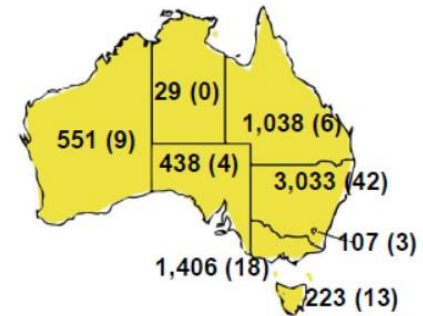


HIGHLIGHTS

- ADRA programs are busy delivering food parcels to existing and newly acquired clients,
- A total of 1750 families are being supported in Victoria every week by ADRA,
- In QLD, 40 keen volunteers sorted and packed 112 emergency food parcels,
- 140 clients are being supported with food parcels in Tasmania,
- The ADRA Community Centre Tumut (NSW) provided food to 30 families in Tumut, Batlow and Tumbarumba,
- From June 1, the COVID-19 response will transition from the Emergency Management phase to National Programs “new normal”.

This chart data is at 4 May 2020

CASES (DEATHS) BY STATE AND TERRITORIES



6,825

Confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Australia

95

Deaths in Australia from COVID-19

9

Conferences are actively monitoring the situation

23

ADRA programs are operating as usual however with stricter hygiene practices

35

ADRA programs are open but changed

48

ADRA Programs are temporarily closed

6

ADRA Programs are closed indefinitely

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Information on the Emergency

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2. The disease was first identified in 2019 in Wuhan, China and has since spread globally, resulting in the 2020 coronavirus pandemic. The World Health Organisation formally declared the 2019–20 coronavirus outbreaks a pandemic on 11 March. The first recorded case of coronavirus in Australia was on 25 January in Victoria.

People Affected

As of 5th May 6,825 cases have been reported in Australia, with the majority of cases being in New South Wales, with 3,033 cases.

95 people have died in Australia.

Worldwide infection numbers have increased to more than 3.44 million confirmed cases and more than 239,740 deaths.

Humanitarian Situation

No major changes since the last SitRep.

With the lowering infection rate, various State Governments have eased some restrictions. However, in the past 24 hours, there has been 27 new cases which is the highest increase reported since 19th April.

Gaps in Humanitarian Assistance

The same gaps currently remain.

Due to the shutdown of non-essential services such as restaurants and cafes, in addition to restrictions on gatherings, it is expected that more than 2 million Australians face unemployment therefore putting strain on household finances. The Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) has called on the Federal Government to support the community services sector through the coronavirus outbreak, which is failing to keep up with the demand, at a time when communities are relying on support from not for profit organisations.

ADRA's RESPONSE

Needs Assessment

Local programmatic needs assessments are being completed through consultation and collaboration with other local agencies in the challenging and ever-changing environment.

ADRA's Response Activities

ADRA is working with the Conferences and local churches to determine the best course of action, particularly for current National operations.

South Queensland

- ADRA Chinchilla op shop will open again on 5 May
- ADRA Toowoomba Op Shop are working through the process of when to open
- All other project activity has no change since the last SitRep.
- Most ADRA projects and programs have received their PPE supplies, which will enable them to remain safe during operations
- ADRA Care Crew Initiative Weekend
A team of approximately 40 keen volunteers over the course of three days, sorted and packed 112 emergency food parcels. The volunteers were mainly youth and young adults, but all generations were represented from 8 different churches. The parcels are primarily for those not able to access government support, such as international students or migrant families. 72 parcels have been distributed. Those who have received are very grateful and some shed tears of joy. Big thank you also to ADRA Eight Mile Plains, Vital Connection and Sanitarium for their support. Some photos are on the last page.
- ADRA Logan update:
 - Currently completing 70-80 food parcels each weekend and over 50 each weekday. These are basically a completely new cohort to regular clients.
 - They are supporting the feeding of over 90 international students in Sunnybank
 - Also supporting a ministry which is feeding over 2000 Vietnamese migrants with a transfer of bulk food from Second Bite.
 - Nine pallets of food were collected from Second bite today however, Foodbank do not have enough food.

- Using an Agriculture school close by to provide composted vegetable waste from poor quality food donated.
- A new ute has been obtained from a successful grant.
- There is still a need for volunteers. Many new volunteers are community members who live nearby and who even just walk by and volunteer.
- A \$16,000 grant was received from DSS to extend current emergency relief programming such as food, and rent and bill support.

South NSW

- The ADRA Community Centre Tumut provided 30 much needed food parcels last Tuesday (28th of April) to families in Tumut, Batlow and Tumbarumba.
- The new Bathurst Drought Youth Resilience activity changed operation due to COVID 19 and began the food pantry last Tuesday in response to the new needs. 100 food parcels were provided within the Bathurst, Mandurama and Cowra areas. They will operate on a monthly basis and have made links with the local MP, Lions Club, Rotary Club, C3 Church and Rural Aid Agency. Each of these groups is helping to identify families in need and/or offering to contribute financial or material assistance. Migrants living in the area are one of the key groups who have been identified and assisted through the project.

Victoria

- Knox Council has referred 70 indigenous clients from Mullum Mullum agency for assistance. The clients have been split between 3 ADRA sites for support.
- Working with Hope City Mission on Food Relief
- Have working partnerships with NDIS (Geelong) and DDHSS (South-East Vic)
- Yarra Ranges – ADRA Redwood Community Centre food relief serving 70 ppl every week.
- Knox – ADRA Ferntree Gully and ADRA Rowville-Lysterfield serving food relief to about 150 ppl every week
- Maroondah – ADRA Vive Café serving food relief and home deliveries to about 150 ppl every week
- Hume, Melton, Brimbank, and Moreland–Northpoint serving about 1000 people every week.
- Melbourne City – ADRA Casey serving about 100 ppl every week + home deliveries with

Burwood Church.

- Dandenong – ADRA Dandenong Filipino serving about 30 people every week + home deliveries to 50 clients per week.
- Casey – ADRA Casey serving about 60 ppl every week at Shawlands Caravan Park and Narre Warren.
- Cardinia – ADRA Cardinia serving about 30 families every week with home delivery.
- Whittlesea – ADRA Plenty Valley serving about 5 families every week with home delivery.
- Geelong – ADRA Geelong serving about 30 people every week + home deliveries.
- Bairnsdale – ADRA Bairnsdale serving about 70 people every week + home deliveries.
- Bendigo – About to commence home deliveries
- Impact: A total of 1750 families every week provided with food relief.

South Australia

- PPE equipment has been sent out to all sites that required more.
- Mount Barker continues to provide assistance through the Food Pantry and Op Shop. We are looking to expand to provide food parcels with the additional ADRA funding that has become available.
- Whyalla Op Shop and pantry has opened up and is functioning, with Kadina following suit.
- Victor Harbor Op Shop will reopen in the next week or so after being shut since the start of COVID-19 restrictions.

Northern Australia

- Mackay Churches continue to provide food hampers once a week from the Op Shop
- Townsville Food Pantry is servicing roughly 60-80 families a week from the Townsville City Church site.
- \$3,000 has been secured from the State Government, to help increase current food pantry activities during COVID-19.
- PPE equipment has been posted out to sites that are operating.

Western Australia

- Activities and operations as per the last SitRep
- Manjimup food pantry ran its first opening. The local Shire is supplying them with hand sanitiser, plus 4 road traffic people to help with the cars coming in to pick up their food parcels. They are hoping to do this on a fortnightly basis. They are

delivering to the elderly or disabled when called to.

- Home at The Park in conjunction with the local Shire is now going to the homeless in certain places where the Shire deems it safe and open to distribute food. Instead of the homeless coming to them in the local neighbourhood amongst residents.

North NSW

- All ADRA and Adventist Community Service food ministries are continuing to deliver services to their communities with altered mode of delivery. Glenn Innes Church Food pantry closed down for a few weeks in order to comply with restrictions and will come back providing a more effective service.
- Most Food Pantries are providing a Drive Through food parcel service, making it safer for both volunteers as well as for clients.
- A number of food ministries are still operating a walk-in-service, but with social distancing and limiting numbers of people coming through at a particular time.
- Two of out of four “God’s Closets” (clothing bank) have reopened to the public, providing children’s clothing for needy families. This service is delivered on a pre-order basis.
- All PPE’s have been delivered throughout the conference to all essential services.
- Mental Health: Session 3 on Resilience has been delivered to some volunteers across Australia, Pacific and Asia.

Greater Sydney Conference

- Our two community centres continue to offer counselling and casework online.
- Blacktown, Mt Druitt and Macquarie Fields continue with food distribution either by drive by, appointment, home delivery or drop in.
- ADRA Cafe for homeless people at Parramatta resumed operations on Saturday night with 30-32 coming for take away packs to be eaten in the adjacent park. The service relocated following their COVID 19 break to be more visible. The police reviewed the activities being conducted and were satisfied with the precautions taken.
- The Just for You project providing care packs for hospitalised abused children has continued without interruption.
- Community English and Support Program will review service resumption mid-May.

Tasmania

- ADRA is supporting 140 clients each week at the following sites:
 - Wynyard
 - Waratah
 - Smithton
 - Rosebery

Funding Opportunities

- Grants available from State government and various State departments. The ADRA team is exploring each of these funding opportunities and ADRA's eligibility to apply.
 - Grant help to ease elderly isolation in GSC was submitted 26/04.
- ADRA International
 - An initial funding grant of USD25,000, plus \$5,000 from ADRA Australia to make a total of \$30,000, has been approved and received from ADRA International to support the purchase of hand sanitiser and other PPE materials.
- ADRA Australia has approved \$109,898 for the next three months for the national COVID-19 response. This is to support the proposals sent in from the Conferences for the three months to 30 June.

RESPONSE COORDINATION

- ADRA ERT is meeting via Zoom conference call once a week
- Conference ADRA Directors are meeting once a week through Zoom. They are working closely with their local networks in each State as each State has different regulations being applied.
- In NNSW, David Haupt is a member of the Interfaith Committee and has been attending as he is able.
- In Western Australia, Suzanna Cuplovic is a part of the State Emergency Management Committee and has recently been added to the

- Cannington Council Recovery Committee.
- In Victoria, Rebecca Auriant is a member of Council Recovery Committees in Cardinia, Hume, Yarra Ranges and Knox Councils.

CONSTRAINTS

Security Constraints

Security situation is contained and manageable. A general Safety and Security Guideline is currently being reviewed to help guide ADRA staff and projects as the transition is made to "New Normal" of operation constraints.

A checklist for the re-opening of Op Shops has been developed in line with the Government advice on reopening workplaces.

Other Constraints

Limited movements due to the recommendation to self-isolate is in place.

ADRA advice precludes older volunteers and those with pre-existing conditions due to risk, therefore limiting the available volunteer force.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Media

Please visit 'ADRA Australia's Facebook page' <https://www.facebook.com/ADRAAustralia/> and also our Latest News tab on the website <https://www.adra.org.au/latest-news/> as this consolidates all of the activities in the various states.

Some photos and an article to be included in the upcoming 'ADRA News' is below.

The next SitRep will be circulated on:

Tuesday 2 June 2020

Photos *SQLDC volunteers packing food parcels*



Sources of data:

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/covid-19-cases-in-australia-by-state-and-source-of-transmission>
<https://covid19.who.int/>
<https://www.news.com.au/world/coronavirus>
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-04-21/coronavirus-australia-live-news-national-cabinet-virgin-airlines/12166868>

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