

# CITYCARE UPDATE



## CITYCARE

is an expression of Hillsong Church, engaging our local communities with the desire to see healthy individuals, families, & communities.

### A NOTE FROM OUR COO

Term 2 for CityCare was a season of new partnerships and opportunities in building hope with vulnerable communities around Australia. I am incredibly proud of our staff and volunteers who have worked tirelessly during this term launching new programs and initiatives.

One of these initiatives was the reimagined and repurposed Easter campaign, 'Love Thy Neighbour' (LTN), which proved to be a great success in providing more fluid, sustainable, and significant support to vulnerable communities. In addition to LTN, the team pioneered new partnerships with our core programs, and throughout the term, we conducted 71 programs across Australia, with attendance of over 15,500.

On behalf of our entire CityCare team, I wanted to express a heartfelt thank you for your generous support in everything we do!

- Jono Denton, COO CityCare Australia



#### OUR VISION

CityCare exists to build hope with vulnerable communities through programs and partnerships that foster healthy families and create safe inclusive communities, for the peace and wellbeing of the city.

#### OUR MISSION

Building hope with vulnerable communities.

#### OUR CORE VALUES

Empowerment, Quality and Effectiveness, Partnership, Leadership and Accountability.

#### OUR TARGET GROUPS

Youth, Women, Children and Families.

#### OUR OBJECTIVE

To partner with communities to address poverty and its causes, through programs and partnerships that empower the next generation, foster healthy families, and create safe, inclusive communities.



“Recently, we had the privilege of witnessing remarkable growth in a student who has faithfully attended our Safe Space program and successfully completed the Shine program. It's truly inspiring to observe the level of comfort this student has developed in forging connections with positive and supportive role models. During a conversation with one of our leaders, the student expressed their profound appreciation for the work we do and expressed a desire to someday give back to the community by volunteering.

This highlights the profound impact our consistent presence has had, as we continue to show up week after week. Witnessing young individuals discover their own sense of belonging and safety within our community is truly awe-inspiring.”

- Emma, QLD Community Worker

## TERM 2 RECAP

In Term 2, we experienced positive results from our efforts to build relationships in Term 1. The impact of our programs became evident through numerous inspiring stories.

National Youth Week was a standout, with two successful events in partnership with PCYC South Sydney and Blacktown. Despite challenging weather, we saw a fantastic turnout and enjoyed a mini festival and basketball competition.

Our Love Thy Neighbour campaign was also a major success, raising just over \$83,000 in donations! With these funds, we assembled 2,874 packs (costing approx. \$30 each) for those experiencing Domestic and Family Violence (DFV) or Homelessness. Most packs have been distributed to our partner organisations throughout NSW & QLD, and VIC will hold a wrap & pack event soon.

Our Team is excited to be heading into Term 3, with several more activities and programs planned!

#### A FEW HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDED

- Several new partnerships with community organisations.
- Several Love Thy Neighbour Wrap & Packs across the country.
- Two new Playgroups launched in NSW & VIC.
- Confirming the launch of a Community Safe space starting in Term 3.
- Seeing the continued impact our programs have on the participants and students.

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

Number of **Safe Spaces**: 14  
Attendance: 9,883

**SHINE**Girl courses: 22  
Attendance: 1,071

**STRENGTH** courses: 14  
Attendance: 712

**Youth Events**: 3  
Attendance: 282

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### WOMEN

**SHINE**Women courses: 6  
Attendance: 181

**Homes of Peace** families supported: 4

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### CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Number of **Playgroups**: 9  
Attendance: 3,547

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### COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Number of **Safe Spaces**: 2  
Attendance: 105

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### CAMPAIGNS & CRISIS RELIEF

**269** Emergency Food Relief Hampers distributed

**1,340** Love Thy Neighbour DFV Packs

**1,534** Love Thy Neighbour Homeless Hampers

“Every Friday morning, we coordinate a Safe Space breakfast club in collaboration with one of our partner schools. Historically, the breakfast club experiences a low turnout on the final day of run it and. Nevertheless, this year, at the school's request, we proceeded to run it and were pleasantly surprised by the remarkable turnout. Numerous students expressed that they would not have attended school if it weren't for the breakfast club. In addition to their overall happiness with the program, the school administration has specifically highlighted the substantial impact it has had on motivating students to attend school.”

- Eva Stringleman, NSW South Manager

## GET INVOLVED

There are a variety of ways for you to get involved with CityCare, whether you're able to give your time, skills or resources.

### PRAY

Pray for our programs and the many participants involved in them. Pray for CityCare staff, volunteers and partner organisations, that our work will continue to be transformational, build hope and create safe, inclusive communities.

### GIVE

Every contribution to CityCare Australia helps to provide tangible response and bring about positive change for youth, children, families and women in our nation. All giving to CityCare Australia over \$2 is tax deductible.

### VOLUNTEER

We have fantastic volunteer opportunities across many of our CityCare programs. If you would like to connect with our team about what volunteer opportunities are currently available, please click the link below.