

Media Release



7 December 2016

3RD SPACE CAFÉ BRINGS DIGNITY TO HOMELESS

Brisbane's innovative support centre for the homeless, 139 Club, has been awarded more than \$250,000 by the Queensland Government to build and operate a new kind of café at its Brunswick Street premises.

When it opens in early 2017, 3rd Space Café will provide healthy, appetising food at very low cost while providing an attractive, inclusive environment for patrons. Opening from breakfast through to afternoon tea each week day, patrons will have a choice of meals, including a free option, from a constantly updated menu.

A nutritionist will work with 139 Club's experienced chef to develop an interesting and nutritious menu, while patrons can volunteer to help with kitchen duties and front of house support.

"This is a first for Queensland and we hope it will provide a model for other similar café's we or others may open in other locations throughout the state," said 139 Club CEO, Sara Harrup.

"139 Club is delighted to have been awarded funding by the Queensland Government's Department of Housing and Public Works through its Dignity First program," Ms Harrup said. "We applaud the government for introducing this grant which promotes much more dignity and innovation in the way we can support people experiencing homelessness and marginalisation."

An eco-friendly composting system, corporate participation days, cheese making and cheese sales are some of the innovations planned for the café. The café is based on a concept developed by Bon Jovi in the USA and similar to Sydney's thriving Wayside Chapel's café.

139 Club is already providing a unique service for the people experiencing homelessness with a very busy program of activities.

"139 Club is all about providing a safe place to be, having respect for everyone who comes here, whether it's our funders, supporters, staff, volunteers or, most importantly, our clients," Ms Harrup said.

"Please call us on 3254 1144 or visit www.139club.com.au if you'd like to help or for more information. We are at the start of a very exciting period and we'd love more people to be involved in our journey."

Supporters for the café already include Di Bella Coffee, Domino's Pizza and Strategised Marketing Agency.

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