## United Way Glenelg | Media Release

United Way Glenelg

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Highlights the collaborative effort behind the hygiene pack distribution project and emphasises the positive impact on the community.

## **DATE**

Friday 12 July 2024

## Hygiene Packs Distributed Through Little Free Pantries

Personal hygiene isn't just about physical health; it's deeply intertwined with mental health and overall well-being.

Recognising this crucial link, United Way Glenelg, with support from Bundarra Primary School's Student Representative Council (SRC) and funded by the Glenelg Shire Council, have been providing individual hygiene packs through the Little Free Pantries across the shire.

<u>Recent research</u> released this week by Good360 highlights a growing issue of hygiene poverty in Australia.

"The rise in living costs is forcing families to juggle between necessities like food, heating, bills, and now includes personal hygiene items," said Nicole Carr, Executive Officer of United Way Glenelg.

"Hygiene poverty is a hidden issue because it can be embarrassing to talk about it."

"By supplying hygiene kits to our Little Free Pantries, our goal is to alleviate this financial burden, promote well-being in our community, and restore dignity to those facing hardships."

In the Glenelg Shire, there are currently 14 Little Free Pantries. These pantries provide the perfect opportunity for community members to access hygiene kits, ensuring everyone has the resources they need to maintain personal hygiene and health.

Ms Carr added, "Our project not only addresses an immediate need but also fosters a sense of community and support. It's heartwarming to see the SRC students from Bundarra Primary School actively participating and making a real difference."

Glenelg Shire Mayor Karen Stephens said Council was delighted to help fund the project through its Community Grants Program.

"This project aligns with the goals of Glenelg Shire Council by building strong communities, where people can live, work, and play in a safe environment and be resilient when faced with challenging situations," she said.

Those wishing to donate, can simply purchase an item from the supermarket and place directly into a pantry.

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