



HOW YOU HELPED TRANSFORM ZACK'S LIFE

When we first met 12-year-old Zack, he had experienced extreme neglect and witnessed violence and alcohol abuse. Zack had no bed to sleep on, only scraps to eat and was barely attending school. Knowing that he needed and wanted a better life, Zack asked a trusted person to help him find a safe place to live. "Anywhere, as long as it's safe," he said.

Thanks to supporters like you, we were able to place Zack with a dedicated Anglicare foster carer. He is doing much better now and is safe and happy. Zack is in Year 7 and loves school. He attends every day. Last year Zack bravely did a speech for house captain at his new school, and as he couldn't read his speech, he memorised it - and won!

Zack now attends tutoring once a week through one of Anglicare's

education programs and also does extra tutoring at school. His case worker is very proud of him: "Zack is one of the most resilient people I have ever met. He is an amazing young man who decided he wanted a better life than the one he was born into, and he did something about it. Given his background and the trauma he has experienced, he has achieved amazing personal outcomes."

It's thanks to our loyal donors and supporters that we can be there for children like Zack and protect them from harm, as well as empower them to reach their full potential.

**Names and images have been changed. Zack shared his story with Anglicare Victoria in February 2018.*



Kids Helping Kids

Altitude Shift will return to Melbourne in April, raising vital funds to support our foster care programs. For the fifth straight year, Geelong Grammar will enter a student team to tackle all 113m of the St James building as part of the challenge.

These student participants will be making a direct difference in the lives of foster children. Foster kids face fear each and every day – the fear of being in a new home, fear of being apart from family, fear for the future.

With all funds raised supporting the provision of programs for vulnerable foster kids, the students of Geelong Grammar once again demonstrate their willingness to reach out and help kids in need.

LETTER FROM THE CEO



It's been a busy time of the year for us here at Anglicare Victoria. We have sadly seen an increase in demand for our services over the back to school and holiday period, for families and children who are having a tough time. Thankfully, we've been able to meet much of

this need, with the donations we received in our annual Christmas Appeal. The Appeal raised much needed donations for the vulnerable Victorians who we work with and I sincerely thank you for your donations and gifts which are now hard at work making a difference in our communities. I'm also pleased to announce that we delivered

over 6,000 toys to children and \$30,000 worth of food to families in need through the Toy and Food Appeal over the Christmas period.

Thank you very much for all your amazing support and your role in making a real difference in our community.

Paul McDonald
CEO Anglicare Victoria

Gemstone Women's Breakfast



Each Wednesday, women gather to attend the Gemstone breakfast, held by our Homeless Services team. The women only service provides a safe and comfortable place for women in need. Some of the women who attend feel isolated and crave social interaction, while others need a healthy meal or are experiencing homelessness and need extra support.

While we also run a daily breakfast in Melbourne's CBD, we saw a need for a specialised breakfast for women, especially for those who

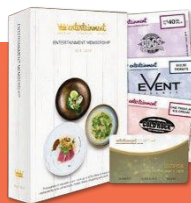
live in public housing who may feel isolated. The breakfast helps women to build positive social networks.

Thanks to donations from people like you, women can get together and have a chat with others who may be going through a similar experience.

Matt is a Homeless Support Worker at Anglicare Victoria and along with a team of dedicated volunteers, has been running Gemstone since it began one month ago.

"It's essentially an opportunity for women to come and have breakfast and talk to each other and take part in regular activities. We have a range of community partners who come in to help, including Centrelink, a district nurse, a doctor from community health service and family violence workers to help."

To find out more about Gemstone or volunteering opportunities please contact the team on 9419 3288.



2018 ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

We are pleased to be selling the 2018 Entertainment Book – now available to pre order! For any enquiries please contact Kristine Pillai on 9412 6125.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE



Chris has been a volunteer for Anglicare Victoria's Homeless Breakfast Program at St Peter's Anglican Church since 2005.

Can you tell us a little about how you became involved with Anglicare Victoria?

I started going to St Peter's Eastern Hill Anglican Parish and I worked in Collingwood at the time. I saw that they had the breakfast program going and I asked if they needed any help- and they did! About four years ago, I was looking for a few hours of paid work as well and I started working at St Peter's and St Mark's Fitzroy as

a Homeless Support Worker. I also donate to Anglicare regularly.

Did you have a moment when you realised how much of a difference you were making?

I don't have one particular moment, it's pretty clear at the breakfast that all the clients need support and I feel happy I can help give it to them. To be honest, I hardly have time to chat to the clients these days because the number of people that come to the breakfast has more than doubled in the 13 years I have been doing it. It used to be 30 or so people back then, but now we serve around 80 clients every morning.

What would you tell someone about why they should get involved with Anglicare Victoria?

It is really making a difference and helping people. I think it's the right thing to do, to help people less fortunate. Most of the clients I see won't have breakfast if it wasn't for Anglicare Victoria. It's a great organisation, in addition to working with those experiencing homelessness, Anglicare also work closely with children and families. It really is doing so much.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I am actually involved with a few other non-profit organisations and I also like to go to the gym. Between all of that, it keeps me pretty busy.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering with Anglicare Victoria, please phone 1800 809 722.



Anglicare Christmas Cards

Did you purchase Anglicare Christmas Cards last year? You may be interested to know that we sold over 36,000 of our increasingly popular cards in 2017! We would also like to thank everyone who bought a pack and helped to promote Anglicare Victoria to their friends and family. Our next set of Christmas cards will be available for sale in September 2018.

ESTATE PLANNING & WILLS INFORMATION SESSION

With guest presenter, lawyer David Whiting (ABC 774 regular), this information session will cover estate and inheritance planning, wills, probate and gifting. David will answer your questions to help prepare you for future transitions.

Wednesday 23 May, registration from 9.30am

Find out more/register now:

Peter or Elaine on 9412 6133 or eps@anglicarevic.org.au

Morning tea provided.



FREE at Melbourne Town Hall



David Whiting

Yes Brian, I will give hope to vulnerable young people like you.

Donation Option

Please accept my single gift of:

- \$30 can provide pyjamas, a toothbrush, and a toy for a child in an emergency placement
- \$75 can pay for a counselling session to help a child recover from abuse
- \$150 can cover a day's residential care for a child
- My choice of \$ _____

Please accept my monthly gift of:

- \$20 can help a foster child join a community sports club
- \$80 can provide tutoring for a foster child
- My choice of \$ _____

Payment Details

- Cheque/Money Order enclosed
(made payable to: ANGLICARE VICTORIA)

My details are Title: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ DOB: _____

Email: _____

My Parish: _____

Please debit my credit card

VISA MASTERCARD AMEX DINERS

Card Number - - - - / - - - - / - - - - / - - - -

Expiry - - / - -

Card Holder's Name _____

Card Holder's Signature _____

- Please send me information about becoming a regular monthly giver
- Please send me information about leaving a Gift in my Will to Anglicare Victoria
- I have already left a Gift in my Will to Anglicare Victoria

Please post to:
Paul McDonald, CEO of Anglicare Victoria
PO Box 45 Abbotsford VIC 3067

Alternatively you can:
Donate online at www.anglicarevic.org.au
Phone 1800 809 722 to donate

THANK YOU

We value your privacy. Please contact us on 03 9412 6136 to find out how we manage your personal information.



Brian's Story



Brian was only 12 years old when his mother passed away...

Anglicare Victoria youth counsellor Claire met Brian after his school referred him to us because they did not know how to handle his behaviour.

"Brian's grief was never properly dealt with at home, as his father was unwell," says Claire.

"Brian could not understand why his mother had passed away, and he would often say he wanted to join his mother in heaven. He had lost hope."

Claire set up counselling sessions with Brian to speak with him about how he was feeling. She used the sessions to help Brian remember his mother and grieve for her, so that he could manage his emotions better while he was in class.

Every session, Claire would help Brian write a letter to his mother, telling her all the things he didn't get a chance to.

It took over a year of counselling and support to help Brian manage his behaviour. We are happy to say that Brian is doing a lot better.

He moved on from writing letters to his mother, and he started using the time to talk to Claire about his home life and share his problems with her.

Although Brian is on his way to a brighter future, there are still many vulnerable young people who need your help today.

Please donate today to give hope to vulnerable young people.

**Names and images have been changed to protect client privacy.*

Meet Father Joe



When Father Siosifa 'Joe' Tongia meets a young person in a youth justice centre he never asks them what they have done.

"I'm not there to be the court," he says. "I'm there to find a way to engage with young people and give them hope for the future. If you have hope, you can love and you can believe in and trust yourself."

In his role as chaplain with the Anglican Criminal Justice Ministry parish partnership, Father Joe provides pastoral care to some of Victoria's most vulnerable children.

Father Joe praises the efforts of Anglicare Victoria and other agencies who work with young people but remains concerned that too many young people find themselves alone.

"Young people need someone to listen to them, to follow them, guide them and support them to study and find a job. We need to encourage them to value themselves."



BECAUSE OF YOU

Our donors have been more generous than ever, donating over 6,000 toys to children in need and \$30,000 worth of food to families in need last Christmas. This was only made possible because of generous donations from schools, businesses, local parishes and our amazing donors. We would also like to thank our fantastic corporate volunteers for donating their time to help out. Thank you to everyone who helped spread festive cheer to families in need at Christmas.

PRAYER POINTS

For parish partnerships

Loving God, thank you for those that support the work of Anglicare through prayer and practical support. Thank you for the 116 partnerships that exist with Anglican churches across Victoria. Thank you for the privilege we have to care for over 62,000 people through these partnerships. Help Anglicare Victoria and all Anglican churches to continue the shared responsibility of caring for those in need, knowing that from those who have been given much, much will be expected.

For staff providing care

Loving God, when the confusion and troubles of the world are overwhelming, we thank God for the care, support and patience of the Anglicare staff. Thank you for the commitment of caring staff who turn up for work every day and night at all hours. Thank you for their patience, care and encouragement to the young people in foster care. We are thankful that they can see the best in people even when the worst is on display. May they continue to work together sharing God's love.