

nobody deserves poverty

HOW TO TAKE ACTION (EVEN IF YOU'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE)

THE PROBLEM:

Income support is nowhere near adequate. As a result, hundreds of thousands of people who are studying, disabled, caring for a child or loved one, unemployed, or underemployed are living in dire poverty.

THE GOAL:

Raise all income support to the Henderson Poverty Line. (More about that at: nobodydeservespoverty.org.au/resources)

HOW DO WE MAKE THAT HAPPEN?

This is a decision that lies entirely in the hands of the government, specifically federal Labor MPs. They know the facts already - both from a mound of statistics, and from their own constituents.

Facts alone aren't enough. They've already delayed raising income support on multiple occasions, and may keep doing so unless they feel enough pressure to act.

THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN

Get in contact with your Member of Parliament.

Search for [federal MP + your suburb]. If they're a Labor member, full speed ahead. If not, feel free to change to a different MP - good choices include:

- * Treasurer Jim Chalmers
- * Minister for Social Services Amanda Rishworth
- * Prime Minister Anthony Albanese

Now you've chosen your politician, choose your medium. Options include:

- * handwritten letter
- * attending a town hall meeting
- * phone call
- * email

More effort gets more attention but the best option is the one you'll actually do.

The message is strongest when it's personal so we don't like to give templates, but here's a basic structure you can build from.

"I'm concerned about how inadequate income support is. Have you committed to raising it to the poverty line in the next Budget? If not, why not?"

Add anything you want to - stories are powerful - but nothing else is necessary.

Now what?

You may receive a form reply; quite likely it'll seem like nothing has been accomplished. But it has! One more grain of sand has been added to the scales of justice. That matters.

But if you want to, you can take more action...

Come visit nobodydeservespoverty.org.au/take-action for more ideas if you like. Or just forge your own path!

Alone we are just one small voice. Together we are a force of nature.