

At the age of 61, Pam* spent nine months living on the streets of Adelaide. After a lifetime of steady work and marriage, it was a place she never dreamed she would end up.

After suffering the breakdown of her marriage and losing her job and her home of 18 years, she was forced into sleeping rough.

"You never really sleep. You always have one foot ready to run; one eye open to see what's going on around you and both ears open."

Pam finally came to the Hutt St Centre for a meal. Her case manager Susan* worked with her gently; within a month, she'd helped Pam get off the street and into safe accommodation and build the support systems that she needed to stay housed.

She can finally see past her grief, and imagine a future where she once again feels valuable. All thanks to the support of generous people who support Hutt St through Catholic Charities.

(* Not real names.)

Calvary Ain Karim

Over the last year there has been a lot going on from the Grand Opening of the 'Relaxation Room' to Stage one of 'The Man Cave', as well as the Christmas party and wonderful quiz night, Friday BBQs, residents' pamper evenings and the Catholic Charities Expo.

We say thank you to our families for entrusting us to look after your loved ones and for looking after us too, the visits, laughs, coffee, cakes and hugs and the kindness and gratitude.

During this COVID-19 we pray for health and continued safety of our residents, their families, and our staff and to getting back to feeling safe and secure and reconnected to everyone in the community.

Tracy Haskins, Disability Houses Support Coordinator

Centacare - Coolock House

The generosity of Catholic Charities is helping young mums engaged with Centacare's Young Family Support Program at Coolock House to stay connected and forge vital friendships.

Playgroup, cooking classes and movie nights bring families together onsite at Morphett Vale each week, providing them with an opportunity to learn from their peers and grow in confidence.

Made possible by donations, the informal supports are playing a vital role in reducing social isolation, which is a common barrier for young mothers who are learning to parent on the back of complex challenges.

"Parenting is always filled with rewards and challenges, but parenting with limited positive supports creates additional challenges," says Anthea Frances, Manager, Coolock House.

Through onsite and outreach support, young mums are assisted to transition into long-term housing.



Donations more than \$2 are tax deductible.

Catholic Charities

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This brochure has been abridged for the web. Contact Annie O'Neill for a printed version P: 8210 8157



Dear Sisters and Brothers

I thank you for your continued support of Catholic Charities.

Our leaflet features stories from the agencies we fund which are currently working in the community with the vulnerable and disadvantaged.

The continued growth of our me4u schools campaign also highlights the crucial role our schools play in fundraising for Catholic Charities.

It is because of you that Catholic Charities can support the agencies that:

- Empower men and women dealing with homelessness, domestic violence and mental illness.
- Provide dedicated teachers at our two special schools.
- Provide accommodation and respite care for adults and young people living with intellectual disabilities.
- Reach out to members of our community who may be lonely and welcome them as part of the vibrant Aboriginal Catholic community.
- Help members of the Catholic Deaf Community to learn and understand about God and their own faith.

Thank you for your generosity. By supporting Catholic Charities, we can ensure that these important works continue to flourish and grow.

UT SIT DEIS OMMA IN OMNERS

In Domino,

+ Pat O'Ragan

+ Patrick O'Regan Archbishop of Adelaide

Our Lady of La Vang School

Our Lady of La Vang provides both an indoor and outdoor learning environment for students. They have an outdoor sensory table which provides opportunities to learn through using 'the senses'.

Students use the area as a sensory tool to self-regulate and it also enables opportunities for the development of key social skills such as sharing space, turn taking, communication, eye contact and play. It also provides opportunities to practise fine motor and coordination skills. By playing with the sensory elements students are introduced to mathematical and scientific concepts as they measure, pour and create.

With funding from Catholic Charities, they are planning to install paving under and around the sensory table so that more students can use it. COVID-19 delayed the installation of the paving which is now being undertaken during the Term 2 school holidays.

Catherine House

In addition to providing a safe place to stay, Catherine House works with women to recover from what has brought them to homelessness. For many women this could be years of domestic violence, mental health issues or poverty. The primary aim at Catherine House is to end homelessness for every woman – for good. They provide women with the tools they need, including education and employment opportunities, to really make a positive change in their lives. Catholic Charities supports Catherine House via their in-take worker position for the Emergency Accommodation Program.

"Catherine House didn't just save my life, it gave me one."

– Tanya (client)

St Patrick's Special School

Each week a group of our senior students work with dedicated staff as they continue to foster their creative skills to further open up their world with a focus on their individual problem solving abilities. Throughout 2020, this has included a range of STEM skills as students were taught explicitly how to code, sequence and program various devices (BeeBots and Raspberry Pi's) to complete basic actions and operations. Through their engagement with this process, our learners were able to see the physical result of what they designed and programmed, further highlighting the importance of following directions and the need of clear and accurate instructions as the robots will only do what we tell them.



Aboriginal people join the wider community every week at the Otherway Centre, Stepney, to laugh, lunch, dance, craft and share stories.

Therein lies the essence of the centre, says Manager John Lochowiak: "It's a place that opens up communication in a way that touches us all."

Home of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in South Australia, the Centre has become a cultural hub for Centacare, connecting people to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, culture and spirituality – building all-important awareness and acceptance in the process.

Food parcels for people doing it tough, and toiletry bags for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander hospital patients, are packed at the centre where cultural awareness training and other events are held.

In the adjoining St Martin de Porres Chapel, with its striking stained glass windows, Mass is celebrated every Sunday by Fr James McEvoy, bringing together people from all walks of life, cultures and backgrounds.

SA Catholic Deaf Community

Catholic Charities makes a significant difference in the life of the Catholic Deaf Community. Through their funding members can gather together for Eucharist once a month and afterwards spend time supporting each other. Sr Majella O'Sullivan RSJ is the Pastoral Associate and coordinates activities, puts members of the community in touch with each other and is always there to support the community in times of bereavement, difficulty and joy.

However, in this time of COVID-19 the community has not been able to gather so Majella has spent time with the older members of the community in various ways, following the guidelines in place. As the Pastoral Associate/Interpreter Majella has been able to keep in contact assisting them with the daily happenings of life.