



**Ken O’Dowd MP**  
**Member for Flynn**

**THE HON PAUL FLETCHER MP**  
Minister for Families and Social Services

**MEDIA RELEASE**

12<sup>th</sup> November 2018

**Liberal-National Government supports Australians experiencing hardship in Flynn**

Federal Member for Flynn Ken O’Dowd announced to Residents living in Flynn, living in financial crisis, will receive vital emergency support with a share over \$22 million of new funding from the Liberal-National Government.

Federal Minister for Families and Social Services Paul Fletcher today announced \$200 million for 185 community organisations delivering Emergency Relief.

“Today I had the honour of presenting a check to Janelle Horn on behalf of Emerald and District Social Development Association Inc. for \$270,000.00. Which will go toward helping People with disabilities, Families in crises, General community in Australia, Financially disadvantaged people and the Unemployed.

This is a great resource for the local community I am pleased I am able to help support this.” Mr O’Dowd said.

In addition, \$4.5 million in funding will be allocated to three organisations, Foodbank, SecondBite and OzHarvest, to provide Food Relief across Australia.

“The Liberal-National Government’s investment in these essential services improves outcomes for vulnerable families and children and helps to build strong and resilient communities. It will help keep Australians together,” Mr Fletcher said.

“Over 530,000 disadvantaged Australians were helped through this relief last year—providing a vital lifeline during times of crisis, such as illness, family violence or natural disasters such as the drought.” Mr Fletcher said

Federal Member for Flynn said over \$22 Million funding provided to The Salvation Army, Regional Housing Limited, St. Vincent de Paul Society Queensland, Anglicare and many more will provide assistance in the form of food parcels, clothes, bedding, household items, vouchers for utilities and supermarkets, and can include referrals to services for mental health, crisis housing, drug and alcohol issues or financial counselling.

“And we can pay for these vital grants by keeping our economy strong and the federal budget on the path to surplus,” said Mr O’Dowd.

“This funding enables community organisations to get food supplies to many Australians impacted by crisis, including those currently doing it tough in the bush.”

The new Emergency Relief funding will be provided over a period of four and a half years commencing 1 January 2019.

**ENDS**

**Media contact:**

**Minister Fletcher:** Brooke Leembruggen | 0447 743 835 | brooke.leembruggen@dss.gov.au

**Ken O'Dowd MP: Peter Hardy: 0410 687 987 email: [peter.hardy@aph.gov.au](mailto:peter.hardy@aph.gov.au)**