

Newsletter



www.temcare.org.au



Welcome to our 2019
September newsletter

Partnering



Temcare

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Partnering

Temcare has always been reliant upon its wonderful supporters to provide services to vulnerable families within the Victorian community. Whether they are our respite carers for children or mentors for adolescents, their service and dedication has been invaluable and instrumental in helping people understand more of God's love and care for them. Our prayer and financial supporters have also been the foundation that has enabled our staff and volunteers to provide essential services to our community.

This newsletter is dedicated to telling the stories of some of the wonderful work undertaken by our various partners. Hopefully, it will also challenge you to either commence or renew a partnership with Temcare that will enable us to be a source of Christian hope for others.



“FOR I KNOW THE PLANS I HAVE FOR YOU,” DECLARES THE LORD, “PLANS TO PROSPER YOU AND NOT TO HARM YOU, PLANS TO GIVE YOU HOPE AND A FUTURE.”
JEREMIAH 29:11

Stories Of Our Partners

Our Original Carers

You cannot begin this process without telling the stories of some of our original partners who were the ones who caught Stan Chilcott's original vision to care for vulnerable children and to support families in need.

Debbie's Foster Family

Debbie's story was recounted in the booklet we produced for our 50th anniversary in 2018. It is inspiring and illustrates the important role that our respite care program has had in redeeming the lives of children.

Here are some of the telling comments made by Debbie about her experiences:

"My mother struggled and had no family support. As a result, she sometimes just abandoned us."

"We were placed in alternative care on a regular basis... I lived rough on the streets... I certainly didn't want to end up in prostitution or topless dancing..."

"I asked to contact my foster family from when I was younger, and they agreed. My foster parents – who had fostered with Temcare for some time – were happy to have me for the night... That 'one night' lasted for about four years."

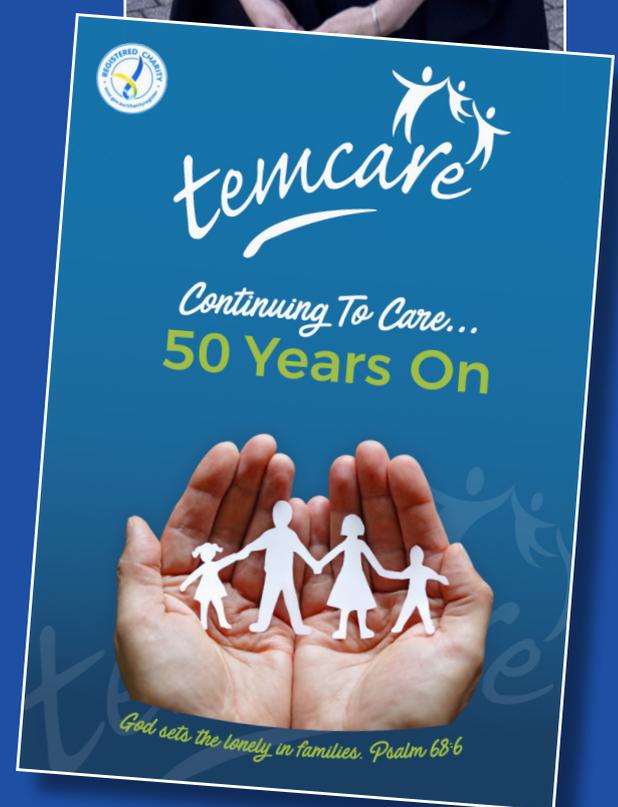
"I have nothing but fond memories of my Temcare social workers. Wow. They were wonderful."

"They [her Temcare 'foster parents'] said that I was part of their family and that I was wasting my time trying to get rejected, because that wasn't going to happen."

"I can honestly tell you now that I would either be in prison or dead if my foster parents said they couldn't cope with me at age 15."



Debbie



Anthony's 'Mum and Dad'

The story of Anthony and the support he received from his carers is also inspirational. I would encourage you to read it in the above publication. It would seem that Anthony was one of the first, if not the first ever respite care child with Temcare. He recounts how he was effectively 'adopted' by his Temcare carers from an early age and spent regular time with them every weekend and during school holidays.

From his early adolescent years, Anthony lived with this family on a full time, albeit at times an 'on and off' basis for the next 25 years. He fondly referred to his carers as being his 'mum and dad', and him being their 'son'. He stated, **'mum and dad were there regardless. They still loved me for who I was... my [biological] parents didn't want me but they [the Temcare family] did.'**

Some Of Our Newer Partners

The role of volunteer carers for children and mentors for adolescents has been at the forefront of Temcare's history and remains an important component of how we practically reflect Jesus' love to those in need.

I would now like you to meet some of our current volunteers.

Rhonda and David joined Temcare in October 2017 as volunteer respite carers and have since provided respite care for a young boy. They have such incredible hearts for loving people and regularly go above and beyond to make sure people feel known and appreciated.

Through their encouragement, their church has also become involved with Temcare by providing regular donations of food hampers for our clients, which have been so very much appreciated. Rhonda also recently became an incredibly loved member of our 'Women of Hope' support group, bringing with her such compassion and creativity.

However, it is not so much the things that Rhonda and David achieve that we appreciate, but rather the way they go about their lives with such humble and selfless hearts, reflecting the care that Jesus has for others.



respite
care



David & Rhonda



Josh


mates
mentoring

Another of our volunteers is **Josh**. He commenced as a mentor in the MATES program in 2018. His consistency with his mentee has led to the development of real trust, closeness, and an honest friendship between them. This has been important for his mentee who is going through some significant personal turmoil.

Josh displays a high level of awareness, care and understanding towards others. It is not uncommon for Josh to receive calls from his mentee asking for help and advice, which he handles with such understanding, patience and wisdom.

The trust in their relationship has also led to Josh's mentee attending a church youth group with him each week, where he gets to hear all about God's radical love for him.

Partnering With Temcare In The Future



Over the past 50 years, Temcare has remained committed to:

- Enhancing an individual's emotional and social development.
- Developing the capacity of parents to provide appropriate care for their children.
- Improving the social/emotional/educational outcomes for children and adolescents.
- Facilitating a person's interest in exploring matters of the Christian faith.

In terms of the latter aim, and only with the permission of the person, we endeavor to assist parents, children and young people to:

- Develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Become connected to, and established in a local church, and
- Grow in their Christian faith journey.



Temcare desperately needs partners who will work with us to achieve these important goals.

Without them, we will struggle to provide the level of integrated and comprehensive care that our clients require.

In particular, we need people to become our:

- Prayer partners.
- Volunteer respite carers for children or mentors for adolescents.
- Financial supporters.

At this stage, our biggest need is for volunteer respite carers and mentors. We therefore need people to take up the challenge of being like those who faithfully cared for Debbie and Anthony.

Hopefully their stories, along with the more recent stories of David, Rhonda, and Josh will inspire you to become a partner with us in caring for those most in need.



If you are interested in becoming a volunteer respite carer in our Respite Care program or a mentor in our Mates mentoring Program, please either register your interest online, email our office on office@temcare.org.au or directly speak to a staff member by contacting our office on 9877 7729. We will endeavour to respond to your expression of interest as soon as possible.

Financially Supporting Temcare's Work

Even if you cannot partner with us as a volunteer, there is the opportunity to **financially support** Temcare's work.

As Temcare does not receive any government funding for its programs, it is consequently primarily reliant upon the financial generosity of Christians, churches, interested individuals and charitable trusts. Financially supporting Temcare enables us to provide the services that families and individuals so desperately need.

There are various ways to do so. For example, you could consider sponsoring the following involvement of a family, child or adolescent with some of our programs:

- **Sponsoring a mother and a child** to attend our annual Family camp. This would approximate to \$150.
- **Sponsoring an adolescent** to attend the annual Mates camp for approximately \$180.
- **Sponsoring a child** to participate in our respite care program for approximately \$400 per year.
- **Or, sponsoring an adolescent** to engage in our mentoring program to the extent of \$800 per year.



You could also consider **financially supporting** Temcare's ongoing program costs; for example,

- **Contributing towards the cost** of running our monthly Women of Hope support group. A suggestion might be \$10, \$50 or \$100.
- **Supporting the role of one of our paid staff** in either the Respite Care, MATES mentoring, or Family Services programs. Similar amounts to the above would be greatly appreciated.

Financially supporting Temcare means that the benefits from your contribution are multiplied. For example, all donations over \$2 are tax deductible and will be issued with a receipt upon request.

In addition, one of our financial supporters has agreed to co-match any donation made to Temcare for its work.

Effectively, this means that your \$10 becomes \$20, and your \$100 becomes \$200.

Donations can be made to Temcare in the following ways:

- Take advantage of our online donation service at www.temcare.org.au
- Make out your cheque to 'Temcare' and send it to P.O. Box 521, Blackburn, 3130.
- A direct deposit can be made to Temcare's 'gift fund' account:

Bank: ANZ
BSB: 013328
ACC: 484168802

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neville Evans".

Neville Evans
Manager, Temcare