



St Vincent de Paul Society  
(WA) INC  
*good works*

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2015



# Our Mission

The 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 St Vincent de Paul 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 Logo

The logo is the symbol of the St Vincent de Paul Society in many countries and was designed by Australian sculptor, Tom Bass. It represents the hand of Christ that blesses the cup, the hand of love that offers the cup and the hand of suffering that receives the cup.

# Values

**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.

The Annual Report was produced by the Marketing & Fundraising team of the St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc.  
ABN: 18 332 550 061

Privacy Statement: The St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc follows the Australian Privacy Principles and respects the privacy of the people it assists, our members, volunteers, employees, donors and supporters. As a result, the names and images used within this report may have been changed.

Design: Russell Pulford Marketing Communications.

October 2015

# OUR HISTORY



**Frederic Ozanam -  
Founder**



**St Vincent de Paul -  
Patron**

The St Vincent de Paul Society was founded in Paris in 1833 by Frederic Ozanam, a 20 year old student at Sorbonne University. France was experiencing tremendous political and social upheaval and Frederic along with some of his university colleagues were deeply moved by the poverty and hardship they witnessed and wanted to do something to assist. Frederic and his group visited people in their homes offering them friendship and support. This practice, known as Home Visitation, remains the core activity of the St Vincent de Paul Society today. The Society is named after St Vincent de Paul, who was born in Southern France and ordained a priest in the year 1600 at the age of 19. As a young man he ministered to the wealthy; it wasn't until he was appointed to a poor parish that his vocation to work with the most powerless and marginalised was inspired. From then on he devoted his life to helping the underprivileged. There was no form of poverty - physical, emotional or spiritual, which he did not try to alleviate.

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a member and volunteer based organisation. Established in Perth in 1865 the Society provides assistance to people experiencing disadvantage in different communities by addressing needs predominately in their homes. Support includes food, material items, utility bills and rental assistance as well as advocacy and friendship.

The Society also has a range of specialised support programs across Western Australia including retail and depot operations, recovery-focused mental health services, services to prevent or alleviate homelessness, programs for young people, financial counselling and refugee and migrant services.

## KEY DATES

**1833** – The St Vincent de Paul Society was founded in Paris by Frederic Ozanam and a group of his friends. It is named after St Vincent de Paul the patron of all works of charity.

**1854** – The first Australian conference was founded in Victoria. Conferences are local volunteer member based groups who deliver the core work of the Society which is Emergency Relief and Home Visitation.

**1865** – After moving to Western Australia, John Gorman a military man established the St Vincent de Paul Society in Perth. He first witnessed the Society's work in Ireland.

**1872** – Following the death of John Gorman it is believed the good work of the Society continued in Western Australia but without belonging to a formally aggregated conference.

**1911** – Newly consecrated Bishop, Father Clune invited the then Australian President of the Society to come to Perth and establish the organisation in his diocese. From here a number of conferences formed in Western Australia.

**1961** – The first retail shop was opened in Bulwer Street, Perth and proved to be a great success selling pre-loved clothing and household goods. Today there are 46 Vinnies Shops in Western Australia.

**1979** – The Refugee & Migrant Committee was formally established.

**1993** – A highlight of the Society's Youth Support Program with the inaugural kids camps undertaken.

**1996** – The Society's mental health service Vincentcare was established in Perth and today is Western Australia's only three-tier accommodation based mental health model of recovery.

**1999** – Passages Resource Centre Northbridge opens to assist young people experiencing homelessness. The project is partnership joint venture with Rotary Club of Perth.

**2007** – A Metropolitan Call Centre was established enabling the Society to centralise its emergency relief assistance calls and adopt new technology to support conferences.

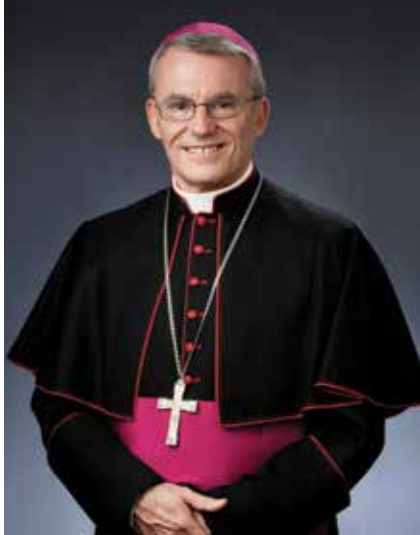
**2010** – The Society introduced a Financial Counselling service to support people assisted by the Society's conferences. Today the Society's number of Financial Counsellors has grown to four.

**2012** – A second Passages Resource Centre in the Peel region opens to assist street present young people in the area.

**2014** – Tom Fisher House, a new shelter in Perth for the chronically homeless opens in an interim location while work begins on the custom built facility. It is named after one of the Society's longest serving volunteers.

**2015** – The St Vincent de Paul Society celebrates 150 years since it was first established in Western Australia.

# ARCHBISHOP'S MESSAGE



**In France in early 1833, a young student named Frederic Ozanam and a group of like-minded people were challenged to put their faith into action and respond to the poverty and hardship they witnessed.**

Inspired by his spiritual vocation, the group chose their name in honour of St Vincent de Paul, the Patron Saint of Christian Charity. They sought the advice of Sister Rosalie Rendu, a Daughter of Charity who was visiting struggling families in one of the poorer districts. The group agreed to meet weekly to strengthen their friendship and to respond to the needs of people they served. They set about providing practical assistance and were dedicated to serving the most marginalised through home visits. This practice known as Home Visitation remains at the core of the St Vincent de Paul Society today.

Frederic knew that service must embody human respect and integrity. The focus was not only relieving the need, but also addressing the situations that cause it. He advocated for the concept of Christian social justice, upholding the rights and dignity of every individual and the need for equal opportunity.

He said, "Yours must be a work of love, of kindness, you must give your time, your talents, yourselves. The poor person is a unique person of God's fashioning with an inalienable right to respect. You must not be content with tiding the poor over the poverty crisis: you must study their condition and the injustices which brought about such poverty, with the aim of a long term improvement".

Since then the St Vincent de Paul Society has grown into an international body of relief and support located in 149 countries with nearly a million volunteers who are responding to their own personal calling to help others by sharing their gifts of compassion and hope.

The Society is recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering "a hand up" to people in need by respecting the dignity of the person, sharing hope, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny. The Society has not strayed from its mission of justice and compassion where quality of life and basic human needs are at the forefront. The St Vincent de Paul Society's commitment to identifying

the causes of poverty and unwavering efforts to seek solutions should be commended.

2015 marks a very important time for the St Vincent de Paul Society in Western Australia. One hundred and fifty years ago, the Society was founded in Perth and today continues to follow the inspirational teachings of Frederic Ozanam, St Vincent de Paul and Sr Rosalie Rendu. I offer my congratulations and thanks to the St Vincent de Paul Society for its long standing commitment and service to the Western Australian community.

I pray for God's blessing on all Vincentians and supporters of the St Vincent de Paul Society. I especially wish to acknowledge the dedication and response over the past twelve months in what has been a time of increased financial and emotional hardship experienced in our State.

May the St Vincent de Paul Society continue to be a powerful force for good in our community in the years ahead.

*+ Timothy Costelloe SDB*



Most Rev Timothy Costelloe SDB  
Catholic Archbishop of Perth

## STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is with great pleasure that I present the 2014/15 Annual Report for the St Vincent de Paul Society in Western Australia.

As a community based organisation, the St Vincent de Paul Society has continued to work tirelessly to lend a helping hand to people experiencing disadvantage and has not lost sight of its important advocacy role. We are operating in a difficult economic time and the Society must evolve to meet the needs of the community.

Over the past year I have been able to see firsthand the good work being carried out by our members and volunteers in the community. I have been able to visit communities

where we have a presence and hear the often complex needs of these areas and learn the significant ways we are making a difference to improve lives.

The St Vincent de Paul Society was founded by a young person called to put their faith in action and this vision is embodied in our Youth Support Program. Not only does the program strive to assist young people through education and recreational opportunities but it also provides an avenue for young adults to share their time and talents in ways that empowers them to respond to social injustices.

I would like to acknowledge and thank our benefactors, supporters and funding bodies for

the generosity and trust shown towards the Society. It is humbling to know that we have the wonderful support of the Western Australian community, allowing us to continue to respond to needs.

On behalf of the State Council, thank you to the Western Australian Executive Team and all our members, volunteers and employees for their support and efforts over the past year.

May God bless you all.



**Robert Burns**  
State President

## CEO'S MESSAGE

The 2014/15 financial year was one mixed with great excitement for the St Vincent de Paul Society in Western Australia but one set against the backdrop of hardship being faced by more people in the community. It has been a year where the Society's foresight, clear goals, reputation, outcome orientation, and perseverance have ensured its success, not only for the organisation but also the community as a whole.

Our unwavering approach to helping people experiencing disadvantage and poverty has resulted in some wonderful achievements for the Society. This year we saw the first anniversary of Tom Fisher House – a small homeless service that supports the chronic rough sleepers in Perth, particularly individuals that other services turn away. In a short period of time, Tom Fisher House has become integrated with the Street to Home Program

and with support from the Mobile Crisis Outreach Team, Vinnies CEO Sleepout participants and the WA State Government, we are having a significant impact on some of the most vulnerable in Perth.

Our unique three tier mental health service has led the refocus of mental health service delivery through true consumer-led engagement and decision making, which has resulted in the Society working with the WA Association for Mental Health in their Certificate IV program, and being recognised as an innovator in the sector.

With only one of our six homeless services receiving government funding, and our emergency relief funding through government sources less than half our overall spend, the importance of our retail operations cannot be understated. Our retail team have produced record sales for the Society and

opened more shops with 46 by year's end. Our shops continue to provide the Society with much needed funding that we use in the community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the State Council for their commitment and professionalism. I would also like to thank the many members, volunteers and employees who work tirelessly to make Western Australia a better place for all. Our achievements, a very small sample of which are highlighted in this document, are due to our committed, driven and passionate people.



**Mark Fitzpatrick**  
Chief Executive Officer

# OUR PEOPLE

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| Parish Conferences                            | 78    |
| Conference Members                            | 1,142 |
| High School Conferences & Mini Vinnies Groups | 16    |
| Youth Members & Volunteers                    | 646   |
| Shops & Depot                                 | 46    |
| Shops & Depot Volunteers                      | 1,789 |
| Call Centre Volunteers                        | 42    |
| Other Volunteers                              | 183   |

## State Council



**Robert (Bob) Burns**  
State President



**Terry Power**  
State Vice President



**Ian Digney**  
State Vice President



**Rev Fr Nino Vinciguerra**  
State Chaplain



**Gladys Demissie**  
State Treasurer



**Bernard (Ben) Ziegelaar**  
President, Fremantle Region



**Thomas (Tom) Loreck**  
President, Joondalup/  
Wanneroo Region



**Stephanie Tenger**  
President, Osborne Park Region



**Jim Mather**  
President, Peel Region



**Ray Ryan**  
President, Perth Region



**Barbara Boggon**  
President, Queens Park Region



**Loellen Clark**  
President, South West Region



**Lou Daily**  
President, Swan Region



**Liam Staltari**  
State Youth Representative



**Rowan Pearce**  
State Youth Representative



**Mark Fitzpatrick**  
Chief Executive Officer

We acknowledge the following members whose terms ended during the 2014/15 year:

**David Fitzgerald**  
State Vice President

**Prof Michael Gillooly**  
State Vice President

**Dulcie Valenti**  
President, North West Region

**Patrick Durack**  
President, Perth Region

**Chris Leon**  
President, Queens Park Region

**George Walls**  
President, Swan Region

**Keenan Klassen**  
State Youth Representative

Note: At time of printing the position of President, North West Region was vacant.

## Advisory Committees & Boards

### Finance Committee

Gladys Demissie

### Governance Committee

Prof Michael Gillooly/Tim Kavenagh

### Members & Conference Board

David Fitzgerald/Stephanie Tenger

### Mental Health & Homelessness Advisory Committee

John Lazberger

### Operations Board

Terry Power

### OSH Committee

Andrew Milne

### Overseas Partnerships & Development Committee

Annette Ellis/Bruce Phillips

### Passages Resource Centres Board

David Reed

### Refugee & Migrant Committee

Frank Pelusey/Clément Astruc

### Social Justice Committee

Terry Quinn/Mary Jardine-Clark

### Spirituality Committee

John Orzanski

### State Retail Operations Board

David Reed

### State Youth & Young Adult Advisory Committee

Liam Staltari/Rowan Pearce

We would like to thank and acknowledge all individuals who served voluntarily on Advisory Committees and Boards for sharing their valuable time and knowledge with the Society with the aim of assisting people in need.

## Executive Team

### Chief Executive Officer

Mark Fitzpatrick

### Executive Manager, Business Services

Brian Niedzwiecki

### Executive Manager, Member & Volunteer Services

Rebecca Callaghan

### Executive Manager, Social Enterprise

Carl Prowse

### Executive Manager, Vincentcare

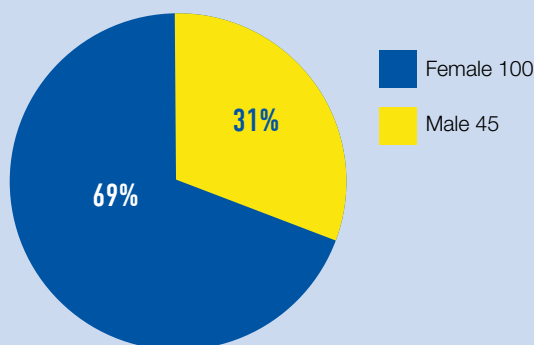
Adele Stewart

A special thank you to all our members, volunteers and staff for their ongoing dedication and commitment to the Society and the people it helps. We are humbled and amazed by the work of these groups and our sincere thanks and prayers go out to them.

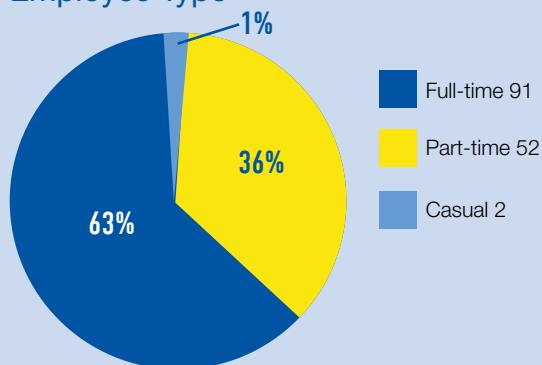
## Employee Overview

Total Employees – 145

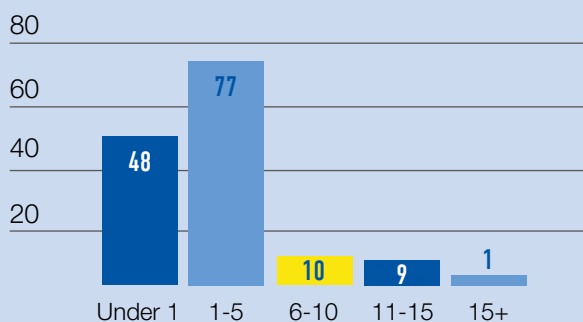
### Gender Breakdown



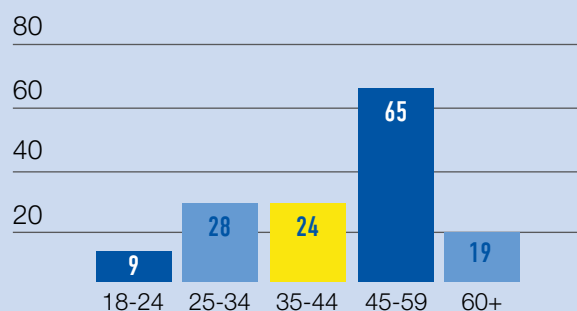
### Employee Type



### Years of Service



### Age Range



# OUR GOVERNANCE

## Structure

The governing body for the Society in Western Australia is its State Council. The members of State Council are its Directors and carry out functions according to the Rule of the St Vincent de Paul Society, our Constitution, corporations laws, ACNC legislation and other relevant State and Commonwealth legislation.

The State Council's role is to ensure that the Society's Mission and Vision are achieved and that good governance principles are applied. The members of State Council are elected by their peers in each of the nine Regional Councils in WA. State Council members are elected for a term of four years with elections held periodically throughout the four years as current terms expire or a vacancy occurs. The President appoints Vice Presidents and Appointed Officers with specific skills and experience to compliment the skills and experiences of the State Council members who have been elected.

## Regulatory Framework

The operations of the Confederation of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia are governed by The Rule of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia and by the Statutes of the International Confederation of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

The Society is an Incorporated Association under the Associations Incorporation Act 1987 and has

a constitution that operates in accordance with that legislation. It is registered under the Charities Act 2013 and operates in accordance with the Charitable Collections Act and other legislation in Western Australia and is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC).

The Society is a Public Benevolent Institution and is endorsed to access GST Concession, FBT Exemption and Income Tax Exemption. The Society is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient.

## Advisory Committees

The Society has a number of Advisory Committees to assist the State Council in carrying out their functions and to provide advice and recommendations for effective and informed decision-making. The committee structure allows our State Council members access to a broad range of members, employees and external experts who work tirelessly in helping inform our activities.

## Strategic Plan

The Society has a clear direction about the role it wants to play in supporting people in need to create better lives in Western Australia. This direction is espoused in our Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan for 2013-2016 has twelve Aspirations and is built on four key pillars:

1. **Services** - Focusing on our strengths and experience we deliver a range of effective services that directly support people in need within our community.

2. **People** - We engage and develop people in ways that equip and support them to embrace our Mission and assist people in need.

3. **Advocacy and Partnerships** - We work with others in seeking to create a better life for people we serve and a more just and compassionate society.

4. **Sustainability** - We ensure effective governance, managerial, professional and spiritual development structures are in place to provide solid financial, people and risk foundations from which we fulfil our Mission.

## Policy Framework

Overseen by our Governance Committee, the Society has a robust policy framework. The purpose of this framework is to provide a framework for promoting high standards for State Council, members, staff and volunteers, along with effective governance and management of the Society in accordance with the Rule, our Constitution, relevant laws, and our Ethos.



# OUR IMPACT

## HOME VISITS & EMERGENCY RELIEF SUPPORT

NUMBER OF HOME VISITS/INTERVIEWS **29,725**

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ASSISTED **37,481**

## DEMOGRAPHIC OF PEOPLE ASSISTED

|                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Couple with Children     | 11.4% |
| Couple without Children  | 5.7%  |
| Singles with Children    | 41.4% |
| Singles without Children | 41.5% |
| New Assistance           | 43.7% |
| Repeat Assistance        | 56.3% |

## TYPES OF ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

**BEDDING** **4.7%**  **CLOTHING** **6.7%**

**FOOD** **85.9%**  **FURNITURE** **7.9%**

**UTILITY BILLS** **11.3%**  **OTHER** **22.3%**

## HOUSING/ACCOMMODATION ARRANGEMENTS

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Boarding/Lodging           | 9.8%  |
| Caravan Park               | 1.1%  |
| Family/Friends             | 4.3%  |
| Owner – with a mortgage    | 3.9%  |
| Owner – without a mortgage | 0.8%  |
| Renter – private           | 32.8% |
| Renter – public            | 39.6% |
| Street                     | 1.8%  |
| Not specified              | 5.9%  |

## SUPPORT EXPENDITURE

|                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Accommodation             | \$316,755   |
| Education                 | \$4,305     |
| Food                      | \$1,123,046 |
| Household Goods & Bedding | \$265,102   |
| Medical                   | \$23,942    |
| Other Assistance          | \$213,436   |
| Refugee Resettlement      | \$377,238   |
| Utility Bills             | \$501,197   |
| Youth                     | \$58,975    |

**TOTAL** **\$2,883,996**



# OUR REGIONS

## FREMANTLE REGION

### Conferences

Bateman - St Thomas More  
 Beaconsfield - Christ the King  
 Hilton - Our Lady of Mt Carmel  
 Murdoch - Student Guild  
 Palmyra - Our Lady of Fatima  
 Spearwood - St Jerome's  
 Willetton - Saints John & Paul  
 Yangebup - Mater Christi

### Number of Members

157

### Shops

Applecross  
 High Street Fremantle Retro  
 Hilton  
 Myaree  
 Willetton

### Number of Home Visits

2,400

### Number of People Assisted

2,892

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$138,914

## PERTH REGION

### Conferences

Bedford/Inglewood - St Peter the Apostle  
 Claremont - St Thomas the Apostle  
 Leederville - St Mary's  
 Nedlands - Holy Rosary  
 North Perth/Highgate - Redemptorist Monastery  
 Subiaco - St Joseph's  
 Wembley - St Cecilia's

### Number of Members

117

### Shops

Claremont  
 Maylands  
 North Perth  
 William Street Northbridge Retro  
 Wembley

### Number of Home Visits

1,263

### Number of People Assisted

1,159

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$104,045

## PEEL REGION

### Conferences

Kwinana - St Vincent's  
 Mandurah - Our Lady's Assumption  
 Pinjarra - St Augustine's  
 Rockingham - Our Lady of Lourdes  
 Waroona - St Patrick's/St Joseph's  
 Kalgoorlie - St Mary's

### Number of Members

103

### Shops

Kalgoorlie  
 Kwinana  
 Mandurah  
 Pinjarra  
 Rockingham  
 Rockingham Depot  
 Waroona

### Number of Home Visits

6,754

### Number of People Assisted

8,738

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$556,438

## JOONDALUP/WANNEROO REGION

### Conferences

Clarkson - St Andrews  
 Greenwood - All Saints  
 Ocean Reef - Saint Simon Peter  
 Wanneroo - St Anthony of Padua  
 Whitfords - Our Lady of Mission  
 Woodvale - St Luke's

### Number of Members

111

### Shops

Clarkson/Ocean Keys  
 Heathridge  
 Wanneroo

### Number of Home Visits

1,461

### Number of People Assisted

2,077

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$141,476



## OSBORNE PARK REGION

### Conferences

Balcatta - St Lawrence & Mary Immaculate  
 Ballajura - Blessed Mary MacKillop  
 City Beach/Scarborough - Holy Spirit  
 Girrawheen - Our Lady of Mercy  
 Innaloo/Karrinyup - St Dominic & Our Lady of Good Counsel  
 Joondanna - St Denis  
 Mirrabooka - St Gerard Majella  
 Nollamara - Our Lady of Lourdes  
 North Beach - Our Lady of Grace  
 Osborne Park - St Kieran's  
 Woodlands - Our Lady of Rosary

### Number of Members

150

### Shops

Girrawheen  
 Innaloo  
 Mount Hawthorn  
 Nollamara  
 Osborne Park Shop & Depot  
 Scarborough

### Number of Home Visits

3,423

### Number of People Assisted

4,003

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$333,828



## SWAN REGION

### Conferences

Bassendean - St Joseph's  
 Belmont/Redcliffe/Cloverdale -  
 Notre Dame  
 Bullsbrook - St Matthew's  
 Embleton/Bayswater - Holy Trinity  
 Greenmount - St Anthony's  
 Kalamunda - Holy Family  
 Lesmurdie - Our Lady of Lourdes  
 Lockridge - Good Shepherd  
 Maida Vale - St Francis of Assisi  
 Midland - St Brigid's  
 Morley/Dianella - Infant Jesus

### Number of Members

141

### Shops

Belmont  
 Bassendean  
 Midland  
 Morley  
 Toodyay

### Number of Home Visits

4,044

### Number of People Assisted

5,329

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$435,871

## SOUTH WEST REGION

### Conferences

Albany - St Joseph's  
 Australind - Christ of the Living Vine  
 Bridgetown - St Brigid's  
 Bunbury - St Patrick's  
 Busselton - St Joseph's  
 Collie - St Brigid's  
 Denmark - St Mary's  
 Dunsborough - Our Lady of the  
 Southern Cross  
 Harvey - Our Lady of Immaculate  
 Conception  
 Manjimup - St Joseph's  
 Margaret River - St Thomas More  
 Narrogin - St Matthew's

### Number of Members

152

### Shops

Albany Shop & Depot  
 Bunbury Town  
 Bunbury Shop & Depot  
 Busselton Shop & Depot  
 Collie  
 Dunsborough  
 Manjimup  
 Margaret River

### Number of Home Visits

4,013

### Number of People Assisted

5,064

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$307,317

## QUEENS PARK REGION

### Conferences

Armadale - St Francis Xavier  
 Bentley - Santa Clara  
 Canning Vale - St Emilie de Vialar  
 Carlisle - Holy Name  
 Como - Holy Family  
 Curtin - Student Guild  
 East Victoria Park - Our Lady Help of  
 Christians  
 Gosnells - Our Lady of the Most  
 Blessed Sacrament  
 Queens Park - St Joseph's  
 Riverton - Our Lady Queen of  
 Apostles  
 Rivervale - St Augustine's  
 Thornlie - Sacred Heart

### Number of Members

174

### Shops

Armadale  
 Cannington  
 East Victoria Park  
 Rivervale

### Number of Home Visits

4,399

### Number of People Assisted

5,529

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$521,550

## NORTH WEST REGION

### Conferences

Carnarvon - St Mary Star of the Sea  
 Geraldton - St Frances Xavier  
 Karratha - St Paul's  
 Roebourne - Daughters of Charity  
 South Hedland - St John the Baptist

### Number of Members

37

### Shops

Geraldton  
 Karratha  
 South Hedland

### Number of Home Visits

1,968

### Number of People Assisted

2,690

### Amount of Welfare Distributed

\$233,964

# MEMBER & VOLUNTEER SERVICES



**In Western Australia, conference members across 78 conferences continue to provide practical support, advocacy and friendship to the most vulnerable members of their local communities. The Society's members do this through visitations, both in the home and at our centres providing dignified, compassionate and respectful support for people seeking assistance.**

The Member & Volunteer Services team encompasses a staff group that work to continually build the capacity of the Society's membership in responding to the changing needs of the Western Australian community.

The Society's Call Centre continues to be the first point of contact for many people seeking assistance. In the last year, 42 volunteers answered 29,950 calls from

individuals and families seeking the Society's support. 92% of the calls for emergency relief were responded to by our members with a visit to the family on the same day.

A number of successful recruitment drives were coordinated throughout the year, and the Society welcomed 110 new members across Western Australia.

The Society continues to provide all our members and volunteers with accessible and relevant training and formation. In the last year, 433 members have participated in training, with a variety of seven different workshops delivered by our dedicated staff. In addition to the workshops facilitated by staff, the Society's members have also engaged in Mental Health First Aid and Childwise Child Protection training.

The annual Ozanam Lecture and Members Forum was attended by members, volunteers and staff from across the State and encouraged participants to reflect on our

visitation model. Robert Fitzgerald presented the lecture during which he encouraged the Society's members to continually place the person seeking assistance at the heart of all we do.

Father Troy Bobbin, the National Council Spiritual Advisor facilitated the annual conference member reflection day to coincide with the feast day of St Vincent de Paul. The day provided the opportunity for members to celebrate their faith and reflect on Gospel teachings in relation to the themes raised in the Ozanam Lecture.

The Society's Financial Counselling service doubled in early 2015, with four Financial Counsellors now working with our conference members to provide more holistic support to people who seek the Society's assistance. Our Financial Counsellors provide free, independent support and advocacy for people who are seeking to increase their confidence in taking control of their financial situation.

Our conference members, staff and volunteers worked tirelessly throughout the last months of 2014 to provide Christmas hampers and toys to families and individuals seeking our assistance. Our Christmas Warehouse distributed upwards of 3,000 hampers and 1,000 toys through our conference members. From our Call Centre volunteers to our staff and school and conference members the entire membership team played a key role in the success of this annual appeal and helped add a little joy, hope and dignity to the lives of Western Australians at Christmas.



## MOLLY'S STORY

Molly is an elderly lady who was referred to the St Vincent de Paul Society for financial counselling. Her husband had passed away a couple of months earlier and she had been left with a car loan. The loan had been taken out by her husband a year before he died. He was on the Age Pension at the time. While Molly does not drive, the loan was in both her and her late husband's name.

Following the passing of her husband, Molly was then issued with notice of a significant debt left owing on the car loan. During the appointment with the financial counsellor it was evident that Molly was very distressed and dealing with anger over her current financial state.

The financial counsellor acted on Molly's behalf, speaking with the creditor and advising them of both Molly's financial and emotional circumstances. After discussions and further considerations they decided to waive the debt in full. When the financial counsellor phoned Molly of the outcome she was so happy and informed them that she was ready to start her grieving process. Molly was also referred to an agency that could assist further with grief and loss counselling.

## RENEE'S STORY

Renee and her family had moved to Perth from New Zealand four years earlier. Whilst they often struggled to keep their heads above water, they were appreciative of the educational opportunities Australia could offer their children.

Her brother Troy had been struggling with depression since he was in his early twenties and Renee had asked him to move in with her family. Three months after moving in with Renee, Troy sadly passed away.

It was important for Renee and her family to bring Troy's body home to his mother in New Zealand. Although they had very little savings, they put all of it towards the amount needed and maxed out their credit cards to make up the balance.

It was hard enough losing her brother and not having the funds to travel back to New Zealand for the funeral, but now they were struggling to buy food or pay their bills. This left them feeling isolated and frightened so Renee turned to the St Vincent de Paul Society for help. Conference members visited Renee and her family, providing food, assistance with bills and most of all, hope.

Renee told members from the moment she called the Society; she felt a sense of relief. Just knowing someone cared enough to visit her at home and listen to her situation, was enough to lift her spirits and get her through the day.

This gave Renee and her husband hope and the strength to carry on.

# YOUTH SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Youth Support Program targets the needs of young people aged 8 - 15 years with rewarding, safe and positive opportunities they may otherwise miss out on due to a variety of pressures upon their families.

Volunteers plan and run Kids and Teen Camps. The activities organised provide young people with the opportunity to experience recreational activities in a safe environment, a chance to learn basic life skills like teamwork, and the opportunity to feel proud of themselves, all while having fun.

The Society believes that education plays an important role in providing future opportunities for young people experiencing hardship. The Homework Centre aims to improve the education of children aged 8 - 12 years who are struggling with their schoolwork within

the Belmont and surrounding suburbs. The program runs weekly throughout the school term and provides students with a nutritious afternoon tea and a volunteer offers one-on-one assistance with homework.

A number of primary (Mini Vinnies Groups) and secondary (High School Conferences) school students and teachers who are passionate about helping people in their local community provide support through fundraising and advocacy initiatives.

The Youth Support Program provides an avenue for volunteers to share their time and talents through different programs and empowers them to respond to the social injustices they see around them. Vinnies Youth is a broad term to encompass all ages and groups of volunteers ranging from primary school students to high school students and young adults.



## REGINA'S STORY

Regina and her mum first received assistance from the St Vincent de Paul Society in 2012 after they fled from a domestic violence situation. Regina's mother started working two jobs to pay the bills and her increased absence drove Regina to withdraw from school and her friends.

When she was thirteen years old Regina was referred to the Vinnies Youth team and after some persuasion from her mother, she attended her first Teen Camp in 2013. She faced some obstacles making friends with the other teens and participating in the challenging activities. Her volunteer leaders provided support through these hurdles on the camp and continued this mentorship on future camps.

Now fifteen years old, Regina attended her final Teen Camp in January 2015. Her fellow teens, now her friends, and volunteer leaders celebrated this momentous occasion with dancing, a DJ and a party and she was gifted with a t-shirt signed by all the camp participants. After one of her volunteer leaders thanked Regina for being such an amazing person on our Teen Camps, Regina was brought to tears. She explained that she didn't want this to be her last camp but she was excited for her future. Regina spoke of her desire to become a lawyer once she left school and thanked all her fellow teens and volunteer leaders. She said they were the reason for where she was in her life now and that she will forever hold a special place in her heart for them all.

### 2014/2015 Overview

**646** YOUTH MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS helped to make a difference in the lives of others through activities and initiatives

**YOUNG ADULTS PROVIDED 9,526** volunteer hours to the Youth Support Program



**RAN 3 KIDS CAMPS AND 2 TEEN CAMPS**



**88** CHILDREN AND TEENS ATTENDED A CAMP **31** HOMEWORK SESSIONS WERE RUN

# REFUGEE AND MIGRANT SUPPORT



The St Vincent de Paul Society has a long history of helping refugees and migrants through material and information support and by advocating to government on their behalf.

The Refugee & Migrant Support Program welcomes and assists individuals with settling into their new home in Western Australia.

Support provided includes the provision of household goods, emergency clothing, recreational activities and friendship.

There are more than 50 million refugees and internationally displaced people worldwide.

This number is continuing to increase as many are forced to flee their homes for safety in other countries due to conflict and persecution. As of 2014/2015, Australia accepted 13,750 refugees.

## An opportunity to have a better life

Following a referral from the Association for Services to Torture and Trauma Survivors, the St Vincent de Paul Society assisted an Iranian family who had arrived as asylum seekers a year earlier.

The family of six including an infant were living in a three bedroom rental at \$400 per week. The elderly parents spoke very little English with the father suffering from sight and other physical disabilities and the mother badly affected by previous trauma. Their three children have a fairly good understanding of English.

The family were given help with halal food parcels, clothing and toys for the infant and utility bills as well as offered friendship. The committee received a thank you card from the mother recently simply signed with her name together with a plate of homemade cookies.

The committee were happy to be able to support the family and give them a chance as they start their new life in Australia.

## 2014/2015 Overview

- **Established a Refugee and Migrant Committee** in the southern suburbs to provide support in the area. The north of the river Committee continued to provide assistance to newly arrived people
- Provided food, utility bill assistance, clothing, household items, school supplies and support for infants
- **600 hampers** were distributed at Christmas
- **Ongoing fortnightly visits** to Yongah Hill Immigration Detention Centre
- **7 activities** organised including picnics, camps and school holiday outings
- Assisted **2,560 people** from Sudan, Somalia, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Burma, Pakistan, Syria, Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan
- Volunteers provided **3,972 hours** of their time to support others

# HOMELESSNESS & ACCOMMODATION SERVICES

The St Vincent de Paul Society has several specialised services providing homelessness and accommodation support to people in need:

## Passages Resource Centres

Provide a safe place for young people experiencing homelessness to access essential facilities, practical assistance and support services to enable them to build relationships and make informed decisions to help break the cycle of homelessness. Passages offers:

- Basic needs – showers, laundry, food, clothing, mail, computers
- Youth workers – providing information and support, referrals and advocacy, workshops and activities
- Visiting agencies – weekly or fortnightly sessions on-site with a range of specialist services including medical advice, legal aid, financial assistance, substance abuse and mental health support
- Outreach support – capacity for mobile worker to attend appointments and assist young people with active referrals
- Accommodation – transitional accommodation in share houses for up to a year for young people wanting to prepare for private rental and independent housing options

- **Primary homelessness** is experienced by people without conventional accommodation (e.g. sleeping rough or in improvised dwellings);
- **Secondary homelessness** is experienced by people who frequently move from one temporary shelter to another (e.g. emergency accommodation, youth refuges, “couch surfing”);
- **Tertiary homelessness** is experienced by people staying in accommodation that falls below minimum community standards (e.g. boarding housing and caravan parks).

## Northbridge Overview

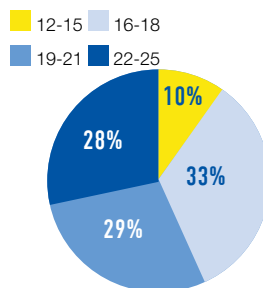
**1,733** YOUNG PEOPLE visited the service a total of **6,593** TIMES

**411** YOUNG PEOPLE VISITED the service for the first time in 2014/15

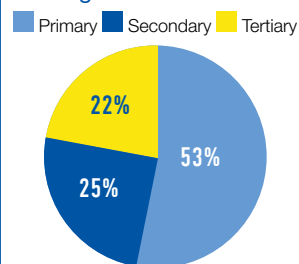
MADE **1,968** SUCCESSFUL REFERRALS TO OTHER SUPPORT

THE RESOURCES PROVIDED WERE USED **21,969** TIMES

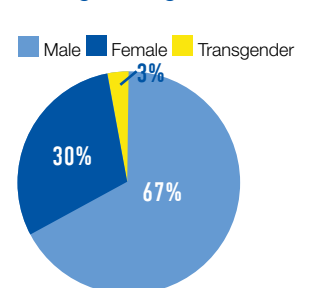
Age of young people visiting Passages



Homelessness state of young people visiting Passages



Gender of young people visiting Passages



## Peel Overview

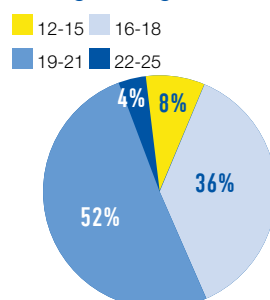
**1,829** YOUNG PEOPLE visited the service a total of **5,204** TIMES

**291** YOUNG PEOPLE VISITED the service for the first time in 2014/15

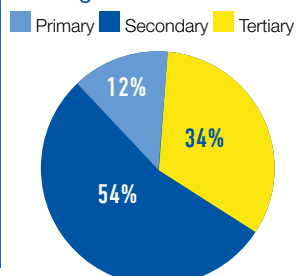
MADE **1,910** SUCCESSFUL REFERRALS TO OTHER SUPPORT

THE RESOURCES PROVIDED WERE USED **18,188** TIMES

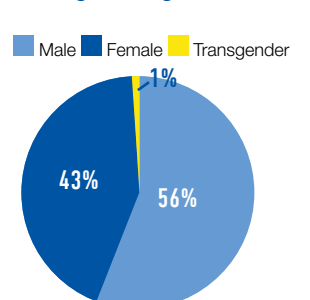
Age of young people visiting Passages



Homelessness state of young people visiting Passages



Gender of young people visiting Passages





## Tom Fisher House

Provides long-term rough sleepers a safe place to stay for up to 7 nights. Tom Fisher House uses a low threshold approach which enables people with complex needs to engage in the service by reducing the barriers and restrictions to access the service. Tom Fisher offers:

- Basic needs – showers, laundry, food, clothing, mail, computers
- Support staff – informal support and engagement
- Referrals – information, referrals and advocacy
- Collaborative care – feedback to case managers working with residents

## 2014/2015 Overview

- The largest demographic of people assisted are aged between **30 to 45 years**
- Provided **2,305 nights** of safe sleep
- Established a positive reputation amongst clients which has resulted in increasing numbers of Indigenous people accessing the service

## Prospect House

Offers up to one year of transitional accommodation for people in the Albany area who are experiencing homelessness. It gives an opportunity for people to:

- Rebuild their connection with the community
- Engage in employment, education and training
- Have a stable home from which they can seek help with any additional support needs
- Establish a good rental record
- Prepare to move into independent living

## 2014/2015 Overview

- Assisted **24 individuals**
- Provided **3,285 nights** of safe sleep



## BOB'S STORY

Bob is 34 years of age and after the breakdown of his marriage a few years earlier and the loss of contact with his young children, Bob turned to alcohol hoping to numb the pain and loneliness he was experiencing.

Then he lost his job and decided to move to Western Australia from the eastern states and look for work. Following his relocation, Bob was surviving on welfare payments and sporadic part-time work with his substance abuse issue impacting his overall mental and physical health.

He became homeless, had to sell his car and was sleeping rough around Perth and staying in shelters when possible. Following the promise of work in Albany, Bob once again moved however the employment opportunity did not eventuate. He spent time camping on the beach but was forced to leave his camp when winter began to set in.

When Bob was referred to Prospect House, the early days were difficult; Bob was dealing with a serious alcohol dependency, was unmotivated and had very little self-esteem. Through support provided by the program, Bob was able to seek help and manage his issue with alcohol. This personal victory encouraged Bob to engage with the broader content of the Prospect House program and Bob began to access counselling, return to casual employment and enrol in study.

Through assistance provide by Prospect House, Bob reconnected with his children at Christmas time and continues to have an ongoing relationship with them. He has not had an episode with alcohol for more than eight months and has currently completed a Certificate II in Education, a Certificate III in Community Services and has almost completed a Certificate IV in Youth Work.

Bob is now in a steady relationship, has secured part-time work thanks to his new skills base with the potential of turning into a full-time position in the new year. He is also focused on saving money so he can afford to move into his own place in the next few months.

# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental illness and homelessness can have devastating personal, social and economic effects on individuals in our community. It is commonly accepted that one in five Australians will have a mental illness at some time during their lives. Mental illness is also closely linked with homelessness.

The St Vincent de Paul Society's mental health service named Vincentcare offers a range of support to people living in our accommodation to assist them in their recovery journey.

The types of support offered are:

- Case management – coordinating support across both internal staff and external services built around holistic and consumer-driven goals
- Group work – group work program around a range of areas including cooking, creative expression, managing health and mental health, relationships
- Peer support – consumer driven and informed activities and support, including active consumer committee
- Daily life skills – working alongside people to help them build up their skills around cooking, cleaning, social interaction, budgeting
- Mentoring – actively building connections to community and assisting with transitions

The three tiers of accommodation are:

- Vincentian Village – 28 beds for men and women with 24 hour support and case management
- Shared houses for 3-6 people with part-time and visiting support
- Independent living with 3 months transitional support

## 2014/2015 Overview

**67** INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED ACROSS SEVEN SITES



PROVIDED **17,828** NIGHTS OF SAFE SLEEP to individuals living with a mental illness

**5** INDIVIDUALS helped to successfully transition back into the community

## FORMATION OF A CONSUMER COMMITTEE

## INTRODUCTION OF A PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM



## ORGANISED A SUCCESSFUL CAMP TO FAIRBRIDGE



# SCOTT'S STORY

Scott is 48 years of age and currently living in one of the Society's shared houses. A number of years earlier Scott found himself in hospital after his involvement with the wrong people and subsequent drug use resulted in his mental health being affected.

Following his discharge from hospital, Scott went to live with his father however after 12 months his father found it difficult to continue to care for him. After a referral to the St Vincent de Paul Society, Scott went to live in Vincentian Village. He remained there for almost five years before working with the team of support staff who encouraged him to move into a shared house.

"My support workers are very good as they sit and listen to me. I also feel that I can ring the staff at the Village any time for extra support too if I need it. The Village was a very good place for my recovery and I was shown how to go on and live pretty neat and tidy in a community house," Scott says.

Today Scott is quite independent and working three days a week cutting lawns. He looks after his own financial situation and he is very supportive of others in the community house he lives in. He ensures he does everything that is required of him around the house.

He enjoys returning to Vincentian Village to visit with the friends he made during his stay.

# DEPOT OPERATIONS



The Clothing & Furniture Depot has been located in Osborne Park for 25 years and is the main receipt and distribution point for material donations.

The Depot supports the Society's emergency relief efforts through the collection, sorting and delivery of items to people in need. The Society's retail arm is also supported by the Depot which provides goods to be sold within the Vinnies Shops that helps to fund many of the Society's services and programs.

Material donations to the Society are made through organising a household or office collection of larger items, at the clothing bins located in a number of school and parish grounds or directly at the Vinnies Shops.

The Depot accepts good quality items such as clothing, furniture, bric-a-brac and books that are clean and undamaged. For safety reasons the Depot will not accept electrical items, prams, cots and bikes and any broken, stained or damaged items.

Vinnies also operates additional Depot facilities in regional areas.

## 2014/2015 Overview

PROVIDED **\$566,359** IN SUPPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

**2,115** DELIVERIES OF SUPPORT ITEMS TO PEOPLE IN NEED

SORTED **709,764kg** OF CLOTHING DONATIONS



**3,566** CLOTHING BIN COLLECTIONS PROVIDING 413,055KG OF GOODS

**6,071** HOUSEHOLD AND OFFICE COLLECTIONS



**99** CLOTHING BINS LOCATED ACROSS WA **7** TRUCKS OPERATED



**9,536** HOURS IN VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE



COST OF RUBBISH TIP FEES WAS **\$83,492** FOR THE YEAR

PARTICIPATED IN THE COLLECTION OF CLOTHING AS PART OF THE FLICK YOUR KIT INITIATIVE AT THE HBF RUN FOR A REASON

**CONTINUED VITAL RELATIONSHIPS** with the Department of Corrective Services, Australian Red Cross, Metropolitan Migrant Resource Centre and Department of Social Services

**ASSISTED A NUMBER** of different external initiatives and agencies including a furniture making training program for long term unemployed and a program aiming to provide clothing for individuals looking to re-enter the workforce

# RETAIL OPERATIONS

Vinnies Shops are the most visible face of the St Vincent de Paul Society and help to fund many of the Society's support programs and services which assist people in need.

They provide a wide range of pre-loved clothing, books, manchester, bric-a-brac and furniture (furniture not available in all shops) that assists the Society's Emergency Relief program. Conference members and volunteers refer people they meet through Home Visitation to the Vinnies Shops and provide vouchers of predominately clothing which can be utilised in the shop. The retail outlets also provide a well-priced, quality shopping alternative to the community.

Vinnies Shops rely on donated goods from the general public and are run by dedicated volunteers and a small team of employees.

## 2014/2015 Overview

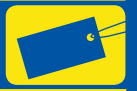
**46** VINNIES SHOPS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

UNDERTOOK AN UPGRADE OF THE SHOP IN MANDURAH

GENERATED **\$8,735,300** in retail sales which is an 8% growth in the year

OPENED **3** NEW SHOPS in Applecross, Cannington and Mount Hawthorn

OPERATED TWO RETRO SHOPS WHICH OFFER UNIQUE, VINTAGE FINDS



PROVIDED **\$157,680** in support to people in need in the community

**1,767** VOLUNTEERS GAVE 490,586 HOURS OF SERVICE



PARTICIPATED IN THE 2015 TELSTRA PERTH FASHION FESTIVAL

## JOY'S STORY

Joy began volunteering with Vinnies in 2006 and is currently the Volunteer Manager at the Claremont Shop, a role she has held for eight years. The thing Joy loves the most about Vinnies is the real sense of community. "I love the fact that there are so many familiar faces," she says.

Joy remembers fondly the days when she started and there were no cash registers so they simply wrote all sales in a book. Joy does agree that the point of sale technology Vinnies has implemented in recent years has helped the shops look and feel more professional. She smirks when asked for memories of interesting donations; there have been many surprises over the time.

Joy always smiles when she talks about her volunteers. Joy herself volunteers roughly 30 hours per week in the shop and she has 46 dedicated volunteers who share the load with her. The eldest volunteer was Sheila aged 89. Sheila recently decided to retire and to show the esteem that Joy holds her in, the retirement afternoon tea was held in Joy's own home.

We salute Joy and the over 1,700 dedicated volunteers in the Vinnies community for their commitment and hard work.



# OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT

The St Vincent de Paul Society operates in 149 countries. All international programs and fundraising efforts carried out by the Society fall under Overseas Development.

The Society is committed to providing support and assistance to developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region in the following three ways – financially, spiritually and by correspondence. Links with our partner countries help strengthen relationships and enrich cultural exchange.

Conferences (local based volunteer groups) in Western Australia express their twinning commitment by fundraising and assisting overseas Conferences living in poverty and supporting projects that include cow and goat banks and self-help projects which increase the degree of self-sufficiency by providing an income to support families and the wider community.

The Assist a Student Program is an education scholarship initiative aimed at providing primary and secondary students throughout Asia and the Pacific an opportunity to receive an education.



## 2014/2015 Overview

**309** YOUNG PEOPLE WERE SUPPORTED THROUGH THE ASSIST A STUDENT PROGRAM

**\$21,630** GIVEN TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE ACHIEVE AN EDUCATION

TWINNED COUNTRIES INCLUDE BANGLADESH, CAMBODIA, INDIA, INDONESIA, PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND

**119** TWINNING RELATIONSHIPS

PROVIDED **\$65,230** IN SUPPORT TO TWINNED COUNTRIES

**5** INITIATIVES WERE SUPPORTED in the past year including goat banks, a computer education centre and a latrine project

# OUR ADVOCACY



The Society's social justice and advocacy efforts are at the heart of everything we do. As our Founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam said "You must not be content with tiding the poor over the poverty crisis; you must study their condition and the injustices which brought about such poverty, with the aim of long term improvement".

Our commitment to social justice permeates all of our services and activities and is part of our mission. We live out this commitment through:

- Seeking to identify and address the cause of poverty by developing medium and long term solutions to the crises of the people we serve;

- Offering a 'hand up' to people suffering disadvantage and by providing integrated support;
- Helping individuals to speak out about injustices and issues that have caused their disadvantage or, if they are not able to speak out themselves, speak on their behalf;
- Seeking to change the attitudes of the community, particularly those who view people who are marginalised by the prejudices held by some or are endemic in society's structures and processes;
- Working with organisations who seek to alleviate poverty and disadvantage for all Australians.

We do so with the support of our Social Justice Committee and Migrant and Refugee Committee, both of which work tirelessly to help develop our social justice messages and focus our efforts.

Our social justice activities are targeted at different levels at different times and, depending on the issue, can focus on the whole of the community, the business community, State Parliament, and/or the Federal Parliament. Apolitical in nature, the Society is always seeking to work together with other organisations in addressing the core needs of the community.

Recognising social change is bigger than one organisation, the Society also seeks to influence debates on various issues through participation in sector, industry and government committees and working groups. For example, in 2014/15 the Society was represented on the board or working parties of the Western Australian Council of Social Service (WACOSS), WA Association of Mental Health, Youth Advisory Council of WA, and the United Way Coalition on Homelessness along with being members of Community Employers WA, Community Clothing Bin Collection Agencies, and Shelter WA. We are also represented on the Electricity Code Consultative Committee, Department of Housing's Community Housing Steering Group and, most recently, the Centre for Social Impact Advisory Board.

## In Western Australia the key platforms of our social justice and advocacy efforts relate to:

- Affordable Housing
- Homelessness
- Poverty
- Refugees and Asylum Seekers
- Mental Health
- Cost of Living Pressures

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



An organisational review occurred in 2014/15 which saw the merging of the Society's two main income streams – Retail Operations (Vinnies Shops) and Marketing & Fundraising which was formally Public Relations & Fundraising under the new Social Enterprise department. The new structure will focus on meeting current and future challenges, helping to ensure we can continue to generate important funding that will allow us to meet the needs of people in Western Australia.

Thank you to our donors, partners and supporters who have given so generously over the last 12 months, your kindness has made a difference to the lives of many in our community.

## Fundraising Appeals

Fundraising income increased in the 2014/15 financial year by 3.3% in what was a difficult economic period. This is positive when comparing to the NAB Charitable Giving Index which showed charity giving grew by just 2% over the year to February 2015 compared to the 10% growth in the same time the previous year.

## Community Fundraising

The St Vincent de Paul Society continued to receive support from the community in a number of ways including involvements in fun runs, the city to surf, sleepouts, material collections as well through raffles and quiz nights.

## Vinnies CEO Sleepout

The 2015 Vinnies CEO Sleepout was held on Thursday 18 June at the WACA. It was the sixth year the event has been run in Western Australia. 106 business and community leaders took part in this year's Sleepout. 54% of the participants were returning to the event. \$880,074 was raised from 3,971 gifts with an average gift of \$221.62. Significant awareness of the issue of homelessness and the Society's work in this area was generated. Barry Felstead from Crown Australian Resorts was the top fundraiser raising \$149,000. Thank you to all this year's participants and supporters. The 2016 Vinnies CEO Sleepout will be held on Thursday 23 June.



## Corporate Partnerships

Throughout the financial year, the St Vincent de Paul Society was fortunate to have the support of a number of generous corporate partners including:

- IGA who have been a national partner of the Christmas Appeal for many years and raised \$52,949 in 2014 through the sale of community chest products.
- Best & Less supported the Society once again in 2014/15 with a number of different initiatives.
- Partnered with Sumo Salad during the Winter Appeal for the

Heat up the Street Campaign which encouraged customers to buy a soup and share the image on social media with Sumo Salad also then donating the cost of the soup to the Society.

- Brumby's provided support of the Christmas Appeal which allowed customers to donate in store with vouchers of bread then provided to the Society to help people in need.
- Continued to receive support from Crown Perth throughout the year including donations of material items such as clothing and manchester and for the Vinnies CEO Sleepout and the Christmas Appeal.

## Key Achievements

- **\$5,346,044** in donations received
- Almost **14,000 gifts** were made through direct marketing, regular giving and events
- Celebrated the tenth Race Day event for the Passages Resource Centres which has raised over **\$650,000** since 2005
- The Street Appeal raised over **\$62,000** in the one day collection

## Media & Communications

The Society continues to position itself as a vocal advocate for people who are vulnerable and marginalised, providing a voice for people who are experiencing disadvantage. The media is increasingly recognising the Society is a valuable commentator on social issues, with news stories including affordable housing, homelessness, cost of living and mental health.

Over this financial year, the Society has featured on all metropolitan TV networks, including a seven and a half minute feature on the

ABC 7.30 Report, and on our only local current affairs program Today Tonight. We have featured in WA's two main newspapers The West Australian and Sunday Times, all suburban community newspapers including many regional papers, WA Business news, news grabs across all mainstream metropolitan radio (NOVA, Mix 94.5, 96fm, 92.9, Sunshine FM, ABC, 6PR, Curtin), as well as some community radio. The Society has also featured on WA's main online news sites including Perth Now, WA Today, The West and ABC.

## Key Achievements

- Distributed **48 media releases**
- Generated over **350 media hits**
- Grown the reach of social media sites Facebook and Twitter
- There were **100 mentions** in the media relating to the Vinnies CEO Sleepout event in WA, with a potential audience reach of a little **over 4 million**



# THANK YOU



# FINANCIALS

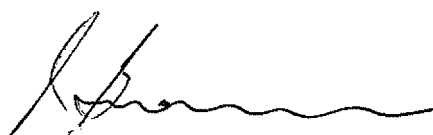
## DECLARATION BY THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN STATE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

The State Council (the Trustees) has determined that St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies.

In the opinion of the State Council the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:

1. comply with the Australian Accounting Standards applicable to St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc;
2. gives a true and fair view of the financial position of St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc as at 30 June 2015 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in the financial statements; and
3. at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This statement is made in accordance with section 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2012 and is signed for and on behalf of the State Council by:



**Robert Burns** - State President



**Gladys Demissie** - State Treasurer

Dated this the 1st day of October 2015

# FINANCIALS

## STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

|  | 2015<br>\$        | 2014<br>\$        |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Revenue</b>                                   |                   |                   |
| Operating Activities:                            |                   |                   |
| Grants   | 1,928,751         | 1,251,155         |
| Sale of goods                                    | 9,138,528         | 8,023,439         |
| Client contributions                             | 1,062,079         | 1,015,800         |
| Fundraising                                      | 5,346,044         | 5,176,786         |
| Other revenue                                    | 2,157,026         | 2,234,071         |
|  | 19,632,428        | 17,701,251        |
| Non-Operating Activities:                        |                   |                   |
| Bequests including assets contributed            | 593,698           | 1,633,343         |
| Capital and non-recurrent grants                 | -                 | 32,702            |
| Interest   | 293,892           | 295,077           |
| Gain on sale of property, plant and equipment    | 287,032           | 363,590           |
|  | 1,174,622         | 2,324,712         |
| <b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>                             | <b>20,807,050</b> | <b>20,025,963</b> |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                               |                   |                   |
| Centres of charity                               | 8,219,454         | 7,035,039         |
| Management and administration                    | 969,447           | 994,167           |
| Fundraising, Public relations and communications | 1,226,010         | 1,340,698         |
| People in need services                          | 5,022,913         | 4,807,183         |
| Homeless and mental health services              | 4,360,767         | 3,546,720         |
|  | 19,798,591        | 17,723,807        |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>                         | <b>19,798,591</b> | <b>17,723,807</b> |
| Surplus/(deficit) for the year                   | 1,008,459         | 2,302,156         |
| <b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>   | <b>1,008,459</b>  | <b>2,302,156</b>  |

# FINANCIALS

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

|                                      | 2015<br>\$        | 2014<br>\$        |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                        |                   |                   |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                |                   |                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents            | 11,491,347        | 11,686,443        |
| Trade and other receivables          | 1,267,274         | 721,580           |
| Inventories                          | 175,654           | 189,935           |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>          | <b>12,934,275</b> | <b>12,597,958</b> |
| <b>Non-Current Assets</b>            |                   |                   |
| Other assets                         | 473,491           | -                 |
| Property, plant and equipment        | 10,427,459        | 10,243,745        |
| <b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>      | <b>10,900,950</b> | <b>10,243,745</b> |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                  | <b>23,835,225</b> | <b>22,841,703</b> |
| <b>Liabilities</b>                   |                   |                   |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>           |                   |                   |
| Trade and other payables             | 1,369,770         | 1,343,328         |
| Borrowings                           | -                 | 151               |
| Provisions                           | 1,591,365         | 1,539,619         |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>     | <b>2,961,135</b>  | <b>2,883,098</b>  |
| <b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>       |                   |                   |
| Provisions                           | 537,429           | 630,403           |
| <b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b> | <b>537,429</b>    | <b>630,403</b>    |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>             | <b>3,498,564</b>  | <b>3,513,501</b>  |
| <b>Net Assets</b>                    | <b>20,336,661</b> | <b>19,328,202</b> |
| <b>Capital Funds</b>                 |                   |                   |
| Capital fundraising reserve          | 2,380,707         | 2,380,707         |
| Asset revaluation reserve            | 1,906,769         | 1,948,746         |
| Accumulated funds                    | 16,049,185        | 14,998,749        |
| <b>Total Capital Funds</b>           | <b>20,336,661</b> | <b>19,328,202</b> |

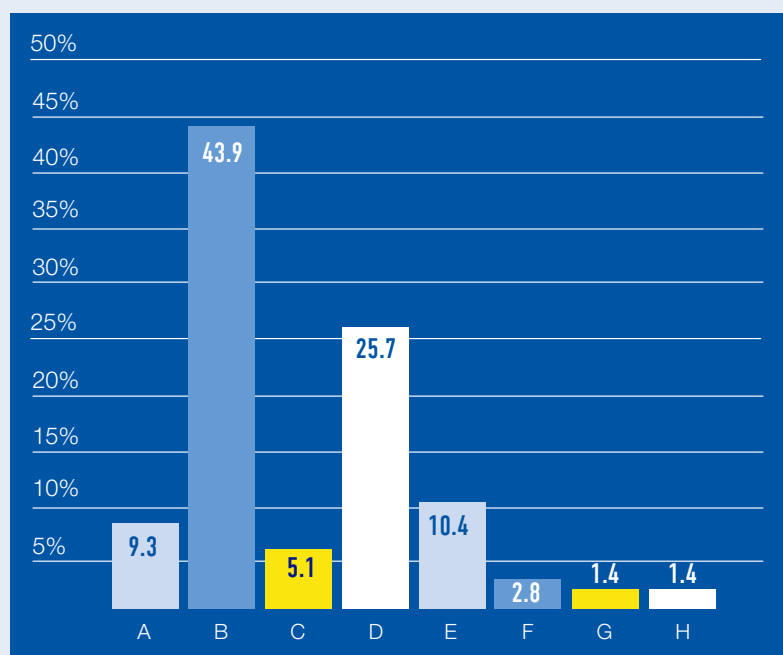
# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

I am pleased to report that the financial position for the St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc is sound and strong for the year ended 30 June 2015. This will allow the Society to continue to deliver services and provide support to people in need in the Western Australian community.

The Society's current financial position is a result of good governance, the dedicated work of our members, volunteers and employees and the generous financial support that we receive from all our donors, supporters, corporate partners and funding bodies. We look forward to the ongoing support of the community which will enable us to continue our good work.

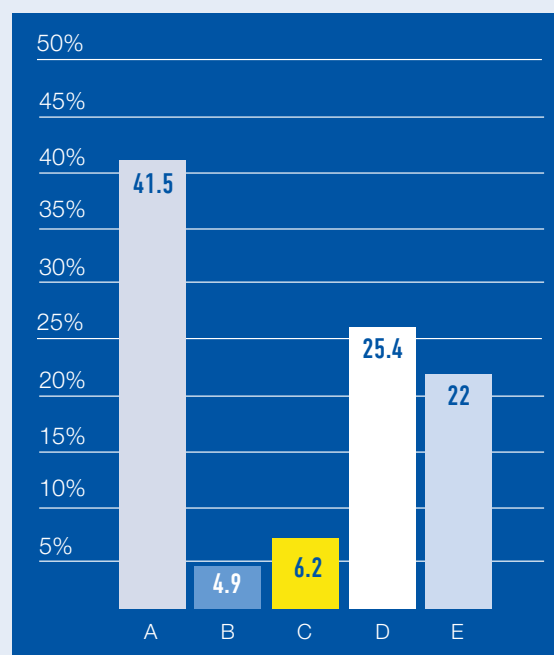
## 2014/2015 Financial Snapshot

- There was a modest growth in our revenue of 3.9% on the back of a growth in expenditure of 11.71%
- There was a 27.4% increase in the expenditure for the delivery of services and emergency relief support.
- The overall position for the year was a revenue surplus of \$1.08 million.
- St Vincent de Paul Society net assets grew by \$1 million to \$20 million.



### Income Breakdown

|  | Dollar Value      |
|--|-------------------|
| A. Grants  | 1,928,751         |
| B. Depot / Centres - Sale of goods               | 9,138,528         |
| C. Client contributions                          | 1,062,079         |
| D. Fundraising                                   | 5,346,044         |
| E. Other revenue                                 | 2,157,026         |
| F. Bequests including assets contributed         | 593,698           |
| G. Interest                                      | 293,892           |
| H. Gain on sale of property, plant and equipment | 287,032           |
|  | <b>20,807,050</b> |



### Expenditure Breakdown

|   | Dollar Value      |
|---|-------------------|
| A. Depot / Centres - Sale of Goods                  | 8,219,454         |
| B. Management and administration                    | 969,447           |
| C. Fundraising, Public relations and communications | 1,226,010         |
| D. People in need services                          | 5,022,913         |
| E. Homeless and mental health services              | 4,360,767         |
|   | <b>19,798,591</b> |

**Brian Niedzwiecki**

Executive Manager, Business Services

# HOW YOU CAN HELP

## **Make a financial donation**

Credit card donations can be made by visiting our website [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au) or calling 13 18 12. All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

## **Volunteer your time**

If you are interested in sharing your skills and time to help people through any of the St Vincent de Paul Society's services, great volunteering opportunities exist. For further information on volunteering please phone (08) 9475 5400.

## **Leave a bequest**

Consider remembering the St Vincent de Paul Society in your Will. The Society is able to provide long-lasting support to many because of the generosity of people who have remembered the Society in their Will. To receive an information booklet or speak to someone about leaving a bequest please phone (08) 9475 5400.

## **Become a regular giver**

The Helping Hands Program allows donors to make a periodical commitment to the work of the Society and receive only one tax-deductible receipt each year. For more information on the regular giving program please phone (08) 9475 5400.

## **Donate material goods**

Donations of pre-loved clothing, household goods and furniture can be made at our Clothing and Furniture Depot in Osborne Park or by calling (08) 9444 5622 to arrange a free pick up of larger items. For the location of your nearest Vinnies Shops visit [www.vinnies.org.au](http://www.vinnies.org.au).

## **Corporate partnerships**

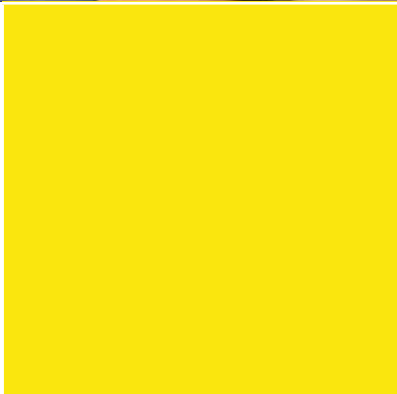
The St Vincent de Paul Society recognises the importance of developing and nurturing strong links with the corporate and philanthropic sectors to allow us to continue to help make positive changes in the lives of the people we help. The Society seeks to engage all partners in long-term, strategic and mutually beneficial relationships. If your organisation is looking to deepen its commitment to investing in communities, we invite you to work with us to identify opportunities to make a difference. To find out more please phone (08) 9475 5400.

## **Follow us on Social Media - VinniesWA**





**St Vincent de Paul Society**  
(WA) INC  
*good works*



**St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc**  
**Street Address:** 76 Abernethy Road Belmont WA 6104  
**Postal Address:** PO Box 473 Belmont WA 6984  
**Phone:** 08 9475 5400  
**Email:** [info@svdpwa.org.au](mailto:info@svdpwa.org.au)  
**Web:** [vinnies.org.au](http://vinnies.org.au)