## Pilgrim People Brisbane

## MEDIA RELEASE



## Forum with Rev. Tim Costello AO Australian Aid: Our Christian Responsibility in a Time of International Crisis

Prominent Australian social justice advocate, Rev. Tim Costello AO, will address a major public forum in Brisbane in July on how Australians might respond to escalating humanitarian challenges around the world today.

The forum, entitled *Australian Aid: Our Christian Responsibility in a Time of International Crisis*, will be held at Merthyr Road Uniting Church, 52 Merthyr Road, New Farm on Sunday, July 20, from 2:00-4:00 pm.

The event is organized by Pilgrim People Brisbane, an ecumenical inclusive Christian congregation with links to the Uniting Church in Australia, in association with Merthyr Road Uniting Church and the Timor Children's Foundation. [Pilgrim People Brisbane regularly meets on Sunday afternoons at Merthyr Road Uniting Church.]

Mr Costello AO is the former CEO of World Vision Australia, a major charity providing community-based solutions to poverty around the world and is the Executive Director of Micah Australia. Micah empowers Australian Christians to advocate on the most urgent global justice issues facing our world today – extreme poverty, rising conflict and climate change.

Professor Peter Little, who Chairs the Management Committee of Pilgrim People Brisbane, said, "Australian aid is a significant issue in the light of recent developments with rich world powers substantially reducing or cancelling their relief and development aid to developing countries.

"Political and economic pressures are impacting all countries, but the impacts of war, social disruption, natural disasters and adverse weather events are an additional burden felt by many poorer countries, with grave consequences for their people and communities.

"Many religious groups see Australian aid as a faith-based responsibility in this time of crisis."

Admission to the forum is free but seating is limited and attendees should book through Eventbrite: https://TimCostelloForumPilgrimPeopleBrisbane.eventbrite.com.au.

The forum will be followed by afternoon tea.

## **Further details**

Helen Barnard: email chclbarnard@gmail.com