



Cornerstone Contact Centre Gazette March 2023



Kitchen Manager JJ with our volunteer Cheryl, preparing delicious meals in the makeshift kitchen while our kitchen renovations are underway.

Hi friends,

I trust this finds you well.

I would like to thank all who have responded to our recent fundraising campaign. Each and every donation is a tremendous support, but there is still significant need.

Recent Census figures showed a huge increase of people experiencing homelessness in Greater Dandenong, recording the highest rough sleeping figures in the state;

The local housing shortage has reached crisis point, and Cornerstone are experiencing a huge increase in the demand for support. This increased need is not only to support rough sleepers, but also local families who are struggling to fill lunch boxes and feed their families a nutritious meal each evening.

I'm once again reaching out to all of our friends today because we need your support to keep caring for our vulnerable community members. Grant funding is often for specific projects or new programs, and the costs of our day-to-day work is only possible through your donations. If you have been considering making a donation toward the work that we do, I would encourage you to do so this month. Every donation helps us care for vulnerable locals when they need our support most. Please click on the Give Now button below to donate via the online giving platform or contact our team to donate via direct debit. You can read below about some of the other ways you can support our community, and the work of Cornerstone. Your support is a great blessing, and I thank you for your care for those in need.

*Naomi Paterson
CEO, Cornerstone Contact Centre*

Support the Important Work of Cornerstone Contact Centre:

*We desperately need your support.
Please donate today via Give Now, click below;*

Give Now

Other ways to support Cornerstone

Arrange a fundraiser at your workplace, school or church. Some fundraising ideas include hosting a sausage sizzle, a morning tea or a car boot sale, with proceeds going towards our work supporting the homeless and vulnerable.

Sponsor a meal! Your family or business can sponsor a two-course meal for 70 people. Photos and business details will be featured in our newsletter and social media.

Organise a Crowd Raiser to fundraise through Give Now, our online giving platform. Contact our team, or visit the Give Now page through the link above, to find out how to set up a Crowd Raiser. Then, post the link to social media and share the cause with your friends. It's easy!

Chat with your workplace about setting up staff giving, and you and your colleagues could make a small monthly contribution that is tax deductible.

Talk to your child's school about supporting Cornerstone with proceeds from their next gold-coin day.

Upcoming Costs

We need your support to cover the following expenses:

- *Food parcels: \$40 each (we distribute an average of 20 non-perishable parcels each week and over 50 fresh food parcels weekly)*
- *Community meals, 2 course for 70 people: \$350ea*
- *New pots, pans and cooking utensils: \$800*
- *Fuel and weekly travel expenses: \$80*
- *A new chest freezer: \$1800*

Each and every donation helps us continue to support people who are doing it tough.



Cornerstone's collaborative Pop-Up Free Food Markets at Dandenong West have been underway throughout March, assisting local families in need

Regular Cornerstone meals and programs:

Regular programs

Tuesdays:

Breakfast toasties served from 9am
Orange Sky mobile laundry service, 9.30am - 12.30pm
Gardening Club 10am - 12noon
Cornerstone regular lunch program 12noon
Fresh food parcels from 10am

Thursdays:

Dinner 5.30pm

(Thursday dinners provided by various partner agencies, including Noel Social Services, the Lion's Club Supper Club, and the Rotary Club of Greater Dandenong and Endeavour Hills)

Fridays:

Breakfast toasties served from 9am
Cornerstone regular lunch program 12noon
Second and Fourth Friday in month, ATO Breakfast 7.30am - 9am
Fresh food parcels from 10am
Orange Sky mobile laundry service, 9.30am - 12.30pm every Friday
One Voice shower van 10am - 1pm every Friday
The Avalon Centre clothing, 2nd Friday of the month

Meal programs are held at Dandenong Baptist Church, 25-27 James Street
Dandenong

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