

# Tea Tree Gully St. Vincent de Paul Conference

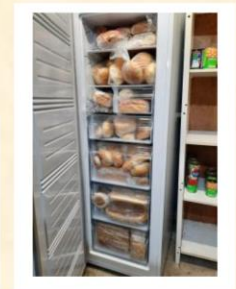
St. David's Parish regularly and generously support us as we try to assist people in need. For that we are sincerely grateful. We would like to take this opportunity to offer more insight into some of the many aspects of our work.

Our Mission Statement – ....to deepen the Catholic faith of its members, to go out into our nation to heighten awareness of Jesus Christ. We do this by sharing ourselves – who we are and what we have – with the poor – on a person-to-person basis.



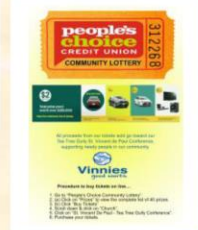
1. We are fortunate to have 21 dedicated and very busy TTG Vinnies volunteer members, all of whom are attached to our parish. Their details and photographs are displayed in our church foyers. Please feel free to approach our members with any queries you may have.

2. Our food store – A wide variety of donated cans and packets of food are temporarily shelved in our store. The quantity of stock items fluctuates greatly throughout the year, with varying companion needs and availability of supplies.



3. We receive financial support and food from many sources –

- Poor box donations.
- Winter and Christmas appeals.
- Easter Raffle.
- individual donations.
- yearly People's Choice Lottery.
- regular food parcels deposited at both our churches.
- wool deposited at both our churches, from which our skilled knitters make blankets, beanies, gloves etc.
- our Christmas tree gifts.
- fortnightly Tea Tree Plaza Baker's Delight Bread run.
- Vinnies warehouse boxes of canned or packaged food.
- regularly have food and toys generously donated from three schools - Our Lady of Hope Primary School, St David's Parish School and Gleeson College.



4. We have approximately 23 needy companion callouts each month. Our involvement covers a large expanse of the Tea Tree Gully Council area.

5. Support that we offer: a pair of our volunteers contact a companion by phone to assess their specific needs and offer assistance in a variety of ways:

- single and family sized parcels from our store.
- professional personal and financial counselling.
- Drakes, only fresh food vouchers.
- we offer support for PBS chemist scripts at Chemist King.
- Gift Cards for clothing are surrendered at Vinnies Op shop.
- a one-off per financial year, Government Emergency Relief Fund financial support to help cover part of a range of utility bills.
- we offered furniture, pillows & blankets.



6. Christmas hampers. About 55 companion families in need receive food and gift/toy hampers. Our team sorted through and packed appropriate bags of toys and gifts.



7. The Vinnies Elizabeth Conference is very short on volunteers, yet have a large community in great need of support. Nine of our TTG Vinnies Volunteers weekly also assist the Vinnies Elizabeth Conference by making virtual phone calls, offering Foodbank food hampers to companions. Before there were hundreds of “turn-aways”, now there are none. In addition, before, companions waited for 10 days but now support response is within 48 hours.

8. Four of our members regularly go to the Vinnies Warehouse and carry out a magnificent job sorting through pallets of gifted packet and tinned goods that were donated from schools and shopping centres. We sort and repackage similar items, ready for conferences throughout the state to collect.



9 During the Christmas period, 5 of our TTG volunteers assisted Vinnies Companions all over Adelaide to access Foodbank through the Government Emergency Relief Fund. During this period, 630 calls were received with 1750 companions assisted.



We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our generous parishioners. In addition, we extend a special vote of thanks to Father James for providing this conduit for us.

**Remember, new members are always welcome.**

