



ANIMAL RESCUE COOPERATIVE

ARC is a unique charity providing an essential national service. It's work crossed over several categories of importance – animal, emergency, community and environmental recovery.



AN OVERVIEW

This document was prepared for our key partners and supporters. It summarises our core streams of work, how we work, who we are, and the support given.

This would not be possible without the support of our partners.

A pivotal part of Australian Community Support

ARC has grown rapidly to be an essential cog in community support, environmental recovery and animal rescue. With 69% of Australian households owning pets and a very large base of outreach and animal rescue, ARC has already proven to be vital.

INTRODUCTION

For three years we have been at the front line of thousands of community engagements. From fires to floods, community support programs to animal rescue. Our work is like none other in the sector.

All of our work is community and animal support related. We are either rescuing animals or helping others that do. However, we are also supporting community outreach, pounds, government bodies, even the RSCPA. We support community hubs and people in need. We keep animals in homes and wildlife with food, as well as help the people around them.

In extreme times, we have supported community kitchens. Everything that will help the community.

The keyway we do this is through sustainability programs with large medical, pet industry and food vendors. We take hundreds of tonnes of their waste product that would normally have been thrown out and we recycle it back into the animal support community. We fund initiatives that support all the above in point solutions, partnerships and individual rescues.

And we do this all as volunteers.

There are no paid board members. We maintain a lean and modern organisation at a national scale with no personal gain.

This is about keeping families together.

This is about rescuing and supporting animals.

This is about community and sustainability.

We are unique given we cover many categories of charity work, and work with hundreds of other charities and community groups to support them.

WHO DONATES TO ARC

We aren't a large or rich organisation and are classified as a medium charity. We don't pay staff and all our funds go back into getting food and support out to those who need it . . . and supporting animals.

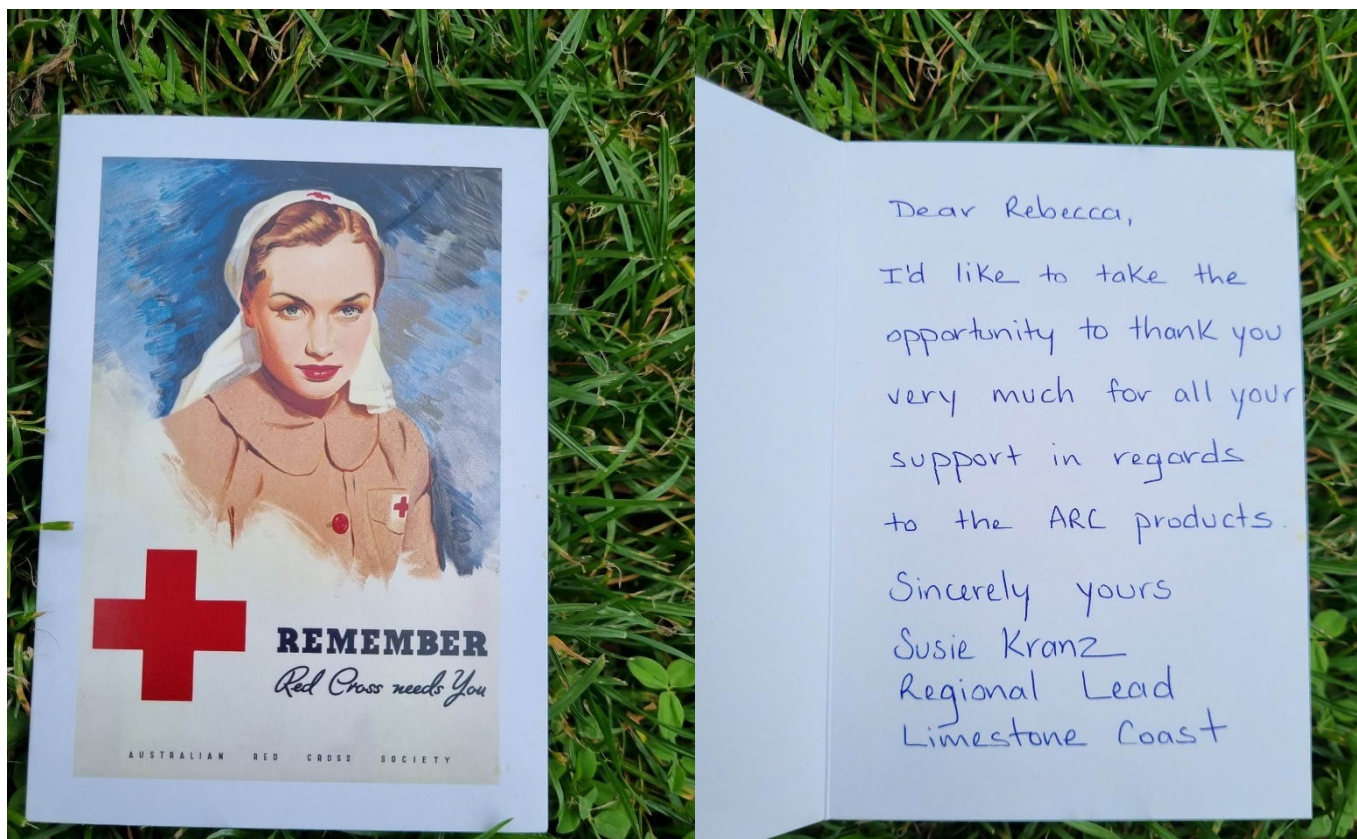
Donors range from small mum and dad donors through to the occasional large industry vendor/partner. Petbarn Foundation is our largest supporter and has driven a massive outcome for animals and people as a result.

Donors support specific rescue projects, emergencies and animals. They also make monthly sponsorships to support field teams helping others.

Oz Harvest and ARC – Pictured here is a pickup with ARC supplying Oz Harvest team for emergency community support.



[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)



ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

- Who we are.
- Lines of volunteer work
- Where we operate
- How we operate
- How we track everything
- Tonnage of product repurposed
- Financial projections
- The team involved.
- The Craft Guild
- PBF Recovery fund
- Vendor partners
- Desexing Program
- Domestic Violence Support
- Council Engagements
- Indigenous support
- Case studies
- References
- International Recognition
- Future directions

Who is ARC?

ARC is a nation-wide charity made up of hundreds of volunteers supporting the community.

We are comparable to "Oz Harvest for Animals/Smith Family/AWL" with decades of experience in running community outreach, animal rescue charities, sustainability and recovery programs.

ARC operate many community hubs around Australia. Each act as a focal point for community engagement with family support groups, rescuers, first responders and animal groups.

ARC also operate a significant online support presence, helping build facility and resilience across community organisations, develop new support services and tools to cope with the extremes of rescue work.

ARC also provide direct care to animals in times of need and as BAU. This has seen large scale foster programs in flooding, sanctuary builds in fires, direct care when community cannot fund work through to point rescue work.

We have become an important part of the Australian Community and are recognised internationally. **All as volunteers.**



ARC is unique and effective in critical community outcomes.

Thousands of individual support requests answered every year, resulting in much needed help for families, volunteers and animals in need.

A massive repurposing of product that would have normally ended up in landfill, constantly cycling back into projects where it is desperately needed.

A huge community engagement of positive people, old and young, bringing hope and support to places that have never been assisted like this before.

A known quantity (and safe pair of hands) to industry, peak bodies, thousands of NFP's and community workers. ARC connects and moves the dots to where support is needed.



'Pictures

Left - ARC Sydney Hub open day June 23

Top – Homeless outreach blanket night – Prince Albert Park

Middle – Brisbane Hub Animal Rescue Pickups



[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)



Animal Rescue and Support

At its core, ARC is supporting Animals in rescue. Hundreds of volunteers from ARC work across nearly 7 thousand rescuers to provide food, medical, financial and other support to keep them operating. Saving lives of animals and ensuring people who are helping animals are known and supported.

Massive waste Repurposing

The Pet Industry creates enormous amounts of food and product, which can turn to waste. ARC repurposes tonnage of that food into free support for animals and community. We also repurpose vast amounts of material, product, merchandise and medical that would normally end up in landfill.

Community Outreach Support

ARC supports food and medical for community groups. These can be anything from pop up hubs in emergencies through to major organisations like Oz Harvest and the RSPCA. We work with hundreds of community groups to supply food, medical and support in times of need.

Mental health support

By it's very nature, ARC supports the mental health of animal rescuers and people with pets. We provide a safety net in times of need but also an ear to listen to concerns, help with critical items and support in times of grief. We have registered nurses on team and focus on healthy outcomes for many.

Emergency Response

When there is a natural disaster, ARC is there alongside rescuers and first responders. We provide pop up facilities food, medical and foster care for animals. We have also provided pop up kitchens, coordinated large scale recovery builds, transporting and convoy runs.

Community Craft Sheds

Thousands of community members making craft items to help animals and support community groups, the craft guild is known globally for it's work.

The craft guild is manned 24/7 by a team of volunteers and is directly connected with isolated and under supported animal rescuers, community groups and other craft makers around Australia.

ARC operates 23 national volunteer hubs to support the community.



1000+

Volunteers



6480

Rescuers engaged



30k+

Support requests



350+

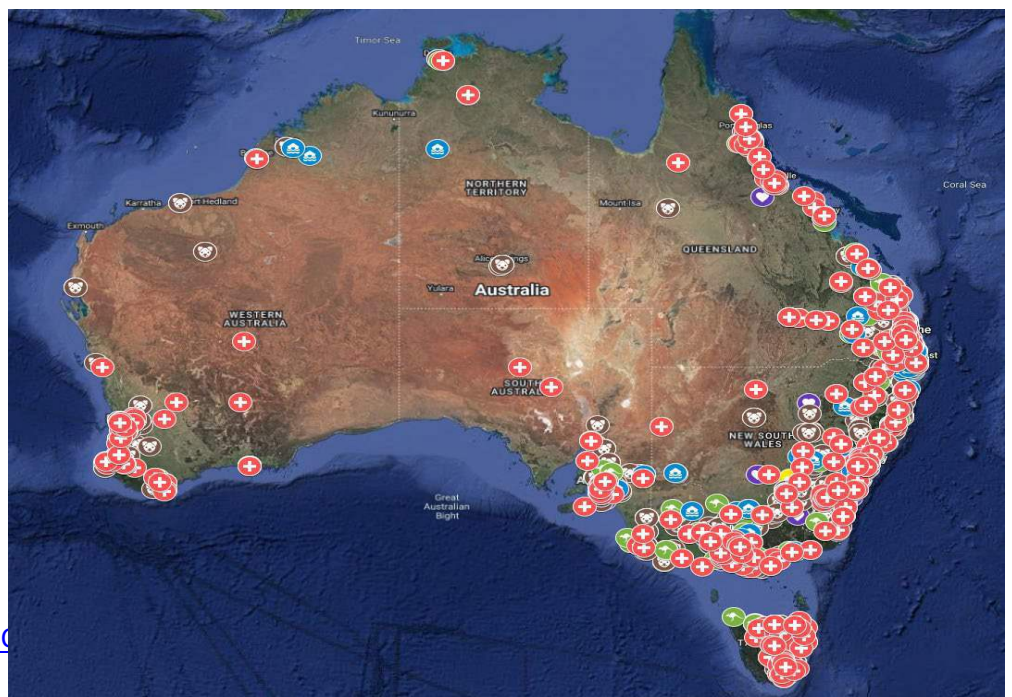
Outreach Engaged

Thousands of national support requests

Job Map

You can see all our jobs for the past 2 years at this link. We redact key information however this shows the scale of operation, number of community and support groups we help and highlights emergency areas. (For example, zoom in on Lismore)

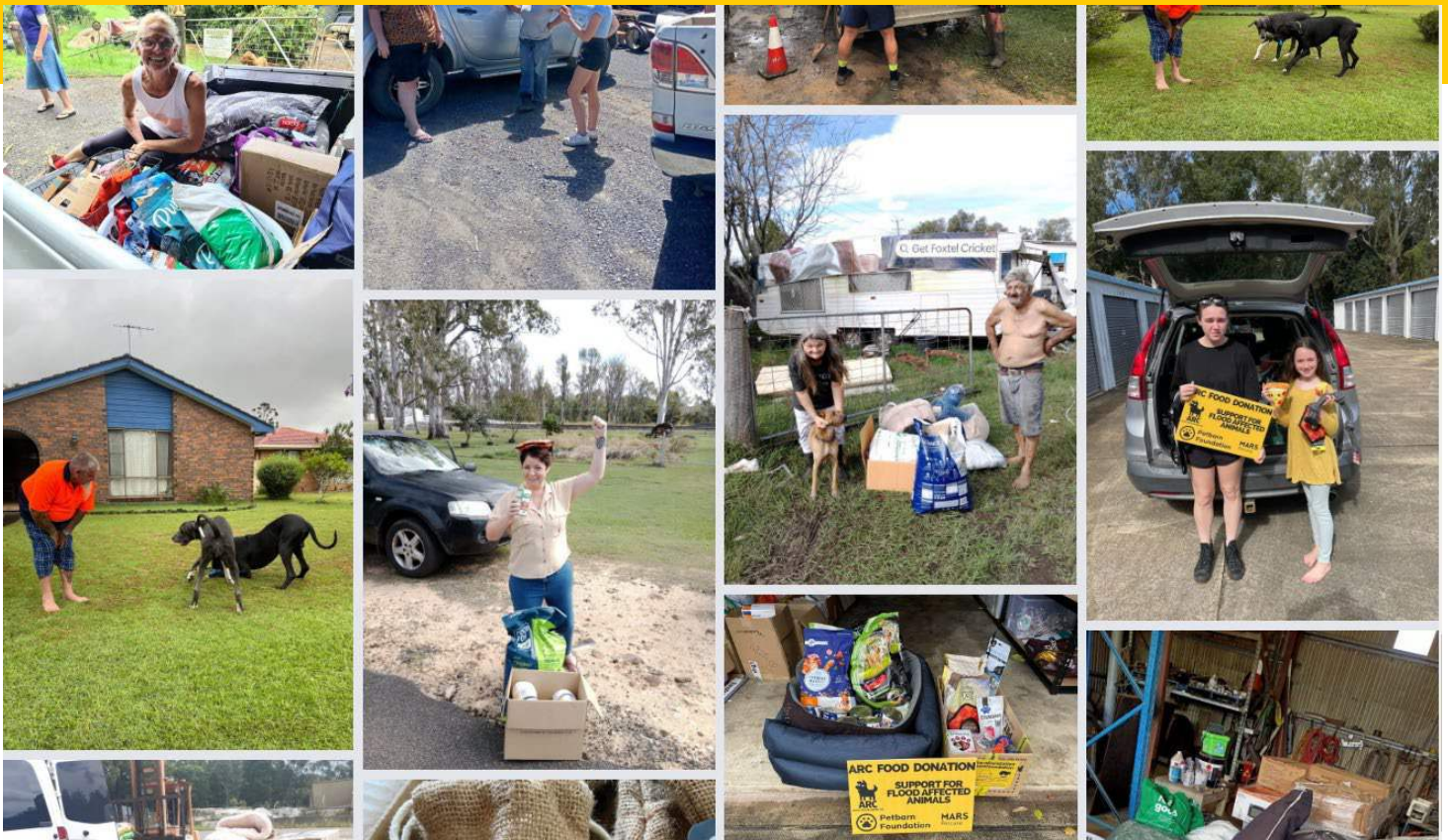
[Click link here.](#)



There is so much you can say about community outreach but not sure you can do it in a simple note.

Lynnda – Brisbane Hub.

Feed their pets and they don't surrender them to the pound. Feed the people who are not eating as they don't have enough money to feed themselves and their pets. Address the sense of desperation when people must make horrible choices about their animals to avoid domestic violence, homelessness and poverty. Help community groups that are on their own trying to cope with inundation of support requests. Connect and support people who are helping others. Build physical infrastructure. Supply support so front-line support workers can focus on the community. Support indigenous groups that help keep kids off the street, support people who have no home. **Literally this program is keeping people alive.**

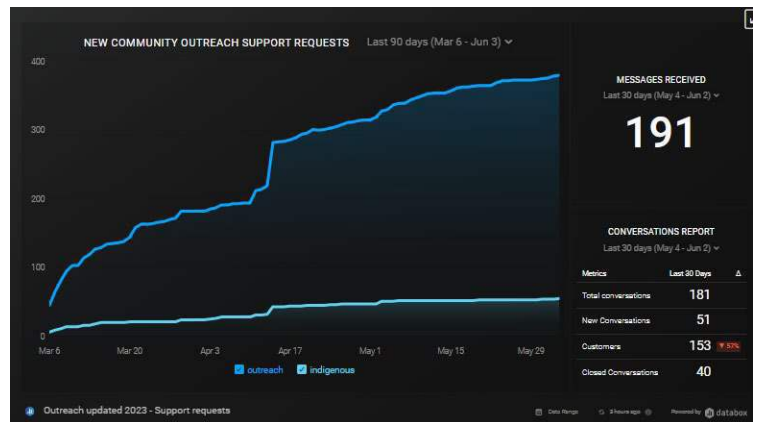


Accountability



“We maintain a comprehensive auditable job tracking tool to ensure accountability and transparency.”

- Nyree Kullen,
Governance



Outreach and indigenous support tracker

Help Scout handles thousands of requests

Every request for support comes in via an online help desk tool called “Help scout”. Help scout is designed for help desks and customer support. With this system we can track and report on every job and backtrack requests.

Every request comes in from an online form. We have several queues.

- **Companion Animal Queue** – this is for animal rescuers working with pets.
- **Wildlife Support Queue** – this is for Wildlife Rescuers working with Australian Native Animals
- **Craft and Medical** – this is a queue for craft requests such as Joey bags, Possum Pouches and medical supplies. This is predominantly Wildlife related.
- **Community Outreach**. This is for community groups such as Anglicare, Loaves and Fishes, Oz Harvest etc, We get them the pet supplies so they can focus on the people.
- **Emergency Queues** – In times of flood and fire we light up specific location queues, banding together local support orgs and major vendors to get support to where it is needed.

POE (Proof Of Engagement) Images

Images are catalogued of the majority of engagements. Over **10 thousand images** from the past 3 years of operation have been taken ranging from small craft donations to large scale site rebuilds.

To support the donor and vendor community we showcase the branding of the vendor at the point of donation, this highlights who supported the job and also gives the recipient a solid feeling of support at scale.

[Click here to access an archive of thousands of POE images.](#)



Job 35244 RSPCA Community Days

[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)

Thousands of tonnes diverted from landfill.



“Before ARC all of this went into landfill. Thousands of pallets of food, care items, medical consumables, blankets, materials. All buried and wasted.”

-- Sarah Jane Tomsett. Recovery lead

The Pet Industry. Every week the vendor and partner community release large loads of food to ARC that previously was destined for landfill. These are large loads generated by the constant ebb and flow of the retail sector.

This includes near date and out of date packages, products that didn't sell as many that was made, demonstration or waste product.

Retail Supermarkets. ARC repurposes quantity of product destined for landfill from Coles, Woollies and many other retailers. This is not just pet food, but grains, cereals, fruit and veg and household supplies. Anything that can be transported safely and re-used in animal care.

And it is far more than food.

The medical sector by it's very nature generates massive amounts of waste.

Large amounts of single use items, well-worn infrastructure, medical support and massive, massive volumes of consumables.

Every hospital, local doctor, vet, chemist. They all generate waste. ARC takes vast amounts of this and repurposes it to the rescue and support community.

The transport sector is also a significant provider of handy items that help.

Volumes of bedding, containment, insulation and even airline first class blankets. ARC flows this product out from numerous pickup sites and into care, reusing the sturdy materials of the logistics industry, the towels and blankets from airlines. Tarps and wooden pallets.

The building and trade sector. When we aren't buying infrastructure to help with rebuilds, we are being given significant volumes of items that help. Industrial gloves, electronics, lighting, tanks, pumps, basic hardware and support supplies. Everything has a use somewhere in the system.



1200+

Pallets of food 2023



1500+

Blankets



500k+

Medical items



9480+

Support requests

Diverted from landfill – food for animals.

Thousands of tonnes of food that would be wasted is used in community. Supporting families, reduce abandonment, helping the under privileged. Saving animals

The scale is enormous.

Every retailer, pet food manufacturer and wholesaler have a limited time between when a product is made to when it can be sold. Once it gets close to that point, we are contacted.

ARC has taken in over 1000 Pallets (about 500 tonne) so far of food in 2023, and double that in 2022/21. It is a constant flow. We also know there is easily much more than that still being thrown out that we can address. The only barrier is logistics and cost. Everything we can reuse.

We give it all away.

Palletised food, Broken Bags, Overstocks. Everything. We do this without impacting the retail sector as the donations base is not people who would normally be customers.

For the vendor community this is a significant cost saving and goodwill outcome, and for the organisations and people supported it is a massive lifeline that means they can keep functioning and spend funds on other vital areas.



Part of 300 pallets of food diverted to Outreach in May 2023 from landfill



Part of 156 Pallets of Mars pet food inbound to ARC Kempsey for Lismore / North coast floods instead of landfill.



One of hundreds of pickups shared out to community.

Diverted from landfill – product reuse.

Examples of minimal use items that are tough, clearly costly to make, repurposed as a workhorse by ARC nationally



Single use flight crates



Millions of Syringes – We are given them in bulk by hospitals for feeding and treatment.



Trauma mats – used in Ambulances, single use due to sterilization. Reused in field rescue.



Pallet insulation – used in Aviaries for heat & shelter.

The reuse of product is only limited by the imagination and the cost of transporting. Everything has a place in rescue.

Emergency Community Response

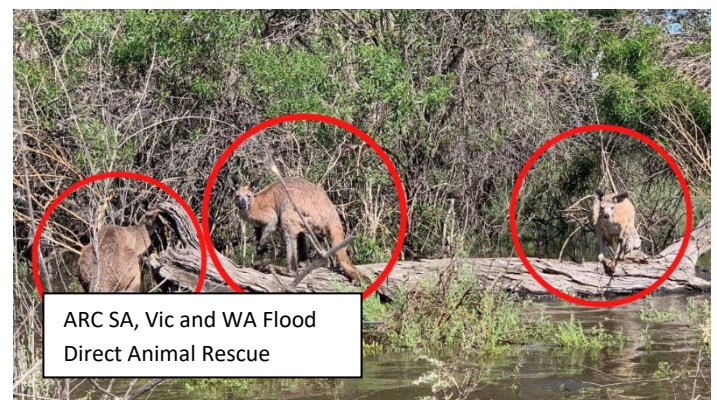
When disasters strike, ARC works directly with community and rescuers to save lives and support families.

Since our inception ARC has worked hard to support families and community animals in time of natural disaster.

We use our supply chain of donated product, technical skills and vast volunteer coverage to pop up support where it is needed, integrate into existing community hubs or making our own.

Some examples of this are as follows.

- **Black Summer Bushfires.** ARC ran non-stop support convoys, food drops, feed runs and feeding sites, community pop ups and direct shelter recovery programs from Kangaroo Island through to QLD and all points in between.
- **North Coast/QLD Floods.** With massive number of families displaced, ARC popped up several hubs and integrated into existing support organisations in the area. We fostered over 80 dogs, a community food kitchen, vet care and logistics teams.
- **Victorian and SA Floods.** ARC ran direct animal rescue programs that saved both Wildlife and Companion Animals (ran in conjunction with SA Gov), as well as popping up supply and support for families and animals.
- **Tonga Volcanic Eruption.** When Tonga was in disaster, ARC worked with local organisations to ship supplies and food support/medical for animals on the island, food they could not get locally whilst supply was recovering.
- **COVID** During Corona lockdown and ongoing months ARC sent support to people and pets in need, people who had lost income or were struggling with food. Thousands of pet food parcels and pickups kept people and rescuers moving.



[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)

Animal Rescue and Support

ARC provides volumes of food and medical support to animals in rescue, as well as direct care for animals.

ARC operates multiple community hubs throughout Australia, which serve as central locations for community engagement. These hubs bring together family support groups, rescuers, first responders, and other animal-related organizations.

Additionally, ARC maintains a strong online presence, offering support to community organizations and developing new services and tools to aid in rescue work.

In addition to providing support to other organizations, ARC also directly cares for animals in need. This involves large-scale foster programs during flooding events, constructing sanctuaries during wildfires, providing direct care in situations where communities are unable to fund rescue efforts, and performing point rescues.

- ARC has provided and supported medical treatment, parasitic support and FTW (Flea Tick and Worm) to countless animals.
- Community shelter rebuilds and supportive programs also upgrade and support better care for animals.

ARC's work revolves around community support. ARC is involved in animal rescue as well as providing assistance to others engaged in this crucial work.

ARC also supports community outreach initiatives, collaborates with pounds and government bodies, and even assists organizations like the RSPCA. By supporting community hubs and individuals in need, ARC helps to keep animals in homes and wildlife supplied with food, while also caring for the people who care for these animals.

ARC collects hundreds of tonnes of waste products that would have otherwise been discarded and recycles them back into the animal support community. They also provide funding for various initiatives that support the wide range of activities mentioned above, including partnerships and individual rescues.

It is important to note that ARC operates entirely with volunteers. There are no paid board members, and the organization maintains a lean and efficient structure on a national scale without any personal gain. The driving force behind ARC's work is the desire to keep families together, rescue and support animals, promote community engagement, and ensure sustainability.

ARC's unique position lies in its ability to cover multiple categories of charity work. Their efforts make a significant difference in the lives of animals and the people who care for them..



One of many shed dogs in the ARC Teams

Team members always have their hands dirty and are directly in the field with animals, carers and the community.



ARC and RSPCA QLD Open days treating animals

The ARC Craft Guild

The largest group of its type in the world (199k members), the ARC Craft Guild creates thousands of craft items for animals every year.

The Animal Rescue Craft Guild (ARCG) is one of the largest resources in Australia supporting animal care and rehabilitation. Comprising thousands of dedicated crafters from across Australia and overseas, capably managed by a core team of about 20 volunteers, ARCG encompasses an enormous community that actively contributes to the well-being of carers as well as the native wildlife and companion animals they raise and rehabilitate.



Directly helping carers and animals, at no charge

- Provides craft and medical supplies as a lifeline for native wildlife and companion animals.
- Hand-crafted pouches, nests, and bedding which offer comfort and security to orphaned, sick and/or injured animals.
- Bandages, syringes, antiseptics, and over the country medications which enable carers to administer vital treatments and interventions.
- Enhances the quality of the daily care and rehabilitation of native wildlife.
- Supplements the work of carers who are facing financial constraints..



Immediate response to bushfires, floods and local emergencies

- Massive supply of custom product in times of urgent need
- Strong network of crafting volunteers who can "pivot" based on the changing needs of carers.
- Centralised support network for carers working under physical, emotional and financial stress.

Managing the distribution of supplies through one central Hub

- Ensures efficient and equitable allocation at no cost to the recipient carers.
- Supplies reach carers across Australia, regardless of their location
- Network of commercial carriers to call on that delivers goods, gratis, across distances.
- Volunteer network that delivers goods regionally
- Monetary donations to ARCG also enables deliveries by AusPost
- Bridges the gap between available resources and carers' needs.

ARCG, with its extensive community of volunteers, has been instrumental in providing vital craft and medical supplies that directly supports the well-being and recovery of animals, and demonstrates a collective commitment to the importance of Australia's native wildlife.

[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)

Craft Guild Volunteers

A constant engagement of community. Engaging seniors, isolated volunteers as real people doing important work.

The involvement of volunteers in crafting supplies for animals through ARC brings immense value not only to the animals in need but also to the volunteers themselves. Among the volunteers are individuals who may be elderly, isolated, mostly female and their participation in these activities serves as a powerful means of connection and engagement.

By contributing their time and skills to create craft items, they find purpose and fulfillment in their lives, which positively impacts their mental health and overall well-being.

The act of crafting for animals also serves as a bridge to connect these volunteers with the broader society. Their contributions demonstrate that age or personal circumstances need not be barriers to making a meaningful impact.

By mobilizing this army of untapped resources, ARC not only harnesses their skills but also recognizes their worth and the value they bring to the country.



“Our members communicate often that crafting for animals is keeping them sane.”



The involvement of these volunteers highlights the importance of intergenerational collaboration and inclusivity, fostering a sense of belonging and purpose among individuals who may have otherwise felt isolated or overlooked.

For many of these volunteers, crafting for animals becomes a source of joy and a way to channel their creativity. It allows them to express their compassion and love for animals, knowing that their handmade creations will directly support the well-being and recovery of these creatures.

Through their involvement, they become part of a larger network of like-minded individuals, forming a community that shares a common goal of making a difference in the lives of animals affected by natural disasters.

Members often mentioned how much they have learned about wildlife on the page and understanding how much time, love, sadness and effort goes in to looking after wildlife. “- Ella

Admin and AI Tools

Volunteer organisations need constant admin. ARC has developed tools to automate and support grants, comms, fundraising, design and planning.

There is a massive divide between people who have time and skills to communicate, write and administrate and people who can't. ARC has developed tools to save time for volunteers who are challenged by skills or time, so they can save more animals.

Based on feedback from our 2022 Survey, ARC continues to build conversational AI to facilitate planning, fundraising, admin and support. These tools are used hundreds of times a week to save time and get fast outcomes.

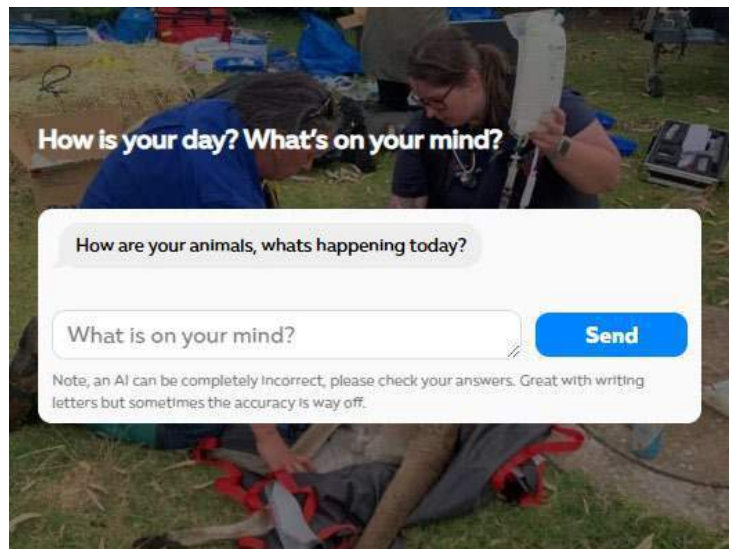
The volume of requests these tools get is high, with around 100 requests every week ranging from grant support and design through to fundraising and general conversation.

Significant time saving.

The conversational AI is built to facilitate planning, fundraising, administration, and support. It uses natural language processing to understand and respond to user input in a conversational manner. This means that users can interact with the AI as if they were talking to a real person, making it easier and more intuitive to use.

The AI can assist with a wide range of tasks, including scheduling appointments, managing donor information, and providing support and guidance to volunteers. It can also help with fundraising efforts by suggesting fundraising ideas and providing resources to help with planning and execution.

All IT work from ARC is volunteer driven. We do not pay consultants or developers.



Domestic Violence

ARC partners with Paws and Recover, providing a “dark hub” escape bags & recovery supplies for domestic emergencies.

The Animal Rescue Cooperative (ARC) plays a crucial role in supporting Paws and Recover in their mission to provide assistance to pet owners in crisis. ARC collaborates with Paws and Recover by supplying them with escape bags, support packs, food, and medical supplies. These resources are essential in ensuring that pet owners have the necessary tools to navigate difficult situations, such as escaping domestic violence. ARC's contribution helps Paws and Recover provide comprehensive support to both pets and their owners during times of crisis.

In addition to providing tangible resources, ARC also serves as a valuable partner in terms of infrastructure. They assist Paws and Recover by offering a “dark hub” for storing the supplies required for assisting pet owners. This centralized and anonymous storage facility ensures that the necessary items are readily available and easily accessible whenever they are needed. We do not monitor or track items in this facility, cases are anonymous. This allows P+R to respond swiftly and efficiently to the needs of pet owners in crisis.



Paws & Recover · Follow

24 December 2021 · 🌐

For many years now, the Animal Rescue Collective have been supporting Paws and Recover to provide care to people experiencing crisis. This includes food, ongoing essential storage and the creation of emergency care packs. We cannot thank ARC enough for their fabulous care for people and their animals. This is behind the scenes ongoing support that not everyone is aware of. Thank you for supporting Paws and Recover - you are all so wonderful.

#petbarnfoundation #minikittycomm... See more



Through their partnership with ARC, Paws and Recover can extend their reach and impact in providing vital assistance to pet owners facing crises.

The combined efforts of these two organizations create a support network that addresses the needs of both pets and their owners, offering an alternative to rehoming or abandoning animals.

ARC's involvement not only enhances the resources available to Paws and Recover but also demonstrates the power of collaboration in creating a positive impact on the lives of pets and their human companions in times of difficulty.

Indigenous Support

ARC prioritises and directly supports indigenous community programs helping teenagers, families, and animals.

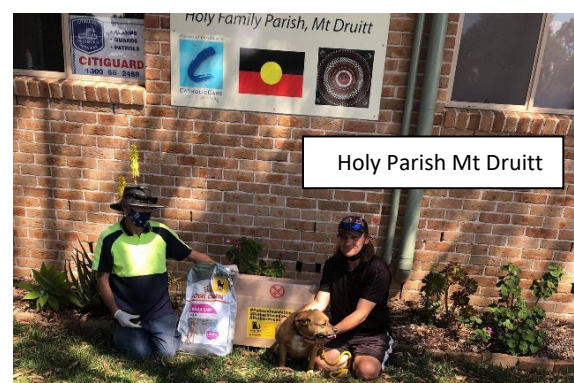
ARC prioritises the support of indigenous organisations and recognises the importance and diversity of what they do. We have worked closely with indigenous support organisations in each state ranging from Inner City support orgs through to rural youth workers.

ARC also carefully engages in the desert communities where there are large numbers of free roaming dogs. ARC helps where it fits with support for responders in these areas, community groups and local councils to support outcomes in these important areas.

Some of the organisations this includes are	
OzHarvest Pantry	Liberty Church Inc. trading as Liberty Foodcare
Bamanga Bubu Ngadmiunku Aboriginal Corporation	Kurranulla Aboriginal Corporation
Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council	Loaves and Fishes Street Meet Care Service
BayLife Community Cafe	Macintyre Animal and Pet Rescue
Bill Crews Foundation / EXODUS Foundation	MIND Australia
Bungree Aboriginal Association Limited	Nepean Community & Neighbourhood Services
Bush Dogs and Pups / Friends of Bush Pups Inc	new life community care
Cairns Regional Council	Ngoonbi Community Services Indigenous Corporation
Campbelltown Meals on Wheels	Nimbin neighbourhood centre
Canine Welfare Australia	Northern Rivers Community Gateway
Cape Animal Protection Shelter	Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers
Companions For Life	Our Two Hands
Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation	Prospect Community Services
Daylesford Community Op Shop	Providential Homes Inc
Deadly Connections	Rainbow Lodge, Glebe
Redlink	Rivers of life
Dog Rescue Newcastle	Riverview Neighbourhood House Inc Ass
Embrace The Mind Art Therapy	SAFE Hedland
Evangelical mission for salvation international	Silent Few
Find a Penny Foundation Inc	Soul + Food Emergency Food Distribution Programme
Friends of Bush Pups Inc	Tenterfield Social Development Committee
Friends Of Kempsey Pound Inc	The Bikers Hand
Gladstone Animal Rescue Group Inc.	Aboriginal Catholic Services
Fermentality Alice Springs	The Food Centre Inc
Harlaxton Neighbourhood Centre Inc	Umbrellas & Footprints Inc.
Harvest rain	Uniting SA
Hope4u foundation	We All Care
Indigenous Futures Foundation	Winmalee Neighbourhood Centre Inc.
Innari Inc	Wurruk Community House
Ipswich Assist	Youth Involvement Council



Lexie at Fermentality Alice Springs



Holy Parish Mt Druitt

[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)

McGyver “Makers” Guild

Teams of makers that repurpose hard items for field use in animal rescue.

The McGyvers Guild, an integral part of the ARC organization, earned considerable acclaim for its instrumental role during the bushfires, particularly their creation of nesting boxes and feeding solutions for animals. The group is diverse, including men and women from various backgrounds, such as rescuers, army veterans, engineers, and scientists.

Renowned for their practical skills and ability to adapt, the McGyvers Guild excels at crafting valuable solutions under demanding conditions.

Through their innovative programs, they've produced thousands of varied solutions, either by cleverly repurposing donated supplies or using materials they order to address specific needs.

One of their remarkable achievements includes leading major site rebuilds. Working alongside local community organizations, they've completed wide-ranging projects; from building extensive outdoor containment systems to devising innovative field feeding solutions, and even tackling minor repair work.



Jay – First Responder & McGyver



Possum Box Making



Field Feeders

The coordination of their tasks mirrors the collaborative spirit of their craft. Whenever there's a need, the guild mobilizes their team into action, working diligently to achieve results and provide necessary support.

In times of crisis, this dedicated team of men and women unite, demonstrating their unwavering commitment and adaptability. Their work is a testament to their resourcefulness and the profound impact of collective action.

Community resilience

Mental health is a constant focus in community engagement. We are focused on resilience support.

By the very nature of it's work, ARC supports the mental health and resilience of the community. In many cases we are the only consistent contact an individual has. In some specific cases ARC has intervened in situations where the life of an individual is at risk from self-harm.

Mental health support in this sector is poor. A recent check in with key organisations showed that the issue is largely pushed to local GP's and that structures don't really exist to address the issues head on.

ARC has trained mental health specialists on team and intends on improving these solutions into the 2024 year to recognise, adapt and support the mental health of the community.

- **Hub Communities.** Each hub has a strong local community relationship and has become a conversation point for rescuers in need, bringing them in and giving them a person to talk to.
- **Identifying risk.** With the nature of our work we see when an issue is coming and can help head this off, this addresses the helplessness that is felt by the community. We cant always fix it but we can be alongside the issue.
- **Anti Bullying.** ARC takes an assertive stance on the issues of bullying in the sector, helping individuals with coping tools, bringing them into a broader stronger community and ensuring people are aware of poor behaviours.
- **Community projects.** Hands on and hands in work gives people a chance to talk and to feel part of something good. All of our projects mean people see outside their bubble and into positive community engagements.
- **Shared grief.** Community members are impacted hard by what they have seen in emergencies and animal rescue. They see a lot. So has ARC, team members are there to talk and share the stories of what people face and network mentoring to build resilience.



2024 plan – Mental Health Programs

With appropriate funding, ARC intends to build a mental health hotline, counselling series and support networks.

Headed up by trained Mental Health nurses and specialists, backed by the core ARC teams themselves, a safety net to help is much needed for the sector.

We take this seriously and will partner in with specific organisations to ensure compliance and appropriate activities.

Desexing program (OLG)

A program with the NSW Government to desex hundreds of cats and support rescuers who do.

ARC and MKC have partnered with the NSW Government and Cumberland Council to run a broad desexing program.

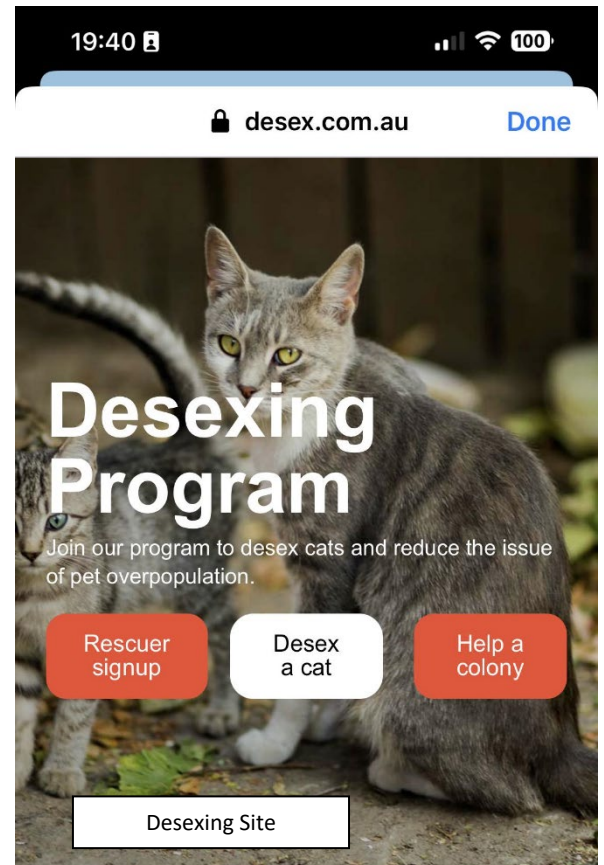
Our Desexing Program at MKC and ARC focuses on reducing the homeless cat population in Sydney through rescue, rehabilitation, and rehoming efforts. We prioritize the health and well-being of the cats by providing excellent veterinary care, nutrition, and support. Collaborating closely with dedicated veterinarians, we ensure consistent care from rescue to rehome, including comprehensive desexing for every cat. Our commitment to the animals is unwavering, as we provide the best possible care and avoid euthanasia unless under veterinary direction.

We have the scale and the knowledge

Our project focuses on community desexing and rehoming, targeting key hotspots where cats are abandoned or left to roam. We offer free desexing services in these areas to reduce unwanted litters and improve animal health outcomes. Additionally, we proactively desex community-owned cats during breeding seasons, addressing pet overpopulation.

To ensure accessibility, we establish a hotline/intake system for pet owners to request desexing services. We actively engage with the community, promoting responsible pet ownership and encouraging proactive care. Our successful track record, collaborative partnerships with local veterinarians, community groups, and pounds, and strong relationships with identified areas make us confident in our ability to make a real difference in reducing the number of animals entering pounds.

Through our Desexing Program, we strive to create a more compassionate and sustainable community by preventing overpopulation, improving animal welfare, and supporting responsible rehoming practices. By desexing cats and providing comprehensive care, we address the root causes of the homeless cat population while promoting responsible pet ownership and positive community outcomes.



Who are ARC Volunteers?



ARC volunteers come from every walk of life, age group, demographic and background. They are here to get this done.

Then do it again.

The volunteers come from everywhere. Predominantly female and under engaged in the general community, their skills in working in a large national community, coordinating projects large and small is invaluable in getting work done.

Engage in person – volunteers engage at our hubs and at rescuer sites, vets helping animals directly

Engage online – A huge number of our volunteers are crafters, working feverishly online to create and support animals

Engage en-mass – We hold regular open days where large groups of our volunteers work together with animals and rescue.

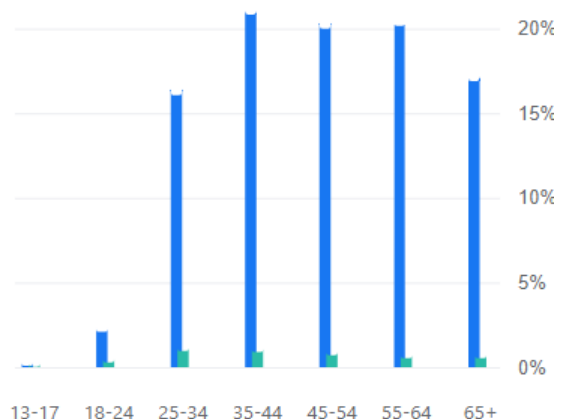
Engage in field sites – Volunteers run clean up and fix up days, builds at rescuer sites.

Engage with professional skills – Skills in legal, IT, banking, marketing, fundraising and animal care putting their skills to use.

Engage “officially” – ARC works directly with government officials, RSPCA and peak bodies to support the community.

Age and gender

● 96% Female ● 4% Male ● 0% Custom



[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)

GLOBAL RECOGNITION

ARC and the craft guild have received several community recognition awards as well as global support off the back of it's relief work. Several members of the team have been given local recognition for their dedication and hands on work. This in turn highlights the plight of Australian animals and the community.



Australian of the Year Awards 2022

ARC Hub Leader Joey Blake has been with us since the start.

A front-line nurse, Joey operates the massive East Gippsland support hub helping community groups, emergency response, animal rescuers and any other community program needed.

One of Australia's finest and an example for all to follow.

CNN, The Colbert Show, USA Today and others

The massive response of the ARC Craft guild featured heavily on global news, with news networks, talk shows and social media organizations running extensive stories of the crafters and their work.

This resulted in a significant global response to fires, with thousands of packages and support items sent to Australia to help animals in need.

Community Awards

Over the past 3 years ARC has received several community awards from local organizations and support orgs for it's work in the field.

Regular recognition comes from organizations such as Vinnies, RSPCA and support orgs that co-exist with ARC in these areas of work.

Hub leaders and volunteers greatly value these reminders of the importance of their work.

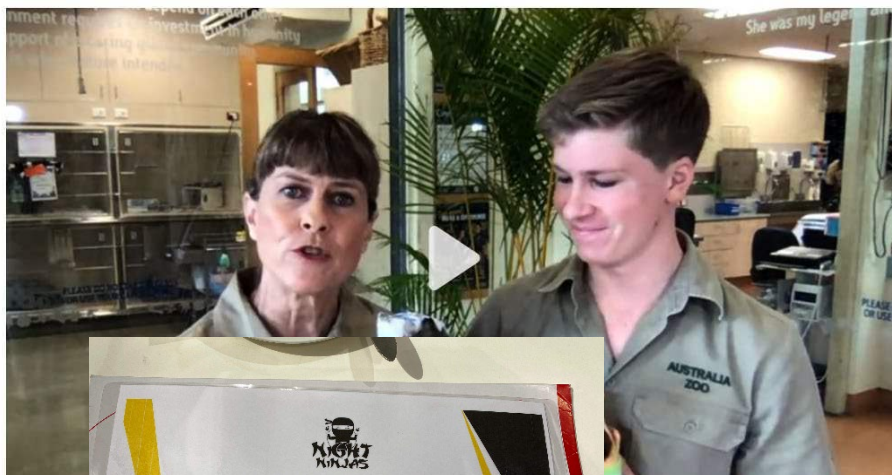
GLOBAL RECOGNITION



Volunteers around the world are sewing pouches for Australia's orphaned or injured kangaroos, koalas and bats

By Scottie Andrew, CNN

Published 3:04 PM EST, Tue January 7, 2020



Inulin family photo



New partnership pledges 1.7m meals to support animal rescue groups in need



View
thousands of
support jobs

[Click here](#)

or you can scan this QR Code



[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)

A FEW KEY PARTNERS & VENDORS

ARC has worked closely with all major vendors in the animal sector to support animals and people in need. We work directly on supply and support, programs to help the community and emergencies. This is a list of some of the key partners engaged, there are many more that help on a regular basis



Petbarn Foundation



WIRES



MARS Incorporated



RSPCA



Royal Canin



Petwise



Animal Welfare League



St Johns Ambulance



Medical Pantry



Bayer Pharmaceutical



Medivert



Ox Harvest

What the community say about ARC

There are files attached with this document that contain a large number of community references for the work of the ARC organisation.

We also maintain an updated folder of [images and feedback files at this link](#). You are welcome to reference check us at any time with partners, agencies and supporting organisations to see the work that has been done.

“

On a bad day when we've had nothing but barbed wire bat rescues, orphaned joeys and a handful of euthanized animals one after the other it really is heartwarming to know someone out there cares about what we do. We have received bat wraps, possum and joey pouches, mixed medical and even some food products in the past. We are always blown away by how helpful these products are to us, stopping us from having to dig into our own tiny cash reserves, which is an absolute godsend.



Andrea Branch / Wildcare QLD



“

ARC has been god sent. I don't know what we would do without them. With their help it allows us to take on a few more pets that would be overlooked and never given a chance. ARC is so kind and there volunteers are so helpful and supportive. Their patience and love for helping animals is evident. Knowing we have their support is what makes us feel safe and allows us to do what we do. I can't thank ARC an all the donors for their help, support and encouragement to continue saving lives.

Vivian Gizowski / Vivians Animal Rescue

“

The support from ARC helps us to help others who have furry friends as a part of their families. When bills get too high and pressure mounts, it is often the companionship of a pet that helps our vulnerable folk get through. For us to be able to help keep that dog or cat well and happy is vital. We have no funds to be able to provide this support, but we know how much it means. ARC make this happen - thank you!



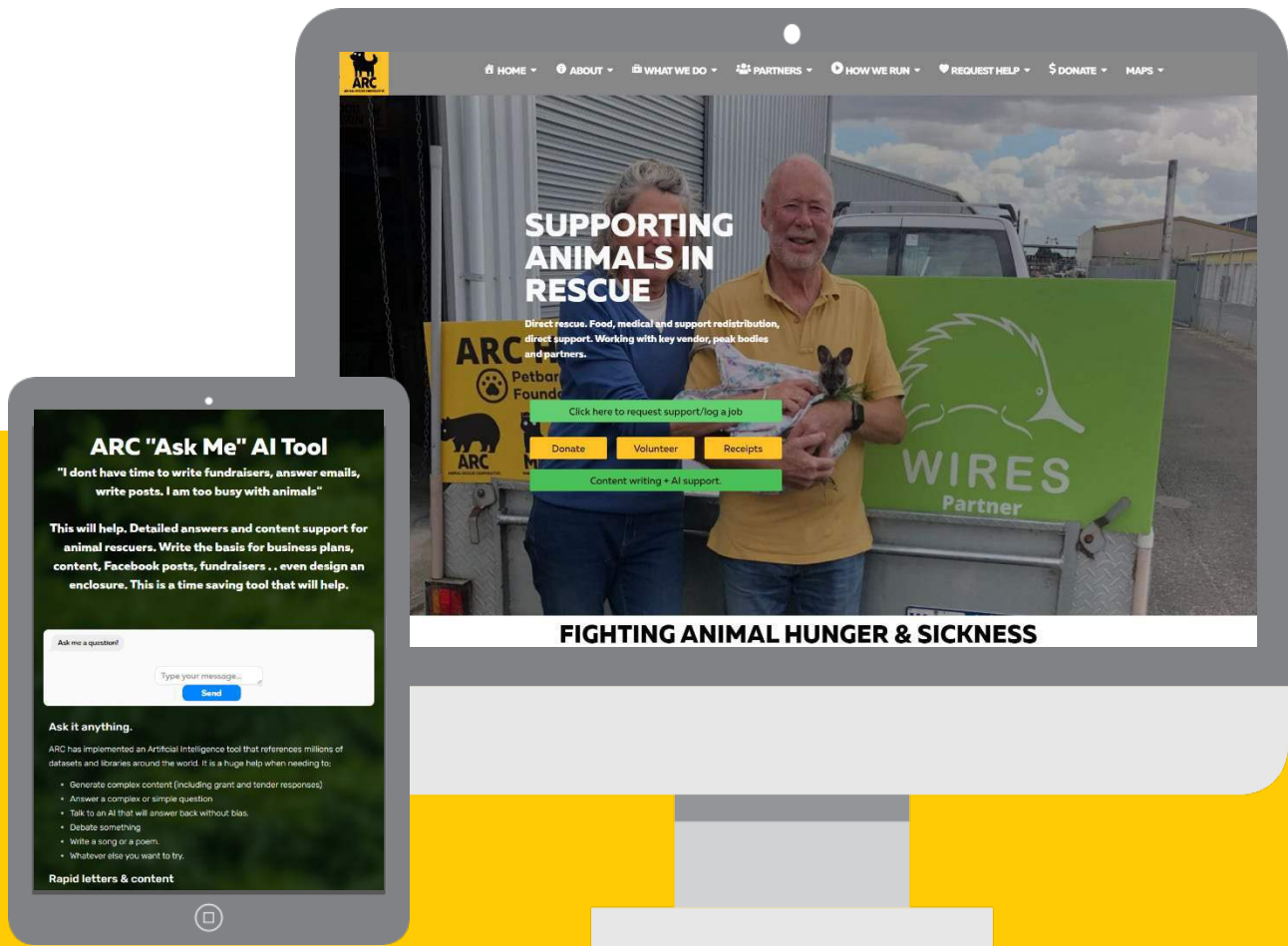
Heather Kent / St Vincent De Paul

[Click here for more references.](#)

[Click her to see images.](#)

[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)

ONLINE PRESENCE



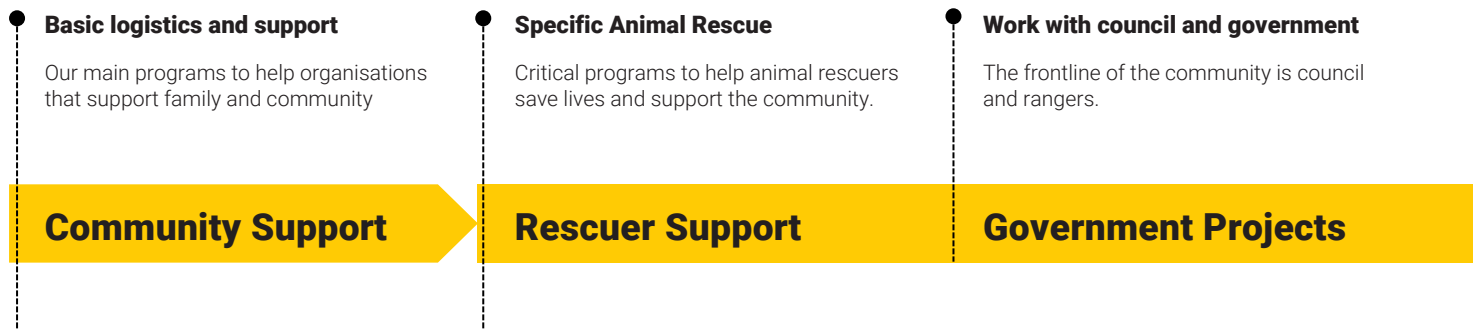
ARC integrates a comprehensive web and help support system at no development cost.

Simple tools for the community

A positive online presence that delivers forms based help requests as well as comprehensive community reporting. We do all the work in house with volunteer resources and continuously learn new methods that can help community.

WORK PLAN 2023 - 2024

ARC has a definitive work plan for 23/24 that continues to develop service and support for the community..



Constant support programs

ARC will continue to mature it's tools and engagement with community organisations, focusing on the organisations that help families.

We will consistently poll these organisations about issues in their areas and support food and medical help for their programs.

Specific tasks:

1. Outreach org database
2. Representation of outreach into key vendors
3. Rebagging program for supplies into easily consumable smal bags
4. Community outreach days (example, in conjunction with the RSPCA)
5. Specific programs with individual groups in each key area.

Supply and innovation

ARC will continue to support supply of food and medical into Animal rescue, however our work is designed to mature the sector to increase it's outcomes.

For example, we will develop national desexing programs, partner with scientists on single dose sterilization in animals, build out resource pools around critical community hotspots and make tools that save time for rescuers

1. National database of responders
2. Onramp for rescue tasks
3. Desexing programs
4. Single dose non surgical sterilisation partnership with Mikkelson Prize
5. AI tools for administration
6. Mental Health support programs
7. Training programs and partnerships
8. Marketing and fundraising support
9. Model online presence support

Focused work

10. Infrastructure for council and pounds
11. Individual rescues
12. Constant food supply (see image) to delay euthanasia and improve options for animals.
13. Networking partnerships between rescuers and council teams
14. Hotspot sharing/redflags
15. Awareness and support



[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)



There is still a lot of product that is wasted. ARC will continue to change this.

Volunteers are the lifeblood of community outcomes.

Emergencies are where ARC and the teams work with other agencies to support community

Sustainability

// The war on waste

Increase sourcing

ARC will continue to work with industry to find repurpose opportunity. This is product that should not be wasted and should be repurposed back to society.

To do this we will need to tackle the logistics challenges of getting things from where they are to where they need to be. This will mean greater transporting networks, more dedicated facility, and use of technology.

We can help with the war on waste.

Specific tasks:

1. Gain relationships with all key industry partners
2. Continue to grow and establish transporting networks
3. Continue to find direct support options for donors to supply directly to the point of outcome.
4. Develop medical sector supply lines from hospitals and manufacturers.
5. Design craft and product re-using society waste
6. Show vendors that their waste can be used to help.

Volunteering

// Critical resources

Engage

ARC will ensure that all programs are supported, the way we do this is with solid volunteer teams. Made up mostly of women and disadvantaged, the work that ARC does gives volunteers ability to be involved and help the community.

We will continue to design product that community can make and support. We will also ensure volunteers drive all engagements and use their skills to bring outcomes.

Emergencies

// Field team preparedness

Be ready

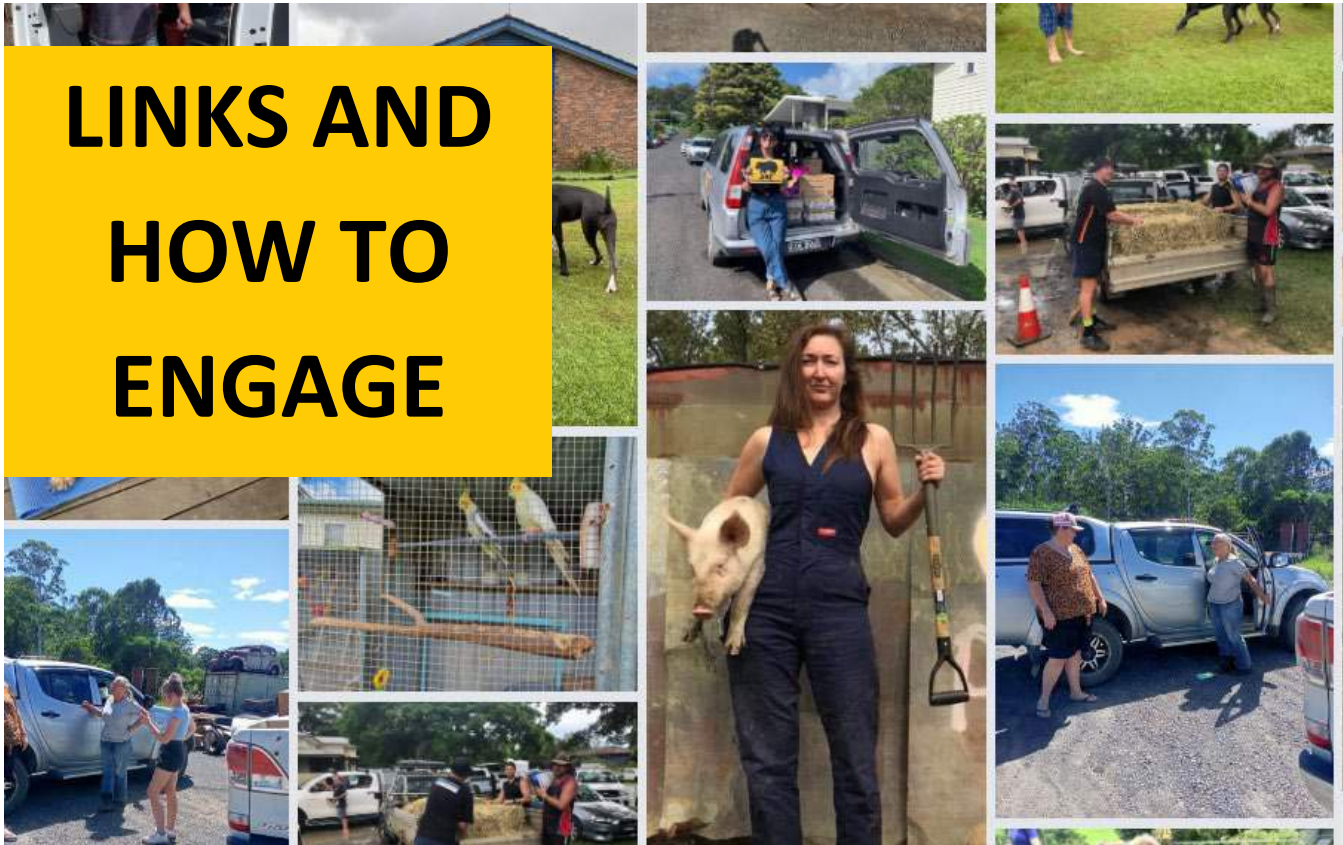
When emergencies happen, ARC is called to assist. ARC uses its extensive network of volunteers and modern technology to be on the ground quickly.

ARC will further mature these tools and partnerships to ensure we are there for animals and people in need.

Stocks and supplies are always ready for an emergency.



LINKS AND HOW TO ENGAGE



[Companion Animal Support Link](#)

This brings support to Companion Rescuers and animals in need, it is triaged by the core team and then broken down by region to hubs.

[Outreach Support – Community link](#)

This is where community organisations, domestic violence and support orgs go to request support for families and their animals.

[Wildlife Support Link](#)

This brings support to Wildlife and Wildlife carers from donations of supplies we are given. This is then sent to hubs for action if we have the supplies.

[Desexing Support Link](#)

This is a new queue as part of the NSW Office of Local Government to assist with the desexing of cats. It is part of a limited scope engagement in 23/24

[Craft/Medical Link](#)

Craft and medical requests are managed centrally and are predominantly to Wildlife carers. They are triaged and posted from the Craft hub in Leichardt.

[Donate product](#)

This is the core way we are offered donations by the public and corporations. This is then triaged based on location of the product to the nearest hub.

Flood Support Link – (Off Call at this point)

This is turned on at times of flood and is directly managed by the team that is closest to the disaster. Allocations occur based on what we have and need.

Foster Care & Support– (Off Call at this point)

This is a program we turn on and off as fostering needs occur during emergencies or major projects (such as the Northern Rivers floods)

[Click here to see our public archive of support images.](#)



**Thank you
for reading
our overview**



