

Centacare Catholic Family Services

The generosity of Catholic Charities is funding six projects across Centacare Catholic Family Services in 2023.

Young people challenged by substance misuse issues, and Aboriginal elders, carers and secondary school students are among the clients who will benefit from a generous \$224,500 donation.

Stepney-based service Alban Place is developing a therapeutic garden to nurture clients' physical and mental wellbeing. Home of the Integrated Youth Substance Misuse Specialist Service and sobering-up centre, Alban Place supports young people aged 12-24 years.

The funding is supporting the development of additional digital resources for a new project, Power Up: Online, a joint initiative between Centacare, Port Adelaide Football Club and CatholicCare NT. The resources will empower students and young people in regional, remote, and metropolitan locations to navigate digital life safely.

Also in development is a digital training package to embed the therapeutic framework which underpins Children's Services across other service delivery units.

Aboriginal Elders and young carers engaged with the Commonwealth Home Support Program and northern-based Community Connections, are closer to reaching their goals, aided by new wheels – a HiAce 12-seat commuter bus!

Community and Care Programs Manager Natalie Tucker (pictured) reports the bus has already been used to transport clients to cultural events, nature outings and even funerals which she says has been appreciated by Elders who would otherwise have been unable to attend.



"Yarning happens more naturally within a comfortable but tight space, which the bus creates for Elders," Natalie says.

"For young carers, the bus has enabled them to get out and connect with their peers with greater flexibility, which parents have appreciated."

Hutt St Centre

Every day, your kindness ensures Hutt St Centre's doors are open to people who have fallen on hard times, with nowhere else to turn.

Ethan came to Hutt St Centre for help because he had run into trouble while travelling across Australia. He was far from home, penniless, and had lost all hope of seeing his family again.

A local found him sleeping rough in the nearby parklands and brought him to the Centre for a hot meal.

"I was homeless, alone and scared," Ethan remembers.

"But at Hutt St, I was able to get a healthy breakfast and lunch, plus warm clothes, toiletries, and bedding. I could take hot showers and do my laundry. But, more than that, the people I encountered renewed my faith that there was still good in the world."

Ethan says, "I want to thank the team at Hutt St – and everyone who donates – for helping me get through my time of misfortune. You welcomed me and made me feel safe from that day forward until I got back on my feet. Thank you with my whole heart and gratitude for saving me."

Our Lady of La Vang School

Funding from Catholic Charities in 2023 has enabled students at Our Lady of La Vang to extend their vegetable patch and to plan the installation of a potting table and seating for students. The area includes raised garden beds, a vertical garden wall, paving and irrigation.

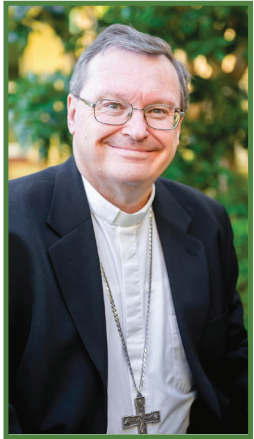
Establishing the La Vang Patch is a direct response from our school to the Bishops Social Justice Statement 2021, 'Cry of the Earth, Cry of the Poor' which focuses on caring for the earth and sustainability. Each week students from the Middle and Senior Clusters spend time in the patch, weeding, planting, and harvesting.

We were very excited to create a banner so that the broader Flinders Park community could see the support we have from Catholic Charities.

Front cover shows student enjoying and working in the La Vang Patch at Our Lady of La Vang School.



Message from the Archbishop



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

I would like to thank you for your continued support of Catholic Charities.

Many are the calls on our time, talent and treasure at the moment.

This leaflet carries stories from the agencies that our Archdiocese funds, outlining their work in the community supporting the vulnerable and disadvantaged and affording hope to so many.

It is because of your generosity that Catholic Charities can support the agencies which:

- reach out to members of our community who may be lonely and welcome them as part of the vibrant Aboriginal Catholic community at the Otherway Centre
- provide respite care for adults and young people living with intellectual disability
- provide dedicated teachers at our two special schools, Our Lady of La Vang and St Patrick's
- empower men and women confronting homelessness, domestic violence, mental illness, isolation and loneliness

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

Thank you for your generosity because by supporting Catholic Charities, we can all ensure that these important works continue to flourish and grow in our Archdiocese.



In Domino,

+ *Patrick O'Regan*

+ Patrick O'Regan
Archbishop of Adelaide

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry

The Otherway Centre at Stepney is a cultural hub for the Catholic Aboriginal community, connecting people to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, culture and spirituality – building all-important awareness in the process.

Aboriginal people join the wider community every week to laugh, lunch, craft and share stories at the Centre, home of Aboriginal Catholic Ministry in South Australia.

Tai chi classes providing gentle exercise are a new addition to the activity schedule this year.

Food parcels for those in need are distributed throughout the year, in addition to toiletry bags for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in hospital. The bags are made up and then delivered to patients in partnership with St Vincent de Paul Society.

Cultural Awareness training and other events are also held at the Otherway Centre throughout the year.

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 and backgrounds.

St Patrick's Special School

St Patrick's Special School, in conjunction with the generous support from Catholic Charities, has been able to create dedicated areas for students to check in using the Zones of Regulation. With the resources provided, St Patrick's Special School has been able to furnish these areas with appropriate materials, visual cues and sensory tools, creating environments that facilitate self-regulation and emotional awareness.



The implementation of the Zones of Regulation areas within St Patrick's Special School has empowered students to actively check-in with their emotions and develop crucial self-regulation skills.

With the backing of Catholic Charities, the school has created safe and inclusive spaces where students can check in, develop self-regulation skills and foster emotional growth.



I would like to support Catholic Charities – here is my gift of

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 \$150 \$300 \$500 Other \$ _____
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Address: _____

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- Yes, I am interested in making a regular direct debit donation.**
 Yes, I would like information on how to help through a legacy or bequest.

Donations can be made online at
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or scan the QR code



Donations more than \$2 are tax deductible.

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