

Scarba Volunteers Family Fund

Our work to prevent child abuse and neglect relies on the generous support we receive from donations and from fundraising activities organised on our behalf.

No-one is more passionate about raising money to help vulnerable children than 88 year old Aileen Kadison OAM and her wonderful team of volunteer fundraisers. Aileen is Chair of the Scarba Volunteers Family Fund, which she founded in 1989 to raise money to support children referred to our child protection programs across Sydney.

The Scarba Volunteers Family Fund helps us to deliver services that are enriching and non-stigmatising - they choose to give their time because they believe that strengthening families helps build better communities.

Funding the 'extras' other children take for granted

The volunteers began fundraising when they noticed that children were lacking basic necessities that other families take for granted. With the help of The Benevolent Society's experienced family workers, they identify specific needs such as books and clothes, music classes, swimming lessons or behavioural therapy sessions. The Fund also helps to pay for special school holiday activities such as our Circus Skills Program and a supervised Sport & Rec holiday camp in Berry.

"The children we support have difficult home lives " says Aileen. "They have often had to deal with a lot of stress and anxiety so we try to help by providing them with opportunities they wouldn't otherwise have access to."

As well as organising fundraising activities, the volunteers also support our professional staff by helping children with homework, home visiting, play groups and organising extra curricular activities.

Why the Scarba Volunteers need your help

"We are limited by resources, not by need" says Aileen. "The Scarba services have long waiting lists and other professionals are pleading with us to take just this extra client who has a real need. We stretch to meet the demand wherever possible, but the demand is considerable. The Benevolent Society receives some funding from state government and also commits its own funds to ensure it delivers services of the highest quality, but we rely on donations and support from individuals and companies to help us pay for those important extras. Our aim is to reach out to as many vulnerable children as we can."

You can make a donation to support the Scarba Volunteers. Every cent raised by and donated to the Fund is spent directly on the needs of these special children.

For more information please contact Karen Miller on (02) 9339 8043.