

A warm welcome and a safe place.

An introduction to Baptist Care SA's Homelessness Services.



Carl walked free from gaol with \$30 in his pocket and accommodation arranged for the next two nights. Two weeks later, he became homeless.

"Baptist Care SA supports people who want to change, and they do, and that's important work. (Baptist Care SA) not only gave me a safe place, they gave me an opportunity to help myself. That's what matters."

Carl, client experiencing homelessness

Today in South Australia, almost 1 in 70 people are struggling to find a safe place to call home. A third of these are children. Housing stress, unemployment, family breakdown, violence and mental health conditions are key factors.

Each year Baptist Care SA's services to people experiencing homelessness provide **35,000 nutritious meals, close to 5000 bed nights and more than 900 emergency* relief parcels.** These go hand in hand with a range of other vital services supporting vulnerable people at risk of homelessness to have access to the basics.

Our services to people experiencing homelessness provide:

- Food and Relief
- Showers, laundry and health care
- Support and accommodation

There are many different ways that you can help give someone a hand up in life and show that you care. Baptist Care SA welcomes your time, talent and/or financial support.

For more information on volunteering opportunities, please contact

E: volunteer@baptistcaresa.org.au or view our website

W: baptistcaresa.sa.org.au/get-involved/volunteer/current-opportunities

If you would like to donate to our current appeal, visit

baptistcaresa.org.au/get-involved/donate

WestCare Centre

11 - 19 Millers Court
Adelaide SA 5000

Open Monday to Friday,
9.00am - 3.00pm

T 08 8118 5200

baptistcaresa.org.au



*In 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, demand increased to 1,873.

Building Kingdom Communities.



1. On any given night in Australia, there are 1 in 200 people experiencing homelessness.¹ More than one-quarter of them are children and young people under the age of 18 years.²

Pray that those who are experiencing homelessness will be safe.

2. The number of people experiencing homelessness in Australia is rising. There were 102,439 people experiencing homelessness in Australia in 2011 compared with 116,427 people in 2016. This is an increase of 5 percent.³

Pray that Federal and State governments will develop solutions to help more people find affordable housing.

3. 7 percent of people experiencing homelessness live on the streets; 18 percent live in supported accommodation; 15 percent live temporarily with other households; 15 percent live in boarding houses; and 44 percent live in severely overcrowded accommodation.⁴

Pray that people experiencing homelessness will find more secure accommodation.

4. The major reasons people experience homelessness are: 24 percent domestic and family abuse; 20 percent financial difficulties; 16 percent housing crisis; 11 percent inadequate or inappropriate dwellings; 8 percent relationship breakdown; 5 percent housing affordability stress; 16 percent other reasons.⁵

Pray that people experiencing homelessness due to domestic violence or other relationship breakdown will find healing of their emotional wounds and a healthy pathway forward.

5. In 2016 there were 6,203 people experiencing homelessness in South Australia. More than half were found in just six local government areas: Adelaide, Charles Sturt, Onkaparinga, Playford, Port Adelaide Enfield, and Salisbury.⁶

Pray that the local councils and churches in these six local government areas will be effective in helping people move out of homelessness.

1. Homelessness Australia, 'Homelessness in Australia', Homelessness Australia, 2016, viewed 25 May 2018, <<https://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/sites/homelessnessaus/files/2017-07/Homelessness%20in%20Australia2.pdf>>

2. Homelessness Australia, 'Homelessness and children', Homelessness Australia, 2016, viewed 25 May 2018, <https://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au/sites/homelessnessaus/files/2017-07/Homelessness_and_Children.pdf>

3. Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), 'Census of Population and Housing: estimating homelessness 2016', Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra, 2018, viewed 25 May 2018, <<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/2049.0>>

4. ABS

5. Homelessness Australia, 'Homelessness in Australia'

6. ABS