



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Tuesday, 26 April, 2016**

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### **Shoe drive kicks off in Marion**

A drive to collect shoes for people in need in Australia and overseas will kick off for the first time in the City of Marion next week.

Special collection boxes will be unveiled at all four of the City of Marion's neighbourhood centres on Monday, 2 May.

Charity Soles4Souls Australia is running the initiative which aims to reduce health issues associated with wearing damaged or ill-fitting shoes, including infections.

It also aims to make it easier for people to participate in schooling and sport and help them find work.

Mayor Kris Hanna invited the community to donate to the shoe drive.

"I invite the community to donate good quality unwanted shoes to help people less fortunate," Mr Hanna said.

"Most of us take having a decent pair of shoes for granted, but many people simply cannot afford to buy them.

"A good pair of shoes can make it easier for a child walk to school and join in sport, or for an adult to dress for work."

Soles4Souls is seeking work and school shoes, sneakers, football boots and sports shoes, work boots and thongs.

People are asked not to donate high heels, single shoes, slippers, Ugg boots, women's fashion boots or damaged shoes.

People can place shoes in the collection boxes and make a gold coin donation to help with distribution costs. Soles4Souls will then distribute the shoes throughout Australia, including the City of Marion, and to the East African country of Tanzania.

The City of Marion's neighbourhood centres are Cooina, 245 Sturt Rd, Sturt, Glandore, 25 Naldera St, Glandore, Mitchell Park, 1 Cumbria Court, Mitchell Park, Trott Park, 33 Hessing Crescent, Trott Park.

Donations can be made until Friday, 8 July.

About 300 million children throughout the world don't own a pair of shoes.

Soles4Souls Australia has donated more than 100,000 pairs of shoes since it formed in 2011.

Contact: Craig Clarke, Unit Manager Communications, City of Marion, 0434 600 637



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