



Before I formed you..
I knew you
Before you were begun..
I set you apart

Jeremiah 1:5



2017-2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Christian Emergency Food Centre Inc.

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MISSION STATEMENT



WE EXIST TO
PROVIDE
EMERGENCY RELIEF
IN THE NAME OF
JESUS CHRIST
WITH COMPASSION
AND UNDERSTANDING
UPHOLDING DIGNITY

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AGENDA

20th Annual General Meeting **2pm - September 20, 2018**

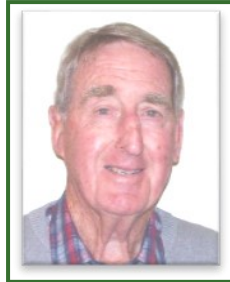
- Welcome
Ian Walter
Chair – Committee of Management
- Opening Prayer
- Apologies
- Confirmation of Minutes
- 19th Annual General Meeting
- Statutory Meeting
- Annual Report - Chair
Ian Walter
- Financial Report – Treasurer
Les Warrick
- Guest Speaker
Tony Tuohey
Director Primary /Community Care—WHCG
- Election of the Committee of Management
- Closing Prayer



LEADERSHIP 2017-18



IAN WALTER
CHAIRPERSON



BOB HAYES
VICE CHAIRPERSON



LES WARRICK
TREASURER



JOY WALTER
DATA MANAGER



BEV MIATKE
C.O.M. SECRETARY
& CLIENT ASSESSMENT



DEREK BODYCOTE
HCMA REP.



SUE HATELEY
COMMITTEE
MEMBER



ANNE MAHONY
COMMITTEE
MEMBER



MAX JUDD
COMMITTEE
MEMBER



PAULINE KEYTE
COMMITTEE
MEMBER



JILL CRAMER
MANAGER



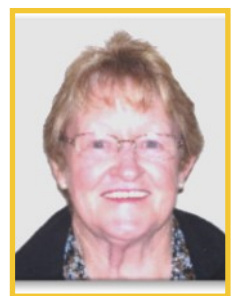
TERRY WALSH
TEAM LEADER
STORES & PURCHASING



LAURIE WILLIAMS
ASST. TEAM LEADER
STORES & PURCHASING



DONNA MURPHY
TEAM LEADER
FOOD ROOM



WENDY CLOUGH
TEAM LEADER
RECEPTION

MINUTES—19TH AGM

19th Annual General Meeting held on September 14, 2017

Held at Uniting Church Hall, Pynsent St, Horsham at 2.00pm

Welcome: Welcome by Chairperson Ian Walter and opening prayer by Pr. Susan Hobbs (UCA)

Present: Cr. Pam Clarke, Les Warrick, Mavis Warrick, Anne Mahony, Wendy Clough, Ian Clough, Jill Cramer, Pauline Keyte (minute taker), Joy Walter, Maggie Landrigan, Sue Hateley, Jess John (GCH), Stan Walter, Rhonda Judd, Max Judd, Mr & Mrs Ian Walter, Rhonda Hender, Leanore Hedt, Gladys Kuhne, Donna Murphy, Lorraine Clancy, Julie Madden, Lester Judd, Pam Jende, Terry Walsh, Florence Webb, Phonse Sanford, Bob Hayes, Fran White, Ken Pipkorn, Jenny Clarke, Cheryl Linke, Lois MacInnes, Graham McDonald, Pr Derek Bodycote, Pr Geoff Schefe, Wendy Cloven, Anne Lane.

Apologies: Peter Brown, HRCC, Andrew Broad, Rhonda Coffey, John Fulwood, Eric Hedt, Sandra Harberger, John Parker, Laurie Williams, Val Isbel, Fay McFarlane, Di Cook, Noel Keyte, Tess Hayes, Frank Schneider, S. Hobbs, Ken & Mary Dowsley.

Moved by Anne Hayes and Maggie Landrigan that the apologies be accepted. CD

Previous Minutes: Moved by Florence Webb and Pr Derek that the meeting adopt the Minutes of the 18th Annual General Meeting held on September 8 2016. CD

Words of Cr Pam Clarke, Mayor, HRCC, congratulated the Centre volunteers on the valuable work

Encouragement: done and encouraged them to continue

Chair's Report: As printed in the Annual Report. Moved by Terry Walsh and Bev Miatke to receive Ian Walter the Chairman's report. CD

Community Education: Report given on the new women's program, "Beautiful Women" to be held Julie Madden at the Centre to help empower women

Guest Speaker: Jenny McGennissen, Community Education Communicator of the Country Fire Authority, gave a very interesting and informative talk on everything we need to know about home fire safety and how to keep ourselves and families safe in our homes

Thanks: Committee member Bob Hayes thanked Jenny for her very helpful talk and presented her with a gift.

Election of COM Members: The chairman declared Sue Hateley and Pauline Keyte as returned Committee of Management members and Max Judd as a new member following the resignation of Graham McDonald

Treasurer's Report: As printed in Annual Report. Moved by Joy Walter seconded by Wendy Clough. CD Joy Walter Joy reported that Les Warrick is now the Treasurer and she is in the new position of Data Manager

Special Award: Chairman Ian Walter presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation to retiring Committee member Graham McDonald,

The AGM closed at 3.10 pm after prayer by Pr Derek Bodycote. Afternoon tea followed

STATUTORY MEETING MINUTES

Held in the Committee Room – HRCC

October 27 2017

- Welcome:** Welcome and prayer by Ian Walter
- Present:** Ian Walter, Max Judd, Sue Hateley, Anne Mahony, Bob Hayes, Les Warrick, Bev Miatke, Pauline Keyte (Minute Taker)
- Apology:** Pr Derek Bodycote
- Ian thanked all the members for their support and especially Bev as secretary
- Previous Minutes:** Statutory meeting 21 October 2016
Previous Minutes approved by: B Hayes / S Hateley **CD**
- Elections:** All positions declared vacant
- Nominations: Chair: Ian Walter - accepted
Vice Chair: Bob Hayes - accepted
Treasurer: Les Warrick – accepted
Asst Treasurer/Data manager: Joy Walter - accepted
Secretary: Bev Miatke – accepted
- Motion to approve all above nominations: Bob Hayes / Anne Mahony **CD**
- Signatories to:** * Grant Account: (by cheque) Approved signatures of any two of the following:
Chair, Manager, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Board Member Anne Mahony
- * Online: Treasurer to authorise and initial. NOTE- Either Chair, Manager or Secretary to verify and initial.
- * Society Account: two debit cards in the name of Manager and Treasurer with PIN No.'s to be used to purchase goods
- * Lutheran Laypeople's League: Manager, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer – with any two to sign withdrawals.
- * *All accounts have toggle authorisation facilities*
- General Business:**
- Membership fee – to remain the same @ \$5.00pp *Moved:* B Hayes / S Hateley **CD**
- Future Committee of Management meeting dates: Cancel December 2017 meeting, and meet two-monthly in 2018, Jan, Mar, May Sept and Nov
- Meeting closed:** 3.25 pm

THANK YOU - TO VOLUNTEERS

The Centre is staffed by around 65 volunteers who regularly donate their time and talents because God has given them a heart for helping people in need. Volunteers work in the Food Room, as Receptionists, as Interviewers or in Stores/Purchasing. These are only just a few of them. Thank you to you all.



*Thank
you*



CHRISTIAN EMERGENCY FOOD CENTRE INC.

THANK YOU—TO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

WAACKS BAKERY
FIREBRACE ST. HORSHAM

BRUMBY'S BAKERY
HORSHAM PLAZA

BESSELAAR'S BAKERY
BENNETT RD, HORSHAM

HORSHAM DAIRY
WILLIAMS RD HORSHAM

CONWAYS PIES
PYNSENT ST HORSHAM



Thank you to these and the many other businesses, service clubs, and members of the public who have generously donated goods and services to us this year

FOOD DONATIONS 2017-18	\$
Baker's Delight	8,769
Besselaars	48,581
Brumby's	11,276
Café Jas	6,408
Coles/Aldi (SecondBite)	25,673
Conways	6,962
Foodbank Victoria	11,139
Horsham Dairy	5,906
Oven Door	61,733
Public	31,542
Waacks Bakery	16,445
TOTAL	234,434



BAKER'S DELIGHT
WILSON ST, HORSHAM

WILKIE'S TRANSPORT
VINE AVE STH, HORSHAM

FOODBANK VICTORIA
YARRAVILLE, MELBOURNE

CAFÉ JAS
ROBERTS AVE, HORSHAM

ENCOURAGEMENT

a slice of life

Jean heaved another world-weary sigh. Tucking a strand of shiny black hair behind her ear, she frowned at the teetering tower of Christmas cards waiting to be signed. What was the point? How could she sign only one name? A "couple" required two people, and she was just one.

The legal separation from Don had left her feeling vacant and incomplete. Maybe she would skip the cards this year. And the holiday decorating. Truthfully, even a tree felt like more than she could manage. She had cancelled out of the carolling party and the church nativity pageant. Christmas was to be shared, and she had no one to share it with.

The doorbell's insistent ring startled her. Padding to the door in her thick socks, Jean cracked it open against the frigid December night. She peered into the empty darkness of the porch. Instead of a friendly face - something she could use about now -- she found only a jaunty green gift bag perched on the railing. From whom? she wondered. And why?

Under the bright kitchen light, she pulled out handfuls of shredded gold tinsel, feeling for a gift. Instead, her fingers plucked an envelope from the bottom. Tucked inside was a typed letter. It was a...story? The little boy was new to the Denmark orphanage, and Christmas was drawing near, Jean read. Already caught up in the tale, she settled into a kitchen chair.

From the other children, he heard tales of a wondrous tree that would appear in the hall on Christmas Eve and of the scores of candles that would light its branches. He heard stories of the mysterious benefactor who made it possible each year.

The little boy's eyes opened wide at the mere thought of all that splendour. The only Christmas

tree he had ever seen was through the fogged windows of other people's homes. There was even more, the children insisted. More? Oh, yes! Instead of the orphanage's regular fare of gruel, they would be served fragrant stew and crusty, hot bread that special night.

Last, and best of all, the little boy learned, each of them would receive a holiday treat. He would join the line of children to get his very own....

Jean turned the page. Instead of a continuation, she was startled to read: "Everyone needs to

celebrate Christmas, wouldn't you agree? Watch for Part II." She refolded the paper while a faint smile teased the corner of her mouth.

The next day was so busy that Jean forgot all about the story. That evening, she rushed home from work. If she hurried, she'd probably have enough time to decorate the mantle. She pulled out the box of garland, only to drop it when the doorbell

rang. Opening the door, she found herself looking at a red gift bag. She reached for it eagerly and pulled out the piece of paper.

...to get his very own orange, Jean read. An orange? That's a treat? she thought incredulously.

An orange! Of his very own? Yes, the others assured him. There would be one apiece. The boy closed his eyes against the wonder of it all. A tree. Candles. A filling meal. And an orange of his very own.

He knew the smell, tangy sweet, but only the smell. He had sniffed oranges at the merchant's stall in the marketplace. Once he had even dared



An orange of his very own—heaven!

to rub a single finger over the brilliant, pocked skin. He fancied for days that his hand still smelled of orange. But to taste one, to eat one? Heaven.

The story ended abruptly, but Jean didn't mind. She knew more would follow.

The next evening, Jean waited anxiously for the sound of the doorbell. She wasn't disappointed. This time, though, the embossed gold bag was heavier than the others had been. She tore into the envelope resting on top of the tissue paper.

Christmas Eve was all the children had been promised. The piney scent of fir competed with the aroma of lamb stew and homey yeast bread. Scores of candles diffused the room with golden halos. The boy watched in amazement as each child in turn eagerly claimed an orange and politely said "thank you."

The line moved quickly, and he found himself in front of the towering tree and the equally imposing headmaster.

"Too bad, young man, too bad. But the count was in before you arrived. It seems there are no more oranges. Next year. Yes, next year you will receive an orange."

Broken-hearted, the orphan raced up the stairs empty-handed to bury both his face and his tears beneath his pillow.

Wait! This wasn't how she wanted the story to go. Jean felt the boy's pain, his aloneness.

The boy felt a gentle tap on his back. He tried to still his sobs. The tap became more insistent until, at last, he pulled his head from under the pillow.

He smelled it before he saw it. A cloth napkin rested on the mattress. Tucked inside was a peeled orange, tangy sweet. It was made of segments saved from the others. A slice donated from each child. Together they added up to make one whole, complete fruit.

An orange of his very own.

Jean swiped at the tears trickling down her cheeks. From the bottom of the gift bag she pulled out an orange -- a foil-covered chocolate orange--already separated into segments. And for the first time in weeks, she smiled. Really smiled.

She set about making copies of the story, wrapping individual slices of the chocolate orange. There was Mrs. Potter across the street, spending her first Christmas alone in 58 years. There was Melanie down the block, facing her second round of radiation. Her running partner, Jan, single-parenting a difficult teen. Lonely Mr. Bradford losing his eyesight, and Sue, sole caregiver to an aging mother....

A piece from her might help make one whole.



CHRISTIAN EMERGENCY FOOD CENTRE INC.

HIGHLIGHTS



Left: Christian Emergency Food Centre representative Ian Walter, centre, accepts a \$5000 cheque from Horsham Carols By Candlelight committee members, from left, Simon Dandy, Raelene Johnston and Simon Risson. The committee nominated the food centre for the donation from money raised at last year's carols event at Sawyer Park. Every year the carols committee selects a group or charity to receive a donation from candle sales and donations.

Below: To celebrate CommBank Foundation's Centenary of Giving, and to recognise the immense contributions that Commonwealth Bank staff make to their local communities, Commonwealth Bank partnered with CommBank Foundation to donate \$10 million to community organisations. Local CBA staff work an afternoon a fortnight helping in the Food Room. Right across Australia they gifted 1000 Centenary Grants valued at \$10,000 each to community organisations that supported youth wellbeing, access to education and cancer research and awareness. We, at the Food Centre, were very proud and grateful that the Business Banking section of Horsham CBA recommended us to be able to apply and that the application was subsequently successful.



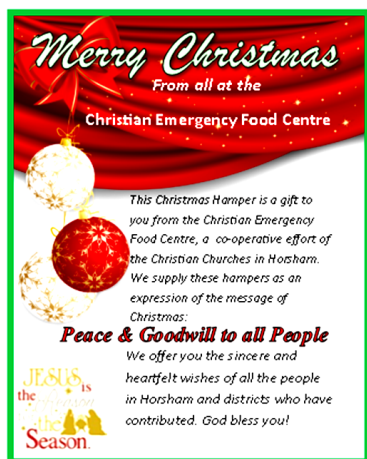
CHRISTIAN EMERGENCY FOOD CENTRE INC.

HIGHLIGHTS

Christmas Hampers 2017



Cake Decorators Association of Victoria Horsham branch members, from left, Julie Wirth, Janet Schwartz and Helen Ross with Christmas cakes they decorated and donated to Horsham's Christian Emergency Food Centre.



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Christmas Hampers distributed to local and regional families and individuals

Christmas Hamper Sponsorship

In 2017, for the first time, local business and individuals were given the opportunity to sponsor Christmas Hampers and responded in a magnificent way with over \$6,000 donated specifically to help give struggling community members, in Horsham and surrounding districts, the ability to participate in a Christmas lunch just like anyone else. Christmas in Australia is such an important event on the Christian and social calendars but can also be a really difficult time if your financial resources are stretched to capacity already. Our Christmas hampers can mean that our clients have the means to sit around the Christmas dinner table with their families and re-connect. Recipients need to have been clients throughout the preceding 12 months by either coming and talking to us in the Centre or being referred by local social workers in surrounding towns. Hampers are packed and distributed in mid December with non-perishable goodies ready for a great celebration at Christmas



CHRISTIAN EMERGENCY FOOD CENTRE INC.

HIGHLIGHTS



Special Donation Efforts

Left: The school students and families from the Catholic schools in Horsham, Murtoa and Dimboola donate foodstuffs to help the needy which are given to the Food Centre— overall value was well over \$4,000

Below: Holy Trinity Lutheran College Grade 6 students with their \$700 Coles docket + \$1,000 cheque. The students do the shopping and then come to the Centre to present the goods and cheque.



Thank you to Horsham Sports & Community Club for the \$1,000 Community Grant toward replacing our main administration computer.

Right: Chairman Ian Walter is presented with a plaque to commemorate the donation.

Far Right: Client Assessment Manager Bev Miatke using the new equipment



HIGHLIGHTS

Right: From left, Anne Mahony and Donna Murphy from the Christian Emergency Food Centre welcome gifts of nappies from Member for Lowan Emma Kealy. Ms Kealy's office was a drop-off centre for The Nappy Collective project.



Below: A Leadership Wimmera project group has donated profits from its Random Acts of Kindness event to Horsham's CEFC. The project encouraged Wimmera people to do something unexpected to put a smile on someone's face. Group members, from left, Brooke MacInnes, Brody Short, Mary Bysouth and Danae Woolman present a cheque to food centre committee of management chairman Ian Walter, centre, and committee member Anne Mahony.



Above: Specially made men's toiletry packs ready to hand out donated from CWA May Branch



Left: The local Knit & Natter group come in several times a year with a supply of knitted rugs and beanies to share with their fellow community members who are struggling. Members love to use their talents and passions to help others.



1998 The Food Centre journey begins December 1, 1998 at 43 Firebrace St, Horsham

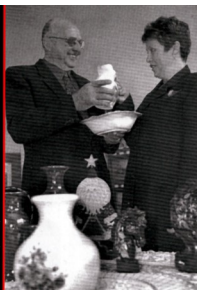


1999 Food Bank gives Christmas cheer

The Christian Emergency Food Centre in Horsham will provide 206 hampers to Wimmera people in need this Christmas. ...Centre President Henry Morrell said the volunteer organisation hoped the hampers would enable less fortunate members of the Wimmera community to enjoy Christmas without having to endure unnecessary hardship.

2001 Search on for food centre HQ

"An appeal to raise \$120,000 for new premises is just \$3,400 shy of its initial target thanks to a 'phenomenal' effort from the Horsham community."



2001 Building appeal wins support DONATIONS of up to \$5000 heralded the launch of a Horsham CEFC building appeal.



2002 New door opens in care ministry Cr Gayle Crooke opened Horsham's CEFC in former Wes Davidson premises in Firebrace Street in front of a large crowd which spilled from the footpath in front of the new centre onto the street. Hugh Delahunty, MLA, spoke for the people giving donations. "A good caring community looks after those who are less fortunate" he said.



Whilst this is by no means the whole journey here are some snippets from over the years



Waiting area in our first office at 43 Firebrace St Horsham



2004 Boost for emergency centre

EXTENSIONS to Horsham's CEFC are a step closer thanks to a \$169,455 State Government Community Support Grant. Member for Ripon Joe Helper announced the grant on Friday. The money will go towards extensions to the centre including a new food room and package area, storage area, disabled toilet, freezer room and fridge room. Construction is set to begin in January.

Christmas wish for needy

HORSHAM'S C.E.F.C. received a \$5000 grant from Victoria's Uniting Church SHARE Community Appeal this week for the centre's Christmas Hamper Program. "We expect to send more hampers this year, compared with 335 we sent last year," said Centre president John Parker. "The total cost for hampers was \$16000 and the grant would make an enormous difference."



2005 Churches uniting to give aid

The Uniting Churches of Shepparton and Mooroopna have joined together in their response to help the drought-stricken areas by donating shoe boxes of non-perishable food items just in time for Easter.

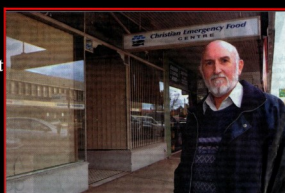
2005 Helper opens new food HQ

Vic. Parliamentary Secretary for Regional Development Joe Helper opened extensions to the Horsham CEFC in Firebrace St on Friday. ...Extensions include new food storage and prep areas, commercial freezer and cool rooms as well as a loading bay.



Demand for food increases 2008

EMERGENCY care centres have their work cut out for them as cold wintry conditions continue to lash the Wimmera.



2008 Happy 10th Anniversay December 1, 2008

Ss Michael and John's Primary School students gave up Kris Kringle this Christmas for the first time and instead gave groceries to Horsham Christian Emergency Food Centre.



2011

Ss Michael & John's Primary School students embrace Christmas spirit



2012

Volunteering Western Victoria Recognition Awards

Emergency recovery award, Christian Emergency Food Centre, Ian Walter, winner Nhill SES Des Smith, sponsor David Brennan, WCMA, Edenhope CFA, Peter Irving.



Horsham's Christian Emergency Food Centre donates 450 hampers to needy families

2014



2015

HORSHAM'S Christian Emergency Food Centre could be forced to close services because of Federal Government funding cuts.

Centre chairman Ian Walter said the Department of Social Services had advised the committee the centre had not been selected as a preferred applicant for funding. Mr. Walter said the centre had received Federal Government funding for the past 15 years. "We have been told we have been rejected outright from any government money at this point in time," he said. Mr Walter said without the funding, the centre would be short \$50,000 a year. We have enough to carry on until the end of the month without making any rash decisions at this time," he said.



2015

THE federal government has reversed a decision to cut \$50,000 from Horsham's Christian Emergency Food Centre.

After more than a decade of receiving government funding, the centre was told it was unsuccessful in its latest funding application. Centre manager Barry Hutchinson said he was relieved after receiving confirmation of the funding. He thanked Andrew Broad MP for his advocacy for the centre. "We believe this funding would not have been forthcoming without the continuing support and representation by Andrew," he said.



Interviewers office at our current premises at 28 Firebrace St

Horsham and Districts Relay For Life to support Christian Emergency Food Centre in 2015



HORSHAM and Districts Relay For Life will 'pay it forward' at the March event through a new initiative to support the Christian Emergency Food Centre. The committee will encourage teams to take tinned food to the relay. The cans will be used instead of sand as weights in paper bags.

2015



2015

Christian Emergency food bank: Decorators spread Christmas cheer.

Horsham Pacing Cup helps deliver money to worthwhile Wimmera causes

2016

The Christian Emergency Food Centre was given \$100.



Keep Australia Beautiful 2017 Australian Tidy Towns award 2017: Horsham delegation leaves for ceremony in Tasmania



HORSHAM'S Tidy Towns representatives have begun their journey to Tasmania to compete for the national award.

Young Wimmera families 2018 are seeking out emergency food services more, Foodbank reveals 1 in 5 children are food insecure



FAMILIES with young children are Christian Emergency Food Centre Horsham's second most common clientele, after single individuals.

1998 2018 Happy 20th Anniversary!

REGIONAL WELFARE NETWORK

Inter-agency co-operation throughout our region is vital to ensure an holistic approach to client care. Each agency specialises in its own area/s of care with referrals to and from other agencies in order to get the best possible outcomes for anyone seeking help. Areas of care include: provision of food, financial services, accommodation, household goods, counselling, mental health services, domestic violence services and general community services.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



As the old saying "How time flies" and it seems to become more relevant the older (and probably slower) one becomes as it seems no time at all since our last annual meeting one year ago.

The Christian Emergency Food Centre has once again provided a very necessary community and Christ-centred service to people, here in Horsham and in the other towns throughout the Wimmera, that find life, for whatever reason, difficult to cope with.

As reported last year our Manager Ken Dowsley suffered a debilitating stroke, we all prayed that he would recover enough to continue the position he so capably filled. As his rehabilitation has not allowed him to continue as he would have liked, the Committee of Management with Ken's sanction looked for someone to take over this very important role. A couple of people were asked to consider filling the role but, after some thought, felt it wasn't for them. One of our volunteers, Jill Cramer, was approached and agreed to fill the role for a trial period. We are so thankful Jill has fitted in so well and we are confident she will go from strength to strength and enhance the position in a very practical and caring way. It has been established that we include Ken with his advice and expertise as much as possible and hope that this will be as much a help to his rehabilitation as it will be to us.

It never ceases to amaze me just how much assistance so many people, companies, and businesses give to our organization in so many and varied ways.

Prior to our Christmas hamper appeal our Client Assessment Manager and Committee Secretary Bev sent out letters to businesses in Horsham giving them the opportunity to contribute. It seems that when the opportunity is presented to

people, many jumped at the chance and we were really amazed at the response.

Our thanks go out to all who have contributed in both large and smaller ways from Government, businesses, to the individuals in the community, all have been extremely generous. We are grateful to the food businesses in Horsham for the amount of food they are able to give us which complements what we purchase and receive from FoodBank Victoria. As a registered agency of FoodBank we can access many food items cheaply or even free. We are still able to access funds from Uniting Wimmera for those clients outside the Horsham postcode area, this is of great help financially even though there is considerable time taken to collate it. Thanks to Joy Walter who set up the program and is now ably assisted by Mavis Warrick.

This year is a significant milestone for the Christian Emergency Food Centre as it is our 20th Anniversary. Plans have been instigated to celebrate with a Thanksgiving service followed by a subsidised dinner at the new Church of Christ facility. All present and former volunteers will receive an invitation to attend. We thank God for the wonderful blessings we have received over this significant period of time. Some original volunteers are still with us today contributing and enjoying the work that they do.

In closing may I, on behalf of the Committee of Management, thank each and every one who has contributed to the Christian Emergency Food Centre in whatever capacity to make this unique organization a place where Christian love is a shining light in our community.

Yours in Christ.

Ian C Walter, Chairperson.

MANAGER'S REPORT

This year we celebrate 20 years of the Christian Emergency Food Centre (CEFC). Originally located at 43 Firebrace Street. It commenced operating in the current building at 28 Firebrace Street Horsham in 2005.

It not only provides physical support and sustenance in the form of food and supplies for those in need in the Horsham and surrounding community, but perhaps just as importantly, emotional and empathetic support from a caring team.

Provisions such as food and supplies, some household items, warm blankets, beanies and a small amount of clothing are provided as well as assistance in the form of payment of medical scripts and transportation to medical appointments. Assistance is also given with utility bills with either payments towards these bills or food assistance to allow the client to use what funds they have to cover costs. We look to assist our clients in their immediate worries and basic needs, so that they are in a better state of mind and physical circumstance, when they leave.

Over the past 12 months ending 30 June 2018 CEFC had a total of 2399 'contacts'. (A 'contact' may be a family, a couple or an individual). These people were from -

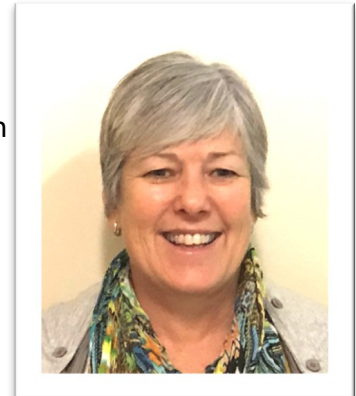
- 1522 Horsham community
- 838 Out of town
- 39 No fixed address

From these 'contacts', CEFC has provided support to a total of 5,793 individuals comprising -

- 3120 Adults (average 260 per month)
- 2673 Children (average 223 per month)

Their family situation was as follows -

- 693 Single parent families
- 420 Families
- 235 Couples
- 1051 Single Adults



There were 235 'new' Clients (presenting for the first time) to receive assistance over the 12 month period.

The centre was open an average of 21 days per month. (*See statistics page*)

CEFC is staffed by over 65 people from the local community offering their time, talents and skills to provide the service that all associated are proud and humbled to bring to those in need. With a team of approximately 10 people working for 3 1/2 hours each day we provide 35 hours per day of 'in kind' support.

We are blessed to have the support of the Christian churches through the Horsham Christian Ministers' Association. Our volunteers cover a cross section of these churches. It is exciting that all can work together to serve God in this way. The volunteers serve in a variety of areas including receptionists, relief workers/ interviewers, food room and stores/purchasing.

We see corporate assistance, for example, with the Commonwealth Bank staff from its Retail Business Centre volunteering as part of their Corporate Community Citizens Program. We were also privileged to receive a \$10,000 one-off grant from the Commonwealth Bank during the year as part of their Centenary Grant program celebrating 100 years of giving through.

It is pleasing to note that over 54% of donations are from our local community. The CEFC has Deductible Gift Recipient status so money

donations over \$2 are a tax deductible. We are fortunate to receive many cash donations from the community.

We continue to receive 'in kind' support in the form of goods and services from many local businesses, individuals and schools as well as the State Government funded Foodbank Victoria. (*see statistics page*)

Coles and Aldi have been partnering with SecondBite to donate fruit, vegetables, meat and bakery items which do not meet their in-store quality standards, but are still safe and nutritious to eat. This is a national program with a local focus and this has provided us with much needed 'in kind' support.

The Federal Government has been providing a substantial proportion of our income through their grants program. This current agreement concludes at the end of this year. We are currently completing an application for the grant for the period January 2019 to June 2023.

The CEFC works closely with various local service providers to allow an inter-agency approach to ensure clients receive as much assistance as possible. This is a two-way process with a referral system. Organisations participating include Uniting Wimmera, Salvation Army, Grampians Community Health, Red Cross and Centrelink.

We have a partnership with Uniting Wimmera which compensates us financially for the value of food, prescriptions and other help given to clients who live outside the Horsham area.

Local carrier 'Wilkie's' continues to offer free delivery of boxes to clients across the Wimmera (*see statistics page*)

Once again, our Christmas Hamper program was a positive program with over 425 hampers packed and distributed to families and individuals in all parts of the Wimmera and Southern Mallee.

We provide emergency packs to Warracknabeal Neighbourhood House, Nhill, Murtoa and Grampians Community Health, which has gone to a 24/7 service for domestic violence outreach.

This year we have run a Community Education Service – Beautiful Women Program. This has been facilitated by Julie Madden from Heart and Soul. The program consists of 6 courses run throughout the year. Each course ran for 4-weeks with the final one covering 6 weeks. This has been well received and participants have valued the skills learned through this program.

In June this year we commenced offering financial counselling with volunteer John Evans which has been offered to clients free of charge.

All those who come for assistance at the CEFC are respected and cared for and shown compassion.

Matthew 25:35 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in".

Our thanks to all the volunteer staff for their enthusiastic approach to all they do here at the CEFC. Without the volunteers we would not be able to achieve the amazing service we provide to those in need.

We praise God that he has given the servants of CEFC a heart to serve and help those in need.

We have much to be grateful to God for in the blessings we receive.

Jill Cramer
Manager



COMMUNITY EDUCATION

It is a joy to submit a report on the life and work of the Community Education Program.

At the commencement of this year the Committee of Management approved the establishment of a new Community Education Program to be delivered to the community as a pilot program. This program is for people from all walks of life and is not defined by culture, socio economic background or faith background.

The purpose of the program is to compliment the Emergency Relief Program and to provide rich and meaningful education that gives people a strong sense of value and worth and inspires and empowers them to live a life of Significance.

Many clients who come through the doors of the Centre are experiencing life-challenging situations including homelessness, domestic violence, substance abuse, financial pressures and emotional and psychological issues. For many there is no sense of purpose, meaning or hope in their lives with many people just surviving day to day.

In February this year the CEFC launched the *Beautiful Woman Program* designed specifically for women. The program offers 7 courses throughout the year and covers topics such as: Self Confidence, Stress and Anxiety, Grief and Loss, Anger Management, Healthy Relationships, Achieving Life's Plan and Purpose. Participants can attend one course or more. To date most participants have attended all courses and have commented that they have found the material to be 'empowering and life changing'. Participants

have developed wonderful social networks through attending the courses which is such a vital aspect of life.

Referrals have come from within the Wimmera and include Community Service Organisations, Churches, friends and self-referral. On occasions we invite guest speakers from various organisations, including Grampians Community Health, Uniting Wimmera, and Heart and Soul Community Education. We have developed strong working relationships with these organisations.

We are so appreciative to Axis Employment who are key sponsors of the CEFC Community Education Program and who provide us with a magnificent training room from which we can deliver our program sessions.

The Axis staff contribute greatly to the effective running of the courses.

We are also thankful for the financial contributions of individuals, businesses, Not-for-Profit organisations and Churches. In particular we thank: Horsham Church of Christ, Terry White Chemist, Axis Employment, Green Taylor Accountants, Horsham Vet Hospital, and Horsham East Rotary. To date, CEFC cover the majority of the expenses to deliver the program, however, we will explore funding opportunities in the near future to enable us to deliver the program again next year.

Special thanks to our *Beautiful Woman Team* including Glenda Ruwoldt (Education Admin and Course Support), Christine Barnett (Heart and Soul Educator), Julie Madden (CEFC

Community Education Co- Ordinator and Heart and Soul Educator). All facilitators are qualified in the counselling and social work field.

Special thanks to Bev Miatke for her encouragement and support in so many ways and for the many additional hours she contributes to the life and ministry of CEFC.

Future Directions: We would value the opportunity to deliver programs to the male members in the community, as they are often not provided for. We would also like to provide education to the outlying Wimmera communities who often don't receive these services.

Consolidation of our current courses is paramount before offering further courses. We need to ensure we have the infrastructure and resources before extending this ministry.

Finally, we give thanks to an amazing and wonderful God who has provided for us so richly at CEFC and enables us to be an expression of His love in our community.

Julie Madden

Co-Ordinator, Community Education Program

Beautiful Woman

Love and Understand
Yourself

and

Live a Life of
Significance

- Growing in Self Confidence
- Managing Stress and Anxiety
- Beyond Grief and Loss
- Dealing with Anger and Conflict
- Healthy Relationships
- Achieving Life's Plan and Purpose

CHRISTIAN EMERGENCY FOOD CENTRE COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM

FOODBANK VICTORIA

Foodbank Victoria is an independent not-for-profit organisation with almost 90 years of food relief experience. They are the state's oldest and largest organisation of their kind. They believe every Victorian deserves healthy food, yet 1 in 7 children go to school hungry. Their aim is to provide healthy food for all. Each month, they source and distribute food to over 100,000 Victorians who rely on their food assistance –more than a quarter of whom are children. They collect surplus



food from across Victoria, weigh and sort it into orders, then distribute it to a network of over 900 community partners (like us) to feed hungry Victorians. As a member of the State Government's Emergency Response and Recovery Committee, they are also there in times of disaster as the leading provider of emergency food relief to Victorian communities. Louise's story below comes from their website. We hear stories like Louise's all the time

Louise's Story

"I don't want my children to worry about how I'm going to pay bills, or how I am going to feed them."

– Louise

A mum of four children aged 20, 17, 13 and 10, Louise lost her husband two years ago. He'd been unable to work since having a heart attack in 2009, and further health complications took their toll, right up until his death in 2016.

It was a tough time. Not only did Louise lose her husband, but the financial struggle was impacting her kids. Her eldest, Nathan, remembers: *'Although Mum tries to hide the money side of things, I knew. As a typical older sibling, I would have to go without, so my siblings could take food to school. I'd always be trying to explain to them why they couldn't have a treat – we needed the money.'*

While Nathan cut back where he could, his mum was skipping meals. Louise told us: *'I would go without to feed the kids.'*

Dealing with the loss of her husband, and her kids with the loss of their dad, the last thing Louise wanted was for her children to be aware of how hard she was struggling:

'To me, that's not part of being a kid. You don't need to have that worry. You need to feel safe, secure and loved. I don't want them to worry about how I'm going to pay bills, or how I am going to feed them.'



Between 2011 and 2016, homelessness increased by 14 per cent and rough sleeping by 20 per cent in Australia. In Victoria, almost 25,000 people were homeless on Census night in 2016.

Last week, a parliamentary inquiry revealed 82,000 people, including 25,000 children, are on the waiting list for public housing in Victoria.



**WE MAY NOT BE ABLE
TO SEE THEIR HUNGER,
BUT THEY FEEL IT.
AND WE CAN STOP IT.**

Since her husband, Rob, first had a heart attack in 2009, things have progressively got worse: *'I was a nurse, but I had to quit my job to become his fulltime carer.'*

After his heart attack, Rob could not return to his job as a roof tiler. He

was eventually diagnosed with Congenital Central Hypoventilation Syndrome, which effectively stops the brain from telling the lungs to breathe. Tragically Rob didn't survive. Just before Rob's death, they found out it was genetic. Today, her eldest son Nathan and her youngest daughter have the condition too.

'It's been very, very tough. They both need a ventilator to sleep.'

'Rob and I chose to have four children so I feel it's my responsibility; to be able to feed my kids is something I should be able to do.'

Louise tried to work with what she had. *'Bread is the cheapest thing,'* Louise explains, *'there would be many nights they'd get bread and butter because that's what we have. Sometimes, if we have milk or flour, it would be pancakes—that's not a meal, but at least it would fill their tummies.'*

Louise has reached out to family. *'My mum has helped where she can, but she's a pensioner. My husband's brother has always tried to help.'* But, it's a hard thing to do – to ask for help.

A family friend encouraged Louise to seek help from one of our charity partners. She's very thankful for the help, but still has mixed feelings about taking it: *'I filled out the form and then I was taken to the pantry where they gave me a bag, and the woman said, "Please take as much as you need". We were extremely stunned really. It's been really embarrassing for me, that I can't feed my family.'*

'I know we can take more, but there's so many people out there who need help. We only take what we absolutely need.'

To see her kids be able to take full lunch boxes to school is what brings her back. *'It's just a feeling of gratefulness. That there is somewhere I can go.'*

'To see the looks on the kids' faces when you can actually fill their lunchbox. Especially for the girls. It makes them feel like they're just like every other child in school.'

Louise is now trying to rebuild her life. She has finished the teaching degree that she started just before her husband's heart attack. She's hopeful that soon she will be able to find work, and her family will be able to get back on their feet.

Nathan is working hard, too. He's studying law, in the hope that one day he can have a career that will be able to take care of his family.

Families like Louise's, feel the hurt at watching their children go without. They feel the shame of not being able to make ends meet. They feel the stress of never knowing if their cupboard will stretch throughout the day, let alone the week. Their kids feel it, too. They feel different. They can't understand.

Most of all, they feel hungry.

In the past financial year, FoodBank managed to distribute almost 6.3 million kilograms of food via their charity partners like us. This is the equivalent of more than 11 million meals. They send their thanks to us for all our tireless efforts in getting this food out to our communities and helping those experiencing food insecurity.



SECRETARY'S REPORT

God has never promised that our life as a Christian would be trouble-free but he has promised many times that he would support us through our struggles and help to teach us some valuable lessons along the way. Number One Lesson will always be to love and trust Him. I pray that's one lesson we have learnt throughout our 20 year journey here at the Christian Emergency Food Centre. It's certainly been fascinating to watch Him at work leading and guiding this place, filling the shelves with provisions, calling the wonderful volunteers to use their amazing gifts and talents and seeing real practical help given to those who are really struggling to make ends meet and get through some particularly tough times.

I was working in a church office 20 years ago when God first planted the idea of a combined effort between the churches in Horsham to help disadvantaged parents feed their families. Occasionally individuals or families would turn up to the office seeking help. At the time each church could only help a struggling family in a small way and sometimes families were forced to go from church to church to get enough help to make a difference. The original steering committee investigated the options and, following God's lead, and with the help of the City Council, opened a small centre upstairs in a Council-owned office at 43 Firebrace St, just down the road from our current building.

We outgrew that office within a few years and the search and fundraising campaign began to get another building. The community got behind the idea in a big way and within a relatively short time our current building was found and paid for. Renovations were required to install a cool room and walk-in freezer as well as storage space and an extended food packing room.

Many times the tasks required seemed impossible to achieve and yet the results speak of God's leading and guiding hand at work. There has also been a genuine love and compassion for others and a very real desire to shine some light into the dark world that some people find themselves.

Our society seems to be getting more and more disconnected even though we have so much more technology and can speak to someone on the other side of the world in just a moment yet find it difficult to connect to our neighbour next door. Relationships within families are often very difficult and there don't seem to be the same networks of family and friends to rely on anymore so to offer a listening ear is a service almost beyond price. To back that up with practical help like food, advocacy and advice means we really can make a genuine difference. Many tears of relief have been shed in the interviewing offices when people realise they're not on their own and that there are people who care! Our new Community Education program led by the amazing Julie Madden is now also helping to address personal and relationship issues faced by women in our community and giving them the skills needed to heal and grow. I'm really excited to see where God will lead us, particularly in this area.

We have some of the original volunteers still working at the Centre today, how amazing—20 years later! God has blessed them and each of us with different skills and then fitted us together, just like a jigsaw, into a cohesive team so we can bless our community with our combined efforts. Thank you to every worker who has been a part of this amazing 20 year journey and thank you God for choosing me to be a part of it!

Bev Miatke

Client Assessment Manager and COM Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT



In this, my first report as treasurer of the CEFC, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role. It has been a challenge and one which I have enjoyed. Thank you for the great support and encouragement given by Bev and the volunteer staff at CEFC.

I am pleased to be able to report a continued strengthening financial position allowing us to look to the future with confidence. This year we have been able to support Julie Madden with the "Beautiful Women Program" and look forward to being in a financial position to expand our support in any further opportunities which God may provide.

The Committee of Management at its August 17 meeting elected to approach Gabi Freijah of Watts Price accounting firm with the view to auditing our 2018 accounts. As such, at the time of compiling this report, the Auditor's Report was not available for inclusion. Therefore, I present this report to the Annual Meeting of the CEFC to be received only.

Les Warrick, Treasurer

List of Members July 2017 ~ June 2018

Amor, Angela	Jende, Pam	Pietsch, Carmel
Amor, Anthony	Judd, Lester	Pietsch, John
Blake, Kaye	Judd, Max	Quick, Val
Bodycote, Derek	Judd, Rhonda	Reading, Syliva
Clancy, Lorraine	Keyte, Noel	Rethus, Pam
Clark, Jenny	Keyte, Pauline	Rock, Pat
Clark, Rodney	King, Robert	Sanford, Phonse
Clough, Ian	Kuehne, Gladys	Schneider, Frank
Clough, Wendy	Landrigan, Maggie	Schneider, Melva
Coffey, Rhonda	Lane, Anne	Smith, Jenny
Combe, Jean	Madden, Julie	Tepper, Maxine
Cramer, Jill	Mahony, Anne	Walsh, Terry
Ellis, Audrey	Martin, Lawrie	Walter, Ian
Fulwood, John	McDonald, Carol	Walter, I (Joy)
Goode, Estelle	McDonald, Graham	Walter, Joy A
Hair, Shirley	McFarlane, Faye	Walter, Stanley
Harberger, Sandra	McKenzie, Denise	Warrick, Les
Hateley, Sue	McLoughlin, Matthew	Warrick, Mavis
Heard, Margaret	Miatke, Bev	Webb, Cyril
Hedt, Eric	Murphy, Donna	Webb, Florence (Life Member)
Hedt, Leanore	Neumann, Julie	White, Fran
Hender, Rhonda	Parker, Joan	Williams, Laurie
James, Heather	Parker, John	

PROFIT & LOSS

1/7/2017—30/6/2018

INCOME	\$	\$	EXPENSES	\$	\$
Grants		57,306.97	Administration		8,831.75
DSS Wage Support	49,981.97		Advertising	49.10	
HRCC	3,325.00		Freight		
Magistrates Court	4,000.00		Internet	646.46	
Donations		65,726.12	Office Equipment	3,204.72	
Business - DGR	16,650.00		Office Supplies	277.16	
Christmas Hampers	19,367.00		Phone-Fax	2,055.23	
Churches & Clubs	20,328.22		Postage	540.54	
General Public	8,880.90		Printing-copying	435.43	
Special Purpose	500.00		Software	56.36	
Memberships		340.00	Stationary	924.16	
Finance Income		6,180.30	Subscriptions	642.59	
Bank Reversals	0.83		Business Expenses		1,220.19
Interest Earned	6,179.47		Audit- I.T. Support	920.00	
Refunds-Reimburs.		38,843.17	Bank Fees-Interest	149.30	
DHHS	748.56		Fund Raising Exp.	150.60	
Insurance	1,398.10		Client Expenses		70,618.50
Uniting Care	36,696.73		Accounts utilities Etc	5,382.50	
Community Education		2,196.15	Education Costs	110.00	
Donations Business & Public	290.00		Medical	3,086.78	
Gold Coin Donations	236.15		Travel	6,044.00	
Sponsorship	1,670.00		Rent & Accommodation	353.00	
			Food	55,642.14	
			Building Exp.		4,879.28
			Food Room Equipment	1,089.64	
			Office Cleaning	1,560.00	
			Renovations		
			Repairs & Maint.	2,075.20	
			Rubbish Removal	154.44	
			Insurance		1,806.87
			Utilities		4,015.90
			Electricity	2,373.00	
			Gas	601.73	
			Rates	1,041.17	
			Staff- Volunteers		4,568.47
			Wages		35,273.13
			Community Education		2,258.41
TOTAL INCOME		17,0592.71	TOTAL EXPENSES		133,472.50
			NET Profit		37,120.21

BALANCE SHEET

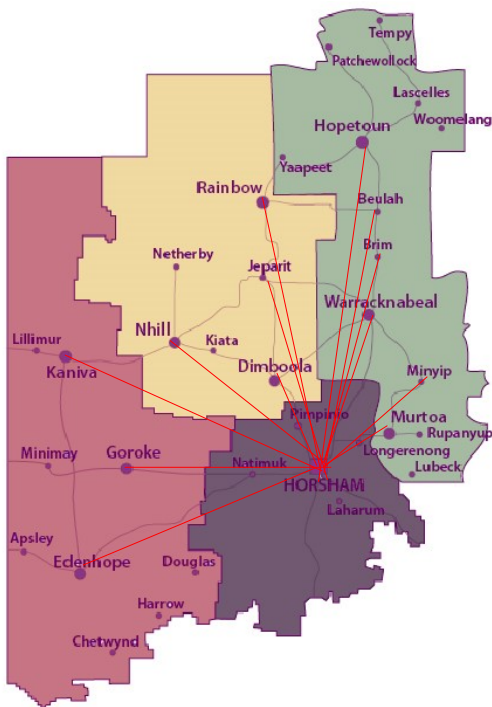
1/7/2017—30/6/2018

ASSETS	\$		LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$
Cash and Bank Accounts			Other Liabilities	
			Cheques unrepresented	2807.41
			Decreased Value Stock	-4,138.35
CEFC Inc Grant Account	18,754.92		Payroll - PAYG	852.00
Society Cheque Account	1,279.71		Payroll - Super	1,499.16
Petty Cash	80.95		Tax Control	-657.88
Maintenance/Replacement/Future			Total Liabilities	362.34
Development funds			Reconciled Balance	
Comm Bank	75,000.00		as at 30-06-2017	283,600.89
Lutheran Laypersons League	206,431.86		Net Profit	<u>37,120.21</u>
Food room Stock	19,536.00		Equity	320,721.10
TOTAL ASSETS	\$321,083.44		TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$321,083.44



STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

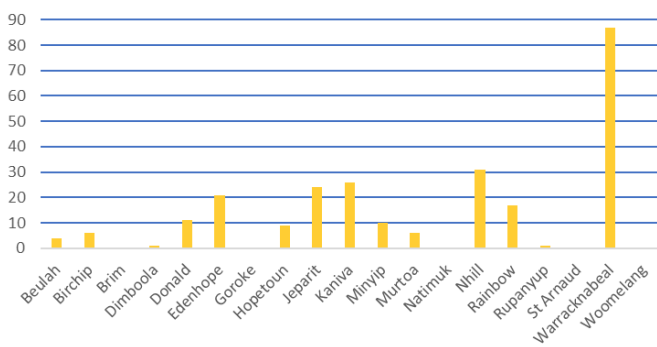
Food parcels may be ordered and delivered to each of these towns thanks to Wilkies Couriers of Horsham who very generously deliver our parcels free of charge to a central delivery point in each town



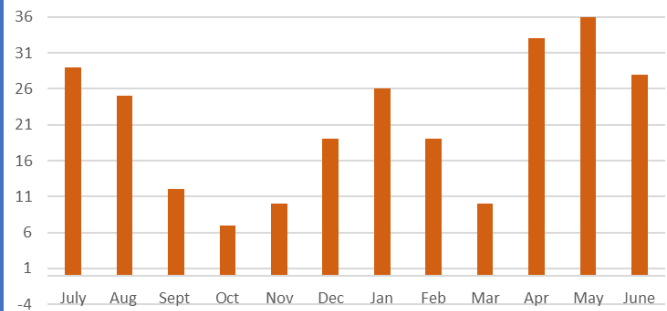
Yarriambiack Shire
Hindmarsh Shire
West Wimmera Shire
Horsham Rural City Council



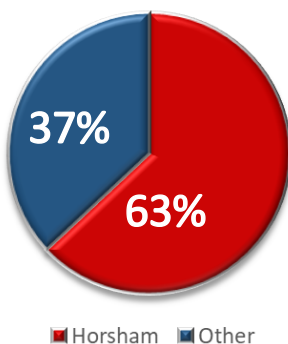
Food Parcels via Wilkies 2017-18



No. of Food Parcels sent each month during 2017-18 financial year



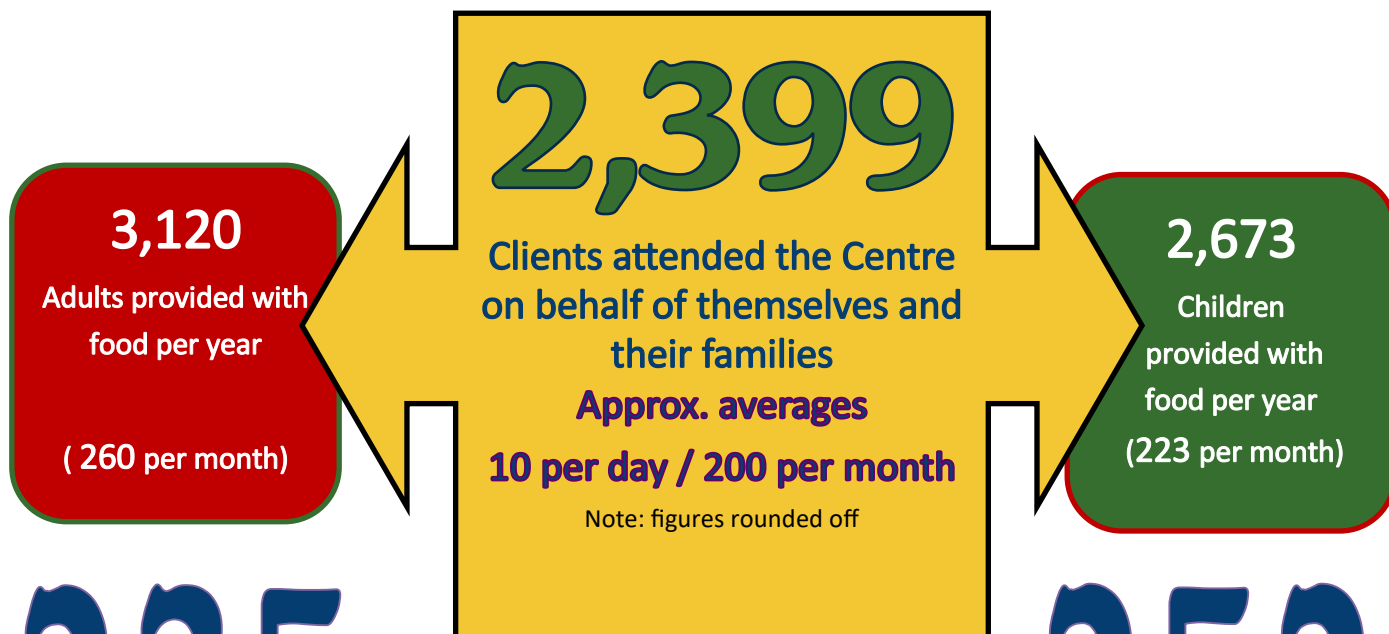
Where our Clients live



Note: 'Horsham' refers to areas within the boundaries of Horsham Rural City Council. 'Others' refers to all other areas including 'No Fixed Address'

STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

During the 2017—2018 financial year ...

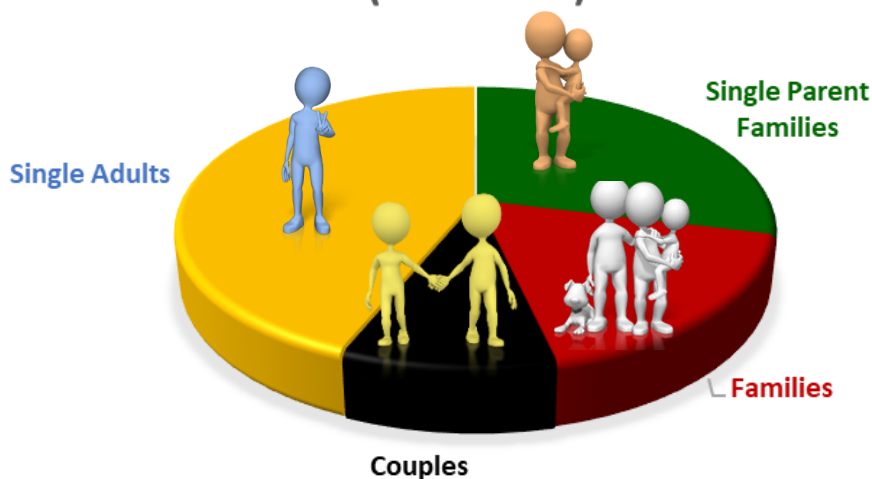


235
Clients attended the Centre for the first time

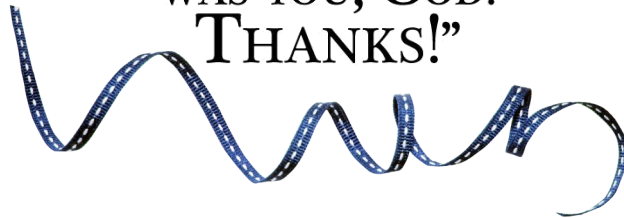


252
No. of days we were open over the year.
Closed weekends, public holidays and for a short time over Christmas

OVERALL CLIENT STATISTICS (PER YEAR)



SOMETIMES
I JUST LOOK UP,
SMILE AND SAY,
“I KNOW THAT
WAS YOU, GOD!
THANKS!”



..proudly sponsored and overseen by

Horsham Christian Ministers' Association



ANGLICAN CHURCH
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CHURCH OF CHRIST
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
CATHOLIC CHURCH
SALVATION ARMY
HARVEST CHURCH
SPIRIT SONG CHURCH
UNITING CHURCH

Blessed to Be



a Blessing