

Digging deep for disability housing

Five ladies living in Ballajura couldn't believe their luck when 13 enthusiastic St Stephen's students arrived on 7th September to give their front yard a makeover.

The year 11 students belong to St Stephen's Amnesty Group. This group carries out various activities that benefit the community.

The Ballajura Blitz project has been the culmination of 12 months hard work, including fundraising \$850 for garden materials, designing the landscape of the area and advocating for the needs of disability group homes.



Ballajura Blitz: St Stephen's students roll up their sleeves to create a renewed and enjoyable front yard for UnitingCare West's disability group home. The students will return in October to conclude the blitz.



Sharing a meal: St Stephen's students socialised with Rainbow participants during a luncheon in Duncraig. This relationship with students is set to continue in 2012.

Mental health awareness

St Stephen's students explored mental health recovery through research, advocacy and community service in third term.

The Year 12 Children Family and Community – Living Independently students along with their teacher Penny Herd researched and produced a colourful and informative recipe book for good health nutrition.

The project was celebrated on September 6th where students prepared a delicious luncheon for UnitingCare West's Rainbow Project.

The Rainbow Project provides friendship to adults with a mental illness through the assistance of volunteers.

Give Jeans a Chance

UnitingCare West and surf brand Volcom joined forces to distribute jeans and sausage sizzles to Perth's homeless on Wednesday 13th July.

The event held at the Tranby Day Centre was part of Volcom's *Give Jeans a Chance* campaign, to give near-new jeans to people that need them the most.

Adele Stewart the Executive Manager of Independent Living and Accommodation Services, spoke of the benefits of the occasion.

"Everyone was really happy to have the opportunity to get one or two pairs of jeans. If you are experiencing homelessness, jeans are a luxury item, so to have such quality jeans donated was fantastic," she said.



Volcom giving back (L to R): Conrad Mulenga and Erika Everitt (UnitingCare West) and Mike Maxted (Volcom) giving out jeans.

Serving up sausages: Ravi Brar and Deena Allagapen in the Tranby kitchen.



Around 150 pairs of jeans were snapped up on the day, while the rest of the 230 pairs will be distributed throughout the organisation's services.

UnitingCare West would like to thank Volcom for their generous contribution.



Check out video footage from the giveaway online at www.unitingcarewest.org.au/news-and-events/give-jeans-a-chance.

Yes! Please accept my donation

Dear Sue,
Please accept my gift below towards the vital services UnitingCare West provides to the Western Australian Community every day.

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We respect privacy. If you would prefer to not receive further material from UnitingCare West please call us on 1300 663 298

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thank you



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Handmade care for TLC students

On May 24th, caring community members provided knitted items for families in the Trinity Learning Centre (TLC).

TLC supports pregnant and parenting teen women to complete their secondary education and transition into tertiary education and/or employment.

For the third consecutive year Joyce Cragghill, the Wesley Church congregation and the Belmont knitting group rallied together to knit items in time for the chilly winter months.

The children were thrilled with the knitted goodies: A teddy bear and Banana in Pyjamas were among the favourites for this child.



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Hitting the green for a worthy cause

UnitingCare West's annual Golf Day was held at Lake Karrinyup Country Club on June 3rd.

The event raised over \$27,000 for UnitingCare West and attracted a number of corporate sponsors.

John Fitzgerald, Executive Manager of Corporate Services, commented this event is a fantastic way for UnitingCare West's partners to network with each other while enjoying a game of golf.

"Our sponsors return each year looking forward to the challenge of beating last year's results.

"There was a great atmosphere and friendly rivalry between the teams. Overall it was a great day,"

The competition was close with Westpac triumphing over Macquarie Private Wealth by less than a point. Westpac also won the nearest the pin and target drive competitions, while Fleetwest won the longest drive competition.

UnitingCare West wishes to thank Aon Risk Services, Macquarie Private Wealth, Downings Legal, Westpac, Fleetwest, Uniting Church Investment Fund, City Toyota and the Commonwealth Bank for their generous contributions.



Westpac Victory: Ross Hammond, Brian Husband, Sam Davis, Sue Ash and Peter McCabe.

From the CEO's desk



July 1st, 2011 was a very special day for UnitingCare West.

This date signified the organisations 5th birthday since the merger.

The launch of the 'Uniting the Mission' book was a fantastic celebration. I was very proud to be a part of an agency which honours its history and I am very much looking forward to leading UnitingCare West into the future.

I would like to thank all of our supporters who donated to this years Winter Appeal. The response has been excellent; to date we have raised over \$70,000, making it the most successful appeal ever.

These funds will be used to directly support people who are coming to UnitingCare West with serious difficulties to make ends meet.

In other news, UnitingCare West and seven other agencies have been requested by the State Government to support homeless people in the Perth CBD during CHOGM in October.

Funding has been made available which enables UnitingCare West to have our homeless shelter open additional hours during CHOGM, to provide meals, a place to shower and to have specialist staff available after hours.

The media coverage surrounding CHOGM and the Governments plans provides an opportunity to highlight the conditions for homeless people in Perth.

I am hopeful that these discussions will continue post-CHOGM and positive steps can be taken to address homelessness in our community.

Finally, I encourage you to view the newly launched UnitingCare West website. Contemporary, concise and accessible, the new website is a powerful and informative tool. Visit www.unitingcarewest.org.au to see the fresh face of UCW and the services we provide to those most in need.

Warm regards

Sue Ash . Sue Ash
Chief Executive Officer

Uniting the Mission

UnitingCare West's self-published book 'Uniting the Mission' was officially launched on Monday June 27th.

Contributors, past and present staff, board members and supporters of UnitingCare West helped launch a book detailing the background of the merging entities, the founding of the organisation and the first five years of its life.

Mission Development Leader Robert Watson views the book as a great opportunity to showcase the close collaboration by all involved.

"Throughout the afternoon, the audience heard how eight agencies came together to serve those most in need."

"This book not only records the history of UnitingCare West, but also the process that lead to a very successful merger,".



Book launch (L to R): Inaugural Chief Executive Officer Chris Hall, current Board Chair Wendie Wilkie, author Marilyn Beresford, Mission Development Leader Robert Watson and current Chief Executive Officer Sue Ash.

If you would like to purchase a copy of Uniting the Mission it is \$25 (GST included). Please contact us on 1300 663 298 to place an order.

Handmade care for TLC students (continued from cover)

Joyce was touched by the story of young mums determined to finish their education and wanted to assist a local cause.

Each item was individually crafted for expectant and new mothers enrolled in the program.

Eighteen students received a choice of beanies, grow suits, wraps, teddies, scarfs, clothes, blankets, booties and wrist warmers.



Chief Executive Officer of UnitingCare West, Sue Ash attended the event and was impressed by the dedication and care shown.

"It is items like these that will act as keepsakes in years to come and you could see that the mums and children really enjoyed them."



Handmade brigade (L to R): Susan Beltman and Joyce Craggill with TLC students and their children.