



50 YEARS



50 YEARS OF WALKING ALONGSIDE WESTERN AUSTRALIANS

Fifty years ago, Anglicare WA began with a simple but courageous idea: that people deserve to be seen, understood and supported - no matter the complexity of their circumstances. Founded as the Anglican Health & Welfare Service under the leadership of Archbishop Geoffrey Sambell, our organisation started small, walking alongside a few hundred Western Australians each year.

Today, as we mark our 50th year, that commitment has grown into a statewide movement - one that reached more than 100,000 people last year alone, stretching from Kununurra to Albany and east to Kalgoorlie.

Across Western Australia, Anglicare WA now delivers 101 services supporting mental health, parenting and relationships, housing stability, recovery from family and domestic violence, suicide prevention, financial counselling, and

more. But at the heart of every service is the same enduring belief that has guided us for five decades: to see the whole person, and to respond with compassion, dignity and a deep commitment to justice.

That belief has shaped how we respond when needs emerge and systems fall short. Over time, many of Anglicare WA's programs have become recognised as leading models of care, designed not just to support people in the moment, but to create lasting change.

Foyer Oxford, for example, remains one of Australia's most successful youth housing programs, supporting young people to achieve stability, education and independence for more than a decade. Services such as Young Hearts provide specialised counselling for children recovering from trauma related to family and domestic violence, while Family Is Forever >



WELCOME TO OUR AUTUMN EDITION

50 YEARS

This year marks a defining moment in our journey: 50 years of standing with Western Australians, breaking

barriers, and building stronger communities together. And we're only getting started.

Since 1976, Anglicare WA has never backed down from a challenge. Guided by values that set us apart, our team has always been gutsy, advocating for bold solutions and supporting people through their toughest times. This cover story reflects key milestones from the past five decades, and celebrates the lives we've been privileged to impact.

We know the work isn't finished. There is still much to do to create a just and fair Western Australia for all. This year, we launched our new Five-Year Strategy, a roadmap that demands ambition and results for our community. Inside this issue, our Advocacy team shares insights into what this strategy means for the future.

The challenges ahead are significant: housing and cost-of-living pressures remain critical, and far too many people live in poverty in one of the wealthiest states in the country. We will continue to lead bold solutions, stand up for justice, and ensure Western Australians don't just survive; they thrive.

Thank you for standing with us today, into the future and for being part of this story.

MARK GLASSON, CEO

Continued from page 1 > has transformed outcomes for separating families, earning the respect of the Family Court and Western Australia's Chief Justices.

Our commitment to young people leaving state care led to the pilot of Homestretch in 2019 - an evidence-based response to one of the most challenging transitions a young person can face. Just two years later, Homestretch became a State Government election commitment and is now delivered across the state, changing what's possible for young people as they step into adulthood.

Over 50 years, we have also used our voice where it matters most - advocating for fairness, dignity and inclusion when our community needs it. From standing in support of marriage equality to engaging thoughtfully in the Voice to Parliament referendum, we remain guided by our values and the people we serve.

We are proud to be leaders in reconciliation and self-determination. Since establishing the Elders Council in 2002, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have played a central role as decision-makers and stewards of programs that support their communities. We know that a just and fair Western Australia can only be realised with a sustained commitment to Closing the Gap.

From metropolitan beginnings to a truly statewide presence across right across Western Australia, Anglicare WA's work today is strengthened by the generosity, trust and partnership of people like you. Donors and partners have walked alongside us through decades of change, helping us respond to emerging needs and stand firm in our values.

Fifty years on, our impact cannot only be measured in the number of services delivered, but in lives changed, futures reshaped and hope restored. And as we look ahead, that hope continues to guide us - until everyone in our community has the opportunity to thrive in a just and fair Western Australia.



SERVICE HIGHLIGHT

FINANCIAL COUNSELLING

Financial Counselling provides a supportive, confidential space for people to navigate money-related challenges. This free Anglicare WA service is available to both individuals and families, with counselling offered online, by phone, or face-to-face.

Our counsellors support clients across a wide range of financial difficulties, such as:

- **Debt management and reduction:**

Creating repayment plans, negotiating with creditors, and offering financial education to help prevent future debt issues.

- **Short and long-term financial planning:**

Helping clients develop strategies to manage their immediate situation while planning for future stability and connecting them with other support services when needed.

- **Guidance on financial rights and responsibilities:**

Providing information on consumer credit law, debt enforcement practices, bankruptcy processes, and government concession frameworks.

Anglicare WA's Financial Counselling is free of charge for individuals and families experiencing financial pressure or seeking to build long-term stability. With the ongoing shortage of affordable housing and rising cost-of-living pressures, financial hardship is affecting Western Australians more than ever.

In the last four years the profile of people seeking support for finance related matters has shifted significantly, telling us that more and more Western Australians are doing it tough. We've seen:

147%+

Increase in employed clients reaching out to access emergency relief

54%+

Increase in clients from a household earning \$100k +

If you or someone you know would like to speak to one of our financial counsellors, please call 1300 114 446.

Anglicare WA advocates for Raising the Rate to lift JobSeeker and other benefits above the poverty line. Poverty is a self-perpetuating cycle that cannot be escaped through careful budgeting alone; systemic change is essential to give individuals and families a fair opportunity to thrive.



OUR CHRISTMAS APPEAL RAISES \$130,000

This Christmas, our donors once again amazed us with their generosity. The funds raised will support Young Hearts, our child counselling service, and every dollar donated is deeply appreciated by the Young Hearts team.

Thanks to our generous donors, the Christmas Appeal raised over \$130,000 for Young Hearts. In addition, a generous gift from the Stan Perron Charitable Foundation meant that many families we worked with during the year received food vouchers to help make Christmas a little more joyful.

Thank you to everyone who donated. The kindness of donors like you made Christmas a little brighter for many West Australians.



St Mark's students

SCHOOL BACKPACK DRIVE & CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE



Our East Perth staff



St George's students



Our Gosnells staff



Broome's St John crew



THE WORK
CONTINUES

50 YEARS ON



In 2026, Anglicare WA continues advocating for systemic change with a bold vision of a just and fair Western Australia where everyone can thrive. This year we start on our new 5-year strategic plan focused on achieving that goal.

Advocacy is a critical part of Anglicare WA's Strategy 2030, which sets out a commitment to 'Be a Fearless Voice for Change'. This means reshaping policies and challenging unfair systems that are barriers to thriving so that all Western Australians can live a good life. We will continue to advocate for fair incomes and secure housing, freedom from family and domestic violence, and systemic reform that addresses structural racism and supports Aboriginal self-determination.

Through advocacy, Anglicare WA does more than respond to community need. We challenge the systems that create the need. Strategy 2030 will see Anglicare WA continue our work to build a fair and just Western Australia for everyone in our community, with nobody left behind.

- **Be a fearless voice for change** is central to our advocacy, and the other strategy pillars guide the substance of our work.
- **Support Western Australians to Thrive** means our advocacy is shaped by community voices and grounded in lived experience.
- **Amplify Aboriginal Recognition and Justice** commits us to truth-telling, listening, healing, and equity.
- **Lead Bold and Innovative Solutions** drives us to pursue forward-thinking reforms and solutions to the trickiest problems.
- **Build Organisational Resilience and Readiness** ensures we have the capability and credibility to influence change for future years.

THE MEH GALA

WHERE PERTH'S STARS ALIGN

The MEH Gala returns on 29 August 2026, and the "City of Light" becomes the stage for a divine celebration marking a once-in-a-generation milestone: **50 YEARS OF ANGLICARE WA.**

After the relaunch of the Anglicare WA ball in 2025, The MEH Gala returns with the 2026 theme, *Celestial Grace*. We invite guests to reimagine ethereal glamour through DIY creativity and heavenly drama, inspired by Anglicare WA's enduring role as a guiding light for Western Australians.

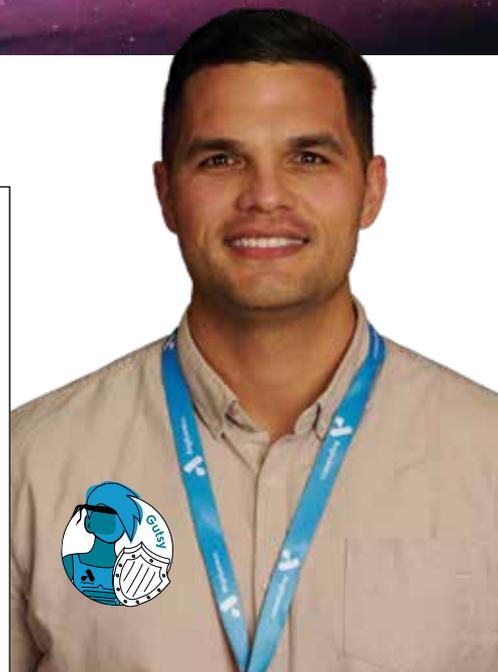
Join us this year as we gather beneath the dazzling lights of Crown Ballroom for a night where fashion meets purpose. Expect immersive performances, a radiant atmosphere and unapologetic self-expression, all in support of Anglicare WA's vital work to ensure every Western Australian thrives.

Plan your look, dress for the stars and secure your ticket at mehgala.com.au or email mehgala@anglicarewa.org.au



FROM ALLIES TO ACTION: THE POWER OF REGULAR GIVING

Celebrating the Allies who are helping us build stronger communities for Western Australians to thrive.



One year ago, we launched our regular giving program **Choose Your Warrior** - and what a year it's been! Our goal was to recruit 1,000 Allies to stand with Western Australians doing it tough by becoming a monthly donor. What happened was so much more. It reminded us why connection matters.

We've heard stories of hope, resilience, and gratitude - and reached people who didn't know help was available.

Thanks to our Allies and their monthly commitment, we can plan ahead, expand our reach and respond quickly when someone needs us most. From supporting more communities to reducing service wait-times, your support makes a real difference.

As Anglicare WA celebrates 50 years of standing with our community, we thank you for being part of this journey. Together, we're proving that compassion changes lives.

GIFTS TO ACKNOWLEDGE

We would like to acknowledge the following organisations and individuals for their significant support from August 2025 – February 2026

- Albany Community Foundation
- Alcoa Foundation
- Amazon Australia
- Anglican Community Fund
- AngliSchools
- Austal
- Azure Capital Trust
- BB & A Miller Foundation
- Clifton & Wood Family
- CommBank
- Community Bank Baywater
- Keystart Loans
- Lotterywest
- Miles Family
- Pearcey Family
- Synergy
- The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation
- Jenni Vartan
- Wright Burt Foundation



In line with our Net Zero goals, *Believe* is printed on FSC® certified paper.



Yes, I will help Anglicare WA continue to support Western Australians who need it most.

1

Please accept my gift of:

\$20 \$55 \$75 \$100

\$ one-off donation

\$ monthly donation

2

Method of payment

Phone

(08) 9263 2091

Cheque

Please make cheques payable to Anglicare WA

Credit Card

Please debit this credit card:

Name on card

Card number

Expiry

CVV

Signature

Direct transfer

Account name: **Anglicare WA**

BSB: **086 006** Account Number: **7311 24824**

Reference: Your initial and surname

3

Your details

Title: First Name:

Last Name:

Address:

Phone:

D.O.B.

Email:

Please return this form in the envelope provided or donate at donate.anglicarewa.org.au

Other ways to connect:

I'd like to find out more about including a gift to Anglicare WA in my Will.

I'd like to find out more about monthly gifts.

SCAN TO DONATE



Anglicare WA collects personal information in order to provide you with information and marketing materials aligned with our charitable objectives, and, unless you opt out/unsubscribe, may contact you via any medium. Our Privacy Policy is available on our website, anglicarewa.org.au/privacy. If you do not wish to receive future communications, phone 08 9263 2091. Donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Any funds raised in excess of what is required will be directed to Anglicare WA's services that need it the most.