

The Impact of the JobSeeker Coronavirus Supplement

Keep JobSeeker above the poverty line

The base rate of JobSeeker leaves households beneath the poverty line even with associated payments like rent assistance. The temporary Coronavirus Supplement has lifted people above the line but will end in September.

Basic Necessities



"I have not eaten 2-minute noodles since receiving the new payment."

"I have been able to afford warm clothing and blankets."

"Feeling more comfortable to stock the cupboards and fridges with groceries, being able to afford healthy food, especially with the children."

Ability to Job Search



"It helps me achieve a reasonable state of 'job-preparedness' with regards to clothing, makeup, transport and lunches."

"This enables me to be ready to seek employment knowing that at home everything is in order and I can go job hunting without that main stress factor, which is the stresses at home."

"I'm not naive about September. I've done volunteer work. I'm still doing things, trying to prepare."

Health Care



"I have not had to decide which of my medications I can afford each month. I have been able to save for medical appointments."

"I have been able to afford basic living necessities plus upkeep all of my medications."

"I will finally be able to both afford basic survival plus medications, medical appointments, and maintenance treatments."

Payment of Bills and Debts



"I put this completely on rent and water - and the rest to pay off an old Alinta bill from another residence."

"Ensure home and vehicle payments are maintained until I can return to work once my injury is healed."

"We have been able to cover our mortgage. This is one of the most important things."

Parenting and Family Life



"It's been easier to... take the kids on an outing and feed the family for the whole fortnight... We can now also afford birthday presents for our kids."

"Being able to afford a couple of things for the children ...and afford to look at moving from the area to escape domestic violence."

"Bought kids winter uniforms - brand new!"

Mental Health and Wellbeing



"Some people are worried about a second wave of an outbreak. I'm worried about a second wave of financial problems."

"It has alleviated the stress and improved the relationships between myself and my kids."

"I can now afford to do some things that are essential to keep my depression and anxiety manageable."

A permanent JobSeeker rate above the poverty line would prevent further problems and costs to both families and society down the track. It's an investment in people and our local economies.



AnglicareWA