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Salvos Call for Urgent Aid for Homeless Women, Children

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– Categories: Human Rights



The Salvation Army urgently seeks donations to support women and children facing homelessness in Australia, with one in seven homeless individuals being children under 14.

The Salvation Army (TSA), Australia's largest provider of homelessness services, has issued an urgent call for public support to address the rising crisis of women and children experiencing homelessness, as reported by Mirage News on July 31, 2025. Recent Homelessness Australia statistics reveal a 20% increase in women and girls seeking help, with 45% of them citing domestic or family violence as a contributing factor. Alarmingly, one in seven people experiencing homelessness is a child under 14, totaling 45,850 children and youth nightly, according to the 2021 Census. The Salvation Army

assists over 8,000 people monthly but can only reach 20% of the national homeless population due to limited resources, as stated by Jed Donoghue, National General Manager of TSA's Homelessness Services.

Donoghue emphasized the strain on services, noting that the focus remains on those already homeless rather than prevention, per Mirage News. The Salvation Army operates 10 crisis refuges nationwide, supporting over 4,500 young people annually, and provides accommodation, case management, and financial aid, particularly for women and children fleeing violence. In Victoria, TSA's services, such as St Kilda Crisis Centre and Foley House in Footscray, offer 24/7 support, with specific programs for domestic violence survivors, as detailed on their website. However, the organization struggles with capacity, turning away many due to resource constraints.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's 2023-24 report highlights a 15.7% rise in homelessness driven by housing affordability issues, with 13,715 employed Victorians seeking aid, a 23% increase over five years. Critics argue that the Albanese government's housing policies have failed to address the crisis, exacerbating financial pressures on families. Natalee O'Brien, TSA's General Manager for Youth Services, stressed the need for safe homes for children, urging community action during Homelessness Week, August 5-11, 2025, per News Hub. TSA's services, including emergency accommodation and outreach in areas like Broken Hill and Darwin, aim to provide dignity and stability.

The Salvation Army is calling for donations via salvationarmy.org.au or 13 SALVOS (13 72 58) to expand support. With homelessness at record levels, the organization's plea underscores the urgent need for community and policy action to protect vulnerable women and children.