

Pens Against Poverty Awards

Students from over 20 schools across the Canberra region put pen to paper in support of Anti-Poverty Week as part of Anglicare's 'Pens Against Poverty' schools writing competition.

The initiative begun in 2015 gives school students the opportunity during Anti-Poverty Week (15-21 October) to write for a cause, use their imagination, and express their thoughts about social issues.

The competition theme was "On the Edge" and submissions were received from school students from grades 3 to 10 from over twenty schools across the Canberra region, with creative entries ranging from poems to short stories.

"We're so pleased to see so many Canberra schools involved representing the Public, Catholic and Independent sectors," says Jeremy Halcrow, Anglicare CEO.

"With teachers and parents supporting children and young people during the competition, it helps generate conversations about helping others in need, which is the purpose of Anti-Poverty Week. Seeing the next generation develop knowledge and compassion around issues of social justice and inclusion is inspiring."

Congratulations to all 2018 award winners!

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THRIVE

Thrive Summer 2018

Make it 21

For Rosie and Lily, turning 18 was not an occasion to celebrate. As care leavers, all the supports they had received as a child ceased and they were left to find their own way. They shared their story at the NSW Home Stretch Campaign Launch to use their voice to create change for thousands of young people who live in fear of their 18th birthday. Story continues page 3.

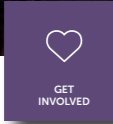
Message from the CEO



"You've gone into my future to prepare the way, and in kindness you follow behind me to spare me from the harm of my past." Psalm 139: 5 (TPT)

Jeremy Halcrow

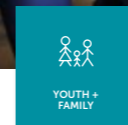
Jeremy Halcrow | ANGLICARE, CEO



Ashmont Community Gardens

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Home Stretch Campaign Launch

Anglicare has partnered with Out of Home Care providers from across NSW to launch the Home Stretch Campaign and improve the lives of thousands of young people in care.

Research from Deloitte Access Economics confirms that extending the leaving care age to 21 years will double education engagement, halve homelessness and considerably reduce mental illness, drug dependence and hospitalisation for care leavers.

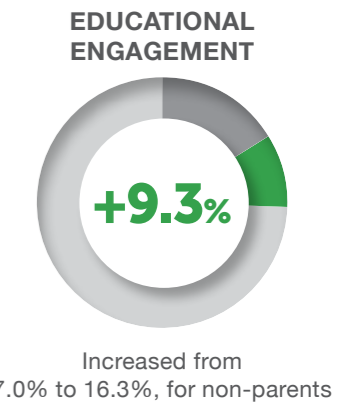
The report also reveals that in addition to the ethical and moral standpoints, the financial benefits from this reform will save NSW taxpayers \$222 million over the next ten years.

"We dreaded turning 18. We couldn't even continue our education because we didn't have the financial means to do so. We have to work fulltime to cover living expenses that means I can only complete my university studies part-time. I don't know when I'm ever going to graduate." says Lily & Rosie, Anglicare care leavers.

For more information visit thehomestretch.com.au

Pictured above: Representatives from the Home Stretch NSW launch.

CALCULATED BENEFITS TO CARE LEAVERS





Ashmont Community Centre Awarded



The Anglicare team at Ashmont Community Centre in Wagga Wagga were announced the winners of the Anglicare Australia's National Partnership Award. The award is one of four national awards given out annually across a network of over 30 community service organisations operating across Australia, and celebrates the partnership between the Anglicare Riverina Youth and Family Services team and the Anglican Community of the Redeemer Church.

Anglicare's outgoing Regional Manager, Brad Addison was delighted with the result. "The partnership was formed because Anglicare and Redeemer Church wanted to see

services made easily accessible to people in the Ashmont community. The team here know people by name and offer support, advocacy, resources, skills development and social interaction to often very vulnerable families who would otherwise struggle to find assistance."

The Centre, which has operated for more than 15 years, enables hundreds of families to attend parenting groups and play groups, receive housing assistance, emergency food and other essential supports.

Pictured above: Wendy Job from Redeemer Church, Kristy Daley Anglicare's Manager of Youth and Family Services, Sandy Wells and Gordon Wells from Redeemer Church



Flo Honoured for 25 Years

Flo Young is known for her leadership at the Sapphire Surprises Op Shop in Eden, NSW and recently she was honoured by Anglicare for her 25 years of volunteer service.

"Volunteers like Flo are the soul of places like Sapphire Surprises shop. Being dedicated and involved in the community is an important part of who Flo is.

She quietly gets things done without fuss and always with a smile. She is willing to stretch her abilities to try new and improved systems but also able to say no when necessary. I respect her compassion for people in need and her willingness to help others," says Kaye Pritchard, Manager of Anglicare Retail Development.

Her role involves management of the thriving community shopfront but she also provides emergency relief to vulnerable members of the community as well as pastoral care to volunteers and shoppers.

Congratulations Flo! We deeply appreciate your dedicated service to Anglicare and the Eden community.



Street Law Partnership Launch



Canberra young people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness will now have greater access to free legal assistance thanks to a new health justice partnership between Street Law which is part of Canberra Community Law and the Junction Youth Health Service operated by Anglicare.

The new partnership brings together lawyers, health workers and social services in one central location allowing vulnerable young people easier access to supports.

"The Street Law/Junction health justice partnership expands on our existing collaborative partnership activities, and presents an opportunity to address the unmet, health-affecting legal needs of young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

We are pleased to be partnering with the Junction to deliver this much needed service and look forward to seeing where this partnership takes us." says Genevieve Bolton, Executive Director of Canberra Community Law.

Pictured above: The Junction and Canberra Community Law at Street Law launch.

4000

Sessions conducted with a GP and or nurse at the Junction in the last year.

1500

Support sessions were conducted by a case worker at the Junction in the last year



Canberra Volunteers Expo



Kiara and Laura from our Volunteers and Retail teams did a wonderful job representing Anglicare at the annual Canberra Volunteers Expo in September. The Volunteers Expo attracted more than 800 people and provided an opportunity for Anglicare to showcase the volunteering roles across the organisation.

Currently there are more than 600 volunteers who make an invaluable contribution to the work of Anglicare across 50 locations in ACT and NSW.

For more information about ways you can volunteer with Anglicare visit anglicare.com.au/get-involved/volunteer



ADFA Cadets Makeover St David's



DR Volunteers

We'd like to thank our Disaster Recovery Volunteers who have helped out throughout the year by attending training exercises and providing assistance to families fleeing the Tathra bushfires earlier in the year.

There have been several combined team meet ups, including a recent team BBQ run by our Canberra teams which doubled as an opportunity for some psychological first aid training. This was a great informal way to catch up with team members while keeping everyone's skills up to date.

Several of our DR team members attended the 2018 National Volunteering Conference in Sydney while some of our Batemans Bay and Shoalhaven colleagues met in Ulladulla for a mock cruise ship fire!

Anglicare was also well represented at the ACT Emergency Services Open Day at Fairbairn, ACT in October and at a Multi-Agency Evacuation Centre Exercise in Tumut in November.

For more information about becoming a Disaster Recovery volunteer, visit anglicare.com.au/services/get-involved/disaster-recovery

The gardens of St David's Close Retirement Living Village underwent a transformation thanks to a group of Cadets from the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA).

They volunteered a Saturday morning to undertake landscaping and gardening work that was above the capacity of the residents, making an incredible contribution to the village.

"They presented themselves in a very willing, capable and professional manner and the outcome of the work completed was outstanding – they should be proud of their work and the contribution they have made to the village," says John Vilskersts, Anglicare Retirement Village General Manager.

St David's residents had a great time with the cadets and commented that it made such a difference to their usually quiet Saturday morning.