

MISSION AUSTRALIA

ISSUE 3 | SUMMER 2025



Your kindness paves
A Way Forward in 2025 and beyond

There's hope for vulnerable Australians in the future because of you.

Thank you for your commitment to helping people in need.

The stories in this newsletter show you how every gift from generous, caring supporters like you can make a big difference to people facing homelessness.

Yes, your future gift will fund vital Mission Australia programs. But your compassion has an even deeper impact. It shows people that they are seen, that they matter, and that somebody cares about them.

The key to a safe home, a coffee and a laugh, a decent breakfast, a chance to express grief

or loss. These might seem like 'little' things – but as you will read, they're part of something life-changing.

There's still plenty to do, but I feel hopeful. I know that your compassionate gift in your Will means there'll *always* be the chance of a home, security, and the support that people need to thrive.

With gratitude.

Sharon Callister
Mother, Hidden Homeless Ally,
Mission Australia CEO



Changing lives, one coffee at a time

With your help in 2023-24 we supported **160,520 people** in Australia through **477 services**.



It's a whole latte love at Café One.

It might look like any other busy mobile café, but Cairns' Café One offers more than hot drinks.

It's a social enterprise run by Mission Australia that provides 24-week paid traineeships to anyone with lived experience of rough sleeping and chronic homelessness.

Trainees get the chance to develop their skills and earn their Certificate I in Hospitality.

These qualifications provide a solid foundation on which to build a brighter future. Program Manager Barb says,

“Our aim is to help people break the cycle of homelessness by giving them hard and soft skills to get back into the workplace.”

Innovative work like this is only possible because kind people like you support it.

Thank you!



Write a letter to future generations

If you could speak to someone in the future who benefited from your gift, what would you say? We're collecting messages from our supporters. Your voice can inspire hope for future generations. Will you share the heart behind your generosity? You can use these prompts to inspire you, or you can just speak from your heart:

“My hope for you is... _____ . It's important to me to make a meaningful difference because... _____.”

Email your message to giftsinwills@missionaustralia.com.au

Matty gets his keys

New digs, fresh start.

In the midst of Australia's housing crisis, the kindness of the Mission Australia community is shining through.

Matty was over the moon to get the keys to his own home after spending 83 nights in temporary accommodation.

Matty's had a few ups and downs in life, and this home gives him the stability he needs. He's so grateful for the opportunity, saying, **"Now I'm heading in the right direction."**

Your future gift means that there will always be a way forward for people like Matty.



The Mission Australia Homelessness Impact Report 2023 shows a **40% increase** in people like Matty living in short-term accommodation seeking our support.

SCAN TO SEE MORE OF HIS HEARTWARMING STORY:



A dream home for Tanya



114,854 people like Tanya were experiencing 'hidden homelessness' on Census night in 2021.

Midtown is magic after years of struggle.

When Tanya was offered a place in Midtown MacPark, she'd been couch surfing, living in women's shelters, and sleeping in her storage unit for four years.

Now, she can't believe she's living in a place with a gym, community gardens, and open-plan living.

Tanya worked hard all her life and never thought she'd face homelessness, but she fell victim to "dodgy mortgage lenders".

To help people like Tanya, Mission Australia is creating thoughtfully designed social housing that means they can thrive and make friends.

"People have cried walking through the doors," said one of our frontline team members.

After a long time without a permanent home, Tanya says she's most looking forward to inviting her kids over.

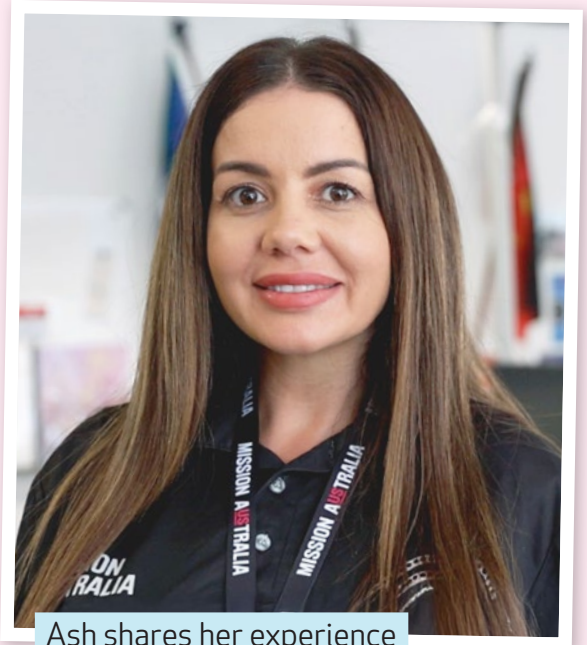
Humans ending homelessness

Ash 'gets it'

People living with mental health issues are at greater risk of homelessness, but thankfully, people like Mission Australia's Ash are there to offer support when needed.

Having 'been there' herself, Ash shares her lived experience, building trust, empowering others, and helping them see that they're not alone.

Inspiring frontline staff like Ash make such a difference. She says, **"Working alongside someone to live the best life they can is where my passion comes from."**



Ash shares her experience to help others.

SCAN TO WATCH
ASH'S STORY:



An egg-xcellent start to the day.

Flipping lovely!

Everyone needs a good breakfast, so Mission Australia's Geraldton Team don their aprons to cook up a tasty plate for people experiencing homelessness every week.

A warm meal, a smile, and a 'how are you?' in the morning shows that the community cares. And it's a chance for the team to check in on people.

Yes, having some food in your tummy makes a difference, but knowing you are seen and that you matter to someone is food for the soul.

Art With Heart Exhibition

Last October's Anti-Poverty Week saw a showcase of art by gifted residents from our inner-city Brisbane homelessness services. It was a chance for people like Tony to share their work and connect with others.

"The exhibition provided our residents with a unique opportunity to engage in creative and emotional expression—an experience many take for granted, yet for them, offered a meaningful escape from daily struggles for the essentials." - Faishal Mahmud, Program Manager



Tony shows his talent.

Ready for some brain food?

Got a minute? See how many 'hidden' words you can find!

- 1 Giving to help others (7)
- 2 Deep concern for others' suffering (10)
- 3 To give strength or confidence (7)
- 4 Trust in something greater (5)
- 5 Willingness to give or share (10)
- 6 A present or offering (4)
- 7 A place of comfort and belonging (4)
- 8 Optimism for the future (4)
- 9 A powerful or lasting effect (6)
- 10 Acts of care or goodwill (8)
- 11 What you leave behind (6)
- 12 Assistance or encouragement (7)
- 13 To grow and succeed (6)
- 14 Determination or a legal document for inheritance (4)



Easy chicken noodle soup for you to make and enjoy

When you live in shared accommodation or room and board, you can't always rely on having a kitchen. But you can still cook tasty, nutritious food.

Yummy dishes such as soup, risotto and pancakes can be made in a rice cooker.

Woree House Life Skill Support Worker Nicki, previous Café One Trainee Lance, and Woree House tenant Ken recently took part in a weekly cooking group to learn how.

A simple but delicious chicken noodle soup was their favourite—and now you can make it at home.

Share a bite of happiness – email YOUR favourite recipes to giftsinwills@missionaustralia.com.au



SCAN THE QR CODE
TO SEE THE FULL RECIPE:



FIND-A-WORD ANSWERS: 1. Charity, 2. Compassion, 3. Empower, 4. Faith, 5. Generosity, 6. Gift, 7. Home, 8. Hope, 9. Impact, 10. Kindness, 11. Legacy, 12. Support, 13. Thrive, 14. Will.

Sydney's fascinating missionary past

Your gift in your Will is part of a long line of compassionate bequests.

In the 1840s, there was little help or hope for Sydney's poor. They were left to go hungry, and many were homeless.

The city's first missionary, Nathaniel Pidgeon, arrived in 1841. He lent his support to those living in the city's worst slums—Durand's Alley and The Rocks. This laid the platform for Sydney City Mission, formed in 1862, which Pidgeon saw as an extension of his work.

When Pidgeon passed away in 1881, he left the Sussex St chapel to Sydney City Mission. Our first bequest!

Your generous support allows Nathaniel's good work to continue today and well into the future.



Up for a chat? We always are.

We're so glad you're part of this compassionate community.

If you ever want a confidential conversation about your impact or have questions, please reach out to our friendly, knowledgeable Gifts in Wills team.

Nicki Grant

Gifts in Wills Program Manager
07 3394 8111
GrantN@missionaustralia.com.au



Lisa Gledhill

Gift Planning Advisor
0439 403 267
GledhillL@missionaustralia.com.au



Maria Natera

Gift Planning Advisor
0448 523 318
NateraM@missionaustralia.com.au



Ashlee Ralla

Estate Coordinator 02 9217 1064
RallaA@missionaustralia.com.au



*Names and images have been changed to protect the identities of the people we help.



Always a way forward

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1800 88 88 68

giftsinwills@missionaustralia.com.au