

ANGLICARESA

SUPPORTER

Summer 2019-20



BUILDING COMMUNITIES
IN THE WEST

SHRINKING JOB
NUMBERS

LEGO
CLUB



Message from the CEO

As another year draws to a close, we take the opportunity to review and celebrate all we have achieved and set our minds to the challenges ahead in 2020.

Partnerships are important to the work of AnglicareSA. Collaborating across services and programs within AnglicareSA as well as across governments, business, other service providers and our community means we are stronger and can do more. Together we change lives.

Our partnership with Thread Together has gone from strength to strength. We were delighted to open our Thread Together Clothing Hub in North Adelaide. This initiative was celebrated in a partnership with the very talented Master of Design students at UniSA. Congratulations to them on their outstanding exhibit.

Our foster and kinship care families work with us to create the best life possible for children who require out-of-home care. While we are grateful for them every single day, Foster and Kinship Care Week provides the opportunity to really celebrate these amazing people.

We congratulate the State Government on its new Inclusive SA strategy and taking the lead to make our community as inclusive as possible.

Poverty is an ever-present problem in our community. Every day we see the impact of poverty on our community. While our emergency assistance services help those experiencing crisis, AnglicareSA is focussed on ending poverty. We know it is achievable. Our wrap around services support people to develop the skills to raise themselves out of difficult times and build a better life.

Raising the rate of the Newstart allowance, by as little as \$10 a day, would make a huge difference to those who battle to keep a roof over their heads and provide food and clothing for their children while competing for scarce entry level jobs. Read Tim's story on page seven for a glimpse into what life is like for young job seekers.

AnglicareSA is a strong advocate not only for a rise in the Newstart allowance, but also a broad range of issues that affect South Australians. I recently advocated against gambling legislation that will see note acceptors introduced on SA pokie machines. This change will have a devastating effect on the lives of people already struggling with gambling addiction. We will continue to advocate in this area.

Partnerships with business and individuals contribute greatly to the impact we have across the state. We thank everyone who was recently involved in raising money for our homelessness and emergency assistance services through the City Plunge and Cathedral Banquet events. The dedication of our partners, volunteers and those in the community who choose to fundraise for us is heartening. We thank every one of you for your efforts and working with us to change lives.

Thank you for your continued support of AnglicareSA throughout 2019. I wish you and your loved ones all the best for a very safe, peaceful and enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

Peter Sandeman
Chief Executive Officer
AnglicareSA

Funding boost for housing

AnglicareSA successfully secured \$32m funding through the National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation’s (NHFIC) second bond issue announced in November.

The bond funding, which provides a locked-in interest rate, significantly reduces the risk and cost of development projects.

Being able to access low-cost funding over the next 10 years will greatly enhance our ability to provide those in need with affordable housing options.

It will provide for the first stage of AnglicareSA’s \$75m development pipeline planned for rollout over the next 10 years.

The first project to get underway following the funding announcement is AnglicareSA’s Mansfield Park site, where 16 new over-55s social housing properties will be built.

Work is expected to commence early in the New Year, with residents moving in by the end of 2020.

Other future Anglicare SA projects to provide increased housing include:

- 15 affordable homes in the west
- Disability housing in Gilles Plains
- Land acquisition and design funding to develop more than 100 new homes in Thebarton, Panorama and Woodville over the next five years.



AnglicareSA sees every day the intricate interconnection between having a stable home, a secure job, and good physical and mental health.

The severe financial hardship associated with meeting the cost of rental accommodation leaves many families on low income needing to choose between basic necessities

such as paying bills, buying food, seeing a doctor, or paying the rent.

AnglicareSA’s impact in the community could be further accelerated with the addition of more government support via land or funding to increase the number of new homes we can supply as social and affordable housing.



Pets in aged care

We recently enjoyed a special pets day at our Westbourne Park residential aged care facility in Adelaide’s south.

Our residential aged care facilities are all about replicating as closely as possible people’s own homes. Across our six sites, our amazing staff enable residents to feel and be part of the community.

Pet day featured a range of furry friends including dogs, birds and cats, as well as Westbourne Park’s resident guinea pigs.

Research and experience show the many therapeutic and social benefits of pets, and pets in aged care are especially important.

These facilities are first and foremost peoples’ homes and we want residents to experience lots of love, care and connection each and every day.

Building communities in the west

Following the success of our community activities in the north of Adelaide (through the Better Places Stronger Communities program), a similar program is underway to support more than 1,300 community housing tenants in the western suburbs.

In 2017, Housing SA transferred 736 homes in the Woodville area to AnglicareSA to manage as part of the Renewing our Streets and Suburbs (ROSAS) housing transfer.

Since the start of 2019, AnglicareSA's community development team has worked hard to engage with community members from across the diverse population to their needs.

AnglicareSA staff working alongside key community members have achieved great outcomes in addressing social isolation, increasing opportunities for tenants to be involved in place-making activities and skill development.

In October we participated in the Findon Community Centre Spring Fair. It was a great opportunity



to display AnglicareSA's range of services and supports in the western suburbs, as well as connect with the community in a fun and inclusive atmosphere.

The fair attracted more than 450 people. It was great to have the Thread Together van onsite, which

supported over 60 customers with brand new clothing. In addition, we had our financial counselling, housing and Home Care West teams onsite to provide support.

We thank all those involved in this event.



Green thumbs

Gardens across the western and northern suburbs have been blooming, as house-proud AnglicareSA tenants showed off their green thumbs in the inaugural AnglicareSA gardening competition.

We were delighted with the enthusiasm and skill displayed by the many tenants who took part. Thank you for sharing your gorgeous gardens with us.

Hub of fashion

AnglicareSA was proud to join with Thread Together to launch our new North Adelaide Clothing Hub in September.

Since the launch of our two mobile wardrobe vans last year, more than 7,000 South Australians have accessed brand new clothing.

Working with Australia's top fashion houses, Thread Together provides end-of-line clothing to those doing it tough, whether they are families fleeing domestic violence, new arrivals, or those experiencing homelessness or disadvantage.

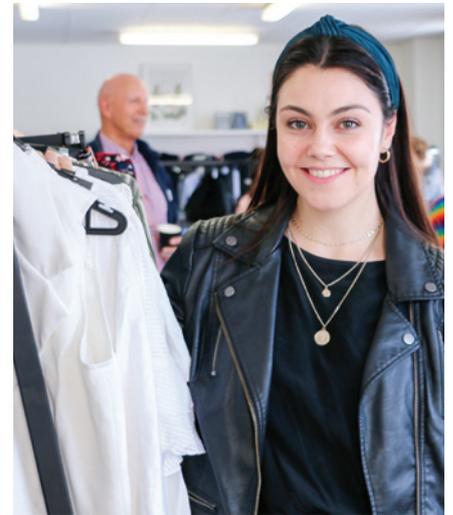
The establishment of a central, permanent Thread Together Clothing Hub, to complement the work of our mobile wardrobes, will provide more South Australians with the opportunity to access this important service.

The Minister for Human Services, Hon Michelle Lensink MLC, formally launched the new hub, along with Thread Together founder Andie Halas and Chief Executive Anthony Chesler.

Following the launch, students at the University of South Australia highlighted the partnership through their 'Clothing for Good' exhibition.

Running alongside Adelaide's Vogue Festival, the exhibition explored the incredible impact of brand new clothing on our community's most vulnerable. Through innovative

and creative representations, students demonstrated how this service empowers individuals while safeguarding our environment by intercepting clothing that would otherwise have ended up in landfill.



Celebrating foster and kinship carers

AnglicareSA held a number of celebrations during Foster and Kinship Care Week in September to say thanks to all of the carers who selflessly open their hearts, homes and communities to provide care, love and support to children and young people in need.

The main event was a celebration at The Beachouse, which was a fun filled evening with over 130 foster carers and 150 children and young people.

Two of our amazing foster carers are Eric and Katie.

Their household of seven includes two foster children aged 18 months and six months, two little ones of their own and Eric's teenage sister.

"The experience with foster children is different than with your biological child in the sense that bonding is different," said Eric. "It's something you really have to work hard at.

"But in terms of love it's the same. There's no difference."

Katie believes the family's foster care journey has instilled great values in their biological children, who love being included in the care process.

"It's been a very positive experience for our kids. They want to get involved in everything from feeding to nappy changes," she said.

"It can be a challenge to teach your kids empathy. You can talk to them about it, but it ultimately helps if they see it for themselves."

With experience working in children's residential and commercial care, Katie knows just how important it is for children to have a loving family.

"Although they were all safe and their physical needs got cared for really well, I felt like it didn't meet their emotional needs because there are so many boundaries," she said.

"The feedback from the children is they want to be loved and be in a family. The majority of them could be in homes if there were enough foster families available."



Katie and Eric encourage all those interested in foster care to start the journey.

"Just start the process, don't dwell on it and things will become clearer. You'll soon figure out whether it's for you."

If you are considering becoming a foster carer, we would love to hear from you. For more information call (08) 8131 3456 or visit www.anglicaresa.com.au/foster-care



Anti-Poverty Week

During this year's Anti-Poverty Week in October, AnglicareSA focused on its ongoing advocacy to 'Raise the Rate', calling for a long-overdue increase to the Newstart allowance.

Through a letter writing campaign to South Australian MPs and Senators, we joined the Business Council of Australia and KPMG to advocate for this important reform.

Across Australia, more than 13 per cent of people are living below the poverty line and one in six children are going to bed hungry.

For people reliant on Newstart, competing effectively for extremely scarce entry-level jobs as well as surviving and being able to provide for their kids is nearly impossible.

One-off payments and tax cuts won't lift Australians out of the poverty trap. Raising Newstart, and related payments, would be one powerful step toward reducing poverty in our community. An increase is well and truly overdue.

Raising the rate, by as little as \$10 a day, is an essential investment in our community.

Per Capita's John Falzon and AnglicareSA's CEO Peter Sandeman are strong advocates for an increase to Newstart.



Nationally, Anglicare Australia also focussed on educating our community on the causes of poverty, encouraging them to undertake positive action and change the language around poverty.

At a local level, we hosted our annual Anti-Poverty Week BBQ at our Elizabeth Mission. There was a fantastic turnout with people enjoying a BBQ lunch, stalls, giveaways, activities and live music.

A range of different agencies and partners joined with AnglicareSA to help bring this special event together, including Orange Sky Australia, Thread Together, Foodbank SA, City of Playford, SAPOL, St John Ambulance and many others.

Thanks to everyone who was involved in making the event a success.

Gambling roundtable

AnglicareSA CEO Peter Sandeman recently participated in the Cross-bench Round Table on gambling legislation at Parliament House in Adelaide.

AnglicareSA's message is clear and strong – introducing note acceptors on poker machines will bring intense misery to the lives of problem gamblers and their families.

With Newstart so low, a lack of jobs and housing affordability at crisis levels, this latest move on pokies creates a perfect storm for sending families into a downward spiral.

Peter said the answer is simple – reduce the number of pokies, set one-dollar limits on bets, and provide adequate support around identified problem gamblers.

"More financial counselling support is needed to help people identify other ways to get themselves out of debt," he said.

Across Australia, more than 13 per cent of people are living below the poverty line and one in six children are going to bed hungry.



More competition for shrinking jobs

During Anti-Poverty Week, Anglicare Australia released its 2019 Jobs Availability Snapshot, which revealed the dire situation facing SA's job seekers.

In South Australia, nine entry-level jobseekers are competing for each suitable job – almost double the national figure.

The Snapshot also found that entry-level jobs made up just 10 per cent of all vacancies across Australia, down from 14 per cent last year. When records began back in 2006, entry-level jobs were 22 per cent of all vacancies.

There is little doubt the job market is failing those with the most significant barriers to employment.

These are people who didn't finish year 12, people living with disability or mental illness, or those who have lost their jobs later in life.

On average it takes these people five years to find work, and as the snapshot shows, the situation in SA is particularly tough.

The Snapshot shows almost 1.9 million people across Australia are either unemployed or underemployed – with underemployment up four per cent compared to 2018.

To make matters worse, people with higher qualifications are working in lower skilled jobs, putting more pressure on entry-level jobseekers' ability to compete.

While we are currently enjoying exciting times for highly profitable industries in SA, particularly in defence, space and the arts, we need

to make sure our state progresses without leaving the most vulnerable behind.

In Adelaide's north and other areas where we provide support services, unemployment and underemployment will continue to increase social and economic disadvantage.

If we are serious about supporting people and families, and building strong and sustainable communities, we need to create opportunities for jobseekers at all skill levels.

The Jobs Availability Snapshot highlights the real and present effects of disadvantage, vulnerability and joblessness across SA.

Tim's story

For more than a decade, Tim has volunteered in various roles including at charitable organisations as a retail assistant, receptionist and helping others with food and housing.

The 24-year-old said that despite recently completing a Certificate 3 in Retail and applying for up to 20 jobs a fortnight, he has never had paid work.

"It's ridiculously tough out there for some young people, especially when you have no qualifications or previous paid experience," Tim said.

"My partner and I are about to have our first child so I guess I'm lucky we have a home. But we barely have anything after covering the rent and other basic supplies we need.

"I'm trying to stay optimistic – and hopefully having a Cert 3 will better my chances."



Amazing Anglicarers

We recently celebrated our annual AnglicareSA Awards. The event is a wonderful opportunity to say thank you to those who make our organisation great.

It's about recognising the many individuals and teams who go above and beyond in their day to day activities.

Each year we are overwhelmed by the number of nominations and the stories we hear of the dedication, commitment and passion of our volunteers, employees and foster carers.

The awards are a terrific way to showcase the diverse range of programs and services we provide to the community.

Congratulations to all our finalists and winners.



Cathedral 150 Gala Ball

While the pews were removed from St Peter's Cathedral for AnglicareSA's flagship fundraiser, the annual Cathedral Banquet, the Gala Ball Committee took advantage of the clear space to hold the Cathedral 150 Gala Ball with more than 280 people dancing the night away in support of people experiencing homelessness.

Guests were welcomed by the Dean of the Cathedral, blessed by Bishop Denise, enchanted by the sound of the pipe organ and mesmerised by the elegance of the dancers waltzing to the Skaters waltz.

They danced the night away with Lucky Seven, Quicksteps dance teachers and Lindy Hop dancers.

More than \$4,000 was raised to support AnglicareSA's work with people experiencing homelessness.

Special thanks to all of the volunteers (including the Cathedral volunteer team) and generous supporters of the Ball, including Lucky Seven, Cathedral Organist David Heah, Haycom NW Group, Australian Security, Wendy & Rachel Parsloe, Michelle & Seb Ananian-Cooper, Quicksteps Dance Studio and all members of the Cathedral 150 Gala Ball Committee.



Inclusive SA

AnglicareSA's Daphne Street Autism-Specific Early Learning and Care Centre supports children with autism and their families.

Ted, aged five, attends the Centre. His mother, Cheryl, says their time at Daphne St has been life changing.

"It's the first place Ted has made friends, and the first place where I've felt like we've belonged," said Cheryl.

"Having professionals work with Ted all day and include us has helped shape his social behaviour. Early intervention is essential. Without the support, I don't think he'd be going to mainstream school next year."

Like many other children, Ted can have a challenging time in public places due to his needs.

Ted and Cheryl attended the launch of SA's first disability inclusion plan, Inclusive SA, at the SA Museum on behalf of AnglicareSA.

The plan is great news for families like Cheryl and Ted's. By working across state and local governments and agencies, it aims to ensure everyone has equal access to supports, services and places.

As an example of simple changes that can be made to accommodate different needs, the SA Museum opens outside of regular hours for families with a loved one on the autism spectrum so they can enjoy



a calm visit with suitable lighting and sound.

AnglicareSA is supportive of the Inclusive SA plan and congratulates the State Government on taking the lead to make our community as inclusive as possible.

Lego Club

Lego Clubs in the north and south of Adelaide are helping children with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) to develop valuable social skills and find acceptance in the wider community.

The clubs, run by Asperlutely Autisme Inc. and funded by AnglicareSA's Communities for Children, also welcome families from outside the autism community.

Studies have shown impressive benefits from the use of Lego in therapy for children with an autism spectrum diagnosis.

Many people with an ASD struggle to engage in social activities. Lego Club improves a child's willingness to participate in community-based social activities by offering social and imaginative play through a shared interest in Lego.



Children learn a range of social skills, including sharing, turn taking, following social rules, using names and problem solving.

The long-term outcomes for ASD children participating in Lego therapies show significantly improved social skills compared to those not engaged in such therapies.

The Clubs also foster greater acceptance for children with an ASD and their families in the wider

community by welcoming all families, regardless of whether a family member is impacted by autism.

Families impacted by autism may be socially isolated due to a lack of acceptance of 'difference' in the broader community – Lego Club reduces that social isolation.

AnglicareSA's Communities for Children Playford is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

Adelaide City Plunge

An enormous thank you to everyone who supported the AnglicareSA Adelaide City Plunge 2019 event. We raised more than \$73,000 towards our programs supporting people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

We were extremely disappointed that strong winds on the day prevented people from abseiling. Unfortunately, the conditions made it far too dangerous.

Participants were instead invited to tour to the roof to see the view and experience the windy conditions for themselves.

Despite the disappointment, we won't let it detract from the amazing courage and will of our participants, who most importantly raised an incredibly generous sum and spread important awareness about homelessness.

Thank you to all involved.



Rymill 500

NEW TICKET RELEASE
Just in time for Christmas!

Presented by AnglicareSA in partnership with the Rymill House Foundation, treat yourself to trackside access at the 2020 Adelaide Supercars event, 20 to 23 February 2020. All day, half day, and single session options are available.

Get your tickets today at www.anglicaresa.com.au/500-rymillhouse. For more information, call us on 8305 9200.



Give the gift of dignity this Christmas

Through both short and long-term support, AnglicareSA works alongside those who are struggling in our community to maintain and restore their capacity, dignity and pride.

Community support through donations enables us to support people in crisis with emergency assistance (food, clothing and shelter), somewhere to live for those escaping domestic violence, financial counselling for the long-term unemployed, brand new clothing for those experiencing homelessness, and so much more.

Dignity is restored through our programs every day, as we apply some simple concepts in our work:

- We talk about people without stereotyping them;
- We understand people by what they can do and aspire to be;
- We work with people by coaching their strengths;
- We invest in people to promote their potential to thrive.

Every person we have contact with has their own strengths, aspirations and experiences.

We work with them to help them overcome challenges.

By donating to AnglicareSA's Christmas appeal, you will help to provide dignity to individuals and families in 2020.

Simply complete the attached donation form, donate online at www.anglicaresa.com.au/donate or call us on 08 8305 9200



Anna

Anna, aged 26, was living in her car. Publicly parking and sleeping in her vehicle meant she was hit with numerous parking fines and quickly accrued more than \$7,000 in penalties.

Anna presented to AnglicareSA with the simple request for a can of beans and some bread.

After listening to her story, AnglicareSA was able to do much more to support her by addressing the challenges she faced and regaining her dignity and zest for life.

We advocated on Anna's behalf to address her debts and supported her through the eight weeks of intensive community service work required to pay off her parking debts.

Anna has gone from strength to strength since being freed of financial burden. She has secured a stable and affordable home close to her elderly mum and has offered to continue volunteering at the community service program where she worked off her debt.



Dylan

Dylan, aged 42, had been in a downward spiral of addiction to pain medication coupled with mounting debt from accessing payday lenders for quick but costly fixes to his problems.

He eventually found himself homeless. Illegally sourcing pain medication on the street became his coping mechanism.

With nowhere else to turn, Dylan presented at AnglicareSA. He was hunched over, struggling to meet our gaze, and could not see a way out of chaos and abuse.

Dylan had a long road ahead. His first step was a referral to a support centre to assist with his addiction. Only six months after his initial visit, Dylan returned to AnglicareSA, unrecognisable. He looked healthy, had a secure, stable home and job, and had returned simply to say thanks. He told us he no longer needed any support. He could look people in the eye and shake their hands. He was full of dignity.

Anna and Dylan are just two of the many people we meet who are doing it tough. Everyone deserves the opportunity to thrive.

Your support means we can provide individualised assistance and the best possible support and care for those experiencing vulnerability. Please donate today.

Cathedral Banquet

AnglicareSA hosted its annual Cathedral Banquet at St Peter's Cathedral in North Adelaide on Friday 1 November.

Three hundred guests helped raise \$220,000 for AnglicareSA's emergency assistance services, which support more than 7,800 households experiencing crisis each year.

Thank you to everyone who joined us and so generously supported AnglicareSA.



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We love to see you CM'ing



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