



Brotherhood of St Laurence

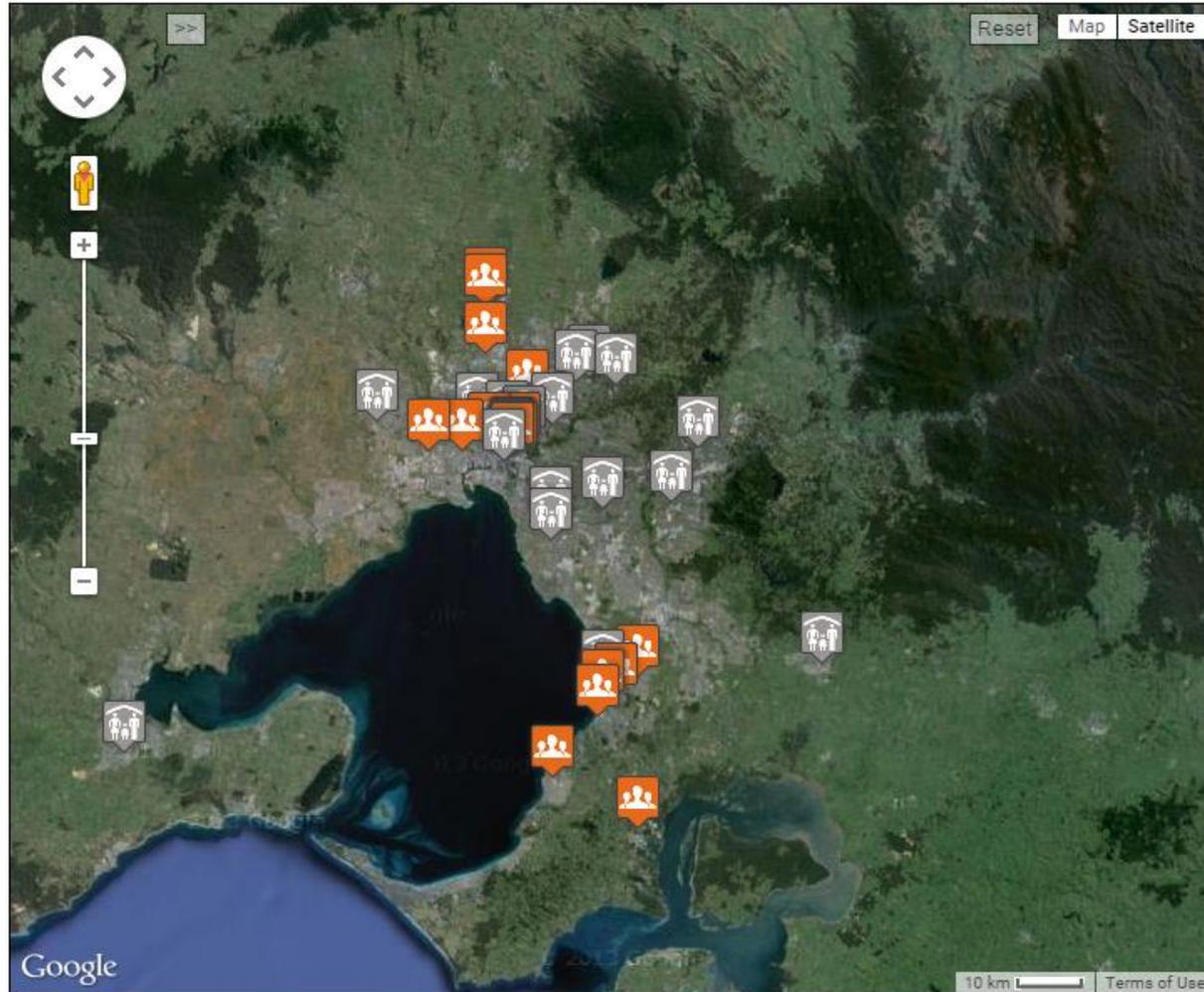
Working for an Australia free of poverty

Brotherhood of St Laurence

Today we work for an Australia free
of poverty



Where we work



Volunteering at the Brotherhood



“Volunteering is a great way to keep active in the community and to give to those who would otherwise go without.” Sophie, aged 35

Volunteer Management & Supervision

- **Management of volunteers at the Brotherhood is based on the same policies and procedures as paid staff**
- **This is not always ideal**
- **Understanding why people volunteer helps us to manage them effectively**
- **How do you use this information for successful engagement**

Creating a supportive environment



Communication is key

- Be available to check in with your volunteers
- Be prepared to have difficult conversations

When it doesn't work out

- Sometimes it just doesn't work out
- What is your organisation's process? Do you have one? If not you need to consider one.

Volunteer support and engagement

Keep volunteers informed about issues affecting the people you deliver your services to

Support health and wellbeing

Reward and recognise



What volunteering means to me

On Being a Volunteer | By Jayne Malone

Does anyone at the Brotherhood ever think or even know what volunteering for the organisation does for the volunteers themselves.

Whilst altruism is an accepted reason, there are in fact quite a few more.

Let me tell you about me. I had been away from the work-force for a few years – had tidied every drawer in the house, cleaned out all the cupboards, done more than my fair share of child minding with great grandchildren and was bored out of my brain. I was feeling useless, unwanted, not capable and very aware of my age.

So I decided to become a volunteer.

Two-and-a-half years later I find my confidence in my ability has returned, my self-esteem has grown, and I have a sense of purpose about myself. In chattering to some of the elderly people who live in my building, they tell me the same thing.

Volunteering, whilst it is altruistic in that we all like to help, it gives you a sense of purpose, a reason to get out of bed. You are treated with respect, your skills are appreciated, your age doesn't matter, you get to use your brain and it gives you some social interaction. You no longer feel isolated, you slowly get back your sense of value and worth.

Instead of working four hours, twice a week, I now work about 12 hours and am able to do further work at home. I work with a great group of people and I absolutely love what I do. I am very lucky. I now have a sense of fulfilment again.

And the best part: my contribution supports the Brotherhood in assisting others who have much less than I do. I am proud of that. THANK YOU BROTHERHOOD. I give to you but you have given, and continue to give, a whole lot back to me.

Sincerely,
Jayne Malone

Thank you.....

