

Media Release



8 August 2018

For immediate release

COMMUNITY PARTNERS GATHER TO END HOMELESSNESS

On any given night in Australia, one in every 200 people are experiencing homelessness and the Manning, Great Lakes and Gloucester community are banding together this week to show their support to end homelessness.

Service providers in the region have partnered to coordinate an event that will provide much needed information about support available to people who are vulnerable, including Samaritans Specialist Homelessness Services, Great Lakes and Manning Youth Homelessness Service, Centrelink, CatholicCare, Manning Support Services, Great Lakes Women's Shelter and Community Housing.

“By offering a helping hand to those who need it and raising awareness with the community, we hope to reduce the incidence of locals sleeping rough or couch surfing by connecting people to services that can offer the right opportunities and support to find a pathway out,” Samaritans Coordinator, Suzi Rowe, said.

The event will be held outside of Taree Woolworths on Thursday 9th August from 10am-2pm following the success of similar events in Gloucester and Tuncurry earlier in the week.

“On the day, we'll also be collecting non-perishable food items that will be distributed to those who need our assistance. Anyone who might be in the position to donate is encouraged to support the drive as we cannot deliver these much-needed services without community support.

“Across Australia, of the 105,237 people who are experiencing homelessness, 17,845 are children under the age of ten. From our experience in service delivery, we know that demand is high for services in Taree and we must all work together to end homelessness. Everyone deserves a safe home,” Ms Rowe said.

-ENDS-

Media Contact: Media are invited to attend on the day to take photos or video footage. Please contact Samaritans Communications team on 4960 7100 for more information.

Location: Taree Woolworths on Thursday 9th August from 10am-2pm