

# HOW YOU CAN HELP IN THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

COVID-19 has affected so many within our community, but has greatly impacted people seeking asylum within our diocese. Many have no access to any safety net of support.

You can make a difference and support people in desperate need. Many seeking asylum and their families:

- Are excluding from JobKeeper, JobSeeker, Medicare or income assistance
- Have lost their jobs
- Cannot pay their rent and are facing homelessness
- Struggling to feed their families
- Facing a winter without heat
- Are facing destitution

## WITHIN OUR DIOCESE\*:

 **400% EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

Emergency assistance calls increased by 400%

 **77% FOOD BANK** 

77% increase to request for food bank items

  **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

Increase in domestic violence incidents

  **MENTAL HEALTH**

Dramatic increase in mental health support needed



**EVICION NOTICES**

Eviction notices given to asylum seekers including those with families, some living in informal, difficult situations



**REDUCED VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS**

Services facing a reduced level of volunteers and donations

**430 FOOD BAGS NEEDED WEEKLY**

**1100 PEOPLE FED WEEKLY BY SERVICES**

House of Welcome & Jesuit Refugee Service need to provide 430 food bags that feed 1100 women, men and children weekly

## WE ARE CALLED TO ACTION:

“In the faces of the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the sick, strangers and prisoners, we are called to see the face of Christ who pleads with us to help,”

**Pope Francis**

*Message of His Holiness Pope Francis, for the 106th World Day of Migrants and Refugees, 2020*

\*Statistics provided by House of Welcome and Jesuit Refugee Service

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WHAT WE CAN DO:



## RUN A FOOD DRIVE WITHIN YOUR PARISH

### DONATE

HOUSE OF WELCOME

📍 [stfrancis.org.au/house-of-welcome/make-donation-house-welcome](https://stfrancis.org.au/house-of-welcome/make-donation-house-welcome)

OR

JESUIT REFUGEE SERVICE

📍 [jrs.org.au/donate-now](https://jrs.org.au/donate-now)

### ITEMS NEEDED

- New winter blankets
- Basmati Rice
- Cooking Oil
- Long life milk
- Tinned tuna, red kidney beans, lentils, chickpeas and fruit
- Biscuits & muesli bars
- Oats & cereal
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tea & Coffee

### TOILETRIES

- Nappies (large sizes)
- Toothpaste & toothbrushes
- Shampoo
- Sanitary pads & napkins
- Razors & shaving foam
- Deodorant (male & female)
- Soap

### ADVOCATE

Sign the petition to make sure no one, including people seeking asylum, gets left behind during COVID-19:

📍 [change.org/nooneleftbehind](https://change.org/nooneleftbehind)

### HOW TO RUN A FOOD DRIVE

1. Select a co-ordinator
2. Select drop-off point & time
3. Share what's needed with your community as well as when and where people can drop off items
4. Co-ordinator & team collects items & drops-off items to House of Welcome or Jesuit Refugee Service

### TO ARRANGE DROP-OFF OF ITEMS COLLECTED CONTACT

HOUSE OF WELCOME

✉ [office@houseofwelcome.com.au](mailto:office@houseofwelcome.com.au)

JRS

✉ [amelia.savage@jrs.org.au](mailto:amelia.savage@jrs.org.au)

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