

Dear Street Hope Victoria friends,

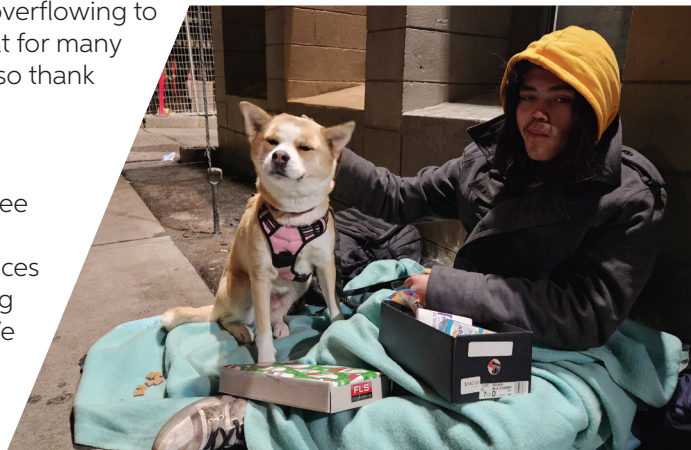
I want to say a massive thank you for your support over the past year! I've now been in Victoria for four months and what a four months it has been! It has been wonderful to hear from and get to know some of you better. It is so encouraging to know that you are all partnering with us whether through prayer, volunteering, or the giving of your resources. I love hearing from and speaking to our supporters so please reach out and if you'd like me to come and speak at your Church or Home Group I'd be more than willing!

I asked if I could pray for him, and he told me he didn't really know what or who he believed in and was that ok if I did pray for him.

Every Tuesday evening, because of your generosity, we're able to give out around 100 sandwiches, 18 litres of soup and numerous amounts of cookies, liquorice, juice, water, socks, and gloves to people living life on Pandora Avenue. But maybe more importantly we have many conversations with people about how their week's been, how our week is going and why we're here every week.

I want to say a special thank you to everyone who contributed to our shoebox appeal. This year we gifted an incredible 220 Christmas shoeboxes jam packed with food, toiletries, clothing and goodies! That's over double the amount of presents given last year! It was amazing see to the shoeboxes increasingly pile up in my office and then overflowing to the hallway. I know that for many people times are tight so thank you for your kindness.

As we handed out the shoeboxes you could see the joy and sometimes disbelief on people's faces that they were receiving a Christmas present. We believe that Jesus is the greatest gift ever



given. Because of your gifts we were able to share Jesus' love and hope with people this Christmas time.

One man, Toby*, I offered a shoebox to stand for a moment speechless. "Can I?" he asked, "I haven't had a Christmas present for years." He then shared with me some of his history and the difficulties he was facing at that time. I asked if I could pray for him, and he told me he didn't really know what or who he believed in and was that ok if I did pray for him. Of course it was! I prayed for his specific situation and thanked our Father God that Toby was his child, precious and loved.

I haven't seen Toby again since, but please do keep him and all we meet in your prayers. We long for people in our city to meet with Jesus, the Prince of Peace, who brings restoration and reconciliation. Even as we serve, pray and give, we experience his transforming power too.

I'd also like to say a massive thank you to The Table Church Youth Group who raised a tremendous \$1007.20 in November for SHV. Noah who's part of the Youth Group said this "We chose Street Hope because most of us have worked with Street Hope handing out food and various other things, we know what it looks like for someone to not be able to afford a place to live or a healthy amount of food. We chose Street Hope to be able to help as many people who are struggling as much as possible."

Please do give me a call or email if you're thinking about doing a fundraiser for SHV, I'd love to chat with you!

Thank you again so much for your continued generosity and faithfulness. It is such a privilege to be able to partner with you in this ministry.

Deborah

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**name has been changed*

