

This time last year, Grace and Robert were filling Christmas stockings for their children – today, they are homeless.

In just two months, Robert was made redundant, their rent was increased beyond their reach and they lost their home.

**“I feel so embarrassed asking for help, but we don’t have enough to live on... it’s really hard to cope. It’s such an alien experience... relying on other people. I feel like such a burden”.**

Shelter is a basic necessity for people. Housing costs are one of the largest household expenditures for most South Australian household budgets. But when housing costs get to more than 30% of those budgets, it causes real hardship.<sup>2</sup>

Homelessness is not just “rooflessness”<sup>3</sup>. It includes those living on the street, couch surfing, living in rooming houses, supported accommodation or in severely overcrowded dwellings. Some cope – others don’t.

<sup>1</sup> ROGS2019

<sup>2</sup> SACOSS Housing Stress, August 2017

<sup>3</sup> Council to Homeless Persons



Like an increasing number of South Australians, Grace and Robert brought their young family to WestCare to look for help. They enjoyed a nutritious meal, began to feel more relaxed and chatted with a support worker to learn more about their options. They now have temporary accommodation while we work together on finding a more permanent home.

**“We feel welcome and we’re not alone. Despite everything, we can give our children a present to unwrap on Christmas Day and put some food on the table. We’ll get our own place again and we’ll look back on all this for the bad dream it is”.**

### In 2018/19...



120 clients (on average) came to the WestCare Centre every day.



33,047 meals were provided.



156 clients engaged with our WestCare Community Transition Worker Service and were either supported into accommodation or referred to another organisation as required



620 clients came to us for emergency support



600 blankets were distributed to help keep our clients warm.

**Yes, I want to make a difference and help South Australians doing it tough this Christmas.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organisation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

I'm interested in making a monthly gift.  I'm interested in leaving a gift in my will.

My gift \$40  \$60  \$95  \$250  Other Amount \$

Payment type:  VISA  Mastercard  Cheque

Card Number:

Expiry Date:   /   CCV:

Name on Card: ..... Signature:.....

**Cheque:**  
 Please make cheques payable to: **Baptist Care SA**

**Thank you for your gift.**  
 A tax deductible receipt will be sent to you promptly.

**Mail to:**  
 Fundraising Team  
 130 Rose Terrace, Wayville SA 5034  
 baptistcare.org.au

Please do not send any further appeal material.

## Every Christmas, Baptist Care SA's WestCare Centre opens its doors to more than 300 children and families – and the numbers are growing.

Every child receives a gift. Together we share good food, laughter and a sense of community.

**We need your help to make this happen.** Will you join us to make Christmas a time to rebuild self-esteem and find refuge from the scariness and exhaustion of wondering what's going to happen next? **Together we'll provide hospitality, reassurance and practical support.**

### With your help we will:

- Provide toys and gifts (300 children and 130 families in 2018)
- Share Christmas Lunch (130 people last year)
- Provide festive food hampers (more than 100)

### YOUR GENEROSITY WILL HELP ENSURE NO-ONE IS TURNED AWAY

\$40	Christmas gift for a child
\$60	Christmas food parcel for a family of four
\$95	Christmas lunch for 10 people
\$250	Specialist support including housing assistance, legal counsel and health support

Baptist Care SA's WestCare Centre is open six days a week and receives no government funding. It relies on the generosity of our donors to continue its vital services.

### DONATE NOW

by visiting [www.baptistcaresa.org.au](http://www.baptistcaresa.org.au) or complete the response form overleaf and return it to us today.

**Thank you for helping provide vital services to vulnerable South Australians experiencing homelessness.**

## Who are we?

Beginning in 1913, 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 and connecting with people to enable positive change.

It isn't easy tackling such tough issues, but our clients' successes mean it's often extremely rewarding.

Learn more about us at [baptistcaresa.org.au](http://baptistcaresa.org.au)



### WestCare Centre

11 – 19 Millers Court Adelaide SA 5000  
T 08 8118 5200

Open Monday to Friday 9.00am – 3.00pm  
Sunday 11.30am – 1.00pm

If assistance is required outside business hours, please contact the SA Homelessness Gateway on 1800 003 308.



Let's help those without affordable and secure housing enjoy Christmas and know someone cares.

More than 16,000 families in South Australia are living with housing stress<sup>1</sup>. Together we can offer support, solutions and hope.

