



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY in
COFFS HARBOUR and WOOLGOOLGA**



A HELPING HAND

We are all very much aware of the ‘cost of living crisis’ which exists in today’s society and this region is not immune from that. The St Vincent de Paul Society in both Coffs Harbour and Woolgoolga is committed to supporting those of us who are experiencing both financial hardship and the insecurity of homelessness.

Our organisation has aimed to address the problem on two fronts. Firstly, our ‘Vinnies’ shops in Scarba Street, Coffs Harbour and Market Street, Woolgoolga sell premium used clothing, blankets, bed linen, towels, and small household items, including children’s toys, at very discounted prices. Staffed by volunteers, you are warmly welcomed into both stores to browse and select from the wide variety of goods available. Please consider volunteering a little of your own time to help in the store. Any assistance is warmly appreciated, and you simply need to enquire next time you visit.

On the second front, a number of volunteers work ‘behind the scenes’ offering financial assistance and a ‘sympathetic ear’ to those in our community who need assistance in difficult times. It goes without saying of course that the funding for this important service derives mostly from the funds raised in our stores. Another good reason to visit them and ‘grab yourself a bargain’. As with the stores, those behind the scenes are always seeking those of you with a compassionate heart, and the ability to work as a team, to join them in this very important work. If you would like to join us, please send an email, or enquire at the Parish Office.

If you, or someone you know, requires that little bit of extra help, please phone 6650 0172 between 8.15 am and 9.00 am on Monday and Wednesday mornings . If you are in Woolgoolga, phone 6654 1819 between 9.00 am and 9.30 am on Tuesday and Friday mornings.

In addition to the above, it is important to acknowledge the Vinnies NSW ‘Special Works’ in our region. *Pete’s Place* in the Community Village (next to the Coles supermarket) provides welcome assistance in the form of showers, toilets, laundry facilities and light meals, but most importantly, a friendly face and information hub. *North Coast Settlement Service* is also in the Community Village and provides much needed support for migrants and refugee families in our area. Also, now, we have the *Vinnies Outreach Van* which provides light meals for homeless people in a variety of locations in our region.

Send a query to our email addresses if you would like any further information.

St Augustine’s Conference, Coffs Harbour, NSW: coffsharbour.conference@vinnies.org.au
St Louise’s Conference, Woolgoolga, NSW: woolgoolga.conference@vinnies.org.au

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