

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

How your kindness is giving life-changing support to vulnerable Queenslanders.



See how you have
helped **262,585**
Queenslanders
in need



Abigail and
Isabella have a
safe, stable home
– thanks to you



Discover how
your support is
giving **Levi** a
brighter future

SPRING 2025



Vinnies
good works



Welcome to the spring issue of your *Making A Difference* newsletter

With winter behind us, I am looking forward to the brighter days ahead. And reflect on the wonderful generosity you have shown to St Vincent de Paul Society QLD (Vinnies QLD) in recent months.

As you will read in this issue of the newsletter, there is so much to thank you for.

Your support has helped change the lives of sisters Abigail and Isabella*. They grew up in a violent, unstable environment, but now have a safe, secure home – thanks to compassionate people like you.

You can also read about Levi*, who was once sleeping rough. But thanks to your unwavering

kindness, he is now looking forward to a better future.

As the cost-of-living and housing crises continue, I am especially grateful to you. Because I know your ongoing kindness will help Queenslanders like Abigail, Isabella and Levi through their toughest times.

Thank you for your kind heart,



P. McMahon

Trish McMahon
State President
St Vincent de Paul Society QLD

“We are so grateful for all the support we have received” – Abigail and Isabella

Do you remember reading about sisters Abigail and Isabella? During winter, their story inspired generous people like you to dig deep and support vulnerable Queenslanders in need. Thank you to everyone who donated!

The sisters grew up around violence, instability, and neglect. As a result, they struggled with school and spent large parts of their childhoods homeless.

As soon as they were old enough, they applied for their own housing and created a safe, loving home together. But the sisters had no furniture, or household items.

That is when the kindness of people like you came into their lives.

Your support meant hardworking Vinnies QLD volunteer members Christine* and David* could help provide the sisters with a fridge, washing machine, lounge, and everything they needed to set up their home.



You also helped give Isabella the support she needed to return to her studies. And you helped provide Abigail with counselling through Vinnies QLD, so she could heal from a lifetime of trauma. Thank you for your generosity and compassion.



Your impact in numbers

In just one year¹ ...



You helped



1,342

Queenslanders
into secure, sustainable
housing

You helped



262,585

vulnerable Queenslanders
receive support

You helped give



\$14.3M

in direct
emergency support

You helped provide



128,510

nights of accommodation
— thank you!



**WILL YOU OPEN YOUR
HEART AND HELP
SOMEONE LIKE LEVI?**

Soon after Levi's mum died, his life began to unravel. Without a family home to stay in, he spent 18 months sleeping on the street – with just a thin layer of cardboard between him and the hard concrete.

“My health was going down the drain and it was taking its toll on me mentally.”

– Levi.

Homelessness was isolating and lonely too. Levi quickly learned the best way to stay safe was to sleep in car parks alone each night – and not trust anyone.

Levi's story is all too common. On any given night, over 22,000² Queenslanders like him will experience homelessness. Many will spend tonight sleeping on a sheet of cardboard.

Will you show your compassion for Queenslanders like Levi?

Your support will help provide crisis accommodation, food, and clothing to people in urgent need. You will also help give wrap-around care to help someone like Levi get back on their feet. And rebuild their life.

To make a donation,
**please use the form
enclosed with this
newsletter, or
scan the QR code.**



**Thank you for your kindness, and for
all the ways you are making a difference.**



105,127 reasons to say 'thank you'!

Vinnies QLD is proud to partner with Metcash, to raise vital funds for Queenslanders doing it tough. Metcash donated \$85,127 to our Christmas Appeal 2024, to help provide emergency relief, essentials and safe housing for people in need.

Then in March, Metcash presented Vinnies QLD Vice President John Hollamby with another \$20,000 to support communities impacted by Tropical Cyclone Alfred.

That is a grand total of \$105,127 donated in the last year alone – thank you, Metcash!

Why we give: the Cranny brothers

Phil and Mick Cranny grew up on a rural Queensland farm with Vinnies QLD as a constant presence.

Inspired by their father, a dedicated Conference President, they continued his legacy through volunteering – motivated by a belief in helping others and a drive to support bold initiatives with lasting social impact.

“I have always felt an obligation to assist wherever possible,” – Mick

After retirement, upon selling their family farm, they wanted to make a significant impact on the community.

Their generous gift to help build **500 social and affordable homes** will help hundreds of vulnerable Queenslanders into safe, secure housing, giving them a chance to rebuild their lives and integrate into communities.

We are deeply grateful for their trust, compassion, and commitment.



“We want to support our companions into these homes, and help the people we house become a part of society.”

– Phil

If you would like to learn more about how you can support our 500 Homes project, **please contact Kelly Ferguson, Relationship Manager on (07) 3010 1070.**



* Many people coming to Vinnies QLD have never had to ask for help before and can feel embarrassed that they need to. That is why we change people's names and details – to protect their identity and uphold their dignity.

¹ Annual Report, FY2023-2024

² Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021)