

SPRING 25

ROSIES

Friends on the Street



SHARING FRIENDSHIP CREATES BELONGING. DARE TO REACH OUT TOGETHER.

INSIDE ROSIES

A message from
OUR CEO

KINDNESS
in the toughest of times

Leave a legacy of
COMPASSION



DONATE NOW
through our QR code

Even here there is hope
Buried in the hurt
Before the bloom of a rose
There is a season in the dirt
But something beautiful is on the way
Where you are is not where you were made to stay
Only for a Moment, song by Danny Gokey, 2024

A MESSAGE from our CEO

Sometimes numbers help us to see what words alone cannot. Among recent statistics on poverty and homelessness, one stands out. Up to 70% of Australians experience some degree of economic hardship in their lifetime because of illness, unemployment, disability, relationship breakdown or a life-altering challenge. For many, this hardship is temporary. With support from friends, family or the community, they find their way forward. But for an increasing number of people, recovery is not so simple.

Rising costs, skyrocketing house prices and the ongoing rental crisis are pushing more Queenslanders into homelessness or deep disadvantage. It's no longer just those experiencing long-term homelessness that we see on the streets.

About 3.3 million Australians – 13.4% of the population – live below the poverty line and 761,000 are children. That equals one in every six children. Australia's social services provide a safety net, but many Australians still fall through the cracks. Even those who receive support can feel lonely and hidden in shame and silence.



Many say they feel invisible and the isolation becomes as heavy to bear as the hardship itself.

This is where Rosies plays a vital role in providing support and, most importantly, connection. Our volunteers help restore what poverty and hardship often strip away: dignity, respect, community and hope. But, while our patrons may be in their "season in the dirt," Rosies remains present, walking alongside and offering hope.

Thank you for generously supporting Rosies. Every time you donate or volunteer, you help ensure someone navigating one of the hardest chapters of their life is not alone.

With gratitude and great appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "J Shallcross".

Jayne Shallcross
CEO
Rosies – Friends on the Street



FROM SLEEPING ROUGH TO STABILITY

Kyle's Story

How a small act of kindness made a life-changing difference.

Three years ago, Kyle arrived in Wynnnum with nothing but the clothes on his back. He had nowhere to stay, no safe place to turn, no food and no sense of what came next.

"I was homeless in a tent," Kyle recalls. "They dropped me off here with just what I had on. I didn't have anything."

It was through the local Community Centre that Kyle first heard about Rosies. "Kirsten was the first person I met (on outreach)," he says. "She gave me a sleeping bag and a swag and made sure I had what I needed to get by."

That small act of kindness was the beginning of a relationship that would see Kyle through some of his toughest times.

For the past three years, Kyle has been a familiar face at Rosies outreach. It's the consistency and community that make Rosies feel like more than just a drop-in.

"I usually come on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and sometimes Sunday. I like the chats, the talk, the food and the people. I've met a lot of people through Rosies. They do a wonderful job," Kyle says with a smile. "It makes a big difference. You feel welcome here."

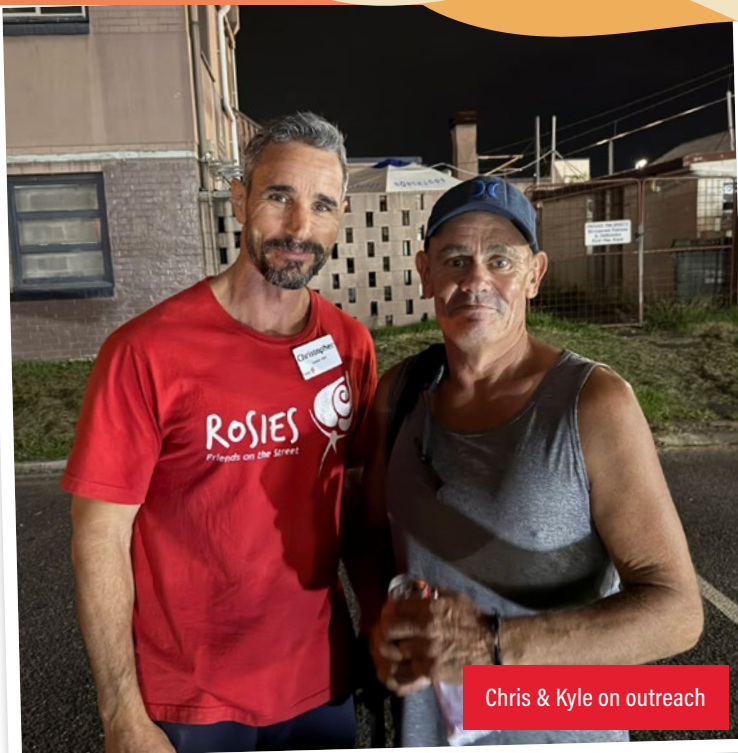
Although he was a little nervous initially, that feeling quickly passed. "It was only that first time. Everyone made me feel really welcome. The service they put on, it's unreal."

Rosies offers more than practical support, such as warm drinks and snacks. It provides something deeper, a sense of connection and dignity. For many friends like Kyle, outreach is a reminder that they're not invisible.

Kyle spent months living on the streets. As a Kiwi living in Australia, he found it difficult to access support. Without government payments or stable services, it's easy to fall through the cracks. "Sometimes it feels like people don't see you, like you're not even here," he shares.

While the experience was far from easy, he speaks about it with quiet strength. "Initially, it was a bit hard, but you just accept it and stay positive. You know it's not going to be forever," he says.

And for Kyle, it wasn't.



Chris & Kyle on outreach

After living at a camp near the Wynnnum boat ramp and then staying with a cousin in Cleveland for six months, Kyle recently found a room to rent in Manly. "I've got a roof now," he says. "It's good. It's a big difference."

But even with a roof over his head, Kyle still comes to Rosies for the people, the conversations and the connection to community.

That's what Rosies does best. It shows up, week after week, with a warm drink, a listening ear, and a genuine sense of care. Volunteers get to know the people they serve, often greeting them by name, asking how their week's been, or checking in on changes in their lives.

Kyle's story is a powerful example of how something small, like a friendly face and a cup of tea, can have a ripple effect. That first outreach visit three years ago may have seemed ordinary to an outsider. But to Kyle, it meant someone saw him, cared about him, and gave him a hand when he needed it most.

"I couldn't think of anything like the service they put on," he says. "It makes a real difference."

Rosies' impact is often quiet but deeply felt. For people doing it tough, having somewhere to go where you're not judged, where you're greeted with a smile and treated with dignity, can be the thing that gets you through the day, or the week, or the years it takes to get back on your feet.

Kyle's journey hasn't been easy. But with persistence, community, and support, he's found some solid ground. And Rosies has been there every step of the way.

To show up for patrons like Kyle, please donate today or join one of our street outreach teams.

Leave a Legacy of **COMPASSION**

Include Rosies - Friends on the Street in Your Will.

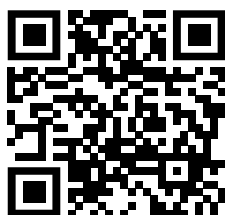
Every night, Rosies volunteers offer connection, comfort and community to those who need it most. By leaving a gift to Rosies in your Will, you ensure this mission continues for future generations.

Your gift will:

- Support vital outreach services across Queensland
- Provide comfort, connection and friendship to people experiencing homelessness, hardship or social isolation

**Rosies gave me hope when I had none.
Knowing people care made all the difference.**

— Kyle, Rosies patron



Contact us to learn more or
receive our Gift in Wills Guide:

07 3396 4267

admin@rosies.org.au

or scan the QR code

ROSIES PRAYER

O Jesus,
make our hearts so human,
that others may feel at home with us,

so like Yours,
that others may feel at home with You,

so forgetful of self
that we might simply become the place
where You and they meet

in the power of Your love and the joy of
Your friendship

Amen

Friendship - A good investment

Please donate online at www.rosies.org.au OR return your completed form to PO Box 431, Cannon Hill QLD 4170

Full Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Donation options

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Visa American Express Mastercard Diners

Card Number _____

Expiry Date _____ CCV _____

Name of Card _____

Signature _____

Option 1: I'd like to make a monthly gift of \$ _____

Option 2: I'd like to make a single gift

☐ \$50 ☐ \$150 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other \$ _____

☐ **Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)**

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Reference NO <your name>

☐ Please send me information on leaving a gift in my Will.



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