

Celebrating 30 Years of Free Financial Counselling

On 19 September 2014, UnitingCare West's Creditcare celebrated their 30th anniversary of supporting people in the community with free financial counselling.

At the event, special guests Andrea Mitchell MLA the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Mental Health, Disability Service and Child Protection and Reverend Jim Cain, the original Chairman who opened the service on 19 September in 1984 joined fellow guests to celebrate this historical achievement.

"I am proud to say that over the past 30 years, our staff have achieved wonderful outcomes for clients in terms of averting homelessness, successful debt negotiation and bankruptcy," said David Cain, Acting CEO of UnitingCare West.

The team at Creditcare work tirelessly with people who have complex financial issues and in the past five years more than 4,800 people have benefited from the free financial counselling service.

In the first six months in 1984 Creditcare assisted 224 people. Last year the service was able to provide 1,483 financial counselling appointments and also provided 2558 instances of emergency relief.

When Creditcare commenced it began with just one financial counsellor and a receptionist, now Creditcare has a team of 9 staff that between them have over 50 years of experience in the field. They provide much needed information and support to people experiencing financial crisis.

The financial counselling service operates out of Fremantle, Perth and Merriwa.

For more information, please visit www.unitingcarewest.org.au or call 1300 663 298.



Supporting Western Australians for 30 years (L to R): Margaret Muntinga, Service Area Manager Independent Living; David Cain, Acting CEO UnitingCare West; Andrea Mitchell MLA; Jim Cain, Original Creditcare Chairman and Dorothy Cain.

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