

ANTI-POVERTY NETWORK SOUTH AUSTRALIA



MEDIA RELEASE

May 18, 2023

For Immediate Release

JobSeekers Rally For Real Raise

The Albanese Government was elected on a pledge of ‘No One Left Behind’; 1 year later, this pledge feels hollow and cruel.

What: ‘No One Left Behind’ JobSeeker Rally

- People on JobSeeker and other payments, representatives from SA Unions, National Union of Students, speaking about Labor’s decision to raise JobSeeker by a measly \$2.86 a day
- Banners, signs, cans of soup (symbolising Labor’s paltry JobSeeker raise)
- Giant mock ‘1 Year Of Inaction On Jobseeker’ “Birthday Cake”

When: Sunday, March 21, 2:30pm

Where: Parliament, North Terrace

People on Centrelink payments, and supporters, will rally on the 1-year anniversary of the Albanese Government to call for them to live up to its pledge of ‘No One Left Behind’.

“This month’s Federal Budget gives just crumbs – a \$2.86 a day/\$20 a week raise – to people struggling to stay afloat, while sticking with lavish tax cuts and subsidies for the big end of town.”

“Even with this raise, JobSeeker and Youth Allowance will be over \$35 a day/\$250 a week below the poverty-line”, said Anti-Poverty Network SA spokesperson, Duncan Bainbridge.

“Job-seekers across Adelaide and SA have expressed how insulting and inadequate the Albanese Government’s announced raise is.”

Fi stated: *“The raise is pitiful. It will barely make a dent in my living & health expenses...so much*

for the Prime Minister from poverty.”

Joshua said: “An extra \$40 a fortnight does nothing for me. It might mean occasionally I eat twice a day, instead of once a day, or be able to get 3 or 4 extra items at the checkout, on the one day that I shop.”

Rita stated: “Albo said, “no one left behind”, but we are left behind. Every single time. Some people will say, “better than nothing”. But “better than nothing” doesn’t pay the rent. “Better than nothing” doesn’t put food on the table.”

Mr Bainbridge said: “It does not have to be this way. Why is there always money for tax cuts for the rich, subsidies for fossil fuels and property investors, billions for nuclear submarines, but never money to ensure that people can keep a roof over their head and put food on the table?”

“Millions of Australians are going to have a hungry, cold, stressful winter, because of decisions being made by the Albanese Government.”

For further info, and to organise media interviews with spokespeople, and people on JobSeeker and other payments:

Call Duncan Bainbridge on 0434 045 805, David Winderlich on 0401 380 782, or Brendan Folwell on 0428 741 601; or e-mail info@apnsa.org.