



With flood waters rising over the weekend of October 15 and 16 GV Cares activated to support the Greater Shepparton community. On October 19 the first of 2657 hampers were sent out to address immediate food relief for our community.

Between October 19-25, GV Cares sourced food from over 20 different supermarkets, local businesses/farms and organisations.

With a crew of **150 volunteers** contributing over the week-long effort, GV Cares provided food hampers and supplies to satellite hubs in **Mooroopna, Murchison, Tatura, Undera, Barmah, Cumeragunja and Shepparton**. Food hampers were also delivered to various community service groups and schools. Essentials such as medication, nappies, baby formula and sanitary items were supplied as requested.

Collaboration with the Incident Control Centre (ICC), VicSES and the Victorian Fisheries Authority ensured deliveries to households cut off by floodwaters were made safely.

GV Cares flood relief project was made possible due to collaboration with Greater Shepparton City Council, Shepparton Foodshare, the Greater Shepparton Foundation, Committee for Greater Shepparton, Giz A Break, Point of Difference (POD) Studios, Ethnic Council – Shepparton, Mooroopna Education and Activity Centre (MEAC) and Shepparton Family and Financial Services. GV Cares acknowledges all these organisations for their work in supporting the community during this crisis.

GV Cares is a Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Project initiative. GV Cares was established in August 2021 when an estimated one-third of Sheppartons population were required to isolate for 14 days as a result of a local Covid 19 outbreak. With large numbers of the workforce in lockdown, local supermarkets were struggling to meet increased demand for on-line orders. Additionally many residents were unable to call on family and friend for assistance as they too were in isolation.

Over the course of the 2021 lockdown GV Cares delivered 2793 food hampers and made 1936 special deliveries of items such as medication, nappies, baby formula and sanitary items. It is estimated that GV Cares supported between 8000-10,000 residents.

“ The Lighthouse team is proud to have the skills, resources and networks to be able to activate the GV Cares initiative so we can support the Greater Shepparton community during times of crisis. We also acknowledge the support recieved for our volunteers.

Our work is not finished, now we turn our focus to supporting community members directly impacted by the flood to get back on their feet”.

Visit the Greater Shepparton Lighthouse Project website at:

 www.gslp.com.au