



NEWS AND UPDATES

Q2 2026



**BEING THERE
FOR EVERY KID**

Dear friends,

Thank you for being part of this mission. Because of your generosity and prayer, young people across Australia are finding connection, belonging, and hope. This update is a glimpse into the lives being impacted through your support.

Ministry Highlights

Across the country, leaders are faithfully showing up in the lives of teenagers, building relationships, creating safe spaces, and walking alongside them as they explore life and faith.

Blacktown Campaigners Launch

First term marked a significant milestone in Blacktown, with the launch of their very first Campaigners group – a weekly gathering for young people wanting to go deeper in their relationships, ask questions, and grow in their faith.

Josh, one of the leaders, shared:

“Thank you so much for your prayer and support – none of this would be possible without it. One of my highlights as a cabin leader was watching five young boys grow in their faith after camp through Campaigners. They’ve become bold and more confident in who they are in Christ. They’re choosing to keep following Jesus together. Thank you for making this possible”

This is the ripple effect of your support, not just moments, but ongoing transformation. How good!



Team Updates

A Season of Change and Growth

Last month, we farewelled Sophie as she began maternity leave. We're celebrating this exciting new chapter for Sophie and Mark and would love you to join us in praying for them as they welcome their first child.

We're also thrilled to welcome Sharon Johnson as our new Operations Manager.

"I love Jesus, His church, and His mission, and I feel so honoured to be part of an organisation that is wholeheartedly committed to reaching young people. I'm passionate about building strong teams and systems so that more people can encounter God and discover their purpose."

We're grateful for the experience and heart Sharon brings to strengthening the ministry behind the scenes.





What We're Learning: Connecting with Today's Teens

Recent global research across more than 7,000 young people highlights something simple but powerful:

Teenagers are looking for authenticity.

In a world shaped by social media and constant change, young people value adults who are real, present, and willing to listen.

Here are seven key ways we're continuing to build meaningful connections:

- Embrace vulnerability
- Listen without judgement
- Be genuine
- Respect individuality
- Lead by example
- Stay open to learning
- Create space for real connection

These principles are at the heart of every conversation, every club, and every relationship built through Young Life.

Read more: [7 Ways to Build Authentic Relationships with Teens](#)



Around the World

Young Life continues to grow globally, with encouraging developments in regions like the Balkans and the Baltics. Across cultures and contexts, the mission remains the same, meeting young people where they are and walking with them toward hope.

In both the Balkans and the Baltics, teams are deep in preparation for their upcoming summer camps. A key moment each year where many young people experience belonging, hear the message of Jesus, and build lasting relationships. Please join us in praying for these teams as leaders and campers register, and for meaningful connections in the months ahead.

This season also marks a significant milestone in Belarus, celebrating 25 years of Young Life ministry. We give thanks for all that has taken place over the past quarter century – lives changed, young people coming to faith, churches strengthened, youth groups formed, and hundreds equipped to live as witnesses for Jesus.

As teams gather to celebrate with food, fun, and fellowship, we also look ahead with expectation. Please pray for continued guidance and empowerment of the Holy Spirit for the next 25 years, that the mission would continue to grow and reach even more young people.



Pancake Breakfasts

Young Life has been flipping pancakes in local schools for years. Every week, volunteers get up early, arrive before the school day begins, and cook fresh, hot pancakes to help students start the day well.

But pancake breakfasts are about much more than food.

The real heart of these mornings is the connection between volunteers and students. Between the pancakes, juice, and music playing through a Bluetooth speaker, conversations happen. Friendships grow. Young people feel seen, welcomed, and known.

For many students, pancake breakfast has become part of their weekly routine. Some arrive at school more than an hour early just to help set up, spend time together, and be part of the community. Parents often tell us, “My kids make sure they get there early because they love it and don’t want to miss out.” And while we never run out of pancakes, what students really don’t want to miss is the chance to connect with our volunteers.



Schools value these breakfast programs because they recognise that not every young person starts the day with a meal. Students value them because a free, freshly cooked breakfast communicates something powerful: you matter.

Programs like this are only possible because of the incredible generosity of sponsors and supporters who help provide the endless pancake mix, juice bottles, and supplies needed each week.

Breakfast/Lunch programs are a simple but meaningful way we live out our mission to meet young people where they are. If you would like to support or volunteer with a local pancake breakfast program, we would love to hear from you.



For Every Teen

At Young Life Australia, we believe every teenager matters, not because of what they achieve or believe, but because they are deeply loved by God.

That's why we go where they are:

In schools, on sporting sidelines, in cafés, and within their communities, building trust and earning the right to be heard.

As we approach the end of the financial year, we're inviting our community to partner with us in our biggest campaign of the year.

So far, we've raised \$940, and we're aiming to reach \$120,000 to continue and grow this work. There's a long way to go! But every gift helps.

If you're in a position to give, we'd love you to consider supporting this mission.

[younglife.org.au/eofy26](https://www.younglife.org.au/eofy26)





Join us in prayer

We would like to invite you to pray with us for this ministry. Prayer comes first before all we do. Join us at the start of each month.

Join up here:

Pray for YL:
forms.office.com/r/EST2Zrzpud

Gap Year - July intake

If you or someone you know is ready for a year that will grow your faith and change lives, our mid-year intake is open.

Live out your faith through adventure, community, and mission. Chat with us today!

Learn more and apply at:
younglife.org.au/gapyear



Join us



National Event

This June join us as we gather to celebrate Every Kid and what it means to reach Every Kid through this mission.

Saturday, 27 June, 6pm
Greengate Hotel, Killara

Visit:
younglife.org.au/everykidevent



VOLUNTEER

There are many ways you can make a difference in young people's lives.



Express your interest in becoming a volunteer with Young Life

younglife
Australia

Young Life's work in communities across Australia is only possible by the generosity of supporters like you!

[Donate today.](#)

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