

Letter Of Authorisation: President

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Lismore Soup Kitchen Members

Dear Fellow Members,

During the past twenty years the Lismore Soup Kitchen has been a part of the northern rivers district which offered a place for people who are marginalized, lost, and needing support. This has not just been about feeding them and trying to help them find some sort of accommodation. It has been about giving them a sense of dignity, and offering them a community based on mutual respect and relationships. This sense of belonging has come from the people who make up the volunteers of the Lismore Soup Kitchen. I am particularly proud to have participated in and witnessed our achievements first hand.

Our success and reputation, within the Lismore community in particular, has depended largely on the word of mouth feedback from our neighbours and friends in the community who admire what we do and want to offer assistance in all sorts of ways. I am personally keen to maintain and enhance the LSK reputation as a community venture reaching out to the less fortunate and those doing it rough at any particular time. After all, it could be you or I! We should all remain aware that, "There but for the Grace of God go I", and relate to our 'clients' as you or I would want to be treated.

To this end I have committed to making our efforts at the Winsome Community Centre meet the highest of levels we can achieve that meet all the appropriate community and government standards and regulations concerning the preparation and serving of meals, accommodating people, and providing for their security and safety. At the same time we are about offering them a home while they are struggling to get back on their feet. It is my view that these Management Procedures will give us the 'step up' necessary to meet the required standards and provide the Lismore community with a sense of confidence that we, the people of the Lismore Soup Kitchen, are committed to what we do best for those who are our customers

Importantly, it is only through the willing participation of the LSK volunteers that we are able to achieve our vision and mission to the people of our community. As the primary place of first call for those needing a meal and having a safe, dry bed, our quest to meet the standards and guidelines described in this document is crucial. It is important that all those who volunteer to serve within the soup kitchen family, soon to be through operating the Winsome Community Centre (WCC), embrace this new way of doing business so that we, as a team, are all pulling in the one direction. Let us do this and be an example of real community in a world so needy of compassion and selflessness.

This Management Plan and its procedures offer us the vehicle with which to confidently and professionally go about our business of serving those who are hungry and needing our support and care. To this end I commend them to you and endorse them as the way of doing business at the WCC.

I recognise that the ability of the LSK to achieve its objectives rests largely on the performance, dedication and efforts of our people as much as with the management objectives of this document. I am confident that your heart for service and respect for what we are about will commit all of us to doing all we can in a spirit of cooperation and goodwill. Let us continue to go forward holding up our lamp to the rest of the community who we need to support us.



Ridley Bell

President

Lismore Soup Kitchen Inc
