

St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland ABN: 14 211 506 904

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Mr Dan McMahon Principal Shalom College

To the staff, teachers, and students of Shalom College, and the parents, carers, and families, thank you for the very generous donation of toys, gift cards and funds given to the St Vincent de Paul Society for Christmas support. The members of the Bundaberg Conference and staff and volunteers of Vinnies are each year in awe of the superb collection of toys and the number of gift cards and total funds raised. This year again we are in awe and are very appreciative of what Shalom's Giving Tree has provided.

The Giving Tree allows the Society in Bundaberg to provide Christmas support in the local community each year, and again in 2023. This support includes food, gift cards, and toys for Christmas, so that people and families can enjoy the festive season and appreciate the spirit of Christmas. It's from both financial and in-kind material donations given by the community throughout the year and up to and including for Christmas, that the Immaculate Heart of Mary Conference Bundaberg can continue offering support services from the SVdP Society to people and families in need in the Bundaberg region.

The St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland is a trusted organisation that delivers emergency relief and provides appropriate support services to vulnerable people and families dealing with adversity. SVdP Society offers a 'hand up' to people in need, offering hope and support to work towards and to establish lasting and meaningful change in people's lives. Support is provided according to circumstances and need, and also includes a range of programs to allow people to improve and transform their lives, such as NILS (No Interest Loan Scheme), education assistance, disaster relief, Vinnies Youth programs, and soon to be added to this will be a Vinnies Housing project to build and provide 60 units in Bundaberg as affordable housing as part of the Society's strategic plan to address homelessness and the housing crisis.

This remains the purpose and enduring relevance of the St Vincent de Paul Society: to be recognised as a caring Catholic charity in the service of Christ offering assistance to people and families in need and to continue to advocate for social justice and influence policy settings today and into the future. The members, volunteers and staff of the St Vincent de Paul Society appreciate all support given by the Bundaberg community. This ongoing support enables the Conference members, volunteers, and staff of the St Vincent de Paul Society to aspire to the Mission, Vision and Values of the Society to serve the poor and the marginalised, and to assist people in need and who are dealing with crisis in their lives, giving them support and opportunities to endure and achieve better outcomes for themselves and their family.

Thank you again for the support Shalom College has provided this year, and especially for the amazing contribution from the Giving Tree which once again ensures that the St Vincent de Paul Society in Bundaberg can continue to give people and families in need in the community support at Christmas, giving not only food and gifts for Christmas, but also hope and joy; thank you all.

Regards,

Owen Thomson

Administration Manager

St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland

Dennis Beckton

Conference President

Immaculate Heart of Mary Conference

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.

The Society aspires to be recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering a 'hand up' to people in need. We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing in hope, and encouraging them to take steps to build a life of meaning, purpose, and respect. **PURPOSE**

We are a faith-based organisation in the Catholic tradition that creates social impact by providing care, compassion, and hope to anyone who needs a 'hand-up'.

VALUES



COMMITMENT



COMPASSION

Welcoming and serving all with understanding and without judgement.



Service to all regardless of religion, ethnic or social background, sexuality, or gender.



INTEGRITY

Promoting, maintaining and adhering to our Mission, Vision, and Values.



EMPATHY

Establishing relationships based on respect, trust, friendship, and perception.



ADVOCACY

Working to transform the causes of poverty and challenging the causes of human injustice.



COURAGE

Encouraging spiritual growth, welcoming innovation, and giving hope for the future.

