



MEDIA RELEASE

January 31, 2017

Help out someone in need

Residents are being asked to donate non-perishable food to those in need in the community as part of a new partnership between the City of Marion and Foodbank SA.

For the first time, Council's offices will be used as donation collection points for the Edwardstown charity for a month from February 6.

Foodbank SA collects and redistributes surplus food to more than 520 welfare organisation and 460 school breakfast programs. Each month more than 84,847 South Australians seek food relief, of which one third are children.

Marion Mayor Kris Hanna said many people would be surprised at the number of people going hungry.

"For a variety of reasons there are always some people in our community who have been left without income - maybe they are fleeing domestic violence or have just lost their job. Marion Council wants to help these people out," Mayor Hanna said.

"Now is the time to clean out your pantry and donate non-perishable food at least 2-3 months before its "use by" date to Foodbank SA."

"Our offices at Glandore Community Centre, Cove Civic Centre and on Sturt Rd are standing by to receive donations over the next month, until 6th March".

Mayor Hanna said the charity urgently required rice, pasta and sauces, canned fruit and vegetables, canned soup, baked beans, jams and spread, long life milk and breakfast cereal.

Foodbank Partnership Manager Judi Wakeling said working with the City of Marion was an important way to increase the amount of food collected.

"Many people think hunger is only a Third World problem but, unfortunately, there is real need in our community right now," Ms Wakeling said.

"If everyone lends a hand by donating non-perishable food we can make life that much easier. Foodbank also takes money donations.

Every \$1 donated to Foodbank equates to \$8 of food that can be purchased for programs such as *Schools' Breakfast* or *Everyday* or *Christmas Hampers*.

“Councils have close links with their communities and using Marion’s offices will help in the drive to collect more food.”

In 2015/16, food donations to Foodbank saved 1,349,141 kilograms of food from going to landfill.

The community can donate non-perishable food at Glandore Community Centre (25 Naldera St, Glandore), Cove Civic Centre (1 Ragamuffin Drive, Hallett Cove), and the Administration Centre (245 Sturt Rd, Sturt).

The pilot program ends on March 6.

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