



## ELEVEN-YEAR-OLD RAISES MONEY FOR ANGLICARE

Eleven-year-old Jake has raised almost \$3,000 to buy swag beds for Anglicare Victoria's breakfast program for the homeless in Ballarat. Jake raised the funds by selling homemade Happiness Advent Calendars that feature happy quotes and jokes instead of chocolate.

Jake has always been concerned about people who are homeless and wanted to do something to help them out. "I've been given the gift of a home and a loving and caring family. Some people in the world don't really have that, so it means a lot to me that people who are homeless have somewhere to sleep," he said.

Jake's mum Emma said that from a very early age Jake was always wondering how he could help out. "We looked into volunteering at the local soup bus but volunteers have to be over 18. So the idea of our Happiness Advent Calendars was born. Jake has carefully chosen a selection of quotes that he hopes will make people smile and I have designed them up into cute little cards," Emma said.

Jake and Emma plan to continue selling their Happiness Advent Calendars this Christmas.

You can order yours here:  
[facebook.com/  
happinessadventcalendars](https://www.facebook.com/happinessadventcalendars)



The Anglicare Rental Affordability Snapshot has once again demonstrated that the most vulnerable in our community are locked out of the private rental market. The report found only 0.5% of rental properties listed in Victoria are suitable for a single parent on a family payment with a child under five. Meanwhile, single people on the minimum wage have access to just over 1% of rental properties on offer.

The annual snapshot, which assessed more than 14,000 private rental listings in Victoria, aimed to calculate the proportion of advertised rental properties that are both affordable and appropriate for different household types on the minimum wage, or on a Commonwealth income support payment or pension.

Anglicare Victoria CEO Paul McDonald said greater guaranteed pathways are needed for vulnerable individuals, to ensure they receive their right to secure affordable and appropriate housing.

"Whilst much of the debate centres on people's ability to purchase a home, more dramatic implications are on those who rent," said Mr McDonald.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



As we start to prepare for the colder months by priming our heaters and getting our warm clothes out, it is easy to forget that for many families, the impact of financial hardship hits hardest at winter. High utility bills and unexpected medical costs can be

a struggle for many of the clients that we help here at Anglicare Victoria. This is why the emergency relief and financial counselling services are even more important at this time of the year.

Words cannot express how grateful I am to you for your amazing support. Without you, none of this would be possible. Wishing you all a warm and safe winter.

**Paul McDonald**  
CEO Anglicare Victoria



## THANK YOU FOR GIVING DAVID A SECOND CHANCE

David was living with his partner and working full time in a warehouse when he started dabbling in drug use. He subsequently lost his job and broke up with his partner. David had nowhere to turn to and became homeless, sleeping on friend's couches and at one stage living in a friend's car in his driveway.

"I came to Anglicare Victoria after trying a few other places. It was my last chance," David said.

Thanks to the support of people like you, we were able to help David that Friday night. Our workers spent hours looking for emergency accommodation and paid for him to stay in a motel over the weekend. We organised for David to come back on Monday for further support, and provided him with food vouchers and referrals to other short-term housing agencies.

\* Names have been changed. David shared his story with Anglicare Victoria in March 2017.

## ANGLICARE VICTORIA'S 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

July 2017 marks the 20 year anniversary of the formation of Anglicare Victoria.

Anglicare Victoria was formed in 1997 following the amalgamation of three of the state's most experienced child and family welfare agencies: the Mission of St. James and St. John, St. John's Homes for Boys and Girls, and the Mission to the Streets and Lanes. **Keep an eye on our website for ways to celebrate this occasion.**



## BEHIND THE SCENES: STAFF PROFILE

Louise has been working for Anglicare Victoria for over eight years and is a Team Leader for Homeless Support Services.

### Can you tell us a little about your role with Anglicare Victoria?

I manage two homeless support service centres: The Lazarus Centre at St Peter's Eastern Hill and St Mark's Community Centre. I also oversee the emergency relief centre at Mission House in Fitzroy.

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

For me, it's more the little moments. It's when someone that comes to a breakfast and seems a bit rough and ready, suddenly gives you a hug and a kiss on the cheek and is so grateful for a meal. That's when you know what you are doing must be helping them, even a little bit.



Introducing Louise

### What do you wish other people knew about your work?

I think people don't understand homelessness, people are often surprised when they learn all that we do. The staff here often go above and beyond just to make a bit of a difference. People want to fit homelessness into a stereotype which does not often reflect the reality, there is a lot more to it than that. Many of these people have complex needs. There is no simple solution, we need to understand that these are fellow human beings who have a life and just need and want a bit of respect and love.

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

We really do make a difference, sometimes it's only small and sometimes can be bigger. We do it gently, carefully and respectfully. We encourage people to make good choices rather forcing it on them, which is important if long-term change is needed and not just a quick fix.

### Working in the space that you do, what sorts of trends do you see?

There is definitely more visible homelessness in the city now compared to previous years. Even in the last few weeks, I can see the additional number of people we serve every morning at the homeless breakfasts. I am not sure if there is more homelessness or just more obvious homelessness, but it is very noticeable.

### What do you do when you aren't working?

I spend time with my family, we are all into Scouting and I am a club leader. I also like to knit and enjoy relaxing by the seaside at our holiday home.

## A GESTURE THAT WILL HELP GENERATIONS TO COME

### REHMAT SINGH SANDHU HOME

proudly in partnership with



13 February 2017

Anglicare Victoria supporter Ravinder Kaur has always had a passion for helping disadvantaged children and providing them with the best chance in life.

Following the tragic death of her son in 2014, Ravinder wanted to do something that would honour his legacy. She has kindly decided to leave her house to Anglicare Victoria so that it can be a welcoming home for foster care, or for families who

want to care for foster children and need accommodation.

Ravinder and her son Rehmat had always agreed that if either of them were to pass on, the other would turn their grief into a wonderful gift.

"This opportunity means a lot to us. Rehmat and I have been offered the opportunity to support Anglicare Victoria and to share our love. We believe we have made the right choice," said Ravinder.

"We wish Anglicare Victoria all the best and hope this partnership will allow us to continue to provide better futures and much love and care for foster children in Victoria."

In February, Anglicare Victoria's Chief Executive Officer Paul McDonald visited Ravinder's home to thank her for her generosity. He also unveiled a plaque that

dedicates the house to Rehmat's memory.

"Anglicare Victoria is truly honoured and humbled by the generosity shown by Ravinder. Ravinder has turned her grief into a remarkable display of generosity. Her gesture will ensure that so many young children in need of a roof over their heads will be assisted in the future," said Mr McDonald.

Including a Gift in your Will is a generous gift reflecting the values you hold dear and allowing them to continue for years to come.

If you would like further information, please contact our Relationship Manager on (03) 9412 6197, by email on [bequests@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:bequests@anglicarevic.org.au) or visit [www.anglicarevic.org.au/bequests](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au/bequests).

# Yes, I want to help keep a child warm this winter

## Donation Option

### Please accept my single gift of:

- \$20 can pay for a pharmacy voucher to treat a child's illness
- \$60 can buy a hamper of groceries to feed a family
- \$120 can help a family pay their winter electricity bill
- My choice of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Please accept my monthly gift of:

- \$20 can provide a child with breakfast before school
- \$50 can help a single mum through financial counselling and parenting support
- 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](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au)  
Phone 1800 809 722 to donate

# THANK YOU

We value your privacy.

Please contact us on 03 9412 6125 to find out how we manage your personal information.



# Give the gift of warmth



Wendy\* was living with her husband and her daughter Kayley. After her marriage fell apart, Wendy was left with the family home, the mortgage and no income.

“I was spending what little money we had on the mortgage and groceries, I simply could not afford to pay the bills,” Wendy recalls.

Wendy’s worst fear came true when their electricity was cut off after she could not make the payment.

**“It was the middle of winter and it was freezing. I was too ashamed to go to a friend’s house. I felt like a terrible mother,” Wendy said with sadness.**

It was around this time that Wendy reached out to Anglicare Victoria for support. We were able to provide her with urgent emergency relief services.

Our financial counsellor contacted the electricity provider to reconnect the power and negotiate a payment plan. We were also able to provide Wendy with food and pharmacy vouchers to buy groceries and medications.

Although Wendy and Kayley have started to rebuild their lives, there are many other Victorian families that are not as fortunate.

**Please donate today and help vulnerable children like Kayley stay warm this winter.**

*\*Names have been changed. Wendy shared her story with Anglicare Victoria in March 2017.*



## ALTITUDE SHIFT 2017

Anglicare Victoria recently brought colour and excitement to 535 Bourke Street with the return of our innovative fundraiser, Altitude Shift for the fourth consecutive year. Over 100 brave individuals and teams joined us over two days in April to test their nerve by abseiling from the 27th floor of the building.

Foster carer Abbey Lambert was one of the amazing participants who stepped off the ledge. "As a foster carer, I see firsthand how much work and effort Anglicare Victoria put into children in need. It takes a village to raise a child and together we can be that village," she said.

Overall, the event raised over \$100,000 for children and young people living in foster care.

## THANK YOU!

Our 2017 Autumn Appeal, which raised funds to help children and young people living in foster care, raised over \$120,000 thanks to our amazing donors and supporters. A big thank you to everyone that sent back a message of hope to the kids on the postcards supplied! We have shared a few of our favourites here...

"When times are making you sad, lonely or frustrated, try to stay calm and focus on the future that awaits you."

"Please keep trying. It is hard but you are not alone. I am happy that you are one of the Anglicare family."

"A long time ago, I was a teacher. I learnt never to underestimate young people! When they believe in themselves, so much is possible!"

"The world is full of all kinds of people, but there is always someone who is in a position to help others in need."

## PRAYER POINTS

### Volunteers

Creator God, we ask you to remember Anglicare Victoria's 1,800 volunteers who selflessly give up their time and energy to make a difference to those most in need.

Thank you for all the voluntary work that happens through Anglicare Victoria and the extraordinary range of skills our volunteers bring to our programs. Thank you for the patience and professionalism, compassion and creativity that volunteers contribute.