



Bridge to Opportunity

The Rural City of
**MURRAY
BRIDGE**

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MEDIA RELEASE

Subject **2018 MURRAY BRIDGE CHRISTMAS HAMPER APPEAL**
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THE MURRAY Bridge community is being asked to come together and support local families doing it tough this Christmas.

Overwhelming support for an initiative last year has stimulated the Rural City of Murray Bridge to yet again launch the Murray Bridge Christmas Hamper Appeal to support the efforts of ac.care, St Vincent de Paul Society and The Salvation Army.

Previously these three organisations distributed food hampers and toys individually but by pooling resources and working together, the 2017 Murray Bridge Christmas Hamper appeal was able to reach 220 grateful families and provide toys for all the children.

Chief Executive Officer Michael Sedgman said while many families were looking forward to festivities, pageants and spending time with loved ones, Christmas could be a very stressful time for people in need.

“This includes people experiencing homelessness, victims of domestic violence, loss of employment, people living with disability or mental health issues, as well as those ‘doing it tough’ on low incomes,” he said.

Mr Sedgman urged community members to support the hamper appeal and to help spread Christmas cheer to those who need it most.

“Our community organisations could not reach the number of people they do without the valued assistance they receive from community members,” he said.

Support for the appeal can be made by donating money directly to the charity of choice, donating in-date non-perishable food items or donating toys (unwrapped) – especially those suitable for the 13-16 year age group.

For more information, to donate or to arrange collection of goods contact Murray Bridge branches of ac.care at 11-21 Kennett Road on 8532 6303, St Vincent de Paul Society at 11 Second Street on 8532 4180 or The Salvation Army at 3 Fourth Street on 8531 1133. Donation forms can be found at

www.murraybridge.sa.gov.au/christmashamperappeal