

MISSION STATEMENT

Christian Community Aid strengthens the life of the people in the communities it serves through effective and relevant programs based on its Christian heritage of reaching out to all who are in need.

"I wish to thank you and the Management of Christian Community Aid for your assistance in overcoming my financial crisis - without that help I would have been struggling to establish my credibility with my creditors and it would have been extremely difficult to know how to proceed....."

The above is quoted from a letter to a staff member. It says it all but most of all it is a clear demonstration of Christian Community Aid's Mission Statement being a living document with its volunteers and staff.

ARE YOU IN FINANCIAL DIFFICULTY?

Financial Counselling Support is available to people within Eastwood, Epping, Ryde and other nearby suburbs. Today, families are faced with increased costs which include interest rates, rent, food, petrol and the like placing many households under increased stress and wider use of credit cards. If you need financial counselling support, or know someone who would benefit from this free, private and confidential service please contact our West Ryde Office on 9858 1377. There is no need to wait for issues to feel insurmountable before talking to us. The biggest step could be picking up the phone and coming to our door.

PLEASE SHARE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS

Christian Community Aid Aged Care Services is looking for a Hungarian speaking person to have an occasional coffee (in local café) with a lady who originates from Hungary. She would love to have conversation in her native tongue. The lady is also fluent in English. If you are interested in volunteering for this position please contact our Eastwood Office on 9858 3222.

I enclose a donation of \$ _____ for Christian Community Aid.

Name: (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr):

Address:

12 Lakeside Road EASTWOOD NSW 2122 Phone: 9858 3222
2 Dickson Avenue WEST RYDE NSW 2114 Phone: 9858 1377
Email: administration @ccas.org.au
Website: www.ccas.org.au

Donations of \$2.00 or more are tax deductible. Official receipts will be posted.



FROM LITTLE THINGS BIG THINGS GROW

This song is about a remarkable chapter in Australian Indigenous history. It is a bit similar to the history of the Eastwood Methodist Church and Christian Community Aid. It talks about how from little things big things grow. It is a remarkable struggle led by a remarkable man. So too is the history of Eastwood Methodist Church (now Lakeside Uniting Church) and Christian Community Aid. It is a remarkable journey of faith and hope of church members who saw a need in the community and responded to it in a positive manner.

1966 witnessed, in two very different parts of Australia, the beginnings of something very small which in time became major events. One was in the far Northern Territory. There was the Gurindji strike for improved working and living conditions for the Gurindji people which crystallised into land rights for traditional owners in 1975 - eight long years of hard work, love and dedication. The other was in Sydney, New South Wales, where the dedication of members of the Eastwood Methodist Church culminated in the creation of Christian Community Aid. CCA came into existence after eight years of hard work, conviction, dedication and love of neighbour.



The bond the Lakeside Uniting Church has with CCA has been strong, lengthy, continuous and supportive. It has never faltered in its support of this organisation ever since inception which goes back to 1959.

In 1962 on the conviction and recommendation of church members for welfare services in the community, the Methodist Church agreed in principle to this idea and decided to set aside a regular amount of money to provide a fund for the operation. Two rooms were added to the back of the church for a counselling service.

By 1964 the services were in great demand and in 1965 a most remarkable event took place. A church member left a legacy of 1300 pounds to the church to support this work. Surrounding churches were encouraged to get on board. During a quarterly meeting the name "Christian Community Aid Service" was adopted. For forty years church support has not wavered.

In 1966 CCA opened its doors. One staff member was employed; volunteers from almost every denomination helped and the office, for almost ten years, consisted of the two rooms at the Eastwood Methodist Church.

In 1975 CCA moved its operation from Lakeside Uniting Church to its current premises. Today CCA has twenty three programs, over five hundred volunteers and forty five staff. What a great outcome.

Although the old church office is currently being replaced with a new and better one, we would like to remind ourselves how from very humble beginnings at Eastwood Methodist Church the present CCA has grown. With this new building we move into the next phase of history and I am confident that these bonds will not only grow but will become stronger.

We remain ever grateful to the members of the Eastwood Methodist Church who some forty four years ago, through their sheer love and dedication have proved that **from little things big things grow.....**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Christian Community Aid wishes George Ayling good health, peace and lots of love as he celebrates with his family a great ninety years.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Christian Community Aid will be held on Thursday 28 August in the Senior Citizens Hall, 159/161 Shaftsbury Road, Eastwood commencing at 7.30pm. The financials for 2007/2008 will be presented and the election of Board members will be conducted.

BECOME A MEMBER OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AID

Give yourself the opportunity to become fully informed and contribute to program development and service enhancements at Christian Community Aid. Have a voting right in elections for the Christian Community Aid Board and strongly support Christian Community Aid to be a community organisation responding to the needs **of** the people, **for** the people and **by** the people.

VOLUNTEERS THANK-YOU AFTERNOON TEA

The annual Volunteers Thank-You Afternoon Tea will be held on Wednesday 30 July in the Senior Citizens Hall, 159/161 Shaftsbury Road, Eastwood. All volunteers are warmly invited to join in the festivities with fellow volunteers.

PRAYER CORNER

Scripture teaches us not to count anybody out. It tells us that every person we meet is a potential source of life for us if there is only enough heart in us to accept it. Lets make a concentrated effort to spare a thought for families and children who for various reasons feel very vulnerable.



Profile of a Young Volunteer ANDREW MASSEY

"I saw an ad for volunteer drivers and thought I have a car why not...."

Andrew was raised in the local area along with two younger brothers and an older sister. His mother worked locally in retail and his father owned and drove a taxi. Through a love of music Andrew began playing the drums at Eastwood Primary school. He attended Epping Boys High School before studying jazz at the Sydney Conservatorium under guidance from the great Don Burrows. As well as performing at concerts, clubs and various functions with countless bands and artists, Andrew has played on more than seventy CD's. He has taught music for church musicians throughout Asia and toured in Turkey, New Zealand, Fiji, Mongolia, Vanuatu and Kazakhstan.

Music has always been a part of Andrew's life. He continues to teach drums in many local schools, currently tutoring at Epping West Public School and St Josephs College. More recently Andrew has been performing in the musicals "Lion King" as well as "Company" and soon "Alter Boyz".

Andrew attends Epping Baptist Church, enjoys gardening, swimming and catching-up with friends over coffee. He became a volunteer in 1992 and over this time has juggled his work and personal time with his commitment to Christian Community Aid as a medical transport driver. Through a selfless desire to help others Andrew willingly travels near and far and is able to transport clients that require a wheelchair, an additional asset.

Not only is Andrew making a tangible contribution to society he meets many interesting people and numerous characters ranging from the comical to the inspiring.

"It's a great chance to serve the community and hear inspiring stories from some local legends...."

DO YOU HAVE A CAR?

Christian Community Aid is extremely grateful for the continued commitment shown by all our volunteer medical transport drivers. Due to the high demand for the transport service Christian Community Aid would warmly welcome more volunteer drivers who are willing to provide a door-to-door transport service. Petrol vouchers are available. Please phone our Eastwood Office on 9858 3222 if you are able to help.