



**St Joseph's
Outreach
Services**

Shelter | Opportunity | Support

SJOS 2024 SUMMER 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 number of visitors to the SJOS Food Store has increased considerably over the past months, and as such the cost of providing the food. In the half year period ending 31 December 2023, SJOS spent \$32,000.00 on goods for the Food Store, an increase of 28% over the same period in 2022. The SJOS Volunteers have also seen an increase in the requests for various personal hygiene products, while the requests for eggs, cheese, honey, and coffee remain strong.

SJOS OUTREACH OPERATIONS UPDATE

All the outreach services provided by the SJOS volunteers continued during the summer holiday season. The Garden Team spent many hours harvesting produce for the Food Store, Woolworths and Baker's Delight continued to provide left over bread for the Bread Bank, and the Housing Units were well occupied.

2023 VOLUNTEERS CHRISTMAS GATHERING

Every year, the SJOS Volunteers and the South Yarra Parish Volunteers gather for an end of year celebration. There was no "Santa", but over 40 volunteers gathered on Tuesday 19 December 2023 to relax, network and enjoy. Thanks to a very generous supporter, who funded the event, there was plenty of finger food, wine and drinks for all to appreciate, and there were some interesting conversations conducted around the bar area.

2023 CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

Every year, around the Christmas period, SJOS is rewarded with a lot of donations for our Christmas giving opportunities.

The **Knitters of the Round Table** and **The Benson Knitters** gave us some beautiful hand knitted gifts, which we were able to give out in the Food Store over the Christmas Period. We received some well needed food donations from our wonderful supporters at the Toorak Ecumenical Group, "**Food For Friends**", and the attendees at the Christmas Gathering of the **Combined Branches and Prahran Liberals** also donated food items as part of their night's activity. The residents at some large apartment complexes also showed their Christmas spirit with food and gift donations. **Grandview Apartments** in Queens Road and **La Scala** in St Kilda Road encouraged their residents to join in the Christmas spirit and provide some food for those in need. SJOS also benefitted from the fundraising efforts of the families of the boys at **De La Salle College**. We were able to use some of these donations as gifts for the residents in the SJOS Housing Units, and what gifts we did not use, we then donated to Uniting Prahran for their 2023 Gifts for Families Christmas Appeal and St Kilda Mums.

SJOS would also like to thank the South Yarra Parish Community for their commitment to supporting SJOS at Christmas with the **Christmas Gift Giving Tree**. Lots of food items and vouchers for all to share were received.

The Prahran Hub Knitters of the Round Table



Prahran & Combined Branches Liberals



SJOS HOUSING UNITS

The renovation of Unit 4 has been completed. The kitchen and bathroom were completely remodeled and extra storage space was added to both the bedroom and living room. SJOS spent approximately \$100 K to give the unit a complete interior overall.



iving Room



Bedroom



Kitchen



Bathroom

SJOS GARDEN CLUB

The SJOS Garden Club team has had a very busy summer with harvesting of Rainbow Chard, Silverbeet, Spinach, Rocket, Mixed Lettuce, Tomatoes, Rhubarb, Passionfruit, and lots of all varieties of herbs. The compost bins and worm farms are working well and all that is lacking is more volunteers to support the various garden needs and harvesting of the produce. The team are now using the former Stables Unit as a gathering area, and this gives them ample room to bag and label the harvest every week. The use of this area also gives the team some restroom facilities, well needed after spending a day working in the garden.

SJOS EXTENDS A BIG THANK YOU



Food For Friends



Grandview Apts



La Scala



Uniting Prahran thanks

SJOS BUNNINGS SAUSAGE SIZZLE

SJOS Volunteers packed up supplies and went to **Bunnings Collingwood** on Sunday 21 January 2024 for the first of our 2024 Fundraising Sausage Sizzles. Fortunately the weather was mild and the team sold 461 Sausages, (7 more than the last Sausage Sizzle event), and 63 drinks. The end result was a surplus of \$1,442.00. SJOS would like to thank the **Hawthorn Rowing Club** for the donation of the soft drinks. The dates for future Sausage Sizzles at Bunnings Collingwood are Saturday 23 March 2024 and Sunday 19 May 2024.

SJOS 2023/2024 BOARD

SJOS Board President Chair: Daniel Dorall | SJOS Board Vice President: Clare Taylor

DONATIONS WELCOME

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