



MEDIA RELEASE

1 August 2016

A community to be proud of

Rosies is pleased to officially launch its newest Wynnum Manly Branch providing outreach services for those who are homeless, at risk, or simply lonely in our local community on Friday, August 5.

The official launch morning tea commencing at 10.00am will celebrate the outstanding effort of our Bayside community to help get these outreach services up and running to support this unmet local need.

Rosies General Manager, Andrew O'Brien is inspired by the wonderful support shown by the community following considerable planning with various local groups.

"Our new Branch has only been made possible by a collaborative effort with local parishes, our State Member Joan Pease, Councillor Peter Cumming, service groups, businesses, and supporters alike," Mr O'Brien said.

"Sunstate Cement and their suppliers held a charity golf day that provided seed funding for our 100+ trained volunteers, the Anglican Parish of St Paul in Manly has kindly provided our outreach room, and one of our long term supporters generously donated a new van that the Iona College community raised funds for us to fit out and sign, and Bartons Motor Group in Wynnum responded quickly to source and provided a discount," he said.

Bruce Corrie, one of the Wynnum Manly branch coordinators said he is really proud of the local community and has received positive feedback from the volunteers who have enjoyed the first outreach services held in late July.

"Everyone is so excited to be part of the outreach services and to be making a difference in our community; they have all been arriving way earlier than needed, it is terrific to see the enthusiasm," Mr Corrie said.

"Our volunteer teams have been using the opportunity to enjoy a cuppa, bite to eat, and a chat and start getting the word out to our many friends who are simply members of our local community just like you and me," he said.

Tonight, 20,000 Queenslanders are homeless. Nearly half are women. Over 40% are aged 25 or under, more than 3,500 of those are kids 12 and under. The face of homelessness and loneliness is changing. At least 1 in 10 of us will sleep rough in our lifetime. It could be you, it could be me, it could be someone you know.

Get involved or donate now at rosieswynnummanlybranch.gofundraise.com.au



About Rosies - Friends on the Street

Rosies provides unconditional acceptance and friendship to people who are marginalised within our community - especially those who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or simply lonely.

Rosies is a volunteer-based not for profit organisation that commenced in Queensland in 1987 as a youth mission. Today, Rosies have grown to reach out to all of our friends on the street, in the courts, detention centres, prisons, drop-in centres, and more. Rosies continues to engage youth, and the community, through education, awareness, and volunteer programs. These all play a vital role in prevention and support.

Over 95% of Rosies work is funded through kind donations from our local community. It's amazing what a difference a cuppa, bite to eat, and a chat can do. Inspiring dignity, one cuppa at a time.

For more information, visit rosies.org.au

About Rosies Wynnum Manly Branch

Rosies Wynnum Manly branch commenced in July 2016 to provide outreach support to those who are homeless, at risk, or simply lonely within our local community.

So far Rosies has raised \$52,000 thanks to our kind supporters to start services. Over 100 volunteers have been recruited and trained to deliver two daytime and three nighttime outreach services.

Now Rosies needs our community to help to do what they do best. Start fundraising to help Rosies achieve their remaining goal of \$18,000 to purpose fit out the outreach room and first three months' operations.

The branch is also in constant need of items to have a cuppa with our friends. Rosies has the cups thanks to their cuppa partner BioPak. Please help with instant coffee, Milo, biscuits, and serving gloves, as well as blankets and other items.

Get involved or donate now rosieswynnummanlybranch.gofundraise.com.au

Media Enquiries

For media enquiries and photos please contact Rosies - Friends on the Street Communications Officer, Christian Pradayrol on 07 3396 4267 or email media@rosies.org.au