

Mission News

Christmas 2019



Missioner's Message

Politics, ideologies and religion can often divide us. However, we here at the Mission see these walls disappear on a daily basis, as people of generous heart across all sectors of our community focus on people in need and stand with us. Every day in this past year, through our incredible volunteers and donors, our different faith and ethnic communities, our partners in NGOs, government organisations and through our political leaders, we have been privileged to experience immense generosity and kindness. We are deeply humbled and grateful.

In a city that has so much need, generous people like you help ensure the vulnerable amongst us are given vital assistance. That was very evident this year, when we delivered a record number of food parcels and supported more Aucklanders than ever before. Thank you.

As our new building in Hobson Street rises above the ground, we continue to transform our services, providing optimal support to people when they need it most. Our newly developed Community Centre, Haeata, has become a much loved space for people to meet and be nourished through kai, company and classes. At our relocated Detox Centre, we improved our service for clients desperately wishing to overcome their addiction.

And we have a renewed – and very bold – focus on addressing food poverty. Our latest research identified issues surrounding food insecurity and led to us calling for action from New Zealanders.

As we approach Christmas, the Mission's services become even busier than usual. This year, in conjunction with our friends at Vision West, we will extend our pre-Christmas services to the West. This is in addition to our wonderful existing Christmas partners Papakura Marae, Manukau Urban Marae and Eden Park. Operating sites across Auckland will mean people don't need to travel far to find the help they need.

On Christmas Day itself, we will have the pleasure of welcoming approximately 1,600 Aucklanders to The Cloud for lunch. There we will celebrate with delicious food, gifts and good company – not something our guests could otherwise do.

Your generosity ensures that we can provide support in whichever way it's needed, at Christmas time and throughout the year.

This year we have had to make some special "call-outs" for assistance and Auckland has responded.

I thank you so much for supporting Aucklanders in need. I wish you the very best of the Christmas season and look forward to sharing our centennial year with you in 2020.



Chris Farrelly
CEO/City Missioner



Events Calendar

Come along and enjoy some of the great community events put on to support us.

December:

Enjoy a meal at one of the participating **Dine Aid** restaurants this December and support the Mission simply by adding \$2 to your bill. Find out more at dineaid.org.nz

1st December, 3pm:

The **Auckland Blues Music Club** are holding their Christmas fundraiser at the Thirsty Dog Tavern, 469 Karangahape Road. Visit abmc.co.nz for more info.

5th – 14th December:

The Royal New Zealand Ballet will perform Hansel and Gretel here in Auckland, during the Christmas season. Guests are welcome to give donations in support of the Mission. Go to rnzb.org.nz to book your tickets.

11th & 16th December, 5pm – 6pm:

The Auckland Mandolinata Orchestra will perform a free concert at Britomart with donations being collected for the Mission.

13th & 18th December, 7.30pm – 8.30pm:

The Greater Auckland Chorus will be singing carols on Franklin Road, busking for the Mission.

14th December, 4.30pm:

The Choir NZ perform "Christmas Lights" at the Dorothy Winstone Theatre, raising funds for the Mission. Tickets available from thechoir.co.nz

20th – 23rd December:

The **Outdoor Cinema** will return to Silo Park and movie goers are welcome to give donations. Check out silopark.co.nz for more details on all events.

In this issue...

Spotlight on: Our Crisis Care Team at Christmas
The Mission's Christmas Lunch
The Mission's Christmas List
Shining the light on food insecurity in Aotearoa
World Homeless Day

Mission HomeGround redevelopment update
[#AucklandersHelpingAucklanders](https://twitter.com/AucklandersHelpingAucklanders)
Thank you for what you did!
You can complete someone's Christmas
Supporting us in 2020

Christmas at the Mission



Spotlight on: Our Crisis Care Team at Christmas

For our Crisis Care Team, December will be the busiest month of 2019. Throughout the year, the team provides emergency food support to people experiencing severe hardship. They also advocate for those in need and connect people with services and agencies who can help.

In the lead-up to the festive season, the team supports thousands of Aucklanders who experience financial difficulty brought on by Christmas.

“We’ll be helping someone’s mother, auntie, sister, cousin, friend,” says Crisis Care and Community Service Team Leader Moana Te Wao. “And when we help one person, we help a whānau. That’s what is most meaningful about this time of year.”



We need donations of non-perishable food and unwrapped unused gifts for families and children who would otherwise go without this year – visit aucklandcitymission.org.nz to find out more.

This Christmas, across four sites, the Mission will distribute over 8,000 Christmas food parcels and 40,000 children’s gifts to families in desperate need. We will also support families to access Special Needs grants from Work and Income.

At each site up to 200 people a day will queue from the early hours of the morning for food and gifts. Our team works tirelessly to ensure families can access the care and support they need.



Sorting food for Christmas food parcels at Papakura Marae.

The Mission’s Christmas Lunch

On 25 December, we will welcome around 1,600 guests to New Zealand’s biggest Christmas Lunch. This year’s event is at The Cloud on Auckland’s waterfront, with kai prepared nearby in the Spark Arena kitchens. Your help enables the Mission to provide a festive meal and companionship to low-income families, isolated elderly people, homeless Aucklanders, and those who may otherwise be alone or unable to celebrate. We’re looking forward to a busy, merry day.



Gifts from the Heart

Looking for some Christmas present bargains this year? Our Op Shops are a great place to buy gifts, and every purchase supports our essential work helping Aucklanders in need. At our Karangahape Road, Glen Innes, Grafton, and Takapuna stores you’ll find quality, affordable treasures both vintage and new. Visit our stores today to find your Christmas gifts.



The Mission’s Christmas List



Provide over
8,000

Christmas food parcels,
enabling families to celebrate
Christmas at home.

Distribute

40,000

children’s Christmas gifts to
families in desperate need.

Host

1,600

guests at our Christmas Lunch,
ensuring that everyone can
celebrate and no one needs to
spend the day alone.

365
days a year

the Mission will continue to be here
for Aucklanders in desperate need,
providing immediate, practical
assistance and pathways to enable
long-term wellbeing.

Recent highlights

Shining the light on food insecurity in Aotearoa

On World Food Day, 16 October, we released new research addressing the issue of food insecurity in our country and its link to emotional wellbeing and psychological distress. "We believe that about 10% of New Zealand's population is experiencing food insecurity," says General Manager of Social Services Helen Robinson, who led the research. "We're calling for immediate actions to address food insecurity." Find out more at aucklandcitymission.org.nz, key in 'Shining the Light'.



World Homeless Day

As partners in the Auckland Rough Sleepers Initiative, we hosted an event in Auckland's Freyberg Square on World Homeless Day, 10 October. This year's focus was on homelessness and health. The day highlighted the challenges faced by our street whānau and aimed to assist them in practical ways. Hundreds of people from the homeless community and general public enjoyed a boil-up, haircuts, entertainment, laundry services from Orange Sky, and making connections.



Mission HomeGround: redevelopment update

For 100 years, the Mission has been at the forefront of shaping lives for the better. Now we're transforming our historical Hobson Street site into a purpose-built housing and social services facility. It's been a year since construction started on Hobson Street and Federal Street. In that time, we've watched our new home take shape, with infrastructure, drainage and foundations being the most visible signs of progress. So far we've raised \$85 million. Thank you Auckland.



#Aucklanders HelpingAucklanders

Auckland Council Food Drive

Auckland Council recently supported the Mission with a food drive, collecting almost 11,000 items. Auckland Council Public Libraries served as collection points with 55 locations across the region. "Your community spirit and generosity is greatly appreciated. This is a fantastic example of how local public libraries are at the heart of the community, enabling Aucklanders to help other Aucklanders in need", says Chris Farrelly. Thanks Auckland Council!



Soap for Society

Thank you, Soap for Society for supporting us in your annual appeal, alongside the Wellington City Mission and Christchurch City Mission. Collectively, we received 21,000 much needed donations of soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, sanitary products and other hygiene necessities. This campaign obviously touched a chord with many of our supporters and we thank you for getting involved.



The Choir NZ

The Choir NZ is a community singing organisation that gives people from all walks of life the opportunity to participate in choral singing. They have been donating to the Mission for over 5 years through Christmas fundraising concerts. This year they are coming together to host performances from 7 choirs from across Auckland and Tauranga as a massed choir of over 200. Tickets are available from thechoir.co.nz Check out our Events Calendar for more information.



Thank you for what you did!

In the last 12 months, your donations helped the Mission...



Distribute **24,870** emergency food parcels to individuals and families in desperate need.



Provide **10,729** medical consultations to improve health outcomes for vulnerable patients.



Enable **73,977** visits to Haeata to meet the basic human needs of people experiencing homelessness.



Conduct **870** visits, including in-home, hospital, and at the Mission; to support isolated elderly people.



Conduct **388** drug and alcohol assessments and provide 2,907 bed nights at our Residential Social Detox Centre.

"I love the Mission, and they've helped me in ways I never thought they would, and opened up opportunities for me as well."

– Mariah*, Auckland City Mission Client

*Name changed to protect privacy.

You can complete

someone's Christmas

Keep an eye out for our Christmas campaign this year, focusing on the experience of Christmas and what it means. For most, we associate Christmas with happiness, food, presents, family and creating loving memories but for many families the reality is starkly different. Our campaign aims to spread the joy of Christmas further. Your donation ensures someone's Christmas is complete.



Supporting us in 2020

Make an early New Year's resolution by signing up to take part in one of New Zealand's iconic running events next year. Get fit and raise money for Aucklanders in need. Whether you want to walk or run, do 10k or a full marathon, pace the streets of Auckland or venture further afield, there's something for everyone. Get your colleagues involved too – it's a great team builder as people can train together, share tips, compete on fundraising, and share a drink and food with us once their feat is finished. It's simple to raise funds for the Mission by logging on to Everyday Hero give.everydayhero.com/nz/get-started You can check out all the events here runningcalendar.co.nz



Special thanks to those who ran the 2019 ASB Auckland Marathon in support of the Mission!

Help us complete

someone's Christmas.

We need your help to give more Aucklanders the complete Christmas. Donate to the Auckland City Mission and spread the joy of Christmas further.



Auckland City Mission is a registered donee organisation. Charities Registration #: CC22938 IRD/GST #: 10-007-771

How to donate...



You can make one-off or regular donations to the Mission online:

www.aucklandcitymission.org.nz

Bank deposit: Acc no: 12-3011-0520064-00
REF 1: Christmas
REF 2: Donor ID or Surname

Phone: (09) 303 9209

Post: Please complete and freepost the donation slip below.

If you wish to pay by credit/debit card or cheque, please fill in this donation slip and return to: Auckland City Mission, Freepost 1129, PO Box 5352, Wellesley Street, Auckland 1141

My personal details are:

Name _____

Donor ID _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Phone _____

Email _____

- Please send me details on how to make regular donations to the Mission.
- Please send me information on making a bequest to the Mission.
- Please send me email updates.
- Please do not include my name on your mailing list.

All donations of \$5 and over are tax deductible. A receipt will be sent to you.

Please accept my gift of:

Gift of choice \$

or please circle amount: \$25 \$65 \$100 \$200

\$25 contributes towards the cost of distributing Christmas gifts to families in desperate need.

\$65 buys the food needed to fill 1 food parcel, to feed a family for 4 days over the Christmas period.

\$100 pays for 10 guests to enjoy a delicious meal at the Mission's Christmas Lunch.

\$200 contributes towards the cost of keeping the Mission staffed over Christmas.

Please charge my credit/debit card:

Visa Mastercard Diners Amex

Card number

Cardholder's Name _____

Signature _____ Expiry Date _____ / _____

Please find my cheque enclosed (payable to Auckland City Mission).