

Dear Friends,

Please scroll down to find an update for October, information on Christmas donations, or how to join our team of volunteers.

We are most thankful for all your ongoing support.

2021 October Newsletter



CONNECTION

Ascension Connection Newsletter



October Update

Our Busiest Month

This month we experienced the highest number of clients attending Ascension Connection on record and handed out over 200 hampers. We also interviewed a large number of new clients and continued to hand out Food Bank referrals, clothing for adults and children, bedding, sleeping bags, pillows, and referrals for clients seeking to access financial support.

It has been encouraging to see our clients staying a while and interacting in the relaxed café and outside areas. Our morning tea ladies have ensured an engaging, safe and relaxing atmosphere is created, where friendly banter and the buzz of conversation is the norm. In order to improve our service, we have also encouraged clients to check their hampers and to let us know if any item needs changing due to dietary requirements, personal preferences, and/or the availability of cooking facilities reflected in their current housing situation. This has provided some autonomy for personal choice.

Rapha Back In Action

Rapha, Ascension Connection's therapy dog, has been on sick leave due to a very nasty and unprovoked dog attack at our local park resulting in surgery and a length recovery. We are very happy to report that he is now back on duty. Thank you to all those who have missed him at Ascension Connection and shown their concern. He has made a full recovery.



Rapha the Therapy Dog

Thank You to All Our Donors!

A big thank you to our donors for their thoughtful donations this month. Toiletry donations in particular have been very much appreciated. Items such as shampoo, conditioner, and deodorants have been most appreciated and very much needed by our clients.

The Darlington Dibbler Girl Guides also collected food items for those in need and kindly donated them to Ascension Connection. We wish to thank them for their hard work and kindness shown. What a fabulous effort! Through their hard work, many will receive much needed assistance. Well done and thank you, Dibblers!



The Darlington Dibbler Girl Guides

Midland Community Carols (MCC) have donated the remainder of their donated funds to Ascension Connection to use towards our Christmas activities, now and into the future. They have also generously given up their time. While for the last three years, MCC (led by Ascension Church members with other local community groups/churches) have coordinated a carols event at Midland Oval, this year they have chosen instead to direct their carol singing and Christmas support to all of us at Ascension Connection. During December there will be live music and carols every Friday morning culminating with the final Friday on 24th December having a special 'Christmas focus'. We are most grateful for this and thank MCC for their great kindness and generosity. While we distribute food hampers to those in hard times, the social connection and support we provide on Friday mornings to those who are often lonely and reaching out for connection is equally important. MCC will provide much Christmas cheer. We invite you all to come along to say hello, join in a carol, and share a cuppa with our guests!

Christmas Donations

The generosity and support of our donors is integral to what we can offer those in need over Christmas. It directly impacts what we place into our hampers and provides much Christmas cheer to those who need it most.

For those of you who would like to add to this cheer, a Christmas wish list for our clients can be found [here](#).

Food donations can be delivered to the Ascension Parish Hall on Friday mornings between 9am and 12pm at 17 Spring Park Road, Midland. Donation deliveries at other times can be arranged by calling us at (08) 9274 1464. To donate online, please find more information on our [website](#) under Donate. All monetary donations are used directly for buying food and other essentials for the hampers.

Volunteer Recruitment

We always welcome new volunteers and are seeking helpers of diverse backgrounds and ages. If you would like to volunteer at Ascension Connection please get in touch with our co-ordinator Wendy on wendycamenzuli@yahoo.com.au.



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