



St Vincent de Paul Society
VICTORIA
good works

WE ARE HERE REPORT

VICTORIAN FLOODS 2022

“We were given just eight minutes to grab the kids and whatever we could and to get out. The river rose so fast! My husband and I have two kids, aged six and 12.

We lost everything.”

These are the words from a mother in an area severely affected by floods, a few days after the rains. This family is well known to the members of the conference, who met up with the family two days after the flood changed their lives. The conference reached out to the family and listened to their heart-breaking story. Everything seemed hopeless.

The children are great kids; the 12 year old is a wonderful student, and was looking forward to starting year seven next year. Like all kids, life revolved around the laptop and friends on social media. The floods happened so quickly that there was no time to grab the laptop, on which was all the school year's work that was due to be handed up. Everything on the laptop was lost. The child is so embarrassed, being the only student to lose everything; no uniform, no shoes, no bag, and no laptop, no internet, and no hope.

St Vincent de Paul Society was quick to respond. Within 48 hours of towns flooding, we launched the Vic Flood Appeal in which

our donors gave generously, while our Vinnies Retail shops were prepared, ready to support people in desperate need. The St Vincent de Paul Society received a call of an offer from a generous donor the Woodards Foundation, asking if we knew of a family who needed some help.

After sharing the story of this family, the supporter has stepped in to help. This family will now not have to worry about how to pay for school fees next year, or new uniforms, new bags, shoes or a new laptop – it is all paid for by our supporter.

The conference has shared the news with the family, which has restored some of their hope. This family has a long way to go, as will so many others in the flood-affected areas across Victoria and other parts of Australia. It's going to be a difficult time for many people, but with us all working together we can bring hope into their lives once more.

– St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Conference Member.

**WE ARE
HERE**

Vinnies VIC is responding currently post-crisis to the impacts of flooding right across the NORTH EAST, including in the towns and/or regional centres of:

Charlton

Echuca

Euroa

Kerang

Mildura

Mooroopna

Murchison

Nathalia

Numurkah

Ouyen

Robinvale

Rochester

Seymour

Shepparton

Swan Hill

Tatura

Victoria Flood Response 2022

\$524,599.86

Immediate Response

In the immediate aftermath of flooding, Vinnies VIC has been providing food, accommodation and other essential items to those in need across affected towns. Supporting households with fuel cards to the value of **\$20,000** and grocery cards to the value of **\$100,000** across affected areas in the immediate aftermath of the crises; with plans to support additional households over the coming months. We have also provided temporary housing to affected individuals and families in hotels or other accommodation as they needed to urgently evacuate and had nowhere to go.

Vinnies Vic plan to support individuals and families across affected towns with key essentials including clothing, household items, water, blankets and other everyday goods.

Further plans to support households with other items, including whitegoods to assist with refurbishing and building back their homes is also underway.

We recognise and thank our valued donors, particularly coming forward

during the floods and wanting to support the Victorian communities impacted.

Our Vinnies Flood Appeal closed at the end of December 2022 and we are delighted to report that we had a fantastic response from the community, raising **\$524,599.86**

The appeal, launched on Friday 14 October in quick response to the disturbing news of floods across Victoria, including Echuca, Shepparton, Mooroopna, meant that our members and volunteers had funds to respond to the immediate and long-term need in their local communities.

These funds have already been put to use providing food and petrol vouchers, insect repellent and bedding such as mattresses and bed bases.

Our wonderful donors and our corporate partners, including IGA and Woodards also stepped up, with IGA and their customers providing the incredible support of **\$253,500**.

Our dedicated Vinnies Retail shoppers also generated more than **\$35,400** for flood-affected communities.

**THROUGH YOUR
VALUABLE
SUPPORT,
WE WERE THERE
FOR THOSE
IN NEED.**



\$ 100,000.00

\$100 000 in IGA \$50 gift cards were handed out.



\$ 26,000.00

\$26 000 of insect repellent was purchased and distributed.



\$ 20,000.00

\$20,000 Ampol petrol cards distributed to Seymour, Goulburn Valley, Mid Murray, Sunraysia Regions.



\$ 20,000.00

\$20,000 single and queen mattresses with bases to Mooroopna area.