



Mission Statement

Our Goals:

To advocate for the dignity, rights, and well-being of people on low incomes, particularly those receiving income support from Centrelink

To create community networks that provide emotional and practical support to those affected by poverty, unemployment, and the mean-spirited policies targeting those receiving income support from Centrelink.

To be a voice for and of people living in poverty, and to highlight the personal experiences and insights of people on low incomes, so that we can challenge myths about poverty, income support, and unemployment.

Who We Are:

We are an alliance of people affected and concerned by poverty and unemployment, including job-seekers, low income workers, sole parents, age and disability pensioners, students, community and welfare workers, and others.

What We Are About:

We are committed to the ideal of an adequate, fair, non-judgemental welfare system. We aim to promote a safety net that properly protects low income and vulnerable people. That treats

people with respect, instead of punishing and micro-managing them, and allows them to fully participate in economic, community, and public life.

Myth-Busting, System-Blaming Rather Than Victim-Blaming

We oppose policies like Income Management and Work For The Dole that assume that if you are struggling financially or out of work, this must be your fault, this must be because you have not tried hard enough. We know this is untrue.

We argue that unemployment exists because there are not enough jobs, because job-seekers outnumber jobs. Furthermore, evidence suggests that Centrelink payments are too low to provide those relying on them with an adequate standard-of-living that allows them to meet their needs and fully participate in life in all its facets.

Breaking Down The Isolation Experienced By Many On Low Incomes

We seek to provide emotional, practical, and social support to people on low incomes, to enable people to network and share experiences and insights, as well as being an activist organisation that campaigns against unjust policies.

Welfare Is A Right, Not A Privilege

We affirm that exactly like healthcare, welfare is a right that should be freely available to all simply on the basis of need, and that it is part of living in a civilised, humane community. It is not something that we should have to beg or grovel for. Anyone who needs income support or other services should have access without having to feel ashamed or judged, and without having to prove themselves worthy.

Defending All People Receiving Centrelink Payments, All Low Income People

We reject all claims about the "deserving" and "undeserving" poor. We reject all attempts to divide Centrelink clients and other low income people, to turn some struggling groups against others. Our enemies are not each other.

For Further Information:

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