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Mallee Family Care seeks Christmas support for local children

For some local children, a donated gift is the only one they will open on Christmas morning. Mallee Family Care's 2026 Christmas Appeal is calling on the community to help.

The annual Appeal invites local businesses, organisations, community groups and individuals across the region to make a financial donation or give a gift in the lead-up to Christmas.

For more than 21 years, Mallee Family Care's Christmas Appeal has given gifts to vulnerable children and young people engaged with its programs in north-west Victoria and south-west New South Wales.

Mallee Family Care Chief Executive Officer Teresa Jayet said that while Christmas is a time of excitement for many children, for families experiencing hardship it can bring extra financial pressure and uncertainty.

"Support from the Appeal can help ease that pressure so families can focus on enjoying Christmas together," said Ms Jayet.

"Last year was our biggest Christmas Appeal yet. Thanks to the generosity of local businesses, community groups and individuals, we supported 862 children across our region.

"Once again, we are hoping to continue making Christmas special for children in our community."

Ms Jayet explained that many people supported through last year's Christmas Appeal were single mothers raising several children without shared care.

"They were exceptionally thankful for the support of Mallee Family Care and the community. It meant their children could celebrate Christmas like other kids," Ms Jayet said.

"Many families told us that the only gifts their children would be receiving on Christmas Day were those donated through Mallee Family Care. They were all incredibly relieved that it meant an actual Christmas for their children."

To donate to the 2026 Mallee Family Care Christmas Appeal or find tips for giving a gift, visit malleefamilycare.org.au/christmas.

New, unwrapped presents can be dropped off at 122 Ninth Street, Mildura, Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm until 8 December.

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