

How many people are on Centrelink Australia?

26.4M Medicare

11.4M Centrelink\*

1.2M Child support (children supported)\*

**#Centrelink** distributes about \$212.4 Billion per year while employing approximately 27,500 people plus 3000 Subcontracted to Call Centres giving a total of 30,500 persons and operates throughout Australia.

**#ACOSS** members receive about \$190 Billion per annum in **TAX tax-deductible #donations** mostly from **#donors** but the **Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission** claims they employ 1.3 million workers to provide charitable services. ie 42.6 times more staff to operate than 30,500 **Centrelink** staff.

Raw statistics show that the Centrelink Government is 42 times more cost-effective than philanthropic services.

Fundraising by charities during COVID-19 was problematic when reports on Glassdoor confirmed their delegated fundraisers were putting undue pressure on struggling donors to provide funds using what I would regard as unconscionable methods. .

There also needs to be a rethink on whether it is truly ethical to turn a blind eye to charities permitting the use of tactics of befriending lonely people with the express purpose of enticing them to make Wills to give their total estates to a sector that is running so inefficiently and when once upon a time some charities would provide accommodation for the homeless. now they won't. Some are holding \$billions in assets in trusts and are not assisting the very vulnerable who are missing out on affordable or public housing accommodation which is otherwise reported but unconfirmed as being offered to illegal immigrants.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Consideration Permitting Centrelink to raise money from bequests in Trust for special needs youth who go to Centrelink after being kicked out of their home but are not eligible for Centrelink benefits and may need food, phone, Myki, or accommodation and given vouchers to McDonald's or nearby motel. And provide a list of all local charities to contact, such a list should also be added to the Centrelink website broken up into regions.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Charities be required to merge operations of similar services or for some to change direction to provide more help to homeless youth and audits conducted to prove the funds are being usefully used for that purpose promoted in their promotions.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Charities to review the type of food products offered to the homeless and others whose utilities have been cut off and who don't have access to cooking facilities might be better given pull-top canned foods such as canned tuna, sardines, and salmon. These are great sources of protein, beans, canned fruit,

**drinks, mixed nuts long-life fruit and milk, whole wheat crackers and cereals, toiletries, plastic containers and cutlery etc to name a few. No point in offering pumpkins they cannot cook. think smart how would you eat without utilities?**

The **Productivity Commission** is currently investigating introducing more **#Taxes** inheritance taxes which is supported by its inefficient group members represented by **ACOSS Australian Council of Social Service** yet my raw numbers indicate are 42 times less efficient than Centrelink..

How does the draft report into **#Philanthropy** through **#charities** compare with my raw analysis above where Centrelink staff give away approximately the same amount of funds using only 2.3461% of staff as Charities and churches to and still the the needy are not being satisfied?

There is also some evidence that some churches are diverting potential funds earmarked for charitable purposes to religious pursuits by insisting and directing solicitors preparing Wills to direct the funds to their church names for their religious purposes. This could be distorting the total funds being given away to professional fundraisers. There is also an extra probability of fraudulent arrangement activity and money laundering among some of the over 60,000 registered charities or churches by offering fringe benefits to relatives of donors, is the ACNC investigating these potential issues?

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

**I recommend that ACNC Publish a list of all the registered Charity's correct names to be used when gifting bequests in Wills as some appear to be pushing the envelope in my opinion.**

### **SCRAP FORCED LABOUR in AUSTRALIA**

Some charities are now admitting the job network system is a farce and has been for a long time where providers are holding the power to stop Centrelink payments to volunteers if they don't do as told. Very unchristian and not standard behaviour in workplaces.

Both Free Volunteers & WFD Volunteers also need protection from unethical charities. .

I call on the government to scrap the system of forcing the unemployable to be required to attend useless training because of this belief they must find work when the current workplace manslaughter laws in Victoria would not permit employers to offer work to most of this cohort and especially when the official federal policy of the Independent **#RBA** Reserve Bank of Australia is to create more unemployment is counterproductive. The Government is combating the RBA policy by paying network providers fees to force the unemployed to go to work when RBA is using **#monetarypolicy** to create higher unemployment. Refer RBA ACT 1959

Source ABC article Link clarifies RBA policy .

<https://amp-abc-net-au.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/amp.abc.net.au/article/102506500>

## RECOMMENDATION:

*That all tax deductibility of charitable & foundation giving be abolished* and on raw numbers of \$190 billion at a cost to the budget of say 30% = \$57 Billion in lost taxes and maybe more as many may be claiming a tax deduction on their ATO Tax returns without even giving charitable gifts.

On the raw numbers, it would be far more productive and economical for #Centrelink to distribute the extra **\$57 Billion+** in extra tax revenues to the needy directly by **offering other programs or to fund the explosive budget needs of NDIS clients.** The extra \$57 billion in revenue could easily cover the extra cost of Centrelink employing an extra 6000 staff on a humanitarian basis of work instead of the current boiler room system of slave labour and at a cost of just about \$700 million per annum

Further, I would recommend **Bill Shorten MP Minister for the National Disability Insurance Scheme** to abandon subcontracting staff out to employment agencies that require staff to comply with **impossible KPI requirements** by limiting calls to 10-20 minutes which is insufficient when dealing with intellectually disabled clients. The agencies underpay their casual staff and then their team leaders humiliate and encourage staff to leave before the 12 months is up by reducing their hours so they stress out and leave requiring continual churning of new recruits.

More recently, 600 Services Australia Call Centre staff were retrenched in 2023 because staff could not cope with the number of callers and impossible to meet KPI efficiency targets, staff kept leaving in a distressed state of mind unable to meet call answer rates after a short training period. Read reviews in Glassdoor for a reality check

There also needs to be better #volunteer workplace protection as there appear to be none currently. I had to intervene directly earlier this year by contacting a HR member of a well-known charity to encourage the investigation, removal or transfer of a retail manager of an Op Shop who was verbally abusing not only those reliant on Centrelink incomes but also elderly ladies who were leaving after 20 years of volunteering.

In summary, the ungrateful and now lazy charities are calling on the government to increase taxes from the very donors that have supported them for many years with over \$190 billion per year however I suspect church donations are not counted and yet Centrelink seems to be the outstanding and very efficient donor of money to the needy by far.

Charities are getting greedy it seems and they want more? Like a scene out of pages of Charles Dickens novel when Oliver Twist asks "Please Sir I want some more?"