

ANNUAL REPORT



2025 - 2026



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Meet Your Fears with Faith

"...and teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Matthew 28:20

When ancient sailors sketched maps of the oceans, they disclosed their fears. On the vast unexplored waters, geographers wrote words such as these: "Here be dragons." "Here be demons." "Here be sirens."

Were a map drawn of your world, would we read such phrases? Over the unknown waters of adulthood: "Here be dragons." Near the sea of the empty nest: "Here be demons." Next to the furthestmost latitudes of death and eternity, do we read "Here be sirens"?

Mark it down. You will **never** go where God is not. You may be transferred, enlisted, commissioned, reassigned, hospitalized, but brand this truth on your heart: you can **never** go where God is not.

"I am with you always," Jesus promised (Matthew 28:20 NKJV).

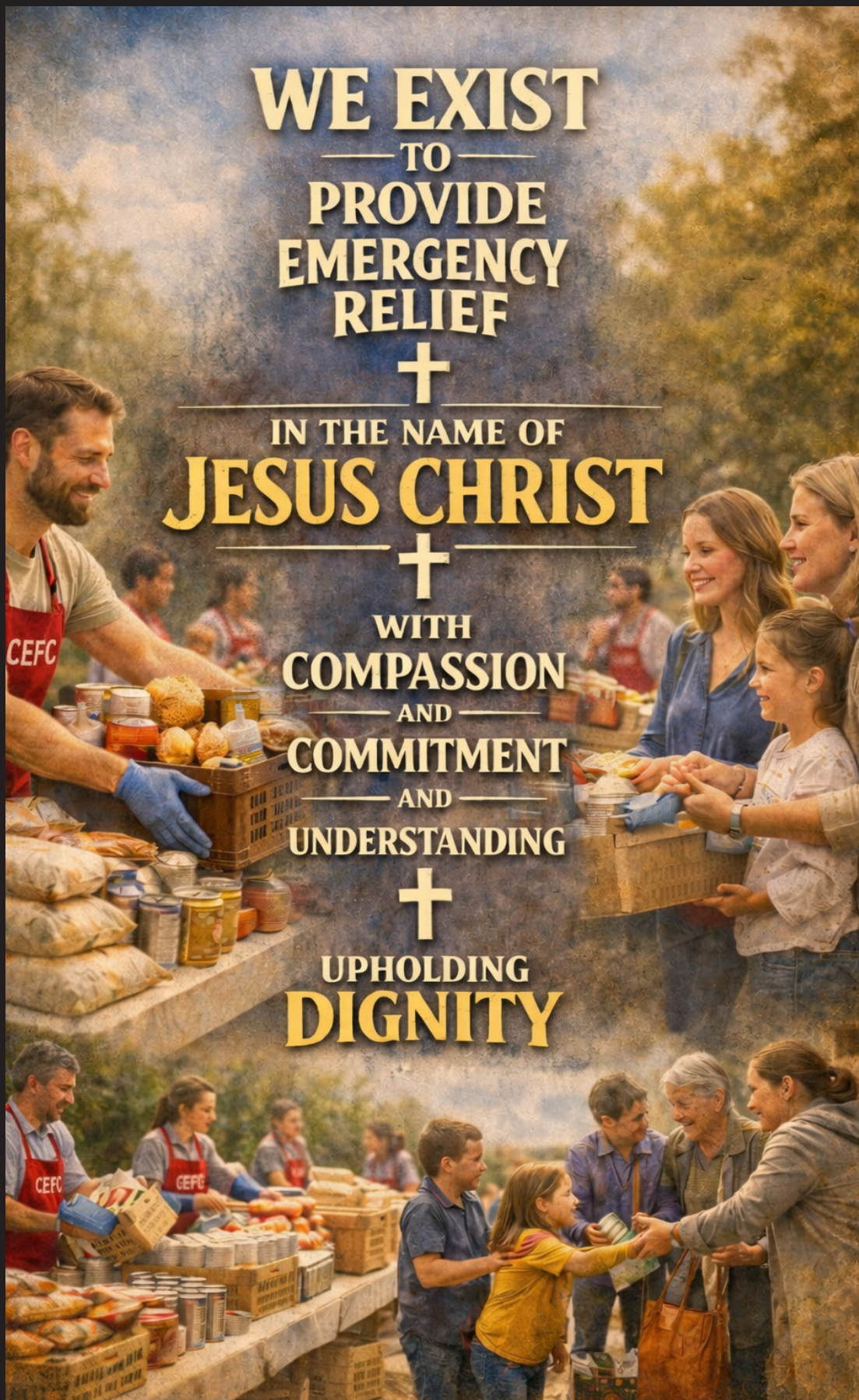
Fear visits everyone. But make your fear a visitor and not a resident. Meet your fears with faith.

By Max Lucado

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MISSION STATEMENT



COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT



Dennis May

Dennis May
CHAIRMAN



Don Cook

Don Cook
VICE-CHAIRMAN



Les Warrick

Les Warrick
TREASURER



Shirl Hair

Shirl Hair
MINUTE SECRETARY



Jill Cramer

Jill Cramer
ASST-TREASURER



Anne Mahony

Anne Mahony
MEMBER



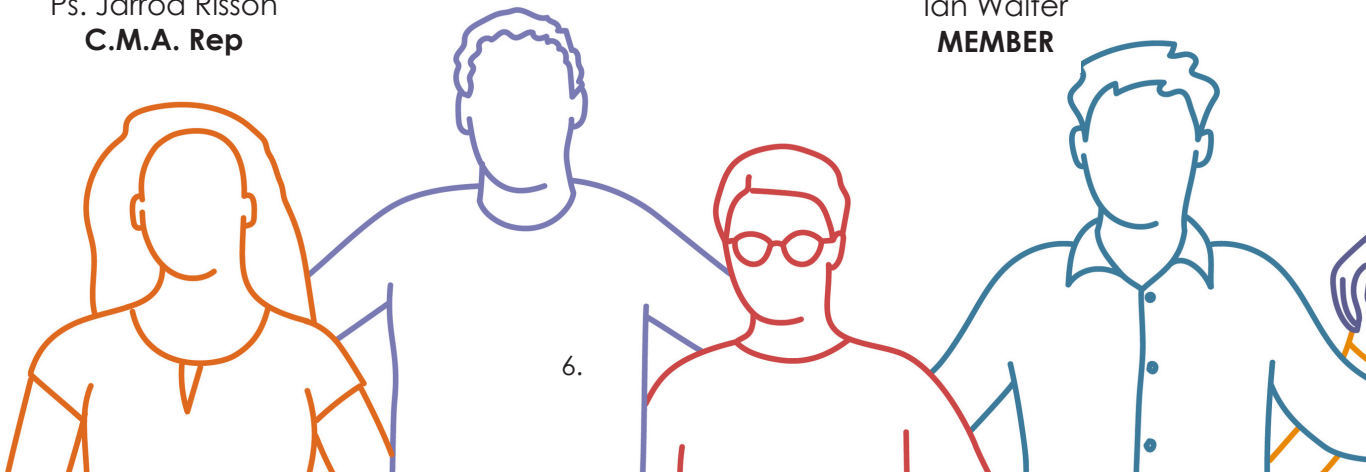
Ps. Jarrod Risson

Ps. Jarrod Risson
C.M.A. Rep



Ian Walter

Ian Walter
MEMBER



CENTRE LEADERSHIP



Bev Miatke
**CLIENT ASSESSMENT
MANAGER**



Anne Lane
**FOOD ROOM
TEAM LEADER**



Terry Walsh
**STORES & PURCHASING
TEAM LEADER**



John Spehr

John Spehr
MANAGER



Jenny Smith

Jenny Smith
**DATABASE & STATISTICS
MANAGER**



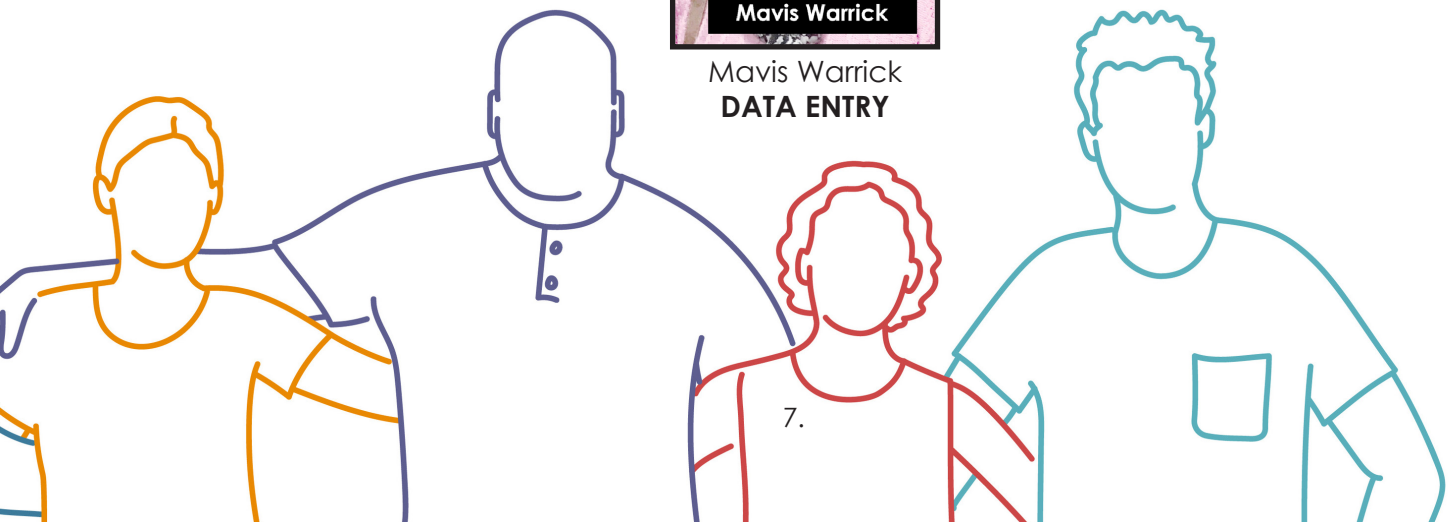
Wendy Clough

Wendy Clough
**RECEPTION
TEAM LEADER**



Mavis Warrick

Mavis Warrick
DATA ENTRY



THANK YOU

VOLUNTEERS

The Centre is staffed by around 80 volunteers who regularly donate their time and talents because God has given them a heart for helping people in need. Volunteers work in the Food Room, as Receptionists, as Interviewers, or in Stores/Purchasing (some in several areas). There are also volunteers picking up and dealing with donations from our Community Partners daily. All are integral to every activity that happens in the Food Centre. Without them this vital service could not happen. Many thanks to you all for your hard work and dedication. God bless you all!



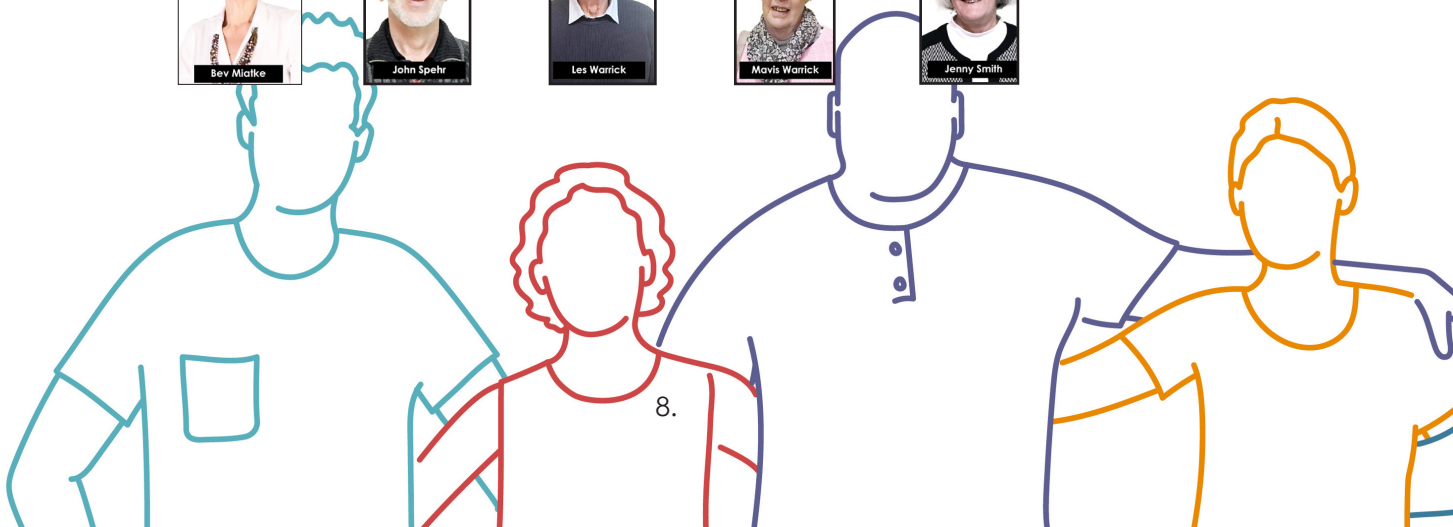
FOOD ROOM



The Food Room is the core of the Centre. All volunteers begin their training in the Food Room. Food lists recorded by the interviewers are delivered to the Food Room where the food parcels are packed and then taken out to the clients.

FRONT OFFICE

Front Office staff include our Client Assessment Manager plus our volunteer Manager, Treasurer and Data collection and Statistics officer who maintain our client database, government compliance & financial requirements.



STORES / PURCHASING



Volunteers in this area oversee stock levels in the Food Room and order and purchase any requirements. They also receive and record donations and unpack deliveries as needed. Off-site storage is required at times and therefore goods need to be transported between facilities. Many are also involved in Community Partner pick ups.

RECEPTION



Receptionists are the face of the Centre as they welcome clients each day. It is their responsibility to record and maintain the files which are required to be kept on all visits.

INTERVIEWING

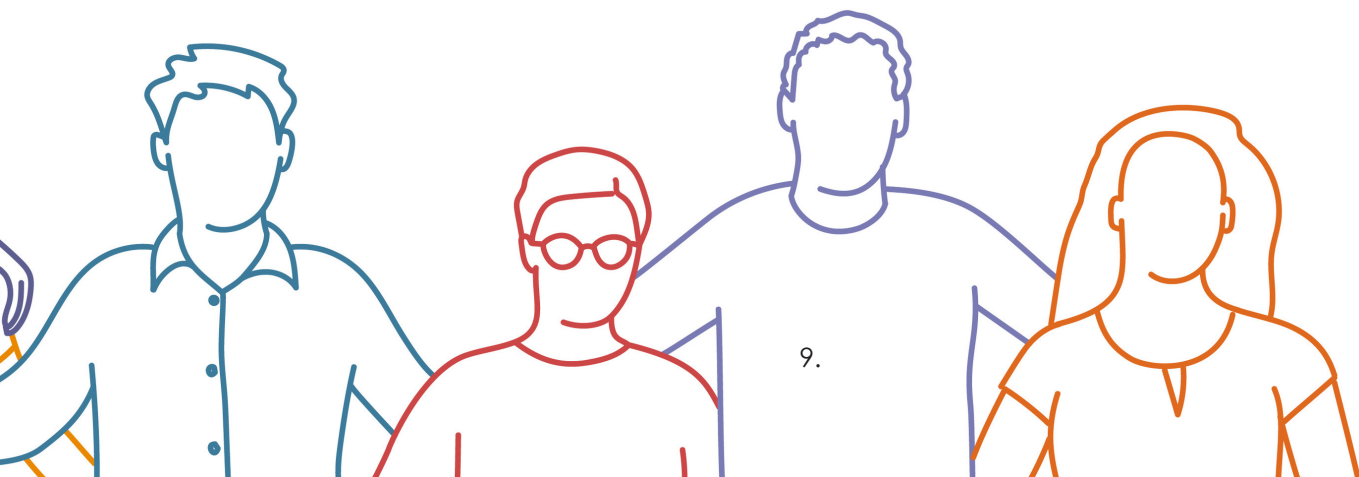
Interviewers talk one-on-one with clients, listening to their needs and organising food and referrals. All conversations are confidential.



PARTNER PICK-UPS



Each week day food is picked up by volunteers from all 3 supermarkets as well as local bakeries. Volunteers also pick up empty flat-packed boxes from KFC and McDonalds to be used for packing the boxes of food for our clients.



THANK YOU

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Local Horsham Supermarkets



Local Horsham Bakeries



Local Horsham & District Organisations



FOOD DONATIONS 2025-26	\$
Aldi	61,044
Baker's Delight	21,707
Bolly's Bakery	36,037
Coles (SecondBite)	59,391
Conway's Pies	7,387
Foodbank Victoria	57,059
HSCC Reverse Advent boxes	37,575
HSCC Frozen Meals	14,208
Public	55,826
Waack's Bakery	2,312
Woolworths	53,225
TOTAL	\$406,111

Statewide Organisations



We are deeply grateful to these organisations—as well as the many other businesses, schools, service clubs, and community members—who have generously contributed goods and services to us throughout the year.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

DENNIS MAY

As a committed Christian organisation, it is most important to first acknowledge and express our thanks to God for making possible all that happens at the Food Centre.

We began another 12 months servicing needy people with generous amounts of food and associated personal products. During this time, we have been confronted with serious financial cuts from the government and other agencies, and have had to deal with the ramifications from a water leak, (thanks to a very heavy rain event). It would have been very easy to cut the amount of food being distributed, but as a committee we deliberately and unanimously decided to give out our full allowance of food. A faithful God, moving people to give to the Food Centre allows us to also continue giving generously to those in need. Our management team did an amazing job: communicating, following up, sending letters and emails and lobbying politicians to have our funding restored. Praise God, our funding has been re-instated, and coupled with large individual financial donations, we are well and truly on track financially.

We are still in the process of repairing the damage to the Food Centre. This won't be a strain on our financial resources at all, but there will be some disruption to how we operate whilst the inside is being repaired. This will hopefully be minimal and we will let all of our volunteers know what is happening once we settle on a contingency plan.

To John, Les and Bev, a heartfelt thank you for all the work you do. You are so important in making the Food Centre run smoothly each and every day. You are a great team to work with.

I want to acknowledge our willing band of volunteers. Words really cannot express enough our thanks for the contribution our volunteers make to the successful operation of our organisation. Each of you come with different gifts and abilities and also different reasons for wanting to be involved with us, which makes each of you special and unique. To see the joy on the faces of our clients as they leave the Food Centre with boxes of

food and products, is your reward in making a difference to a family that might otherwise go hungry. Well done and thank you so much for your collective efforts.

To Terry and Anne, you have completed another 12 months working tirelessly at the Food Centre – organising, buying, picking up, paying for orders of food, watching the price of products and making the appropriate purchase and overseeing what needs to be bought. Thank you so much for your contribution.

To every local business and individual who makes a contribution of food, products and money to the Food Centre, we say a huge thank you. Partnering with us in this important role allows us to offer an abundance of help to people who otherwise might not be able to access it.

During our Committee of Management meetings, we do have a lot of fun together, but we also have spirited and respectful conversations which allows us to arrive at what we believe are important, well thought-out outcomes, now and into the future for the Food Centre. Thank you so much to each committee member for your contribution.

Finally, to the clients who visit the Food Centre looking for assistance, I hope that you have been treated with respect and that the food and products you have been given, with a spirit of generosity, has in some way added to your quality of life.

To everyone who has played a part in the Food Centre, may God richly bless you as we, as an organisation, continue to rely on a God who is loving and generous to all.



Dennis May

Dennis May
Chairman

MANAGER'S REPORT

JOHN SPEHR

The Christian Emergency Food Centre is an important support to people in Horsham and the wider Wimmera area. This year we have continued to provide emergency assistance to people through the provision of food, personal items, assistance with transport, medicine and utility accounts. Our team of people work at providing this care in ways that can assist and encourage people as they work through difficult situations.

This year there have been many pressures on clients including inflating costs of groceries, petrol costs and general living expenses. The number of contacts with clients has remained very high, with 2,993 contacts, being very similar to the peak years of 2022-2023 (3,159 contacts) and 2023-2024 (3,078 contacts).

Our clients remain under significant financial pressure and when unexpected changes or expenses occur, assistance is needed to help work through the issue. The statistical information is very similar to previous years, with approximately 2/3 of our clients from the Horsham/Natimuk area and 1/3 of our clients from the wider Wimmera area. The number of homeless people is close to 10%. This is an issue that our region will continue to need to address. As a result of a significant rain event in February we incurred water damage to our food room. This has resulted in an insurance claim and we will be replacing the floor covering in the food room and tea-room and the wooden shelving from the food room. We are also making our roof compliant to current regulations. We hope to have these repairs and developments completed soon.

Early in the year we were informed that our funding application to the Federal Government was unsuccessful. Fortunately, with the help of our local Member, Anne Webster, we were able to get most of this funding reinstated and we are now funded from this financial year to 2030. Our community has continued to be a fantastic support to the CEFC. Individuals and groups (including service clubs, schools, churches and local businesses) have continued to support our work through financial support and through the donation of food goods. It is through this

level of support that we are able to provide so much to those people who need help.

A significant amount of our produce is donated from the gardens of local individuals, as well as from the food recovery programs of Aldi, Coles and Woolworths. Bolly's Bakehouse, Bakers

Delight, Waack's Bakery and Conways are also a great support. Nutritious frozen meals have been supplied by the Horsham Sports and Community Club, the Church of Christ, Masala Indian Restaurant and Country Kitchen. The CEFC appreciates the significant support provided by the local community and local businesses.

We purchase other staple foods from FoodBank Victoria and from local businesses. This constant and important work is carried out by Terry Walsh and Anne Lane. Thank you so much for your wonderful efforts. You keep us organised and well stocked.

We are fortunate to have a wonderful group of approximately 80 volunteers working at the CEFC. Our Receptionists welcome the clients and visitors to the centre. The Relief Workers interview the clients in a supportive and confidential environment. A list of food needs is developed at the interview and then passed to the Food Room. Our Day Leaders and Food Room Staff then fill this list and provide the items to the client. Other volunteers will be working in the store, refilling shelves, collecting and processing donated or purchased items. Our Client Manager, Bev Miatke, continues to oversee the daily functioning of the Food Centre and completes so many important administrative tasks. Thank you Bev. Your faith-based leadership and expertise is a wonderful asset to the CEFC and an example to each of us.

Our Committee of Management functions in the background of this activity, including our



Chairperson, Dennis May, Secretary, Shirl Hair and Treasurer, Les Warrick. With client support at around \$600,000 this year the maintenance of finances is a vital and large task. Thank you, Les, for your diligence and reliability in this area. We maintain records of the contacts with clients and this information allows us to identify trends and needs. Thank you, Mavis and Jenny for your important work in this area.

Each of our volunteers contributes significantly to the Food Centre, in big and small ways, but all of the contributions assist the CEFC to function effectively and help us to assist people in our community. Thank you to each volunteer for your valued contribution.

The Horsham Sports and Community Club, the Weekly Advertiser and Ace Radio again organised a very successful Reverse Advent box appeal. We thank these businesses and especially thank our community for their generosity.

Approximately 510 Christmas Hampers were packed and distributed by CEFC volunteers before Christmas 2025. Thank you to the sponsors who assist the CEFC in providing this program to our community.

We are thankful to God for the blessings that He provides to the Food Centre: the Volunteers, the produce, the Clients, the building. We pray that we can continue to share His love in our community.

John Spehr
Operations Manager

**WHEN WE ARE IN FEAR, WE ARE
HAVING MORE FAITH IN THE
ENEMY'S PLAN THAN GOD'S.**

**"FOR GOD HATH NOT GIVEN US
THE SPIRIT OF FEAR; BUT OF
POWER, AND OF LOVE, AND OF A
SOUND MIND."**

~2 TIMOTHY 1:7~

CLIENT ASSESSMENT REPORT

Choosing Faith over Fear: A Daily Decision

Fear has a quiet way of slipping into everyday life. It shows up in uncertainty about the future, in difficult decisions, in health concerns, finances, relationships, and even in our sense of purpose. We hear the stories from our clients every day. Fear isn't always loud or dramatic—sometimes it's just a lingering hesitation or a "what if" that refuses to go away.

Faith, on the other hand, is often quieter still. It doesn't always remove the situation, but it changes how we stand in it.

Fear Speaks—But It Doesn't Have the Final Word

Fear tends to focus on what could go wrong. It magnifies problems and minimizes hope. It whispers that you're alone, unprepared, or not strong enough. Left unchecked, fear can keep you stuck—avoiding risks, shrinking back from opportunities, or losing peace.

But Scripture consistently reminds us that fear is not meant to lead us. "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7). That means fear may visit, but it doesn't belong in control.

Faith Is a Choice—Not a Feeling

Faith isn't the absence of fear; it's the decision to trust God in the presence of it. It's choosing to believe that God is good, even when circumstances are unclear.

It's taking a step forward when everything in you wants to hold back.

Choosing faith doesn't mean you suddenly feel brave. Often, it means you act in obedience while your emotions catch up later.

Faith says: "God is with me, even here."

"I may not see the outcome, but I trust the One who does."

"I will move forward, even if it's just one small step."

Shifting Your Focus

One of the most practical ways to choose faith over fear is to change where your attention rests. Fear looks at the storm.

Faith looks at the One who calms it.

When your mind starts racing with worry, gently bring it back to truth. Reflect on God's past faithfulness. Remember times you were carried through challenges you thought you wouldn't survive. Faith grows stronger when it's fed with remembrance and truth.

Courage in Small Steps

Choosing faith doesn't always mean making a huge leap. Often, it looks like small, consistent decisions:

Speaking hope instead of doubt

Praying instead of panicking

Taking the next step instead of staying stuck

Trusting God with today instead of trying to control tomorrow

Each small act of faith weakens fear's grip.

You're Not Walking Alone

One of the most powerful truths in the Christian life is that you are never alone. God's presence isn't dependent on your strength or your confidence. He is with you in the uncertainty, in the waiting, and even in the moments when your faith feels fragile.

Isaiah 41:10 reminds us: "Do not fear, for I am with you... I will strengthen you and help you." That promise doesn't remove every challenge—but it gives you something stronger than fear: it gives you assurance.

Living It Out Daily

Choosing faith over fear is not a one-time decision—it's a daily posture. Some days it feels natural; other days it takes everything you have. But every time you choose to trust God, you are building a life rooted in something unshakable.

So when fear rises—and it will—pause and ask: What would faith do right now?"

Then take that step. Not perfectly. Not fearlessly. But faithfully.

The Bible is full of moments where people had every reason to be afraid—but chose to trust God instead. Here are some powerful examples that bring that theme to life. Whilst our circumstances will certainly be different we can use their examples as encouragement in our own lives.

1. David vs. Goliath (1 Samuel 17)

David faced a giant warrior with nothing but a sling and deep confidence in God. While everyone else saw danger, David saw God's power. His faith reframed the situation: "The battle is the Lord's." *Your giant may be a health, relationship or other life issue.*

2. Moses at the Red Sea (Exodus 14)

Trapped between Pharaoh's army and the sea, fear spread quickly among the Israelites. Moses responded with calm faith: "Do not be afraid. Stand firm..." God then made a way where none seemed possible. *Do you feel trapped at times? Unable to know which way to turn?*

3. Joshua entering the Promised Land (Joshua 1)

Taking over leadership after Moses could have been overwhelming. God repeatedly told Joshua, "Be strong and courageous... do not be afraid." Joshua moved forward in obedience despite uncertainty. *Do you find it hard to take important steps forward?*

4. Daniel in the lions' den (Daniel 6)

Daniel continued praying to God even when it became illegal. His faith didn't eliminate danger—but it positioned him for God's protection in the middle of it. *Do you feel it hard to share your faith fearing the consequences?*

5. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the fiery furnace (Daniel 3)

They refused to bow to an idol, even under threat of death. Their response shows mature faith: God can save them—but even if He doesn't, they will still trust Him. *Our culture has many idols that seem easier to look up to than God but only God can save you when you call on Him.*

6. Peter walking on water (Matthew 14:22–33)

Peter stepped out of the boat in faith. Fear only took over when he shifted focus from Jesus to the storm. *Faith requires ongoing trust, not just a single decision.*

7. Mary accepting God's plan (Luke 1)

Faced with confusion and potential social consequences, Mary responded with surrender: "I am the Lord's servant." Her faith embraced the unknown. *The unknown can be extremely scary but knowing you don't have to face it alone can make all the difference.*

Bev Miatke
Client Assessment Manager

CHRISTIAN ENCOURAGEMENT

Why Are We Afraid?

"Why are you fearful? O you of little faith."
Matthew 8:26

You would have liked my brother. Everyone did. Dee made friends like bakers make bread: daily, easily, warmly. Handshake—big and eager; laughter—contagious and volcanic. He permitted no stranger to remain one for long. I, the shy younger brother, relied on him to make introductions for us both. When a new kid moved onto the street or walked onto the playground, Dee was the ambassador.

But in his mid-teen years, he made one acquaintance he should have avoided—a bootlegger who would sell beer to underage drinkers. Alcohol made a play for us both, but where it entwined me, it enchained him. Over the next four decades, my brother drank away health, relationships, jobs, money, and all but the last two years of his life.

Who can say why resolve sometimes wins and sometimes loses, but at the age of fifty-four my brother enjoyed a season of sobriety. He emptied his bottles, stabilized his marriage, reached out to his children, and exchanged the liquor store for the local AA. But the hard living had taken its toll. Three decades of smoking three-packs-a-day had turned his big heart into ground meat.

On a January night during the week he told Donna, his wife, that he couldn't breathe well. He already had a doctor's appointment for a related concern, so he decided to try to sleep. No luck. He awoke at 4:00 a.m. with chest pains severe

enough to warrant a call to the emergency room. The rescue team loaded Dee on the gurney and told Donna to meet them at the hospital. My brother waved weakly and smiled bravely and told Donna not to worry, but by the time she and one of Dee's sons reached the hospital, he was gone.

The attending physician told them the news and invited them to step into the room where Dee's body lay. Holding each other, they walked through the doors and saw his final message. His hand was resting on the top of his thigh with the two centre fingers folded in and thumb extended, the universal sign language symbol of "I love you." I've tried to envision the final moments of my brother's earthly life: racing down a Texas highway in an ambulance through an inky night, paramedics buzzing around him, his heart weakening within him. Struggling for each breath, at some point he realized only a few remained. But he didn't panic or cower, he quarried some courage.

Perhaps you could use some? I know I could. An ambulance isn't the only ride that demands valour. You may not be down to your final heartbeat, but you may be down to your last paycheck, solution, or thimble of faith. Each sunrise seems to bring fresh reasons for fear.

They're talking layoffs at work, slowdowns in the economy, flare-ups in the Middle East, turnovers at headquarters, downturns in the housing market, upswings in global warming, breakouts of Al

Qaeda cells. Some demented dictator is collecting nuclear warheads like others collect fine wines. A strain of Asian flu is boarding flights out of China. The plague of our day, terrorism, begins with the word terror.

We fear being sued, finishing last, going broke; we fear the mole on the back, the new kid on the block, the sound of the clock as it ticks us closer to the grave. We finetune investment plans, create elaborate security systems, and stronger military; yet we depend on mood-altering drugs more than any



generation in history. Moreover, "the average child today ... has the same level of anxiety as the average psychiatric patient in the 1950s."

Imagine your life, wholly untouched by anxiety. What if faith, not fear, was your default reaction to threats? If you could hover a fear magnet over your heart and extract every last shaving of dread, insecurity, or doubt, what would remain? Envision a day, just one day, without the dread of failure, rejection, or calamity. Can you imagine a life with no fear? This is the possibility behind Jesus' question.

"Why are you afraid?" he asks.

At first blush we wonder if Jesus is serious. He may be kidding. Teasing. Kind of like one swimmer asking another, "Why are you wet?" But Jesus doesn't smile. He's dead earnest. So are the men to whom he asks the question. A storm has turned their Galilean dinner cruise into a white-knuckled plunge.

Sudden fear. We know the fear was sudden because the storm was. An older translation reads, "Suddenly a great tempest arose on the sea" (NKJV). Not all storms come suddenly.

Christ-followers contract malaria, bury children, and battle addictions, and, as a result, face fears. It's not the absence of storms that sets us apart. It's whom we discover in the storm: an unstirred Christ.

"Jesus was sleeping" (vs. 24 NCV).

Now there's a scene. The disciples scream, Jesus dreams. Thunder roars, Jesus snores. He doesn't doze, catnap, or rest. He slumbers. Who could sleep at a time like this? Could you? Could you snooze during a roller coaster loop-de-loop? In a wind tunnel? At a kettle drum concert? Jesus slept through all three, at once! Mark's gospel adds two curious details. "[Jesus] was in the stern, asleep on a pillow" (Mk. 4:38). In a stern, on a pillow. Why the first? From whence came the second?

First-century fishermen used large, heavy seine nets for their work. They stored the net in a nook that was built into the stern for this purpose. Sleeping upon the stern deck was impractical. It provided no space or protection. The small compartment beneath the stern, however, provided both. It was the most enclosed and only protected part of the boat. So Christ, a bit dozy from the day's activities, crawled beneath the deck to get some sleep.

He rested his head, not on a fluffy feather pillow, but on a leather sandbag. A ballast bag. Mediterranean fishermen still use them. They weigh about a hundred pounds and are used to ballast, or stabilize, the boat. Did Jesus take the pillow to the stern so he could sleep, or sleep so soundly

someone rustled him up the pillow? We don't know. But this much we do. This is a premeditated slumber. He didn't accidentally nod off. In full knowledge of the coming storm, Jesus decided it was siesta time, so he crawled into the corner, put his head on the pillow, and drifted into dreamland. His snooze troubled the disciples. Matthew and Mark record their response as three staccato Greek commands and one question. The commands: "Lord! Save! Dying!" (Mt. 8:25).

The question: "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" (Mk. 4:39).

They do not ask about Jesus' strength: "Can you still the storm?" His knowledge: "Are you aware of the storm?" Or his know-how: "Do you have any experience with storms?" But rather, they raise doubts about Jesus' character. "Do you not care...?"

Fear does this. Fear corrodes our confidence in God's goodness. We begin to wonder if love lives in heaven. If God can sleep in my storms, if his eyes

stay shut when my eyes grow wide, if he permits storms after I get on his boat, does he care? Fear unleashes a swarm of doubts, anger-stirring doubts.

And it turns us into control freaks. "Do something about the storm!" is the implicit demand of the question. "Fix it, or...or...or, else!" Fear, at its centre, is a perceived loss of control.

When life spins wildly, we grab for a

component of life we can manage: our diet, the tidiness of a house, the armrest of a plane, or, in many cases, people. The more insecure we feel, the meaner we become. We growl and bare our fangs. Why? Because we are bad? In part. But also because we feel cornered.

It also deadens our recall. The disciples had reason to trust Jesus. By now, they'd seen him "heal all kinds of sicknesses and all kinds of disease among the people" (Mt. 4:23). They had witnessed him heal a leper with a touch and a servant with a command (Mt. 8:3, 13). Peter saw his sick mother-in-law recover, and they all saw demons scatter like bats out of a cave. "He cast out spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick" (Mt. 8:16).

Shouldn't someone mention Jesus' track record or review his resume? Do they remember the accomplishments of Christ? They may not. Fear creates a form of spiritual amnesia. It dulls our miracle memory. It makes us forget what Jesus has done and how good God is.

And fear feels dreadful. It sucks the life out of the soul, curls us into an embryonic state, and drains us dry of contentment. We become abandoned barns, rickety and tilting from the winds, a place

Fear corrodes our confidence in God's goodness.

where humanity used to eat, thrive, and find warmth. No longer. When fear shapes our lives, safety becomes our god. The worship of safety emasculates greatness. No wonder Jesus wages such a war against fear.

His most common command emerges from the "fear not" genre. The gospels list some 125 Christ-issued imperatives. Of these, twenty-one urge us to "not be afraid" or to "not fear" or to "have courage," "take heart," or "be of good cheer." The second most common command appears on eight occasions. If quantity is any indicator, Jesus takes our fears seriously. The one statement he said more than any other was this: Don't be afraid. To be clear, fear serves a healthy function. It is the canary in the coal mine: warning of potential danger. A dose of fright can keep a child from running across a busy road or an adult from smoking a pack of cigarettes. Fear is the appropriate reaction to a burning building or growling dog. Fear itself is not a sin. But it can lead to sin.

If we treat fear with angry outbursts, drinking binges, sullen withdrawals, self-starvation, or vice-like control, we exclude God from the solution and exacerbate the problem. We subject ourselves to a position of fear, allowing anxiety to dominate and define our lives. Joy-sapping worries. Day-numbing dread. Repeated bouts with insecurity that petrify and paralyze us. Hysteria is not from God. "For God has not given us a spirit of fear..." (2 Tim. 1:7 NKJV emphasis mine).

Fear will always knock on your door. Just don't invite it in for dinner and, for heaven's sake, don't offer it a bed for the night. Fear may fill your world, but it doesn't have to fill your heart. You can fear less tomorrow than you do today.

When I was six years old, my dad let me stay up with the rest of the family and watch the movie Wolfman. Boy, did he regret that decision. The film left me convinced that Wolfman spent each night prowling our house awaiting his preferred meal of first grade, red-headed, freckle-faced boy. My fear proved problematic. To reach the kitchen from my bedroom, I had to pass perilously close to his claws and fangs, something I was loathe to do. More than once, I retreated to my father's bedroom and woke him. Like Jesus in the boat, Dad was sound asleep in the storm.

How can a person sleep at a time like this? Opening a sleepy eye, he asked to be reminded, "Now, why are you afraid?" And I would remind him of the monster. "Oh, yes, the Wolfman," he'd grumble. He would then climb out of bed, arm himself with superhuman courage, escort me through the valley of the shadow of death, and pour me a glass of milk. I would look at him with awe and wonder, "What kind of man is this?"

God views our "seismos" storms the way my father viewed my Wolfman angst. "Jesus got up and gave a command to the wind and the waves and it became completely calm" (vs. 26).

He handled the great quaking with a great calming. The sea became as still as a frozen lake, and the disciples were left wondering, "What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!" (vs. 27).

What kind of man, indeed. Turning typhoon time into naptime. Silencing waves with one word. And equipping a dying man with sufficient courage to send a final love message to his family. Way to go, Dee. You faced your share of "seimos" moments in life, but in the end, you didn't go under.

From Fearless

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CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2025



Left & below:
Hampers being packed
by volunteers in the
back room behind the
Lutheran Church.
Right: Each hamper
receives an individually
made Christmas card
made the PJ Inkers team
and also this note from
the volunteers of the
Centre.



Below: Volunteers Ian Walter and Marylou Spehr
at the end of assembly line putting in the final
elements and taping up the hamper



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2025

509

Christmas Hampers
packed and
distributed

Hampers are available to individuals who have been clients throughout the year, as well as to partner welfare agencies placing orders on behalf of their own clients. Orders are accepted during November. Each hamper contains the same standard items, with large and very large families receiving 2 or 3 hampers to meet their needs.



Below: Manager John Spehr moving packed hampers from the assembly room to the stacking area ready for agency pick-up.

Hamper Ingredients
450g can Ham
Canned Corn
Canned Peas
Canned Beetroot
Canned Tomatoes
Canned Fruit Salad
Christmas Pudding
Christmas Cake
Pkt Sweet Biscuits
Pkt Dry Biscuits
1lt of Cordial
1lt Long Life Custard
Jelly
Lollies
Christmas treats



OTHER ORGANISATIONS ORDERING HAMPERS FOR THEIR CLIENTS
Connect Ed (Horsham College)
DCIRS Donald
Edenhope Wellbeing Hub
Goolum Goolum Horsham
Goroke Community Health Centre
Grampians Area Mental Health Services
Minyip/Murtoa/Rupanyup (c/- M Tepper)
Orange Door
Rural Financial Counselling Service
Rural North West Health
Salvation Army
Uniting Wimmera
West Wimmera Shire Council
Williams Family Trust (St Arnaud)

Localities given more than 10 Christmas hampers	2025
Horsham	267
Warracknabeal	29
Stawell	20
Donald	19
Nhill	19
Jeparit	16
Dimboola	15
Murtoa	14
Minyip	13

CHRISTMAS HAMPER PROJECT 2025

This Christmas Hamper has been made available thanks to kind donations from the **Horsham Rural City Council**, **WIM Resource** & **The William Angliss Charitable Fund** in conjunction with the management & volunteers of the **Christian Emergency Food Centre of Horsham** and various generous community members and supporters



HIGHLIGHTS 2025-26



Right & far right: Bev Miatke as guest speaker at the Rural Financial Counselling seminar introducing what we do at the Food Centre to representatives of financial institutions dealing with farming families and agricultural concerns in our region. RFCS workers use our services to help their clients throughout the district. Talks are given throughout the year for many local community groups and service clubs throughout the district.

Right, Centre & Above: St Patricks Catholic Primary School Nhill Giving Mass donations with Principal Kingsley Dalglish (above right)



Left: Learning new skills can be fun. Workers Kyle and Peter together with Disability Support worker No Mi. Right: Peter and Kyle with Bev Miatke at the end of their shift.



Left: In December each year Share the Dignity 'Its in the bag' Drive drop off ladies, teens and Mum's n' bubs bags to hand out with our Christmas hamper campaign. Each bag is filled with toiletries and special items



Right: Year 7's from Wimmera Lutheran College visit to learn about Community Work.

Right: Thanks to a recommendation from Una Sosta Espresso Bar we were the recipient of a \$1,200 Streetsmart Grant

HAPPY!



WE JUST RECEIVED A COMMUNITY GRANT FROM STREETSMART



Left: Sasak Laksa House with their Teddy money box for donations to the Food Centre

HIGHLIGHTS 2025-26

Reverse Advent Boxes



Left: St Brigid's College students Sharon Tholath, Sophie McEldrew, Archie Hausler and Eamon Kelly with a Christmas tree of donated food for Wimmera Christian Emergency Food Centre through the Horsham Sports and Community Club's reverse advent calendar project.

HSCC
Horsham Sports & Community Club
THE WEEKLY ADVERTISER
ACE RADIO

501

A heartfelt thank you, once again, to the Horsham Sports & Community Club, The Weekly Advertiser, and Ace Radio for coming together to support those in need this past Christmas. HSCC generously provided specially printed boxes, the Food Centre compiled the list of items to be included, and The Weekly Advertiser and Ace Radio helped spread the word through advertising.

Schools, businesses, families, and individuals all took part by filling the boxes and delivering them to the Sports Club. HSCC staff tracked the donations and transported the boxes to the Food Centre for distribution to clients.

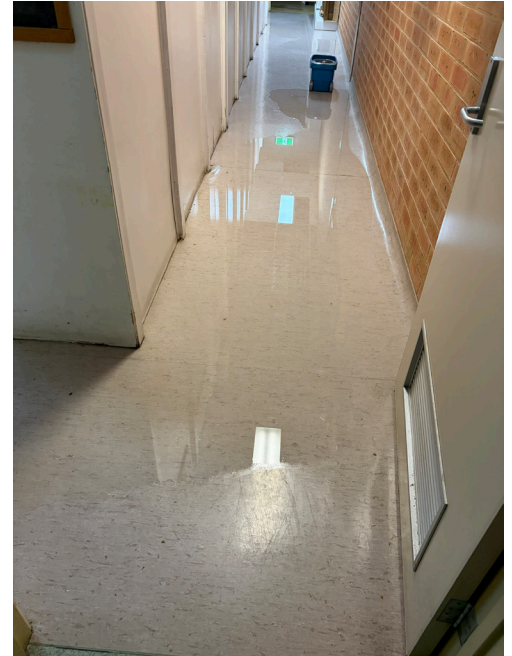
There were many inspiring stories of people uniting to fill as many boxes as they could. Altogether, 501 boxes were donated—a truly incredible effort by the entire community! These donations not only saved the Centre money by providing essential food items but also saved valuable time, as only perishable goods needed to be added before distribution directly to clients.

Above & BELOW: Staff from the Food Centre and HSCC celebrate another successful year of the Reverse Advent Project.
Below far right: HSCC staff were able to make use of the van they supplied to the Food Centre to transport the RA boxes from the club to the Centre.



HIGHLIGHTS 2025-26

When Storms Come



On Friday February 27, 2026, a widespread, slow-moving weather system and severe thunderstorms swept across the Wimmera and surrounding districts. The Bureau of Meteorology issued warnings for intense heavy rainfall and potential flash flooding, significantly impacting the Horsham region. Following this warning nearly 100mm fell in 24 hours with 42mm of that in only 30 minutes during the evening. Next morning it was discovered that the Food Room hallway floor was flooded and several of the ceiling tiles lay soggy and shattered on the floor.

The mop and bucket got a lot of use that weekend with more rain still coming down over the whole weekend.

A call to the SES ensured all the remaining water-soaked ceiling tiles got pulled down before they fell on someone and they also helped take everything off the shelves that weren't in glass or plastic containers and therefore at risk of getting damaged.

Our insurance company were very helpful and organised roof and building inspections to find the cause of the problem and eventually came through with the funds to restore the damaged lino flooring and replace the wooden shelving. At the time of writing this report this is all still to

be put into action as the lack of local tradies have made it very hard to even get quotes.

It was discovered that the problem with the roof happened because of a build up of leaves in the guttering and also revealed that even though this was the newest section of the entire roof it was no longer up to current building standards which now needs to be rectified as well.



HIGHLIGHTS 2025-26

Funding Challenges



Above: Volunteers Fiona Schneider, Lorraine Baker, Sandra Taylor and Ian Clough show Weekly Advertiser readers that we are still open for business even though our funding had been cut.

In the past the Christian Emergency Food Centre has been partially funded by an annual Federal Government grant from the Department of Social Services for approximately \$80,000 pa. This grant was applied for on a 5-year basis with a new application submitted in early 2026.

Over more recent times we also received an additional amount of money from Uniting Wimmera who received grant money to feed people around the Wimmera whereas our grant was to feed people within the Horsham Rural City Council boundaries. Uniting Wimmera therefore paid us to supply the food and other emergency welfare costs for clients living outside Horsham for which we billed them with the annual amount coming to a similar amount as our grant.

Unfortunately we were unsuccessful with our application and so were Uniting Wimmera meaning we were down just over \$160,000 pa. The Committee of Management however, decided to continue on, in faith, and with much prayer, and help from our local Federal Member Dr. Anne Webster, we were eventually told we would get some partial funding back to the tune of \$60,000pa. until 2030.

Member for Mallee Anne Webster confirmed the future funding amount following advocacy work to Social Services Minister Tanya Plibersek. "They were going to have their funding cut and that's just untenable ... it's just extraordinary," Dr Webster said. She said there could also be additional funding – \$15,000 for being in bushfire-affected zone – and Uniting Vic Tas could also have some funding restored.

Praise God for his provision! The additional \$15,000 did also come through and recently, Uniting Wimmera, found they could at least contribute \$30,000 toward the cost of food and services provided to those out of Horsham meaning that, whilst we're not quite back to the same level of funding that we were, things have certainly improved considerably.



Left: Dr Anne Webster, Federal Member for Mallee with Client Assessment Manager Bev Miatke. Dr Anne came to the Food Centre to announce the re-instatement of some of our Federal funding thanks to her advocacy with DSS.

SECOND BITE

**Second
Bite**



FareShare



SecondBite is a national food relief charity, ensuring good food doesn't go to waste while people go hungry. For more than 20 years, they have rescued surplus food from growers, manufacturers and retailers, distributing it freely to charities and community groups across Australia — turning what's wasted into what's needed. Each weekday the Food Centre has someone who picks up from Coles Horsham. Coles Supermarkets are a major food partner of SecondBite - because everyone deserves access to good food.

Since 2024, **SecondBite and FareShare** have come together as one organisation to deliver more food relief across Australia. Through their nationwide food rescue network, they provide fresh produce and pantry staples to charities and community groups — and where ingredients need to be transformed into nutritious, ready-to-eat meals, their FareShare kitchens provide that capability. This end-to-end approach means people get the food they need, in the way they need it. Together, they feed more than 700,000 Australians every week.



SecondBite was founded by Ian and Simone Carson AM in 2005 when they noticed the amount of good quality food being thrown out at their local market in Prahran, Melbourne, and decided to do something about it. They gathered friends and family and collected produce in their cars to deliver to a local food charity.

Initially they were collecting around 600kg of food, equivalent to approximately 1200 meals, from the market and two restaurants. Today, SecondBite has provided the equivalent of over 350 million meals to our charity partners across the country.

Ian and Simone firmly believe all Australians should have access to healthy food no matter where they live or what their circumstances, and are proud to be part of the conversation and solution for how many people regularly face food insecurity.



Rescued
25.2m
kgs of surplus food



Operated 40 vehicles
with a capacity of
150,000kg



Supported
1022
charity partners



Provided the
equivalent of
50.4m
meals



Received
food from
313
donors

FOODBANK

Healthy Food for all. Right across Victoria.

This year marked Foodbank Victoria's 95th year providing food to Victorians who need them most. Back in 1930, the State Government established the State Relief Committee, providing for the many Victorians who were hit hard by the Great Depression. Since then, they've supported individuals and families through it all – from everyday emergencies, bushfires, pandemics, floods, and ongoing cost-of-living pressures, they're here to help Victorians get the food and essentials they need.

By working with organisations across the food and grocery sector – from farmers right through to retailers – they've been able to distribute over 25 million meals in the last 12 months, and are currently feeding 69,000 Victorians every single day.

They believe that all Victorians should have regular access to healthy and culturally appropriate food. Their food purchasing program is rapidly expanding to help them feed the growing number of people who need their support.



Charities

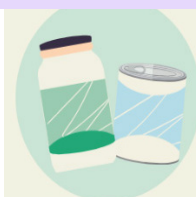
School Breakfast Clubs

Food Programs

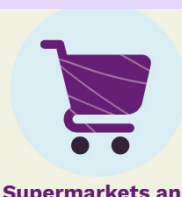
Community Food Centres



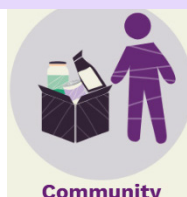
Feeding people doing it tough, right across Victoria.



Manufacturers



Supermarkets and
retailers



Community
donations



Farmers and
growers

THE STORY SO FAR

We've been feeding Victoria for 95 years, providing 70% of the state's food relief

THE BIG REASON WHY

More than 1 in 3 Victorian households can't afford the food they need right now

WHO WE HELP

We're feeding 76,000 people in need every single day, right across Victoria

HOW WE MAKE IT HAPPEN

Our programs are running in 1,200+ schools and nearly 500 charities across the state.

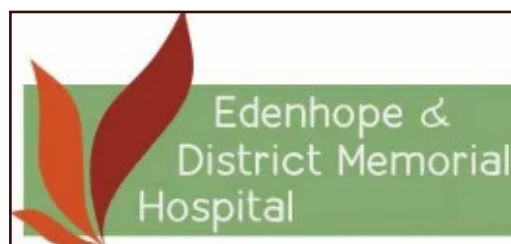
REGIONAL WELFARE NETWORK

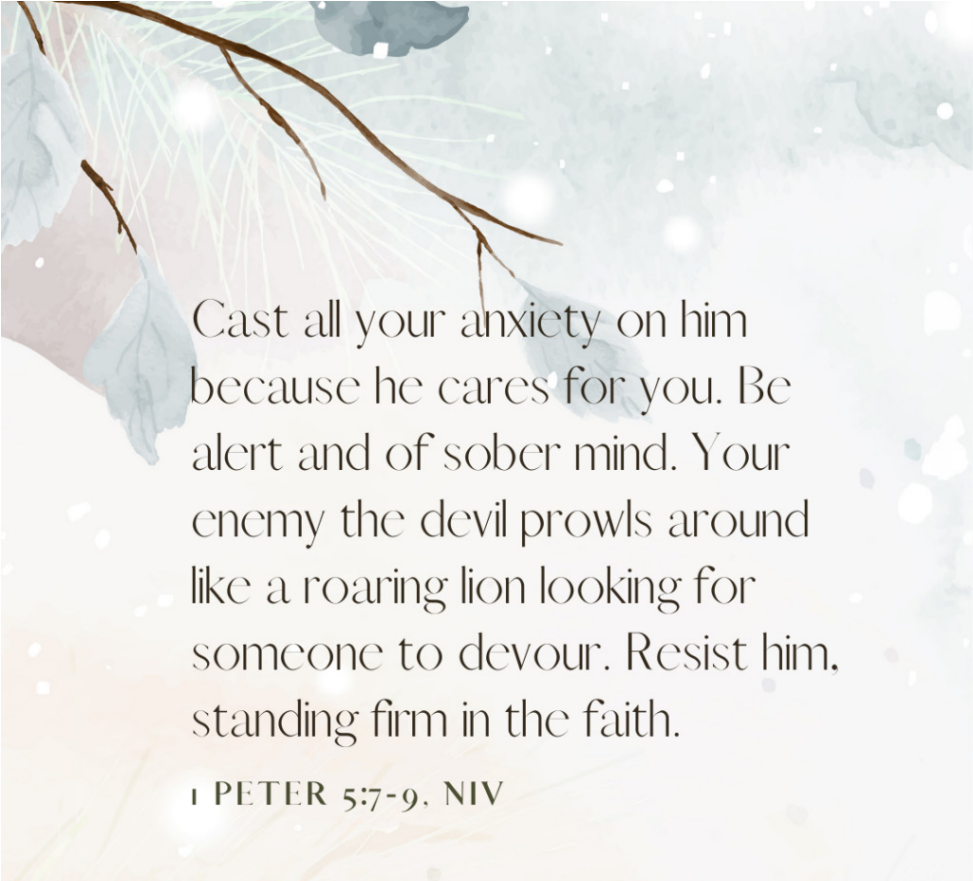


Working together with other agencies across our region is essential to providing a well-rounded approach to client support. Each organisation has its own area of expertise, and by referring clients to and from one another, we help ensure the best possible outcomes for those in need.

Areas of care include:

- provision of food
- financial services
- accommodation
- household goods
- counselling
- mental health services
- domestic violence services and
- general community services.





Cast all your anxiety on him
because he cares for you. Be
alert and of sober mind. Your
enemy the devil prowls around
like a roaring lion looking for
someone to devour. Resist him,
standing firm in the faith.

1 PETER 5:7-9, NIV

IN MEMORIAM



**HAEBICH
(nee Jenkins),
Denise Kaye**

*Passed away peacefully at
home on January 25, 2026
aged 76 years.*

Dearly loved wife of
Michael.

Loving mother and mother-
in-law of Dennis; Michelle
& Dave.

Adored Gran to Elise and
Oscar.

"Always"



1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 NIV

"Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be un-informed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him."

TREASURER'S REPORT

LES WARRICK

It is a privilege to be able to present to this meeting a very positive financial report.

This is largely due to the very caring and generous community made up of individuals, churches, community group, local businesses, FoodBank Victoria and government funding.

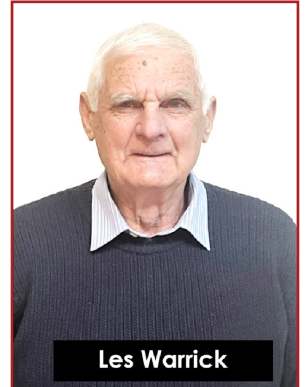
The financial reports record a strong profit for the 2025-2026 year despite some concern during the year in regard to ongoing government funding.

One area of funding I wish to bring to your attention is the value of Donations in Kind of \$406,111. This is the value attributed to the goods donated on a daily basis to the CEFC and equates to over \$1,500 for each day the Food Centre opened during 2025-2026.

I invite you to see the pie graphs included on the next page in this Annual Report to appreciate the source of funding and range of costs incurred by CEFC.

I praise God for the opportunity to be part of this incredible facility which God has provided in order to ensure His people are cared for.

Les Warrick
Treasurer



List of Members 2025-2026

Aisbett, Jan	Ellis, Audrey	Jones, Judith	Miatke, Bev	Spehr, John
Arthur, Margaret	Eyles, Kay	Judd, Lester	Neumann, Barry	Spehr, Marylou
Baker, Lorraine	Farr, Sue	Keyte, Noel	Neumann, Julie	Taylor, Rosie
Baviello, Michael	Gordon, Joan	Keyte, Pauline	Peake, George	Taylor, Sandra
Berendsen, Dan	Grace, Helen	Kuehne, Gladys	Pietsch, Carmel	Tepper, Maxine
Bethune, Rodger	Hair, Shirley	Lane, Anne	Pietsch, John	Walsh, Terry
Bryan, Judy	Harberger, Sandra	Linke, Cheryl	Rethus, Pam	Walter, Ian
Clough, Ian	Hateley, Ella	Mahony, Anne	Rudolph, Brian	Walter, Joy A
Clough, Wendy	Hawker, Bev	Mahony, Dan	Salter, Pauline	Walter Stanley
Coffey, Rhonda	Heinrich, Betty	May, Dennis	Schneider, Fiona	Warrick, Les
Combe, Jean	Heinrich, Garry	MacKenzie, Denise	Schuller, Lesley	Warrick, Mavis
Conn, Libby	Hender, Rhonda	McDonald, Kevin	Schuller, Rod	Webb, Florence
Cook, Diane	Hormann, Hans	McDonald, Carol	Smith, Jenni	Werner, Bernice
Cook, Don	Hutchinson, Lynda	McNee, Sandra	Smith, Jenny G	Williams, Denise
Cramer, Jill	Jende, Pam	Meadows, Sue	Smith, Ryan	Williams, John
Dale, Lynne	Jenkinson, Noelene	Mewburn, Margaret	Smith, Wilma	Williams, Laurie

PROFIT & LOSS

Christian Emergency Food Centre Inc. ABN 79 590 217 561
1 July 2025—30 June 2026

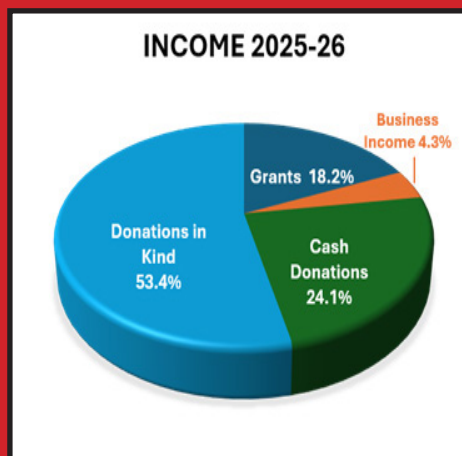
INCOME	2025-26	2024-25	EXPENSES	2025-26	2024-25
Grants	\$	\$	Client Support Expenses	\$	\$
Dept. Social Services	86,884	82,011	Accommodation-Rent	4,417	9,587
Uniting Wimmera	48,684	85,237	Utilities	7,315	10,766
DHHS Travel refunds	1,625	1,381	Medical	7,341	6,782
TOTAL GRANTS	137,193	168,629	Education	-	180
			Travel	6,085	10,170
Cash Donations			Groceries	61,807	86,481
Hsm. Rural City Council	-	5,490	Fruit and Vegetables	6,343	6,033
Magistrates Court	-	2,200	Toiletries	13,371	17,023
Tax Deductible Donations	85,173	92,558	Consumables	1,954	1,959
Christmas Hampers	18,090	12,200	Christmas Hampers	35,036	25,539
Churches and Clubs	51,879	26,636	Appliances	-	447
General Public	28,229	16,601	Food Box Freight	232	586
HSCC Special Purpose	-	50,000	Donated Goods Used	406,111	362,006
TOTAL CASH DONATIONS	183,371	205,685	TOTAL CLIENT SUPPORT	550,013	537,558
			Office & Administration	12,604	11,662
Business Income			Building Repairs & Maint.	7,923	8,181
Memberships	390	365	Insurance	7,622	6,336
Interest Earned	32,788	32,393	Utilities	8,856	8,419
TOTAL BUSINESS INCOME	33,178	32,758	Volunteer Staff Costs	7,541	10,216
			Minor Equip & Depr.	421	14,316
Donations in Kind	406,111	362,006	Wages & Payroll	90,209	78,103
			Depreciation Exp. Acc	9,893	-8,144
Movement in closing produce	17,578	1,794	Vehicle Running Costs	1,126	1,404
TOTAL INCOME	777,430	767,283	TOTAL EXPENSES	691,008	662,052
			NET EARNINGS	86,422	105,230

BALANCE SHEET

Christian Emergency Food Centre Inc. ABN 79 590 217 561
1 July 2025—30 June 2026

CURRENT ASSETS	2025-26	2024-25		LIABILITIES & EQUITY	2025-26	2024-25
	\$	\$			\$	\$
Grant Account	19,014	22,593		Accounts Payable	-	-
Capital Growth Acc.	172,438	51,487		PAYG Withholding Payable	-	-
Society Debit Acc.	2,357	1,476		Superannuation Payable	-	-310
Future Building Fund	681,475	670,000		Long Service Leave	24,396	17,982
CBA Term Deposit 3	50,000	50,000		Annual Leave	12,476	14,099
Petty Cash	126	76		GST Liabilities	-155	-
Produce Stock	45,681	28,034		ATO Clearing Account	4,048	672
Prepayments	4,003	4,449		Insurance Received in Advance	43,458	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	975,094	828,115		TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	84,223	32,443
<u>Long Term Assets</u>						
Equipment & Furniture	108,348	107,232		Retained Earnings	1,489,470	1,384,240
28 Firebrace Street	650,001	650,001		Plus Net Income	86,423	105,230
Depr. Plant & Equip	-73,328	-63,434		TOTAL EQUITY	1,575,893	1,489,470
TOTAL LONG-TERM ASSETS	685,021	693,799				
TOTAL ASSETS	1,660,116	1,521,914		TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,660,116	1,521,914

INCOME & EXPENSES 2025-26



AUDITOR REPORT



INDEPENDENT ASSURANCE PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW REPORT

To the Committee of Management of Christian Emergency Centre Inc,

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Christian Emergency Centre Inc, which comprise the income & expenditure statement, the balance sheet as at 30 June 2026, statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2026, notes to financial statements, Certificate by Members of the Committee, Statement by Members of the Committee and Depreciation Report for the year ended 30 June 2026.

Management's responsibility for the financial statements

The Committee of Management of the Christian Emergency Centre Inc are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the annual financial report in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act (Cth) 2012 and for such internal control as the Committee of Management determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the annual financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Assurance practitioner's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the annual financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2410 Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial report is not presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act (Cth) 2012. As the auditor of Christian Emergency Centre Inc, ASRE 2410 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the audit of the annual financial report.

A review of the annual financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Qualified Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the annual financial report of Christian Emergency Centre Inc does not give a true and fair view of the Christian Emergency Centre Inc's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year ended on that date in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards as noted in note 1.

Horsham: 44 Wilson Street (PO Box 118), Horsham VIC 3400 03 5382 3001
Ararat: 70 Vincent Street (PO Box 239), Ararat VIC 3377 03 5352 4738
Stawell: 142 Main Street, Stawell VIC 3388 03 5358 5066
mail@wattsprice.com.au www.wattsprice.com.au ABN 40 876 591185

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Watts Price
Accountants
is a CPA Practice



BUILDING YOUR FUTURE!

AUDITOR REPORT

Basis for qualified conclusion

The association receives part of its revenue in cash donations. It is not possible to review cash receipts until the point of receipting and banking. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding Cash admissions revenue from this source was limited, our audit procedures with respect to cash admissions had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We therefore are unable to conclude whether the recorded cash donations of Christian Emergency Centre Inc are complete.

Basis of accounting, and restriction on distribution and use

Without modifying our conclusion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared to assist Christian Emergency Centre Inc to comply with the financial reporting provisions. As a result, the financial statements may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for Christian Emergency Centre Inc and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than Christian Emergency Centre Inc.

Yours faithfully,



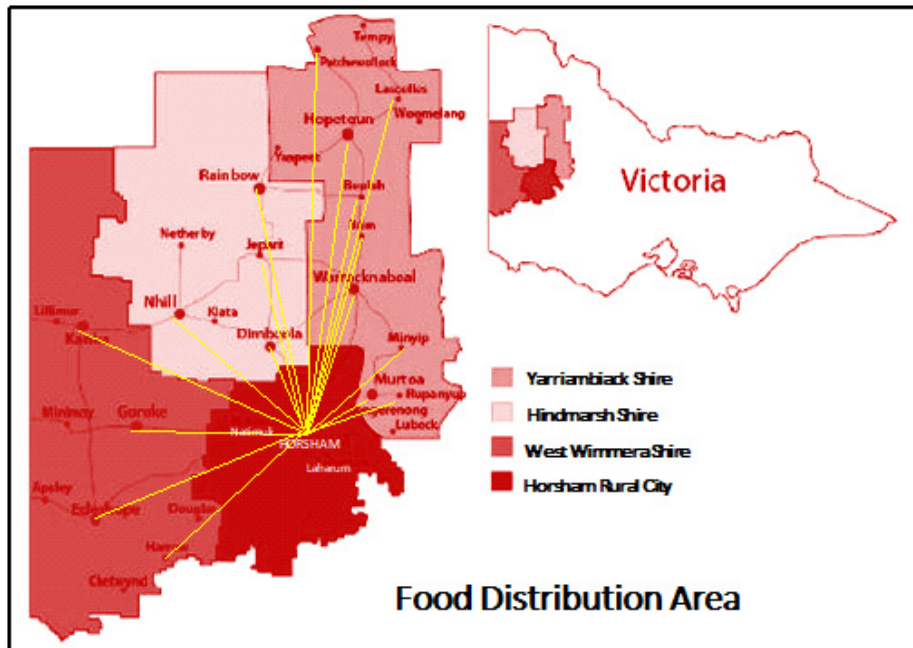
GABI FREIJAH, CPA

Director / Partner, Watts Price Accountants

21 August 2026

STATISTICS

During the 2025-2026 Financial Year ...



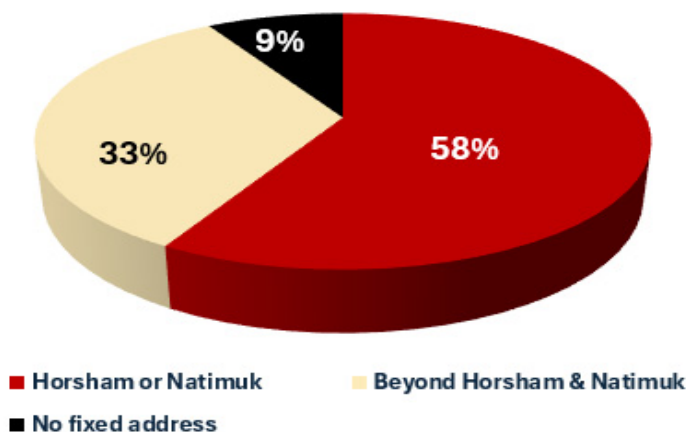
Food parcels may be ordered and delivered to each of these towns thanks to Caledonian Transport of Horsham who very generously deliver our parcels free of charge to a central delivery point in each town



285 orders for food parcels out of the Horsham area requiring delivery of **426** boxes of food packed and delivered around the distribution area.

COMPARISONS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
No. of orders	284	248	240	285
No. of boxes	451	384	372	426

WHERE DO OUR CLIENTS LIVE?



BOXES OF FOOD DELIVERED TO CLIENTS IN OTHER TOWNS

TOWN NAME (receiving more than 10 boxes pa.)	2025-26
Warracknabeal	183
Nhill	58
Birchip	43
Edenhope	37
Dimboola	18
Jeparit	17
Brim	12

COMPARISONS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
Horsham or Natimuk	1,567	1,881	1,848	1,741
Beyond Horsham & Natimuk	967	1,061	1,061	996
No fixed address	191 (7%)	222 (7%)	211 (7%)	256 (9%)

STATISTICS

During the 2025-2026 Financial Year ...

MONTH	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
July	233	260	251
August	249	266	209
September	265	263	241
October	302	248	239
November	278	281	279
December	140	205	205
January	332	279	252
February	272	241	246
March	261	255	271
April	289	237	260
May	272	288	278
June	266	256	262

Total Client Contacts per Month



MONTH	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
July	20	29	17
August	26	22	12
September	18	23	13
October	17	24	14
November	26	21	27
December	24	13	27
January	24	29	18
February	23	21	22
March	24	24	28
April	23	23	22
May	26	30	23
June	27	16	14

First Time Clients per Month



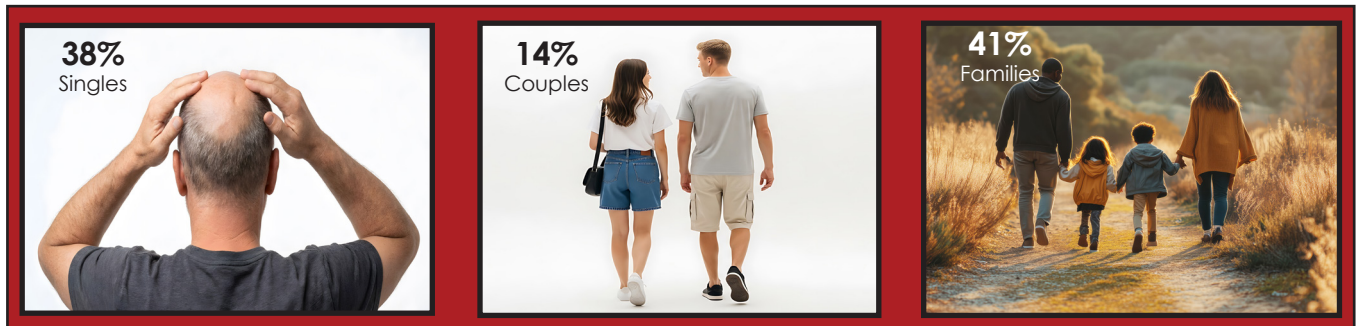
STATISTICS

During the 2025-2026 Financial Year ...

COMPARISONS	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
No. of days open	245	245	240	240	242	245
No. of contacts	1,693	2,127	2,721	3,159	3,078	2,993
No. of clients	616	737	867	952	936	876
No. of new clients	179	231	279	296	275	237
Average contacts per month	141	177	227	263	257	249
Average contacts per day	7	9	11	13	13	12
No. of contacts from Horsham/Natimuk	888	1,161	1,567	1,881	1,847	1,741
No. of contacts beyond Horsham/Natimuk	620	785	967	1,051	1,022	996
No. of contacts with no fixed address	185	181	187	217	209	256
Total adults in client households	886	1080	1,274	1,440	1,437	1,360
Total children in client households	605	712	819	886	849	804
Total people* in client households	1,491	1792	2,093	2,326	2,286	2,164

*NB "Total adults/children/people" refers to the size of the clients' household at the last contact

AGE COMPARISONS (No. of clients)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
13-17 years old	4	10	5	9	1	5
18-39 years old	270	290	377	404	379	366
40-64 years old	261	344	385	422	439	379
65 years old and over	50	65	83	92	104	106
Unknown	31	28	17	25	13	6



HOUSEHOLD COMPARISONS (No. of clients)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
1 Adult	237	283	341	373	372	332
1 Adult + Children	137	154	192	176	183	163
2 Adults	85	109	119	130	135	124
2 Adults + Children	101	119	133	165	147	148
3 Adults or more	35	26	36	36	33	41
3 Adults or more + children	25	26	35	51	56	50
Children only (less than 18yo)	2	8	3	4	0	2
Organisations	15	13	8	17	10	14

HORSHAM CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

ANGLICAN CHURCH

162 Baillie St Horsham | 5382 6633
Sunday Eucharist : 9.30am every
week 10.30am on the 5th Sunday

HARVEST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

17 Florence St Hsm. | 5382 0906
Family Service: 10.30am

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Cnr Urquhart & McLachlan Sts
5382 1155
Sunday Mass: 10.30am

CHURCH OF CHRIST

91 River Rd | 5382 3877
Sunday Worship: 10am

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Cnr McPherson & Baillie Sts
5382 1325
Sunday Worship: 9.30am

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

16 Kalkee Rd Horsham | 5382 3735
Sunday Worship: 10am

SALVATION ARMY

Cnr Kalkee Rd & Lynott Sts
5382 1770
Sunday Worship: 10am

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

123a Wilson St Horsham | 5382 6939
Saturday Worship: 11am

UNITING CHURCH

Cnr Urquhart & Pynsent Sts
5382 4380
9.00am: Traditional service
10.30am: Contemporary worship



Ephesians 4:15-16

"Speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."



Deuteronomy 31:6

“Be strong and of good courage,
do not fear nor be afraid;
for the Lord your God,
He is the One who goes with you.
He will not leave you nor forsake you.”