



# Working together to serve more people in need



## **Our vision**

**‘Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.’**

## **Our mission**

Continuing the work of Jesus Christ  
in Word and deed

# Because every life matters

Each year, more than 160,000 people from all life stages find support, care and compassion at Wesley Mission.

We provide more than 120 services to people most in need in communities across New South Wales and Australia. And this diversity makes us unique. Through holistic care, we can help meet the challenges of the people and communities we serve. To let each person know, 'we are here for you'.

## Filling the gaps in Australia's community services sector

While there are always people at risk of falling between the cracks of Australia's social services funding, we're committed to ensuring people receive help when and how they need it.

As new needs arise, we rise to meet them through our innovative community services and advocacy grounded in research and experience, giving our voice authenticity and authority; partnerships with like-minded organisations and coalitions, and reflecting the voices of the people and communities we serve.

While change is constant, it's the extensive skills and experience of our people, generosity of our volunteers and donors and funds raised from our high-quality fee-for-service programs that make it possible to do all the good we can.

## And at the heart of it all is our Christian faith

Our congregation members and frontline community services teams stand shoulder to shoulder to live out our Word and deed mission. Together, we're committed to living out our Christian faith by providing compassionate care and practical support to as many people as possible because we believe that every life matters.

## Together we can make a difference

We connect with many people in crisis, some even on the worst day of their lives. And the demand for our services continues to grow. We'll continue to offer people hope and help by providing services to meet their real needs. But we can't do it alone. Join us to help more people in need, we're stronger together.



**Rev Stu Cameron**  
CEO and Superintendent



# We can help in more ways than you think

At Wesley Mission we put people first because we believe every life matters. There's no challenge too difficult. When someone walks through our doors, our dedicated people are ready to respond to the whole of their needs. How do we achieve this? Through the breadth of services we offer and the quality of care we provide.

We're here to walk alongside each person during their entire journey, to strengthen their future and offer solutions to support their needs through our integrated community services approach.

Our diversity is our strength. We support people at every stage of life from ages 0 to 100... and in many ways – from housing and accommodation to counselling, child and parenting support and education and training, to preventing suicide at a local level and providing professional mental health services, to supporting people with disability and our work in home care, foster care and beyond.

Underlying everything we do is our Christian faith that inspires us to do all the good we can. And it's through the work of our caring staff and volunteers, and the congregations, donors and partners, that we can tap in to our strengths and expertise to support the most vulnerable members of our society to face life's challenges, and help them achieve their goals. No matter how big or small the circumstance or challenge, we're here for all Australians.





# As needs change and grow, so do we

When we see a need, and where the needs may be worsening or not being addressed by existing services, we adapt to meet them. In doing so, Wesley Mission is tackling some of the biggest social challenges facing Australian communities and as new needs arise, we rise to meet them.

## Breaking the cycle of homelessness

In Australia, there are more than 100,000 people who are homeless each year. No one chooses to be homeless, it can happen to anyone, and its causes are many. As a general rule, for every year that someone has spent in homelessness they require a year of support beyond homelessness to help break the cycle of homelessness.

To help break the cycle, our focus is on prevention, early intervention and providing the ongoing assistance people need to make sure their next move is forward and that they maintain it. We do this by meeting people with the level of support they need – from short-term crisis accommodation to long-term housing or rent assistance for those on the brink of homelessness.

## Building stronger families

More than one in six children in Australia live in poverty. Wesley Mission focuses on identifying and addressing risks – such as long-term unemployment, mental illness and drug and alcohol addiction – before they lead to family breakdown. Through counselling, parenting skills, employment support, financial education and other services, we help parents give children the care and security they need for a healthy start to life.

## Helping young people build brighter futures

One in 11 young people in Australia are not in education or work. Wesley Mission supports young people facing bullying, violence, alcohol and drug use, homelessness and other difficulties, to build skills for life and access practical support. We help them reconnect with their family, connect with support services and

learn to value themselves so they can believe in, and work towards, a brighter future.

## Giving children the permanency they need

There are almost 50,000 Australian children in foster care. We believe all children deserve to experience safe, continuous and stable living arrangements and lifetime relationships, and to have a sense of belonging.

So, we seek the most suitable path to a permanent, loving home for each child in our care and to provide them with the support they need by drawing on our range of services. Sometimes this is achieved through restoration to their families, other times it happens through short or long-term residential care with fostering families, guardianship or adoption, or by providing them with mentoring or respite. We continue to support young people leaving care especially through key life transitions such as starting and finishing school, starting a career and preparing to live independently by providing tailored, flexible outreach support to meet each young person's specific needs.

## Giving choice and control to people with disability

One in five Australians have disability. Wesley Mission provides the opportunity for people with disability to live the life they want by offering a wide range of services to help improve their wellbeing and independence.

## Improving mental health

Mental illness affects around 20 per cent of Australians every year, and almost half of the population has suffered a mental disorder at some time in their life.

Our two private hospitals, in Ashfield and Kogarah, specialise in providing high-quality and compassionate mental health care to treat mental illness, addictions and other challenges. As a leader in community awareness, education and support we offer an extensive range of in-patient and day patient programs, psychiatric support and 24/7 crisis support.

### Preventing suicide across Australia

Each year, more than 3,000 people die by suicide in Australia. This equates to more than eight deaths by suicide in Australia each day. Through our suicide prevention programs, we aim to help those at risk of suicide find the assistance they need.

We've been providing telephone crisis support since 1963 when we founded Lifeline. Today, Wesley Mission is a leader in suicide prevention programs. Our ground-breaking Wesley LifeForce Networks empower communities to deliver local, targeted strategies along with education and training to recognise the warning signs and to prevent further loss, and we provide ongoing support to those bereaved by suicide.

### Helping older people live healthy, vibrant lives

Older people make up a considerable proportion of Australia's population, with over one in seven Australians aged 65 or older. And the number and proportion of older Australians is expected to continue to grow.

We work closely with older people and their families to help them choose the accommodation, lifestyle services and level of care they need to live the life they want. Whether that's moving into residential care or retirement living, receiving a helping hand around the house to remain living safely and

comfortably in their own home or learning new skills in a supportive and stimulating environment.

### Supporting a diverse Australian workforce

Employment and education are crucial to breaking the cycle of disadvantage.

Our accredited courses in business, aged care, community services, hospitality and other topics support people to develop their skills, build their careers and fulfil their life goals. We work closely with employers from all industries to ensure our learners – including those with disability, injury or health conditions – are workplace ready with the skills employers are looking for.

### Taking action against problem gambling

Australia has the highest rate of gambling in the world.

Gambling not only affects adults, but it also affects young people, with rates for teenagers two to three times those of adults. Not only do we raise awareness about the dangers of problem gambling, we provide individualised counselling and community legal services support for those impacted by this growing problem.

### Lifting financial literacy levels

Financial literacy is a key factor in creating financial and personal wellbeing, it's critical to our quality of life. Through our financial counselling service Wesley Mission works with individuals and families who are experiencing financial hardship to help them manage and break the cycle of debt and take control of their finances. Our counsellors support them in times of crisis and will also advocate or negotiate on their behalf with creditors, government agencies and others.

## ... with the support of people like you

Supporting more than 160,000 people each year is made possible through the work of our caring staff and volunteers, and our congregations, donors and partners who help realise our shared vision for a stronger future. Working together we can make a real difference in the lives of people in need.

### Donate, and make a difference today

Each year, Wesley Mission helps hundreds of thousands of people in need. But we can't do it without you. For more information or to make a donation, visit us online or call 1800 021 821.

### Volunteer with us

Through their experience and skills, compassion and commitment, Wesley Mission volunteers help us to provide more services, to more people, more often into the future. Some of our services only exist because we have volunteers to deliver them.

Visit us online or call (02) 9263 5551 to find out how to join our team of volunteers.

### Fundraise for us

From running a marathon to baking cakes and everything in between, you have the power to help people in need in your community. Visit us online to find out how.

### Leave a gift in your Will

We believe it takes a lot of love, faith and commitment to engage in the lives of people in need. Our work is as diverse as the people we walk alongside, so we shape our programs, church services and activities to support people – wherever they are on their journey.

By leaving a gift in your Will to Wesley Mission, you can leave a legacy that lives beyond your natural life to touch others with an act of unconditional love. To discover how, visit us at [wesleymission.org.au/Wills](http://wesleymission.org.au/Wills)

### Partner with us

If you represent a brand committed to corporate social responsibility, we can make 'doing all the good you can' simple and rewarding.

There are many ways you can work with us such as encouraging employee volunteering, offering pro-bono work, sponsoring events and services or launching payroll giving. But we're always open to new and innovative ways to help our community's most in need.

Our team tailors partnerships for social impact that add value to your brand and fulfil your social responsibility objectives. Visit us online or call us on (02) 9263 5551 to find out how we can partner together.

### Shop with us

With the Wesley Gift Shop, you can buy heartfelt gifts that make a difference for everyone on your shopping list, while helping some of the most vulnerable people in our community.

The Wesley Gift Shop makes buying heartfelt gifts easy. With a range of gift options available, your money will go directly towards the Wesley Mission community programs related to the gift of your choice.

**For more information on how you can support our work to help more people, visit [wesleymission.org.au](http://wesleymission.org.au) now.**

# Professional services and community impact

Wesley Mission owns and operates commercial ‘businesses with heart’ that offer professional services for you and your organisation. They exist to run as successful businesses with the advantage of being able to give back to the community.

By choosing to host your next event with us, or to cater for your next meeting, conference or occasion, you’re helping to make a real difference to the lives of people in need, with the proceeds from your event going directly towards our work with vulnerable Australians. And by choosing to engage in our businesses with heart, you’ll be helping build a society where all individuals have the opportunity to make the most of their abilities.

## Wesley Conference Centre

One of Sydney’s premier conference venues, Wesley Conference Centre is the ideal location for your next corporate event, training seminar or meeting. Located in the heart of Sydney’s CBD, on Pitt Street, our tiered Wesley Theatre and range of multi-purpose conference rooms are supported by in-house catering and an on-site audio visual team.

## Wesley Catering

By choosing Wesley Catering for your next gathering, you’ll experience our high-quality food and service while supporting Wesley Mission’s life-changing work in communities across Sydney. We call it food with heart.

With two professional kitchens, we can provide mobile catering across Greater Sydney, including Norwest Business Park, Parramatta CBD and Sydney CBD.

## Businesses with heart

We train and employ people living with disability and other vulnerabilities in a range of professional services. When you use our gardening, cleaning, graffiti removal and packaging services, not only will you receive a high level of professional service but you’ll be helping people with disability and other vulnerabilities participate in the workforce and experience independence and a sense of purpose.



## We'll find a way to help

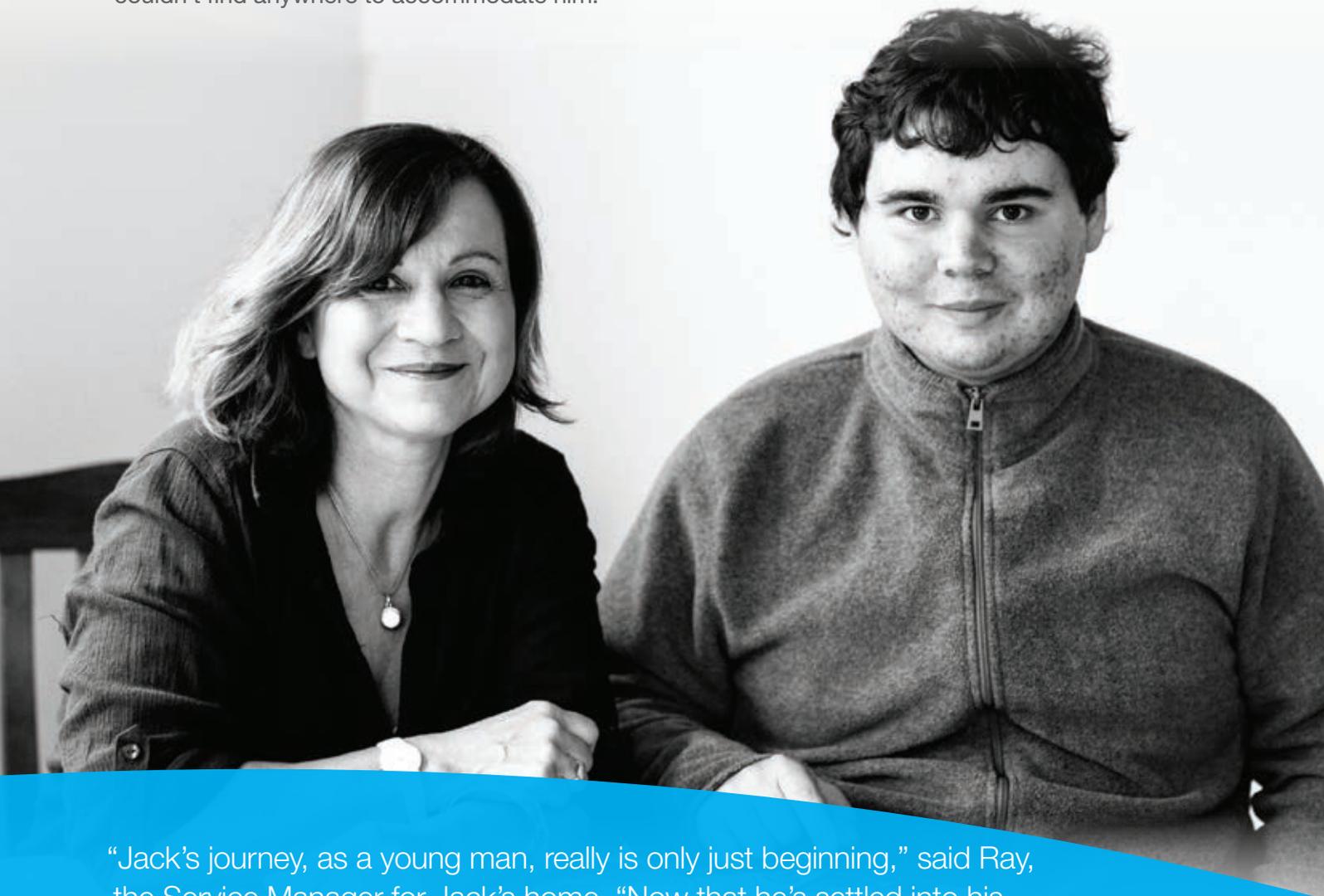
Wesley Mission is committed to walking alongside everyone who needs us on their journey, for however long they need us. Here are two stories of people who share how Wesley Mission has supported them. And with your support, we can help more people like Jack and Jemimah.

### A personalised response to a family crisis

**“Jack was 17 and three quarters... [the government] said, ‘Well, we’ve got nowhere for him. He’s not 18 so we can’t put him in a group home’. There were no options.”**

Jack has severe autism, and when his support needs suddenly changed he needed to move into specialist disability care for the safety of himself and his family. Jack’s mother, Elena, contacted Wesley Mission for help because she couldn’t find anywhere to accommodate him.

We worked with Elena to transform a vacant house into supported disability accommodation for Jack, with 24/7 staff. And we advocated on Jack’s behalf to gain funding for him under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).



“Jack’s journey, as a young man, really is only just beginning,” said Ray, the Service Manager for Jack’s home. “Now that he’s settled into his accommodation setting, Jack will continue to make progress with day-to-day self-care and relationship building and engage in more interests and motivational goals.”

## Finding support – just at the right time

**Escaping a domestic violence relationship and unplanned pregnancy at just 20, Jemimah faced the challenge of raising her young son, Arthur, alone.**

But little did she know God was working behind the scenes. It's something that she sees so clearly now.

Six months after Arthur was born, Jemimah received a call from Anita, a consultant at Wesley ParentsNext, – a program which helps parents achieve their education and employment goals.

Jemimah says Anita came into her life just at the right time. For Jemimah, Anita became the shoulder she could lean on and someone she could confide in.

“Anita’s always thinking of my needs and goes above and beyond in our time together,” Jemimah says. “She told me that any time I needed anything, to just ask.”

Straightaway Anita supported Jemimah with emergency relief, including food and fuel vouchers. Anita then organised for Jemimah to study a CHC32015 Certificate III in Community Services at Wesley Vocational Institute (RTO Code 90091). Still breastfeeding, this course gave this new mum the flexibility she needed to balance her studies around her parenting duties.

Needing a place to live, Anita also connected Jemimah with Nicole from Wesley Youth Accommodation who helped find them home and secure brokerage funds so Jemimah could buy furniture.

“It’s been God’s grace given to me that I’ve been able to have all these [Wesley Mission] providers come to me and give me support,” Jemimah shares.

While it wasn’t easy stepping out on her own, Jemimah says having the full support of Wesley Mission, along with her faith, has made it possible.





## Get involved

To volunteer, donate or leave a gift in your Will  
visit [wesleymission.org.au](http://wesleymission.org.au)

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ABN 42 164 655 145 Wesley Mission is a part of the Uniting Church in Australia.



We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work. We pay our respects to their Elders and the Elders from other communities past, present and future generations.

**Do all the good you can**  
because every life matters