



The Salvation Army Bushfire Recovery Operation Update 11.02.20

The Salvation Army has shifted to the recovery phase of its bushfire assistance, thanks to the generous support and contributions of the Australian public.

Salvation Army Emergency Services are positioned at four official recovery hubs in New South Wales and three in Victoria, while providing an outreach service on Kangaroo Island, SA.

The shift reflects the move from emergency response and immediate relief to medium-to-long term recovery, with the latter accounting for most of the funds raised by The Salvation Army's national disaster appeal, launched on November 9, 2019.

Since the first response in September, the Salvos have distributed \$11.9 million of the more than \$18 million that has been received and banked.

More than \$7,064,000 has gone towards immediate emergency and relief efforts for first responders and evacuees, while \$4.86 million in hardship payments has been distributed directly to people in need. Staff have provided financial assistance to over 3,950 Australians, through a dedicated phone line and face-to-face conversations on the ground.

The Salvation Army is establishing a dedicated Bushfire Recovery Team (BRT), nationally coordinated and locally embedded. The BRT will lead the Salvos' engagement with federal, state, regional and community groups.

Bushfire Recovery Team services will include financial assistance and counselling; a dedicated telephone line where workers can assess and deliver material aid; outreach workers embedded in local communities across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia and; caseworkers based in communities to deliver holistic assistance, including financial, emotional and psychological responses.

The Recovery Support program will help those who have been impacted by the bushfire emergency and will provide:

1. Cash grants – initial payments and secondary grants as needed
2. Household grants to help with rent, power, gas, phone and internet
3. Personal grants to purchase clothing, bedding and furniture
4. Funding to support personal needs such as medication
5. Temporary and transitional accommodation relocation grants
6. Vehicle grants to help with registration, insurance and petrol
7. School assistance to purchase books, uniforms and cover the cost of excursions
8. Family respite and recreational opportunities
9. Financial, emotional and psychological counselling
10. Individual bushfire case management and survivor advocacy to help people find the right support
11. A bushfire support phone line

	NSW	VIC	SA	QLD	WA
Individuals/families who have received financial assistance	2397	1178	135	192	56