



TODAY'S NEWS

Shoulder 2 Shoulder | Food Donations | Interview with Blake Richards, MBLA Founder

Shoulder 2 Shoulder

Homelessness or House-lessness affects people physically and mentally. The programme has been designed to help the community by preventing loneliness and encouraging communication. Currently based in Sydney and throughout NSW, Shoulder 2 Shoulder operates in several temporary housing and boarding institutions to provide professional counselling support and guidance to it's residents. With your help we can build the programme to provide better and more individualised support to those who need it most.

Food Donations

Our amazing team of Volunteers were back at the Farm this week for another successful collection of Eggs! As we know, Domestic Violence can directly lead to Homelessness - these issues are intrinsically linked to the core of MBLA. As such, we strive to support Food Banks and Homeless Shelters with Food Donations. We are humbled to have already been able to provide nearly **2200** eggs to the shelters meaning meals were shared, enjoyed and people did not go without. Thanks for your support!

Interview with Blake, MBLA Founder

Was there a defining moment that made you realise you wanted to begin MBLA or was it over a period?

In 2015 there were a few news stories in the media reporting many crimes of Domestic Violence including that of the tragic deaths of Tara Brown and Tara Costigan. This planted the seed that we as a society can do better. The charity focusses on accommodation, education workshops and counselling not only for Victims of DV but also within disadvantaged communities as a preventative measure.

What are the main challenges you've been exposed to since setting up the Charity?

By trade I'm an accountant in corporate protection which has made the business management side easier, though it can still be a challenging process getting DGR registration.

What have you found or do you find the most rewarding part in the Charity?

Getting to see people's lives uplifted and seeing how we encouraged someone that their life is worthwhile, they see a brighter future for themselves.

What is next for the charity?

Our Tempy Nestor Programme will be launching, a program which matches temporary housing solutions for people in desperate need. Our free 'Therapy' Workshops will be put onto the event Calendar as an altruistic therapy tool, in addition to our professionally led counselling sessions. We also are collaborating with egg farmer delivery service company with the help of our amazing team of volunteers which we hope to grow as we grow in the future.

Thank you for your continued and ongoing support!

