

2009 – that was the year that was

Emergency assistance

In 2009, the Magdalene Centre provided emergency assistance to approximately 3609 households of which:

- 36.88% were identified as new households
- 34.27% had dependants
- 23.71% were from culturally and linguistically diverse
- 16.9% identified as being Indigenous background

Financial Counselling

- 145 individual financial counselling and financial planning appointments held in 2009 through the Financial Clinic.

Community Programs

- 40 Casserole Group volunteers prepared 3600 meals over 12 months
- 12x 8 week cooking groups were held, with an average of 24 participants each week. Target group was isolated persons who were or were at risk of homelessness or living in Supported Residential Facilities

- Mary had a Little Art Group operated each Tuesday afternoon across the year, with an average attendance of 12 participants at each session
- Weekly music group with an average of six participants
- Weekly yoga class with an average of 6 participants
- Working Wardrobe supported 73 clients with clothing for job interviews
- 40 Sudanese young people aged 14–20 years registered as members of Nile United, with 35 more participating in the soccer program

Enterprise

- 12 participants in Lavish Creations, selling 360 pieces and generating \$1269.90 income
- 10 participants were involved in M2T Catering Enterprise, with 42 catering jobs undertaken in 2009. \$3771 was paid in participant wages

The Magdalene Centre is a cooperative venture between St Mary Magdalene's Moore Street, the Cathedral Church of St Peter, St John's Halifax Street and **ANGLICARE**^{SA}

The Magdalene Centre

26 Moore St, Adelaide
Phone 08 8305 9382
Fax 08 8232 6906
Hours weekdays
9am–5pm

Assistance Centre

42 Carrington St, Adelaide
Phone 8305 9389
Hours weekdays
9am–4pm

Bargain Centre

46 Carrington Swt, Adelaide
Phone 8305 9385
Hours weekdays
9am–4pm



email magdalenecentre@anglicare-sa.org.au
www.anglicare-sa.org.au/magdalene-centre

We're thinking outside the square

Welcome to this year's first edition of *The Mag*!

The past six months has been an incredible opportunity for us to reflect on who we are, what we do, and where we are going – and to start these conversations. At the same time, we have started to see a significant shift within the social services sector has a whole, which has in many ways challenged inner city agencies to think outside the square.

In the latter part of last year, a range of activities were held with many different people within our community to really think about our Vision for the Magdalene Centre. We held meetings, forums, planning sessions, and discussions to find out:

- What could the Magdalene Centre look like in 2013?
- What sort of programs should be running?
- Who might our clients be?
- What do we have to get there?
- What do we need to get there?

What has become apparent throughout this process is the essence of what makes us different. The Magdalene Centre is a place of welcome, where people are accepted and made to feel included. We encourage creativity, learning, and self discovery. We mobilise our resources to empower people. We value our partners, supporters and volunteers.

This essence will shape future direction, and enable us to meet people where they are, make connections, see potential and create options.



WE'VE HAD
A GO AT
LOOKING
INTO THE
FUTURE
CHRISTIAN-PAUL
STENTA,
MANAGER

Housing Hope – Action is needed, now!

Anglicare SA has played a key role in advocating for greater action on social housing during the 2010 State Election.

Our experience demonstrates that there are not enough homes to meet the needs of those facing homelessness and housing stress in SA. While the number of affordable houses has decreased over the last decade, the number of people waiting for public and community housing has increased.



Alone, hungry, afraid and without a friend to call on. This is how more than 8000 South Australians feel each day when faced with the prospect of sleeping in their car, on the street or in the park. Nowhere to make a meal or invite friends to visit. Without a place to call home. Housing is a basic right, so why are so many people left without?

What did we ask for?

Anglicare called on all political parties and independent candidates to outline in their policy platforms how they will address the needs of the homeless and those facing housing stress in the next term through greater commitment to social housing for South Australians. Specifically –

- how they will increase social housing stock by 6600 new homes in the next term of government (One of Australia's peak lobby groups on housing, National Shelter, calls for at least 220,000 new affordable homes in Australia by 2020. This means there should be 6,600 homes in our State in the next term of government since we make up 7.5% of the population).[1]
- the opportunities for management of social housing by both the public sector and community sector and strengthened objectives in social housing within the State Strategic Plan

We wrote letters, met with Members of Parliament and protested on the steps of Parliament House to call for greater action.

How can you get involved?

Join the Anglicare Action Network to keep informed and up-to-date on key issues through regular e-updates. The Action Network was launched at an Anglicare Business Forum on Poverty as a new way of reaching out to involve the broader community in the fight for social justice.



Volunteers

At the heart of who we are and what we do lies a belief in the value of community. Our mission of building community would be impossible without the dedication and commitment of our 125 volunteers. Our volunteers:

- **help** people to access emergency assistance
- **welcome** people as reception staff at the Assistance Centre
- **help** people to get food and other supplies from our food room
- **pick up** donations like bread from local bakeries to restock our supplies
- **sort** through donations in our Bargain Centre
- **give** fashion tips and a smile working at the Bargain Centre counter
- **help out** in admin with mail outs, typing and data entry
- **use skills, talents and passion** to facilitate community programs
- **support** participants in our enterprise ventures
- **raise money** to continue our work through our fundraising committee
- **donate** professional and corporate skills

We have recently employed a **Volunteer Coordinator, Donna Francis**, who does volunteer recruitment, recognition and communication, as well as training and development. We have made a commitment to invest in our people so that they have the tools they need to make a difference in the community.

• **If you would like more information how you could get involved, contact Donna on 8305 9387 or dfrancis@anglicare-sa.org.au**

Thank you

Thanks to our supporters The Magdalene Centre enjoyed the most bountiful Christmas ever in 2009.

We distributed over 800 hampers to families in need along with over 1000 toys to children ranging in age from birth to 18. The generosity of our supporters meant that we started the new year well in front in the area of food. Cash donations were also up on the previous year.

A huge thank you to you, our supporters; your generosity made sure those in need enjoyed a happy Christmas

and New Year. We continue to strive for excellence in our service to the 700 homeless and marginalised people who visit us for help each month.

Our regular wish list still applies and we would be delighted to accept the following items:

- Long life milk • canned fish • canned vegetables • cereal, pasta & pasta sauces • rice • canned fruit • soups and • hygiene items.

*Christine Cassells —
Admin. Assistant*



Bargain Shop bargains

The shop is currently running a 50% off clothing sale and there are bargains galore available. The shop has a weekly arrival of jewellery, retro items and handbags, but we are in urgent need of teenage boy/girl clothing.

There is a wide range of books including latest releases as well as DVD's (music and movies). We are still looking for volunteers in the shop so if you are interested please contact Donna, our volunteer support officer to register your interest.

The shop accepts donations of clothing, household items, jewellery, small furniture items. Call in to browse and shop with excellent service from our friendly shop-front staff

Bronte Enjakovic – Bargain Shop Coordinator



Food for thought

Emergency Assistance got off to a flying start with a surplus of food thanks to the Christmas donations. The number of clients we have been seeing rose markedly in the first few days of 2010 but has leveled out now.

We could use an extra volunteer or two who would be willing to stay back some days (or come in for an afternoon) to help out with data entry as some volunteers who normally do it are away and we're finding we get backed up with client files that need to be entered.

We continue to see an average of 40 households every day, assistance with food being the most sought after help needed, followed by hygiene products, petrol vouchers and help with utility bills.

A huge thank you to all our supporters who pop in to drop off much needed items for us on a daily/weekly basis. Without your help we could not make ends meet. Keep up the good work.

Matt Carter— Co-ordinator

Fringe Festival Parade – Friday 19 Feb.

"Absolutely Absurd" was the theme of the parade. A big thank you to the people from 'Mary had a little Art Group' who worked so hard to make our contribution to the Fringe Parade a great success. Thanks to Sally Wickes and her group for the innovative and colorful costumes, and thanks too goes to all the willing participants.



Here we are, all dressed for a party, with The Magdalene Centre's float

