



ABOUT BAYSIDE COMMUNITY CARE

Bayside Community Care has supported people through tough times for over thirty years. As the benevolent arm of Bayside Church, it evolved from the commitment of Bayside parishioners to honour and serve their community, particularly those experiencing hardships.

In 2003, Bayside Community Care received Public Benevolent Institution Status through the ATO. While many of the programs are supported by Bayside Church volunteers and donations, the organisation is non-religious.

Bayside Community Care adheres to values and ethical practices that are informed by the belief that every human being deserves respect and dignity.

Vision

To see people empowered, connected, and appreciated as valuable community members.

Mission

Working together with people and services to provide care and relief during tough times.

Values

Creating opportunities for people to:

- Connect
- Thrive
- Receive hope

Bayside Community Care provides a range of programs in order to achieve this vision. Locally we run Matt's Place Community Meals Program, emergency [Food Relief](#) and [Angel Tree](#). Further afield we run the [Bayside Forever Home](#) in South Africa and [Wells for Wellness](#) in Indonesia.



ABOUT MATT'S PLACE

Matt's Place community meals program provides a free, nutritious two-course lunch every week in Cheltenham and Chelsea. The program provides a friendly, warm space for people in the community who are disadvantaged to come together and enjoy social connection.

Over 50 volunteers faithfully serve over 200 meals a week, 48 weeks a year. In 2022, more than 17,000 meals were served.

In 2022, Matt's Place joined the Chatty Café Scheme. The scheme aims to combat social isolation and loneliness. As a result, Matt's Place now opens one hour earlier from 10.30am for morning tea or coffee and an opportunity for social connection. Guests then stay on for Matt's Place lunch which is served from 11.30am.

Bayside Community Care partners with a number of organisations to ensure guests can receive support. They include:

- Central Bayside Community Health
- Hearing Australia
- Centrelink
- Uniting

Matt's Place was first established in 2007 by the Kingston Interchurch Council after a local need was identified. It is now managed by Bayside Community Care, the benevolent arm of Melbourne's Bayside Church. The program first started in Cheltenham at St Matthew's Hall in Cheltenham and then opened a second location in 2009 at Longbeach Anglican Church in Chelsea.

Diversity & Inclusion

Bayside Community Care is committed to ensuring Matt's Place is a place that is safe for guests to experience that is free from discrimination and disrespect.

Matt's Place programs are based on Boonwurrung Country. We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we work, and we pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and future.

Bayside Community Care acknowledges all people are equally worthy of respect, dignity, and love, regardless of gender, sexuality, age, ability, race, or ethnicity.

We do not tolerate bigotry, discrimination and disrespect.