

SJOS 2021 UPDATE # 4

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

SJOS HIGHLIGHTS

The end of the COVID Lockdown allowed for the Launch Housing caseworkers to once again re-connect with their clients. This meant that some renters in the SJOS Housing Units were able to move onto permanent housing. Units 6, 7, 9, 10 and 12 all moved, and new renters have moved into the units in October. The SJOS maintenance and cleaning teams had a very busy couple of weeks, and some new bedding, (beds and mattresses) were purchased. Lots of "click and collects", as the units were made presentable for the various new families' arrivals.

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.

R.I.P SIR JAMES GOBBO AC, CVO, QC

It was with much sadness that we heard of the recent death of our **SJOS Patron, Sir James Gobbo**. Apart from his work in the legal field, he was very involved with, and strongly supported, multiculturalism in Australia. Sir James was enthusiastic about volunteering and very interested in seeing small volunteer organisations grow within the community. His wife, Lady Shirley Gobbo, was a staunch supporter of SJOS, and a former volunteer. The Board of Management of SJOS was very proud to have Sir James as our patron and as was stated in recent media, "**Sir James was a man of faith, family and heritage, and a true servant of civil society in very many ways.**"

SJOS 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On Sunday 31 October SJOS held the 2021 AGM. Due to COVID restrictions, this meeting was held as a virtual meeting and 33 people participated in the "zoom". The 2020/2021 Financial Year for SJOS resulted in a surplus, with revenue increases due to an uplift in the support and gifts from major donors, (25% increase). The Food Store expenditure increased with the cost of goods given out per family increasing by 24%, and the limited donations received from Food for Friends and other donation sources only making the Food Store more expensive to operate. Changeovers in the SJOS Housing Units necessitated painting, the purchase of some new appliances, carpet cleaning, new roller blinds plus some new furniture and in total over \$23,000.00 was spent in maintenance, repairs and replacement. The success of the investment portfolio was highlighted and well as the work by the Garden Club team growing produce for the Food Store.

THE SJOS FOOD STORE | Mazon Australia

SJOS was privileged to be supported by **Mazon Australia** with their annual Soup Bag Campaign. They provided SJOS with 100 bags of fresh and non-perishable items with a soup recipe. Each bag contained sweet potatoes, zucchinis, onions and potatoes, plus seasonings and a recipe card. Thank you Mazon Australia for your support and giving the visitors to the SJOS Food Store such a healthy food option.



Soup in a Bag from Mazon

SJOS VOLUNTEERS:

Patron: TBA

President: Ms. Joan Donoghue



Contact Us:

SJOS

St Joseph's Outreach Services

Post Office Box 21

South Yarra VIC 3141

Email: info@sjos.org.au

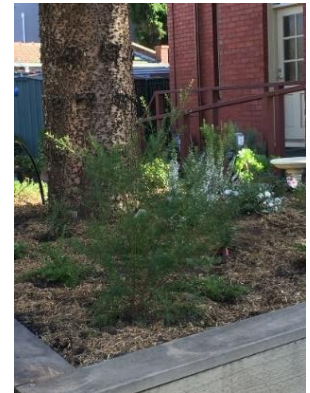
SJOS gets support and assistance from lots of different groups. A big thank you to Mrs. June Wilhelm and the “knitters” from **The Benson Retirement Apartments**, who spent some of their COVID lockdown time knitting scarves, beanies and mittens for SJOS to give out in the Food Store. They were so beautifully crafted, with bright, colourful and very soft wool. The many visitors to the Food Store all enjoyed being able to make a selection from the knitters’ basket. Thank you to all at The Benson.

DONATIONS TO SJOS ARE WELCOME | DONATE NOW:

<https://sjos.org.au/donate/>

SJOS COVID CHANGES | DAVID QUIN MEMORIAL BENCH | SJOS GARDEN CLUB UPDATES

As we progressed through COVID, it became more important to ensure the health and safety of not only our visitors but our SJOS Volunteers. There is a COVID Safe Plan in place, but we have also made some changes in the Food Store by adding a Perspex screen and changing the way the visitors enter the Food Store to collect their 10 items. The Mask mandate continues, and we hope that with the screen everyone will feel more comfortable when coming into the store.



The David Quin Memorial Garden Bench is now in place waiting for the commemoration date. The original date was April 2021, so now the bench is very weathered, but well used, by those waiting for their turn in the Food Store. In the **SJOS Garden**, the team have been busy with planting for the summer harvesting, now that the re-habitation project has been completed. Fr. Gerry Dullard enjoyed sharing his vision for the garden, that is now so much bigger and better. The Garden Club has a native garden, plus all the vegetables and herbs, and the group have also planted a variety of fruit trees in the area revitalised along the south brick wall, in the kindergarten recreation area.