Session NT Members



## FOLLOWING OUR FAITH

Our conferences walk in the path of Jesus and work tirelessly throughout the year, devoting their hearts and hands to easing the burdens of the poor and disadvantaged.

While the faith of our members brings love, strength and hope to our communities, the challenges are ever present. A society with less compassion for the poor has placed increasing demand on our existing resources and membership, but conference members and volunteers remain steadfast in continuing their good works.

All our Society Conferences are taking steps to develop their membership and attract new members to continue strengthening their work and contribution. However, while some things change, others remain the same. Our conferences remain in touch with the needs of the communities they serve, undertaking Society services; visiting homes, hospitals and prisons, distributing Christmas hampers to families, organizing fundraising events and running programs and activities for our companions.

The Society continually supports the formation and training of its members to deepen their spirituality and knowledge of the Society. By honing and exercising their skills, members improve their sensitivity, quality and efficiency of service, helping companions be informed of

## TO LIVE THE GOSPEL MESSAGE

benefits, resources and opportunities that are available for people in need.

While new members have joined this year, some long-standing, valued members have retired or passed away, but their contribution and compassionate legacy lives on in the work of the Society for the poor. They each lived the Society's motto that 'No Act of Charity is foreign' we are grateful for the many years of generous service provided by all members who are no longer with the Society.

### A HELPING HAND IN TIMES OF CRISIS

The people we assist, our companions, come to us seeking compassion. They may have drug or alcohol dependency, be escaping domestic violence, or be struck by an unexpected crisis such as serious illness or unemployment. In the Territory particularly, they may have ended up 'stuck in town' from an outlying community or be refugees in hope of finding work and a new life. Whatever their circumstance, they are all Children of God, deserving of respectful care.

In Darwin, our Emergency Relief services are a friendly face of Society members with listening ears and hearts to work with companions and discern how to ease a burden and provide hope. Where possible, our members call in on companions or make a follow up phone call to check in, always bringing friendship, trust and

confidentiality. Whilst the visit might be about material assistance, members take away a deeper understanding of others' lives which helps the Society to better advocate for a more just and compassionate society. While Conference communities differ, most Visitations and Emergency Relief provided is in response to requests for furniture, emergency food, clothes or bedding. Sometimes assistance is requested for an unexpected large bill which can take a struggling household from 'just managing' to real hardship and hunger. At times, our companions need support to deal with a specialist service such as Legal Aid, financial counselling, or mental health services.

Thank you to our committed members, volunteers and staff, without whom the Society would be unable to advocate for our companions in the community.

FOR VINCENTIANS, OUR WORK IS THE 'SOURCE' AND 'LIVING OUT' OF OUR SPIRITUALITY. IT INVOLVES LOVING GOD WITH THE SWEAT OF OUR BROW AND THE STRENGTH OF OUR ARMS, SEEING CHRIST IN THE POOR AND THE POOR IN CHRIST, SHARING THE COMPASSIONATE AND LIBERATING LOVE OF CHRIST AND PAYING HEED TO THE INSPIRATION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.



## SERVICE DELIVERY REPORT

### ANOTHER YEAR IN SERVICE OF THE POOR

Program Services have strived to provide services to companions this financial year where the challenges of cost of living, disharmony in communities and a lack of affordable social housing has been apparent.

Program Services incorporates Homelessness Support Services, Community Housing, Aged Care and Emergency Relief Services.

Ozanam House provides a vital service to homeless companions in the Greater Darwin region. Ozanam House provides companion the dignity of a daily shower, clean clothes, hot meals and companionship. Services are delivered through the coordination of members, volunteers and staff. Visiting specialist services ensure companions have access to primary health, legal, and advocacy services. Emergency relief services are available onsite to companions. Throughout the financial year the Society hosted COVID 19 and flu vaccination clinics. These clinics provide access to basic primary health care to lessen the risk of serious infection or other complications.

Since the lessening of COVID19 restrictions the population of the Greater Darwin area notably increased. This increase in population created pressure on a housing market that was already failing in its capacity to meet demand. The cost of private rentals rose considerably forcing many to seek other forms of accommodation. The Community Housing division responded to an increased number of companions seeking affordable housing across all of our offerings.

Our Caseworkers support Companions to transition from our transitional and short-medium term accommodation to longer term options. Some of our longer-term Companions relocated to long term Territory Housing properties

throughout the year. Vacancies created by Companions moving on to other housing options are quickly replaced, with the Housing Team maintaining a waitlist of companions seeking accommodation.

Housing staff have continued to coordinate ongoing repairs and maintenance of Community Housing properties, owned and leased by the Society. The Society strives to increase our accommodation offerings in future years to address the lack of affordable housing available to companions.

Aged Care services are supported by the My Aged Care - Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP). Through the efforts of our dedicated Aged Care Services team, we have increased the number of 'senior' Companions receiving our services. senior Territorians to remain active in their homes.

Our Conference Emergency Relief and our Emergency Relief Program experienced increased need for our Emergency Relief Services throughout the financial year. Many companions who presented to our Emergency Relief services were experiencing housing crisis and seeking accommodation solutions. The Society provided short term accommodation solutions to many companions and referral to other appropriate services. Due to shortages in specialist ER Volunteers, the Society's Emergency Relief Program was remodeled to deliver service to two days a week, Tuesday in Palmerston and Wednesday in Stuart Park, with appointments made available to companions on Thursdays and Fridays where possible. Our Thursday and Friday appointments were delivered by a Social Work student completing a Master of Social Work and Bachelor of Social Work as part of student placement requirements.

Investment in laptop computers for Volunteers has assisted in the capture of statistical data at the time-of-service delivery, and to ensure continuation of care where a companion had presented to the service previously.

Our Conference Emergency Relief members undertook Contactless Delivery initiatives to support isolating Covid19 positive Companions with food and grocery hampers. Both services experienced an increased demand for white goods. White goods were provided to companions through donations to our Centres of Charity and delivered by our warehouse team.

#### STRENGTHENED OPERATIONS

Our executive management team has worked to maximise the delivery of services within defined budgets and in alignment with our 2022-2026 Strategic Plan. Our governance and best practice systems enable the delivery of services that are financially accountable and responsible. We continue to value the ongoing support of our Queensland colleagues in the delivery HR, Legal and Financial services. The Northern Territory's central online information hub SharePoint is providing access to our Centers from Darwin to Alice Springs.

Our Volunteer onboarding process was updated to ensure accessibility to volunteer information and registration details. We have shifted to Blackbaud product E-tapestry to provide a cost-efficient database for Society supporters.

Housing has transitioned to a new management system to better support the receipting of rent and bond, the management of repairs maintenance and longer term asset management. This will provide a strong basis to grow our

property portfolio.

The Society has continued with archiving activities that align with national archiving standards, thereby looking to offer our history of good works to the public record.

#### STRENGTHENING OUR PEOPLE

We continue our commitment to develop and grow our people, providing opportunities to connect, share knowledge and experience within the Society. We have employed several new highly skilled executive staff who are supporting strategic operational activities. The Society offered training this year including a Spiritual Retreat, self-paced Online Emergency Relief (ER) training, Face to face 'cross cultural awareness training, 'Understanding mental health and workplace wellbeing' training. These trainings have better equipped our committed Society Members, Volunteers and staff, to continue our good works.

#### KEEPING SAFE

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our staff adopted the highest levels of hygiene and safety, which continues to be practiced. Society supports ongoing training in occupational health and safety practices and continues to engage in best practice policy and procedures. Our continued growth is indicative of the dedicated people who choose to work with the Society, to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy; to shape a more just and compassionate society.



Emergency Relief Service - Ozanam House



## CONFERENCE REPORTS

### HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS



#### HOLY FAMILY CONFERENCE

- The conference has continued to support Emergency Relief on Tuesdays at Palmerston and Wednesdays at Stuart Park.
- We have had several “Food for Thought” social gatherings with conference members past and present, and one at Silks with other conferences.
- The piety stall continues to offer religious goods to parishioners at very reasonable prices. The proceeds have enabled the conference to assist students in other countries through the SVDP’s “Assist A Student” program.
- The conference has continued to assist and support companions through home visitations and phone calls, providing furniture, white goods, and practical aid.
- Welfare calls have been made to past companions to see how they are faring after being given assistance from the conference.
- The warehouse has benefited from the diligent and persistent efforts of one conference member, who travels most days to sort donations.
- Barbeques have been organised by Holy Family and Holy Spirit Conferences who meet and chat with the residents at the Society’s residence at Park Lodge.

#### COMBINED STATISTICS



28	7	30	424	78
Conference Members	Associate Members	Conference Volunteers	Christmas Hampers	Bread Delivery Hours
51	261	269	400	374
Companion Visitations	Companion Phone Calls	Emergency Relief Sessions	Kilos of Clothing Delivered	Centres of Charity Hours

- Weekly bread pick-ups from the Northlakes Bakery have been distributed to Bakhita and Ozanam House.
- The conference has supported the Holy Family Parish, by providing morning teas after Mass to recognise Grandparents and Elders day and to celebrate St Vincent de Paul’s Feast day.
- Another Vinnies volunteer has been regularly visiting the female section of the jail.
- Unfortunately , one of our members, Peter Collins passed to Eternal life this year. Peter used to visit the jail with Fr Dan from Holy Spirit parish
- The Christmas hamper distribution was carried out prior to Christmas with over 50 hampers delivered.
- The conference members have helped in taking food parcels to people during their Corona virus isolation.
- Members have participated in training for Emergency Relief and Spirituality workshops.
- 278 People assisted through our Holy Family Conference .

## CONFERENCE REPORTS

### HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

#### HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE

- Our conference, together with Holy Family Conference hosted a very successful SVDP NT Festival Mass on the 27th of September 2021 which included the induction of ten new members.
- We received very generous donations from parishioners and school families for the 2021 Christmas Hampers. Members and 1 volunteer delivered 67 hampers and 40 toy bags in our area.
- Conference members have maintained contact with previous companions and new referrals from Emergency Relief, referrals from our priests and self-referrals from two parishioners. As well as friendship and emotional support we were able to provide necessities such as help with household goods, urgent motor vehicle registrations, food and fuel vouchers, nappies, utilities bills contributions and grocery shopping for an elderly house-bound companion while daughter away. We also provided travel assistance for a companion and her children needing to attend a culturally significant funeral. We conducted Covid food hamper drops to isolating families.
- We continue to assist the priests at Holy Spirit and St Martin's with 'Essentials' food vouchers and emergency relief information for the needy.
- Lack of availability of affordable housing, both short term and long term, locally and nationally remains a concern to members.
- Our bread runs continue weekly, with bread donated by Brumby's at Northlakes Shopping Centre. Members and volunteers deliver to two women's shelters, St Martin De Pores Church community, St John's College and Ozanam House.
- We are involved at Holy Spirit School's Mini Vinnies. We presented our 'Making Jesus Real' award to a student and have arranged to attend some of their meetings and assist with fundraising (bottle collections) to show our support.
- Members have attended SVDPNT events such as a Strategic Direction session, a retreat and the SVDPNT Future Accommodation Facilities consultation workshop
- Our conference has supported Holy Family and St Paul's Conferences with the BBQ events in support of companions at Ted Collins Village and Park Lodge.
- Members have attended both the SVDP NT Cross Cultural and Understanding Mental Health & Wellbeing workshops.
- One member, supported by other members and generous donors, was able to participate in the 2022 CEO Sleepout.
- Our longstanding Piety Stall continues to do well managed by a conference member and his wife with other members and parishioners now assisting. This year, with the profits, we have been able to assist 100 students through the SVDP 'Assist a Student' program.
- Our 'Vintertainers' singing and music group provided their popular session at the aged care home, but this has been erratic due to various levels of Covid restrictions and is currently on hold due to the requirement to wear masks – not possible to sing!
- One of our long-term Vincentian members continues to lead the important effort, together with others, to preserve and archive SVDP NT documents and photographs.





## CONFERENCE REPORTS

### HIGHLIGHTS AND STATISTICS

#### ST PAUL'S CONFERENCE

- Mr Bill Burford was made an Associate Life member of the Society at the 2021 Christmas function.
- A Conference member and Associate member were inducted into the Society at the Festival Mass in September 2021. A Conference member and Volunteer member resigned, both relocated to Brisbane.
- St Paul's Conference met weekly during the year, with some meetings cancelled due to Covid, and we were well supported by the St Paul's Catholic Parish and St Paul's Catholic Primary School.
- Two members attended Mental Health training held in September.
- Members participated in discussion and consultation about the Society's strategic plans for housing.
- During the Dry season and despite some cancellations due to Covid, the conference hosted monthly BBQs for Companions in Society accommodation.
- The Conference is trialling a means to transition the role of conference president to make the duties manageable.
- Conference members met in February for our annual planning day to set St Paul's priorities for the year.
- About 52 deliveries of bread, donated by Brumbies Northlakes, were made to St Paul's Catholic Primary School and during school holidays, to the Gwalwa Daraniki Association Inc.
- Two of our members volunteered in St Vincent de Paul's Emergency Relief team during the period and one of those same members volunteered in a number of Vinnies stores each week.
- Visitation and requests for support, which was again down on previous years, remained a core work of the Conference. Covid did impact on visitation requiring some changes to procedures and for the two members who visited Pearl Retirement Village, visits could not proceed at times.

#### ST MARY'S CONFERENCE

- St Mary's Conference (the Conference) has a relatively low average age and is largely made up of working families.
- The Conference has placed a strong emphasis on providing support to remote communities to extend the Society's reach out to people where they are, rather than wait for them to come to us.
- The Conference members coordinated the planning and contactless (due to COVID-19 concerns) delivery of hampers to a number of communities, including:
  - o communities in and around Daly River, including Nauiyu and the outstations of Emu Point, Wooliana and Woodycupldia;
  - o Pirlangimpi (Garden Point) on the Tiwi Islands; and
  - o the Gilwi community near Timber Creek.
- The Conference connected with Vinnies SA, to organise a warm weather clothing distribution to Alice Springs and Darwin, at no cost to the Society, thanks to rail operator One Rail. Half the clothes were delivered by staff in Alice Springs to the community at Santa Teresa. The other half was delivered to Fr. Peter to distribute to the community in Daly River, Emu Point, Wooliana and Woodycupldia.
- The delivery of hampers will be limited to the Daly River region in 2022 due to lower volunteer numbers. We are sad to be losing long standing conference members, Trish and Kieran Fawcett, who are relocating to Queensland. The Fawcetts have played a pivotal role in the Conference.
- The Conference has continued to play a role in Vinnies NT, with representation on the Social Justice Committee and the Housing Advisory Committee.

## GET INVOLVED

### HOW YOU HELP US TO HELP OTHERS

#### VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS

Without the time and energy of dedicated Volunteers and Members to help the operation of our Programs, the Society could not reach those in need. The gift of service in any area of the Society is welcomed and deeply appreciated.

#### OUR LOYAL DONORS

We are indebted to the generous financial assistance provided by our loyal donors. This support assists the many activities undertaken by the Society and can be directed to a specific appeals or general donations to our good works. St Vincent de Paul Society NT is registered by the ATO as a “Deductible Gift Recipient” charity organization, meaning any donation over \$2 is TAX deductible.

#### WORKPLACE GIVING

Contributions can be automated through workplace giving, a joint relationship between employers, employees & St Vincent de Paul Society. Employees connect with their payroll team and donate on a regular basis a small portion of pre-tax salary to support our good works.

#### GIFTS OR BEQUESTS IN WILLS

A bequest to the Society makes lasting positive change. It is a powerful reflection of the values and principles you treasure. It enables you to create a legacy of love and care for those who most need assistance and it will continue your life’s aims beyond your own lifetime.

#### DONATIONS OF GOODS

Our Vinnies Retail Stores and Centres of Charity are reliant on donations of quality second-hand clothing, furniture and household goods to generate revenue for Society programs that support our mission.

#### IN-KIND DONATIONS

Support our good works in-kind through your business goods or services. As a registered charity, in-kind donations from business and corporate ABN holders are tax deductible.

#### CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

Being a part of our events, projects or service programs is a great way for Businesses or Corporates to give back to our Community. Whether through volunteering, financial assistance, in-kind donations, dollar match sponsorship or workplace fundraising, aligning with Vinnies is a great way to promote your community contribution.



CEO Sleepout 2022



## OUR COUNCIL MEMBERS

"LET US DO WITHOUT HESITATION WHATEVER GOOD LIES AT OUR HANDS" - FREDERIC OZANAM



### JOCELYN CULL, PRESIDENT

Jocelyn Cull is President of the St Vincent de Paul Society (NT). She has been involved in the Society for about seven years, first joining the St Mary's Conference in 2015. She has been a conference president, NT Council member and was extensively involved in emergency relief activities. Jocelyn was also NT Council Vice President and Acting President of the Society before she was elected President in October 2020. Jocelyn is a lawyer by profession and has worked in both the public and private sectors. She currently runs a business consultancy service and works with the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory.



### KATHRYN PETTERSEN, VICE PRESIDENT

Kathryn's first experience with the Society was many years ago in her high school conference, however she officially joined the Mary MacKillop Youth Conference in 2016 and was President for three years. In 2019, Kathryn re-joined the National Youth Team where she has represented the NT as Youth Representative. Kathryn is the Diocesan Youth Coordinator and is an experienced High School teacher. These skills, combined with her passion for social justice works within schools, has seen her develop the Mini Vinnies program across the Territory.



## OUR COUNCIL MEMBERS

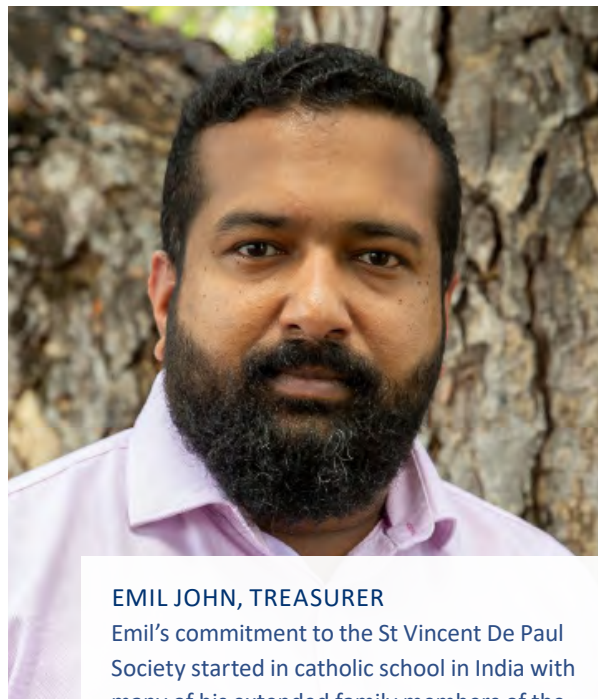
"GO TO THE POOR: YOU WILL FIND GOD." - ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



### RUTH GILL, SECRETARY

Ruth Gill is the Secretary of the St Vincent de Paul Society( NT). She has recently moved to Darwin and joined SVDP NT.

Ruth is a social worker by profession and has worked for Government, Not for Profit and Corporate Industry. She currently works as contractor for a Government department.



### EMIL JOHN, TREASURER

Emil's commitment to the St Vincent De Paul Society started in catholic school in India with many of his extended family members of the Society and close interactions with Vincentian priests over the years.

Emil was appointed to the council as treasurer in 2019. He holds an MBA from Liverpool UK and has been in the banking industry for over 10 years across SA and NT.



### FATHER ADAM CROUCH, SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

Father Adam Crouch is a catholic priest with the Missionaries of God's Love. The Missionaries of God's Love charisms are working with young people and the poor. Father Adam moved to Darwin in February 2021. Over the past 5 years he has been involved with ministry to the poor at St Vincent de Paul in Campbelltown, NSW. Father Adam was also chaplain to the Sydney Swans Academy 2016-2021.



## OUR COUNCIL MEMBERS

### CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS



**KAY FITZPATRICK, HOLY FAMILY CONFERENCE PRESIDENT**

Kay's involvement in the Society began in the small country town of Hay, NSW in the late 1990s. She moved to Darwin in 2005 joining Palmerston's Our Lady Help of Christians Conference. After recovering from illness Kay moved to assist the hands of Jesus in the Holy Family Conference.



**DAMIAN LEGG, ST PAUL'S CONFERENCE PRESIDENT**

Damian's involvement with the Society first began as a youth member. Having served on the previous Territory Council as Vice President Centres of Charity, from 2013, Damian has continued as a member of the current Council from 2016. He draws experience from a long career in the Public Service.

## OUR COUNCIL MEMBERS

## CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS



**FRANCES ABBOTT, HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE PRESIDENT**

After retiring from a nursing career both overseas and in Australia, Frances joined SVDP NT initially as a volunteer in the Emergency Relief service in 2016. She was invited to join the Conference in 2018 and, voted to President after the resignation of Cedric Francis in December 2020. She appreciates the opportunity to serve God's people in this way and, the friendship and interaction with conference and society members.



**GRAEME FINCH, ST MARY'S CONFERENCE PRESIDENT**

Hailing originally from South Africa, Graeme has seen poverty on four continents and recognises that the good works of the Society can make a real difference to the poor. With decades of experience in construction and development, Graeme has much to offer to support the Society in its good works.



## HOMELESSNESS SUPPORT PROGRAM

### OZANAM HOUSE DAY CENTRE HUB

Shelter, or a place to call home, is a fundamental human need, and yet so many in our community continue to experience homelessness or live with the constant anxiety of being at risk of homelessness. The issues that lead to homelessness are complex. Relationship breakdown, loss of employment, drugs and alcohol, domestic violence, and multifaceted mental and physical disability can all result in a moment of crisis and sometimes a lifetime of hardship. Everyday our compassionate conference members, volunteers and staff connect with our companions, meet these challenges and build hope for the future.

#### A PLACE OF DIGNITY AND RESPECT

Well known locally, Ozanam house is the largest Day Centre in Darwin and a lifeline to the poor. It is a place without judgment, offering hot showers, a good meal, and a laundry service, restoring dignity to Territorians who are living rough. Our Companions have access to support services to address their needs through case management, referrals to mental health, accommodation, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, financial counselling, and similar support services. We are grateful to local organizations like Darwin Community Legal Services, Orange Sky laundry service and Casuarina Community Health Clinic who visit Ozanam House weekly. Charles Darwin University students participating in the internship program can have up to 400 hours of volunteer work to complete their Community Support or Social Work degrees. This year, seven students contributed to Ozanam House bringing their new ideas and theoretical knowledge, as we provided 'real life' experience.

During COVID-19 restrictions, the Ozanam House service delivery model was altered to accommodate the necessary requirements to protect both companions and our committed conference members, volunteers, and employees. Extra hand sanitation points, social distancing measures and 'The Territory Check In' were compulsory. Our services have been non-stop, however our companion access was restricted to allow only 80 people per day on site, as the Territory has moved into the new normal, we have been able to increase these numbers.

The 2021 Christmas Party was hosted on Friday 24th of December, and was a joyous occasion for all. The Society was awestruck with community support and is ever grateful to the yearly supporters who contribute to the event. Simon George and Sons, a local

grocer provided delicious salads and a generous selection of soft fruit that are preferable to those with teeth issues and often craved by the poor as a luxury. A local family business Rachael Designa Cakes contributed beautifully decorated hand-made Christmas theme cakes that were well received by Companions and Volunteers. Nightcliff Woolworths donated soft drinks and juice, Christmas theme plates, napkins and bon bons, a timeless tradition that made the occasion very festive with people sharing a laugh over the 'pop' of a Christmas cracker. Other special mentions and thanks go to our generous Volunteers, Foodies Book Club, Double Tree by Hilton and The Christmas Band without whom, our celebration for the homeless would not have been possible. The Society is proud of our good works at Ozanam House Day Centre for the homeless. Operating since 1974, it's a safe place and a compassionate community embracing all who visit.



Ozanam House Christmas Party

## EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

### GETTING BACK ON TRACK

Our Emergency Relief Services are a lifeline for people in need, they offer a hand up when times are tough.

Life events such as unemployment, displacement, acute or chronic illness may lead to individuals or families facing crisis. Sometimes one unexpected event can disrupt an individual or family so severely, that they must face the reality of becoming homeless. Losing control of one's livelihood is daunting.

Companions often present to our emergency relief service feeling overwhelmed, confused and distressed by their circumstances.

Our services are operated by dedicated members and volunteers who receive training to become Emergency Relief Case Workers. They are a compassionate and non-judgemental ear, that can make a world of difference at a difficult time. Our service is provided with strict confidentiality. Our team will listen to understand a companion's situation, and provide appropriate referral and support to address a companion's issues.

Assistance provided may include: supermarket vouchers for food and grocery items, Vinnies voucher for clothing and household goods, bus tickets for transport, assistance with utility and phone bills, assistance with the cost of prescription medication or mobility devices,

furniture and household goods sourced from donations to our Vinnies Stores including whitegoods, lounge, dining and bedrooms furniture, assistance with the cost of short term or emergency accommodation.

Referrals to specialist support services may include: Emergency accommodation, transitional or short-term accommodation providers, debt relief services including advocacy and financial counselling, legal services, domestic violence support services, alcohol and other drug support services including residential rehabilitation or mental health services.

Our Emergency Relief services are provided resultant of funding provided by the Commonwealth Government and our St Vincent de Paul Society NT Conferences. Conference funding is sourced from St Vincent de Paul Society NT donations, fundraising and retail operations.

#### EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM COMMONWEALTH

Our Commonwealth funded Emergency Relief Program is overseen by our Program Manager - Emergency Relief Services. The manager works with a team of dedicated staff and Volunteers to deliver Emergency Relief services in the Greater Darwin and Alice Springs Regions. Coordination and collaboration between the

Program Manager and Conference Members elevates the provision of service to our companions.

#### CONFERENCE EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAM

Conference Emergency Relief services are managed by our NT Council and Conference Presidents. Our dedicated Conference members often provide vouchers for food, fuel and grocery items, bus tickets, assistance with Telstra and utility bills, assistance with the cost of prescription medication, mobility devices, short term or emergency accommodation, Vinnies vouchers for clothing and household items, furniture and whitegoods sourced from donations to our Vinnies stores and warehouse. Conference members often meet with companions to extend the hand of friendship and provide emotional and spiritual support.

#### REFLECTION FROM NT VINNIES COMPANION.

"WITHIN 3 DAYS OF REACHING OUT TO THE HOUSING TEAM THROUGH THE EMERGENCY RELIEF SERVICE I WAS ABLE TO MOVE INTO THE BAKHITA CENTRE IN DICK WARD DRIVE, COCONUT GROVE. THIS PLACE IS GREAT, I HAVE A ROOF OVER MY HEAD, A PRIVATE ROOM TO MYSELF WITH A FRIDGE AND A BED AND LINEN PROVIDED. EVERY WEEK WE HAVE A BBQ GATHERING AND ALL THE RESIDENTS ARE INVITED, IT'S NICE TO HAVE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES WHEN YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN, THE TOGETHERNESS FEELS GOOD."

#### Our Service





## COMMUNITY HOUSING PROGRAMS

### TRANSITIONING FROM HOMELESSNESS

Housing is a human right and having safe homes provides our companions with a sense of self and somewhere to belong. This is transformative, reinstating a sense of purpose many people take for granted and is crucial in overcoming the cycle of homelessness. In line with St Vincent de Paul's Strategic Plan we continued to focus on improving our service delivery.

#### GOVERNMENT FUNDED PATHWAYS TO PERMANENT HOUSING

In Stuart Park, Park Lodge provides 20 tenancies for single men offering medium term or transitional Community Housing. To be eligible for this accommodation, Companions must be on the Territory Housing priority list. With individual bedrooms and communal living areas, our Companions gain experience in sustaining a tenancy while they work to secure permanent housing.

In Katherine, The Bernhard Centre unit complex is equipped with one and two bedroom apartments. The Bernhard Centre provides 39 tenancies for singles, couples

and families. Case Worker engagement with Companions and building local police support is helping to create a safer and more resilient community at the property. There is now a marked decrease in anti-social behaviour and the Companions are developing increasing respect and support for each other. Neighbouring businesses are reporting increased patronage as a result of the improvements.

#### SOCIETY OWNED PATHWAYS TO PERMANENT HOUSING

Since 1984, the Society has worked to assist vulnerable people transition from homelessness to permanent housing. With government support, we assist to secure accommodation and provide the necessary supports and life skills to sustain a tenancy.

The Bakhita Centre, a Society owned property in Coconut Grove provides transitional housing and case management. The Bakhita Centre has 36 beds for single men and 5 beds for single females. Our case workers develop strategies with our Companions, providing linkages to appropriate services, training and engagement opportunities. Some Companions have trained and secured 'tickets' in Test and Tag, Forklift Operation, gained their Driver's License and Heavy Rigid License. Companions are supported to attend medical appointments and encouraged to engage in social outings and programs organised by our Case Workers. These case management plans make a positive impact on Companion wellbeing as they gain skills and confidence.

Ted Collins Village in Coconut Grove is made up of 20, two bedroom units to accommodate families. Our Housing Program offers affordable residencies which can be

extended for up to 18 months. Staff assist Companions with managing their tenancy and ensuring they are linked to appropriate support services. Our dedicated Conference Members and Volunteers regularly host social functions such as BBQ's to engage with our Companions at Ted Collins Village.

In Katherine, the Society owned property, Ormonde House, has provided supported accommodation for over 40 years. Today it is one of three Community Housing Services in Katherine. Ormonde House assists 12 single men with accommodation and case management to develop life skills and links to support services. Through communal living, Companions develop confidence that so many of us can take for granted, in skills such as cooking, cleaning, communication and appropriate social behaviour. All are skills important to sustaining a tenancy. Our Case Workers are maintaining connections with local agencies such as Anglicare, Catholic Care, The Hub, Venndale Transitional and After Care to deliver wrap around services.

#### CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVING

Our dedicated team will continue to support those in need with a focus on education and training, promoting health, increasing safety and improving the quality of our community housing. We are committed to providing support to individuals and families as they transition from homelessness into long-term homes that they will be confident to manage without the support of our Housing Program Case Workers.



## COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM

### ASSISTING THE AGING

The Society's links with My Aged Care Commonwealth Home Support Program (CHSP) are strong. Supported through government funding, the CHSP Program provides garden and home maintenance services and transportation support services to assist our older Companions. The Program's Services are delivered in short-term, episodic, or ongoing arrangements that are subsidised by our funding. To be eligible, companions need to be aged 65 years and over or 50 years+ for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and linked in with My Aged Care. Through the online service portal or via phone, seniors can nominate the St Vincent de Paul Society as their service provider. This financial year, management has employed strong links between our service and administration departments. This strategy has increased our service delivery, allowing more elderly Territorians to remain living independently at home.



Commonwealth Home Support Program Team

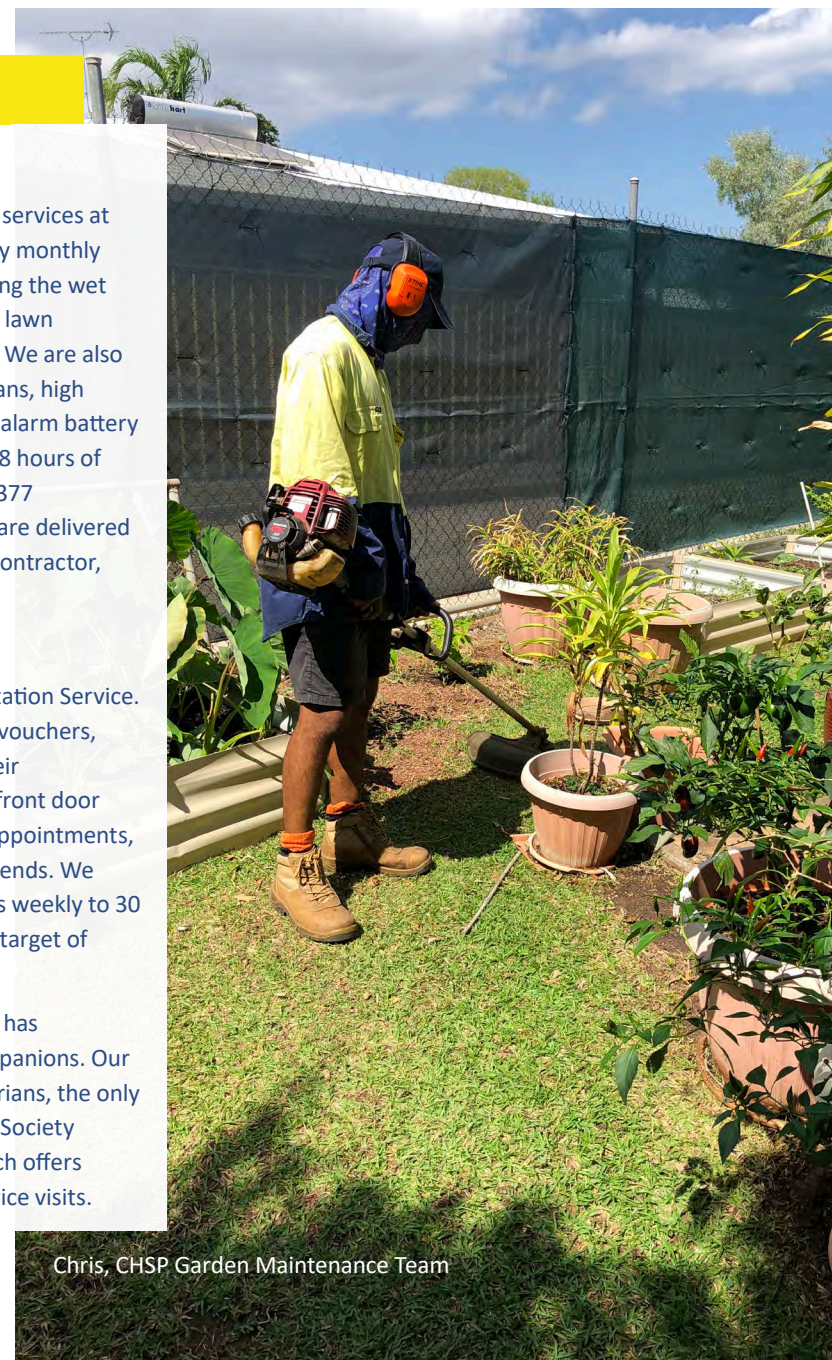
#### HOME MAINTENANCE

The CHSP Program offers garden maintenance services at our Companions nominated preference, usually monthly services during dry season and fortnightly during the wet season. Services include light rubbish removal, lawn mowing, whipper snipping and weed spraying. We are also available to assist with the cleaning of ceiling fans, high louvers, changing faulty light bulbs and smoke alarm battery replacement. The CHSP program provided 7538 hours of home maintenance services to approximately 377 companions this financial year. These services are delivered by Society CHSP Employees and one external contractor, Monday through Friday.

#### TRANSPORTATION

The CHSP is also funded to provide a Transportation Service. Companions can receive up to \$20 CabCharge vouchers, depending on their needs, to help maintain their independence. The ability to travel from their front door gives opportunity to attend medical or other appointments, and remain connected with their family and friends. We provided an average of 60 CabCharge vouchers weekly to 30 Companions, in line with the programs annual target of 4,155 vouchers.

The CHSP Program Garden Maintenance Team has established a wonderful rapport with our Companions. Our aged care services are for some elderly Territorians, the only contact they have with the outside world. Our Society Employees are a familiar and friendly face which offers security, safety and companionship at our service visits.



Chris, CHSP Garden Maintenance Team



## CENTRES OF CHARITY

### VINNIES IS MORE THAN A STORE

Our Vinnies Retail Stores are our Centres of Charity. They are a vibrant and visible presence in the Northern Territory with ten stores and a warehouse across Darwin, Katherine, Tenant Creek and Alice Springs. For a Companion, Vinnies can be a place to meet a need, whether for clothing, household items and connection, or on a more serious note, to reach out for emergency relief. To the community, they are a treasure trove of amazing bargains, vintage wear, a special costume or sometimes a designer label. To our operations, Vinnies sales underpin our capacity to deliver services, with the annual turnover just shy of 2.5 million dollars this year.

#### WORKING TOGETHER

Behind the scenes our stores collaborate to respond to the different needs of each community. By identifying Vinnies Stores that have greater demand for a particular type of stock, the teams can distribute our stock accordingly to meet the greatest need and sale potential. In Vinnies Darwin



City, party clothes are in high demand, while our store at Winnellie stocks practical working clothes and boots for the workers in the industrial estate and in rural Coolalinga there is great demand for dvd's and video games due to poor tv reception. Our most isolated stores in Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Spring find that many of their customers are looking for clothes that are suitable for Community life and the colder nights of the region. Managers and Volunteers stock a variety of donated goods in our Vinnies Retail Stores and we are conscious of double handling to avoid additional operational costs.

#### HOW IT HAPPENS AT VINNIES

Volunteering at Vinnies is for anyone who likes to meet new people, learn new skills and give back to the community. Saint Vincent de Paul Society offers our Volunteers training, mentoring and a chance to make a difference, with a few laughs along the way.

The process to participate as a volunteer with Vinnies is simple. The applicant completes a 'New Volunteer Application Form', applies for both a Territory Working with Children's Check and National Police Clearance then submit these documents to one of the stores. We will even help support the applicant to receive the discounted rate for these checks! From here your documents will be signed off at Head Office and once approved, your chosen Vinnies Stores Manager will connect with you and get a start date. On your first day, the Manager will provide an induction to the Vinnies Retail Store facilities and operations. While you're with us you will undertake the sorting of donations, quality control, pricing, merchandising, customer service

and sales all in the comfort of air-conditioning. Volunteering is the perfect place to gain confidence in the retail industry, add experience to a resume, socialise and make friends AND help reduce waste in landfills. All the while giving a hand up to those in need and serving them with compassion and respect.

The Society relies on funds raised through Vinnies Retail Stores to service the community through our Programs, keeping our stores and warehouse open would simply not be possible without our dedicated Retail Volunteers.



## CEO SLEEP OUT

### NORTHERN TERRITORY

The Northern Territory has 12 x the national average of homelessness and the Vinnies CEO Sleepout is St Vincent de Paul Society's annual flagship event to raise awareness and funds for people in need. The Sleepout is an experience that exposes participants to the everyday reality of people living rough and the issues facing the poor and disadvantaged. After a two-year break from the event due to Covid, Vinnies NT is proud to announce that in 2022, the top end raised over \$59,000! These funds stay in the NT and ensure the Society can provide support for Territory individuals and families.

The cost-of-living crisis and the price tag on Territory rental properties are adding pressure to Territory households. Current approximate government weekly support payments for a person on: Job Seeker is \$321, the Disability Support Pension \$493, Age Pension \$417 and Youth Allowance \$265. With the average private unit rental price at \$530 week, these vulnerable Territorians have 0% affordability.

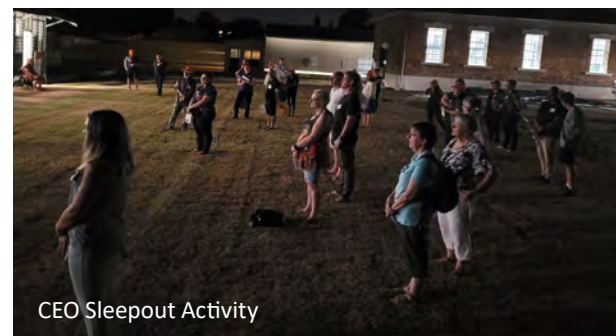
#### REFLECTION FROM NT VINNIES COMPANION.

"I APPLIED TO BE ACCEPTED HERE IN BAKHITA AFTER LIVING ON THE STREET IN DARWIN FOR APPROXIMATELY 4 MONTHS. I WAS NO LONGER ABLE TO STAY IN A CITY HOTEL DUE TO THE ENDING OF THE TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS WHICH IN TURN THE HOTEL WANTED TO INCREASE MY ROOM RATE FROM \$ 470/ WEEK TO OVER \$750. AS I AM ON A DISABILITY PENSION FROM CENTRELINK THAT WAS JUST AN IMPOSSIBLE ASK."

Donations to the Sleepout help the Society provide countless nights of accommodation, food and basic essentials, help with living expenses, caring and personalised support, and more! Families are suffering. With 116,000 individuals and families across Australia currently at risk of or experiencing homelessness, we've seen a 13.7% increase in the number of people experiencing homelessness since 2011. That's 1 in 17 Territorians who will sleep unsafely tonight. Vinnies relies heavily on Government and community donations support to continue our good works.

The Society is grateful to the participants, sponsors and supporters of the 2022 CEO Sleepout. We had 27 CEOs, executive managers, business directors and owners, as well as community and government leaders join the fundraising journey. Due to Covid 19 isolation measures, we had 24 participate in the overnight sleepout experience. Eight Society Companions and three Society Emergency Relief Volunteers came and shared their thoughts and experiences with participants and four of our homeless Companions stayed the night with our fundraisers. Thanks to our Volunteers and Staff we hosted a range of interactive activities and heard stories of hardship and hope that spoke to the resilient nature of Territorians and how Vinnies advocates for our community.

On the night, participants were welcomed onto Larrakia Country at the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory's, Fannie Bay Gaol. The Curator of Territory History took us on a guided tour of the iconic location, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The evening was filled with



CEO Sleepout Activity

insightful stories from our Companions and Volunteers. One activity explored some of the challenges that lead to homelessness, devising solutions and viability measures such as: creating flexible work environments, such as working from home and encouraging employee volunteer engagement opportunities to help foster connections in our community. The Darwin Trailer Boat Club facilitated a soup kitchen. An immersion activity explored struggle and privilege. Finally, our auction raised an extra \$3,500 on the night from participants and sponsors!

Special mention to our Highest Team Fundraisers, Roland Houareau and Dave Dann from INPEX.

Special mention to our Highest Individual Fundraiser, Shambhu Kadel from KBA Global.

Pre-registrations are open for the 2023 CEO Sleepout, visit [ceosleepout.org.au](https://ceosleepout.org.au) to sign up and start raising funds for our Territory Community. Join Vinnies NT for a night of sleeping rough, experience the concrete and cardboard and to raise awareness and funds for people in need. Be a part of the solution. Advocate for the Northern Territory.



## OUR GOVERNANCE

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY NORTHERN TERRITORY

The full name of the Northern Territory Society is “St Vincent de Paul Society (NT) Inc”. Our Australian Business Number (ABN) is 11 300 386 527 and we are incorporated under the NT Associations Act 2015. The Society is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) and holds the appropriate Deductible Gift Recipient endorsement. As a Public Benevolent Institution, we are endorsed to access the following charity tax concessions:

- Income tax exemption from 1 July 2000 under Subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997
- GST Concessions from 1 July 2005 under Division 176 of A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999
- FBT Exemption from 1 July 2005 under section 123C of the Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act 1986.

Our insurance is held through Catholic Church Insurance and AON.

#### SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

The Society has three categories of membership, Conference Members, Associate Members and Volunteer Members. There are established procedures for registration as a member, and any person registered as a Conference or Associate Member has voting rights in relation to the Society.

#### OUR CONFERENCES

Our four Territory Conferences report quarterly to the Territory Council and meet on a regular basis. All bank accounts relating to the Conferences are managed by their respective Treasurer and report to Council.

Conference Presidents are elected for a term not exceeding four years, and the President appoints all other office bearers in their Conference. All Conference member and volunteer positions are unpaid.

#### THE TERRITORY COUNCIL

The Council is ultimately responsible for the oversight and review of the management, administration, and overall governance of the Society in the Northern Territory.

Council responsibilities include:

- Meeting the Society’s objectives and reporting against the Strategic Plan
- Protecting members’ interests
- Upholding the values of the St Vincent de Paul Society and adhering to high moral standards and ethical behaviour
- Authorising policies and overseeing the strategic direction of the Society
- Establishing management goals and monitoring their achievement
- Approving major capital expenditure, major financial commitments and the annual budget
- Approving the annual report and financial statements
- Ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations
- Monitoring the risk management strategy
- Providing a linkage between subsidiary Councils and Conferences to the National Council.

The composition of the Territory Council is determined using the following principles:

- The President of each Conference is a member of the Territory Council
- The Territory President is elected by the Territory Council for a period not exceeding four years
- The Territory President has the right to appoint Society Conference members to the Council including Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, a Youth Representative, and a Spiritual Advisor.

The Territory Council meets at least once every quarter and is currently composed of ten members and a non-voting ex-officio member, being the Spiritual Advisor. The Territory Council President is the Society’s representative on the National Council of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia. The Territory Council delegates management of the Society’s resources to the Executive team under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, to deliver the strategic direction and goals determined by Council. A financial audit is conducted by an independent auditor chosen through a select tender process.

#### INVESTING IN OUR SOCIETY

During this reporting period, the Society Membership Committee arranged a Spiritual Retreat, self-paced Online Emergency Relief (ER) training, Face to face ‘cross cultural awareness training, ‘Understanding mental health and workplace wellbeing’ training.

## CHANGING FACES

We said goodbye to Justin Dezylva who moved to QLD and Ruth Gill accepted the Secretary role for the Northern Territory St Vincent de Paul Society Council.

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND OCHRE CARD

The Society is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children. All staff, volunteers, and members of the Society complete a current 'Working with Children' check through SafeNT.

## WORK, HEALTH AND SAFETY VISION

The Society is committed to ensuring the health and wellbeing of its employees, volunteers, and the community by increasing awareness of workplace safety; providing a safe place and safe systems of work and eliminating or reducing hazards that could result in injury or ill health.

## NOTIFIABLE INCIDENTS

There were no notifiable incidents to NT WorkSafe during the 2021-2022 financial year.

## Society Committees

Finance Committee	Reviews monthly financial reports, budget and end of year statements. Reviews policies and procedures relating to finance. Provides advice on financial implications of any significant decisions or investments. Issues are reported to the Territory Council.
Membership Committee	Supports implementation of 2019-2022 Strategic plan. Committee is at initial stages of development.
Governance Committee	Supports the Council in review of policy and recommends to Council training opportunities to improve knowledge as well as understanding of governance.
Housing Advisory Committee	Provides advisory skill base to give Council recommendations on any housing issues and strategies.
Social Justice Committee	Provides advisory skill base to give Council recommendations on any Social Justice issues and strategies.

Council Member	Meetings entitled to attend	Meetings attended
Jocelyn Cull	4	4
Kathryn Pettersen	4	3
Justin Dezylva	3	2
Ruth Gill	1	1
Emil John	4	3
Fr Adam Crouch	4	2
Damian Legg	4	3
Kay Fitzpatrick	4	3
Frances Abbott	4	4
Graeme Finch	4	4



EARLIER THIS YEAR I MET A COMPANION WHO WAS INTERESTED IN GETTING A JOB. THROUGH OUR CONFERENCE EMERGENCY RELIEF SERVICE, WE SECURED HIM A POSITION WITH HIS SKILLS TO START THE NEXT DAY. AS THE COMPANION HAD NOT BEEN EMPLOYED FOR SOME TIME, HE HAD NO WORK CLOTHES, SOCKS, BOOTS OR SAFETY GEAR AND THANKS TO OUR VINNIES STORES WE WERE ABLE TO PROVIDE THESE ITEMS. IT'S VERY REWARDING TO HELP OTHERS THROUGH ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY PROGRAMS, PROVIDING A WRAPAROUND SERVICE FOR COMPANIONS IS AN IMMEDIATE HAND UP AND ITS WONDERFUL TO SEE THE IMPACT ONE AFTERNOON CAN HAVE.



## TREASURER'S REPORT

EMIL JOHN

SVDP NT has continued on a solid and sustainable financial trend over the last few years, delivering a targeted and robust financial performance, supporting our core vision of offering a hand up for people in need.

There is always a balancing act between ensuring that the resources available to the society are utilised most effectively in line with our vision and mission, to ensuring that we provide a stable, sustainable, financial base to keep delivering on our mission for the future.

I believe that the society under the stewardship of Jocelyn, Rob and his team have been able to strike the right balance, as evidenced in the results presented today.

It is with great pleasure that I can advise that the operations of the society focusing on our core community services areas of homelessness, help for people in crisis, community care and affordable retail stores, have all seen a strong year resulting in an operational surplus of \$627,204.00 for the past year.

The last year has been a continued test to the resilience of the organization with the ever shifting winds in the retail environment, and the yet lingering effects of the COVID pandemic as "the new normal" still impacting operations.

While the operational surplus may seem lower than the amount declared last year \$1,339,103, we have managed to provide a large portion of

funds \$355,088 for some historic costs that we anticipate to provide for over the next couple of years. This has provided us with a modicum of stability and flexibility in our budgets and plans moving forward.

A pleasing trend to see has been the increasing spend in our core community services, giving more back to the community, all the while ensuring that we have invested appropriately back into our operations, into staff, staffing levels, resources and education... to position us for an even stronger future.

We have also continued trend of building a strong financial base for the society with the consistent upward trajectory in our total equity base which stands at \$19.5 Million.

The last few years have seen a targeted approach to increase our discretionary income supported primarily by our retail operations. Although the last year has seen a decline in numbers for revenue for the stores, a surplus of \$866,829.00 is pleasing and admirable due to the strong headwinds faced by the retail sector and the economy in general.

The unprecedented economic uncertainty that Australia is going through, coupled with the increased cost of living pressures that are impacting a majority of the population, mean that the society is uniquely positioned to be at the forefront of being able to provide support to the most vulnerable people of the Society in the

coming future.

We have to balance the need for prudence in the face of economic uncertainty moving forward ensuring that invest in the future of the society. The future holds great promise for the society with the hard work over the last 2 years now starting to bear fruit. There are a few seminal and exciting projects underway which will take the society to the next phase of its evolution.

Finally, I take this opportunity to personally thank all our committee members, members, volunteers, staff, friends and well wishers of the Society for your hard work during the year, and ask for your continued support moving forward. We are indeed fortunate to have such a sound financial base from which to continue the long history of good works.

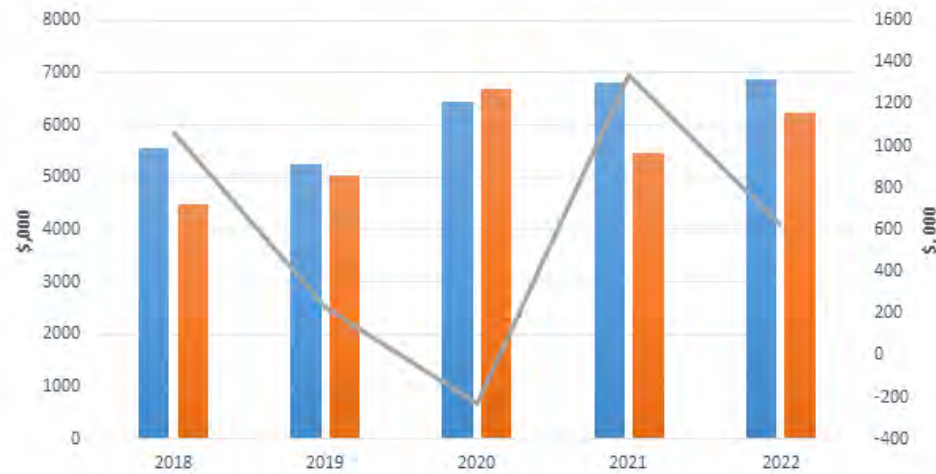


Treasurer  
St Vincent de Paul Society  
Northern Territory

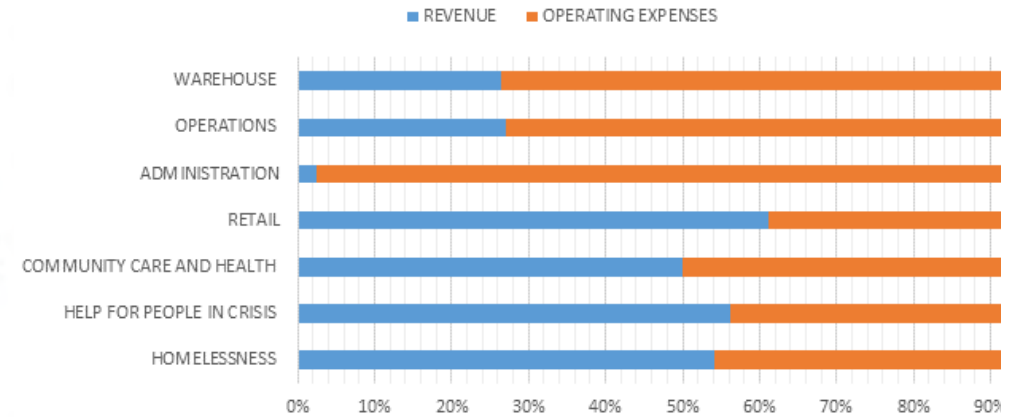
## TREASURER'S REPORT

### AT A GLANCE

#### PERFORMANCE TREND



#### Revenue Vs Expenses





# FINANCIAL SUMMARY STATEMENT

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	5 5,158,593	3,875,387
Trade and other receivables	6 697	67,525
Other assets	8 108,601	100,268
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>5,267,891</b>	<b>4,043,180</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	9(a) 16,661,983	17,083,413
Right of Use	9(b) 1,737,717	717,565
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>18,399,700</b>	<b>17,800,978</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>23,667,591</b>	<b>21,844,158</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	10 667,822	357,192
Borrowings	11 204,787	208,784
Provisions	12 252,124	171,254
Grants in advance	13 259,583	238,738
Lease Liabilities	14 142,384	167,094
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>1,526,700</b>	<b>1,143,062</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Borrowings	11 960,277	1,165,103
Provisions	12 41,296	78,376
Lease Liabilities	14 1,627,738	573,241
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>2,629,311</b>	<b>1,816,720</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4,156,011</b>	<b>2,959,782</b>
<b>Net assets/(liabilities)</b>	<b>19,511,580</b>	<b>18,884,376</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Reserves	15 3,307,508	3,307,508
Accumulated funds	15 16,204,072	15,576,868
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>19,511,580</b>	<b>18,884,376</b>

Notes are available with the audited financial report

## STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	2022 \$			2021 \$		
	Revenue	Operating Expenses	Net surplus / (deficit)	Revenue	Operating Expenses	Net surplus / (deficit)
<b><u>Community Services</u></b>						
Homelessness	2,753,944	2,325,631	428,313	2,678,833	2,403,255	275,578
Help for People in Crisis	356,241	276,989	79,252	556,257	281,792	274,465
Natural Disaster Relief	9,277	-	9,277	-	-	-
Migrants, Refugees & Overseas	-	-	-	-	1,040	(1,040)
Youth	-	-	-	(302)	-	(302)
Community Care & Health	995,911	953,663	42,248	782,349	775,055	7,294
	<b>4,115,373</b>	<b>3,556,283</b>	<b>559,090</b>	<b>4,017,137</b>	<b>3,461,142</b>	<b>555,995</b>
<b><u>Supporting Services</u></b>						
Administration	5,315	213,480	(208,165)	43,055	169,393	(126,338)
Operations	186,258	502,335	(316,077)	85,433	76,010	9,423
Retail	2,393,743	1,526,914	866,829	2,585,401	1,439,293	1,146,108
Warehouse	155,001	429,474	(274,473)	81,219	327,304	(246,085)
	<b>2,740,317</b>	<b>2,672,203</b>	<b>68,114</b>	<b>2,795,108</b>	<b>2,012,000</b>	<b>783,108</b>
	<b>6,855,690</b>	<b>6,228,486</b>	<b>627,204</b>	<b>6,812,245</b>	<b>5,473,142</b>	<b>1,339,103</b>
Total Surplus			627,204			1,339,103



Gerry in the Society Archives

## THANK YOU TO OUR LOYAL SUPPORTERS

## SHAPING A MORE JUST AND COMPASSIONATE SOCIETY

We acknowledge the support of Parishes, the Catholic Diocese of Darwin, Bishop Charles Gauci, Bishop Eugene Hurley, our Spiritual Advisor, Father Adam Crouch.

### GOLD SUPPORTERS

Kathleen O'Brian  
Louw Group  
Northline  
Outback Stores  
Ward Keller

### Territory Government

Department of Infrastructure,  
Planning and Logistics  
Department of Territory Families,  
Housing and Communities  
Luke Gosling MP Solomon  
Mark Monaghan MLA Department

### OSHC Holy Family School

Sacred Heart Catholic Primary  
Sacred Heart School P&F  
St Francis of Assisi Catholic  
Primary School  
St John's Catholic College  
St Paul's Catholic Primary

### Italian Ladies Group

KBA Global Pty Ltd  
Larrakia Nation  
Lay Group - Asian United  
Limitless Youth Group  
Mad Harry's  
MIX 104.9

### SILVER SUPPORTERS

ABC Radio Darwin

### of Legislative Assembly

Northern Territory Government  
Services Australia

### Stuart Park Primary

PROUD SPIRITUAL  
SUPPORTERS

### Museum and Art Gallery of the

Northern Territory  
Nautical Supplies  
Northern Territory  
Government  
Oasis Shopping Centre

### BRONZE SUPPORTERS

Big W Casuarina  
Bunnings Darwin  
Casuarina Community Health  
Clinic  
Danila Dilba  
Darwin Community Legal Service  
Darwin Trailer Boat Club  
MileStone Group  
Orange Sky Laundry Service  
Rachael's Designer Cakes  
Sea Swift  
Share The Dignity  
Simon George and Sons  
Sitzler

### PROUD NGO SUPPORTERS

Catholic Care  
Clubhouse Territory Inc  
Good360  
Kentish Lifelong Learning and Care  
Incorporated  
Mission Australia  
NT Shelter  
Salvation Army

### St Martin De Pores Church

PROUD SUPPORTERS  
Ad Made  
Alice Springs Turf Club  
Brumby's Bakery Northlakes  
Coolalinga Central  
Darwin 97Seven  
Darwin Club Tropical Resort  
Darwin Patchworkers and

Rachael Burgess Coaching/  
Rachael's Designa Cake  
Rise Employment  
Silks Darwin  
Ski Club Darwin  
Skymax  
Territory FM  
Total Sports Management  
Warton Strategic  
Wilson Security

### PROUD GOVERNMENT SUPPORTERS

Department of Health Northern

### PROUD EDUCATION SUPPORTERS

Alawa Primary School  
Holy Spirit Catholic Primary  
Larrakeyah Primary  
Ludmilla Primary  
MacKillop Catholic College  
Mother Teresa Catholic Primary  
O'Loughlin Catholic College

Quilting Club  
Double Tree By Hilton  
Fannie Bay Gaol  
Fishing and Outdoor World  
Gateway Shopping Centre  
HOT 100  
Humpty Doo Shopping Centre  
INPEX

### REST IN PEACE AND BE REMEMBERED

Di Thomas  
Peter Collins

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY IS RELIANT ON DONATIONS, OF ALL SORTS. VINNIES 2021 WIN A HARLEY RAFFLE RAISED OVER \$18,000 TO SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS! DARWIN TRAILER BOAT CLUB DISPLAYED THE BRAND NEW FXST SOFTAIL STANDARD, SOLD RAFFLE TICKETS AND HOSTED THE ANNOUNCEMENT. THANK YOU TO DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS, MEMBERS AND STAFF WHO SOLD TICKETS TO FRIENDS, FAMILY AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC. AND WE ARE VERY GRATEFUL TO THE IN-KIND DONATION FROM OUR FRIENDS AT

**OUTBACK**  
Stores  
*Working With Communities*





## OUR HISTORY IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

### OUR STORY

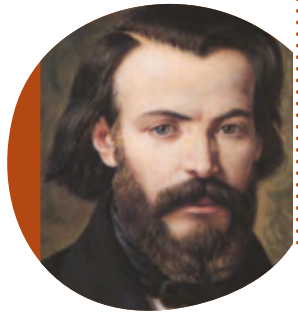


Vincent de Paul  
born in France

1581

1833

St Vincent de Paul  
Society founded  
by Frederic Ozanam  
-Paris



First Australian  
Conference  
founded  
in Victoria

1854

1949

First Conference  
founded in  
Northern Territory  
-St Mary Star of the  
Sea Darwin

Centre of Chairty  
opens  
-Stuart Park

1967

1968

First regional  
Centre of Chairty  
established  
-Alice Springs



Ozanam House day  
centre established  
-Darwin

1974

1975

Second regional  
Centre of Chairty  
established  
-Tennant Creek



Third regional  
Centre of Chairty  
established  
-Katherine

1983



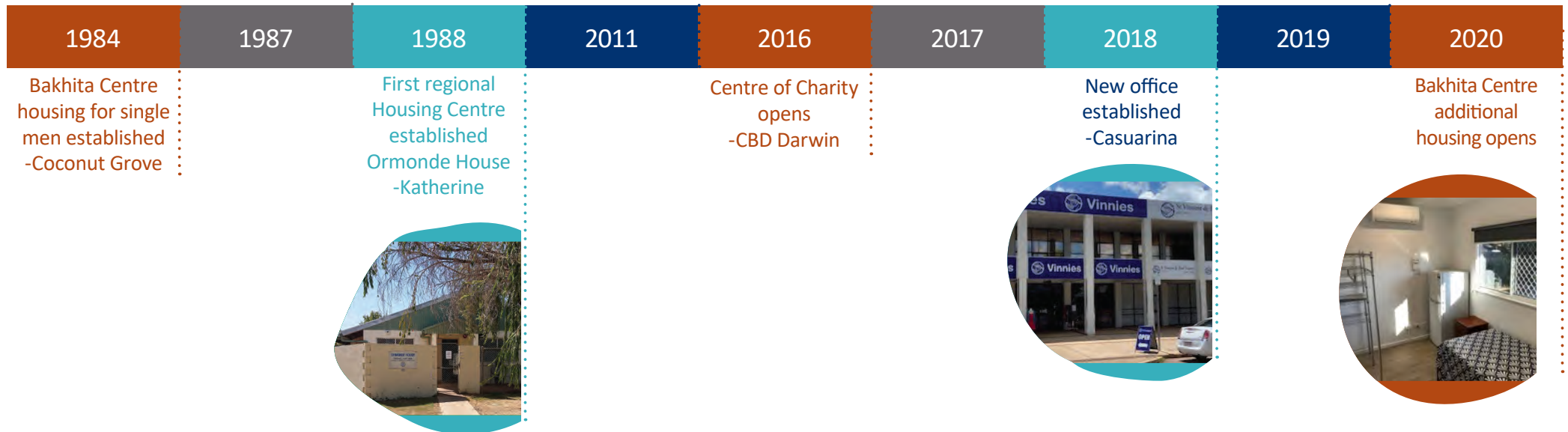
Ted Collins Village  
housing for families  
established  
-Darwin



Centre of Charity  
opens  
-Winnellie

Centre of Chairty  
opens  
-Palmerston

Centres of Charity  
opens  
-Coolalinga  
-Fannie Bay







Responsibility for this document rests with the St Vincent de Paul Society Northern Territory. ABN: 11 300 386 527 Auditor: BDO Audit Pty Ltd

St Vincent de Paul Society Northern Territory respects the privacy and dignity of all people. For more information on our Privacy Policy please refer to our website.



**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
NORTHERN TERRITORY  
*good works*

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Casuarina Northern Territory 0810

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W: [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au)

