

# SJOS JUNE 2020 UPDATE

*(The latest news from St Joseph's Outreach Services Inc.)*

## SJOS HIGHLIGHTS

The Unit 3 Refurbishment Project is now complete and the unit is ready for the new renter.

The Food Store has now reopened and the hours of operation will remain as they were prior to the COVID-19 lock down.

For the health and safety of all SJOS Volunteers, Supporters and Visitors, new procedures have been introduced, new cleaning practices with personal sanitation guidelines, to ensure a safe and hygienic environment for everyone.

***Our mission is to provide transitional housing and support services to those in need, regardless of race or creed, and to work towards relieving the effects of poverty in our community.***

## SJOS TRANSITIONAL HOUSING UNITS

There was a lot of activity in the housing units over the month of May. New renters arrived for Units 5, 8, and 11 and with that came some additional requests. Unit 11 had some roller blind issues and the concept of replacing some of the roller blinds will continue as the units age. A new refrigerator was purchased for Unit 8 as the old one had insufficient workable shelving, plus Unit 11's new renter needed an additional bed for her daughter. In Unit 5, housing a mother with a young baby, a new shower head was needed to assist with the water pressure issues. We also purchased a new mattress for the renter in Unit 4, whose doctor had stated that her medical conditions would be improved if her mattress was firmer. SJOS would like to thank Mattresses Galore for their ongoing support of the SJOS Housing Units with the ongoing mattress requirements. In May, SJOS also worked with API Locksmiths to correct some key issues as the security of all those who come to SJOS seeking support is a priority. As a result, new locks and keys were purchased for three (3) units. A 6-month audit from FES (Fire Equipment Services), was also conducted and new Fire Blankets have been installed in Units 2 and 3. The Fire Blankets in Units 1, 4 and 6 will also need relocation for better fire prevention.

## SJOS VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES:

A group of enthusiastic volunteers, all socially distancing well, helped with the refit of Unit 3. Volunteers moved furniture up the 2 flights of stairs and others washed dishes, dusted, vacuumed and made the bed. A big thank you to all, proving that "many hands make light work". With the continued lock down regulations for COVID-19, all fundraising activities have ceased. However, SJOS Volunteers are still active and the support from those who have continued to donate food stuffs for the **SJOS Food Store** is greatly appreciated. The **Twelve Thirteen Barmi Batmi Group**, led by their programme manager, Jenn Drew, continues to support the SJOS Food Store and



*SJOS REFURBISHED UNIT THREE*



**St Joseph's  
Outreach  
Services**  
Shelter | Opportunity | Support

**Patron:** Sir James Gobbo AV CVO

**President:** Ms. Janet Maher

## Contact Us

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a special box was created in the St Joseph's Church Foyer so that members of that organization could easily donate. This group is also organising the donation of sheet sets and towels for the SJOS Units. The **SJOS Raffle** will recommence soon with a draw date in September and there are lots more to be sold with the tickets at \$2.00 each or \$20.00 per book. The **SJOS Garden Club** continues with their great work in growing produce for the Food Store, with their May meeting held via "Zoom". The new large compost bin is working well and the group is working on ways to ensure it is used to the fullest. Winter planting has begun and the next meeting will be held, in the garden, at 9:00 am on Saturday 13 June 2020.

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Over the past month, SJOS has been fortunate enough to see many generous benefactors once again unleash their generosity. This has allowed us to continue working to ensure that the support we offer those in need is maintained. One of the projects completed recently related to some treatment to the windows of the units. The exteriors were scrapped and repainted, needing the services of a boom lift. With the proximity to Fitzgerald Street, getting to Unit 2 (upper level) proved a challenge, resulting in the need to hire the boom lift for a second period, all costing more. When the project was finally completed, the window frames had all been repainted, 7 broken windows were repaired, the windows above the north entrance are now frosted safety glass, and all the bottom windows were treated with a protective film to increase their safety compliance factor. The next project will be to repaint some of the interior public areas of the units and to recondition the SJOS Bread Bank's 2 Way Freezer. We will also continue with the refurbishing of the units where appropriate. Thank you to everyone for your overwhelming support and generosity.

**DONATIONS ARE WELCOME | DONATE NOW** <https://sjos.org.au/donate/>

## MORE INFORMATION

The SJOS Management Committee would like to thank Marc Dixon of Marc Dixon Architects and Simon Schofield of The Carbonist Builders for their efforts in ensuring the success of the refurbishment project. The design created a great flow to the unit, allowing for a lot more storage space and the workmanship is faultless. Now that we have a template for what can be done, the concept is to continue, over a period, to renovate all the units, leaving the 2 studios opened 2010 and the two units renovated in 2013 until last.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

With all the SJOS services now back on track, a call out for more volunteers is required. The bread pick-ups on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from Woolworths need more helpers for the roster as does the Baker's Delight Thursday night bread pick-up, the weekend bread distribution into the 2 Way Freezer and the operation of the food store over the weekend days. Volunteers for the SJOS Housing Units Bin Night (Tuesday) are also needed. If available, please complete the volunteer form on [www.sjos.org.au](http://www.sjos.org.au). Thank you.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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