

## Media Release

June 2022

### **Tight-knit community ready to support homeless**

Residential aged care residents are once again leading a unique community initiative to support people experiencing homelessness.

For the third year, residents from ACH Group residential care homes will make mittens and knit gloves and scarves for people supported by charity organisation St Vincent de Paul Society (Vinnies) and they're looking for the South Australian community to join the cause.

The community is being asked to knit the base pieces of mittens using a supplied pattern and drop the items off at Perry Park Residential Care Home in Port Noarlunga, or ACH Group's office in Mile End by Friday 8 July 2022. Donations of wool will also be accepted.

From there, residents will sew the pieces together and decorate the mittens ready to be donated to Vinnies. Residents will also knit gloves and scarves, two items that are also in need this winter.

ACH Group CEO Frank Weits said the initiative is a wonderful opportunity for residents to connect with the community and support South Australians experiencing homelessness.

"In the past two years residents, with the help of generous South Australians, have donated more than 200 knitted items to Vinnies and are looking forward to continuing their support in 2022," he said.

"They are passionate about giving back to those in need and ACH Group is incredibly proud of their community mindfulness.

"The initiative is also a way for residents to create new social connections with one another. It's a regular sight to see groups of residents sitting around the table knitting the items and having a great chat."

Vinnies Fred's Van Coordinator Teresa Branch said the charity is really pleased to be receiving the quality knitted goods from the ACH Group community again.

"As we enter the cooler months the beanies, scarves and mittens provide some practical relief from the elements, but the biggest impact for the people who receive them is knowing that they have been knitted with love, and that someone is thinking about them."

Anyone wishing to take part can download the pattern from the ACH Group website at this link <https://achgroup.org.au/event/2022-knitting-drive-for-vinnies/>

The completed mitten pieces and wool donations can be dropped off or posted by Friday 8 July 2022, to:

ACH Group Perry Park  
26 River Road  
Port Noarlunga SA 5167

ACH Group Office  
22 Henley Beach Road  
Mile End SA 5031

**\*\*ends\*\***

**About ACH Group**

ACH Group is a not-for-profit aged care organisation that has been offering services to support good lives for older people in South Australia since 1952.

As well as accommodation options across Adelaide and the Fleurieu Peninsula, the group offers a range of health, wellbeing, respite, and support services, help at home and social experiences.

Our 2000 specialist staff and hundreds of volunteers share the belief that older people should be valued and respected, connected to their communities and in control of their lives.

**Media inquiries: Lauren Bobrige, ACH Group Communication Advisor, 0417 856 361, [lbobrige@ach.org.au](mailto:lbobrige@ach.org.au)**