

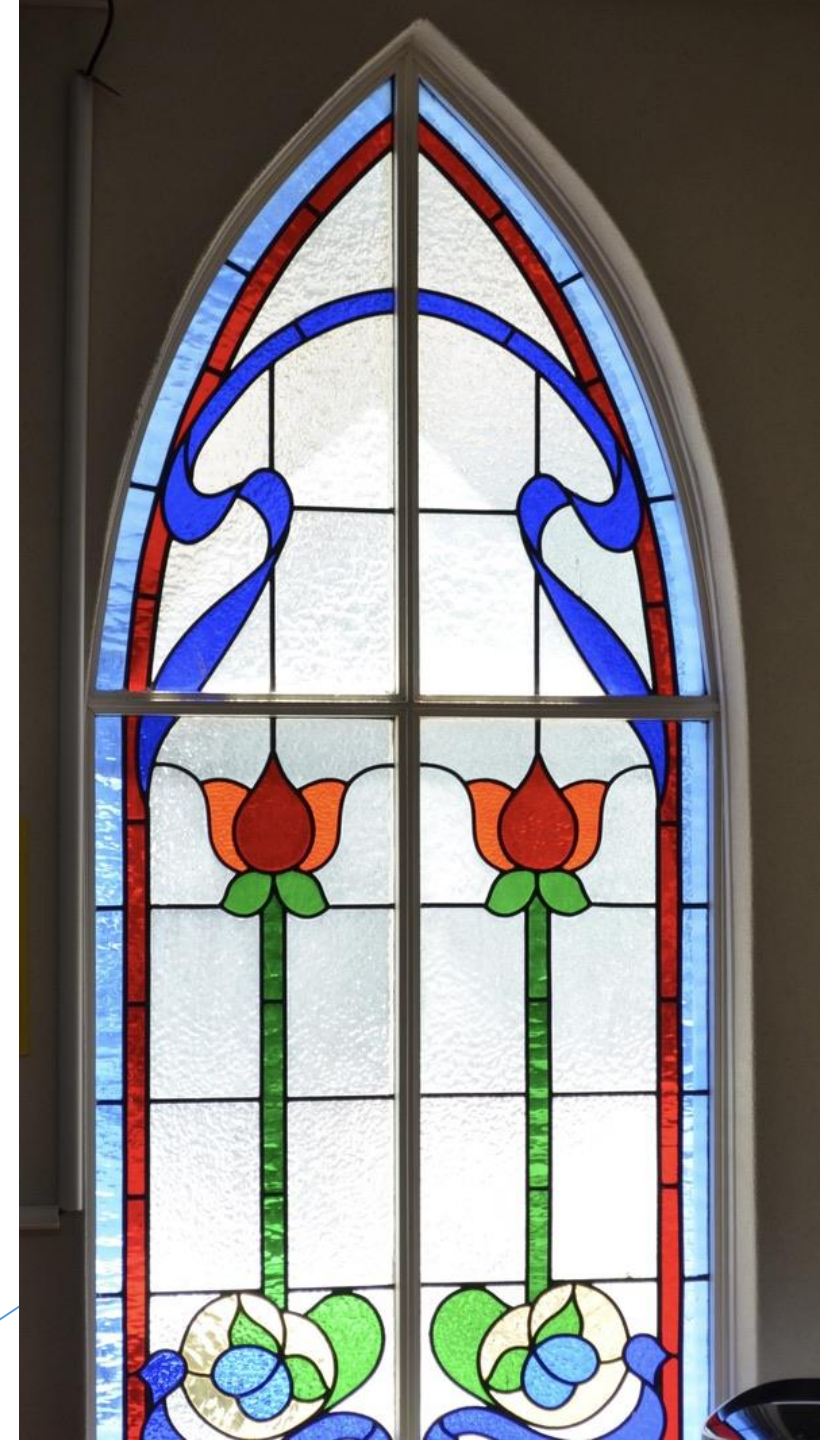


St John's Crisis Centre

"A hand up"



Sanctuary Coast Care Ltd



St John's Crisis Centre

A legacy of Compassion on the Gold Coast

- ▶ Established on the Gold Coast, SJCC has supported vulnerable individuals and families for over 44 years.
- ▶ A non-denominational, inclusive charity providing emergency relief and social services.
- ▶ To offer compassionate, practical support to those experiencing crisis.





Drop In Centre Kitchen

- ▶ The DIC is open Monday to Friday for a free main meal and dessert. We also offer takeaway meals for their evening meal.
- ▶ Last year, we served 39,500 meals and 3,500 school lunches
- ▶ Every day, we host a Morning Tea, where clients can relax over a cup of tea, watch TV, read a book, and relax in a safe environment.
- ▶ **Referrals to other service providers**
- ▶ **Not all drop-in centre clients are homeless;** they could live alone and come for community and inclusion or access our free services, which enable them to save money and stay housed.

Welfare & Emergency Relief

Services Include:

- 🍲 Emergency food relief
- 🧥 Clothing & toiletries
- 💰 Financial assistance
- 🏠 Housing referrals & support
- 🏥 Medical aid
- 🛡️ DV advocacy
- 🍳 School breakfast & lunch programs
- 🎁 Christmas hampers & community lunch

We don't just provide help; we walk the journey with them.



Breakfast and Lunch Program

- ▶ Keeping Kids in School and breaking the cycle of homelessness through education

Gold Coast Faith-Based Disaster Response Network

- ▶ The GC Multi-Faith coordinated Disaster Response Network was a direct result of the flooding that occurred in Northern NSW a few years ago
- ▶ Why - a group of us realised that we had a vast untapped resource but no coordinated response
- ▶ Working with the QPS and the GCCC, we have been activated twice by the Council
- ▶ First, the Christmas storms hit the Coast during Christmas 2023. We learnt from our mistakes and adjusted our responses.
- ▶ Cyclone Alfred - the Council activated the network
- ▶ We set up a Homeless Shelter in Southport.
- ▶ Hundreds of people were provided with warm meals and shelter
- ▶ I was very proud of my community

The City of Gold Coast A Concerning Policy Shift: What You Need to Know

- ▶ Camp Cities in public spaces
- ▶ In 2022, the City of Gold Coast, Brisbane, and Moreton Bay Councils signed on to a **Homelessness Action Plan**. At the heart of this plan was a welfare-first approach to people experiencing homelessness, particularly those sleeping in cars or public spaces. The initiative trained **Public Safety Liaison Officers (PSLOS)** through the Queensland Police Service to act as first responders with empathy and dignity, prioritising voluntary compliance over force.

And it was working.

- ▶ In March 2023, there were **292 active PSLO cases**.
- ▶ By January 2025, that number dropped to **187**.
- ▶ This data demonstrates progress — people were engaging with services, receiving help, and beginning a pathway out of homelessness. The focus was clear: to make homelessness
- ▶ **rare, brief, and non-recurring.**
- ▶ Sadly, this week, the Council formally adopted a new **Guided Compliance First Policy** — a significant step backwards. Under this new model, people experiencing homelessness will be moved from park to park without engagement from PSLOS and **with no pathway to support**.



Gold Coast Common Ground

- ▶ The Common Ground supportive housing model is a proven and cost-effective solution to end homelessness.
- ▶ Based on the principles of design, permanency, affordability, tenancy mix, safety, social inclusion, and tenant services.
- ▶ Ideally located near public transport and job opportunities
- ▶ UQ research has shown that cost offsets to the community of more than \$13,000 per tenant
- ▶ It diverts people away from primary health and mental health systems, emergency departments, and police interventions, freeing up funds that could be reinvested into services to help people remain in housing permanently.
- ▶ We have secured land from the State government and will tender for the contract to run the building and provide holistic support to our community's most vulnerable.

*Building Sanctuary-
A Safe Haven for Families
Escaping Domestic Violence*

Four years ago, St John's Crisis Centre held its first major fundraiser.

During this period, we have raised over \$600,000, and we have dedicated these funds to supporting families escaping domestic violence.

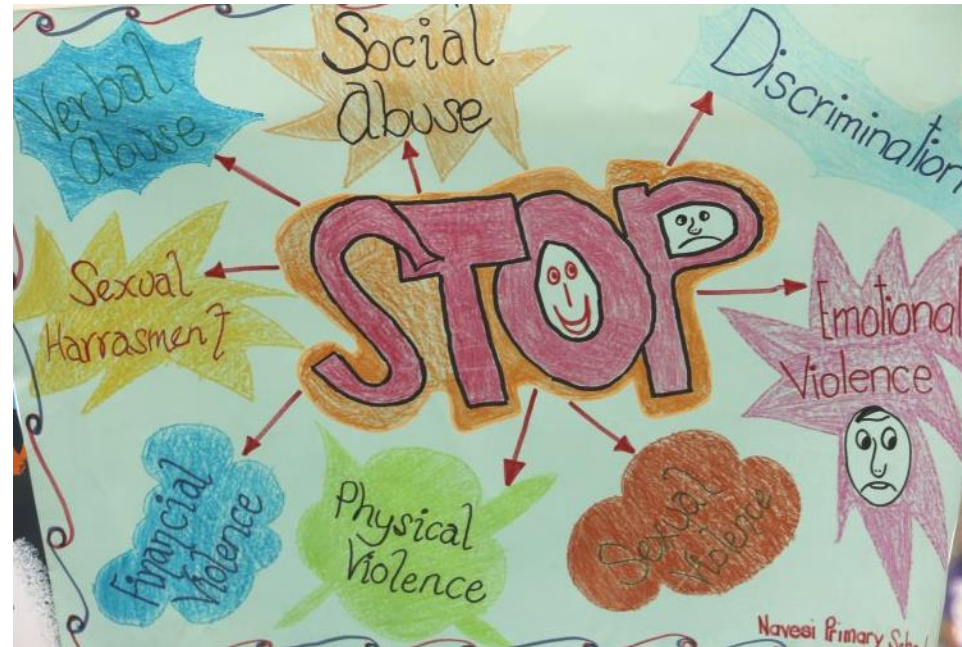
Last year, St John's Crisis Centre and the James Frizelle Charitable Foundation partnered to develop two Domestic Violence Shelters on the Gold Coast.

Unfortunately, there is a considerable need for temporary and long-term accommodation for these families.

DV in Our Community

A Crisis Hidden in Plain Sight. Real Families. Real Urgency

- 1 in 3 women experience partner violence in Australia
- 1 in 4 men experience partner violence in Australia
- Domestic violence is the #1 cause of homelessness for women & children
- Cost-of-living crisis makes it harder to escape
- Over 50% of clients linked to DV situations
- Families living in cars, parks, or couch surfing





Gaps in Existing Services

Not Every Refuge Is a Safe Refuge

Boys over 12 are often not accepted

Pets are usually not allowed

Long waitlists for accommodation

From Vision to Reality

- ▶ We initially planned to purchase land and build a facility. However, we have been lucky enough to buy an existing building with 16 two-bedroom units. This will be a sanctuary for families for 6 to 12 months.
- ▶ We are currently in the setup and commission mode and hope to welcome our first families in October of this year.
- ▶ We are still looking for land or an existing facility to use as an emergency shelter for families and their pets.




How You Can Help

Be Part of the Solution – It Takes a Village

 Donate funds or goods

 Become a business sponsor

 Volunteer your time

 Help spread the word

Together, let's build a Sanctuary for our most vulnerable



SAVE THE DATE

Glitz & Glam Gala

BRINGING LIGHT TO THOSE IN NEED.
Join us in transforming lives and spreading joy to
families experiencing domestic violence.

05 . 09 . 2025

JW GRAND BALLROOM
JW MARRIOTT SURFERS PARADISE

Live auction & raffle prizes on the night.