



St Vincent de Paul Society
NSW *good works*

DREAM. DARE. DO.

NSW YOUTH WEEK 2026





Dream

At St Vincent de Paul Society NSW, we believe young people can be leaders right now when given trust, opportunity and support.

Young people have been a part of the Society from the very start. In 1833, Frédéric Ozanam at 20 years old with his friends sought to act on the disadvantage they saw around them in post-Revolution Paris. With guidance from Sister Rosalie Rendu, they learned to listen first, respect dignity and respond with practical assistance.

That's what Dream means in NSW Youth Week 2026. It's about imagining a fairer NSW and recognising that young people, working together, can choose to step into leadership and help shape that future.



**“Let us do
without hesitation
whatever good
lies at our hands”**

Frederic Ozanam
(founder of St Vincent
de Paul Society)





Dare

Dare means choosing to step up. At the Society, young people can lead through Youth Social Justice Conferences and the high school Vinnies Service Medallion program — real spaces where students plan actions, make decisions and turn values into impact.

Vinnies Youth can run meetings, organise service projects, lead fundraising and talk honestly about issues like homelessness and inequality. Through Vinnies Youth and social justice groups, young people can also co-design community activities, lead awareness campaigns and take practical action with the support of teachers and adults.

Young people can also lead initiatives like Busking for Vinnies, Community Sleepouts, Christmas Appeals and food drives which raise real funds and address material needs that support real people. This is youth-led action you can choose to be part



Do: Get help

NSW Youth Week also matters because young people need to know where help is available. If you're struggling with housing, money, family stress or feeling overwhelmed, the Society NSW offers practical support without judgement, pressure or expectations.

At Vinnies Support Centres (and Local Conference Hubs), young people can access food, clothing, help with bills or forms, and speak with someone who listens and takes them seriously. If housing is unsafe or unstable, we can assist with crisis and transitional accommodation, casework and tenancy support.

You might also see Vinnies Vans in the community. Vans provide meals, a safe place to talk and respectful connection — often being the first point of contact for young people doing it tough. If you're not sure where to start, call Vinnies Assist on 13 18 12. This is the main support line, available to help connect you to the right service, right now.



NSW Youth Week 2026
Dream. Dare. Do.
Join Vinnies Youth.

Get involved

NSW Youth Week is an invitation — but Vinnies Youth is how you keep going. If you care about fairness, dignity and backing others, you can choose to step into membership with Vinnies Youth during Youth Week and all year round.

Through volunteering with Vinnies Youth, young people can give their effort through youth conferences, school groups, outreach, fundraising and advocacy. Vinnies is strengths-based: your skills, culture, interests and lived experience help shape what you do. Adults mentor. Young people choose how they lead.

Join or start a Vinnies youth community

Visit youthnsw.vinnies.org.au to explore youth conferences, school programs and how to get involved in your area.

Need help or want to talk first?

Call
Email

Vinnies supports NSW Youth Week

Leadership starts with a choice.
This week is your chance to make it.