

# Vinnies News

## ABC Gives raises over \$170,000 for Vinnies

**ABC listeners from across Western Australia have given generously to Vinnies as part of the annual ABC Gives charity campaign.**

Listeners donated more than \$175,000, with most of the contributions received during the big ABC Gives Radiothon on 30 November.

Throughout the day, ABC Radio Perth and ABC Regional Radio featured interviews with members, volunteers, staff and Vinnies clients, who told listeners about our work and shared heart-warming stories.

Listeners also shared their own experiences with Vinnies, whether they had received help in the past or found a treasure at one of our retail shops.

Vinnies members, volunteers and staff took donation calls in the tally room at the ABC's Perth studios throughout the day, with the highest donation being a remarkably generous \$10,000.

Meanwhile, the Vinnies Albany store hosted an ABC Regional Radio broadcast, which featured live musical performances from The Waifs' Vikki Thorn



and the Albany Shantymen, and food from renowned Denmark chef Silas Masih.

Vinnies CEO Susan Rooney thanked ABC listeners for their incredible generosity.

"It's amazing how people are helping other people in the community – that's what's special about ABC Gives," she said.

## Christmas Appeal to help with cost of living

**Vinnies has launched its annual Christmas Appeal in support of West Australian families struggling with the cost of living.**

Many WA families are experiencing poverty and trying to keep a roof over their heads and food on the table. As the crisis escalates, so does their desperation.

The Appeal features Anna and her children, who have been hit hard by the crisis, but have found hope and support from Vinnies volunteer members.

Your gift this Christmas can help provide crisis support and long-term assistance to help vulnerable West Australians to get through the cost-of-living crisis and build better futures.

To donate, [visit \*\*donate.vinnies.org.au\*\*](https://donate.vinnies.org.au) or ring **13 18 12**.

By donating to our regular appeals, you'll be supporting WA families in need, and also be among the first to receive our donor magazine *Impact*, in which you can read about the difference you're making.

# A year in review

We take a look back at some of the highlights from a busy 2023.

## January

We begin the year distributing generous in-kind donations received during the holiday season to people in need.

Meanwhile, the Subiaco Conference gets the new year off to a sizzling start with a BBQ fundraiser.



## April

The release of the latest ABS data shows that WA leads the nation with the highest number of rough sleepers, highlighting the importance of Vinnies specialist homelessness services.

## May

We launch our Winter Appeal which raises \$1.1M while shining a light on women over 55 experiencing homelessness.

The HBF Run for a Reason returns for the first time since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, with 27 participants supporting Vinnies. Many runners and walkers take part in 'Flick your kit', donating surplus clothing to Vinnies.

## February

We launch a survey to garner the views of the residents of Mirrabooka and surrounding communities about food insecurity, informing the work towards a WA-first Community Food Centre.

## March

We launch our Autumn Appeal to highlight how families struck by tragedy are supported by Vinnies emotionally and with practical assistance.

Our team at Ozanam House celebrates Harmony Week in style.

## June

The Vinnies CEO Sleepout at Optus stadium raises almost \$790,000 for our specialist homelessness services. A day later, Ventia hosts a charity ball which raises an additional \$71,000.

The WA State Government announces Vinnies as the service provider for the new Wandjoo Bidi homelessness service in Perth City.

The first residents move into the refurbished CROFT complex in Inglewood.





## July

Incredible donors rally behind the Gift A Night Off the Streets Appeal to help sponsor 2,484 night stays at Tom Fisher House for people experiencing chronic homelessness.

At Tom Fisher House, residents and staff celebrate NAIDOC Week with a feast of kangaroo stew and damper.

## August

Community Services Minister Sabine Winton presents a \$2 million Lotterywest grant to Vinnies. It will allow our members to continue to provide our Emergency Assistance and Support program to the community.



## September

Our Spring Appeal launches, highlighting the work of our mental health service.

The second annual Tough Night Out raises more than \$57,000 thanks to the efforts of 300 participants, including 250 students from Ursula Frayne College.



## October

Our new community outlet opens its doors in Manjimup.

Anti-Poverty Week highlights the experiences of children living below the poverty line.

Our new homelessness service, Wandjoo Bidi, welcomes its first residents.

## November

The WA Government announces a \$24.4 million rent relief grant program, to be co-designed and delivered by Vinnies, Anglicare and partner agencies.

ABC Gives raises more than \$175,000 for Vinnies WA.



## December

Our Christmas Appeal is in full swing. The support from the community will help provide food, clothing, living expenses and crisis support for vulnerable people.

A new group of long-serving members and volunteers are acknowledged at Ozanam House. Their names will be added to the honour wall.



# WA rent relief to be delivered by Vinnies, Anglicare and partners

Vinnies WA has welcomed the State Government's announcement of a \$24.4 million WA Rental Relief Grant program to help West Australians at risk of homelessness, as they struggle to afford the soaring rent prices across the state.

The program was announced at Vinnies Ozanam House, by Premier Roger Cook, Commerce Minister Sue Ellery and Housing Minister John Carey.

It is expected that up to 4,500 households will be assisted by the WA Rental Relief program to be co-designed and delivered by Vinnies WA, Anglicare WA and partner agencies.

Vinnies CEO Susan Rooney, who has been at the forefront of advocating for a rent relief program alongside other organisations, said the announcement was very welcome news for vulnerable West Australians.

"Across the board, through our Emergency Assistance and Support program and our Financial Counselling services, we are seeing an increase in demand for our services, including 350 calls a day for emergency assistance from across WA," she said.

"The Rent Relief program is an important addition to the measures we have to address cost-of-living pressures for West Australian families."

It is anticipated the program will start in the coming months and run until June 2025.

## Give a gift that can change lives

**When making a will, it is natural to think of your family and friends first, but once loved ones are taken care of, many people choose to leave a legacy that reflects their values and the causes they care about most.**

There are many ways you can support Vinnies in your will, including leaving a percentage of your estate, a percentage of your residual estate, or a specific gift including shares or property. Each gift is received with immense gratitude and can have a profound impact on tens of thousands of West Australian's experiencing poverty and disadvantage in our community.

If you would like more information about leaving a gift in your will, please contact Natasha Prins on 6323 7535, email [bequests@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:bequests@svdpwa.org.au) or visit [vinnies.org.au/wa/bequests](http://vinnies.org.au/wa/bequests)



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### Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, as the Traditional Custodians of this land, with deep respect. May Elders, past and present, be blessed and honoured. May we join together and build a future based on compassion, justice, hope, faith, and reconciliation.

*To respect the privacy of the people we assist, some of the names and images may have been changed.*