



baptist
care sa

Inner City Urban Learning Community

Commencing February 2018



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1. Background

Beginning in 1913, as an expression of the Baptist movement in SA, Baptist Care SA has grown to over 1200 dedicated staff and volunteers, working tirelessly to help South Australians achieve their full potential. We're committed to working with the State's most disadvantaged, championing local issues, partnering with local churches and connecting with people to enable positive change. Today in South Australia, almost 1 in 70 people are struggling to find a safe place to call home. Housing stress, unemployment, family breakdown, violence and mental health issues are key factors.

Each year Baptist Care SA's homelessness services provide more than 25,000 nutritious meals and close to 5000 bed nights. These go hand in hand with a range of other vital support services supporting at-risk and vulnerable people to have access to the basics.

Baptist Care SA's WestCare Centre offers a safe place to come for food, shelter, support, advocacy and referrals. Our pantry is stocked with non-perishable food and household items and we provide more than 900 emergency relief parcels every year. Anyone who comes to our WestCare Centre is welcome and also has access to Hot Showers, Clean Laundry, Health Care, Legal Support, Pastoral Support, Art Workshops and other Community Activities. Baptist Care SA also has a close and historically rich relationship with The Westcare Baptist Church who worship on Sunday mornings and provide several opportunities for community members, including Lunch on Sundays.

Recent, ongoing inquiries have identified particular strengths and expertise in the following areas; Supporting People Experiencing Homelessness, Working with Indigenous Australians and Working with Refugees and People Seeking Asylum. The opportunity to learn together and educate around these areas has been identified and strongly affirmed by key stakeholders. To this end commencing an Urban Learning Community has generated strong support and interest.



2. Purpose

The purpose is to establish an “Urban Learning Community” of Young Adults (aged 18-30 at start of experience) who wish to experience and learn what it means to live in close community in a missional context.

3. Objectives

Some of the Key Objectives of this experience will be:

- Creating and sustaining a diverse community of Young, Christian Adults who are committed to living and learning in a missional context
- Exploring and developing innovative ways of discipling followers of Jesus in the 18-30 age group
- Fostering a ‘strengths based culture’ around the Baptist Care SA Inner City Site
- Explore genuine community engagement from a local church context.

4. How it works

- Applications are invited from anyone between the ages of 18 and 30, who is interested in following Jesus in an urban, inner city setting, working with people who are marginalised and experiencing a range of issues
- Members of the Urban Learning Community will live in fully furnished, shared accommodation in Selby Street, close to Baptist Care SA’s Inner City Site
- The financial cost of being part of the community, is board (\$100 per week)
- Members of the Urban Learning Community can be working full time or part time, or may be tertiary students, or a combination of both. Bible College students may like to explore living in community as part of their Ministry Placement. Members of the Urban Learning Community may like to also explore The Baptist Church SA’s 4D Ministry Apprenticeship (Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology, 10433 NAT Vocational Bible College RTO #41496). For more information on this contact ekeane@sabaptist.asn.au
- An initial agreement will be entered into from 1 February 2018 for one year.



5. Key Elements

Key elements of living in the community will be:

- Theological action and reflection
- Regular meetings with a mentor
- Creating and adhering to an individual “Monthly Rhythm” which includes; Work and/or Study, Serving the Baptist Care SA Inner City Community, Individual and Community Spiritual Disciplines and recreation
- Community involvement and collaboration
- Regular worship and involvement at Westcare Baptist Church.

Each of these will now be discussed in more detail.

Theological Action and Reflection

Theological action and reflection is important for all people who are seeking to follow Jesus. All participants in the Urban Learning Community will be expected to keep a Journal which ultimately covers all aspects of their Monthly Rhythm, but in particular focuses on Serving the Baptist Care SA Inner City Community. The following can serve as a guide to the Journal ¹

1. What were the events, or, what was the significant event, of my day or week?
2. What were my interactions with others, such as those I work with or the people to whom I minister?
3. What insights do these events and interactions offer me?
 - into the **situation** in which I am working?
 - into the **people** with or for whom I am working?
 - into **myself** as a person, as a Christian?
 - into understanding the nature of urban mission?
4. How did I respond? How do I wish I had responded?
5. Where am I most comfortable in the experience? Why? Where am I least comfortable? Why?



6. Where am I finding joy and inspiration in the experience? What depresses, troubles or jars me?
7. To what extent do the difficulties I am encountering lie within the situation itself? Within me?
8. To what extent am I able to feel love, emotionally as well as intellectually and spiritually, for the people in this context?
9. How is this experience integrating with my prayers?
10. How is this experience helping me to know God, and to know who I am in relation to God?
11. What new insights am I gaining about urban mission?
12. What is God saying to me in this experience? How might this speak into my sense of call? What does Scripture say about the experience?

Regular meetings with a mentor

Each Participant will have a mentor and meet with them at least once a month. These meetings should last approximately one hour and the content of each of these meetings should be set by the Urban Learning Community Participant. The participant will likely want to use their journal and theological action and reflection as discussion points in these meetings.

Creating and adhering to an individual “Monthly Rhythm”

During the first meeting with their mentor in February, the participant should finalise their monthly rhythm for the calendar year, this should include; Work and/or Study, Serving the Baptist Care SA Inner City Community, Individual and Community Spiritual Disciplines and recreation. Two examples of a Monthly Rhythm follows:

¹ Source, Baptist Care NSW Hope Street Urban, Internship Pilot Program Intern Manual, pp. 45-46



a) Vanessa is a 25 year old legal secretary who works in the city 4 days a week and has signed up to live in Baptist Care SA Inner City's 'Urban Learning Community'. She has also enrolled in some part – time theological study- one unit for Semester 1, 2018.

March 2018

Vanessa's day always starts with a walk and Prayer and the rest is as follows:

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Study	2 Morn- Afternoon Volunteer WestCare Centre Evening Fun Evening	3 Morn REST Afternoon REST Evening Fun Evening
4 Morn Worship at Westcare Baptist Church Afternoon Evening	5 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Gym and Individual Devotion	6 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Study	7 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Gym and Community Prayer/Meeting	8 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Study	9 Morn- Afternoon Volunteer WestCare Centre Evening Fun Evening	10 Morn REST Afternoon REST Evening Fun Evening
11 Morn Worship at Westcare Baptist Church Afternoon Evening	12 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Gym and Individual Devotion	13 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Study	14 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Gym and Community Prayer/Meeting	15 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Study	16 Morn- Afternoon Volunteer WestCare Centre Evening Fun Evening	17 Morn REST Afternoon REST Evening Supervise Rough Sleep Out
18 Morn Worship at Westcare Baptist Church Afternoon Evening	19 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Gym and Individual Devotion	20 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Study	21 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Gym and Community Prayer/Meeting	22 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening MEETING WITH MENTOR	23 Morn- Afternoon Volunteer WestCare Centre Evening Fun Evening	24 WEEKEND AWAY FROM INNER CITY
25 WEEKEND AWAY FROM INNER CITY	26 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Gym and Individual Devotion	27 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Study	28 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Gym and Community Prayer/Meeting	29 Morn- Work Afternoon Work Evening Study	30 Morn- Afternoon Volunteer WestCare Centre Evening Fun Evening	31 Morn REST Afternoon REST Evening Fun Evening

Note that the REST components are recommended to be taken away from the Inner City wherever possible.



b) Tom is a 21 year old Part Time Ministry Student who also works part time as a barista in a coffee shop in the city. He often has his breakfast or lunch with members of the community as a volunteer at Baptist Care SA's WestCare Centre (meals are covered in his board). He is very intentional in engaging with people at these meal times (and time before and after), which is his service to the Westcare Community. This also serves as his "Field Ministry Placement" for his Ministry degree, as well as many points of reflection for his Pastoral Care subject/s.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
				1 Morn- Breakfast at WestCare Centre Afternoon Ministry Classes Evening Work in Cafe	2 Morn- Ministry Classes Afternoon- Lunch and community at WestCare Centre Evening Work in Cafe	3 Morn REST Afternoon REST Evening Fun Evening
4 Morn Worship at Westcare Baptist Church Afternoon Evening Worship at Another Church	5 Morn- Breakfast at WestCare Centre Afternoon Work in Cafe Evening Gym and Individual Devotion	6 Morn- REST Afternoon Lunch at WestCare Centre Evening Ministry Classes	7 Morn- REST Afternoon Work in Cafe Evening Gym and Community Prayer/Meeting	8 Morn- Breakfast at WestCare Centre Afternoon Ministry Classes Evening Work in Cafe	9 Morn- Ministry Classes Afternoon- Lunch and community at WestCare Centre Evening Work in Cafe	10 Morn REST Afternoon REST Evening Fun Evening
11 Morn Worship at Westcare Baptist Church Afternoon Evening Worship at Another Church	12 Morn- Breakfast at WestCare Centre Afternoon Work in Cafe Evening Gym and Individual Devotion	13 Morn- REST Afternoon Lunch at WestCare Centre Evening Ministry Classes	14 Morn- REST Afternoon Work in Cafe Evening Gym and Community Prayer/Meeting	15 Morn- Breakfast at WestCare Centre Afternoon Ministry Classes Evening Work in Cafe	16 Morn- Ministry Classes Afternoon- Lunch and community at WestCare Centre Evening Work in Cafe	17 Morn REST Afternoon REST Evening Supervise Rough Sleep Out
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25 WEEKEND AWAY FROM INNER CITY	26 Morn- Breakfast at WestCare Centre Afternoon Work in Cafe Evening Gym and Individual Devotion	27 Morn- MEETING WITH MENTOR Afternoon Lunch at WestCare Centre Evening Ministry Classes	28 Morn- REST Afternoon Work in Cafe Evening Gym and Community Prayer/Meeting	29 Morn- Breakfast at WestCare Centre Afternoon Ministry Classes Evening Work in Cafe	30 Morn- Ministry Classes Afternoon- Lunch and community at WestCare Centre Evening Work in Cafe	31 Morn REST Afternoon REST Evening Fun Evening



Community involvement and collaboration

In addition to the involvement that an Urban Learning Community Member will have as a volunteer with the Baptist Care SA Community, they will also be expected to be intentional in developing community and collaborating with other participants in the Urban Learning Community. This will likely include attendance at a weekly prayer and meeting (where possible).

Regular worship and involvement at Westcare Baptist Church

Baptist Care SA's Inner City Site has an important relationship with all Baptist Churches of South Australia. As Westcare Church is the Baptist Church on the site of the Urban Learning Community, Participants will be expected to be part of the worshipping community on Sunday mornings (apart from one per month). Participants will be strongly encouraged to be involved in this church community in different ways. This community will serve as a key aspect of support and fellowship in a participant's monthly Rhythm.

Thanks to Baptist Care NSW for their help and advice on this program.

6. Application Process

Application form follows on the next page:

Urban Learning Community – 2018 Application Form

Please complete all of these questions in either blue/black pen

1. Full Name

2. Date of Birth.....

3. Address.....
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4. Mobile.....

5. Email.....

6. Please describe your current work/study situation

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7. Please describe what you understand about living in an intentional, missional community.....

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8. Please explain why you are interested in applying to be in the Urban Learning Community.....
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9. What strategies would you use to navigate the challenges of working and living close to an intense community, surrounded by people with high needs?
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10. Describe the types of volunteer work/or ministry that you have been involved in previously (include current local church and involvement with its life).
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11. How do your family and/or close friends feel about you applying to be part of this community? Do you feel that you have their support?

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12. Write the name of two referees, who are able to speak about your character and skills:

Referee number 1

Name and Position.....

Contact Number.....

Referee number 2

Name and Position.....

Contact Number.....

Please return this application form to cmcglone@baptistcaresa.org.au

For any other enquiries, please call:

Craig McGlone

Manager, Community Development

M: 0409 620 494