



## HOW YOU HELPED BETH AND HER GRANDDAUGHTER.

One-year-old Amy\* was removed from her parent's care due to safety concerns and is currently living with her grandmother Beth\*. Beth does not receive any financial support from Child Protection, which makes it difficult for her to pay for any recreational activities that Amy needs. Beth was also struggling to meet other parents and grandparents who have children the same age.

Thanks to funds from our Better Tomorrows program, which is completely supported by your generous donations, Anglicare was able to pay for some recreational activities for Amy, which also helped Beth meet other parents and build a support network for herself.

Amy now regularly attends swimming lessons at her local community centre and is a member of the community toy library where she enjoys playing with various interactive and educational toys. Her grandmother was also able to buy an annual zoo membership for the both of them, and Amy loves visiting the animals.

Beth continues to manage the care of Amy by herself with minimal support. Although she is still under financial and emotional strain, the extra activities that she is now able to pay for Amy to attend have helped the both of them enormously. It is only because of loyal supporters like you that this was possible, so thank you!

### ANGLICARE VICTORIA MAKES LIST OF TOP 100 MOST INNOVATIVE COMPANIES IN 2018!

We are very pleased to announce that Anglicare Victoria has been recognised in the Australian Financial Review's Top 100 Most Innovative Companies in 2018. We wish to take this opportunity to thank you, as a supporter of Anglicare Victoria, for your contribution to this achievement and ongoing success of the organisation.

This significant recognition is a testament to the work of the staff and volunteers at Anglicare Victoria and their drive for innovation and continuous improvement. This recognition will increase Anglicare Victoria's visibility in the community and is a testament to the innovative changes we are doing to better support the vulnerable children, youth, and families who we work with. Thank you for being part of the journey to innovation!

— FINANCIAL REVIEW —  
**MOST**  
INNOVATIVE  
COMPANIES

*\*Names and images have been changed.*

## LETTER FROM THE CEO



Winter at Anglicare Victoria brings increasing demand for our services particularly as families find bills increase, and warmer clothes for the kids are needed. Along with our activities to respond to these winter demands, this edition

of *Imagine* highlights some of the amazing work you have made possible thanks to your support, including an inspiring story about how you helped a grandmother to care for her grandchild.

We share some of your feedback from the 2018 Supporter Survey and a story from one of our Home Stretch campaign ambassadors. I also

wanted to let you know that Anglicare Victoria has been recognised in the Australian Financial Review's Top 100 Most Innovative Companies in 2018!

Thank you again for your generous donations to the vulnerable children, young people, and families in our state. On behalf of them, I want to thank you for your support, and your role in making a real difference in our community.

**Paul McDonald**  
CEO Anglicare Victoria



## ANGLICARE VICTORIA STRATEGIC PLAN

Anglicare Victoria's new Strategic Plan maps our path toward a better future for children, parents, families and young people. These strategic directions guide our day to day activities, our relationships with parishes, with government and with the communities we work in. They also direct our longer-term

development so that every step takes us toward better responses to vulnerable children, young people, and families. To view the Anglicare Victoria Strategic Plan, please visit [www.anglicarevic.org.au/research-publications/](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au/research-publications/).

## YOUR THOUGHTS: SUPPORTER SURVEY 2018 RESULTS

A huge thank you to everyone who participated in our 2018 Supporter Survey! We appreciate you taking the time to fill in the survey. Here is some of your feedback:

"My family are already Foster Carers for Anglicare. We feel very well supported by the Lilydale and Box Hill teams."

"Your work and care are praiseworthy- Keep up the good work you do."

"You are doing good work. Seem to have a more prominent public face - commenting on government policy and initiatives (and the lack thereof). Keep up the good work."

## BECAUSE OF YOU

Thanks to your amazing support, in 2017/2018 we:

WE HELPED OVER  
**70,631**  
PEOPLE

WE HELPED OVER  
**16,000**  
FAMILIES IN  
THEIR HOMES

**1094**  
KIDS LIVING IN  
FOSTER CARE

**93%**  
OF KIDS IN RAPID  
RESPONSE PROGRAM  
REMAINED SAFELY  
WITH THEIR FAMILY

**83%**  
OF PARENTS IN  
PARENTZONE REPORT  
IMPROVED FAMILY  
BEHAVIOUR

**393**  
KIDS  
RE-CONNECTED  
WITH FAMILY THROUGH  
KINSHIP CARE



**96**  
YOUNG PEOPLE  
CARED FOR IN  
RESIDENTIAL HOMES

**67**  
YOUNG PEOPLE  
RECEIVED TARGETED  
CARE PACKAGES TO  
LIVE IN FAMILY HOMES



## A Gift in your Will can make a real difference

Through Anglicare Victoria you can help change the lives of so many vulnerable children, youth and families living across Victoria.

If you would like to confidentially talk to us about how a Gift in your Will could make a real difference, please contact Peter Burt, Relationship Manager- Gifts in Wills.

Phone: (03) 9412 6197 Email: [peter.burt@anglicarevic.org.au](mailto:peter.burt@anglicarevic.org.au)

**Yes, I will give young people like Chris a second chance.**

**Donation Option**

**Please accept my single gift of:**

- \$35 can pay for a meal in a youth refuge for young people
- \$80 can pay for counselling for a young person
- \$190 can provide a month's travel card
- My choice of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please accept my monthly gift of:**

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

**Payment Details**

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

**My details are** Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ DOB: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

My Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please debit my credit card**

VISA  MASTERCARD  AMEX  DINERS

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

Expiry - - / - -

Card Holder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

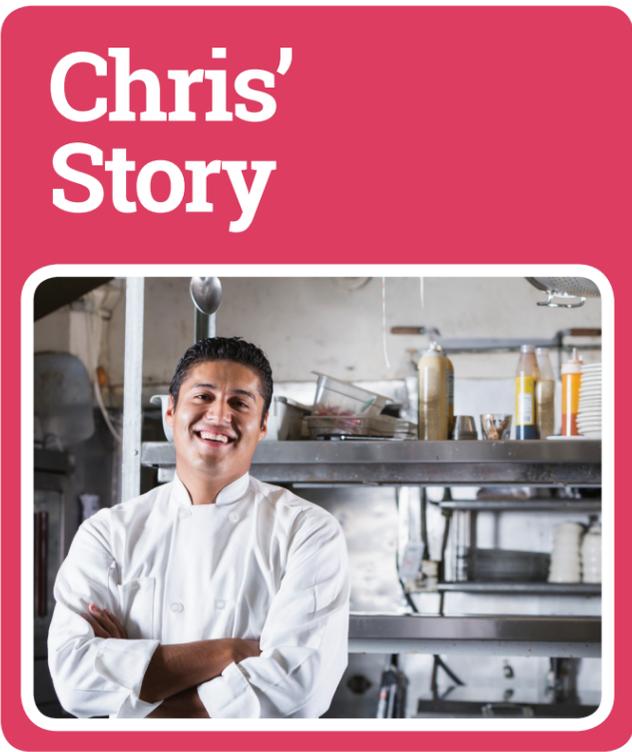
- Please send me information about becoming a regular monthly giver
- Please send me information about leaving a Gift in my Will to Anglicare Victoria
- I have already left a Gift in my Will to Anglicare Victoria

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

**Alternatively you can:**  
Donate online at [www.anglicarevic.org.au](http://www.anglicarevic.org.au)  
Phone 1800 809 722 to donate

**THANK YOU**

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



**When Anglicare Victoria first met nineteen-year-old Chris\*, he was living under a bridge.**

Chris had run away from home when he was just 14 years old and lived on the streets ever since.

"I tried to get off the streets a few times before, but it was too hard to find a vacancy at any of the shelters," said Chris.

After a few months, his Anglicare case worker Darren realised that Chris had a passion and talent for cooking and had even learned a few things from a friend who was a chef.

Anglicare was able to help Chris enrol in a course to get his Certificate in Hospitality. Chris was very proud when he completed the course, which he said is the first thing he has finished since Year 7.

He is now working in a café and is living in permanent housing. He hopes to have his own restaurant one day and is looking forward to his future.

**Although Chris was given a second chance, there are many others who need your help. Please make a tax-deductible donation to give young people like Chris a second chance.**

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

**HOME STRETCH AMBASSADOR AYUB SHARES HIS STORY**

The Home Stretch campaign calls on all state governments to allow young people to have the option to remain in state care until the age of 21, just like what is happening in any other family setting in Australia. Home Stretch ambassador Ayub shares his story:

I grew up in over eight different foster homes and many more residential care placements throughout my childhood. Before my 18th birthday, I was evicted from state care and became homeless.

Not many people know that in all Australian states, except Tasmania and South Australia, we cut off all kids in state care, including those living with a foster care family, when they turn 18. For me, and most other kids like me, that means no ongoing emotional or financial support. No case manager. Nothing. Within one year, 35% of these kids will become homeless.

While most of my friends were celebrating their 18th birthdays,



finishing high school, or getting their driver's licences, I was trying to figure out where I was going to sleep that night and searching for my next meal. It felt like a nauseating spiral with no end.

The extreme sense of anxiety, social isolation, and fear I felt as a young homeless man was terrifying. I was really surprised that so many other kids I met on the street had state care backgrounds. Just like me, they had nowhere else to go.

Breaking the cycle of homelessness when you're young and don't have a support network or stable income is almost impossible. Fortunately, thanks to the tireless assistance of a social worker, I was able to break

the spiral after three years and secured a room in a commission flat. I'm so proud of how far I've come with my life. I'm 30 now, and I have a home, full-time work that I love, friends that feel like family, and I feel confident enough to make plans for the future.

I'm also a proud ambassador of the Home Stretch campaign, which is fighting to extend the age of state care in Victoria from 18 to 21, as it has been in places like the UK, US, Canada and New Zealand. I've had to fight my whole life, and I'll continue fighting for this.

To show your support for The Home Stretch campaign, please visit [thehomestretch.org.au](http://thehomestretch.org.au) and sign up today.

**PRAYER POINTS**

**A prayer for those that give to Anglicare**

Loving God, giver of all good gifts, thank you for the gift of love and for the opportunity to care. Thank you for all who contribute to the work of Anglicare Victoria, for those who show care through gifts of time, money and material goods. May we continue to show God's love to all in need. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Prayer for children**

Loving God, we pray for children and young people. For those in foster care or residential care. Help those who provide them with support and care to be given the patience, energy and resources, so that each young person can experience a safe and stable home life, and develop the resilience to fulfil their potential. Amen.