

SJOS 2021 UPDATE #1

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

SJOS HIGHLIGHTS

Summer at SJOS was very quiet with COVID lockdowns and all the COVID restrictions challenging everyone. Hopefully we are over the worst, with the SJOS Units fully occupied, the Food Store well stocked due to some great donations and the bread supplies for the Bread Bank consistently filling the 2Way Freezer shelves. The SJOS volunteers were able to attend 2 fundraising / friend raising Sausage Sizzles at Bunnings Collingwood and although the money raised was not considerable, the event was a huge success for all SJOS friends.



Food For Friends Donations

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.

WHAT WE NEED TO CONTINUE OUR MISSION

A new year always brings in new ideas, new dreams and new aspirations. In 2021, we are all hoping for a healthier year and perhaps more volunteers interested in helping support our mission. The SJOS Food Store, open only 3 days every week, needs some more people to join the store's operational roster, the SJOS Bread Bank needs strong enthusiastic people, with a car, to help pick up the bread on any of the 4 mornings a week that bread is collected from Woolworths 670 Chapel Street, plus anyone who would like to help with fundraising activities would always be welcome on a Fundraising Sub-Committee. Thank you to all SJOS Volunteers, for helping keep the SJOS mission alive. Email info@sjos.org.au or review www.sjos.org.au.

THE SJOS FOOD STORE

The non-denominational group, "Food For Friends," has been a great supporter for many years. However, with COVID, their pre-Christmas operation of collecting food from supermarkets in Toorak was restricted and the concept suspended for the year. However, generous people still donated funds to support the group's mission and in mid-January 2021, "Food For Friends" delivered a car load of food stuffs, especially purchased for the SJOS Food Store. The expensive items, including coffee, honey, spreads, jams and hygiene items, are often the most popular, and these items need to be continually purchased to stock the store. To have "Food For Friends" fund a big "shop", including the expensive items, for the Food Store, was creating appreciated.

The SJOS Food Store was also the beneficiary of food collected at Scala Apartments in St Kilda Road, thanks to Colin George, as well as some wonderful families at St Josephs College Ferntree Gully. Ann Maree Pagon, the school's Director of Religious Education, and a friend of SJOS, instigated the promotion of SJOS to the school and we thank the wonderful families of Ferntree Gully for their support of our mission.



THANK YOU TO THE SJOS TEAM

Patron: Sir James Gobbo AV CVO

President: Ms. Joan Donoghue



We do receive thank yous, and this hand written message came from one of the residents of the SJOS Housing Units, thanking us for the Christmas hamper we delivered.

Contact Us

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THE SJOS GARDEN CLUB



The **SJOS Garden Club** has continued to harvest produce from the garden over the summer. The potato harvest was a slight disappointment, but lots of packets of silver beet, spring onions, chives, tomatoes, basil, zucchini and other herbs have been delivered to the Food Store every week, and received most enthusiastically by our visitors. Recently, passionfruit and some fruit trees have been planted, as well as parsley and capsicum. The team continues their work with the Almost French Kindergarten to make sure the garden beds in the playground area are safe and well placed for the children to enjoy while they play.

THANK YOU TO THE SJOS SAUSAGE SIZZLE TEAM | COVID SAFE EVENTS AT BUNNINGS



The team cooked sausages and onions on 2 Sundays, 31 January 2021 and 7 February 2021, resulting in a profit of nearly \$1,900.00 over the 2 days. Nearly 900 sausages, 30 kg frozen onions and lots of drinks were consumed.

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

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