

## About Us:

Uniting Care Geelong is a non profit organisation financed through Government and philanthropic grants, Give Where You Live, donations from churches and church groups, members of the community and our Opportunity shops.

### OUR VISION

Eliminate poverty, hardship and disadvantage in our community.

## Overview of services:

- ◇ Emergency Relief
- ◇ Budget & Microfinance
- ◇ Education Assistance
- ◇ Client Advocacy & Linkage
- ◇ Christmas Assistance Programs
- ◇ Op Shops
- ◇ Volunteer Program



Grovedale:  
Phone: 4210 1100  
Fax: 4210 1199  
Address: 272 Torquay Rd, 3216

Norlane:  
Phone: 5278 8492  
Fax: 5277 9753

### Office Hours For Emergency Relief

#### Appointments:

**Please call**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**

**9:30am – 12pm**

**CLOSED Wednesday for emergency relief appointments only.**

Email: [admin@ucg.unitingcare.org.au](mailto:admin@ucg.unitingcare.org.au)  
Website: [www.ucg.unitingcare.org.au](http://www.ucg.unitingcare.org.au)

PO Box 2158, Grovedale East,  
Victoria 3216

Volunteering – if you are interested, please contact our Coordinator of Volunteers on

Phone: 4210 1113



We are a community service agency of the Uniting Church in Australia



Servicing the Geelong Region from our Grovedale and Norlane Offices

Our Mission is to:

Work collaboratively with our community to address poverty, hardship, and disadvantage by providing opportunities to improve and strengthen our clients' personal circumstances, including providing help in their times of immediate need.

## OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### Emergency Relief

Uniting Care Geelong provides services to individuals and families who are struggling to make ends meet. Emergency Relief addresses the gap in resources including food, clothing and material aid. It is also about relationships and walking with people to navigate their way to a better place in their lives.

### Client Advocacy & Linkage

The Client Advocacy Linkage Worker works with clients who have a need beyond food and clothing. Typically these are the areas in which our client advocacy linkage worker can assist clients:

- \* Housing (Ministry of housing and private rental)
- \* Helping understand the eviction and VCAT process and making agreements with landlords
- \* Homelessness (no emergency or transitional accommodation)
- \* Counselling (general, relationship & family violence)

### Budget & Microfinance

No Interest Loans - NILS provides loans to individuals and families on low incomes. No fees, no charges and no interest. Small loans of up to \$1200 enable the purchase of essential household items such as white goods, televisions, computers, furniture, car tyres, car registration, medical equipment and even school fees.

### Bill Assist

A Bill Assist Worker will advocate for clients in need of financial support, organise payment plans, apply for Utility Relief Grants, arrange Centrepay deductions, set up a budget and refer clients to appropriate agencies such as financial counselling.

### Christmas Assistance

Individuals and families are supported with Christmas hampers and gifts. In partnership with Target's Giving Box, children of 12 years of age and younger can receive toys for Christmas.

### Education Assistance

Assists with meeting the costs of children's secondary school education involving the purchase of uniforms and books and fees for camps. With transition from year six to year seven, priority is given to helping the new student gain a sense of belonging and engagement at the secondary level of education. Primary school students can receive assistance from the program only through direct referral by Uniting Care to the school

### Opportunity Shops

Our seven opportunity shops are run by our volunteers and the funds raised support our programs and services. Visit one of our shops at:

- \* Corio: 15 Detroit Crescent, Corio
- \* Drysdale: Village Walk, Drysdale
- \* East Geelong: 136 Ormond Road, East Geelong
- \* Hamlyn Heights: 81 Vines Rd, Hamlyn Heights
- \* Highton: 8 Porter Ave, Highton
- \* Point Lonsdale: 93 Pt Lonsdale Road, Point Lonsdale
- \* Geelong: 45 Mercer St, Geelong