



# Essendon: Caroline Chisholm Society needs our help

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A women's charity that has spent decades helping others in Moonee Valley with pregnancy and family support services is now asking for help itself.

The Caroline Chisholm Society's budget for a new headquarters in Essendon has blown out, ironically because the charity wants to help other community groups.

Chief executive Helen Cooney said the new premises were originally set to cost an estimated \$1.6 million. But deciding to make room for other charities, counsellors and community groups and making it accessible to the disabled had added another \$1 million.

"We are very grateful to the community and donors who have raised \$280,000 toward the new premises, but we have to ask them to keep up the good work," Ms Cooney said.

The society, which is now in leased premises, has \$1 million from the sale of its former base, an old house in Moonee Ponds, to put toward renovating the former Precision Mower Shop at 977 Mount Alexander Road, Essendon.

The new two-storey headquarters would have room for counsellors and case workers to meet clients and a large space for social support groups, cooking classes, volunteering and storing, sorting and cleaning new and pre-loved goods.

**To make a donation visit: [www.givenow.com.au/carolinechisholmsociety](http://www.givenow.com.au/carolinechisholmsociety)**