



**JULIE COLLINS MP
SHADOW MINISTER REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
SHADOW MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
MEMBER FOR FRANKLIN**

**SENATOR CAROL BROWN
SHADOW PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY FOR FAMILIES
AND PAYMENTS
SENATOR FOR TASMANIA**

MEDIA RELEASE

CALL TO HELP TASMANIANS IN NEED

Shadow Minister for Regional Development, Julie Collins and Shadow Parliamentary Secretary for Families, Senator Carol Brown are encouraging the community to support their fellow Tasmanians during National Anti-Poverty week.

“With more than 15 per cent of Tasmanians living below the poverty line, it is vitally important that we help those in need,” Ms Collins said.

“That’s 62,178 Tasmanians who are trying to make ends meet on less than half the average Australian income.

“Abbott Government changes that will cut all support to young jobseekers for six months are only going to push more Tasmanians into poverty.

“When times are tough Tasmanians always pitch in, and now we need to do so more than ever.”

Ms Collins and Senator Brown will join Foodbank Tasmania and United Voice, **7.30am, Friday 17 October** at **Parliaments Lawns** to collect donations and raise awareness of anti-poverty week.

Senator Brown said Foodbank Tasmania provides 1000 meals a day to welfare agencies and schools for Tasmanians in need.

“It is disappointing that the Tasmanian community has to donate more to make up for the Hodgman Government’s funding cuts to Foodbank Tasmania.

“The harsh Abbott Government cuts will also place more demand on Foodbank and other charities.

“Basic food and household items, that most take for granted, can make a huge difference to those in need and we encourage all Tasmanians to give generously.”

WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2014