

## 'BREAD' Underway in Queensland

An exciting new venture in inter-agency co-operation has been launched in Queensland. It comes at the end of 18 months investigation and study on the part of a local steering committee and its Project Officer.

Initially a group of Queensland Social Workers came to Melbourne asking the Brotherhood to assist in pioneering a welfare program which emphasised human development and change.

The new organisation is named BREAD, and it stands for —

BASICS (e.g. income security, shelter, work)  
RESEARCH  
EDUCATION  
ACTION  
DEVELOPMENT

There are three very interesting aspects of this new approach to welfare. Firstly, it has secured the sponsorship and joint backing of key Queensland organisations. Its Board will have representatives from the Anglican, Roman Catholic and Uniting Churches, the Brotherhood, the University of Queensland and welfare consumers themselves. Large welfare organisations, like Lifeline and St Vincent de Paul Society are also keenly involved in the discussions.

What other Australian organisation can claim to have an Anglican Bishop as its Chairman, a Mercy Sister as Secretary and a Uniting

Church minister-social worker as its Project Officer!

Apart from the obvious value of co-ordinating organisational effort, the second aspect is that the program model being adopted provides an opportunity for sponsoring organisations with more traditional welfare approaches to participate in a new initiative. This in turn could help to bring about new thinking and action within the organisations themselves and among those communities with which they are associated.

Thirdly, BREAD contains an important mixture of activities including service delivery, research, community development and action. Through these actions operating simultaneously at different levels, efforts will be made to assist low income people to improve their life circumstances and to tackle community injustices when they occur.

BREAD hopes to extend its activities throughout Queensland but will commence with a modest program working with unemployed people in the South Brisbane area where there is a high level of social and economic need.

This will provide a way of creating a basic model of operation which could then be used in other places, both in Queensland and elsewhere in Australia. It should be emphasised that BREAD is a local Queensland initiative which has

been assisted with a small amount of backing from the Brotherhood.

We have always been conscious of the need to avoid the organisational problems caused by extending ourselves too far, and so we have never sought to establish interstate branches of the Brotherhood. In our view, it is far better to encourage other people more familiar with local circumstances to establish their own initiatives by offering whatever resources the Brotherhood may have to assist them in the task. Thus, we will continue to take an active interest in BREAD through our joint membership on its Board and by offering research assistance and advice.

From this small beginning it is to be hoped that the people of Queensland will want to take up the challenge of making the non-government sector a pace setter and a pioneer in welfare development.

Peter Hollingworth  
Executive Director

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## Associate Director Appointed

David Green, a senior Victorian public servant, has been appointed as the Brotherhood's Associate Director — Social Services.

David is at present Director of Regional Services with the Department of Community Welfare Services. When announcing his appointment, Executive Director Peter Hollingworth said, "David Green's move into the voluntary welfare field will do much to strengthen its position. He brings with him the skill, discipline and experience of a tried and proven public welfare administrator. His appointment will also serve to strengthen the working relationships between government and community welfare organisations."

David will join the Brotherhood on 26th May.

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## Berriwillock Wheat Scheme

Every year, several Australian and overseas organisations receive a substantial donation from the Berriwillock Church Wheat Scheme. Started in 1953 by Birchip farmer Alan McClelland and a group from the Berriwillock Uniting Church, the group has working bees, donating the machinery and labour to grow 150 acres of wheat. Alan's son Warrick provides the land on his property, Windarra, and expenses are kept very low as only seed and fertilizer must be purchased.

Over \$100,000 has been raised in 26 years from the sale of the wheat. This money goes to organisations outside their own community, half within Australia and half overseas. One member of the group was supported while he worked as an agriculturist with aboriginal missions.

This year the Brotherhood is among the recipients with a donation of \$1200. The group is also supporting Community Aid Abroad's projects in developing countries, and a Uniting Church minister from Fiji who is working with aboriginals in the Swan Hill area.