

Add the homeless to your Christmas list!

Serve – join us as a volunteer

Donate – as a one off special Christmas gift

Sponsor – become a monthly donor and sponsor of Jesus Cares

Join us – for our Christmas Celebration



SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Dear Friend of Jesus Cares

As the holiday season approaches, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the support and compassion that you have shown throughout the year. Our mission to support the homeless and impoverished is a testament to the values of compassion and charity that the Christmas season embodies.

This Christmas, we invite you to join us in our efforts to spread love and hope to those in need. Your support can provide warm meals, clothing, Bibles, and more to individuals who are struggling to make ends meet. It can offer them a sense of belonging and remind them that they are not forgotten, especially during this special time of the year.

Your contribution, whether through donations, volunteering, or other forms of support, can truly be a beacon of light in the lives of those who need it most. You can make a monthly or one-time donation. We are thrilled to announce the launch of our new website. Our new website is a hub of information, stories, and ways you can get involved in creating positive change. Please visit our new website: www.jesuscares.com.au

Let us remember the true meaning of this season – the birth of Jesus Christ, whose life was a testament to love and compassion. By supporting Jesus Cares ministry during this Christmas season, you can walk in His foot-

steps and make a meaningful impact on the lives of the homeless and poor.

Wishing you a blessed and joyous Christmas season,

Nadia Muller
CEO



Working for the Kingdom

When people ask me what I do, I find it a bit awkward to answer. Am I 'working'? Or is it closer to the truth to say that I am 'serving'? I find it difficult when a friend says, 'What are you up to?' to answer 'I'm off to work'. I am still trying to find the right answer but what I do know is that 'working for the Kingdom' is unique, rewarding, uplifting, joyful, and a blessing.

I thank God for giving me the privilege to gather with my brothers and sisters together around His table every week. I thank HIM for the honour of serving Him. I thank Him for his compassion and His love through the ministry. I thank Him for the people we meet, for those who get saved, healed, and comforted.

Are there challenges? Yes, for sure, but it's nothing compared to the satisfaction of knowing that on many days during the week, people come to the van, and see the name of JESUS in words and actions and that is powerful enough to change lives! So, thank you, Jesus!

Valérie Forestier
Coordinator

For Pastor Matt's Corner

One of the great privileges of ministry among the poor and disadvantaged is seeing the power of the Gospel and the redeeming work of Jesus transform people's lives. At times it really is miraculous as God's Spirit takes truly broken people and begins to put them back together.

But like all Christian stories of redemption ministry is often three steps forward and two steps backward. Sometimes when we see new Christians with complex difficulties backsliding in the faith we are tempted to step in and try to save them. This desire to help often comes from real love and compassion. But it's easy to then put ourselves in situations where we are not practicing wise boundaries, or we are attempting to deal with complex issues for which we do not have the training or experience.

In difficult pastoral situations, it is important to remember, that Jesus is their Saviour. He loves them even more than you and he will help them work out all their struggles as they trust him. Be wary of becoming a saviour figure yourself! Know your limits. Keep pointing people to Jesus and if you're ever in doubt about a pastoral situation, err on the side of caution and double check with Jesus Cares staff.

Pastor Matt Johnson



God's Provision

My husband Brett Freeman and myself moved out of our rental, to give away our possessions to live 'full time by faith' traveling Australia, wherever the Holy Spirit leads for however long the Holy Spirit wants us to. We are not funded by anyone or connected to any church. We are funded and connected by the Holy Spirit.

In February God led us to begin serving with Jesus Cares. Since then we've had the privilege of being able to serve and even our pet, rabbit Marshmallow has joined some nights. One Friday we arrived at Redfern early to help prepare for the evening ahead. One of the volunteers felt prompted to bring some shoes, among them a pair of men's size 8. Little did he know that before Brett and I had met a young man living in a transit van in very poor circumstances, who needed a new pair of shoes, and surprisingly his size was 8.

Brett and I took the shoes as it was clearly a sign from God. The next week we saw the young man, we told



him the story and gave him the shoes. He felt so overwhelmed with emotion and how there's a God who knows him and his needs. He asked me: 'How did you know that I needed new shoes and what size I was?' - I replied: 'I heard you say in a conversation under your breath that your shoes were broken and it was the only pair you had. However the part of actually getting you these shoes, that's all from God. I didn't do that part.'

'Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Matthew 6:26-27

You can find the more detailed version of this story or follow Brett, Sarah and Marshmallow the rabbit's journey on Instagram and YouTube @On the road with the Freeman's.

Sarah Freeman
Volunteer

Special Moments

There is a soft evening glow that now lights our car park dinners, and everyone is feeling a bit lighter with the sunshine sticking around! The waft of the BBQ invites passersby to join us in communion, to hear the Gospel and to hear more about Jesus.



We have a number of street friends, one of the regulars being our friend John. John joins us every week and occasionally joins in our worship and prayer time. John lives close by but unfortunately, he doesn't have electricity and he collects cans and bottles to make ends meet. Our team had the pleasure of celebrating his birthday with one of our volunteers making him a special cake! The love was felt that night.

I praise God that we can bless people who don't have anyone in their life to share these special moments with.

John's real name is concealed for privacy*

Sophie Wilson
Northern Beaches Coordinator

Invitation for Christmas Celebration

We would like to invite you,
your family, and friends to the
Jesus Cares Christmas Celebration

Where: Belmore park
When: 15th of December, Friday from 6 pm.
RSVP: Please send us an email to coordinator@jesuscared.com.au.

Come and mingle with our street friends, give hope, and share the love of Christ with them!
We will sing carols, there will be a Christmas message, food, and we will give hampers to our street friends, the homeless, the poor, and the less fortunate.

Come and celebrate with us the birth of our Lord and Saviour!



Have a Blessed Christmas!

Christmas Closedown period: 16th of December - 8th of January 2024.

CBD MINISTRY

Brookvale MINISTRY

Blacktown MINISTRY

VOLUNTEER CENTRE

South Sydney Anglican Church
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www.jesuscared.com.au
To financially support go to:
jesuscared.com.au/donate.



JESUS CARES

Serving the homeless, poor and marginalised since 1987

Jesus Cares Ministry a Registered Charity. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Your donation today will make a real difference to supporting the homeless, isolated and at - risk people in our community.