

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

VINNIES INVESTS TO
PROVIDE MORE HOMES
TO TASMANIANS IN NEED

VINNIESTAS.ORG.AU



St Vincent de Paul Society
TASMANIA
good works

OUR MISSION

THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY IS A LAY CATHOLIC ORGANISATION THAT ASPIRES TO LIVE THE GOSPEL MESSAGE BY SERVING CHRIST IN THE POOR WITH LOVE, RESPECT, JUSTICE, HOPE AND JOY, AND BY WORKING TO SHAPE A MORE JUST AND COMPASSIONATE SOCIETY.

OUR VISION

THE SOCIETY ASPIRES TO BE RECOGNISED AS A CARING CATHOLIC CHARITY OFFERING 'A HAND UP' TO PEOPLE IN NEED. WE DO THIS BY RESPECTING THEIR DIGNITY, SHARING OUR HOPE, AND ENCOURAGING THEM TO TAKE CONTROL OF THEIR OWN DESTINY.

OUR ASPIRATION

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

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ABN 41 003 138 898 Australian Charities Number 23838.

PRIVACY STATEMENT:

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

OUR KEY VALUES

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

COMMITMENT

Loyalty in service to our mission, vision, and values.

COMPASSION

Welcoming and serving all with understanding and without judgement.

RESPECT

Service to all regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender, or political opinions.

INTEGRITY

Promoting, maintaining, and adhering to our mission, vision, and values.

EMPATHY

Establishing relationships based on respect, trust, friendship, and perception.

ADVOCACY

Working to transform the causes of poverty and challenging the causes of human injustice.

COURAGE

Encouraging spiritual growth, welcoming innovation, and giving hope for the future.

OUR HISTORY

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

ST VINCENT DE PAUL (1581 – 1660)

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

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STATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**ESTABLISHING THREE
ST VINCENT DE PAUL
SOCIETY COMMUNITY
HUBS, LOCATED IN
LAUNCESTON, SOMERSET,
AND SMITHTON, WAS ONE
OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF
THE YEAR FOR ME.**



The year under review has been one of opportunity, challenges, and momentum towards delivering on the key components of our Strategic Plan. I propose to touch on a few of our success stories for the year and encourage you to read about the various projects and initiatives members, staff, and volunteers have worked on during the year.

No doubt, the effect of COVID-19 on the Society was the biggest challenge we faced during the period under review. I was thrilled by the way in which we almost spontaneously reacted to cope with the effects of the pandemic. We took decisive steps to protect our members, staff, volunteers, and companions. This included social distancing, stringent hygiene practices, and redesigning our service model delivery operations. We developed the drive-and-drop concept and quickly put it into place to deliver food and other necessities to our companions. Our members supported this process by conducting phone interviews with our companions. They then linked with staff to assist with the delivery of parcels to the homes of those we assist. As the year progressed and restrictions eased, life for us all began to return to some sense of normality.

Establishing three St Vincent de Paul Society community hubs, located in Launceston, Somerset, and Smithton, was one of the highlights of the year for me. Supporting people who are experiencing social disadvantage, with the aim to improving their lives, was one of our core focus areas of the 2018-21 Strategic Plan. Connecting with communities, with a clear focus on providing much needed services to our companions, is a cornerstone of the Society. With the thought that 'no act of charity should be foreign to the Society' we need to continue to connect with our communities – particularly those communities where residents are faced with significant health and economic challenges.

With this in mind, the State Council supported the transformation of our Smithton and Somerset shops into Community Hubs, which followed the opening of the Community Hub in Launceston. It was a privilege to be involved in all three openings and witness the excitement of the local communities, society members, volunteers, and staff.

The Society's Special Works also faced challenges associated during the COVID-19 pandemic. Tastex Knitwear, Bethlehem House, Vincent Industries, St Vincent Industries, and Marillac House were all called upon to adapt and implement the directives of both State and Federal authorities. Throughout this time, they continued to provide support to those in need; particularly homeless men; and those men and women who would not normally obtain employment and training opportunities in the broader community.

We farewelled two State Council members during the year, namely Pat Flanagan, Southern Regional Council President and Catherine Beaver, State Council Vice President. On behalf of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Tasmania, I would like to thank both Pat and Catherine for their contributions at State Council during their time with us and to wish them the best for the future. In farewelling Pat and Catherine, I would also like to welcome our three latest State Council members, namely John Moore, Southern Regional President, Anne Rowe, Northwest Regional President, and Sam Johnstone, our Youth Representative. I look forward to working with John, Anne, and Sam.

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

To our donors and supporters, who have assisted us during the year, I thank you on behalf our members, staff, and volunteers. Without your support, the lives and hopes of our companions would be significantly more of a challenge for them.

I'd like to thank our very capable CEO, Lara Alexander, for her commitment to the Society and its endeavours, and her ongoing support and advice to me as State President and the wider State Council.

Finally, I am so very grateful to all staff, members, and volunteers; and I am extremely proud of the way the Society rose to this year's unique challenges and clasped the opportunities presented to us. We are a strong and resilient organisation, and we will always be there for our community when times are hard.

Mark Gaetani
State President

**TO OUR DONORS AND
SUPPORTERS, WHO HAVE
ASSISTED US DURING
THE YEAR, I THANK YOU
ON BEHALF OUR MEMBERS,
STAFF, AND VOLUNTEERS.
WITHOUT YOUR SUPPORT,
THE LIVES AND HOPES OF
OUR COMPANIONS WOULD
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A CHALLENGE FOR THEM.**

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

THE FINANCIAL YEAR
2020 – 2021 WAS AN
EXCITING BUT EXTREMELY
FAST-PACED YEAR.



The financial year 2020 – 2021 was an exciting but extremely fast-paced year. For the St Vincent de Paul Society, this year was a time that tested many of us, as we navigated our way through an uncertain and changing environment. However, one of the most significant aspects of this year was how staff, members, and volunteers came together to deliver the good works and services of the Society. Collaboration and 'working together' are the words that best describe what the past twelve months have been about.

The Society invited several similar service providers to form a working group, called the Tasmanian Emergency Relief Communities of Practice (TERCOP). This is a group of ER service-providers that explored collaboration as an avenue to improve community access to essential services in times of crisis. The Emergency Relief organisations involved in TERCOP explored issues, such as innovation & strategy and networking & collaboration. These organisations include the St Vincent de Paul Society, the Salvation Army, Hobart City Mission, Uniting VicTas, Launceston Benevolent Society, Helping Hands Longford, and Catholic Care Tasmania. The Assistance Tas application and webform represents one of the initiatives that resulted from the group's collaboration. This QR-coded application offers an additional entry point for people seeking assistance, in times of crisis. It complements the traditional ways of contacting one of the organisations by offering an additional option.

The spirit of collaboration was also present in the decision made by the State Council to open Vinnies Community Hubs in Launceston, Somerset, and Smithton. It also recognised that the needs of people in crisis are becoming more complex; and that it may 'take a village' to help a person. In this instance, apart from being a place from where the Society can deliver its services, Vinnies Hubs are also an opportunity for other community providers to access the premises and deliver much needed support services to the local communities.

With a focus on the critical needs of the Tasmanian community, mainly affordable housing for those over 55-years-old, this year was also marked by the collaboration with Centacare Evolve Housing; resulting in a successful tender lodged with the State Government, Community Housing Growth Program, New Social Housing Supply. This project will effectively commence in the following financial year.

Also, this year, we have been successful in obtaining \$150,000 in State Government funding towards acquiring three new utility vehicles, to be custom fitted and added to our fleet of Vinnies and Loui's food vans, across the State. Our State Government funding for the day-to-day expenses of the Soup vans, also increased to \$60,000 per year, for the next three years.

St Vincent de Paul Society (Tas) increased our partnerships and collaboration with the new South Wales Society; implementing a new Client Record Management system, which has significantly improved our fundraising capabilities and strengthening our compliance and record-keeping.

We are also collaborating with the Society in New South Wales, with a focus on reducing waste costs and landfill; and finding innovative ways to recycle unwanted textiles.

We have continued to prioritise Work Health & Safety to resolve major risks identified in earlier audits. Our regular meetings of the Work Health & Safety State Steering Committee are proving to be extremely valuable in identifying issues and acting diligently to resolve them.

The Society has placed a specific focus on controlling expenses and continuing to improve our practices to reduce unnecessary costs. This financial year we also recorded a higher than expected level of donations and bequests. This is a testimony to the generosity of the Tasmanian community at time of need.

If there is one thing that COVID-19 has taught businesses and charities alike, it is that being flexible, adaptable, and having the right systems and people in place, is the key to succeeding in challenging times.

Our achievements this year, our Good Works, would not have been possible without the tireless work of our staff, members, and volunteers. It is only through the combined efforts of everyone involved with the Society that we have assisted so many members of our community over the past twelve months.

I'd like to thank State President, Mark Gaetani, and the State Council for providing much needed support and direction through these challenging times; and for dedicating so much of their time to the governance of the St Vincent de Paul Society. It is not an easy task and one that carries a great deal of responsibility with great rewards, but also equal risks; so thank you for your stewardship.

Finally, I'd like to offer a personal, warm and sincere thank you to every supporter and donor who have provided a much needed helping hand to our services in Tasmania. Without your contribution, charities like the St Vincent de Paul Society would struggle to deliver such important community work.

Lara Alexander
Chief Executive Officer

IF THERE IS ONE THING
THAT COVID-19 HAS TAUGHT
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SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

A REVIEW OF THE PAST YEAR IN THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY IN TASMANIA WILL REVEAL HOW WE ARE SERVING THE HUMAN PERSON IN A TRANSFORMED WORLD AND HOW WE ARE TRANSFORMING THE WAY WE SERVE THE HUMAN PERSON.



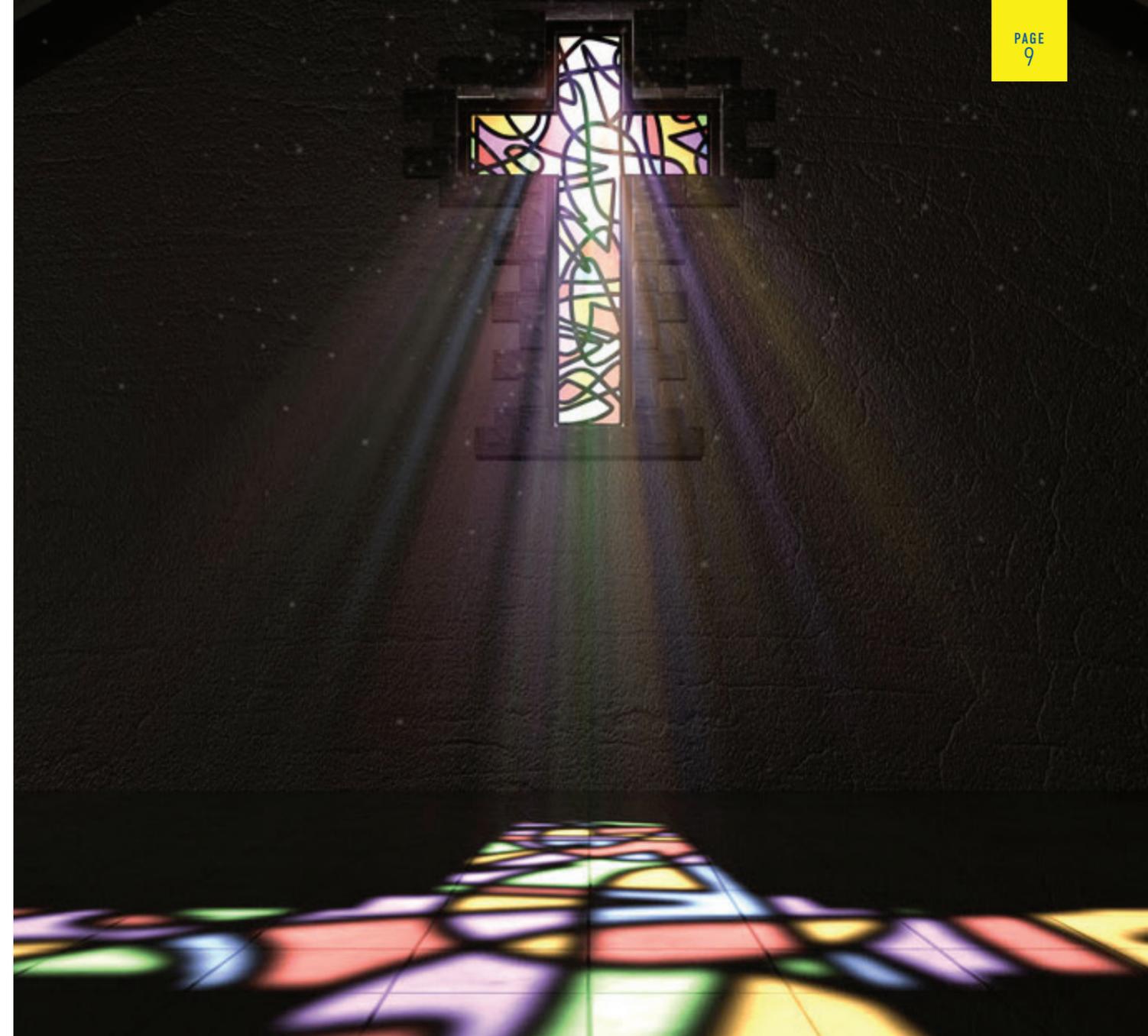
During the past year, Tasmania has been relatively COVID-19-case-free. Although, this does not mean we have not lived in a COVID-world. This global pandemic will be known as a major event in world history. In years to come, COVID-19 will explain many things, including the statistics of world travel, unemployment, toilet paper sales, births, deaths, marriages, movie releases, school attendance, and mental health figures will all be explained as “that was because of COVID-19.”

Equally, statistics of Zoom meetings, online gift purchasing and sending, phone calls, video chats, and text messaging, movie streaming, takeaway purchasing, and the uptake of hobbies, learning instruments, and home-baking will be similarly explained. Whether seen as positive or negative results, the focus is from the perspective of how the ‘human person’ is affected.

As we reflect upon the year just passed, while still in the midst of this time in history, it is tempting to wonder “when will it all end?” As the example of some of the statistics categories noted above reveal, despite a global pandemic, we are living together in this transformed world; or are we transforming the way we live? Both are true.

A review of the past year in the St Vincent de Paul Society in Tasmania will reveal how we are serving the human person in a transformed world and how we are transforming the way we serve the human person. Our mission, we declare, involves living “the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope, and joy; and by working together to shape a more just and compassionate society.”

In the example of Jesus, we discover that serving the poor is not about waiting for the world to change and it is not about changing the other into something that more resembles ourselves (materially, socially etc.). It is about loving the other as they unfold into the fullest version of themselves. When Jesus healed people, it was never about ‘flexing’ his miraculous power. It was about love for that person, despite any weakness, blindness, or debilitating health issue, which stymied their full and dignified participation in community, it was about wholeness.



Community services, including the St Vincent de Paul Society, often speak of a ‘holistic’ approach and strive to offer more appropriate services to meet the needs of their companions. This past year has seen us working more closely with other community services, charities, and government agencies. With thanks to COVID-19, this past year has necessitated reviews on how we are serving the human person in a transformed world and how we are transforming the way we serve the human person. Perhaps we are being encouraged to differentiate between our services and our serving, between the intended outcomes of our services and the love in our serving.

To emulate the holistic approach of Jesus we must notice the wholeness (or holiness) already present in the other. Jesus’ healing did not make others holy – it removed the blockages that stopped them recognising themselves as already holy – loved beyond measure (beloved of God).

“Love one another as I have loved you” (John 15:12) is the most simple and difficult command we receive from Jesus; yet, there is no better way to serve the human person in a transformed world or transform the way we serve the human person.

Belinda Chapman
Spiritual Adviser

STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS



MARK GAETANI
STATE PRESIDENT



LARA ALEXANDER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



BRENDAN MCMANUS
SECRETARY



COREY MCGRATH
TREASURER



VYVYAN ALLCHIN
PRESIDENT -
NORTHERN REGION



JOHN MOORE
PRESIDENT -
SOUTHERN REGION



ANNE ROWE
PRESIDENT -
NORTHWEST REGION



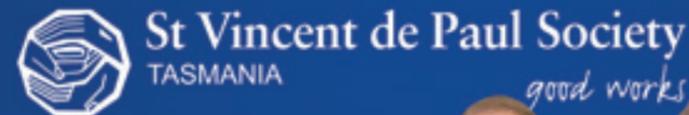
BELINDA CHAPMAN
SPIRITUAL ADVISER



SAMUEL JOHNSTONE
YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE



KERSTI EVANS
CHAIR, FINANCE & RISK
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



EMERGENCY RELIEF AND ASSISTANCE



\$1,000,000

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO
TASMANIANS IN 2020-21.



70%

SEEKING ASSISTANCE,
WHO ARE REQUESTING FOOD.



65%

IN THE 25-49 AGE GROUP ASSISTED
BY VINNIES IN 2020-21.



UP BY 40%

THE NUMBER OF REFERRALS
VINNIES MADE TO OTHER SERVICES.



UP BY 15%

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE
SEEKING SUPPORT.



UP BY 12%

THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE, NOT
RECEIVING CENTRELINK BENEFITS,
WHO SOUGHT ASSISTANCE
IN 2020-21.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

DUE TO COVID-19, SOME OF OUR MEMBERSHIP CHOSE TO TAKE A STEP BACK FROM THEIR USUAL ROLES DUE TO THEIR OWN VULNERABILITY, WHILE 42 NEW CONFERENCE MEMBERS CHOSE TO ENGAGE WITH THE VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES THAT THE ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY HAS TO OFFER.



While the St Vincent de Paul Society has many long-serving members, membership of the Society is also ever-changing. The year of 2020-21 was most certainly a year of change for many members. Due to COVID-19, some of our membership chose to take a step back from their usual roles due to their own vulnerability, while 42 new Conference members chose to engage with the volunteering opportunities that the St Vincent de Paul Society has to offer.

The two key directives from the National Council strategic plan are those of growing our membership, and spiritual formation. It has been a privilege for me to work solely in the membership space again, to support these key focus areas.

As I've travelled the state to re-engage with members during this year, the conversation has been related to our aging membership. All Conferences recognise that they would like to recruit a younger demographic. The question I ask is, "What defines membership for you?"

It is our response to this question that will determine our approach to recruiting new members. What are we inviting new members to participate in?

I refer to The Rule – Article 1, Part III states:

“Conference members are those who are desirous of living out their Catholic faith, or are committed to the ethos, mission, aims and objectives of the Society, and who seek to live out their faith and commitment in action through the spirit of Christian charity”



“They do this by loving and serving their neighbour in need and participating effectively in conference meetings, formation programs and charitable activities of the Society”

The opportunities for membership activities are diverse. Members are engaged in home visitation, visitation in our community hubs, soup van volunteering, Dining with Friends volunteering, hospital visitation, retail, and so on. Their commonality is that they have a shared fraternal spirituality and share their experience in a Conference meeting setting. Associate members are those committed to the ethos, mission, aims, and objectives of the Society and who seek to live out their faith in action by assisting in the works of the Society, but do not attend Conference meetings.

Who do you know that would like to be part of this shared fraternal spirituality and would enjoy assisting us to deliver the good works of the Society?

Spiritual Formation is the other key focus of National Council. Spiritual Formation could be explained as the journey through which we open our hearts to a deeper connection with God. Vincentian spirituality could be described as the story that God is telling through the St Vincent de Paul Society by the living out of the charism of its founders and the gospel of Jesus Christ. This story is about Christian charity. This story is about Love.

Not only do Conference meetings provide the opportunity for spiritual conversation, but during the last year there were also several other opportunities available for members to enrich their spirituality. Reflection Days were offered to each region during the year but due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Annual Founders Day event was not able to be held in 2020. It was difficult for many conferences to meet face to face during the year, so as an alternative to meeting face to face, 'Prayer and a Cuppa' was offered online via Zoom each Friday morning for several months for those members who took the opportunity to connect and reflect. Prayer and a Cuppa was facilitated by our State Council Spiritual Adviser, Belinda Chapman.

In the coming year there will be opportunities for formation with events such as President's Day, Annual Founders Day, and regional reflection days, as well as Festival masses. Other online gathering opportunities will also be available.

It is a blessing to work with our many dedicated members who selflessly give of their time and gifts, to love and serve others.

Melissa White
State Membership Manager

FUNDRAISING & MARKETING REPORT

TASMANIANS ARE KNOWN FOR BEING A VERY GENEROUS BUNCH AND THEIR GENEROSITY NEVER CEASES TO AMAZE ME AND HERE AT VINNIES, WE NEVER TAKE THAT GENEROSITY FOR GRANTED.

Fundraising and Marketing for the St Vincent de Paul Society Tasmania means I get to meet and talk to some great people, across a broad cross-section of the community and raise much-needed funds for our assistance and community programs.

I also get to highlight the amazing work our staff, members and volunteers carry out, often quietly, behind the scenes and sometimes after dark. Many of our staff put in a full day's work and then volunteer in their free time to assist on one of the food vans or in some other capacity.

Tasmanians are known for being a very generous bunch and their generosity never ceases to amaze me and here at Vinnies, we never take that generosity for granted. We are incredibly grateful for the assistance we receive from the public, members, volunteers, the business community, other charities, foundations, as well as politicians and their amazing support staff.

This year, we were lucky enough to receive funding from The Select Foundation, to install five Quest donation, Tap N Go Units into five of our Vinnies Shops.

These units allow members of the public, who visit our shops, to donate to Vinnies quickly and easily by tapping their EFTPOS or credit card. This gives the St Vincent de Paul Society much needed, ongoing revenue. We are extremely grateful to The Select Foundation for buying these units for us.

We had an extremely successful Christmas Appeal raising \$235,000. Every Christmas is special, but I think Christmas 2020 was extra special, given we were all still in a state of 'shock' from the world being plunged into a global crisis because of COVID-19.

It was obvious to me, every Tasmanian who was able to assist, was determined to make Christmas 2020 more special than normal; by ensuring that no-one was left without something to mark the celebration.

As I have said before, whilst Christmas is not all about presents and food, when you don't receive a Christmas present and have nothing to eat, let alone something special to eat, it can compound feelings of despair, loneliness, marginalisation, and exclusion at this special time of year.

These feelings were compounded for many, as their families and friends were unable to visit them due to travel restrictions which were in place.

We were also over-whelmed by the response to the ABC Giving Tree, which, for the first time in its 30-year history, received online donations only; again, due to restrictions placed on it by COVID-19.

We received \$50,800 from The ABC Giving Tree, which allowed us to give our Companions, gift cards to select the most appropriate gifts for their family.

We never cease to be amazed by the enthusiasm and dedication the ABC staff put into the ABC Giving Tree and are very grateful to them for this.

We also received support again from The Examiner newspaper, through their Empty Stocking Appeal. The Examiner Empty Stocking Appeal has now been going for many years and we are very grateful to The Examiner and their staff for the enthusiasm they also have for this appeal.

Of course, neither of these appeals would exist, except for the very generous donations of the people of Tasmania. Thank you everyone.

We had a very successful launch of the 2021 CEO Sleepout at RACT on Wednesday April. 14, 2021.

Group CEO RACT Tasmania, Mr Mark Mugnaioni, accepted our offer for him to be the 2021 State Ambassador. Mark devoted the whole of his column to the 2021 CEO Sleepout in the April/May edition of Journeys (the RACT magazine). We are incredibly thankful to Mark and the amazing team at RACT for their enthusiasm in supporting and promoting the 2021 CEO Sleepout. I would particularly like to mention Rita Oakley from the RACT for her assistance and enthusiasm for the cause.





On June 17, 2021, we held the CEO Sleepout, which returned to its usual format as a physical event at UTAS Stadium in Launceston.

We had forty-four people sign-up to join us on the evening of June 17. We had a very thought-provoking and extremely heart-warming Welcome to Country by Auntie Nola Hooper.

Almost all our staff were present on the night, helping in some way or another and I am very grateful to them for that.

We had staff from our Emergency Relief talk about their work with our clients and about the food vans, Vinnies Vans, and Vinnies Loui's Van.

We served participants the same meal that we would serve our Companions on any given night around Tasmania – hot soup, bread rolls, and hot and cold drinks.

This year participants were given some activities to undertake in groups and by themselves, to give them a better insight into what causes homelessness and what it is like to be homeless.

As part of our fundraising activities for this event, we held a 'live' and 'silent' auction of items that were donated by individuals or by businesses, a list of these very generous individuals and organisations can be found at the back of this annual report. However, there are several organisations, foundations, and individuals, who have elected to remain anonymous. We had \$21,000 in products and services to auction.

The event raised over \$104,000. This year's funds will go towards expanding the soup van and Dining with Friends services on the northwest coast as well as supporting increased service delivery across the state. In addition, the funds will go towards services provided to those in need seeking assistance in our Vinnies Hubs in Launceston, Moonah, Somerset and Smithton.

Samantha Kuruvita from Kuruvita Photography again gave up her valuable time to be our official photographer for the 2021 CEO Sleepout for free. We are extremely grateful to have someone with Samantha's experience and talent taking the official photographs for the evening.

Samantha and her dad, Philip Kuruvita, also added a gift voucher each, which we auctioned.

Last year, I joined a group of other colleagues working in the not-for-profit space and brought Pets in the Park to Launceston – there is already a Hobart chapter of Pets in the Park. Pets in the Park is a free pet clinic provided to the homeless, or those at risk of becoming homeless, who have animal companions. This free service is run by volunteer veterinary surgeons, veterinary nurses, and administration staff. We run the clinics one Sunday a month and I volunteer as a Veterinary Nurse. We receive support from the parent organisation in Sydney. We are also very lucky to receive support from A Paw Up, another charity in Tasmania, which exists to feed and care for the pets of Tasmanians experiencing, or at risk of homelessness. They also provide foster care for pets whose owners are in crisis. In most cases, these animals are referred to A Paw Up from a domestic violence counselling service or a housing support worker, when their owner is not able to secure rental accommodation where pets are allowed. We also receive a lot of donations of veterinary medicine and supplies from several various organisations. A Paw Up also provide various charities around the state, including the St Vincent de Paul Society, with dog and cat food and blankets and pet accessories to give out to our clients, who may not be able to afford these items.

During the year I am in regular contact with various state and federal politicians and their amazing and hardworking electorate staff. I would like to thank them for going out of their way to assist us. We have had Senator Jacqui Lambie produce a short video for us, when we were low on blankets to give out to clients, Federal Member for Bass, Bridget Archer, donated some blankets and former Speaker of the Tasmanian Parliament, the Hon. Sue Hickey, assisted us by running appeals last financial year. Thank you to everyone who assisted and donated. I would particularly like to thank Duncan Warburton from Sue Hickey's office and now with Kristie Johnston, for his never-ending support.



We were also supported by Bunnings in Burnie and Inspiration Paints in Somerset with paint and equipment for the painting of the Somerset and Smithton Hubs. We are not only very grateful to these businesses but also to the Rotary Clubs of Somerset and Smithton for painting the Somerset and Smithton Hubs respectively. Bunnings in Launceston have also been extremely generous as well, assisting us with the purchase of much needed equipment.

We have also received assistance through numerous individuals, trusts, foundations, and organisations; too many to mention here but all are listed in this annual report. We are incredibly grateful to all and never take their support for granted.

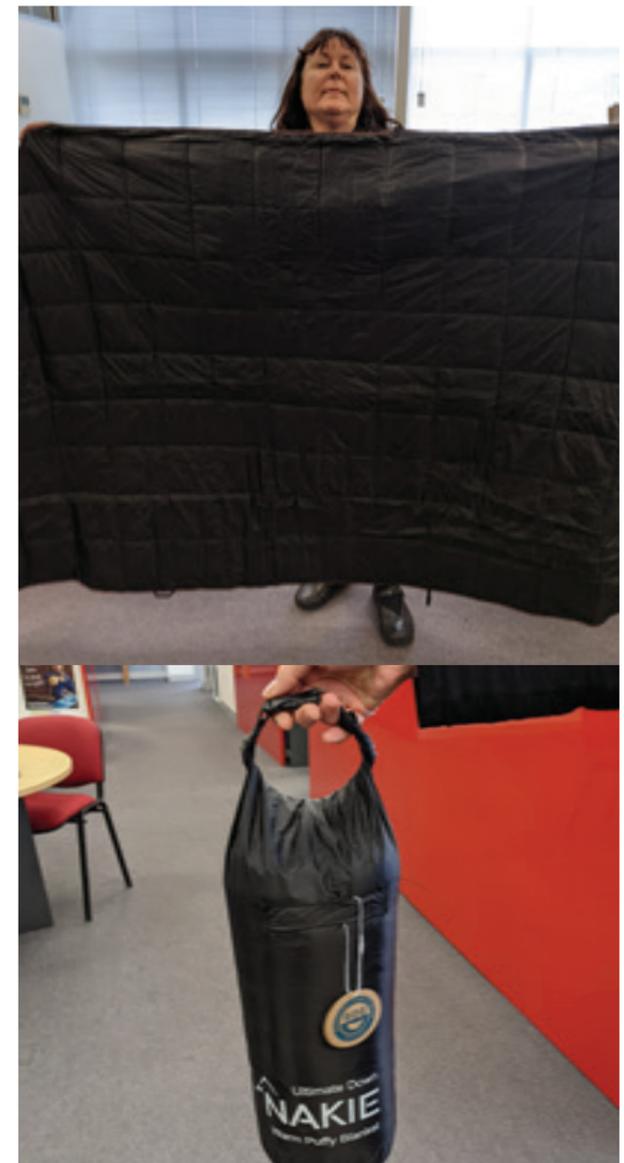
Our 2021 Winter Appeal has been very well supported by our regular donors, the public and the business community. The Examiner Newspaper had their annual winter appeal, and the St Vincent de Paul Society was the lucky recipient of \$56,974. In total, we have raised \$261,000.

Any time can be difficult when you don't have a home and/or don't have enough food or the money to pay for all those essential bills we all have to pay but when you are cold, it somehow compounds the feelings of hopelessness and despair.

Over the course of the last 12 months, we have had many Tasmanian schools fundraise for our Christmas and Winter Appeals and food vans and I would like to especially mention them and thank them. I never cease to be amazed by how caring and mature our young people are. They should be very proud of themselves, along with their parents and schools.

Finally, I would like to thank my state and national colleagues for their assistance throughout the year.

Bernadette Ulbrich-Hooper,
Fundraising & Marketing Advisor



SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

ALONG WITH THE MANY
HUNDREDS OF DONORS
WHO SO GENEROUSLY
CONTRIBUTED TO THE
GOOD WORKS OF THE
ST VINCENT DE PAUL
SOCIETY, WE WOULD
LIKE TO TAKE THIS
OPPORTUNITY TO
ACKNOWLEDGE THE
FOLLOWING PEOPLE
AND ORGANISATIONS
FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING
SUPPORT.

BEQUESTS

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

DONATIONS AND SUPPORTERS

A Paw Up
ABC Tasmania
Anaconda
Anglicare
Anglicare Financial Counselling
Animal Tucker Box
Archbishop of Hobart's
Charitable Foundation
(Samaritan Projects Tasmania)
Archdiocese of Hobart
Aurora
Australian Federal Government
Backpack Bed for Homeless
Banjos
Behrakis Group
Bellerive Bakery
Bethlehem House
Bins R Done
Black Cow Bistro
Blissenden Lawyers
Bluestone Bar & Kitchen
Blythe & Watchorn
Bold Lawyers

Bonney Energy
Breadd Hobart
Bridget Archer MP
Brighton Council
Brighton's Best Bakehouse
Bronwyn Waterhouse
- New mornings
Bunnings - North Launceston,
Glenorchy and Burnie
Burleigh & Dean Constructions
Calvary Hospital
Camerons Accountants
and Advisors
Castrisius Law - Lawyers
Catholic Parish of Launceston
Catholic Women's League's
throughout Tasmania
Cecilia Kilkeary Foundation
Central Highlands Council
Circular Head Chronicle
Commonwealth Bank
of Australia
Creative Interiors
(Innerspace Wardrobes)
Cricket Tasmania
Deloittes
Deloraine High School
Derwent Estate Wines
Derwent Valley Gazette
Dexion Storage Solutions
& GM Rogers Invermay
Dianne Hunt
Dobson Mitchell Allport
Duncan Warburton
Emily Wilkins
Eye See Tours
Family Based Care Association
of North-West Coast
Farrell Foundation
Federal Group
Finlay Watchorn Lawyers
Flying Colours

Formby Road Motors
George Town Council
Givit
Glen Dhu Primary School
Glenorchy City Council
Grains of Silo Hotel
Grey Sands Vineyard
Guardian Chemist Old
Tudor Pharmacy
Hart Memorial Trust
Hash House Harriers
Hetty Binns
Hobart City Council
Hobart Friendly Care
Pharmacies and Hobart
Friendly Care Foundation
Hobart Refrigeration &
Appliance Repairs
House of Anvers Latrobe
Housing Connect
Hydro Tasmania
Ian Guest & Associates Lawyers
IGA/Tasmanian
Independent Retailers
Ilec Pty Ltd
Impress Print
Inspiration Paints Somerset
Jacksons
Jacqui Lambie MP
James Crotty Barristers
& Solicitors
Jane Karinya (Karinya
Women's Shelter)
JGD Legal Lawyers
Joe and Paul Foley
Keith MacGregor
Kingborough Helping Hands
Kmart
Knights of the Southern
Cross - Leven
Kristie Johnston MP
Ladies Midweek Tennis club

Larmenier Primary School
Launceston Big Picture School
Launceston City Council
Launceston City Council
Leisure and Aquatic Centre
Launceston Parish Centre
Launceston Travel
and Cruise Centre
Loaves and Fishes
Loui's Legends
Maguire + Devine Architects
Marine Solutions
Mark Mugnaioni
Mark Wells Public Affairs
Matthew Stolp
McDonald's Corporate
Midland Tractors
MONA FARO Restaurant
Monique Mackrill (Pharmacy
Guild of Tasmania)
Monotone Art Printers Pty Ltd
Myler Law Practice
MyState Bank Community
Foundation
Nicholas Peterson
(Presbyterian Care Tasmania)
O'Connor Motors Pty Ltd
Oglivie Jennings Lawyers
Order of Saint John of
Jerusalem, Knights Hospitaller,
Australia - Priory of Tasmania
Order of St Lazarus
Paul's Outdoor Products
Pepper Silo Hotel
Peter Willis Electrical Pty Ltd
Philip Kuruvita Photography
Presentation Sisters
Pura Milk
RACT
Rae & Partners Lawyers
Rapid Relief
Relationships Australia

Richmond Gold Club (Ladies)
RINNAI
Riverside Golf Club
Rod Glover Legal
Ross A Hart Barrister
& Solicitor
Rotary Club of Hobart
Rotary Club of Launceston
Rotary Club of Salamanca
Rotary Club of Somerset
Rotary Club of South
Launceston
Rotary Club of Sullivan's Cove
Rotary Club of Tamar Sunrise
Sacred Heart Primary School
Samantha Kuruvita
Photography
Scotch Oakburn College
Self Help Workplace Youngtown
Senator Wendy Askew
Services Australia
Share the Dignity
Shaw Contracting
Shell West Launceston
Sian Butler
Silo Day Spa
SKAL International - Tasmania
Southern Cross Austereo
Southern Waste Solutions
Speak up! StayChatty
Spotlight
St Anthony's Primary School
St Patrick's College Launceston
St Thomas Moore's
Primary School
Star of the Sea George Town
Stuart Barry Financial Adviser
Sue Hickey
Sues of Invermay's My
Style Work + Shop
Tamar Valley Cruises
TasGas

Tasmanian Catholic
Education Office
Tasmanian Chess Association
Tasmanian Community Fund
Tasmanian State Government
Tasmanian Walking Company
Tastex Knitwear
TG & JM Matthews Foundation
Thai Association of Tasmania
The Advocate Newspaper
The Deloitte Foundation
The Examiner Newspaper
The Hawthorn Football Club
The Mercury Newspaper
The Old Woolstore
Apartment Hotel
The Robert Fergusson
Family Foundation
The Select Foundation
The Westbury Baptist
Prayer Shawl Group
Toyota Co-Op Hobart
TPT Wealth
Troublesmiths Youth
Social Enterprise
Tullochs Auctions
Turner Stillhouse
United Engineering Pty Ltd
University of Tasmania
Virginia's Beauty &
Care Kingston
Vos Construction & Joinery
Walkers Supermarket
Wallace Wilkinson
Webster Lawyers
Walsh Day James
Mihal Lawyers
Waverley Mills
Wellways
Westpac Call Centre
Woolworths - George Town

VINNIES OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS



As one of Tasmania's largest charities, which delivers a wide array of services to people in need, the St Vincent de Paul Society relies on the commitment and generosity of our many supporters and volunteers. Over the past 12 months, given the challenges of COVID-19, our volunteers played an integral role in assisting the Society to deliver critical services. The selflessness demonstrated by our volunteers throughout the pandemic - working between lockdowns, adapting to new protocols to keep everyone safe, and otherwise demonstrating the will and determination to continue offering support to those in need - has reflected great pride on the Society.

Therefore, the Society would like to take this opportunity to thank every one of our 1,200 volunteers for their exemplary service. The commitment, compassion, and generosity of our volunteers has enabled the Society to offer a hand up to many Tasmanians in need over the past 12 months.

The courage and respect demonstrated by our volunteers during COVID allowed the Society to continue to provide essential services to the local community.

Vinnies Volunteers contribute by assisting with Youth Program activities, running Dining with Friends, braving the cold whether to serve hot drinks, soup, and a meal on a Vinnies Van or a Vinnies Loui's Van, sorting clothing at our shops, volunteering in community programs, undertaking administrative tasks, answering phones, helping out in the warehouse, and generally representing the St Vincent de Paul Society and our good works in the community.

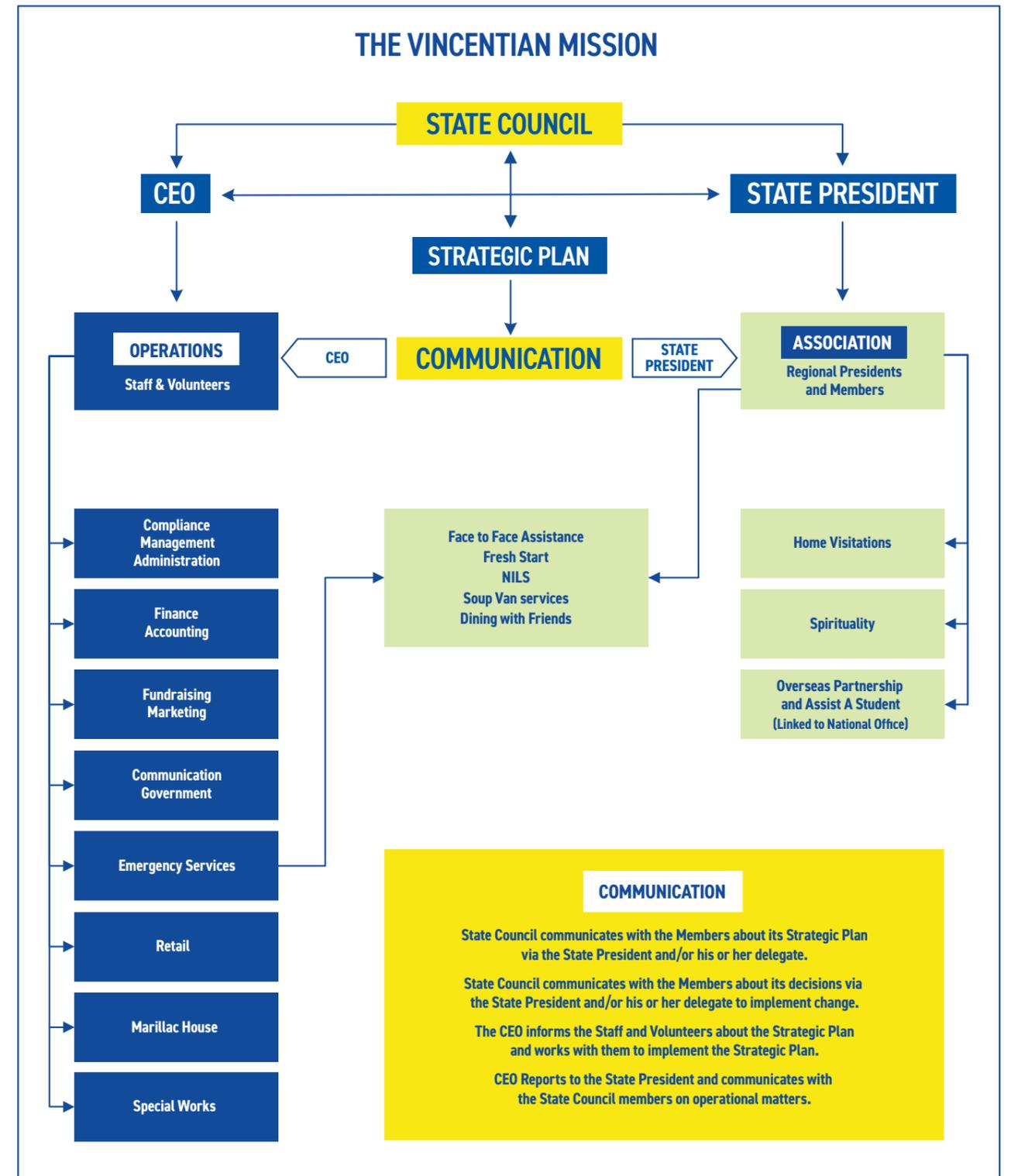
The Society is committed to continually working together with our volunteers, to investing in the development of our volunteer services; as well as developing our volunteer engagement, and support structures.

As part of its focus, the Society is committed to professional development. As a result, we are proud to be able to claim that 30 per cent of the Society's employees recruited over the past year, started their Vinnies journey as volunteers.

Once again thank you to all of our volunteers for the support and dedication you have demonstrated over the last 12 months. The society is looking forward to continuing our good works and working together with every one of our volunteers in the future.

THE COURAGE AND RESPECT DEMONSTRATED BY OUR VOLUNTEERS DURING COVID ALLOWED THE SOCIETY TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL TASMANIA ORGANISATION STRUCTURE





OUR GOOD WORKS

COMMUNITY SERVICES

SOUTHERN REGION



The Southern Region experienced an activity-filled year, with all areas of the organisation working together to achieve a number of very positive and gratifying outcomes. The St Vincent de Paul Society continues to be one of the cornerstone charities in the South of Tasmania, offering support and encouragement to disadvantaged individuals and families. From our work assisting those in need, to using our resources, experience, knowledge, and commitment to build awareness of the issues in our community, 2020-21 has seen its challenges and its rewards. Here are a few of the more memorable examples.

JULY 2020

- School Soup Partnership for Loui's Van.
- Bridgewater Dining with Friends resumed as a takeaway service after months off due to COVID-19.
- Survival Pack grant received from Hobart City Council and requested feedback from people with experience of homelessness compiled to identify useful items.

Special mentions go to Mt Carmel College, Mackillop Catholic College, Sacred Heart College, and Hobart City Council.

AUGUST 2020

- The School Winter Appeal received a great response from schools, including receiving a large donation of blankets and other winter supplies.
- Packed survival packs with help from Commonwealth Bank. We were able to distribute over 150 survival packs to Emergency Relief organisations in the Hobart City Council area.
- Each week during August a group of students from the Hutchins School prepared fresh sandwiches to be distributed on the Loui's Van.
- Our first annual School and Community Virtual Sleepout took place on August 7, 2020. Students and community members were invited to sleep out in their backyard, on their bedroom floor, or in a school setting for the night; and to engage online with presentations from people with experience in the homelessness sector. More than 100 students participated across the state.
- St Vincent de Paul Society Youth and Southern Community Services Coordinator and one of our Vinnies Volunteers attended the Skal International Hobart group luncheon and received a donation of \$10,000 to go towards Vinnies Loui's Van operations. This money will go towards fuel, consumables, and ingredients for meals to be provided to people who use this service.

- We were invited to the Salamanca Rotary Club breakfast, held at the Botanical Gardens, to speak about Vinnies Loui's Van and other services provided by the Society. Rotary clubs across Tasmania are very supportive of our programs and provide regular financial donations.

Special mentions go to St Mary's College, Mt Carmel College, St James Catholic College, The Hutchins School, The Commonwealth Bank, Skal International Hobart Group, and the Salamanca Rotary Club.

SEPTEMBER 2020

- Vinnies Loui's Van was invited to Sacred Heart College for their homelessness awareness week. Students were invited to enjoy a hot Milo from the van and learn about our soup van services.
- Alterations were made to Vinnies Loui's Vans to make them more user friendly for volunteers and companions. They were also rebranded to align with our other soup van services across the state.
- Vinnies was invited to be part of St Michael's Collegiate School's homelessness awareness week. Students visited the Southern Regional Office to learn about homelessness within the community and what we do to assist those in need.



- Loui's Van also visited the sleepout and provided soup and sandwiches for all students who were sleeping out. Some students had to contribute to a community program. A number of students selected Vinnies and they donated food for Loui's Van and care packs for Emergency Relief.
- A Society representative attended St Aloysius Catholic College Assembly to receive a winter appeal donation as well as four infant car seats that students had donated to be distributed through our Emergency Relief Program.

Special mentions go to Sacred Heart College, St Aloysius Catholic College, and St Michael's Collegiate School.

OCTOBER 2020

- The first Buddy Day of the year took place at St Therese's Catholic School. 20 students attended our mini Olympics themed day, created their own team flag and national anthem, and attended Supaworld Glenorchy. It was a very successful day enjoyed by little buddies and big buddies alike.
- St Virgil's College Winter Appeal resulted in a generous donation to the Society.
- Vinnies Loui's Van made a visit to Mt Stuart Primary School Grade 5 students to teach them about the van and the services it provides to people in need in the local community.

Special mentions go to St Therese's Catholic School, St Virgil's College, and Mt Stuart Primary School.

NOVEMBER 2020

- Saigon Express in North Hobart commenced providing free meals for the Hobart Loui's Van stop each fortnight on a Monday.
- Southern Primary Schools Catholic Leadership Day was held at St Therese's Catholic School. In conjunction with CARITAS and Catholic Mission, students from all Catholic schools across Southern Tasmania attended and learnt about Social Justice Leadership and how they could implement change in their schools.



- The Conference members Christmas lunch was an opportunity for staff and members to reflect on a year in which Emergency Relief Assistance has never been so important.

Special mentions go to Saigon Express and Leanne Prichard (Catholic Education Office).

DECEMBER 2020

- The annual School Christmas Appeal took place in a number of schools. This year, schools were asked to donate items that could be used to fill a Christmas stocking for children who required assistance at Christmas. A very strong response followed with some schools making Christmas stockings and packing them with Christmas goodies.
- Vinnies Christmas Hamper Program distributed 464 Christmas Hampers to homes across Southern Tasmania. Staff from Aurora assisted Vinnies to pack the hampers, with numerous schools, including St Mary's Catholic School and Sacred Heart College, assisting with present wrapping.

Special mentions go to Dominic College, Sacred Heart College, Corpus Christi Catholic School, St Mary's College, and Aurora.

JANUARY 2021

- Two new Case Coordinators joined the team to work with our Emergency Assistance Program. This has provided us with support to progress our programs in the long-term and to better assist companions with complex needs. It has resulted in a significant number of success stories.
- Our Vinnies Loui's Van program was a finalist in the Glenorchy Community awards. This highlighted the selfless work and commitment by volunteers throughout the COVID-19 period.



FEBRUARY 2021

- The Society was once again invited to be part of the St Virgil's College New Beginnings Program. Four groups of Grade 7 students visited our Southern Regional Office to gain an understanding of the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society and to help out with some volunteer work.

Special mention go to St Virgil's College.

MARCH 2021

- Our School Conference Members' Induction Mass took place on March 9 at the St Therese of Lisieux Parish. The induction was well supported, with students from more than 10 School groups in attendance.
- Hydro Tasmania donated a substantial amount of food to the Society to support vulnerable people across Southern Tasmania. This food has been provided to our companions through our Vinnies Loui's Van Program and Emergency Relief Program.

Special mentions go to St Therese of Lisieux Parish and Hydro Tasmania.

APRIL 2021

- The new Moonah Assistance Hub opened for the first time. Companions from the St Dominic's and St Bernard's Conference areas are able to come to the Assistance Hub, located at our Moonah Vinnies shop, to receive emergency assistance. Companions are assessed, and services are provided by Members and the Case Coordinator on duty.
- Our first Buddy Day of the year took place at Clarendon Vale Neighbourhood House. Student Mentors from Guilford Young College and St Aloysius Catholic College engaged with children from the Eastern Shore region for a day of fun, learning, and mentorship.

Special mentions go to Clarendon Vale Neighbourhood House, Guilford Young College, and St Aloysius Catholic College.

MAY 2021

- Knitted items were received from the Guardian Pharmacies across Southern Tasmania for distribution to people in need in the community.
- A Conference Members morning tea was held at the Multicultural Hub Hall in Moonah. More than 20 members and their partners attended with the newly elected Southern Regional President, John Moore, addressing membership.

Special mention goes to Guardian Pharmacies.

JUNE 2021

- Youth Staff were invited to deliver lessons to Year 8 students at St Mary's College. These lessons were part of their community services and social justice project. Students learnt about the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society and then had an opportunity to prepare vegetables to be donated to the Loui's Van program.
- We commenced the Vinnies Friendship Connect program and a counselling service. The program is a follow up phone service to ensure a social connection continues for people who may be isolated or struggling. Counselling is also now available for members to refer companions to see our Case Coordinators either in an assistance office or at their residence if transport is an issue.



1,350

TOTAL NUMBER OF CHRISTMAS HAMPERS
PACKED AND DELIVERED ACROSS TASMANIA

COMMUNITY SERVICES

NORTHERN REGION



EMERGENCY RELIEF

The Northern region continues to provide emergency relief services to anyone in need across north and northeast Tasmania.

We are experiencing an increase in the number of people seeking assistance who are in financial distress; or affected by the housing crisis, overdue accounts, and food shortages.

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

Our Case Coordinators are able to support members and volunteers through a case management approach.

We carefully listen to the companions' stories with empathy and compassion and, in some instance, refer them to different providers, for financial counselling assistance, mental health advice, housing, shelter, Vinnies Vans, and our own Vinnies Youth Hub.

We highlight the housing crisis that keeps reflecting on our companions, as both individuals and families are forced to wait, sometimes for years, to be able to find affordable accommodation. This has a huge impact on their mental and physical health.

COVID-19 has also created a new type of need. We see people who have never accessed an Emergency Relief provider until now. People who had a job and now are either unemployed or not working enough hours to keep up with the daily expenses.

BOLAND STREET HUB/ COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

August 2020 saw the opening and blessing of the Launceston Community Hub. Since the opening of the Hub, we have welcomed a number of organisations to utilise and share the space, including Uniting Tasmania PYPs and CRIBS program, Mission Australia's Disability employment service, and Flourish Mental Health Group.

NORTHERN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

The Launceston Community Christmas also continued on a smaller scale with around 250 local community members enjoying Christmas lunch at the Albert Hall. Each year the event is coordinated collectively by the



St Vincent de Paul Society, Salvation Army, Launceston City Mission, CatholicCare, and the Launceston Benevolent Society. We would like to thank our sponsors for the 2020 event, including the City of Launceston, Tasmanian Independent Retailers, TasGas, Shaw Contracting, the Rotary Club of Tamar Sunrise, and the Rotary Club of Launceston.

In March 2021, we welcomed a donation of shoes, worth \$1,000, from various Rotary clubs across the state, which were provided to people through our assistance office.

Throughout 2021, we have been collaborating with a number of other organisations to deliver information sessions to Members within the Northern region. These have included guest presenters from Services Australia Centrelink, Aurora, Anglicare, Housing Connect, and WellWays Mental Health.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

Throughout December, preparations took place to pack Christmas Hampers. In 2020, the Society distributed 147 throughout the north of the state.

YOUTH

The 2020-21 financial year has been a big year for the St Vincent de Paul Society's Youth and Community Services with the development and implementation of new initiatives and programs, as well as the re-adjustment of existing programs and services due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

During this reporting period, there have been four Buddy Days in the north of the state, including our Annual Children's Christmas Fun Day.

Our Vinnies Youth Hub opened in Launceston on September 29, 2020, following receipt of a successful grant application from the Mystate Foundation.

The free After-School Sessions run twice a week on Tuesdays and Wednesday afternoons for children ages 6-13. Tuesday sessions are called "Get Creative!"; and includes a range of art and craft sessions. Wednesday sessions are called "Wellness Wednesdays" and includes a range of mindfulness, relaxation, self-confidence, and resilience building exercises.



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

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

The Christmas Appeal in 2020 had the involvement of numerous schools across the state, supporting those in need. In the Launceston Region, approximately \$15,000 worth of support was donated through schools in the form of food hampers for the Christmas Appeal. A special thank you to St Patrick's College, Sacred Heart Primary School, St Finn Barr's Catholic Primary School, and St Thomas More's Catholic Primary School.

VINNIES VAN

In July 2020, the Vinnies Van recommenced services after the COVID-19 pandemic closure, with an increase in the number of services, from two days to five days. Along with the increase in service, came an increase in the number of volunteers to implement this frontline service, which aids those most at risk within our community. Our Vinnies Van Launceston is continually supported by many school and community groups.

Between January and June 2021, St Patrick's College, with the support of Vinnies and Loaves and Fishes Tasmania, cooked 400 litres of soup. We endeavour to hit a target of 1,000 litres within the 2021 calendar year. This will be the first year a single school has covered the entire soup quantity served from the Vinnies Van.

DINING WITH FRIENDS

Dining with Friends continues to run twice monthly in Launceston providing a social evening for people within the Launceston Community.

A new Dining with Friends location was established in George Town in October 2020 with the support of Star of the Sea College and the George Town Council.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

NORTHWEST REGION



VINNIES VANS & VINNIES LOUI'S VANS

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY VINNIES VANS AND VINNIES LOUI'S VANS: 14,146

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY VINNIES LOUI'S VANS IN SOUTHERN TASMANIA: 9,271

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY VINNIES VANS IN NORTHERN TASMANIA: 3,469

TOTAL NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVED BY VINNIES VANS IN NORTHWEST TASMANIA: 1,406



DINING WITH FRIENDS

TOTAL NUMBER OF MEALS SERVED IN:

TASMANIA - 1,663

HOBART - 198

BRIDGEWATER - 559

LAUNCESTON - 243

GEORGE TOWN - 589

SOMERSET - 74

DINING WITH FRIENDS

Dining with Friends on the Northwest coast began with the opening of the Somerset Hub on Wragg St. It is a volunteer-led program, which is creating fabulous meals on a fortnightly basis for many locals in Somerset. Students from Marist Regional College help out during term, either in the kitchen, setting up the room, or playing the guitar or cards with our guests. Christmas in July proved a big hit, the event was booked out early and at full capacity for a festive lunch enjoyed by all those attended.

Smithton got off to a great start, with support amongst other providers positive to ensure those in need in our community enjoy the three-course meal on a fortnightly basis.

SMITHTON HUB

The Smithton Hub opened in April, ready to serve as a base for the Vinnies Van and to open our doors for Dining with Friends. Vinnies Van commenced operating one night a week outside Wedge St Community House, before moving back to the Hub.

As the new home for Emergency Relief, the Smithton Hub has been well received. It has two consultation rooms and large main area for use by other groups, such as the Circular Head Rural Youth Leaders, BigHart, and being part of Circular Head Council's ART series.

VINNIES VAN SOMERSET/BURNIE/WYNYARD

The Vinnies Van, based in Somerset, to serve the Burnie and Wynyard areas, has gone from strength to strength since its return in March 2021. Now operating four nights a week, at a range of suburban, city and hub locations, we ensure that the Vinnies Van is covering all areas of need in the community. We are also working with Housing Tasmania to identify areas of need where the Vinnies Van can continue to provide the biggest impact.

VINNIES VAN SMITHTON

Smithton has shown its positive community spirit with good volunteer engagement and support for the Vinnies Van, Dining with Friends, and the essential kitchen prep. This has allowed the Society on the Northwest Coast to focus on deepening our engagement in the area through positive connections.

YOUTH APPEALS AND ASSISTANCE

School support continues to assist with Emergency Relief, Vinnies Vans and at the Hubs. We are grateful for the generous support in the form of vital supplies of toiletries from Marist Regional College; to much-needed blankets and beanies from Stella Maris Catholic Primary School, and jackets and jumpers from the Prep class at Sacred Heart Ulverstone, as part of their Warmer Winter Drive.

ASSISTANCE

February 2021 saw the beginning of Vinnies commitment to ongoing Case Coordination on the Northwest, 5 days a week. We are also supporting the dedicated conference members across the Northwest with reference material support and ongoing referral assistance to ensure a more comprehensive wrap-around service for our companions. Meeting the increase in demand for additional Emergency Relief assistance, as vulnerable Tasmanians continue to struggle with homelessness, poverty, unemployment, and underemployment, continues to be our priority.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Together with New Mornings and Presbyterian Care Tasmania we were able to build positive connections with schools. This initiative offered us the opportunity to purchase school uniforms and support the implementation of a breakfast program in two local primary schools.

By providing Emergency Relief assistance in the Central Coast municipality and supporting the New Mornings First Steps Lounge and Grief and Loss support groups, we have formed stronger connections to people living in our community.

2021 CEO SLEEPOUT

THE CEO SLEEPOUT IS ONE OF OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISING EVENTS IN TASMANIA AND WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RUN IT SO SUCCESSFULLY WITHOUT THE SUPPORT FROM OUR NATIONAL AND LOCAL SPONSORS.



Vinnies 2021 CEO Sleepout was held on Thursday June 17 at the University of Tasmania Stadium in Launceston. Thank you to the 44 CEOs, community and business leaders, business owners, and managers who participated and raised over \$104,000.

The Highest Fundraising Team effort, was won by the University of Tasmania team and the highest fundraising individual, was won by Ms Jackie Howard, CEO of Masonic Care Tasmania Inc.

Participants listened to presentations from the Society's Youth & Community Services Coordinators for the North/Northwest and South about how our Emergency Assistance 'wrap-around services' operates; and some examples of how we assist people to get back on their feet. We also watched a video presentation on how our Vinnies Lou's Van service operated.

It was cold, so participants were given a chilly experience as they were engaged with and learned about what life is like for those people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness by participating in experiential activities, such as the 'Backpack Activity.' This activity asked participants to consider what five objects they would take with them, if they suddenly had to flee their home, when it was no longer safe to stay there. The 'life lottery' activity, which randomly placed participants in various scenarios that often occur to those who are homeless, also served to demonstrate the plight of the homeless. There was also a display about some of the barriers facing homeless people in securing a home.

We also had a very interesting presentation from the Australian Bureau of Statistics relating to how many men, women and children were homeless; and why the collection of data is so important, as it assists in planning for all types of infrastructure, including social housing.

The CEO Sleepout is one of our biggest fundraising events in Tasmania and we would not be able to run it so successfully without the support from our national and local sponsors.

Organisations and businesses are generous in providing in-kind donations and/or their services and goods which ensures running costs are kept to a minimum.

Thank you to all participants for braving a cold Launceston night and sleeping outdoors; and a special thank you to the following people and organisations for their commitment and support:

- ANIMAL TUCKER BOX
- AUNTIE NOLA HOOPER FOR CARRYING OUT THE 'WELCOME TO COUNTRY'
- BLACK COW BISTRO
- BLUESTONE BAR & KITCHEN
- CITY OF LAUNCESTON
- CITY OF LAUNCESTON LEISURE & AQUATIC CENTRE
- CRICKET TASMANIA
- DAVID WEBSTER FROM KNIGHT FRANK – FOR ACTING AS THE AUCTIONEER FOR THE 'LIVE AUCTION'
- DERWENT ESTATE WINES
- DEXION STORAGE SOLUTIONS & GM ROGERS INVERMAY

- DIANNE HUNT – FOR ACTING AS THE FIRST-AID OFFICER
- EYE SEE TOURS
- FLYING COLOURS
- GREY SANDS VINEYARD
- HETTY BINNS
- HOBART REFRIGERATION & APPLIANCE REPAIRS
- HOUSE OF ANVERS LATROBE
- JACKSONS
- K-MART
- MARIE BURT FROM CHILLI FM – FOR ACTING AS OUR WONDERFUL MC FOR THE EVENING
- MONA FARO RESTAURANT
- MONIQUE MACKRILL FROM THE PHARMACY GUILD OF TASMANIA
- MONOTONE ART PRINTERS PTY LTD HOBART
- PAUL'S OUTDOOR PRODUCTS
- PEPPERS SILO HOTEL. GRAINS OF SILO RESTAURANT AND DAY SPA
- PHILIP KURUVITA AND SAM KURUVITA PHOTOGRAPHY
- RAPID RELIEF
- RINNAI
- SELF HELP WORKPLACE YOUNGTOWN
- ST VINCENT DE PAUL STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS. IN PARTICULAR WENDY HARPER, BRIANNA HARPER, MELISSA WHITE, SAMANTHA GRACE, MARTA CUEVAS, LIZ BOWERMAN, SIMON TERHELL, MICHELLE MACE, KATHRYN PRINCE, BERNIE WHALIN, JASON MACAULAY, TIM BUNTON, CHLOE JOYCE, NICCI SKERL, LARA ALEXANDER, CEO OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY TASMANIA, MAREE COLE, ANGELA BROOMHALL, SAM BROUGH
- STATE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY IN TASMANIA, MR MARK GAETANI
- STUART BARRY FINANCIAL ADVISER
- SUE HICKEY
- TAMAR VALLEY CRUISES
- TASMANIAN WALKING COMPANY
- TASTEX
- THE CHEESECAKE SHOP LAUNCESTON
- THE EXAMINER NEWSPAPER
- THE HAWTHORN FOOTBALL CLUB
- THE OLD WOOLSTORE APARTMENT HOTEL
- THE SELECT FOUNDATION
- TPT WEALTH
- TROUBLESMITHS YOUTH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE
- TURNER STILLHOUSE
- UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA STADIUM
- VIRGINIA'S BEAUTY & CARE KINGSTON
- WAVERLEY MILLS

CENTRAL

MENS

SHED



The Central Mens Shed currently provides friendship and an opportunity for 30 men and six women to learn about, or improve their woodwork and metalwork skills, for two days a week. This year we have expanded from every Friday to Saturdays as well building support for our women's group.

The members of the Shed have linked into Vinnies Southern Warehouse by providing support and undertaking repair work to vital equipment needed in the warehouse. Several clothing trolleys needed new wheels and a few of the Vinnies iconic blue donation bins needed a fresh coat of paint. The warehouse staff were most appreciative of the support and connection to the Central Men's Shed throughout the year.

In addition, during the year, we have welcomed an increasing number of new members from Bethlehem House. We have also been joined by participants from the Salvation Rehabilitation Unit. This is a group of members of a younger age that has integrated well with existing members who utilise the Shed.

The Central Men's Shed is a welcoming environment that is always seeking new members. The Shed is a great place to be for people of any age or gender, who are looking for a space to have laugh at a joke or two, with like-minded people, while they sharpen their woodworking skills, hone their metalwork prowess, or learn a new skill. In true St Vincent de Paul Society character, everyone is very welcome.

STATE
OVERSEAS
PARTNERSHIP
REPORTTASMANIAN CONNECTIONS
WITH OVERSEAS VINCENTIANS

Tasmanian Conferences continue to connect with 32 Conferences overseas across the Asia Pacific region; as well as partnering with two Regional Councils and the National Council of Thailand. All Tasmanian regions are represented by their regional coordinator on the State Overseas Partnership Committee (SOPC) along with a representative in a specialist support role for twinning, the Assist a Student program, and other projects. Together with other Vincentians, the SOPC supports marginalised communities in developing countries within our geographic region, including India, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Thailand.

The Tasmanian SOPC has three areas of major activity. This year, in what is a very difficult time, the SOPC is working with committees in other Australian states to develop better communications with our twinned conferences. COVID 19 is having a significant impact on the very poor in our region.

CONFERENCE TWINNING

Twinning relationships form the basis of all our support to overseas Vincentians. This is important work, assisting those in need in their local communities, as it is here in Tasmania. In some cases, communication is made more difficult simply because our twinned conference is located in an impoverished region, or the area has been impacted by the pandemic and natural disasters. In other instances, local Vincentians may not have access to someone who can read or write English, or they are missing a postal address, or they do not have the financial resources to reply to our correspondence. Many Indian conferences now have a dedicated Society email addresses; but unfortunately, this doesn't cover all twinned conferences. Neither does it overcome the language barrier. We are continuing to seek alternative methods to build relationships with our twinned conferences. The SOPC continues to provide special financial support to our twinned conferences in quarterly allocations and special grants at Christmas and Easter. This year we have been able to provide specific grants to address the needs of some twinned conferences. Specifically, by offering support assistance to those suffering the impact of the pandemic.

ASSIST A STUDENT PROGRAM

The Assist a Student program is designed to provide essential support to individual students, at several levels of education. The program supports students so they can participate in their local education area and go on to contribute to their families and communities in one of our partner countries for one year. This support makes such an important contribution; and is very much appreciated in our region of the world.

After many years of outreach in this area we have increased the funds provided to individual students from AU\$70 to AU\$100. In many Asia Pacific countries, poverty acts as a barrier to accessing education and opportunities, which excludes many individuals from reaching their full potential.

RETAIL REPORT



SOUTHERN REGION

This year has been strange and disruptive to all our lives due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Our retail shops in the Southern Region returned from lockdown to find most of our long-term and dedicated volunteers hesitant to engage. Donations started to flow into our shops and shoppers of a less vulnerable age started came back to support Vinnies.

We worked hard to keep our staff and customers safe. We implemented COVID-19 plans, adopted more stringent cleaning processes, and of course adapted to the new social distancing rules. As the year progressed, most of our volunteers returned and with them an increase in the number of shoppers who were happy to browse for bargains, nick-nacks, and furniture across our shops.

We will always be thankful to our donors and our retail teams in all of our shops; all of whom ensured we had excellent stocked shops and the doors were open to support the most vulnerable individuals and families who live in our community.

In October 2020, we launched our new Vinnies Gift Cards in our 28 shops across Tasmania. This is the gift card that gives twice. The purchaser supports our community services and is thrilled to give a Vinnies Gift Card to a friend or family member to use in any of our shops across the State.

December is donation time. We received overwhelming support from the community that delivered a range of wonderful donations to all our Vinnies shops. Customers looking for that special gift to fill their Christmas stockings did not leave disappointed by the range of gift items available in store.

In early December we opened our new shop at Midway Point. After much deliberation, we decided to close the Sorell shop and take the opportunity to open a brighter shop at Midway Point, just a quick six minute drive up the road.



Vinnies Midway Point shop is modern and spacious, with customer carparking at the door. Our dedicated team of volunteers from the Sorell shop were happy to relocate to Midway Point, along with our Shop Manager.

Our regular customers from Sorell are visiting us often and we are welcoming new customers and donors every week to this exciting and friendly shop. To Promote the opening of our new shop, we asked our customers to enter a competition to win a Vinnies Gift Card every week during January.

In March, several of our shops enjoyed mini makeovers to freshen up the layout and to make the display windows more appealing and interesting. The goal was to encourage customers and passers-by to look for a bargain and take the opportunity to secure those one-off collectable items that are difficult to find elsewhere.

Every year in the month of May, we celebrate and acknowledge the vital work of our dedicated volunteers who so selflessly give up their time to help others in the community. We have over 430 retail volunteers in the Southern Region and are always recruiting more willing participants. Typically, a Vinnies volunteer provides between five to eight hours per week, which is a generous and an amazing effort. Without our volunteers most of our shops would have experienced limited or restricted trading days and would have operated for fewer hours.

In closing, it is impossible to single out individual staff members by name and shops in the Southern Region, as every staff member and volunteer has given 100 per cent in effort and commitment to our Vinnies shops.

NORTHERN AND NORTHWEST REGION

It has been another very busy but rewarding year for our Vinnies Retail team.

Throughout July and August, we continued to reopen shops post the COVID-19 temporary closures with George Town being our last shop to reopen. The entire shop needed to be re-configured to allow for safe social distancing measures. In true Vinnies spirit, we rolled up our sleeves and got to work so we could swing open our doors once again to support the George Town community.

Our volunteer team worked hard in small groups, with the support of the Retail Manager and warehouse team, to set up a new working space to accommodate everyone safely. Workers had to follow strict regulations around the handling and storage of donations, which at times saw us running out of space to store our stock. We'd like to say a very big thank you to all our donors for being so understanding of the additional requests we had to make and, at times, even having to take items home, storing them, and returning at a later date, as we were at capacity. We truly appreciate the support, generosity and humanity during such challenging times.

Sadly, in August, we said goodbye to our quaint Penguin shop. It is always a very difficult decision to close a shop. However, on this occasion, it triggered a beautiful chain of events. Our dedicated team of volunteers went to work setting up a local community Op Shop in the same location, under a new name, partnering with the local school in Penguin to turn their vision into a reality. Our CEO, Lara Alexander, provided a letter of support to our volunteer team to assist them to secure a government grant to help purchase shop fittings, coat hangers, and stock to support their initiative. The hard work of this group of wonderful volunteers is a reflection and great example of the commitment and dedication we see from our volunteers around the state.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CELEBRATING VOLUNTEER WEEK

With over 350 Retail volunteers in our 28 shops and 2 warehouses, we always enjoy celebrating Volunteer Week.

This year we thanked our volunteers by placing an advertisement in newspapers, providing Vinnies vouchers, certificates and delivered a thank you letter from our State President, Mark Gaetani.

Our volunteers are vital team members in our shops and we are always looking for new recruits to join us. If you work during the week, Saturdays are a great day for those who are interested to volunteering for a few hours in one of our shops, across the state, to support the community.



In our Boland Street shop in Launceston, we had the opportunity to create a wonderful space, which allowed local up-and-coming and established artists to showcase and sell their art.

Vinnies Studio quickly filled with stunningly beautiful hand-made craft and art from some very talented local individuals.

As we welcomed Spring, we also welcomed the addition of beautiful greenery and potted colour adding to the shopping experience at Vinnies. Our plants were walking out the door and still are to this day. During this time the Vinnies Youth Hub was also officially launched within our Boland Street shop. Our Youth Engagement Officer created a wonderful space that offers after school and holiday activities through our Youth Programs.

In October, to celebrate the upcoming Launch of our Vinnies Gift Cards, we had some school holiday fun and ran a Vinnies Colouring Competition with prize winners across three age categories; each receiving a Vinnies Gift Card.

Vinnies Gift Cards are available to purchase from any one of our 28 shops across Tasmania and are available in four denominations, \$15, \$20, \$30, and \$40. They are valid for redemption in any Tasmanian Vinnies shop and have a three-year expiry date from the time of purchase. With such a wonderful selection of pre-loved and new clothing, bric-a-brac, books, jewellery, shoes, handbags, and more, gift cards are a great idea. They also supports a wonderful cause and they really are the gift that gives.

In December, Santa visited our Burnie shops with Elves in tow to spread some Christmas cheer to our donors, customers, and teams. Our warehouse crew were busy assisting with the collection and allocation of food hampers, which provided those in need with some cheer over the festive season. Our shops were very busy with Christmas shoppers and a flood of wonderful donations during the holiday season.

In January we commenced the amalgamation of our two Northern warehouses with the Launceston warehouse and operations being packed up and relocated to our existing East Devonport warehouse. This allowed us to further reduce operating costs and increase revenue, which is fundamental to providing much needed community support.

With great excitement, we also announced our Northern Retail Volunteer of the Year for 2020, with the award presented to Kaye Dunn.

On the back of the Somerset Community Hub opening our Northern Managers came together as a team and spent two wonderful days visiting the Hub and learning more about the services and support provided by Vinnies. We thoroughly enjoyed listening to our Northwest Case Coordinator, who provided us with this information. From there, we trekked further North to Vincent Industries in Wynyard, to see the wonderful work undertaken by the incredible team. We enjoyed seeing and hearing about how we all work together to bring the good works of Vinnies to life, which provides so many opportunities in our communities across the State.

In 2021 we have also given the Vinnies Shops Tasmania Instagram page an update. A big thank you to the team that worked on this.

We have also given our Queenstown shop a mini makeover with the shop closing for just three days to set it all up. This was an incredible effort from all involved, with special thanks to the Retail Coordinator along with the Queenstown Shop Manager, our wonderful Queenie volunteers and Dexion Launceston for making the day trip over to Queenstown to install our shop fittings.

May saw us celebrate and recognise our wonderful volunteers during National Volunteer week. We can never thank our volunteers enough for the wonderful generosity, compassion, and commitment they make in our shops and warehouses. Without their support we wouldn't be able to achieve the incredible work we do. Thank you.

Vinnies
GIFT CARDS
NOW AVAILABLE

THE GIFT THAT GIVES

OUR SPECIAL WORKS

Bethlehem House

SERVICES FOR
THE HOMELESS



Without doubt, it's been a year of change for Bethlehem House. New staff coming in, others moving to new jobs, some retiring. In one case, going back to the future, a chance to take old skills and abilities learnt in Bethlehem House many moons ago, reintroducing them today with dramatic effect. But with change; comes new opportunities. A chance to make a difference; improving, working smarter, combining as a team to provide holistic support, bringing hope to some who never had it before.

As a group we all travelled the rocky path as the kitchen closed, but the new kitchen has opened, and the meal service is working well. Most of us have moved offices, some more than once, and as we all know, the big move is yet to come. Murray Street became full, and with the garden flourishing and Spring upon us, it provides long term accommodation for men, giving permanency to some for whom it has been a long time coming. Those men, and the building, will stand testament as the new Bethlehem House rises from the ground beside them, providing for others what was once provided to them in a time of crisis.

There are many business areas that could be mentioned in this year's review, however, the Residential Rehabilitation and Recovery Team in many ways links us all in what we do, why we do it, and in essence, is at the core of what we all seek to achieve; support for men in crisis based on their health needs. This provides them and us a solid platform to work from. With the arrival of new staff, we have been able to integrate support work, activities, and case management. Working in partnership with life skills and education through the Tasmanian Community Fund, we have all provided residents with the chance to empower themselves to a better future.

At a time when many of us will be wondering what's behind the next door we can take direction from one of our men, who, after many years in the crisis shelter of Bethlehem House, had a door of a divisional police van opened for him. Climbing inside with one of us to support him, he trundled off to Murray Street and a new long-term home. It took him many nights to summon up the courage to enter his bedroom; but he did, and his life has taken a turn for the better. The courage to move forward with positivity through the door that is opening for us provides us with the chance to continue making many lives better, including our own, with enhanced job satisfaction and the knowledge that we truly make a difference.

IMPROVING LIVES PROGRAM

From the commencement of the Improving Lives Program, we have seen over 99 residents attend some form of outing and activity as a group within the broader community.

We consulted with the men around what sorts of experiences they would like to have and did what we could to make them a possibility.

Some of the activities they have been able to participate in this year include, but have not been limited to bowling, bushwalking, Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary, pottery classes, football games, fishing, and BBQs.

We have witnessed a sense of community building amongst the residents and a band of support from not just members of staff, but from their peers. This has resulted in men who have often self-isolated and disengaged, be able to form strong friendships and find comfort and a sense of community development.

As part of the Living Skills portion of the TCF grant Bethlehem House received, we have been lucky enough to upskill the resident's culinary skills. The aim is to equip them to be able to prepare a number of financially suitable nutritious and delicious meals for themselves.

Not only are they engaging in weekly cooking classes, but each night they are also assisting with the preparing and delivery of meals to the other residents in the house.

MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Bethlehem House staff along with other external support services, hold a number of sessions on a daily and weekly basis that the residents attend to help them gain the skills and confidence to move forward outside of Bethlehem House once they are ready.

The programs that are held by external providers include the literacy and numeracy program through Connect 42, digital literacy through the Hobart Library, counselling through Holyoake and the Peace Education Program which is used nationally.

Our Mental Health staff hold a number of in house programs including the Creative Change Program, a discussion group that involves a different topic each week to focus on. They include issues such as self-esteem, healthy boundaries, core values, CBT and mindfulness.

There is also a wellbeing support group that is a chance for the residents to talk about what they need or want to at the time, whether that be any goals they have achieved or problems they may be facing. One of the aims of the group is for the men to develop positive supportive connections with other residents and learn that it is ok to share issues they are struggling with and allow themselves to be vulnerable.

A popular group to attend each week is the music appreciation group where residents and staff alike join each other for an afternoon of music throughout the ages, joining in with instruments including guitars, bongos and even a harmonica. It can get quite loud and is very entertaining for all involved. One of the benefits can be that often it will get the residents really enjoying themselves and even laughing a lot and giving them the experience of "having fun" again. This can be really important for them as it reminds them what enjoyment feels like and for many that is a rare experience in their lives.

SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING

Bethlehem House is an NDIS provider and currently has one Supported Independent Living (SIL) facility. We have dedicated support staff that support our SIL participants 24/7 with everyday living including cooking and cleaning, budgeting for their essential and extracurricular expenses, and supporting them to all appointments.

The residents each have a set of goals that they work towards each day with the help and guidance from their support workers. Due to COVID-19, some of these goals became difficult to reach due to restrictions and venturing out into the community was not something they wanted to do often.

Staying home meant finding different interests and they decided they would like another housemate - Introducing Samus the cat into their lives. Samus came as a tiny 10-week-old kitten and immediately fitted right in making herself at home and welcoming anyone with lots of smooches and purrs. She has given the residents a sense of responsibility and unconditional love and affection.

Over the last few months the residents have started taking trips to get back out into the community, with one of their favourites being a drive to the top of Mount Wellington/Kunanyi, to see the snow and the sunset. They of course came back with a snowman on their car.

Marillac House

HEALTH CRISIS
ACCOMMODATION



The past year has certainly been one that has brought many changes to our daily lives. I think all Tasmanians feel blessed to live where we do, but nevertheless we have all been impacted by the uncertainty, the fear and insecurity that COVID-19 has brought to the world.

Due to COVID-19, we have seen a reduction in the number of clients travelling for medical treatment and requiring accommodation over the past year. We accommodated 687 clients last year; and whilst this is a significant drop in numbers from previous years, the fact that we were able to remain open and continue to support those in need was fantastic.

Despite the lower number of clients visiting over the past year, we still had 255 new referrals to our service.

North	6
Northeast	39
Northwest	238
South	12
East Coast	91
West Coast	20
King & Flinders Islands	221
Interstate	16
Other	44
TOTAL REFERRALS RECEIVED	687

The personal connections that we make with our clients is precious. We see the physical and emotional toll that some patients and their families endure, especially when they are away from home for extended periods of time. Our job is to assist in making their time with us as stress-free and manageable as possible. It's the little things that make a difference.

There is of course the sadness that comes when losing a client and we share that loss and grief with their family and sometimes their extended communities. Especially our guests who come from King Island and Flinders Island.



Our Volunteers are an integral part of our service delivery and they assist the Society greatly with their dedication to service; but a standout is the care and support that they help deliver to our clients, especially throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

In February 2021, we welcomed the installation of a new aluminium wheelchair ramp at the front of the house, which has replaced the existing pine ramp. The new ramp has grab rails and offers better safety when entering and exiting the building.

DONATIONS

Thank you, once again, to The Robert Fergusson Family Foundation and The Archbishop of Hobart's Charitable Foundation for their generous donations to support Marillac House.

We also received a very special donation of framed prints from Tasmanian artist, Sian Butler. Her daughter had been undergoing cancer treatment and was staying at Marillac House each week throughout the course of her chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Sian's donation was a treasured "thank you" for helping look after her beloved daughter, Laya.

The Marillac House volunteers, guests, and staff gathered some special goodies to contribute to the Vinnies Christmas Hamper collection once again and this was delivered to a Launceston family by the Vinnies Assistance team.

Our commitment is to continue making a difference in the lives of others and to serve the community with compassion and respect.

TESTIMONIALS

The warm welcome by staff brought such peace and comfort during a stressful time. Thank you. Laya - St Helens.

At a time when we needed it the most, we were greeted and treated with kindness and caring by the staff at Marillac House. My husband was given a terminal cancer diagnosis recently and we really needed that kindness. Kaye & Doug - Tulendena.

Thank you for providing this fabulous service, particularly in these treacherous pandemic times. I appreciate your accessibility and consistency. I have accessed your service as a patient and this time as a support person. Thanks again for not taking advantage of people experiencing difficult and challenging times. Kate - Moorleah.

You are all lovely. I would have been lost without this accommodation. In future, I will tell others about the House and you will see me next year. Thank you everyone xxx ☺. Vicki - Branxholm.



TOTAL NUMBER OF GUESTS WHO STAYED AT MARILLAC HOUSE: 964

TOTAL NUMBER OF NEW REFERRALS TO MARILLAC HOUSE: 255

PERCENTAGE OF REFERRALS TO MARILLAC HOUSE FROM THE NORTHWEST COAST: 35%

PERCENTAGE OF REFERRALS TO MARILLAC HOUSE FROM THE HOSPITAL SYSTEM OR OTHER HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: 88%

Cape Country

SUPPORTED
COMMUNITY
ACCOMMODATION



Cape Country Accommodation is a Special Work of the St Vincent de Paul Society, offering a safe, homely place to live in the heart of the Wynyard community on the Northwest coast of Tasmania.

For more than 20 years, Cape Country Accommodation has offered 12 independent homes in Cotton Street, Wynyard. The residential facility offers adults living with a disability a friendly, homely environment where they can feel safe and enjoy the companionship of their fellow residents.

To ensure that every resident can maintain their independence, support staff work diligently to identify individual needs and develop and implement personal support plans.

More than just a place to live, residents at Cape Country Accommodation are mentored to upskill their knowledge, build their confidence and given the support they need to become more independent and develop self-management strategies to improve the quality of their lives.

It is a real credit to the sense of community at Cape Country Accommodation that there is an extremely low turnover of residents; many of whom have established lasting friendships with their neighbours and support staff.



St Vincent Industries

INDEPENDENCE
THROUGH
EMPLOYMENT



St Vincent Industries is a Special Work of the St Vincent de Paul Society, which employs 46 people at its recycling facility in North Hobart. Thirty-nine of those employed are NDIS participants, who are supported in the workplace.

St Vincent Industries is the leading supplier of cleaning rags in Southern Tasmania, servicing over 500 customers. Rag sales remained strong despite COVID-19, due to most of our customers remaining open over the lockdown period.

It has been a year of change with long term Training Coordinator, Donna Coetzee, leaving St Vincent Industries in February. While Donna is missed, it has been a great opportunity for change.

Charlotte Bell commenced employment as a new Supervisor in March. Charlotte has worked extensively in the arts, as well as being an experienced support worker in the disability sector. She is developing new training programs in cooking and sewing and is working with our new Training Coordinator, Mark Ewing, in developing exciting, new opportunities for our employees.

Mark Ewing has worked at St Vincent Industries for three years as our Rag Van driver. During that time, he completed his Certificate III in Disability and developed many support skills working with our employees on the van, providing one-on-one training in customer service and product delivery. With Mark's background in risk management with the Royal Australian Navy, he demonstrated the required skills to take on the dual roles of Training Coordinator and Work Health & Safety Officer. Mark works closely with Supported Employees to develop their employment plans and with other staff members in the development of new training and employment opportunities.

Angela Crombie has moved into the position of Office Manager, Chris Eldridge has taken on the role of the Rag Van salesperson and driver, Brett Blackburn-Candlin remains as Supervisor, along with Scott Sherrin as Assistant Supervisor. Daniel Teague remains CEO.

While 2020-21 was a relatively quiet year for St Vincent Industries, due to COVID19, we were able to restart some of our activities.

Team SVI, our regular walking group, is back in action with weekly walks taking place around the streets of Hobart. Not only is this a great physical activity for everyone, but also provides a connection to community for all our employees. We are hoping that in 2022 we will be able to participate again in organised walks, such as the Round the River and the Run the Bridge events, which we have done many times in the past.

St Vincent Industries' future is an exciting one, with new opportunities with the NDIS, a strong training culture, new business opportunities being investigated, initiatives for inclusion in our wider community and a focus on relevant work and life skills for people with disability makes St Vincent Industries a dynamic and enjoyable workplace for all its employees.



Vincent Industries

INDEPENDENCE
THROUGH
EMPLOYMENT



It has been an interesting and somewhat demanding year for Vincent Industries. COVID-19 continued to present challenges to the way Vincent Industries operated over the past 12 months. However, with a little extra planning, we were able to keep our people safe and motivated.

Employees worked reduced hours, but remained on full pay, due to lack of product to sort into material for export and to cut up for Rag sales.

The Vinnies Shop in Wynyard, which is operated by Vincent Industries re-opened, and it was pleasing to see shoppers supporting the shop.

We introduced a program that allowed six supported employees to be provided with the opportunity to gain skill sets in kitchen operations. The employees gained experience and developed skills to help them work together in teams to prepare lunches for their workmates.

October is normally a vibrant time in Wynyard with the annual Tulip Festival, however COVID-19 protocols prevented the 'buzz' this year. It did not stop us having our usual Tulip Vinnies shop window display which, as always, looked spectacular.

The Vinnies shop continued to perform above expectation. The shop windows always looked amazing, and the volunteers continued to deliver great work in the way stock was presented for shoppers and people coming into the shop to browse.

Vincent Industries supported employees were involved in putting together food hampers for the St Vincent de Paul Society. Employees enjoy this opportunity to do good work for disadvantaged people in our local community.

Vinnies volunteers and Vincent Industries employees returned to work after the Christmas shutdown well rested and ready to tackle the new year. We celebrated the achievement of one of our employees who has worked with Vincent Industries for 40 years. We offer our thanks and congratulations for four decades of loyal service. This is the third employee to reach this milestone.

Rag sales remain strong, and Vincent Industries acknowledges the support of all our customers for their understanding and acceptance of occasional delays to the supply of their orders. On the positive side, the donation bins provided by the Somerset Rotary Club have generated a good source of raw material and quality goods for Vincent Industries and the Vinnies Shop.

Vincent Industries employees have also been involved with the scaling of Liliium bulbs. This is another task the employees really enjoy as they can sit around the table as a team while they peel the Liliiums. This is a similar process to peeling an onion, except it does not make you cry.

Ten employees have been involved with workplace benchmarking as part of the Fair Work Commission wage trial being conducted in Australian Disability Enterprises across Australia. The trial commenced in March and will be completed in July. Employees participating in the trial were presented with Certificates to recognise their participation.

Employees enjoyed a week of Annual Leave as part of our normal mid-year shutdown. It provides an opportunity to have a rest during our cold winter months and shorter days.

We are grateful for the support we received. Without this financial support from the Australian Government, we would not have been able to offer the same level of support to all our supported employees and the rest of the team at Vincent Industries.

VINCENT INDUSTRIES ACKNOWLEDGES SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY OF THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS:

Safe Workplace Solutions

Somerset IGA

Somerset Rotary Club

Southern Bulbs

St Michaels Association Inc.

The many people and businesses who have donated their time, financial support, items for resale, and expertise throughout the year.

The St Vincent de Paul Society Tasmania



Tastex Knitwear

PREMIUM KNITWEAR
MANUFACTURERS



As it was for most areas of the St Vincent de Paul Society, Tastex Knitwear also faced a challenging year with COVID-19 restrictions, including social distancing in place for the first half of the financial year.

However, it was pleasing to welcome everyone back in January 2021 and to be able to offer them pre-COVID-19 hours. We currently employ 18 Supported Employees plus nine Support Staff, all of whom were pleased to be back at Tastex working under the 'new normal' conditions.

In April 2021, Tastex was audited and is fully accredited for both the National Disability Insurance Standards and the National Standards for Disability Services. A few months later, in June 2021, Tastex also welcomed auditors, who completed the audit and re-accredited the organisation for ISO Quality Assurance 9001:2015.

Our continued participation in the 26TEN Literacy and Numeracy Program for our supported employees is one of the highlights of our year. Accredited training programs for supported employees can be difficult to source. Work and Training, a registered RTO worked with us to investigate what training options may be suitable; especially training tailored to increase literacy and numeracy skills.

Work and Training successfully acquired funding to place a Literacy and Numeracy Training Consultant at Tastex on a part time basis. They introduced a flexible program designed to increase skills in these areas, focusing on work related tasks.

The program has been running since August 2020, and Work and Training has recently secured further funding to enable us to continue the program into 2022.

Tastex employees, some of whom have previously had negative experiences with improving literacy/numeracy outcomes, have jumped on board, and shown great enthusiasm to participate. They have demonstrated a real desire to learn, grow, and improve, due in part, to the supportive environment at Tastex.

We are seeing some real and positive results from this program, which assists supported employees to develop skills related to their work life, as well as their everyday lives and personal growth outside of work.

Our Envirowoolly range of soft toys continues to be hugely popular, especially over the past 20 months under COVID-19 restrictions. Increased online shopping due to lockdowns, enabled people to send loved ones a unique gift from Tasmania. Our Envirowoolly family of native animals and birds have travelled all around the world from our facility in Tasmania.

Our Knitting Technician and Sewing Technicians have worked collaboratively with a Tasmanian designer who is offering high quality knitwear to taller women. While this is a niche market, the team at Tastex has demonstrated the highly sought-after skills required to design, implement, and assemble the quality garments for the customer. Her business is going ahead in leaps and bounds and is now working with Tastex to assist with pattern design and samples for her new winter 2022 range.

Overall, the financial year 2020-21 proved to be both challenging and eventful. Tastex achieved a number of milestones and saw some exciting projects come to fruition. Tastex is looking forward to the year ahead.

OUR FINANCIAL REPORT

ST VINCENT DE PAUL
SOCIETY (TASMANIA) INC

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

INCOME	2021 \$	2020 \$
Appeals, Donations and Bequests	1,557,964	1,567,875
Grants	652,231	544,357
Sales	5,825,395	5,088,528
Investment Income	789,608	102,081
Realised/Unrealised Financial Investments Revenues	265,290	32,600
COVID-19 Government Subsidies	1,752,100	810,000
Other Income	3,799	82,157
Rent Received	434,065	355,573
Profit on Sale of MSV	-	7,106,355
TOTAL INCOME	11,280,452	15,689,526

EXPENDITURE	2021 \$	2020 \$
Advertising	153,694	86,027
Administration Costs	571,569	506,278
Assistance	984,473	1,147,999
Cost of Sales	64,465	66,469
Depreciation	466,011	476,069
Depreciation - ROU	1,093,603	973,598
Interest Expense	188,599	198,063
Motor Vehicle	118,194	190,188
Other Expenses	475,079	517,953
Personnel costs	4,595,189	5,549,728
Property Costs	685,841	786,182
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	9,396,717	10,498,554
PROFIT/LOSS FOR THE YEAR	1,883,735	5,190,972
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR	1,883,735	5,190,972

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2021

CURRENT ASSETS	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,677,993	2,121,895
Trade and Other Receivables	310,044	418,717
Inventory	38,617	35,168
Other Assets	168,663	169,311
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	3,195,317	2,745,091
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	16,361,820	16,860,085
Financial Assets	6,797,890	5,532,600
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	23,159,710	22,392,685
TOTAL ASSETS	26,355,027	25,137,776
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	626,177	672,769
Lease Liabilities	969,468	954,972
Provisions	538,151	501,459
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,133,796	2,129,200
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Loans and Borrowings	100,000	100,000
Lease Liabilities	4,768,726	5,334,564
Provisions	77,976	83,218
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	4,946,702	5,517,782
TOTAL LIABILITIES	7,080,498	7,646,982
NET ASSETS	19,274,529	17,490,794
EQUITY		
CEO Sleepout Reserve		100,000
Accumulated Funds	19,274,529	17,390,794
TOTAL EQUITY	19,274,529	17,490,794

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021	BETHLEHEM HOUSE \$	ST VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	TASTEX KNITWEAR \$	MT ST VINCENT NURSING HOME \$	VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$
Operating revenue	4,020,650	813,480	1,435,385	-	1,355,772
Operating expenses	2,943,557	799,543	1,288,645	-	1,052,062
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	1,077,093	13,937	146,740	-	303,710
Non-Operational Revenue	1,080,520			-	
Non-Operational Expenses	-			-	
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	2,157,613	13,937	146,740	-	303,710
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020	BETHLEHEM HOUSE \$	ST VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	TASTEX KNITWEAR \$	MT ST VINCENT NURSING HOME \$	VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$
Operating revenue	3,951,991	787,929	1,216,252	-	900,330
Operating expenses	3,379,509	750,297	1,131,312	-	897,342
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	572,482	37,632	84,940	-	2,988
Non-Operational Revenue	(138,018)	-	4,200	2,719,318	-
Non-Operational Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE PERIOD	434,464	37,632	89,140	2,719,318	2,988

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

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021	BETHLEHEM HOUSE \$	ST VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	TASTEX KNITWEAR \$	MT ST VINCENT NURSING HOME \$	VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$
ASSETS					
Current assets	2,166,418	1,104,318	1,031,401		982,501
Non current assets	7,676,344	562,950	98,686		305,758
Total assets	9,842,762	1,667,268	1,130,087	-	1,288,259
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities	590,096	104,662	195,138		100,806
Non current liabilities	93,480	10,584	8,589		23,927
Total liabilities	683,576	115,246	203,727	-	124,733
NET ASSETS	9,159,186	1,552,022	926,360	-	1,163,526
CAPITAL FUNDS	9,159,186	1,552,022	926,360	-	1,163,526

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021	BETHLEHEM HOUSE \$	ST VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$	TASTEX KNITWEAR \$	MT ST VINCENT NURSING HOME \$	VINCENT INDUSTRIES \$
ASSETS					
Current assets	1,603,160	1,081,361	837,530	-	807,092
Non current assets	5,873,361	609,502	117,962	-	310,106
Total assets	7,476,521	1,690,863	955,492	-	1,117,198
LIABILITIES					
Current liabilities	449,222	146,665	168,122	-	235,398
Non current liabilities	25,727	6,113	7,750	-	21,980
Total liabilities	474,949	152,778	175,872	-	257,378
NET ASSETS	7,001,572	1,538,085	779,620	-	859,820
CAPITAL FUNDS	7,001,572	1,538,085	779,620	-	859,820

These financial reports consist of the St Vincent de Paul Society Special Works which are Bethlehem House Tasmania Inc., St Vincent Industries Inc., Tastex Knitwear Inc. and Vincent Industries Inc. Mt St Vincent Nursing Home & Therapy Centre was sold on 31/08/2019

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TASMANIA) INC

ABN: 41 003 138 898

**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

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

- i. The financial statements set out on page 1-21 present a true and fair view of the financial position of the St Vincent de Paul Society (Tasmania) Inc. as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note1 to the financial statements and the requirement of the *Associations Incorporated Act (Tas) 1964*; and
- ii. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- iii. The financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*

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


Committee Member


Committee Member

Dated: 23/10/2021.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

COMPANION

A person who receives assistance from the Society.

CONFERENCE

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

LAY CATHOLIC

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

REGIONAL COUNCIL

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

SPECIAL WORK

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

STATE COUNCIL

The Society's highest governing body in the State.

THE RULE

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

VINCENTIAN MEMBER OR MEMBER

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

VINNIES SHOP

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

VOLUNTEER

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

LEND A HAND TO VINNIES

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

CORPORATE COLLABORATION

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

DONATE

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

DONATE

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

GIFTS IN A WILL

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

JOIN US

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

VOLUNTEER

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



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (TAS) INC.

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St Vincent de Paul Society
TASMANIA

good works