

Address: 80 John St, Camden, NSW 2570 **Phone**: 1300 946 435 or 02 4655 1567

Fax: 02 4655 1758

Email: <u>turningpointcamden@gmail.com</u>
Facebook: Turning Point Community Connections

Website: turningpointcamden.org.au

If Nothing Changes, Nothing Changes

NEWSLETTER December 2014

Much has happened since our last newsletter. Local Camden business, Inspirations on Argyle, sponsored our first fundraising event.



A High Tea was held at Theresa Park which included a fashion parade, raffles, silent



auction and of course incredibly delicious food. Camden businesses were very generous with their



donations of food and gifts and so too were the



volunteers who worked tirelessly in the heat and in their kitchens.



A huge thankyou to the local community, all 150 of you, for making the event so worthwhile. A particular thankyou to Camden Hire for their extreme generosity.



It was a wonderful opportunity to inform the community about the centre and how they can personally support it.



We were successful in receiving our first grant from Camden Council's **Community Small Grants** Program. The purpose of the grant was the purchase of new equipment and software for our Basic Computer Training Program. We have had a number of students successful in job applications who have participated in the course. We are very appreciative of the councils support. Camden Council staff are also very generous with continual donations of pantry food for the centre's Food Relief program. Since August, 42 food hampers have been distributed to the community.

Cobbity Village Markets were very generous also with their donation that will be used to purchase outdoor equipment for outreach events in the community. This will enable us to directly distribute flyers and further share how we can support those in the

community they may know that are facing challenging situations.

Camden Uniting Church,
Camden C3 Church and St
Vincent DePaul are
partnering with Turning
Point to provide local
families facing a bleak
Christmas with Hamper
items of food, toys and
vouchers. This is another
form of support for
families that we been
partnering with over the
year.

We purchased a much needed upright freezer due to the blessing of a donation from the profits from a cake drive through Camden Uniting Church.





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A young women's group have created a variety of Christmas cards and tags that are available for purchase from the centre and Inspirations on Argyle at 90/100 Argyle St Camden.



The card craft supplies were donated by a very generous member of the community.



We welcome our new Counsellor on board who has previous experience in working within a community setting. She will provide much needed support in this area to the Women's Support Network Group.

A new group has been established called Camden Carer's Wellbeing Group. It meets the first Wednesday of the month at Turning Point, providing social connection for carers of a person living with a mental illness. Activities include mediation, relaxation, craft, education and information.

Through the Benevolent Society's Money Minded Facilitator Training, developed by ANZ, we are now able to offer this free educational program that improves basic budgeting, saving and money management skills. It helps people to learn to live beyond their means, increase their savings and assets, manage credit and debt and plan for the future. This will be delivered by a trained Turning Point volunteer by appointment.

Camden Uniting's
Sisterhood group have been
busily purchasing items and
making blankets for Care
Packages. Money was
raised with the vision in
mind to support a
community project. These

packages will be given to people facing homelessness who come through the centre. They contain specific items that will be very practical for those sleeping in cars, under bridges and in parks.

The Women's Support
Network group has
welcomed many
newcomers and enjoyed
its various activities.
Janell's relaxation
sessions, Jenny's massage,
Polly's reflexology,



Belinda's After Dark Candles and Kimberley's Fair Trade education and products to name a few.





As a group, we have created a gorgeous blanket of knitted squares to hand over to Baptist Community Services Chisholm Care. This blanket will bless a family that has been affected by domestic violence.

We will continue to knit both squares for further blankets and also men's and women's beanies and berets for Centrelink's 2015 Homeless Hub, supporting the homeless community in Macarthur.





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Mike and I are truly grateful for this amazing opportunity to partner with you and the community, in the blessing and privilege of speaking goodness into the lives of people facing so many challenging situations. With your support many lives can continue to be changed, one day at a time.

Thankyou for partnering with us through our first year where much has happened and many lives already have been touched by the generosity and kindness of so many people.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and God's Blessings throughout the coming year.



Praise Points

- God's providence of finances and volunteers
- The blessings of the growth of relationships
- The positive feedback from the community
- The encouragement of other Service Providers and relationships built
- General support of the community with pantry food

<u>Prayer Points</u>:

- Provision of ongoing crisis pantry food.
- Protection over the premises.
- Health and safety of staff and community visitors.
- · Wisdom in decision making.

We Need Your Support

So how can you help?

By donations of:

Non-perishable food for the pantry

Disposable plastic containers for take-away meals

Stationary items
e.g. photocopy paper, manila
folders, pens and laminate sheets
Monetary donations towards the
purchase of another two laptop
computers.

Food for the ongoing breakfast program and light lunches available 3 days per week.

Donations can be made in person, via EFT or directly to:

Macarthur Credit Union

Account Name:

Turning Point Community Connections

BSB 802-388

S1 Account 100069413

Contact Davina on:

02 4655 1567 or email turningpointcamden@gmail.com to arrange a time to drop off any donations.