



# ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (NSW)

## METROPOLITAN SCHOOLS & YOUTH NEWSLETTER

### Vinnies Winter Appeal 2022



Many individuals and families are still feeling the 'economic hangover' of the pandemic and recent natural disasters across NSW. This year, the money raised from the 2022 Vinnies Winter Appeal ensures continued support for people experiencing homelessness and domestic violence through accommodation, food, healthcare, education, and other relief.

The Vinnies Metro Schools and Youth Team have been, once again, overwhelmed with joy at the support shown by schools across the region. The ongoing commitment and dedication of our school communities has greatly contributed to our ability to provide safety and stability to those who need it most. Thank you for your heartening generosity!

To find out how your school can best support the Winter Appeal or for Sleepout event information, contact your Schools Engagement Officer.

### 2022 Vinnies CEO Sleepout



The [Vinnies CEO Sleepout](#) is a one-night event over one of the longest and coldest nights of the year. Each CEO Sleepout participant commits to raising a minimum amount of funds to help Vinnies provide essential services to the people who need them.

This year, the Vinnies CEO Sleepout raised a record \$9.6 million dollars nationally, with another record \$3.2 million raised in NSW alone.

### Vinnies Community Sleepouts

Parents and teachers – will you register today to help save lives? The Vinnies Community Sleepout is being held on Friday night 19<sup>th</sup> August, and we need you more than ever this year.



If you are over 18, will you take part in the [2022 Central Coast Vinnies Community Sleepout at OLR Wyoming](#) OR [Western Sydney Community Sleepout at WSU Rydalmere](#) and brave a cold winter's night for those in need?

You will have the option to join us online, attend the evenings' events but go home to sleep, or to join us overnight for the full experience of the Community Sleepout.

One night – braving the cold, or the noise, or the lights – to support those in our community for which this is a frightening reality. It just takes one night for you to change lives.

## TERM 3, 2022

We love to hear from you!

Metropolitan Schools & Youth Team

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(Sydney Archdiocese)

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Book a Meeting/Presentation:  
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Please contact Mary Musolino regarding  
Metropolitan Schools Engagement in the  
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**Mini Vinnies Formation Program**

<https://bit.ly/VinniesMVFP>  
[formationprogram@vinnies.org.au](mailto:formationprogram@vinnies.org.au)



## Family Winter Sleepout @ Home

Vinnies NSW are thrilled to announce that Sydney Catholic Schools will be holding the [Family Winter Sleepout @Home](#) once again in 2022 on Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> August.

Last year, schools across the state raised just over \$16,000 and we are hoping to make the 2022 event bigger and better. Participants have the option this year to take part physically at their schools, or virtually from home.

Schools can register now via the following link <https://my.fundraise.vinniesnsw.org.au/fundraise-your-way/family-winter-sleepout-home-2> or by scanning the QR Code.



## Starting Up a Mini Vinnies or High School Conference in 2022

There are many benefits of starting up a Vinnies High School Conference. Students can make a real difference, meet like-minded people passionate about social justice, put their faith into action, participate in fun activities and develop leadership skills to prepare them for life after secondary school.



More information is available through our introductory [video](#). To enquire about starting a Vinnies High School Conference at your school, please contact your Schools Engagement Officer.

## Metropolitan Vinnies Van Services Volunteer Opportunities



With the return of Bayside Night Patrol, Liverpool Night Patrol, Greater Western Sydney Night Patrol and Brekky Van, Vinnies is seeking assistance from school communities to join the following rosters:

- Liverpool Night Patrol (ongoing monthly commitment)
- Bayside Night Patrol Sandwich Making (6 month commitment)
- Liverpool Night Patrol Sandwich Making (6 month commitment)
- Greater Western Sydney Night Patrol Sandwich Making (6 month commitment)
- Bayside Night Patrol Food Preparation (ad hoc/flexible dates)

To join one or more of the above rosters, please contact your Schools Engagement Officer. Metropolitan Vinnies Van Services are welcoming and appreciative of snack pack donations as we endeavour to provide up to 300 snack packs to people experiencing/at risk of homelessness every night across Greater Sydney.

## VINNIES SCHOOL RESOURCES

The Mini Vinnies Starter Kit, our Vinnies National Secondary School Conference Guide, various Social Justice Fact Sheets, and our Vinnies Spirituality Guide: Year C are available to download for free from <https://youthnsw.vinnies.org.au/resources>

## RETAIL VOLUNTEERING

Duke of Edinburgh students aged 14+ and all other students aged 16+ are invited to volunteer in our Vinnies Retail Stores. Volunteering is a fantastic way to increase your skills, experience, employability and to be engaged in the community.

Vinnies is particularly seeking regular volunteers in: Willoughby, Balgowlah, Narrabeen, Manly, Forestville, Mosman, Sutherland, Rockdale, Caringbah and around the Gosford region.

Apply to be a Vinnies Shop Volunteer at <https://vinnies.org.au/shopvolunteernsw>

## WRITE TO THE NSW PREMIER TO HELP THOSE WITHOUT A PLACE TO CALL HOME

As part of our response to rising homelessness and the enormous wait list for social housing, the Society continues to call for increased investment in social housing. We have started a letter writing campaign and aim to send the NSW Premier a letter a day in the 300 days leading up to the March 2023 election.

Send us a handwritten letter stating why homelessness needs to be addressed and calling for 5,000 new social housing homes every year for the next ten years. We've prepared a [short video](#) that can be used to raise awareness of the importance of social housing and address details with a [guide for letter-writing](#). Email a copy of your letter to [social.justice@vinnies.org.au](mailto:social.justice@vinnies.org.au)





# VINNIES METRO YOUTH

If you would like to know more about or connect with Vinnies Youth (for individuals aged 18-35 years) in your local area, please get in touch with Vinnies Metro Youth Engagement Officer [Alysha Wong-O'Connor](#) (Allie).

## Vinnies Christmas in July

On Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July, the Redfern and Rozelle Vinnies regions hosted their annual Christmas in July event for clients within the region who are/have been experiencing hardship. This was the first time the event had been held since 2019, due to COVID, and the day was, once again, a fantastic success!

Individuals, couples and families of all ages attended the event at Le Montage, where they were able to indulge in a delicious 3-course meal prepared and donated by Navarra Venues, sing along to Christmas (in July) carols, and participate in a raffle competition.

The day would not have been possible without Navarra Venues who also donated an array of goodie bags filled with yummy snacks, books, toys, and gifts tailored to adults and children of all ages, who attended the event.

All children were invited to participate in a colouring-in competition, prepare their own Bookmarks, have their face painted and receive their own balloon animals to take home.

Many thanks to all Vinnies Members, Youth Volunteers, staff, and Navarra Venues for making this day possible!



## Vinnies Buddies and Teens Days

This program provides recreational days, from 8am - 4pm on weekends, for young people aged 5-12 (Buddies Days) and 12-16 (Teens Days), whose families are experiencing hardship and have sought assistance through Vinnies. Buddies and Teen Days also give parents and carers a little respite from caring responsibilities.

Recent Buddies Days have been generously hosted at Parramatta Marist High School (Westmead), De La Salle College (Caringbah), and Mount Saint Joseph Catholic College (Milperra).

Other fun experiences have included bowling with arcade games, Sydney Aquarium, Wild Life at Darling Harbour, with upcoming dates booked in for Putt Putt Golf, Escape Rooms and the Reptile Park.

If you are aged between 18 and 35 years and are interested in becoming a Buddies/Teens Day volunteer, please contact Allie [Alysha.Wong-O'Connor@vinnies.org.au](mailto:Alysha.Wong-O'Connor@vinnies.org.au)

