

Your Will *can* change lives.




How a Gift in your Will can make a difference to Melbourne
and Victoria's most marginalised and disadvantaged.



Melbourne Citymission
Building Inclusive Communities

Your Will can bring hope



For 155 years, Melbourne Citymission has worked with the most vulnerable individuals, families and communities across Melbourne and Victoria.

Our staff are dedicated professionals and the programs we deliver make a powerful and sustainable difference to people's lives.

Every week we help thousands of people to escape disadvantage, economic exclusion and social isolation.



“At first I slept on the vinyl floor, but then I found the car was much more comfortable. Sleeping all alone outside is totally scary sometimes but you get used to it.”

Melbourne Citymission is a recognised leader and innovator in the homelessness sector. We provide disadvantaged young people, families and people exiting prison with the resources and support they need to take control of their lives and reconnect with family, community, education and employment, so they can escape homelessness.

“When a child is born most parents experience an overwhelming sense of joy and excitement about what the future holds. For Craig and Andrea, when their third child was born, the future was uncertain. Would Jack ever talk? Would Jack ever walk? Would Jack ever be able to live independently?”

We believe in an inclusive society for people of all backgrounds and abilities and work in partnership with the community to provide support services to people living with disability, and to families with a child living with disabilities. Our services provide information, support, education and opportunities to allow people with a disability to achieve their goals and reach their aspirations.

“More often than not, aging is about transition and increased care needs. Through careful monitoring, assistance and keen observation of personal care, quality of life can be maintained.”

Our Eltham Retirement Centre provides a high standard of affordable, warm and friendly retirement accommodation and residential aged care for disadvantaged elderly people in Melbourne’s north. At the Day Therapy Centre we also provide intensive and slow-stream rehabilitation and body maintenance, to help older people to remain in their own home.

“Talking about dying is not something that comes naturally to Australians. Yet each year, half a million Australians experience the impact of terminal illness.”

Dignity and quality of life comes first. As the first community-based palliative care service to run in Victoria, we are leaders in providing expert symptom management and practical support to people who have a life-limiting illness. Clients and their families are given maximized choice for the physical, spiritual, social and cultural support they need.

Gift in Wills help Melbourne Citymission to support the most vulnerable in our society

- Disadvantaged young people and young people experiencing/at risk of homelessness.
- Children and families living with a disability.
- People living with a disability in danger of exclusion.
- People exiting prison and their families.
- Frail, older people.
- People living with a terminal illness.



Message from our CEO

Every day, Melbourne Citymission works with some of Melbourne and Victoria's most marginalised and disadvantaged.

In fact, we've been doing this for over 155 years and are now accepted as the forerunners in tackling the many and complex issues of social exclusion, with a staff of over 600 of the most talented and passionate professionals in this arena.

Today, our services span most of our society's vulnerable or forgotten. From children living with a disability, or young people who have nowhere to call home, to people who need assistance into education or employment, we'll be there, working alongside them so they can build a better future for themselves and be part of society.

But we couldn't achieve this vital work without the support of our donors and notably our donors who choose to leave a very special Gift in Will. This kind of support is particularly important as your act of generosity today will secure our work well into the future.

There is no better way to provide support for the thousands of people who rely on us for help than by including a bequest to Melbourne Citymission in your Will.

If you wish to speak to me personally, please call me on my direct line (03) 8625 4463 for a chat. Or if you wish I am more than willing to come to your home.

If you are considering a Gift in Will, thank you for your commitment to making a difference.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ric Holland". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a blue horizontal line.

Rev. Ric Holland, CEO

A portrait of Trevor Bradley, an elderly man with glasses, wearing a dark jacket and a colorful striped scarf. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a solid blue color.

“Why I wrote Melbourne Citymission
in my Will” — Trevor Bradley

Leading a life of giving

For 155 years Melbourne Citymission’s services have relied on the support of donors. Trevor Bradley is one such supporter.



Trevor Bradley had been supporting Melbourne Citymission's work for many years when the illness of somebody close to him opened his eyes to the importance of Palliative Care.

Trevor had been studying at the Melbourne University when his favourite lecturer fell ill with cancer, before passing away in 1986. This experience led Trevor to start supporting Melbourne Citymission's Palliative Care, who cared for his professor in his last days.

Palliative Care provides holistic care to someone suffering from a terminal illness, maximising their quality of life. It also supports the family and friends of someone with a terminal illness through counselling and respite care.

In 1996 Trevor's sister Bernice struggled with Parkinson's disease and respiratory complications. She was hospitalised six times for the last two years of her life, where she too was referred to Palliative Care.

Trevor says it was difficult because, "I was concerned not just for my sister, but for my family and the nurses whose role of caring demands a lot."

Trevor's own personal grief at the difficult time opened his eyes to the necessity of another type of service that is often overlooked — Pastoral Care, which offers spiritual support and counselling to people suffering illness as well as the people close to them.

This prompted him to give a generous donation, paving the way for a pastoral care worker to offer their services once a week to the Williamstown Hospital, where his sister had been a patient.

Trevor has a simple rationale for his generosity: "The donations enable the work to go on."

Circle of Friends

A bequest is a special way to give something back, literally a gift of life for a person suffering severe disadvantage. To show our appreciation of such generous commitment, we have established our Circle of Friends, to recognise the major contribution those who leave a bequest in their Will make to supporting our work.

Once you have advised us that we are included in your Will, we will invite you to become a member of the Circle of Friends. You will receive a token of recognition and regular invitations to our special functions designed to inform you of the work we continue to do.

You can advise us by:

- Writing a letter to Melbourne Citymission advising us of your intention to make a bequest.
- Providing a copy of the relevant extract from your Will.
- Providing a confirming letter from your solicitor.

Of course, whether or not you choose to take advantage of these invitations is entirely up to you. Our purpose is to make sure you are kept fully up to date on our work and how your support is helping us.

Thank you for taking the time to consider remembering Melbourne Citymission in your Will. We look forward to the pleasure of welcoming you to the Circle of Friends.



How to write your Will

Leaving a gift in your Will is an investment in the people that are important to you. It is also about peace of mind and clearly setting down your intentions for the future after you have gone. Everyone should have an up-to-date Will.

When making your Will you should see your solicitor to make sure your wishes are clearly expressed and legally binding.

If you already have a Will and would like to include Melbourne Citymission, it's a simple matter of having your solicitor add a *codicil* — a short legal amendment to your existing Will.

Your solicitor can check that the *codicil* fulfils all legal requirements and does not contradict other clauses in your Will.

Bequests can take a number of forms including:

- A percentage of the value of your estate;
- A residue of the estate after your family and other beneficiaries have been provided for;
- or
- A specified amount of money or property.

There are a variety of bequest clauses but the following is the one most used for a general bequest:

“I give to Melbourne Citymission a percentage/residue (or the sum of \$) of my estate to be used for its general purposes and the receipt of the Chief Executive Officer of Melbourne Citymission will be sufficient discharge to my Executor/Trustee.”

If you would like to discuss any aspect of leaving a bequest to Melbourne Citymission, our Bequest Manager would be happy to have a confidential discussion with you and can be contacted on (03) 8625 4444.

Alternatively, please complete the attached Bequest Form and return it to us in the envelope provided.

Making your Will — a few tips

Whether you have decided to make a Will or are simply updating, here are some tips.

- Nominate an Executor or Executors who will ultimately be responsible for carrying out the instructions contained in your Will.
- Let your Executor know where your Will is kept. It's a good idea to give your original to your solicitor or bank and keep a copy at home.
- Always seek advice from a legal practitioner and be well prepared for your appointment, thinking through your financial position and how you would like your estate to be divided.
- Review your Will at least every three years.
- Unwitnessed Wills are not valid.

Thank you

If you decide to remember Melbourne Citymission in your Will, please accept our most sincere thanks. Your bequest will help make a difference for Melbourne's disadvantaged and marginalised.

Disclaimer: This document does not constitute legal advice. You should consult a solicitor regarding the matters raised in this document. You will understand that Melbourne Citymission cannot provide advice regarding the legal or taxation aspects of any proposed bequest.

Bequest Form: please share with us your intentions

Your Will is a very personal document and naturally you will want to keep its contents confidential.

Melbourne Citymission will, at all times, respect your privacy. We respectfully ask that you let us know if you have left, or intend to leave, a bequest to Melbourne Citymission.

Please let us know by completing and returning this form in the envelope provided.

CONTACT DETAILS				
Title (Dr, Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms, etc.)				
First name				
Surname				
Street address				
Suburb				
State		Postcode		
Telephone (Home)		(Mobile)		
Preferred time to call (Please circle)	AM	PM		
Email				
Language spoken at home				
Preferred contact method/s: (Please circle)	Telephone	Letter	Email	Home visit
Please tick whichever is applicable				
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have already included a bequest to Melbourne Citymission in my Will.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	I am considering a bequest to Melbourne Citymission. Please contact me to discuss my options.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	I would like to know more about leaving a bequest to Melbourne Citymission. Please call me.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	I would like to know more about joining the Melbourne Citymission Circle of Friends Bequest Society. Please call me.			

Remove and reply paid post.

www.melbournecitymission.org.au

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