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## ***Thread Together launches its first permanent Western Australian Clothing Hub***

***Restoring dignity by providing new clothing, free of charge, to those in need***

Thread Together in partnership with Anglicare WA have opened Western Australia's first clothing hub at The Square Mirrabooka.

In its eleventh year, Thread Together is considered one of the Australian fashion industry's most important chains in the fashion life cycle. A not-for-profit charity responsible for accepting excess end-of-season, brand-new clothing, shoes and accessories from designers, manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers then redistributing it through a network of more than 1,500 registered charities and social service agencies to Australians in need for free.

Thread Together's mobile wardrobe – a brightly coloured van packed with new clothing and shoes, has been supporting Western Australians in need since 2021, but the establishment of a permanent hub is a significant step forward in providing dignity to some of the state's most vulnerable people.

Anglicare WA CEO Mark Glasson said the partnership with Thread Together has become an essential service as more people struggle with the cost-of-living crisis.

"In just over three years, we have seen demand for our services increase by 160%, as Western Australians have struggled to keep up with rising cost-of-living pressures," Mr Glasson said.

"More people than ever before are going without warm clothes, prescription medicines, and other essential items, as they have no income left after paying for accommodation, bills and food.

"An increasing number of women and children have also needed the support of services like Thread Together to start over after escaping family and domestic violence which increased during COVID-19."

Thread Together CEO Anthony Chesler said the hub will supplement the ongoing impact of the Thread Together mobile wardrobe over the past few years.

"In the last 6 months Thread Together has supported 526 people and provided over 2,800 items of clothing," Mr Chesler said.

"Thread Together WA is on the trajectory to support 1,600 people by the end of the year with the mobile wardrobe.

"With the new Mirrabooka Hub we predict we can support 1,800 or more people who are struggling in the Western Australian community."

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