



Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc.

Established by the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne

ABN: 89 385 189 234

Administered by the Melbourne Anglican Foundation Ltd.

Benevolent Programs Assisting People in Need

COVID-19 has created both a health and economic crisis. Your parish may be looking for a means to meet the needs in your community brought on by the pandemic in a loving and compassionate way. By choosing to open a program through the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. which provides direct assistance and relief, your donors receive tax-deductibility and administrative support.

Responding compassionately to the COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 pandemic has created both a health crisis and an economic crisis. Most of us, if not all, will know friends, colleagues, family members and parishioners who are suffering hardship as a result of the crisis, and many are in desperate and necessitous circumstances.

Anglican parishes can respond compassionately to meet needs in their communities by making an application to the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. for open an approved program able to receive tax-deductible donations from supporters.

Programs must be consistent with the purposes of the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. in order to comply with Australian taxation law and to receive tax-deductible donations.

The purposes of the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc.

The Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. is a Public Benevolent Institution, registered with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission, and has been granted DGR (Deductible Gift Recipient) status by the Australian Taxation Office.

The purposes of the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc are on a parish by parish basis:

- (i) within the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne, the direct relief of poverty, sickness, suffering, distress, misfortune, destitution of helplessness;
- (ii) the provision of financial and other assistance to unemployed youth, emergency accommodation for youth, crisis and other counselling for the needy, direct benevolent assistance.

Direct support and assistance to those in need

Programs at parish level authorised by the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. must provide direct relief to persons in the community who are in necessitous circumstances. Typically the need will arise out of the person or persons financial circumstances, but it need not be restricted to this – the need may be a result of sickness, some misfortune, or distress, for instance.

Programs already operating at parish level under the auspices of the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. include:

- Meal programs, providing breakfast or supper (which may be takeaway in the current circumstances) to those in the local community who might not otherwise eat;
- Programs distributing clothing, blankets, and other material necessities, to those in need;
- The provision of accommodation to the homeless, or to those who cannot return to their usual home;

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- Support for parents of children suffering hardship, by providing the necessities to feed, clothe and care for them;
 - Programs providing practical support and assistance to recently arrived migrants and refugees, and to international students and others, who do not have access to state welfare such as Centrelink, or to Medicare.

These do not exhaust the purposes for which a program may be established, but provide some examples of existing programs at parish level, which meet the criteria of a fund established under the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. to assist persons in necessitous circumstances.

It would be possible also, for example, to establish at parish level a fund for the provision of financial support and assistance for a particular family in the parish or community, or a group or class people in the parish or community, who may have been especially impacted by the pandemic – for instance through a death or debilitating sickness, severe financial loss, or other misfortune.

In the light of current circumstances, a program may be established to meet the needs that are the direct result of the current pandemic, but it need not be. The program may be a short term and time limited one, or one that is intended to be ongoing.

Making application for an approved program

If a parish has a program, or has established one, or intends to establish one, which meets the criteria as set out above as providing direct relief to people in need, you may make an application for an approved program to the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. using the form attached.

The Directors of the Melbourne Anglican Foundation, who are the Trustees of the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc., will need to ensure the program meets the purposes of the Society as set out above, and thereby complies with Australian taxation law.

In the present circumstances the Directors are receiving and considering new applications digitally, and making determinations as quickly as possible through circular resolution.

The benefit of an approved program

The primary and most important benefit is that programs run by parishes providing direct relief to those in need demonstrate, in a tangible and practical way, the all-encompassing love of God for all people. This is especially important in the present circumstances, with so many in our parishes and our communities suffering hardship as a result of COVID-19.

The added benefit the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. provides to a parish program providing direct relief of need is the ability for it to receive tax-deductible donations from parishioners, friends and supporters, and from organisations and corporations, and indeed anyone or any entity, in the community. The more donations received by the program, the greater its ability to assist those in need.

The way this works is that the donation is made to the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. nominating the program the donor wishes to support as the recipient. Most giving is online (<https://www.melbourneanglican.org.au/melbourne-anglican-foundation/melbourne-anglican-benevolent-society/>) using a credit card, but other forms of giving (direct debit, cheque) are also possible. The donor receives a tax-deductible receipt, usually within two or three days of making the donation. At the end of each month, donations received in support of the program are remitted directly to the parish, less a 5% administration fee.

Grants

The Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. has some limited ability to make grants to approved programs. The funds used for this purpose come from donors who wish to support the work of the Society in general, rather than a specific program, and from some philanthropic trusts with whom the Society has a well-established relationship.

To apply

In order for your application to be considered, please complete the attached application form and return to: flangton@melbourneanglican.org.au

You may wish to also include any additional information which you consider may assist your application. Please ensure you address how your application will meet and further the objects of the Society as stated above.



The Right Rev Dr Bradly Billings
Chairperson
The Melbourne Anglican Foundation



APPLICATION FORM

Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc.

CONTACT DETAILS

Name of Applicant

Address

Contact Person

Position held

Telephone

Email

I wish to submit a program or activity for approval, to be administered by the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc., part of the Melbourne Anglican Foundation, **to which donors are provided with a tax deductible receipt.**

PROGRAM DETAILS

Name of the program or activity:

Please briefly describe the program or activity, noting any attachments or additional information included with your application.

• Who will benefit from the program or activity?

• What are the expected number of attendees and/or how many are likely to benefit from the program or activity? How will the intended attendees be reached and access the program?

• Has this program operated in the past? If so please provide some history as to its success. Include any financials/annual reports where possible.

• Will any members of staff be employed as part of this program or activity? If so how many full and part time? How many volunteers will contribute to the program or activity?

BUDGET

Please **detail the budget** for this program or activity, with particular details on how the money raised will be spent (Please attach an expenditure report).

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE

The application is required to nominate a representative, who will provide a report for each calendar year, comprising:

1. The stated objectives of the program or activity, and achievements;
2. A financial report for the past year of operation or part thereof;
3. Sign a declaration stating that the program or activity has been carried out in accordance with the objects of the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. and is, thereby, compliant with the Australian Tax Office deductible gift recipient (DGR) requirements.

Program Name	<input type="text"/>
Parish or Ministry Context	<input type="text"/>
Minister/ Manager	<input type="text"/>
Appointed Representative	<input type="text"/>
Contact details for appointed Representative	<input type="text"/>
Phone	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>

DECLARATIONS IN SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION

Minister / CEO / Chairperson (*circle*)

Name	<input type="text"/>
Signed	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>

Churchwardens or Directors

Name/s	<input type="text"/>	
Signed	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>	

I hereby consent to my appointment as the Representative for the purposes of the Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society Inc. and confirm my understanding of the roles and responsibilities

Name:	<input type="text"/>
Signed:	<input type="text"/>
Date:	<input type="text"/>