

customer, catch up on all things
Family Life!

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Dear

Hello and welcome to the latest Family Life Volunteer Newsletter! You may notice a fresh new look as we've updated the design.

We also have some updates to our Volunteering Team! Our Volunteer Engagement Lead, Nes, has recently started her parental leave, and we eagerly await news of the safe arrival of her baby boy. In Nes' absence, we will be welcoming Sandy Gregory on board at the start of October. Sandy has a strong background in volunteer engagement, most recently at St Kilda Mums, and will be a great addition to the team.

What a busy time in Social Enterprise! Thank you to all volunteers and social enterprise staff who pulled off an amazing Fashion Through the Ages event recently. It truly was an incredible event!

In other exciting news, Family Life has recently launched a brand new animated video. Have you ever had family, friends or customers ask you what Family Life does, or who our Op Shops support? This short and snappy video explains who we are, who we help and how to get involved. **[Watch the video here.](#)**

Keep an eye out for some more training and development opportunities, as well as fun volunteer events over the next few months. See below for our End of Year Celebration "Save the Date" info!

Happy Reading!
The Family Life Team



National Student Volunteer Week

In August, we celebrated National Student Volunteer Week (NSVW), a time to acknowledge the impact that student volunteers make through their efforts. This year, we are celebrating the powerful and positive changes students bring to our communities through volunteering.

Family Life currently has over 30 student volunteers across our 10 Community Op Shops. These young volunteers bring a great energy to their stores, fostering a community minded workplace.

In addition to welcoming student volunteers, Family Life also offers work experience opportunities. Volunteering is a great way to make new friends, give back to your community and develop valuable workplace skills!

If you know of any students who might be interested in volunteering at Family Life, please reach out to Volunteering team.



Fashion Through The Ages: Fashion Show Event

Congratulations to our Social Enterprise team and volunteers for an outstanding *Fashion Through The Ages* event held in mid-September!

The event brought together over 250 community members, volunteers and Family Life staff for a high tea and fashion parade at the Brighton Town Hall. Our incredible Op Shops each embraced a different 'era', from the roaring 1920s to the 2000s, with volunteers and staff showing off their style on the catwalk!

Alongside the fashion show, the event featured an Op Shop pop-up store, raffles, silent auctions, and impressive displays of era-specific thrifted treasures from each store.

A huge thank you to all volunteers who contributed to making the event a success. We couldn't have done it without you!

See the album via our website from the photos of the event here.



Family Life committed to National Strategy for Volunteering

Family Life is excited to announce our official support of the National Strategy for Volunteering!

By aligning with this significant initiative, we are committed to advancing the National Strategy's vision and strategic objectives. Our organisation recognises the immense value of volunteering in Australia, which drives positive social impact, and creates a more cohesive society.

To find out more about the National Strategy, [click here.](#)



Program Spotlight: Talk4Change

Introducing Talk4Change, a groundbreaking program designed for men who use violence or are at risk of using Family Violence in their

relationships. This Family Life program goes beyond the standard men's behaviour change initiatives by offering personalised one-on-one therapeutic interventions alongside engaging group sessions.

Talk4Change is a program endorsed by No To Violence and Family Safety Victoria, and is designed to meet the needs of individuals and service providers working towards a safer environment for women, children and the broader community.

Talk4Change is a free and voluntary program offering personalised one-on-one therapeutic interventions alongside group engagement.

The program aims to assist men in understanding themselves better, identifying unhelpful attitudes and beliefs that support the use of Family Violence and exploring impacts of Family Violence on women and children and the broader community.

Find out more here.

Volunteer Profile



Meet Sanskar!

Sanskar is one of our amazing student volunteers, participating in Monash University's Volunteering elective. He is currently in his 5th year of an Engineering degree and started

volunteering at Family Life to give back to his community while completing his studies.

Sanskar volunteers at our Cheltenham Community Op Shop and enjoys the opportunity volunteering gives him to meet new people and connect with his community in meaningful ways.

“Volunteering enables me to step outside my comfort zone and gain a deeper understanding of societal challenges. By dedicating my time and effort, I hope to make a difference in the lives of others and inspire others to do the same.”

Read more about Sanskar's volunteering experience here.



Store Spotlight : Rosebud

Our amazing Rosebud Community Op Shop, located in the heart of the Mornington Peninsula has it all. In the summertime, it's buzzing with tourists soaking up the beach, while in the cooler months, we enjoy lovely visits from our local community members..

Recently, Rosebud opened up a new reading room complete with a communal puzzle, table and chairs perfect for curling up with a cuppa and good read The shelves are filled to the brim with amazing book bargains!

We spoke with Marie, our store manager, and Jeanette, one of our dedicated volunteers about why they love spending their time at the Rosebud Community Store.

[Click here to read more.](#)

SAVE THE DATE: End of Year Volunteer Celebration

Tuesday 26th November 2024
more information to come soon.

[Click Here for the Volunteering Information Hub!](#)



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