

Barnardos Auburn and the ING Foundation Unite in the Fight Against Poverty

Barnardos Australia have joined forces with the ING Foundation to provide food for Auburn families who are suffering hardship this Winter. Over 900 food and grocery items were collected by ING staff and handed over to the Auburn Barnardos Childrens Family Centre this July.

The food donated by ING staff, will assist Barnardos to augment its child welfare services, with practical support to families. This practical support is often as simple as providing a few groceries, which will ease the financial burden and perhaps supplement a diet lacking in the nutrition needed by growing youngsters.

ING Foundation representative, Michelle O'Neill said the company is proud and honoured to be supporting Barnardos' services, especially in the Auburn community. "We feel strongly about supporting families, particularly those in real need, and our association with Barnardos helps us accomplish that," she said.

Rosemary Hamill, Senior Manager of the Barnardos Centre explained, "As the colder winter months set in, gas and electricity bills increase, more warm clothes and blankets are needed, and many families who are already struggling find themselves unable to make ends meet."

The donation of food will provide assistance and peace of mind to many of the local mums, dads and care-givers with whom Barnardos is working. With the continued support of organisations like the ING Foundation, those most in need will be better able to provide for their families throughout the difficult Winter months.

Speaking of the ING staff who donated food for this Appeal Michelle said, "The hands-on support that our staff offer through the Winter Food Appeal compliments the financial assistance the ING Foundation provides to Barnardos Family Support programs."

In addition to the many food items, ING staff also donated almost \$600 in grocery vouchers and cash.

The ING Foundation was established in 1978 to make a difference in the lives of Australians, particularly children, who have been disadvantaged, and has provided Barnardos with more than \$172,000 in support over the last 2 years.

Each year Barnardos provides relief and assistance to over 8,000 children and young people who may be suffering from, or at risk of neglect, abuse, homelessness or poverty. Barnardos believes that every child has the right to a safe, secure and loving family and has established numerous Centres to provide such support in areas of greatest economic need.

To donate to Barnardos or offer your support, call **1800 061 000** or visit www.barnardos.org.au.

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Accompanying Images:

ING staff making valuable contributions to the ING Winter Food Appeal for Barnardos.

