



MEDIA RELEASE

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UnitingCare West's Christmas in July gala helps raise vital funds

The inaugural UnitingCare West Christmas in July gala dinner dance at the Government House ballroom on Friday night was a night to remember, with 220 people helping to raise much needed funds in support of those most in need in the WA community.

Christmas in July was jam packed with entertainment including a dazzling performance by the Humphrey Dance Studio and Perth's popular 17-piece Metro Big Band. There was also a treat for those in attendance with a very special visit by Santa himself!

Perth businessman Rick Hart and his partner Lesa Hinchliffe were Master of Ceremonies for the event while the Governor, Her Excellency the Honourable Kerry Sanderson AO was the Patron for the evening.

The live Grand Auction was another highlight on the night, with unique prizes and money-can't-buy experiences including an AFL Grand Final Package, stunning artwork from local artist Di Taylor and an unforgettable experience at the brand new Treasury Hotel.

UnitingCare West CEO Sue Ash AO says the organisation relies heavily on the generosity of the community.

"It is heart-warming to see the overwhelming support that Christmas in July, as an inaugural event, has received from the local community. The demand across our 36 services continues to grow significantly and all money raised from the evening will help enable us to continue to serve and support those most in need and empower people to change their lives for the better," Ms Ash said.

Anyone wishing to donate to UnitingCare West can call 1300 663 298 or visit www.unitingcarewest.org.au.

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About UnitingCare West

UnitingCare West touches the lives of over 30,000 individuals and families each year. With 300 staff members and over 300 volunteers, UnitingCare West is a community service agency that has a mission to support, serve and empower those most in need. UCW operates over 35 community service programs from 17 sites across Perth, reaching as far North as Merriwa and as far South as Lower Great Southern, in the areas of community housing, accommodation, homelessness, family support, mental health and disability services. UnitingCare West's clients include those in the community experiencing financial hardship, domestic violence, child abuse trauma, mental health issues and disability to name a few.