



**St Joseph's
Outreach
Services**

Shelter | Opportunity | Support

SJOS 2023 SPRING UPDATE

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

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 HIGHLIGHTS: The busy activities in the SJOS Food Store have continued throughout spring, and the volunteers have done a wonderful job supporting many of the families seeking emergency food relief. As the economic challenges continue, and the food prices escalate, the importance of the food store has become more apparent to the SJOS Board. We have had some great food donations of late, with one generous anonymous donor providing lots of packages of muesli bars, that are such a treat for visitors. We also had donations of a variety of biscuits, plus some fruit drinks, all great treats, especially for families with children. A big thank you to all these generous friends who anonymously donated.

Melbourne University's Preventive Health Expo



SJOS OUTREACH OPERATIONS UPDATE

The SJOS Board held a **Strategy and Future Planning Day**, on Sunday 24 September 2023. The group session started at 9:00 am with an overview of the history timeline of SJOS, since 1998, and the day concluded in late afternoon. Lots to consider and discuss, and there will be more to come as plans are put in place for the 2024 future activities of SJOS.

2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING | 29 OCTOBER

The Annual General Meeting of SJOS for 2022/2023 Financial Year was held on Sunday 29 October 2023. The Annual Report was distributed, detailing a positive surplus for the year, and Board Chair, Daniel Dorall, introduced some of the plans for 2023/2024. Also introduced were the new Board Members, **Belinda Day, Barry Leung, and Frank Sanna**. For a copy of the 2022/2023 Annual Report, please contact info@sjos.org.au.

SJOS ANNUAL 2023 VOLUNTEER CHRISTMAS PARTY

The 2023 Annual Christmas Party for Volunteers and Supporters will be held on Tuesday 19 December 2023 in the South Yarra Parish Administration and Community Centre. This fun event will commence at 6:00 pm and everyone is welcome. **Come along and share some cheer with all those who assist SJOS and the mission to help emergency relief.**

SJOS CONNECTS WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

The **University of Melbourne Community Health Alliance**, supported by a variety of student health societies, has joined with SJOS to hold a **Preventive Health Expo** on 9 September 2023 at the SJOS Food Store. With emphasis on Heart Health, Hearing, Blood Pressure, and Oral Hygiene, the team of young health professionals were on hand to help visitors to the SJOS Food Store take control of their health issues. The student groups provided a range of health checks, distributed a range of health giveaways, including tooth brushes and tooth paste, and really assisted visitors in their understanding of the importance of preventive health steps. The team promised to return in 2024 for another expo.

SJOS GARDEN CLUB

The SJOS Garden Club team has developed a garden that truly supports the community, and their efforts are amazing. In their report for the Annual General Meeting, they detailed that the garden has delivered approximately 1258 bags of vegetables, herbs, and fruit to the SJOS Food Store over 2022/ 2023 financial year. The garden is harvested in time for the Food Store opening hours and the harvest is packed and labelled to make it easier for the visitors. The team was happy to tell the Annual General Meeting audience that their highlight for the year was the growth of the passionfruit, now happily gracing the back wall of the garden.

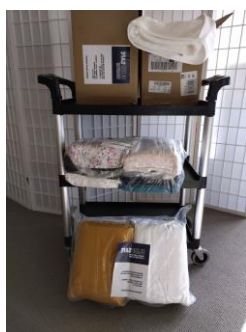
SJOS WOULD LIKE TO THANK

As SJOS is not State or Federal Government funded, a lot of effort by the SJOS Board goes into sourcing grant funding. Recently there has been some success as both the City of Stonnington and StreetSmart have provided SJOS with grant funding to support the SJOS Food Store and the SJOS Housing Units. The Board would like to thank both organisations for their interest and assistance with the funding of these emergency relief outreach services.

SJOS VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS ARE AT THE HEART OF EVERYTHING AT SJOS



Uni of Melb Team



StreetSmart Bedding



Two (2) Anonymous Food Store Donations



The Happy Garden Team

During Spring, many reached out offering support for SJOS. The Health Students at the University of Melbourne held their Health Expo, the StreetSmart team provided the SJOS Housing with sets of sheets and towels, some wonderful anonymous donors provided lots of food items for the Food Store, including healthy food and canned fruit, and the garden team continued to grow an array of herbs, vegetables and fruit for the Food Store. Our thanks also to the FOODILLED volunteers who have been supplying various fruit and vegetables every Saturday.

SJOS BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLES ARE BACK IN 2024

SJOS has been able to secure three (3) **Sausage Sizzle** dates for Bunnings Collingwood in 2024. Starting on Sunday 21 January 2024, the SJOS volunteers will be fundraising, and hopefully friend-raising, from 9:00 am on the Victoria Parade side of the store. If you need some hardware or gardening items, don't forget to come by for a sausage, and support our mission to assist emergency relief in the community. SJOS Volunteers will also be outside Bunnings Collingwood on Saturday 23 March 2024 and Sunday 19 May 2024.

SJOS 2023/2024 BOARD

The Annual General Meeting on Sunday 29 October 2023 voted in a new board. Daniel Dorall remains as Chair, with Clare Taylor as Vice Chair. The other positions are: Secretary | Jayson Ralston-Phillips, Treasurer | Barry Leung, with Quentin Kynoch, Deandra Gomes, Belinda Day, Frank Sanna and Eileen Monagle as general members of the SJOS Board. Congratulations to all who are volunteering their time to support needed emergency relief outreach services. The Board is looking for volunteers for various SJOS committees and if anyone is interested, please contact info@sjos.org.au or the website www.sjos.org.au

DONATIONS WELCOME

The SJOS Board would like to thank those who have generously donated to the SJOS Mission, and encourage those who would like to support our services to review www.sjos.org.au/donate