



knox community
CHRISTMAS SUPPORT
"Sharing the Joy"

KCCS 2021 NEWSLETTER

A snap shot of Knox "Sharing the Joy" Christmas Project:

Total number
of businesses
who were able
to support
49

Total
number of
Hampers
given out
540

\$3810
of Gift
vouchers
given out

Total
number
of Adults
assisted
504

381 Kids
were
assisted

1094 gifts
were
given out

\$5,690
Meat
Vouchers

Cash
Donations
for 2021
\$15,469





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"Sharing the Joy"

The Knox Community Christmas Support (KCCS) "Sharing the Joy" Appeal aims to reach families or individuals in need of a hamper of festive food and a selection of quality gifts for children and teenagers. The KCCS Appeal has assisted 5,523 people within the City of Knox experiencing financial hardship since 2010.

Christmas can be a difficult time for families to pay bills as well as buying food and presents. This is especially true for people on a low income as a result of unemployment, reduced work hours, fragile mental or physical health, increasing housing costs, the rising cost of living and arriving to Australia as a refugee or asylum seeker.

2021 was another challenging year with its ever changing environment, living in a Covid safe world. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the tireless work that Wayne Guest has done over the past several years. We thank you for building this appeal to what it is today and we will carry the reins this year to keep moving forward. The KCCS Appeal has 7 Community organisations (Working Group) that

facilitated the appeal tirelessly with excellence and joy to ensure that Christmas is not a struggle for the people in the Knox City community. The KCCS would not be possible without the valuable support from Knox City Council through their partnership on the Knox Community Welfare Fund, Knox Gives along with many other businesses and individuals who donate allowing a whole community response supporting our residents.



KCCS Working Group

- Knox Infolink
- Coonara Community House
- Wantirna Seventh Day Adventist
- Restore Community Church
- Volunteer for Knox
- Raft Anglican Church
- Rotary Club Boronia

We wish to acknowledge the outstanding work that happens behind the scenes leading up to Christmas by all of the above. It is a team effort to bring joy to our Knox community members.



Thank you



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The Hub

In 2020 we were lucky enough to use the Boronia Progress Hall for the Hub as a one off deal.

This year we were so very grateful to Tabitha O'Brien, the Principal at Upper Ferntree Gully Primary School in Upper Ferntree Gully. When the call out was made for a new home base for the KCCS Hub, without hesitation Tabitha generously offered their multi-purpose hall.

What a magical space it was and we were met with a local school community that jumped on the band wagon to support the appeal.

We appreciate your kindness and patience for allowing us to join your community for 2 weeks.

The highlight of each day was the visit from our feathered friends "the school chickens" who had a keen interest in our activities.

We would like to acknowledge Michael Lehmann who was the Hub Coordinator extraordinaire for the past

5 years. Unfortunately Michael had to step away this year, but we appreciate all his hard work and dedication to the appeal, all done with a trademark smile!

The Hub is always a hive of activity during the end of November and start of December. 70 Volunteers worked shifts over a 2 week period to make sure the required number of hampers and gifts were packed and sent to 4 collection points for the clients to pick up.



Client Feedback:

"Thank you so much. Our Christmas would not happen without this support"

"This is an amazing gesture. There are so many families that appreciate this and I know that this has helped us out more than you know"

"I feel extremely fortunate. It really makes a difference in my daily living and holidays"

"Thank you so very much for the kindness you have all shown me"

"You have given families in times of need the best Christmas and I am so very thankful"

"We don't have a lot and this support helped us a lot"





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Client collection points

We have 4 amazing locations that are scattered throughout the City of Knox, who generously allow hamper recipients to attend their agency that are as close to their home as possible.

The collection points are an integral part of the appeal process. They are the first face that our recipients see. Each agency provides a warm and friendly welcome to those recipients who pick up their food hamper and are able to choose gifts for their children.

- Boronia Progress Hall
(Boronia, The Basin and Bayswater)
- Coonara Community House
(Ferntree Gully and Upper Ferntree Gully)
- Restore Church (Rowville and Lysterfield)
- Wantirna Seventh Day Adventist Church
(Wantirna)



It is a few very busy days when recipients are collecting their goods. Thank you to Anne, Carol, Therese and Liz. All very organised, strong, kind hearted leaders. Evaluations showed that recipients were overwhelmed and appreciated the warm welcome and kindness shown while they attended their appointment.



THANK
YOU



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Volunteers

We had 70 community members put their hand up to join our volunteer team. This appeal would not happen without their support.

After a crazy and challenging few years we were thrilled how our community rallied together to support those in need. We had many returning volunteers from previous years and this year, with the help from Sally from Volunteers for Knox, we had many new faces to join in the fun.

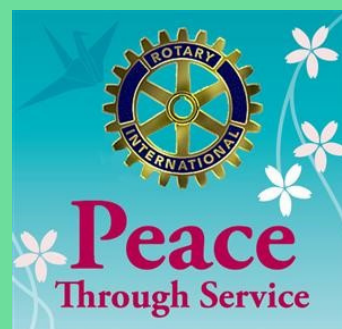
There are many volunteer opportunities:

Administration, client registration, transport, packing and sorting and providing efficient and friendly service at the 4 collection points.

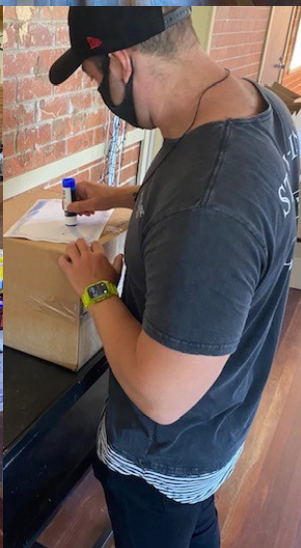
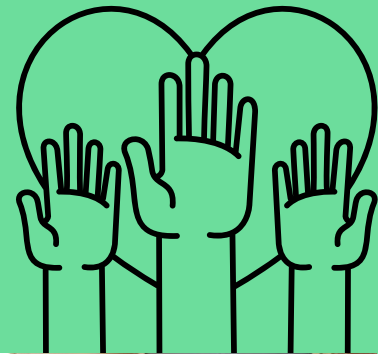
We were very fortunate this year to gain our corporate volunteer teams back. The extra hands from the staff at Mentholatum and from Knox City Council were graciously received. The Rotary Club and the Lions Club were again able to join the Hub

with their past experience making the packing and sorting process effortless. Thank you to all of the 2021 volunteers for your commitment and support of the Knox "Sharing the Joy" Appeal.

Your gift of time enables this very worthwhile community project to continue to support individuals and families living in Knox.



Thank you



society action service youth group
 business volunteerism honor change compassion love skills
 communities nonprofit vibrant senior program
volunteers
 build service connections volunteer
 hope diverse **Thank You**
 family thanks heart prosperous difference
 preparedness **community** retired
 mission corporate
celebrate
 traditional emergency
HandsOn
 friends
 actionaction





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Donors & Supporters

What a wonderful year 2021 was for support and kindness for 2021. Another year of challenges and possibilities of low support, but we were pleasantly surprised! Many of our regular sponsors dug deep again with donations of food, toys, vouchers and monetary donations. The most generous monetary donations from companies and organisations allowed us to purchase food, meat vouchers from the Australian Butchers Store needed for the hampers and a variety of vouchers for teenager's.

Thank you to all of the donors. Your support of this community project assists to relieve the financial burden and emotional stress placed on families and individuals within our local community during Christmas time.

No one knows when they will be in that position, in need of assistance and extra support, even more so after these challenging months. The KCCS has been building partnerships and a base of support over the last 12 years and this has had an amazing effect in our community, not only for our recipients, but also for our supporters,

sponsors and volunteers that are wanting to give back to the community that they live in.

We would like to acknowledge Storage King Knoxfield for their ongoing support of the KCCS Appeal. They have helped us for the past 6 years with storing excess toys and boxes as well as using their removal truck for pick ups and drop offs to the Hub.



Major Sponsors



Wantirna Ferntree Gully Bayswater



Commonwealth Bank
Bayswater Knox Boronia



Thank you for your support

- Aliento
- Appleby Real Estate
- Balmoral Over 55 Lifestyle Village
- Barry Plant - Rowville and Boronia
- Bayswater Amcal Pharmacy
- Bendigo Bank - Wantirna & Ferntree Gully
- Boronia Hawks Football and Netball Club
- Boronia Library
- Boronia Residential Aged Care
- Bridges Connecting Communities
- Coles - Boronia
- Commonwealth Bank - Bayswater, Knox & Boronia
- Community Pharmacy - Wantirna
- Coonara Community House
- Country Women's Association - Boronia
- Cummins
- Emerson Process Management
- Ferntree Gully Library
- Good Start Early Learning - Rowville
- Hydrosteer Pty Ltd
- Jackson Taylor MP
- Knox City Council Staff
- Knox Children and Family Centres - Bayswater & Wantirna South
- Knox Infolink
- Knox Library
- Knox Presbyterian Church
- Nunawading Safety Transit Division
- Mentholatum Australasia
- Metro Cinemas Boronia
- MP Alan Tudge
- Orora Limited
- Raft Anglican Church - Rowville
- Ray White - Bayswater, Ferntree Gully & Wantirna
- Restore Community Church
- Rotary Club of Boronia
- RUAG
- Schokolade Cafe
- Smart Temp Australia
- Solar Turbines Australia
- St Paul's Anglican Church
- Storage King
- Wantirna Seventh Day Adventist Church



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Thank you for your support

The KCCS Working Group would like to acknowledge the ongoing support and generosity of the Knox (Bayswater) Opportunity Shop, who have for more than 40 Years donated to the Knox Community Welfare Fund- Knox Gives that funds the KCCS Project.

Even after 2 years of very difficult times, being closed for a big portion of the year their support has been amazing!

Online Donations:

www.givenow.com.au/knoxsharethejoy

KCCS Video Link:

www.brittanychard.com/joy

For more information on Knox Community Christmas Support
"Sharing the Joy" please contact:

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