Michael Gunner
Chief Minister of the Northern Territory

Foodbank’s Darwin Xmas Bonus

21 December 2016

The Territory Labor Government will provide $1.4 million over five years for Foodbank NT – delivering on an election commitment that will provide certainty for the organisation and the invaluable charity work it does.

Chief Minister Michael Gunner made the announcement today saying the funding of $280,000 a year, over five years, will begin this financial year, enabling the organisation to assist those in need immediately.

“The Territory Labor Government in supporting those in need builds a stronger community,” Mr Gunner said.

“That’s why I gave a commitment prior to the Election that I would provide certainty to the largest food relief provider in the Territory whose key role it is to ensure people do not go hungry.

“The former CLP Government put this vital organisation in limbo for months as it dilly dallied and caused a cruel wait for funding to be committed – funding that eventually came in at a major shortfall.

“I promised $1.4 million over five years, and this is exactly what I am announcing today – giving the organisation additional certainty in that vital period just before Christmas.

“I know just what it is like to have to rely on organisations like these to put food on the family table, and have said previously that good governments provide backing to those who back the community.”
Mr Gunner also approved an urgent Christmas grant of $25,000 to Somerville Community Services to help the organisation meet an increased demand for food hampers over the Christmas period.

The NT Government already provides $10 million in recurrent funding to Somerville to carry out targeted family support services, but this additional one-off Christmas funding will enable those most in need to access food hampers over Christmas.

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