

# IMPACT REPORT 2020

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**ABN 32098850042**

# PATHWAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

## GIVING HOPE

**Pathway Community Centre exists to give hope to those experiencing tough times.**



Pathway offers support to the local community in a number of ways. We provide relief by providing food to those in need, and we partner with multiple groups, churches, and schools to distribute food beyond our storefront. During 2020 our database grew significantly, now representing over 3600 individuals and families who experience food insecurity. In January 2020, Pathway was recognised by our local City of Tea Tree Gully as Outstanding Community Group of the Year.

The No Interest Loan Schemes (NILS) has been a successful service provided at Pathway for 14 years. We are able to support many families, giving them the ability to purchase goods of value instead of getting into debt. We also provide counselling support and inclusion for people experiencing hardship in the community.

Thank you for your sponsorship of your Pathway Community Centre ministry and the huge impact in a world-wide Kingdom context. From our little storefront, Pathway has had an enormous year, and with our great team of volunteers we have been able to bless an extraordinary number of people across Adelaide and beyond.

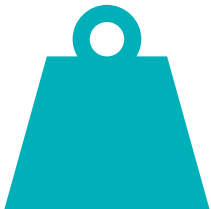


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## FOOD ASSISTANCE

### Pathway feeds 150 families every day!

Pathway's food assistance program serves people experiencing food insecurity where they receive food free of charge, meaning they are able to do more with their limited resources. This supports increased economic participation, enabling personal choice and agency. In alleviating hunger, providing nourishment, and affirming their sense of dignity, Pathway plays a part in supporting improved health and wellbeing of people in need.



840,000 KG  
OF FOOD RESCUED



1.8 MILLION  
MEALS PROVIDED  
(BASED ON A 450  
GRAM /MEAL METRIC)

### Impacts of COVID-19

Even in our local community, as a result of COVID-19 many people who had modest income have lost employment and now have no income. They did not have the luxury to be able to stockpile, or buy from more expensive food outlets. Fruit and vegetable prices escalated; many pantry staples were simply not available at retailers. Many are now fully reliant on Pathway for food relief. In 2020 more than 1500 new clients enrolled with Pathway for assistance. Due to increased stress around food insecurity, mental health has deteriorated. Our staff see daily the increase in anxiety in our clients. Social interaction is severely curtailed due to isolation. Our clients come from all over the region, anywhere from Gawler to Glenelg. Many social workers and carers report that there is nowhere else like Pathway where they can access the crisis relief for their clients. We acknowledge SecondBite and OzHarvest, our donor partners, without whom we absolutely could not do what we do.

# PATHWAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

## COMMUNITY AT PATHWAY

Our vision at Pathway is not just about food assistance. Pathway is about community: loving and caring for our volunteers as well as our clients. Our consistent motto has been: "The food we give is not just an end in itself but a means to a greater end - creating community and restoring hope."

Our Craft Connections and English as a Second Language groups stand in the gap - creating community and breaking down some of the barriers that keep people isolated and lonely. What a great ministry to 50 and more ladies as they come together on a Wednesday morning! Most of these Craft ladies are not from Clovie and the "God-spot" presented by Coordinator Jenny Lewis and others in the team, may be the only spiritual input in their week. Similarly with our English classes - Jody Chambers and her team have a one-to-one student/tutor interactions, and these may be the only English-speaking people our students can relate to in their week marked by social isolation because of language.

## ASSISTING PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“My name is Jody Chambers, and I am the Pastoral Care Worker for two public schools in the North East area. I would like to thank Pathway for all their assistance in providing food supplies with gifts for 20 families this Christmas. All families expressed their gratitude to the people who were involved - most of whom they will never know or get to thank in person. Many recipients wanted to know about the organisations involved that provide this service and why people would be so kind. This gave me an opportunity to explain how Christian people work together in the Pathway ministry. Every family had a story of hardship - some found themselves in difficult situations only just before Christmas. I was able to have a longer chat with a few families, and raise awareness of my role and purpose in the school. Many thanks to Pathway and all the many 'hands' who work there!

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# PATHWAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

200

VOLUNTEERS  
ACROSS PATHWAY  
& TREASURED

“I work with a wonderful team here who are amazing people who reach out to the community. When I first got in touch with Pathway, I was a client. I had lost my job and was not getting enough hours. I have a nine-year old son and life was extremely tough. We needed help with rent assistance and food. We came to Pathway and we were welcomed and it was amazing. They sorted us out with food and emotional support as well. It was just amazing to have that support with no judgement and with care which imploded on my self-esteem and my son’s life for us. I was so moved by meeting with the leaders, John and the team, and I decided that I wanted to volunteer here. They are amazing people. I’ve learnt a lot, and it’s like an extension of my own family. Our clients are not judged: they are welcomed. If they need a chat, we’re there. It’s an amazing place that John and Kaye have developed here with their team. It’s just fantastic for the community to have a service like this that they can come to. For myself, it’s a personal engagement with each person who works here. We’re very aware of the wellbeing of our staff and each other. We have the time to discuss how we’re feeling and our experiences. Also the team, if we are struggling with things in our own lives, or just need a listening ear the team that is here are just amazing that we are there for each other, that we’re not judging, and can have those small confidential discussions, they are just amazing with the support that we give each other. It flows on to their families, and their children (a lot of us do have children) and they are just welcomed if they want to come in and help, which is fantastic for the kids to learn those experiences also. A lot of the children have become friends and we see these families outside so kids can meet up. But the environment is incredible in the support and it’s so rewarding to be a part of it and to meet some fabulous people.”

- J.K., a volunteer at Pathway

# PATHWAY COMMUNITY CENTRE



Well, 2020 has definitely been the most unusual year during my time as Manager. Due to COVID, we had to shut the shop for two months to ensure the safety of our volunteers and customers. We re-opened with a bang and still made budget! God is good and meets us in all shortfalls.

2020 was a year of being a part of a team that suffered many tragedies amongst our volunteers; the death of a husband due to COVID, a son's suicide and the sudden death of one of our team. It was a blessing to see the team bond even stronger through these times. There were great opportunities to reach out in prayer and support and to genuinely nurture one another. God is good and meets us in our grief and challenges.

We organised our first "Op on, Op off" tour this year. With a minibus full of avid shoppers, we set off to visit five op shops with Treasured being last on our list. Many aboard had never been to Treasured and it was a great opportunity to share the work of Pathway with them. Lots of fun, laughter and bargain hunting was had! God is good and meets us in joyful experiences.

We had an unusual request towards the end of the year. Could we supply some formal wear to the Year 7 graduation classes at the Pines Primary School? Yes, we were happy to do that as well as handbags and jewellery. We were able to bless some of the students for their special occasion as well as continue to support one young lady with everyday clothes. God is good and shows us how to meet other's needs. Then in late November we were blessed by a local manufacturer with the donation of 300+ pairs of quality school shoes. What a blessing to be able to distribute these to our local schools! Wellbeing officers were really touched as they walked out of Pathway with 20-30 pairs of shoes, knowing what a difference they would make for disadvantaged kids. One student said, "Now I can wear shoes that don't hurt."

As we look forward to reconfiguring the Treasured shops next year, I am so thankful to have the privilege of leading this volunteer team who give so much and with so much passion, hard work and joy. God is good, all the time.

- Val D'Arcy, Treasured Op Shop Manager

# PATHWAY FINANCE

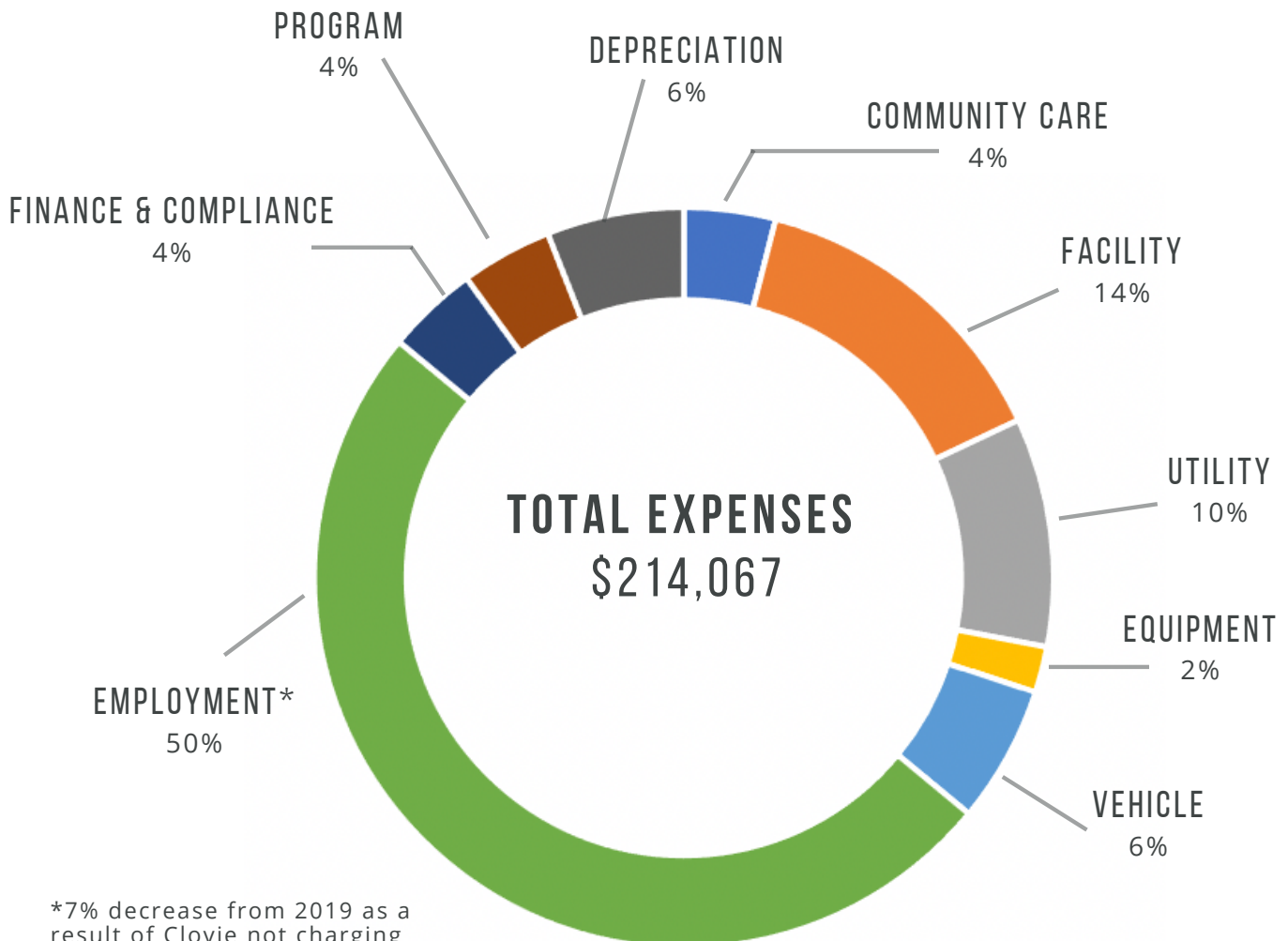
**TREASURED  
REVENUE**  
\$168,459

↑  
2%  
increase  
from 2019

**DONATIONS**  
\$72,056

**OTHER INCOME**  
\$30,835

**TOTAL REVENUE**  
\$271,349



\*7% decrease from 2019 as a result of Clovie not charging Pathway for employment expenses for 6 months, due to COVID.