



United Way Glenelg

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday 28 June 2021

Give what you can, take what you need – Little FREE Pantry established

With the cold weather well and truly setting in, it's good to know that those in need, who have little access to food, can now visit the Little FREE pantry for basic needs and essential household goods.

Located in Palmer Street on the perimeter of Portland Primary School grounds, the Little FREE pantry is sharing space with its friend, the Little FREE library.

The little FREE Library was established by United Way Glenelg at the beginning of the pandemic in 2019 to get books into the hands of children, while libraries and schools were closed.

United Way Glenelg Executive Officer said the library has been a successful concept, with books being stocked regularly by the school and the general community, but the opportunity to make it something more was always "begging."

"There has been a growing concern for the number of people finding themselves homeless, and that can lead to insufficient food security. An obvious solution was to combine the book library with a pantry library, said Ms Carr.

"One of the advantages of the pantry library is that access to food is always available. If someone is stuck for food, they can access the pantry to help out until other services are open.

"The pantry will never replace other services, such as Salvation Army, but acts to fill the gaps between their opening hours."

"There are no limits or restrictions on how much people can take if they need extra food," concluded Ms Carr.

Everyone is invited to place or take goods from inside the box as they please or need.

If you wish to donate, simply purchase one of the following items [making sure all items are non-perishable, unopened & within best-before/use-by-date] and place it in the library.

- Long-life milk & fruit-juice (200mL & 1L)
- Rice, pasta, pasta sauce
- Non-perishable meat (Eg Jerky, Tinned Chicken/ Tuna/ Sardines/ Spam/ Ham)
- Tinned Fruit and Vegetables
- Breakfast items (Eg Instant Oats Sachets, Kellogs variety packs, breakfast biscuits etc)
- Peanut butter and vegemite (small plastic jars preferred)
- Sachets of Sugar, Tea & Coffee
- Snacks (Eg non-perishable dip and biscuits, salsa, muesli bars, multi-packs of chips / savoury biscuits,)
- Biscuits (Eg Saladas, VitaWeet, breakfast biscuits)
- Feminine hygiene products
- Toiletries (Eg toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, sunscreen, combs, soap, cotton buds, body wipes, 2-in-1 shampoo/conditioner)
- First-Aid supplies (eg travel first-aid-kits, bandaids, insect repellent, sanitiser)
- Baby supplies (eg formula, nappies, wipes)

People requiring food, crisis & supported accommodation can visit Salvation Army, 33 Henty Street Portland or call 5521 8134

Photo: Executive Office, Nicole Carr with the combines Little Free Library & Pantry.

END

Media enquiries to Nicole Carr on 0410 513 305 email mail@unitedwaygleneig.com.au