

Project Report Update as at November 2011 from Wendy Hayne, Community Development Officer

Latrobe City Emergency Relief Network of Latrobe City (ERNLac)

The Latrobe City Emergency Relief Network meets on a quarterly basis to network and exchange ideas on improved service provision.



Emergency Relief can be defined as providing aid to individuals or families

in crisis situations where they haven't got enough money to meet day to day living expenses. Support may be provided in the form of food, accommodation, travel, pharmaceuticals, utilities, clothing, furniture items and household goods. Additionally, a range of complementary support services are offered to clients to help equip them with the skills necessary to minimise reliance on emergency relief services into the future. These may include financial counselling, drug and alcohol counselling, mental health support, no interest loan schemes, health management and parenting courses, amongst others.

On behalf of the Network, Latrobe City Council is currently coordinating the update of the Emergency Relief Providers and Support Services Brochure which is anticipated to be ready for distribution prior to Christmas when there is traditionally a high demand for services. This brochure provides the contact details and a small explanatory note about the services offered for a range of different organisations involved in the provision of Emergency Relief across Latrobe City.

Members of this committee are also eligible to receive grants from the Latrobe City Trust Emergency Relief Fund to provide direct emergency relief assistance. A total of \$10,500 was distributed in the last round to the following organisations:

- Helping Hand Community Care Program
- Quantum Support Services
- Theodora Cheerful Givers.

A final round of funding for 2011 will open soon for members of ERNLac with funds to be distributed prior to Christmas.

CBD Safety Committees

The Traralgon and Morwell CBD Safety Committees continue to meet. These committees include representation from late night venues, Victoria Police, Latrobe City Council, politicians, local trader associations, transport providers and business owners.

The installation of CCTV within the Traralgon CBD is seen as a high priority by committee members and an application for additional funding was recently submitted under the State Government's Public Safety Infrastructure Fund, through the Department of Justice.

The Traralgon and Districts Liquor Accord is also active in Traralgon involving representatives from licensed venues, Victoria Police, Liquor Licensing and Latrobe City Council. The Liquor Accord's main function is to provide a forum for all venues to ensure they are up to date with liquor licensing regulations and work in a coordinated way. The group is also able to agree on banning individuals from entering licences premises if they have been involved in an incident of antisocial behaviour and are deemed by the Accord to be unsuitable patrons. The Liquor Accord plans to formalise its functions and to raise awareness of their role and jurisdiction by increasing their publicity in local media.

Churchill Harmony Group

The Churchill Harmony Group was established in response to concerns about public safety in and around the shopping complex of Churchill and Monash University student accommodation area. Members on this committee include:

- Monash University
- Victoria Police
- Kurnai College
- Department of Human Services
- Churchill and District Community Association
- Churchill Shopping Centre Businesses
- Quantum Support Services
- Headspace
- Berry Street
- Churchill Neighbourhood House
- Latrobe City Council.

Members of this committee are currently developing an Action Plan to identify and clearly outline roles and responsibilities for strategies that will improve and maintain public safety in Churchill.