

**Media Release**  
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### **A call to help those 'by the wayside' this winter**

The Wayside Chapel has launched its 2011 Wayside Winter Appeal, hoping to raise in excess of \$170,000.

Each year, The Wayside Chapel assists thousands of people in gaining access to essential health, welfare and housing services through its community services centre, youth service, mental health program and indigenous women's program.

Pastor of the Wayside Chapel, Rev. Graham Long said that Winter is the time of year to be very thankful for a roof over our heads and a familiar warm bed but it is also the right time to find some compassion for those who have 'fallen by the wayside'.

"Winter is a terrible time for the homeless who face night after night of cold temperatures. Our job at Wayside is all about meeting and moving. To meet people is a privilege and a joy and the effect of the meeting is to help people move; move toward housing and shelter; move toward adequate medical care; move toward help for mental illness; move through bewildering bureaucracies; move home in some cases; but always, a genuine meeting, leads people toward life.

"Our mission is to meet and to move people to better days but we need support to do it. With only 25 per cent of our income coming from Government sources we rely heavily on the local community, business community and individuals who so generously support us.

"No family is immune from the fall into dysfunction, mental illness and addiction. We live our lives 'by the wayside' in order to meet those who have worn out their families and friends and who think they are entirely alone. To be met at such a time and in such a place is always moving and every year we see many move on to a more full life. Your donations will support our mission to be in the right place and walk with people through to better days," Rev. Long said.

**To donate and be part of the 2011 Wayside Winter Appeal, visit the website [www.thewaysidechapel.com](http://www.thewaysidechapel.com) or call Katrina Mathieson at the Wayside Chapel on 02 9358 5582.**

For further media information contact Katrina Mathieson at The Wayside Chapel 02 9358 5582 or 0406 091 713. [media@thewaysidechapel.com](mailto:media@thewaysidechapel.com)

*The Wayside Chapel has provided unconditional love, care and support for people on and around the streets of Kings Cross since 1964. Today, under the banner of Love over Hate, Wayside runs a community services centre, youth space and outreach service, mental health program, community café, and Indigenous women's program; programs and services designed to ensure that the most marginalised members of our community have access to essential health, welfare, social and recreational services, as well as offering a place where people are welcome just to 'be'.*