

The Ministry that shares the Gospel by reaching out to the homeless, the poor and vulnerable people of Sydney, telling them the good news of Jesus Christ

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat'
Matthew 25:35

WINTER 2023 NEWSLETTER

Fundraiser Dinner

We are thrilled to share the remarkable success of our recent fundraising dinner, which brought together our dedicated supporters. We began the evening with prayer, which is a good reminder of our total dependence on God and His provision, as well as the fact that He has sustained the Ministry for over 35 years. Throughout the night, the program unfolded effortlessly, showcasing the heart and soul of Jesus Cares. Our speakers and passionate volunteers took the stage, sharing inspiring stories and shedding light on the importance of our mission. One of the highlights of the evening was the incredible generosity displayed by our attendees. Through their unwavering support and contributions, we surpassed our fundraising goal, enabling us to amplify our impact and further our initiatives. The collective effort and commitment demonstrated by everyone in attendance truly made a difference in the lives of those we serve.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the attendees, sponsors, and volunteers who made this event a great success. Your dedication, enthusiasm, and unwavering support continue to be the driving force behind Jesus Cares' achievements. May the Lord keep using Jesus Cares Ministry to expand His Kingdom and transform lives, while we continue to serve and reach out to the homeless, the poor, and the vulnerable people of Sydney, telling them the Good News of Jesus.

'In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work, we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' Acts 20.35

In Him
Nadia Muller



Update on the Northern Beaches / Brookvale Van Ministry

Hello Jesus Cares community! My Name is Sophie, I am the part-time coordinator for the Northern Beaches outreach team. Our team has been out on the van for the last 3 months, parked up in the Warringah Mall carpark, and have been serving home cooked meals every Friday night. We knew our demographic would be different to our city team given where we live, and the Lord has revealed to us, that in addition to the homeless and poor we are to focus on the youth in the area. There are so many teenagers who are lost and looking for their identity in all of the wrong places. Quite a few of our team used to be those lost teenagers, so the Lord has started to use us to minister to the youth and build relationships with them. We pray that these encounters will be a stepping stone to their salvation.

Besides serving the community, it's also a great night of fellowship, even when it's a quiet night we still have fun out there! I love that the city crew worship and pray

together, which we have taken on board. Singing for Jesus outside is so wonderful, and we pray that He will take background that has been lost in that area.

For anyone interested in joining us, contact me on northernbeaches@jesuscares.com, we meet in Warringah Mall carpark near the B-Line Bus stop 7:30 –9:30 pm every Friday night.

In Him
Sophie Wilson



Thread Together

We are glad to announce that Jesus Cares Ministry is now in partnership with the charity Thread Together. Thread Together collects end-of-line brand-new stock from fashion retailers around Australia. The clothes are then sorted out by volunteers to distribute to people in need through a national network of charities and social service agencies. One of our street friends already benefited from Thread Together recently. He needed a suit for an interview and was provided with everything in less than 30 minutes.

We hope this new partnership will be the ramp that will see those living in poverty regain some dignity.

In Him
Valerie Forestier

Our Faithful Volunteers, KL and His Wife Aysh, and their two Boys, Erick and Eden

We are from India, and we have two boys, Erick and Eden. Both, Erick and Eden come out with the van a few times, and they really enjoyed it.

Why did you join Jesus Cares Ministry?

We joined Jesus Cares Ministry to reach out to the community with the Gospel, and also to do service to the poor as commanded in the Bible: *'For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.'* Matthew 25:35. We have a passion for evangelising and telling the Gospel to as many people as possible.

When did you join the ministry, which outreach are you attending, and how often?

We joined Jesus Cares Ministry more than three years ago, and we have been serving there regularly since then. We attend the outreaches to the poor at Ward Park and Belmore Park on Fridays, and then the Gospel outreach in Blacktown.

We felt urged to visit Blacktown and pray for the people in that area much before Jesus Cares Blacktown outreach started. We used to go to Westpoint mall or sit at a park near the Blacktown station and asked the Lord to open a way for us to reach that community with the Gospel. And we are now excited and thankful to Jesus Cares, who supported us in fulfilling this desire to take the Gospel to this ethnically diverse community.

Could you share one of your favorite stories while you were serving?

I met a couple of young African men who had just come out of juvenile imprisonment for selling drugs, and they



were jeering at me. When I asked them about what they knew about Jesus and if they wanted to learn more about Him, they were very surprised to see that I was friendly. They also asked if I had something for them to eat. We had ran out of food by then, so I took them to the local shop and bought them something to eat.

God has a good sense of humor, as it was in my heart to visit prisoners, but I hadn't had the chance to do so, so I was so pleased that God brought these people across my path. I was able to share the Gospel with them and recommend that they start going to church.

In Him
KL

Partnership with South Sydney Anglican Church (SSAC)

'As you come to him, the living Stone - rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him - you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.' 1 Peter 2:4

Please continue to pray for us as we strengthen our fellowship and build each other up with Redfern South Sydney Anglican. We have smoothly relocated our premises into the church building and are now ministering together in the same area.

Since we've been here, we have been blessed with a weekly prayer and study meeting led by Pastor Matt.

As always we are very grateful for each and every Volunteer, and also for the new ones from SSAC. We know that serving on the streets in winter can be even more challenging, but we believe, as you are giving your time, gifts, and strength to help and serve the less fortunate, you are like a 'living stone', where your 'sacrifices are acceptable to God through Jesus Christ' - as we read in 1 Peter 2:4.

Moreover, it's rewarding to see new faces turning up at the Sunday service, people we have met, helped, shared the Gospel with, and prayed for during street ministry. We've referred them to the church, where they feel very welcomed.

Please pray for these people that by the grace of God they might have a new life and be built into the 'spiritual house'.

In Him
Valerie Forestier



Not an Accident

Being at the right place at the right time is only possible by God's providence, and this is how I felt when we happened to help a 14-year-old girl, Sharna (not her real name) in Blacktown. She was walking up the stairs in the evening in the Shopping Centre, she was very drunk and her face and leg were bruised. She was running away from the party where she had been abused by a guy, and so she wanted to spend the night at the Blacktown station thinking that it might be a safer place. Sharna told us that she couldn't go home because her parents locked her out while they went on a holiday for two weeks, so she was experiencing homelessness for a little while.

We were concerned that she might fall down the stairs so I ran to her, and guided her to a safer place, and sat down with her. We gave her water to drink and some food to eat and then called the police. They were very quick and while the detectives were doing the investigation the ambulance also arrived. Finally, the ambulance took her to the hospital, then the only thing we could do for her was to lift

her up in prayer to our Heavenly Father. As I was driving home I was really concerned for this teenage girl, horrified to imagine her spending the night in the train station alone in that stage at such a tender age.

I wasn't sure if we could see her again, but it happened a few weeks later just at the same spot in Blacktown. However, this time we hardly recognised her. I was glad to see that she was sober, the bruises healed and so she looked like a different person. But as we were talking more, she revealed that the inside was hurting. She didn't say much about that night, but more about the family issues at home.

I am thankful that God gave us this opportunity to talk to her and have a conversation where she was able to freely share, but also where we were able to point her to the Way of Life, choosing the narrow path that leads to Life instead of the wide road which leads to death. She also accepted prayers from the whole team and a Bible to read.

Please pray for Sharna, that she will be healed inside as well, and that she will come to know her great Healer, our Lord Jesus Christ. Let's also keep our youth in prayers.

In Him
Alexandra Somlai


CBD MINISTRY
Brookvale MINISTRY
Blacktown MINISTRY**Breakfast VAN OUTREACH**

Belmore Park, Eddy Avenue
Thursday, 8:30 am - 10:00 am

Dinner VAN OUTREACH

- Surry Hill, Eddie Ward Park,
Friday, 7:45 pm - 8:45 pm,
Belmore Park, Eddy Avenue
Friday, 9:00 pm - 10:30 pm
- Martin Place, Phillip Street,
Saturday, 7:15 pm - 8:45 pm,
Belmore Park, Eddy Ave
Saturday, 9:00 pm - 10:30 pm

CBD OUTREACH

Thursday, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Dinner VAN OUTREACH

Warringah Mall Carpark
Friday, 7:30 pm

Blacktown OUTREACH

Tuesday, 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm,
Blacktown Train Station,
Main street side



www.jesuscares.com.au
To financially support go to:
jesuscares.com.au/donate.

**VOLUNTEER CENTRE**

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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.