

MEDIA STATEMENT

26 September 2019

Since 1997 the 4Cs has been operating in the emergency relief space, assisting thousands of local residents every year.

Their dedication, commitment, passion and compassion has ensured the most disadvantaged, most vulnerable members of our community have received hope and the care they need in times of crises.

4Cs aided some 12,250 families last financial year but due to funding constraints, population growth and rapidly increasing client base, the capacity of 4Cs to continue to offer these services has diminished.

Regrettably, 4Cs have advised that they will formally cease providing emergency relief services as of 1 December 2019.

A taskforce of local community agencies, including the 4Cs, has collaborated to ensure these important community services continue to be offered to the community and to plan for a smooth and effective transition of services.

In response, The Salvation Army will step in, with support from Cardinia Shire Council, to transition the 4Cs clients over the next few months and will offer emergency relief services from 2 December 2019 to all residents in need via The Salvation Army Doorways program.

Cardinia Shire Council has provided extensive support to the 4Cs for almost a decade, providing more than \$500,000 in funding over the 10-year period, and in November last year boosted this support with additional funding of \$45,000 as well as business planning support, planning advice, and the coordination of services for the 2018 Christmas hamper program.

Cardinia Shire Council remains committed to supporting services for the more vulnerable members of its community, and its funding commitment will continue in support of the new community service program.

Cardinia Shire Council and The Salvation Army commend the 4Cs, their committee and volunteers for their commitment and passion throughout the many years they have provided hope and support to our community.

To read more about The Salvation Army Doorways Program, you can go to <https://www.salvationarmy.org.au/about-us/our-services/doorways-and-emergency-relief/>