

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Sunday, 29 September 2024

NEW FACILITY AND VEHICLES FOR SIKH VOLUNTEERS AUSTRALIA

The Allan Labor Government is supporting individuals and families in need with a new kitchen facility and three new vehicles for not-for-profit organisation Sikh Volunteers Australia.

Member for Hastings Paul Mercurio, representing Minister for Carers and Volunteers Ros Spence, attended the opening of the kitchen facility and unveiling of the vehicles at the premises of Sikh Volunteers Australia in Langwarrin today.

Sikh Volunteers Australia is a volunteer-run organisation that provides free food for Victorians in need and supports communities in Victoria and nearby regions in times of crisis such as bushfires or floods.

In 2023 Sikh Volunteers Australia distributed more than 28,000 free meals from their vans, and they also provide free food, water and necessary items to a range of communities during disaster relief operations.

The Labor Government invested \$500,000 to fund the purchase of two new vans, as well as the purchase and fit out of a brand new food truck which Sikh Volunteers Australia will use to deliver food relief and community outreach to Victorians during disasters.

The Labor Government also contributed \$250,000 for a new kitchen at Sikh Volunteers Australia's base in Langwarrin, alongside an investment of \$700,000 from the Albanese Labor Government.

The upgrades ensure Sikh Volunteers Australia is better equipped to swiftly respond during periods of crisis such as bushfires or floods.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Carers and Volunteers Ros Spence

"We are continuing to invest in organisations like Sikh Volunteers Australia who are helping Victorians in need."

"We're pleased to have supported the purchase of these vehicles which will enable Sikh Volunteers Australia and its dedicated team of volunteers to reach even more Victorians."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Multicultural Affairs Ingrid Stitt

"We are proud to have contributed to this new kitchen facility for Sikh Volunteers Australia which is a fantastic organisation that has such a positive impact for all of those they help."

"Our investment will support Sikh Volunteers Australia to build on their incredible work distributing more than 28,000 meals last year – enabling more Victorian families to access the support they need during times of crisis."

Quotes attributable to Member for Hastings Paul Mercurio

"Many Victorians are doing it tough which makes investments like this so important."

"I'm pleased that we have been able to help Sikh Volunteers Australia provide even more food relief for people in local communities."

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