



Second Chances Incorporated
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Chairman's Winter Appeal 2026



Australian
**CRIME AND VIOLENCE
PREVENTION**
Awards **2017**



Rescuing and recycling household and office items.





A note from the Chair

January marked a fresh chapter for Second Chances as I joined the Board and stepped into the role of Chairman. I want to acknowledge and thank former Chair Glenn O'Rourke for his faithful leadership through demanding seasons of life and health.

Here's what I'm praying and working toward:

- More hands on deck—volunteers giving a little time each week to share the load.
- Regular donors who help sustain our

My Wife, Lesley and I have long believed in giving people—and good things—a second chance. For years we ran GARYS BAZAAR, a second-hand recycling business, before closing in October 2025. Today, that heart continues at the new Second Chances Community Hub at 39 O’Sullivan Beach Rd, Lonsdale, where GARYS BAZAAR and Second Chances have come together as one vibrant, practical expression of hope.

Before this, I served as a Councillor and Deputy Mayor for the City of Onkaparinga and ran my own real estate business. Those experiences taught me that

Outreach and Ministry.

- Seed gifts toward the next phase of our Community Hub (details soon).
- Open doors to speak with community groups and churches about our mission.
- New Board members who feel called to help steer our future.
- The faithful prayers of the saints for protection and blessing over this work.

To every volunteer who has served—and keeps serving—you are the heartbeat of this ministry. Thank

strong communities
are built when
everyday people
pitch in.

you for your time,
energy, and
unwavering
compassion. The best
is ahead.

Per;



Gary Hennessy
Chairman

Welcome to a new Board Member

Hi to the Second
Chances Community My
name is Peter
Charitopoulos, and I
have been Blessed to
recently join the Board of
Second Chances I'm
married to my amazing
wife, Vanessa,

of 24 years, and we have 4 Children (one being our son n law)

Coming to Faith in 2014, God revealed to me, my purpose (which applies to all of us); being to instil Hope to all people, Love on them, and to give them direction in life, and we do this by introducing them to Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour.



I am Blessed to own several family businesses, which are vessels to point to Jesus, create opportunity and employment, and to help people, wherever possible. I've joined the Second Chanced Board, with Lived and Life Experience in the areas, supported by Second Chances, and now as a recent Board member, I am able to maximise the reach and impact, in meeting Individuals and Community's needs, while allowing God's Love to Work in and through Us.

I'm a strong believer in that, we're called to do the Natural, whilst allowing and expecting God will do the Supernatural!

Thank You Jesus 🙏

A new Social Worker.....



Maarefa is a Social Worker based in Adelaide, currently working with young people in the Family Support Team at Second Chances. She holds a Master of Social Work, along with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Humanities, which together inform her holistic and person-centred approach to practice.

Maarefa has previously worked with Life Without Barriers, supporting individuals experiencing complex alcohol and other drug (AOD) and mental health challenges. In her current role, she works with young people impacted by the justice system, particularly those navigating the effects of parental incarceration. She is passionate about bridging barriers and

making services more accessible, ensuring young people feel seen, supported, and empowered. Maarefa brings a trauma-informed and culturally responsive lens to her work and is committed to fostering resilience, dignity, and hope in the communities she serves.

Social Enterprises

Second Chances Community Hub at Lonsdale is seeing strong momentum across its social enterprises under Social Enterprise Manager, Sam Narroway.

Sales have climbed as the team expanded floor space, enabling acceptance of more donated items and a wider, better-presented range for the community. The program now incorporates the Furniture Warehouse—relocated after its forced closure in Richmond due to

Prison Ministry

Second Chances Prisons Team is hitting the ground running to break the cycle of reoffending. The moment someone walks out of prison, our Volunteers are there—ready with a warm welcome, a safe ride, and a full day of practical support. From Centrelink and Housing to the bank and the shops, we guide every step so essentials are sorted fast. Along the way, we share meals, swap stories, and build a trusted bond that lasts—someone to call when life gets tough. It's dignity in

the South Road expansion—and the Op Shop, which moved from Sturt after outgrowing a building no longer fit for purpose.

With growth comes a greater need for people power. We're seeking dedicated, reliable volunteers to help sort donations, serve customers, and keep operations running smoothly. Your time directly fuels social impact—supporting Second Chances' mission while giving quality goods a second life.

action, hope on wheels, and a proven path to lower recidivism across our community.



Ollie's Story



Ollie is a young boy that has just started High School and since then has had his life uprooted with his mother absconding from DFV but also from incarceration. This absconding has left the mother and child currently homeless and living rough in emergency

accommodation for months due to their inability to afford high rental fees in today's rental economy crisis. Ollie has been assisted by Second Chances to discover his true passions and goals in life, and assisted in getting advocacy for issues at school. Today, Ollie can sleep easily, even though still homeless, knowing that he has the support of Second Chances.

Family Support Team

Second Chances is proud to announce that our Family Support Team has secured a new three-year funding contract through the South Australian Department for Human Services.

This funding is a significant win for the children, young people, and families we support across metropolitan Adelaide. The program works with young people under the age of 18 who have a parent or caregiver currently in prison, involved in the justice system, or at risk of imprisonment.

Research consistently shows that children who are exposed to crime, substance misuse, arrests, and incarceration within their family

environment are at a significantly higher risk of experiencing similar challenges themselves. Early intervention is therefore critical in helping break cycles of disadvantage and involvement in the criminal justice system.

Our newly appointed Social Worker has played a key role in developing a strengthened program framework that enhances case management practices and provides clear outcomes for the children and young people we support. The primary goal of the program is simple but powerful: to help children avoid future involvement in the criminal justice system and achieve positive life outcomes. Children are referred to the Family Support Team through schools, government departments, and community services. Working alongside each child and their family, our team helps identify personal goals and aspirations, then develops achievable step-by-step plans that support long-term success.

The program also focuses on identifying each child's strengths while addressing barriers through a range of therapeutic and developmental supports. Through child-focused activities, mentoring opportunities, skill-building programs, and positive social experiences, we aim to strengthen confidence, resilience, wellbeing, and hope for the future.

The Family Support Team continues to seek new partnerships, activities, and opportunities that empower children and young people to thrive.

More exciting news from this team is, WE'RE EXPANDING!!!

Under the supervision of our Social Worker, Second Chances are seeking an experienced, qualified, and suitable Youth Worker to join the Second Chance family. If you know a Youth Worker looking for

work, or you are one, we want to hear from you! Email your resume and cover letter to office@secondchances.org.au

For more information about the Family Support Team, please contact:

FamilySupportTeam@secondchances.org.au



Community Outreach Program **NEW**

Second Chances is delighted to launch the Community Outreach Program, headed up by Sam Narroway — a confidential, child-safe residential pathway for women and children escaping domestic and family violence. Based in a secure four-bedroom home in the southern region, the program offers a calm, supportive environment

where up to four women and their children (under 12) can stay for up to 12 months, with a goal of transitioning within six.

Guided by a trauma-informed, strengths-based approach, each participant partners with a trained, multidisciplinary volunteer team to co-create practical “life goals” across safety, health, housing, employment, finances, and community connection. From day one, the focus is on stabilisation: safety planning, legal and health appointments, school and childcare arrangements, and establishing predictable family routines. As confidence grows, the program builds skills through counselling coordination, financial and tenancy readiness, job preparation and placement support, and parenting and children’s wellbeing services — all tailored to each family’s needs. Optional, consent-based spiritual care is available without obligation.

Success looks like safe housing secured, sustainable employment or paid training in place, and ongoing therapeutic supports arranged before exit. Aftercare offers light-touch check-ins to help families sustain momentum. The home operates with clear, child-safe house guidelines, robust privacy protocols, and strong partnerships across DFV, housing, health, legal, education, and employment services.

This opening marks a practical expression of Second Chances’ commitment: safety first, dignity always, and real pathways to independence. Thank you to our volunteers, supporters, and partners for helping turn crisis into possibility — one family, one safe step, one second chance at a time.

HELP US SET UP - Your much needed donation can go directly to this program! This will help buy household goods for the women and children that will often arrive just with the clothes their wearing. We need help setting this up and we receive no government support.

Donate direct to:

[https://www.paypal.com/donate/?](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=CDXLGVDWE6FBA)

[hosted_button_id=CDXLGVDWE6FBA](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=CDXLGVDWE6FBA)



DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

Community Outreach Program



 

A safe, secret haven for women to heal.
honestly and rebuild.

Multidisciplinary team support detailing services and outreach. Dedicated to hear their life, and all primary affections for participation.	Multidisciplinary team support and DFV specialties. This is a safe and secure center with high staff oversight ensuring confidentiality and assistance.
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Contact at: 08 8272 0323 or
outreach@secondchances.org.au
Multiple pathways or community providers,
women invited to connect.

Amber is a young mother to a three-year-old son, and earlier this year, both were at real risk of homelessness. Growing up in foster care, Amber faced a complex and unstable childhood without consistent support. More recently, she experienced the devastating loss of another child—grief that has deeply affected her wellbeing and ability to cope during times of crisis.

Amber's Story



Despite reaching out to multiple services, Amber continued to fall through the gaps. Strict eligibility criteria, limited housing options, and challenges linked to trauma meant she was unable to access the support she needed, leaving her and her son in an increasingly vulnerable situation.

At this critical point, Second Chances stepped in. Through flexible, trauma-informed support, advocacy, and assistance with bond payments, we were able to help Amber secure safe housing—providing her and her son with stability and a fresh start.



Second Chances SA is registered as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status with the ACNC: ABN 38 932 849 828

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible and will be issued a receipt.

Direct Bank Transfer: Westpac

BSB: 035-053,

Account: 538242

Ref: Donate for **program name**