

Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd ABN 84 008 643 258

Annual Reports 2017 - 2018



Australian Mercy (Australian Relief and Mercy Services Ltd) is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct (the Code).

The Code defines minimum standards of governance, management and accountability for non-government development organisations. Adherence to the Code is monitored by an independent Code of Conduct Committee, which is

elected from the NGO community. Our voluntary adherence to the Code is our commitment to ethical practice and public accountability. More information about the ACFID Code of Conduct can be obtained from Australian Mercy and from ACFID at <u>www.acfid.asn.au</u> or email <u>code@acfid.asn.au</u>

The Board of Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd (Australian Mercy) is committed to fully adhere to this Code. The Code sets out standards in the three areas of accountability:

Program Principles – including Obligations for effectiveness in aid and development activities, human rights and working with partner agencies.

Public Engagement – including Obligations to be ethical and transparent in marketing, fundraising and reporting.

Organisation – including Obligations for governance, management, financial controls, treatment of staff and volunteers, complaints handling processes and compliance with legal requirements.

A Code of Conduct Committee monitors adherence to the Code and investigates complaints, which may be brought in by any member of the public. Information about how to make a complaint can be found at <u>www.acfid.asn.au</u>



Australian Mercy is a member of **Missions Interlink**, an Australian network for global mission: <u>www.missionsinterlink.org.au</u>



Australian Mercy is affiliated with **Youth With A Mission Australia (YWAM)** and serves as one of its Mercy Ministry arms. Although Australian Mercy is a separately constituted body, some members of its Board also serve as members of Youth With A Mission Australia.

MAKE POVERTY HISTORY

The Board of Australian Mercy has endorsed the **Make Poverty History Campaign**, which is run by a large group of concerned aid agencies under the auspices of the Australian Council For International Development (ACFID). Make Poverty History is a joint initiative of the Make Poverty History and Micah Challenge coalitions for all Australians who believe we can and should do more as a nation to end extreme poverty around the world. Australian aid provides opportunities for people, communities and

whole countries to build a brighter future – its work that we should celebrate now, and look back on with pride in years to come. Read more about the campaign and get involved at <u>australianaid.org</u>

Australian Mercy supports the Millenium Development Goals an initiative of the United Nations that seeks to make a differnce in poorer nations. Australian Mercy seeks to shape its programs to give outcomes that are consistent with these goals

Millennium Development Goals

- 1) Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- 2) Achieve universal primary education
- 3) Promote gender equality and empower women
- 4) Reduce child mortality
- 5) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases
- 6) Ensure environmental sustainability
- 7) Develop a global partnership for development
- 8) Develop a Global Partnership for Development





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Company Directory

1)	National Office (Registered Offices) 2 Wentworth Street Port Kembla NSW 2505 Ph: (02) 4274 1090 F: (02) 4274 9909 info@australianmercy.org	Director: Rodney Richards
2)	Office of the National Director PO Box 878 Burnie TAS 7320 Ph: (03) 6431 1218	National Director: David Skeat
3)	Adelaide Office Cambodian Harvest PO Box 658 Morphettvalle SA 5162	Manager: Marion Winn
4)	Australian Capital Territory Office 76 Federal Highway Watson ACT 2602 Ph: (02) 6241 5500 F: (02) 6241 6098	Director: Dianne Clark
5)	Darwin Office PO Box 290 Darwin NT 0801 Ph/F: (08) 8981 2424 jen@australianmercy.org	Director: Jen Keatch
6)	Perth Office PO Box 8501 Perth Business Centre Perth WA 6849 Ph: (08) 9328 5321 F: (08) 9328 1324 <u>dir office@ywamperth.org.au</u>	Contacts: Peter Brownhill / Kathy Kennedy
7)	Rahab PO Box 1014 Firle, SA 5070 <u>reachus@rahab.com.au</u>	Manager: Paulette Cairns
8)	RescueNet PO Box 7 Mitchell ACT 2911 <u>markc@rescuenet.net</u> <u>www.rescuenet.net</u>	National Co-ordinator: Mark Cockburn
9)	Shoalhaven Office 9 Nundah Close Bomaderry NSW 2541 Ph: (02) 432 034 148 <u>helene@australianmercy.org</u>	Manager: Helen Esdaile

The Board Of Australian Mercy			
	David Skeat (National Director and Chairman) Dip T Early Childhood Education (Hartley CAE, Adelaide South Australia 1980) Cert IV Emergency Medical Technician (First Response, Cairns, Queensland, 2007)		
No.	Serves in a leadership capacity with Youth With A Mission (YWAM) Australia. David has a background in teaching with specialization in Early Childhood. He has also worked in the area of Appropriate Technologies and is a qualified Emergency Medical Technician. He currently serves on the Board of YWAM Darwin.		
	David has served on other Boards including; YWAM Medical Ships Australia; Marine Reach Australia, Word Relief Australia, Co-Aid, and Travel With A Cause and YWAM Tasmania. He is also a member of the National Eldership of YWAM Australia. He was formerly a Director of YWAM Albury.		
	David is based in Burnie, Tasmania with his wife Marie, where he also volunteers with the Tasmanian SES.		
	Kris Thomson (Director) Kris is formerly the Director of YWAM South Australia and has served in development in a crosscultural context. Kris co-owns an Internet Hosting Company (KJ Hosting) and lives in the Netherlands.		
	Jen Keatch (Director) Cert IV Education of Intellectual Handicapped (Burwood State College, Victoria) Jen has a background working with children with disabilities and worked for the Anglican Church as a Community Worker specializing in Disadvantaged Families. As well as leading Australian Mercy Darwin Jen is studying Community Development. Jen is also the Director of YWAM Darwin.		
	Chris Harrison J.P. (Director) Chris was formerly Chairman of the Evangelical Alliance in Darwin. He serves as a senior fire fighter for the South Australian Country Fire Service. Chris serves as a Justice of the Peace in South Australia. He is married to Gina has 2 children and lives in Adelaide.		
	Nik Matthews (Director) Bachelor of Arts Honors Degree, Business with Economics (University of Central Lancashire), 1995 Nik has a background in Relief and Development. He has previously worked for YWAM Mercy Ministries International based in Bangkok and spent eight years working for Mercy Ships International, based in Europe. Nik and his family hail from England and currently reside in Melbourne. Nik is also the author of the book 30,000 sunrises.		
	Dianne Clark (Director) Dianne is the Operations Director of YWAM Canberra. She has a strong interest in Staff Development and in reaching out to the poor and needy. Dianne and her husband Kevin have initiated several programs to try and assist those in need both within Canberra and overseas.		
	Bruce Skinner (Director) Associate Diploma Structural Engineering (Wollongong TAFE 1991), Cert IV Work Place Training & Assessment (Institute of the Nations 2006) Bruce is the Co-Director of YWAM Wollongong. Having been a Structural Engineer for 16 years in heavy industry, Bruce draws on his experiences in the marketplace, combined with more than 20 years in church leadership. Bruce lives and works in Wollongong, NSW. He is married to Kristin.		
	Kevin Clark (Director) Cert IV in Financial Services Accounting (Canberra Institute of Technology 2005) Kevin originally hails from Perth and was formerly in the RAAF. He now has a background in accounting and a keen interest in alternative technologies. He currently works as the accounts manager for Youth With A Mission Canberra and manages Australian Mercy's accounting at that location. He is married to Dianne, and together they have 5 children and 6 grandchildren.		
	Rodney Richards (Director) NZ Certificate in Civil Engineering (NZ Standards Authority, 1988) Rodney manages the National Office of Australian Mercy and is also on staff with YWAM Wollongong. He has a background in IT and Civil Engineering and lives in Port Kembla with his wife and children. Working with Australian Mercy and the various international projects connects well with Rodney's heart for mercy and justice issues in the world.		

Australian Mercy Advisory Board



Steve Aherne

National Convenor, YWAM Australia. Steve has participated at Board level for Mercy Ships Australia. Steve serves on a number of boards and is based in Melbourne.

Peter Brownhill



State Convenor for YWAM Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Foundation member of the work of the Institute for the Nations in Western Australia. Peter lives and works in Perth.



<u>Tom Hallas</u> Asia/Pacific Field Convenor for YWAM International. Member of YWAM's International Leadership Team. Based in Canberra.



<u>Ken Mulligan</u>

Director of YWAM Townsville. Ken has a farming background. Established the national ministry of Mercy Ships Australia. He currently serves as the Managing Director of YWAM Medical Ships.



Kathy Kennedy

Kathy is a Registered Nurse with extensive experience in the Developing World. She is actively involved in medical projects worldwide and has a passion for Primary Health Care. Kathy has founded two Health Care Training programs in Perth including the Introduction to Primary Health Care (IHPC) and the Birth Attendant School. Both of these courses are accredited by YWAM's training arm, the University of the Nations. Kathy lives in Perth.



Matt Colwell

Matt Colwell is a former director of Australian Mercy who retired from the Board three years ago. Matt's background is in administration and accounting and he continues to advise us in these areas.

Communicating with the Australian Mercy Board

The Board of Australian Mercy values your feedback, if you have concerns you wish to raise with the Board about the behavior of Australian Mercy; or have comments of appreciation you would like to make to the Board, then please write to:

> The Secretary Australian Mercy PO Box 132 Port Kembla NSW 2505

Ministries and Projects Projects and Organizations

Organization / Project	Australian Rep Office	Country of Focus	Primary Focus
Ark International	Perth, WA	Thailand	Child at risk
Australian Mercy Disaster Relief C.G.	National Office	Various	Various
Australian Mercy Fund C.G.	National Office	Various	Disaster Relief
Australian Mercy Int. Women's C.G.	National Office	Various	Women
Australian Mercy Medical & Training C.G.	National Office	Various	Medical training & testing
Australian Mercy Three Diseases C. G.	National Office	Various	Malaria, TB & HIV
Bahareduk Building Development	National Office	Timor Leste	Building / Comm Develop.
Burmese IDP Project	National Office	Burma / Thailand	Burma IDPs
Buzz Off Malaria Campaign	National Office	Burma /Thailand / PNG/ Indon.	Malaria, Dengue, Zika etc
Cambodian Harvest	Adelaide, SA	Cambodia	Landmine Victims
Chongqing Child Care Project	Perth, WA	China	Children in care
Coconut Technology Center	National Office	Solomon Islands	Poverty Reduction
Donna McDermid Memorial Fund	National Office	Various	Women / Girl children
Emergency Relief Projects	National Office	Various	Disaster Response
Help Save the Kids	National Office	Thailand	Children at risk
Home of the Open Heart	National Office	Thailand	HIV / AIDS
iCare4U	National Office	PNG	Women & Chn with HIV
Karen Refugee & IDP Education	National Office	Thailand / Burma	Refugees
Kids Ark	Darwin, NT	Timor Leste	Com. Dev. Education
Nowra Community Food Store	Bomaderry, NSW	Australia	Comm. Welfare
Ossa Huna Community Development	National Office	Timor Leste	Agriculture
Perth Community Development Project	Perth, WA	Australia	Comm. Development
Project LIFE	National Office	Thailand	Various Development Proj.
Rahab Australia	Adelaide, SA	Australia	Women in Sex trade
Redefined Ministries	National Office	Congo	Comm. Development
RescueNet	Canberra, ACT	Various	Disaster Relief
Trainers Development Fund	National Office	Various	Education
The Freedom Project	National Office	Burma / Philippines / India	Children at risk
The Canberra Pantry	Canberra, ACT	Australia	Comm. Welfare
Vanitashray	National Office	India	Women & Chn at risk

Overseas Offices

East Timor - PO Box 151 Dili, East Timor

Cambodia - PO Box 486 Phnom Penn, Cambodia

People's Republic of China - Chongqing (Contact with the China Office is made through our Perth office) Myanmar - Yangon Buzz Off Office - (Contact Australian Mercy National Office) Thailand – (Contact the Australian Mercy National Office)

Web and Social Media Sites

Webpages	Face Book Sites	Twitter Sites
www.australianmercy.org	https://www.facebook.com/australianmercy/	@australianmercy
www.buzzoff.org	https://www.facebook.com/aworldwithoutmalaria/	@No2malaria
www.myanmar.buzzoff.org		
www.donnamcdermid.org	https://www.facebook.com/Donna-McDermid- Memorial-Fund-472514942758510/	@donnamcdermid
www.rescuenet.net		
	https://www.facebook.com/goldcoingiving/	

Some affiliated projects have their own websites and social media addresses.



About Australian Mercy

Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd (Australian Mercy) is a non-governmental / not for profit organization that has been set up with the express purpose of providing direct relief to persons in any country who are suffering distress, misfortune, destitution, helplessness and necessitous circumstances. It is a not for profit charitable company, limited by guarantee. It was incorporated in the ACT and has its registered office in Port Kembla NSW. Australian Mercy also has offices in Adelaide, Burnie TAS, Canberra, Darwin, Perth and Townsville.

Australian Mercy is dedicated to the relief of people suffering hardship and distress both within Australia and overseas and does so through a National and an International Fund that have been set up in accordance with the provisions of the Income Assessment Act 1997. Donations to the work of Australian Mercy within Australia are tax deductible.

As well as being a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI), Australian Mercy operates the ARMS Overseas Aid Fund (item 9.1.1) which is a public fund established by Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd that is used solely for the relief of people in countries that have been declared by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to be Developing Countries. Donations of 2.00 or more that are made to this fund are tax deductible to Australian donors.

Australian Mercy is funded through public donations, and through the seeking of grants and corporate donations from the business sector, churches, and other funding bodies. All funds donated to Australian Mercy are receipted into its bank accounts and are subject to a yearly independent audit that meets the standards of the Australian Council For International Development (ACFID).

Australian Mercy is governed by an elected board which is elected from its membership. Elections happen once every calendar year at the Annual General Meeting.

Australian Mercy uses the services of volunteers who donate their time to Australian Mercy to help it achieve its goals. All Australian Mercy staff give their services and expertise without charge. They maintain their personal support from people who believe in the value of their ministry. All Australian Mercy workers are trained to uphold the dignity of those to whom they have been sent to serve.

Australian Mercy has many expressions of its ministry some of which include training, emergency relief, provision of medical relief, project grants, child sponsorships, community development, ministry to the homeless, family counselling and the provision of primary health care.

Australian Mercy relies on the generosity of the church, the corporate sector, small business, and the public in general for the finances necessary with which to run its ministry.

Australian Mercy does not give preference on the basis of nationality, gender, ethnicity, creed, or religion. Australian Mercy is willing to cooperate with all governments and other non-government organizations for the common good of those in need.

Australian Mercy believes firmly in the values of integrity and accountability in all its dealings.

More information about Australian Mercy can be found on its website www.australianmercy.org

Capstone Statement

Australian Mercy - people who care helping people in need.

Mission Statement

As a Christian organization that sees Christ as the ultimate expression of God's mercy, Australian Mercy outlines its commitment to mercy ministries in the following statements;

- 1.To example the love and compassion of God to a needy world.
- 2.To restore wholeness and hope to broken lives.
- 3.To empower and support families in crisis.
- 4.To equip people through training and skills development.
- 5.To serve communities by sharing resources.
- 6.To mobilize people to help the poor and the needy
- 7. To work in development in a sustainable way.



Reports



As you read these reports, you will see the blue TD symbol appear the bottom of most of the reports. This symbol denotes that the report you have read had tax-deductible status in the 2017 – 2018 financial year.



Projects whose in-country spending was not part of the Annual Audit of Australian Mercy have been asked to give a short fiancial statement based on their audit of accounts which was performed in the country in which they operate.

National Director's Report

2017-2018 has seen a lot changes made to Australian Mercy but has also seen incredible ministry growth. We seem to be doing more and have had more volunteer hour donated this year than last year, but the Board is still trying to raise more funds for projects as our income streams have declined over the past 2 years. This is an ongoing challenge.

The Board continues in its effort to refine our processes and improve our reporting. We have been working on a new project portal which will help the Board to track each projects individual progress as they submit their reporting directly on line. The portal sends them reminder emails if they are late in lodging and every director has access to the site. This new process has been trialed in 2017-2018 and will be rolled out in in the coming 12 months.

Changes to the Board.

Chris Harrison has now returned to full Board duties and we are pleased to have him back

Table 1

Board Meetings 2017 / 2018			
Date	Location	Directors present	
August	Burnie	8	
November	Cyber	4	
February	Port Kembla	7	
Мау	Cyber	6	

Over the year, a lot of business was handled by the Executive council, which meets on a weekly basis, and the full Board was kept up to date through the live Cyber Board Portal.

Board Retreat

In August 2017, the Board had a week's retreat and Board meeting at Sister's Beach in Tasmania. Steve Goode from YWAM Thailand took the Board through a future directions 3 day workshop at a retreat centre in Sister's Beach. The time was a good opportunity to receive input from an independent third party and was greatly enjoyed by all.

Major Board Decisions

Medical Volunteers

The Board has passed new procedures for dealing with medical volunteers wishing to practice on Australian Mercy project sites. Under these new procedures, medical volunteers will need to show their current registration to practice before being allowed to practice on an Australian Mercy project. The Board is sure that this will produce safer outcomes on project sites.

Trusts and Funds

Revolving Door Loan Fund for Refugees

Revolving Door Loan Fund 2017/2018 Amounts are shown are in Australian dollars	
Repayments Received 2017 -2018	1,640.00
Loan From Aust. Mercy	144.60
Total Cash Assets	\$2,200.00
Loans out 2017 -2018	2,200.00
Other expenses	0.00
Total Expenses	\$ 2,200.00
Balance of Fund at June 30, 2017	\$ 0.00
Total new loans 2017 -2018	\$ 2,200.00
Total loans outstanding @ 30/6/2018	\$ 5,145.00
Total expected interest on existing loans	\$ 402.00

Table 2: Australian Mercy Revolving Door Loan Fund

Australian Mercy has a revolving door loan fund which it uses to assist refugees coming to Australia.

The purpose of this fund is to provide low costs loans for refugees who are facing significant financial challenges in settling into Australia or who are unable to pay upfront costs involved in getting family member to Australia.

Loans are given at an interest rate of 2.5% pa and are set over a length of time that is not onerous to the borrower's financial position. As money is repaid to the fund, it can be loaned out to other people in need.

In 2017/18 the Revolving Door Loan Fund made its second loan to a refugee family who are settling in Australia.



By David Skeat

To date the fund has already loaned out \$6,785 and has seen a total of \$1,640 in repayments in the 2017-2018 financial year.

Details of the current state of the fund are seen in Table 2.

Necessitous Circumstances

In 2016/2017 Australian Mercy provided support for two families who were in necessitous circumstances. Cases needing this kind of assistance seem to be happening more regularly and the Board is looking at ways that it can raise more funds specifically designated for these kinds of situations.

Charitable Gift Funds

The three charitable gift funds that Australian Mercy has with Equity Trustees have increased from 3 to 5 and the funds in these charitable gifts continue to grow. The two funds we had in formation last year have now been placed under Equity Trustees. All five funds are listed in Table 3.

Table 3: Charitable Gifts held by Equity Trustees

Australian Mercy Charitable gifts held by Equity Trustees		
Name of Fund	Equity Trustee No	Beneficiary
The Australian Mercy Disaster Relief Charitable Gift	CH002155	AM – Disaster / relief efforts
The Australian Mercy Charitable Gift	CH002309	The Australian Mercy Fund
The Australian Mercy International Women's Charitable Gift	CH002310	Donna McDermid Mem. Fund
The Australian Mercy 3 Diseases Charitable Gift	CH002440	Malaria, TB and HIV Projects
The Australian Mercy Medical and Training Charitable Gift	CH002441	The Vicki Project

These funds are audited every year by the auditors of Equity Trustees. Equity Trustees in turn give us a quarterly reports as to the growth of the funds and the income distributed from them. All dividends that received from these funds are included in Australian Mercy's Annual Audit of Accounts.

Donations to these charitable gifts are tax-deductible and can be made by sending a donation to Australian Mercy, or direct to Equity Trustees

Equity Trustees 575 Bourke St Melbourne Vic 3001

Tables 4 to 8 cover the charitable gifts managed by Equity Trustees and show the status of these funds as of June 30, 2018, <u>all amounts are in Australian dollars</u>

Table 4: Australian Mercy Disaster Relief Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy Disaster Relief Charitable Gift (Est. 2006) - EQT Accoun	t No CH002155
Total funds paid to Equity Trustees	64,653.34
Market Value as at 30/6/2018	78,138.57
Total dividends received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	26,651.89
Dividend received 2017/2018	2,860.00
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2017/2018 financial year.	1,292.96

In 2017-2018 \$2,145 of funds from this Charitable Gift went towards the work of RescueNet.

Table 5: Australian Mercy Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy Charitable Gift (Est. 2016) – EQT Account No CH002309	
Total funds paid to Equity Trustees	32,338.81
Market Value as at 30/6/2018	34,973.49
Total funds received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	1,750.00
Dividend received 2017/2018	1,100.00
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2017/2018 financial year.	376.88

A disbursal of \$266.70 was made to Kid's Ark from this Charitable Gift in 2017 /2018



Table 6: Australian Mercy International Women's Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy International Women's Charitable Gift (Est. 2016) EQT Ac	count No CH002310
Total funds paid to Equity Trustees	25,342.50
Market Value as at 30/6/2018	27,509.30
Total funds received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	1410.00
Dividend received 2017/2018	870.00
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2017/2018 financial year.	235.90
There was no disbursal from funds received from this Charitable Gift in 2017-2018.	

Table 7: Australian Mercy 3 Diseases Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy 3 Diseases Charitable Gift (Est. 2018) EQT Account	: No CH002440
Total Funds paid to Equity Trustees	1,595.85
Market value as at 30/6/2018	1,588.72
Total funds received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	0
Dividend received 2017/2018	0
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2017/2018 financial year.	1,595.85
There was no dishursal from this Charitable Cift in 2017 2019 as it is still being established	

There was no disbursal from this Charitable Gift in 2017-2018 as it is still being established.

Table 8: Australian Mercy Medical & Training Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy Medical & Training Charitable Gift (Est. 2018) EQT Account	unt No CH002441
Total Funds paid to Equity Trustees	921.23
Market value as at 30/6/2018	917.11
Total funds received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	0
Dividend received 2017/2018	0
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2017/2018 financial year.	921.23

There was no disbursal from this Charitable Gift in 2017-2018 as it is still being established.

Table 9: Equity Trustees Charitable Gifts – Total of Funds Held

Australian Mercy Charitable Gifts - Total Funds			
Name of Fund	Account	Total Funds Paid to EQT	Market Value
The Australian Mercy Disaster Relief Charitable Gift	CH002155	64,563.34	78,138.57
The Australian Mercy Charitable Gift	CH002309	32,338.81	34,973.49
The Australian Mercy International Women's Charitable Gift	CH002310	25,342.50	27,509.30
The Australian Mercy 3 Diseases Fund	CH002440	1,595.85	1,588.72
The Australian Mercy Medical & Training Charitable Gift	CH002441	921.23	917.11
TOTAL		124,761.73	143,127.19

Funds in Formation

At this time Australian Mercy have no charitable gift funds in formation.

Projects Coming and Going

In the 2017-2018 financial year the Freedom Project registered its project Educate to Protect with Australian Mercy. However, also in the 2017-2018 financial year the Freedom Project also obtained its own tax deductible status for its international projects and has since removed all of its projects from Australian Mercy's project portfolio. Reports for these projects will appear in these reports for the last time this year.

The Australian Mercy Board wish the Freedom Project the very best as they move forward. We greatly appreciate the wonderful work that they are doing!



Immigration matters

Our quest to get two Karen families to Australia still continues. The reuniting of the young family who are still separated with the wife and daughter in Mae-la camp and the father in Australia looks like it is closer to being resolved. There are hopeful signs that the visa is in its final stages of process.

The other family of four who are seeking to be reunited with their only living family here in Australia

has been refused for third time even though the family tick all immigration boxes. We are appealing to the Minister to review the case.

National Ministry Reports



Australian Mercy National Office



In the ever changing landscape of world affairs that includes the continued refugee crisis in Europe and the Middle east and the challenges faced by countries that are impacted by this mass movement of people, I am reminded of the special people who have seen need in people's lives and have responded. The many projects that we are blessed to be in relationship with are heroes to us. They continue to walk alongside those in need even when there are staff and financial shortages, always believing that there is a way forward that results a healthier lifestyle to those they serve.

Alongside that, I am again SO thankful to those wonderful people, Bryan, Meghan and Mark, who continue to volunteer in the Australian Mercy

National Office. Their help eases so much of the workload in the office and it is very much appreciated.

Over the course of the year, we had 4 Australian Mercy Board Meetings. One was held in Tasmania during our Board retreat, 2 online meetings and one at the YWAM Wollongong base in Port Kembla.

This year we have had 1 new project sign on with us including:

• Freedom Project – Educate to Protect : a project based around education to free children from life situations that are damaging to their welfare and health. It also includes support and training for teachers, as well as helping to support and develop local community leadership.

We also have a number of projects in their final stages of finishing with us, whether because of now having a legal status to fully manage the project themselves, or due to being redeveloped. We wish them the very best in their continued work and service. These projects include:

- Freedom Project Burma
- Freedom Project Philippines
- Freedom Project India
- Freedom Project Educate to Protect

We also have a couple of projects still in their initial project proposal building stages, and we look forward to walking ahead with them.

Blessings,

Rodney Richards - National Manager

Community Development Program, Perth



A Success Story

We have continued our very practical program throughout the city of Perth this last year. We have assisted elderly, disabled, and isolated, struggling families, and since February this year we have been able to assist a family who was in a lovely crisis. They were expecting triplets!

They are an international couple, the dad is a Maori man from New Zealand and the mum is Taiwanese. They were living and working in Bali, Indonesia when they discovered they were having triplets.

They researched what would be the best place to have a multiple birth and decided that it was Perth, at the King Edward Memorial Hospital. However, it meant that they would have no family support around them.



The social workers at the hospital called us and asked if we could support this family during what would be a lovely, but extremely hectic time. Over the last 5 months we have been able to offer, in-home assistance such as cleaning and washing; baby-care, including feeding, bathing, and much holding; some cooking lessons and other support.

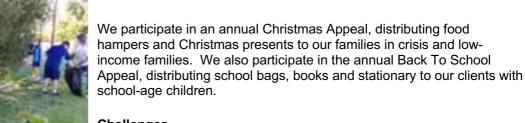
It's been a wonderful opportunity to support this family through what is truly a beautiful crisis. The babies are growing well and the family is looking at moving back to Taiwan soon.



The last 12 months...

In the last 12 months with have done 250 visits with families in the community, serving them with their practical needs. This represents an estimate of 2,878 volunteer hours. This is not including our Annual Street Appeal volunteer hours.

We partner with a local Christian College, training their students to serve people in their community. We facilitate students coming to visit elderly and disabled people in the community, serving them through cleaning, gardening and social engagement.



Challenges

One of our ongoing challenges continues to be the training of volunteers for the ministry.

Lisabeth McClure - Manager



rahab

<u>Rahab</u>

Rahab is a ministry reaching out to the sex workers of Australia. Rahab exists to offer a lifeline of hope and restoration to those who feel trapped in the sex industry. *Because of the sensitivity of this project not a lot of details can be given.*

What we did:

Opened in the Northern Beaches of Sydney: September 2017 Opened a new branch in Cairns, Queensland: February 2018 Started a new branch in Illawarra NSW: May 2018 Attended interstate conferences including Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Awareness Invited to speak in Parliament on two occasions

A story of interest:

When in Cairns, after speaking at a church service: a gentleman approached me for a private conversation. We went to the back of the room where he told me his story. When he was young he had been a sex worker and stripper. He went on to say that God was challenging him about "NOW" being the time to use his mess as his message. With the permission of his wife and pastor he now drives for Rahab and ministers to the male sex workers and male strippers that work out of the brothels and massage parlours in Cairns.

A challenge that we faced:

Rahab went with no admin assistance for some period of time and still requires a permanent part time person in the office.

Rahab has had to put girls into Motels for temporary safety, this is draining on the donations that are needed elsewhere.

Rahab has had to screen volunteers discretely as there have been applicants with mental illnesses.





RescueNet Australia









our team.

As at 30 June 2018, RescueNet (RN) internationally proudly boasts one hundred and five members with the Australian membership being twenty one.

> RN ran another Introductory Course with four participants; two doctors, one paramedic and one veterinary nurse. It was yet another good course which was run by Elisha Sorensen from New Zealand in her efforts to become an Introductory Course Leader. Thankfully, the two doctors joined the Australian team and the paramedic is expressing interest.

> As previously reported the Secretariat of the World Health Organisation Emergency Medical Team Registry (WHO EMT) invited RN to join a registry of eighty 'quality preferred international response teams'. Only last week, RN had its very first meeting with Dr Emma Lawrey who heads up the NZMAT (NZ Medical Assistance Team) as RN's appointed mentor. Dr Lawrev was able to give us a very real 'heads up' as to exactly what's involved to join the EMT Registry. The 'bar' has been set very high because the WHO wants only quality assured teams and this involves a 'nil footprint' requirement. This means we are required to purchase a smokeless waste disposal unit, RN's own sanitation unit, a water filtration unit capable of delivering 60-80 litres per member per day, an oxygen unit plus our own power supply. This says nothing about a solar autoclave sterilisation unit and all of our medical and team materials.

> Dr Lawrey informed us that RN is further ahead in this registration process than what we think and she feels that we could be finished the process within eighteen to twenty four months. The major challenge that we face is to source and secure this expensive equipment.

As previously reported, RN has moved on to develop the Disaster Preparedness Program. This program is specifically designed to afford participants in disaster prone areas potentially life-saving first response skills as well as mitigational planning for individual villages.

This Program was successfully run in Malawi, Africa, with the assistance of two doctors, two nurses, a paramedic and a search & rescue professional. The team focussed on a small village approximately two hundred kilometres north of Blantyre, the capital of Malawi. Over a five day period, twenty eight participants greatly benefited from the input of

At a recent conference in Townsville, great interest was expressed from leaders in Papua New Guinea, the Cook Islands and Bangladesh to host the Program and it is expected that at least one, if not two, Programs will be run each year.

I am truly honoured to be a part of this exciting work. I have an excellent team helping me and I look forward to a very strong RN future.

Mark Cockburn National Co-ordinator



NOWRA COMMUNITY STORE



The financial year ending June 30 2018 was highlighted by several significant events that have left their mark on the ongoing work of the organization.



Our staff numbers have fluctuated between approx. 25 and 30 part time workers. We have 3 who have continued working a few hours per week for over 5 years, including Joy Weatherall who has been an amazing support in the financial accounting area. It's largely to her I attribute getting our financial returns to the auditor during July each year as she is very competent in entering all our data on MYOB.

We don't have as many on Work for the Dole as we've previously had but we now take people on Work Development Orders and have finally just been given the ok to take people on Court ordered Community Development Orders.

Due to the possibility that we would lose a few longer-term workers (3 years +) I have employed 3 people as paid staff. This has meant that three people who have been volunteering with us and been without paid work for a long period of time, are now receiving an income for part time work and are also significant members as they are able to train the new workers in the running of the store and to take responsibility in the day to day management. For two of them the first year was assisted by a Government wage subsidy which enabled them to be employed for 20 hrs/week.





In March of this year I was able to go to Timor Leste and observe the work that is being done by Soraya and Branca and as a result have committed to paying \$2,500 per month (\$30,000 annually) towards the salaries of the teaching staff at the Kids Ark. Our contribution to that work in the second half of the financial year was \$15,000. We also support Jed Brien's work in Nicaragua and over the course of the year have donated (from memory), \$17,000. These 2 organizations will remain our primary donation support groups.

Early in the year our local freight company that delivered our 'shelf goods' went into liquidation and was replaced by another company from Wollongong. This is all arranged by Foodbank and Towers Transport in Castle Hill. However the new freight company was delivering at times of the day that were difficult for our store due to a lot of cartons of stock in the aisles when customers were in the store. At that time we were paying \$55 per pallet for delivery and we would receive 4 or 5 each week. To ease the problem I changed to Brett O'Connor Transport who has been our freight company for our chilled and frozen goods as well as goods from Intertrading (a clearance warehouse in Narellan).Brett charged \$95 a pallet (commercial rates) but delivered them on Monday afternoons when there were no customers which was very convenient. However, it has meant our freight bill for the financial year blew out to \$25,000, an amount I find hard to justify as a charitable organization. Good news for the Financial Year 2018-2019, is that the NSW Govt is covering the freight bill for country Foodbank orders. This has meant we will find a way to manage the 'challenging' delivery time of the freight and

save about \$20,000 per year. I am very thankful for this concession.

The Community Store continues to provide low cost groceries to many struggling families and is a place that volunteers enjoy working. It provides several people with a sense of purpose and others with the kind of therapy they feel they need, to deal with their day-to-day challenges. There is a 'flow on' effect for our customers through the camaraderie and care the staff offer.



Aside from the Community Store, David and Helen have been very busy visiting guys in prison, mostly the South Coast Correctional Centre. However due to building work at SCCC, the minimum security section were sent to other prisons throughout the state which has meant a lot of travelling for, particularly David. Meanwhile the property at Bomaderry has been approved by Shoalhaven City Council for group occupancy which means it is able to be used by homeless men and those who are being released from prison. We were able take guys in from March, but it has created challenges that have put us on a steep learning curve. Unfortunately, most of the tenants have not been willing to abide by the signed tenancy agreement which has on one occasion involved the police and in several instances, after warnings, eviction. A new arrangement in conjunction with John

Purcell House, a Catholic Hostel for homeless men will commence in August where they select tenants who have demonstrated responsible behavior and who are continuing to be 'case managed' while they live in the Bomaderry property. Each tenant will be given a 12 month rental agreement, the rent will be paid to Australian Mercy Shoalhaven.

I look forward with confidence to both the ongoing work from the Community Store and the provision of accommodation for homeless guys in the next financial year.

Helen Esdaille Manager



The Pantry (Canberra)

Editor's note: Located in Watson in the ACT, the Pantry is a community-based ministry to low income and vulnerable people living in the ACT. It provides low cost food and other assistance and has become an important contact point for many of Canberra's poor.



This year has been very challenging for us with the diagnosis of cancer late last year for our longest serving volunteer worker Lynette Young and her recent death on Sept 7th. Her illness required changes to our volunteer team, which took time to settle. Lynette had great compassion and a listening ear and ongoing questions regarding her health were not easy to answer especially as people wanted to see her back in the shop.

Despite this our vision for The Pantry continues with the same values: *To* endeavour to provide low cost food and household goods to the disadvantaged and vulnerable in our area whilst providing them a place of hospitality, love and care to enjoy friendship and acceptance.



We currently have 102 people registered and often see around 40-50 people attend each Thursday and we continue to have new members joining. Many of our customers represent families, which greatly increases the number of people for which we are providing. We estimate that we are providing food and household products for close to 160 people per week.

Those who come broadly fit into the following categories: Aged pensioners, singles (some with disabilities), single parent families, low-income families, students, and new immigrants to Australia. *The Pantry* is listed with the ACT government community services in Canberra and we get referrals from ACT Housing, Financial Care, St Vincent de Paul and Salvation Army.

Our support network continues to be greatly valued. We are grateful to Foodbank NSW, YWAM Canberra, O'Connor Uniting Church, and Hope Korean Church and Brumbies Bakery in Ainslie, for their support.

We also want to thank our many donors for their generous financial gifts, gifts, and our volunteers whose generous support helps us to do this valuable work.

Our extension to The Pantry known as the Soap Box also provides household cleaning products and toiletries. These items are primarily sourced through Intertrading Australia in Sydney but sometimes Foodbank has items that we can use.

Lyle Hutchinson The Pantry



International Ministry Reports





ARK International Report

Ark International Foundation, a ministry of Youth With A Mission, YWAM Thailand is an international body defending the rights of children at risk.

Our mission is to network, train and facilitate ministry in South East Asia focusing on resourcing specific needs for children at risk so that they can be restored, equipped and

transformed for their unique contribution to the world.

ARK International's VISION is to:

1. **Develop specialized programs:** Identifying the needs of children at risk and providing ways to meet these target needs

2. **Partner and Network:** Partnering with other organizations to maximize the influence and effectiveness in assessing need and sustaining growth of programs

3. **Training and Education:** To provide educational opportunities as they arise to children and or workers (directly related to the needs of children at risk).

"The current world population is approximately 7 billion. One-half of that world population (3.5 billion) is under 15 years of age. Of those, 2 billion live in abject poverty. Therefore, at least **2 billion** children do not enjoy even their basic rights. These children are considered **CHILDREN AT RISK**." - Hope for the Nations

MINISTRY PROGRAMS

Mentorship

NAK WING – This is a small mentoring group led by ARK staff and each week over this year, our leader provided input and addressing critical issues such as identity, self-worth, sexuality, spiritual development and culturally relevant issues such as honour, protection etc.

Specialized Programs



SATURDAY CHILDREN'S CLUB – This is a weekly, fun, faith filled morning that is holistic in nature. Education, Nutrition, Spiritual Development and Physical Development (with games, crafts etc.) happen each week around common themes. Approximately 25-40 children/youth attend.

LIFE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM – is designed to financially support targeted youth with food and additional living expenses as a result of unique and compelling difficulties evidenced in their lives. This program works solely in conjunction with these youth that are passionate about improving their knowledge and experience through educational avenues. This past year, we supported 5-7 youth in this capacity.

HEALTHCARE/MERCY INITIATIVES – This is a program that is designed to help families in extenuating circumstances. This past year, ARK was able to assist one of our youth who broke his leg in a motorcycle accident, continue to support one of our long-term families who have a terminal illness, and assist with other projects/needs that are congruent with our mission statement. This next year, we are looking to support refugees in Thailand awaiting nomination for refugee status.

Educational Initiatives

THE EDUCATIONAL SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM promotes the importance of education and its value in creating sustainable and long-term options for youth, particularly targeting youth at risk. Educational sponsorships and educational support are given through tuition and uniform assistance, tutoring, trade programs etc. and are individually catered to youth to help them succeed in their future. Education is the gateway to sustainable change in a child's life and therefore, ARK has a long-term commitment to these initiatives. This year, we partnered with approximately 15 youth/children to go to school.

Special Events



DTS GRADUATION – Two of our teenagers who recently graduated from high school were given the opportunity to attend a personal development and training program where they were able to travel and learn about themselves and give back to communities in the way of service and mercy activities. They graduated from this program with considerable life impact.

YOUTH MENTORING WEEKEND – some of our teens were elected to be able to participate in a specialized mentoring weekend in May. This was a time set aside to develop, inspire, and affirm the unique calling over their lives and to invest in affirmation, life calling and encouragement.

Christmas

THAI/BURMESE ENGLISH CAMPS - CHRISTMAS PROGRAM - This past Christmas, ARK International was able to partner with a work in northern Thailand up near the Burmese border. One of our previous ARK staff, Piyamary (Oo) is working with Pia and they regularly run an English program weekly for 30-50+ children that otherwise would not have opportunities presented to them. They are from a very poor and disenfranchised region. We are so pleased to assist in this work and share in the gift of giving. On Dec. 21st, approximately 50 kids attended a special event sharing the message of the gift of Hope and each child was gifted a packet containing a booklet, school supplies, a pair of socks, vitamins, a water bottle and some Christmas cookies.

KHAO SAMMUK

This Christmas, ARK was able to partner with MBF Thailand to host a large Christmas program in a small village. Here is a report from the director, Karen Sanchez, "We were able to put on a big, huge neighborhood Christmas Party Outreach for the village of Khao Sammuk where we are church planting. We worked with the local temple to get chairs and tables, stage and sound system, and had about 300 plus people show up! We fed them, played a lot of fun games, had a number of kid's dances and dramas, and ended by presenting the Gospel. Both Thai and Cambodians went home fed, loved, with a gift and their hearts full of the Good News!"

EDUCATION AND TRAINING - a small team of professionals were recruited to teach and train in Cambodia with two



f professionals were recruited to teach and train in Cambodia with two different groups: Foster Parents and Teachers on attachment, trauma and specialized strategies in order to assist with learning and parenting.

PASSPORTS - We are excited to share that 3 of our girls that have turned 18 have officially received their passports and we have officially finished the long and drawn out visa process to give them legal access to continue their education. This opportunity will give them unlimited opportunities towards their future.

Statistics

• It is difficult to measure the effectiveness of what we do as working with children is difficult to measure. I would guess that we

work with approximately 40-50 kids each week in Thailand as well as engage in educational projects in Cambodia that would be in the hundreds.

A story

We are so thrilled to share that 2 of our youth girls have successfully graduated from their DTS in Ubon, Thailand. Both of the graduates were able to share their significant experiences and it was so heartwarming. I got a little more than misty eyed to hear reports of their personal experiences and how this experience has healed and restored their lives. One girl (Kala) in particular has had some challenging family



dynamics and her heart was filled with bitterness and pain. She shared how she learned about forgiveness and applied this in her own life. Since then, she has felt so free and even gone to lengths to work at developing a relationship with her father. Kala decided that since this was so life changing for her, she committed to work with this program for a year to help other young people overcome their abuse, pain and help others experience the same freedom she has encountered.

We continue to provide support to a number of children that are enrolled in our scholarship program. One of these significant ones is the story of 'Ben' that was shared in our last update. A recent development has

been the rescue of his cousin 'Moki' who was working in Bangkok as an under-age laborer. He is quite small for his age (16 yrs. old) and has not been enrolled in school for a number of years. He has a rough family history and as a result of Ben's life transformation, he reached out on his own accord to one of his own family members and asked if we could help aide him in an education as well. Transformation always involves a willingness to engage others towards change and Ben is living proof of this. So, we provided a foster placement for Moki in his own home country with Ben, provided some monetary tutoring and he was enrolled in school. In a recent visit in May, he was doing well and thriving in his new environment over this past year.

Successful paperwork and board approval of new board members (everything in Thailand always takes a long time so this is a real celebration).

As we have continued to invest in a number of teens and youth in educational measures, some of these are receiving advanced educational standing in their high school equivalency.

*Ark International Foundation has a policy that no real names of any of our minors will be publicly published. This is a real story but her/his name has been changed to protect her identity.

FUNDRAISING ONGOING/NEEDED

- Project proposals sent to various donors raised approximately \$8,000 (AUD).
- An identified need is to continue to work with our current sponsors as well as open new doors of financial gifts/donations to meet our monthly budget/expenses.
- Over this next year (2018-2019), we are hoping to expand some of our educational initiatives in greater measures and have some donors lined up to assist with this. Exciting!

Volunteers

LONG TERM STAFF: 2016

YEAR JOINED STAFF	NAME	CHILDRENIAGES - COUNTRY	COMMITMENT
Nov 2006	Nicole & Sopo Fakaua	Keza-16, Tekoa-15, Silas-13, Taviah-11 Australia, Canada	LONG TERM Noole Fakaua – Director, Fundraising and Communication for Foundation, <u>Sopo</u> Eakaua – consultant
July 2013	Kansuda Kunlachat (Dy)	THAI	3+ years (Mentorship Program, Educational Initiative, Book-keeper)
Jan 2013	Baikaow Rittidet (Ball)	THAI	Accountent
Oct. 2013	Gillian Thom	Insland	ARK Foundation Board Member & Education/Visa Consultant
Oct. 2015	Sokleng In	Canbodia	Social Worker
July 2016	Laksana Sowwarat (Blah)	THAI	2 gr+, Program director for Kid's club, Oversight of sponsorship program
Sept. 2016	Ricky Sanchez	U.S.A.	1 gr+, Financial Assistant
Sept. 2016	Karen Sanohez	Canada	1 gr+, Financial Director
July 2016- Current	Assorted Volunteers	тна	Assist with the Sat. Kids club each week

Financial Statement in Australian dollars

inc	eme	
Funds at Bank	5	263,683.82
Donations	5	17,583.60
Interest	5	1,282.02
Total income	\$	18,865.62
Total Cash Assets	\$	282,549.44
Expe	nditure	
Program Exes	5	43,807.24
Admin	\$	3,109.27
Total Expenses	5	46,916.51
Operating loss	-5	28,050.89
Funds at Bank	5	235,632,93

These figures were taken from this ministry's audit statement and were originally given in THB. They have been converted to Australian dollars at a rate of 0.04187



Bahareduk Housing and Community Development Project East Timor





The Bahareduk Housing Development project has been operating for a number of years and been adopted by Australian Mercy recently. Over the years various groups have been involved in the establishing of Brick homes and community development. This has included – 'Homes of Hope' an American based aid group, Westbourne Park Uniting Church, Adelaide, YWAM Toowoomba, Beachside Christian Church Currumbin, Gold Coast and St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast. These and perhaps other groups have contributed either financially or with person power over the past 5 years in assisting the project.

The project is coordinated and overseen by YWAM Dili and in particular Anabel Lima has worked tirelessly towards the goal of housing the 70+ families who live in the village.

As of 22 April 2018 -

Table 1. Costs of one house

The summary is that in total 78 houses were needed in Bahareduk, of these, finances have now been provided for 60 houses, so now only needing finances for 18 more.

The fully completed houses in Bahareduk now stand at 30 houses. This was reported by Jen Keatch of YWAM Darwin who also has a keen interest in furthering the goals of the project.

Actual costings of an individual house fluctuates significantly... in May of 2017 it was reported by Anabel Lima the cost of one house was – (costs in USD)

ltem	Cost
100 bags cem.	500
50 leng. of rio	220
Iron roofing	130
Nails	13.50
Doors	190
Windows	90
Freight	450
Total	1593.50



(This is from the last price which we got an amazing discount but before that was \$3,650.00)

As can be seen, significant progress has been made towards the goal of building the 78 houses in the village.

St Andrews Lutheran College (SALC) visited Bahareduk at the beginning of July and a group of 2 teaching staff and 8 senior students were fortunate to be able to participate briefly in building a residence and assist in the further development of a substantial community garden overseen by YWAM. Images of this work are attached.

An interesting development that has arisen is a moratorium by the East Timorese government on the cutting down of trees. This is causing difficulty for accessing timber for the roofs of houses that are being built. Consequently, while there, the SALC team observed numerous houses with completed walls and block work but no roofs and no short term solution for the problem.



A positive development over the past 12 months is the establishment of the large garden in the village. This is being used as an example to illustrate to the community what can be achieved. It was reported that residents have been encouraged consistently over the years to grow vegetables but with little success but in this instance it is envisaged there will be greater uptake by the people of Bahareduk as they witness first-hand what is possible. In summary, with finances available for a further 30 houses, the project is well on the way to completion. There is though the issue of accessing timber for the roofing trusses of future houses. This will need to be addressed and is proving to be problematic.

Financial statement in Australian Dollars.

Income Donations Total income	14,956.72 14,956.72
Expenses	
Building materials	9,601.55
Freight and Cartage	1,645.98
Vehicle costs	438.93
Unspent funds	3,270.26
Total	14,956.72

Editor's Note: These figures were originally given to us in USD and have been converted to AUD at a rate of 1.37165 AUD per USD





Buzz Off Report





The Buzz Off Training Team

Buzz Off has been very busy this year and has continued its work inside Burma and on the Thai / Burmese border.

Myanmar training

In March 2018, the work in Burma was extended into Nagaland and Kachin In Kachin state we trained 46 volunteers and in Nagaland 62. Bringing the number of volunteers training in Myanmar since we commenced the training program to 1,118.

In Nagaland we were working with the healthcare worker from the Anglican Church and were extremely happy to be working alongside our dear friend Dr Marlar Than. Dr. Marlar is a great friend of Buzz Off, and an excellent trainer. He is a GP based out of Mandalay.

We also spent a lot of time and energy preparing for our seminars in Indonesia, which will be in July 2018. The Indonesian seminars will look at ways in which we can fast track the raising up of indigenous trainers.

Much effort has been put into the rewriting of the training manual and the translation of materials into Bahasa Indonesia.

Net Distribution

In 2017/18, we distributed 4,700 LLIN nets in Myanmar without funding we will have to reduce the number of nets that we buy. This bought the total number of nets that we have distributed in remote Myanmar to 58,261



Burma do not understand how their bodies work.

Buzz Off relies on trainers in Myanmar, England, the Netherlands, Australia and Indonesia all working together towards the common objective reducing malaria in remote communities. This group is amazingly talented and we are very grateful for their hard work and input.

One of our trainers from the Netherlands named Karina has helped us to put together some very excellent flip charts that can be easily translated into any language.

One of our trainers from England, Faith Turner who is a retired Nurse has started working with women who attend the seminars on issues pertaining to feminine hygiene. From her initial enquiries into this area it became apparent that women in remote

Freedom Packs

Faith has developed a program called *Freedom Packs* and together with some seamstresses in the UK she has developed a reusable menstrual pad. Similar to those used by *Days for Girls*.

We have a lot of ideas of how Freedom Packs might work in Buzz Off and we are looking at ways in which it can be of greater service to not only the women of Myanmar but also other countries as well. One suggestion that has been made is that we train people living with HIV to make the packs and that they sell them for a small price as a cottage industry. In the coming 12 months Faith will be looking at all the options and coming up with a clear plan as to how we can use Freedom Packs to best serve local women.

Yangon Office

Our Yangon office, which is managed by Elizabeth Nwe, is powering on both arranging the Myanmar seminars and also doing out reaches into local schools running mini malaria lunch time seminars. These mini seminars are well



received. The office also visits the places that we have previously run seminars and checks up on our past students to find out how they are doing.

It also distributes mosquito nets and testing kits to our volunteers who are working in remote areas and to families in remotes areas who need them.

Funding

Buzz Off needs funding; the funding we have had for the past 6 years has dried up and we are running it on a shoestring budget as more opportunities open up for us to work in other nations.

Our website has provided us some good funds through the sale of mosquito nets and testing kits but we need much more than this.

We are looking for both small donors and larger funder who will back the work we are doing through Buzz Off. In the coming 12 months we hope to start the development of TB training. We will keep you posted on that.

At the present time we are also looking at funding opportunities that may exist inside Myanmar itself.

David Skeat Campaign Director



CAMBODIAN HARVEST



Once again, the political situation in Cambodia has further deteriorated and democracy has been severely curtailed. In September 2017 the leader of the main opposition party was imprisoned on false charges of treason and that party was subsequently deregistered and politicians barred from political activity for five years, resulting in many of them fleeing overseas. Elections due in July 2018 will take place with no viable opposition contesting the election. It is expected that Cambodia will have a one party "democracy" from July 2018.

The Taxation Department levelled heavy fines against our Company due to the

ignorance and non-compliance of our Accountant which hindered our company from reaching sustainability in 2017. Mrs. Sitha failed to implement her training in taxation and so she was replaced in June by Mrs. Netha Phy, who is our Deputy Director Bunthoeun Thong's wife. Netha has a Master's Degree in Economics from a university in Taiwan. She has years of experience in Accounting and Taxation and we are so blessed to have her join our staff. We are confident that under her experienced management we will be found to be completely taxation compliant. Miss Sreyleap Hong joined us as Assistant Accountant.



Factory opening

The official Opening of our new factory on 4th August 2017 was held in the covered space between the new factory and 6 of the new staff houses. Rodney Richards came from Australian Mercy's National Office to be our key note speaker. Local Government and Commune officials, the local Police and the school headmaster, along with local families joined our staff for the celebration. Mrs. Ruth Magarey, widow of a former member of our Project Management Group and Mrs. Marion Winn came from Adelaide and overseas and local friends of Marion Fromm also joined the celebrations. Two of the staff houses were donated by their families and dedicated to the memory of Mrs. Alice McCann (a former long-term member of our PMG), and Mrs. Rosalie Annells, a long-time supporter of our Project, by her husband, Mr. Ross Annells. The function concluded with a catered lunch.

Other activities

From the second half of 2017we did not replace factory staff who resigned for various family reasons. Bunthoeun re-organized the daily factory production schedule in such a way that production increased with a slowly diminishing labor force. When our Packaging Supervisor left to marry and move to America, the packaging line was streamlined to produce maximum efficiency and incentives were put in place to increase output. This has been so successful that the daily packaging tally increased three-fold. Factory staff have been reduced from 40 to 30 with no loss of production.

Eight families lived at the factory in the new housing until two families left at the end of May. This was caused by two wives proving to be unable to live happily together in the workplace and so they resigned. This was painful, because it involved one family returning to the slums in Phnom Penh where their four older siblings are already involved with drugs and illegal activities. We had hoped to educate and train their two boys and bring them up in a healthy and nurturing environment. Their father had been with us from almost the beginning of our company. One amazing outcome has been the improvement in the health of the families and staff who work at the factory. The environment is free from smog, the air clean and healthy, the diet includes home grown fish from the Company fish pond and home grown vegetables and chickens. There has been no time off for

sickness except for an amputee who slipped and fell in the shower and he only sustained bruising. This is in stark contrast to the sickness among staff working in the office and living in Phnom Penh.

Sadly, a motorbike accident took the life of Tha's husband. Tha and Ron were severely burnt in a mortar bomb explosion four years ago and she has extensive damage to her face, arms and especially her hands. Ron was hit by a hit and run driver and because he was not wearing his helmet, he sustained a wound to the head that the local hospital did not investigate and stitched the wound without checking for fracture or haemorrhage and sent him home. When his condition deteriorated, our staff took him to the best public hospital, in Phnom Penh. All our factory staff drove one hour to Phnom Penh at 1am, to donate blood for his operation, if a match was found. Sadly, by the time they arrived, it was too late to save his life. This is the result of the attitude of society to the poor in this nation and no medical treatment will be offered without first proof of the ability to pay the expected costs before any treatment is initiated. All our staff gladly gave from their own pockets to help with the medical expenses and the Company assisted with the other expenses including the funeral.

The Project Management Group

Our Project Management Group has continued with only five members over the past year. They are Chairman, Mr. John Thomson, Accountant, Mrs. Judy Thomson and Mr. Rick Toledo, from Wollongong, Mr. John Wilkins from Adelaide, assisting as unofficial secretary, and Mrs. Marion Fromm in Phnom Penh. Meetings are held monthly via Skype.

Training

This year our focus has centred on Cambodia's difficult Taxation Laws, which are complex and constantly being changed and updated. We have also used the services of a Taxation Accountant to check past annual reports for accuracy and advise us of corrections to keep compliant.



Marketing

In May our Seim Reap couple moved our office to another house where they could have the shop down-stairs and their home upstairs above it. This is a great improvement on the location of the shop to nearer the airport and in the middle of the Korean community, where most of our customers live. Phallet and his wife Thany and their two-year-old daughter Nisa are living in much improved conditions and a spacious area for the shop and additional pace for stock.

Staff Welfare

The government has introduced a sickness and accident compulsory insurance for all staff, which the Company has to pay. This time the

benefit is not restricted to sub-standard clinics, but to any hospital of their choice. However, in the event of a motorbike accident the Company covers items like ambulance, wound dressings and medications not covered by the insurance and help with the cost of motorbike repairs. We had one case of domestic violence and the couple left immediately, avoiding counselling, responsibility and restoration.



Activities

Three times over the course of the year we have taken the staff on holiday to a small island of the coast, near the border of Thailand. The staff are unfamiliar with the sea, so they have enjoyed swimming and learning to fish from a jetty with a rod and reel instead of a net. Great fun was had by all and enough fish was caught to feed all of us for each meal. Many Cambodians have never learnt to swim or even seen the sea, so they love to go on holidays to the beach together. Seven children did really well at the local school at the end of our street. They are also enjoying the optional English classes

Future plans

Now our most urgent need is for more staff houses, office and Child care centre, but no funds have been received for this construction to date. A new drainage system was installed to take waste water from the factory to connect into the next door neighbor's bio-digester. This is a huge blessing and we no longer need to install our own bio-digester at this stage, but when we build our ultimate huge new factory, we will invest in our own.

Finances

Fundraising in Australia has again proved to be very difficult. Bunthoeun's wife Netha travelled with Marion for seven weeks while they visited Shellharbour, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Dunsborough. The government is now taxing all our donations from Australia at 20% and classifying it as income. This is a recent move by the taxation department to rake in funds from all the NGO's as well as foreign companies. This makes appealing for donations that much harder.

A great investment opportunity exists to purchase a mango farm and a pineapple farm, which would bring a neat return and supply the factory with our own mangos and pineapples, thus reducing the cost of our production considerably.

Measurable results



The biggest change in our staff is what has taken place in their self-image. They no longer view them-selves as poor, but rather middle class. Giving towards the needs of others has become the new normal. Self-pity has disappeared and confidence and respect has taken its place. Increased knowledge of sound nutrition and the sharing of fresh homegrown food has contributed to their evident good health. The staff are eager, not only to grow vegetables, but also plant flower gardens to make the environment around the factory and their homes beautiful.

We offer our sincere thanks to Australian Mercy for the

assistance they have given us and also the untiring work of our Project Management Group, who share wisdom and encouragement and assist us with all manner of help. We especially thank Mrs. Judy Thomson for visiting us each year and conducting our annual financial audit and the tireless efforts of Mrs. Marion Winn who processes all our donations and attends to all our banking. Mr. John Wilkins has been a tremendous help in spite of very poor health. You are all greatly appreciated. It has been a joy to work together.

Cambodian Harvest is expecting a very significant expansion in the year ahead.

Marion Fromm CEO



🕑 kokonut pacific

Coconut Technology Centre Project Report 2018

Background



In the original submission we gave a detailed account of the origin of Kokonut Pacific (KP) since 1994 when its focus was on producing and selling the simple manual coconut oil press it had designed and built. KP was formed as a for-profit social enterprise using the philosophy of "trade, not aid" with the aim to empower and bring hope by enabling farmers to operate their own sustainable commercial enterprises producing Virgin Coconut Oil (VCO). In 2004, in the aftermath of 3 years of ethnic strife, KP formed a joint venture in the Solomon Islands. With Kokonut Pacific Solomon Islands (KPSI), we created an integrated value chain where KP provides appropriate technology for VCO extraction and purchases the oil for sale to consumers in Australia and overseas. With continuous improvements in the Direct Micro Expelling (DME) process, today, many units, employing 4 to 6 people, process up to 1,000 nuts/day and producing 60 litres/day from just one manual press.

The Community Development Project

To assist the producers, KPSI and KP set up the Coconut Technology Centre (CTC) in 2014 to facilitate Research and Training within a not-for-profit context. The CTC runs a Rural Advisory Service (RAS) which equips locals with the knowledge, skills and tools needed to set up and sustain their own independent small businesses and thriving micro-economies. These programs include extension services and trouble-shooting so that the high quality of VCO is maintained. The current 'Village for Life' program promotes organic farming techniques; the use of the VCO to run diesel generators; soap making; and using residual meal as stock feed.

The CTC has come a long way in the last four years. A key strategy for helping DME communities is to leverage the CTC to access further funding for projects. The major project for 2017 was the '*Farm to Market -Training for Rural Youth Economic Empowerment and the DME Model*' funded by UNDP.

The project wrapped up on schedule at the end of December 2017 (the Final Report was submitted to Australian Mercy). UNDP have moved on to other priorities. Unfortunately for the CTC, the Manager (Francis Kapini) resigned to pursue his theological studies after just one year in the job. His leadership with the CTC's involvement with UNDP project is reflected in the Report. The Trustees appointed Wilson Kikolo as the new Manager.

A special development in 2018 was a DME Supervisor's training program for 12 Supervisors and their Assistants. This was judged to be a success but was suspended until further funds become available. The program demonstrated normal practice at village level followed by Leadership roles and Best Practice and introduced a new daily production sheet. It included the proper selection of nuts and good hygiene practices; Basic Business Management; Basic awareness on Organic, Fair Trade & Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) Certification; value adding by making coconut shell charcoal; and Basic VCO Oil Testing methods.

CTC covered the cost of accommodation & food while Supervisors met their own transport cost.

DME VCO is an ideal product to produce at a farm level. VCO has a long shelf life. However, isolated villages in the Solomons produce far more oil than their small populations can use and urban markets are also small so it is important to find export markets for this VCO. These markets require an assurance of quality. Annual inspection of farms and VCO producers by an internationally accepted Organic Certifier has become a necessary and expensive condition. The CTC assists with maintaining the Internal Control System (ICS).

The logistic challenges of getting the oil from an isolated village to the export port for consolidation with oil from numerous other producers; followed by the tasks of testing the oil for quality, filtering and bulking-up into 1,000L IBCs is complex and is done at KPSI's central facility adjacent to the CTC.



Over the last year, all VCO producers have continued to be paid Solomon Dollars (SBD) 24/kg for all Organically Certified. Effectively, the CTC provides a 'fair trade premium' (FTP) of SBD1.00/kg VCO through the *Foundation*. The FTP is calculated as a 10% premium on the cost of nuts bought from farmers. If it takes 20 coconuts (bought from local farmers for 50c) to make 1kg of VCO, then the FTP (calculated as 10% of nut price) is SBD0.05/nut or SBD1,000 per tonne (= USD125/t). This means USD12,500 for 100 tonnes of VCO. In the 2017-18 Financial Year NLF provided core funding to the CTC of AUD116,776 (=USD 87,582). This is much more than a fair-trade premium requires.

Mixed Results

Although VCO exports increased from 75 tonnes in 2013, to 133 t in 2014, 173 t in 2015, slipping back to 133 t in 2016. In 2017 exports fell far short of the aspirational target of 190t, dropping to only 120t. This was primarily due to a significant increase in the copra price. In 2018 the copra price has dropped back and production rose to nearly 100t in the first seven months, suggesting that

exports could get back to the record achieved in 2015.

A Biosecurity Crisis

As 'chair' of the Project Management Group I spent two weeks in Honiara with the CTC in July 2017. I was shocked by the number of palms severely impacted by Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB) attack. I learnt that a major biosecurity crisis in the Solomon Islands has been caused by the invasive attack of the Guam sub-species of the beetle (CRB-G). Over the last 4 years attacks have spread all around Honiara and to the Guadalcanal Oil Palm plantations. While maintaining its core activities, this crisis has caused the CTC to shift its emphasis for 2018-19 towards seeking to gain some salvage value from the large number of dead coconut palms being cut down by Biosecurity Solomon Islands (BSI).

This is described in a separate document for which we seek approval.

The Coconut Technology Centre Project 2017	AUD
Income received from AM	51,278
Income received from Niulife Foundation	50,890
Coconut Product sales (VCO, cream, meal etc)	18,030
UNDP – Farm to Market	130,747
Fees from KPSI	18,333
TOTAL REVENUE	269,153

Table 1. Income over the CTC Calendar Year 2017

Notes: In the Solomon Islands the Calendar Year is the Financial Year

An exchange rate of SBD6.00 = AUD1.00 is used in these tables.

The difference between the total of the top two items in the table and the Report is due to the different time periods of the FYs

Table 2. Project Expenses over the CTC Calendar Year. 2017

The Coconut Technology Centre Project 2017	AUD
Costs of Sales	11,542
Administration	44,563
Direct Project costs	117,508
UNDP – Farm to Market	102,829
Other costs (Profits)	-7,289
TOTAL COSTS	269,153

Note: In the Solomon Islands the Calendar Year is the Financial Year





AUSTRALIAN MERCY CHONGQING, CHINA

10th Anniversary Celebration

In March we were able to celebrate 10 years of ARMS in China with a small event at a local hotel. It was a time of looking back and remembering all those locally who have helped us along the way. We invited present & past volunteers; those that have helped with different things from translation to printing t-shirts to cooking meals for our children. We also were honored to have as guests directors from the welfare home, relevant government departments as well as a Consul from the Australian Consulate. It was lovely to have past children (now young adults) from the



welfare home take part in the event by performing and sharing their stories. Overall it was a day of celebration and a toast to the many years of investing into children & families in China.

Dawn Foster Home

During this year we have continued to care for Kaili, an 8 year old girl from the social welfare home that we work with who has Cerebral Palsy. We have been doing twice daily physiotherapy for her under the supervision of a local physiotherapist with added advise from a physio from the USA. Kaili is so bright and quickly picked up English (as well as already understanding Mandarin Chinese and the local dialect) and although she is unable to articulate speech she is very adept at making her needs and desires known!



She has been with us for a year and a half now and on is soon to be an orphan no longer! Stephanie our ARMS Chongqing director has had it on her heart for around 2 years to adopt this little one, and after a long battle with paperwork Kaili will officially be Stephanie's daughter on the 18th July 2018! Stephanie and Kaili will go to the USA for one year to finalize immigration papers and for Kaili to potentially have hip surgery and will return to China mid-2019.

Training

Over this year we continued to run a volunteer program at our local Social Welfare Institute and provide opportunities for local people to be aware of and serve the underprivileged in their own community

Caleb & the Law Change

It has been a challenge over the last few months with the implications of the new Chinese foster laws being put into effect. One of the changes in these laws is that children from one social welfare institute (if fostered) *have* to be fostered within the same prial welfare institute that they came from

geographical region as the social welfare institute that they came from.



For the past seven years one of the children we cared for a number of months in the first year of the Dawn Foster Home, Caleb, has been cared for by a loving couple who run a large, long term foster home in another province. Caleb has grown a lot and thrived in this environment. Doctors originally said he would not physically grow beyond the size of a 2 year old because of damage to his pituitary gland, but now at 14 years old he is the size of a 12 year old! He understands both Chinese and English and is able to read and write.

In mid-June 2018 He was quite suddenly removed from this foster home that he has been at for the last 7 years and brought back to the social welfare institute that he came from (near to us). He has Autism and this sudden change has been extremely unsettling for him and meant that he has reverted to a lot of behaviors that endanger himself and other children where he is living. We found out about this after he had already been brought back and have been advocating with government departments in both provinces and with the social welfare institute themselves to gain an exemption from this law to no avail. It has been a challenge to see Caleb back at the social welfare home when we had found a great foster family/home that was working for him -

just because of bureaucracy. We will continue to push on the doors we know to push to see him back in the same loving family environment.

ARMS Chongqing Income and Expenditure

In 2017/18 ARMS Chongqing had an income of \$10,705.64AUD. The bulk of these funds were used for direct project costs, which covered things such as:

- Office Rent/Electricity/Management fees
- Company Registration & Auditing
- · Foster Care; food, housing, medical
- Therapy & office equipment
- Transportation

The biggest single cost we had was for the 10th Anniversary Celebration which cost \$1,128.44AUD. We were heavily subsidized for printed materials and the room hire by generous donations that allowed us to run this event. In Chinese culture it is important to have this kind of event to allow for strong continued relationships with government departments and to keep the name of ARMS Chongqing alive and in right standing in the community. We felt that this celebration was important to hold as we look forward to reaching out to do new things in the community in the near future.

In the coming year we expect that as we look towards starting the Wellspring Disabilities Resource Centre we will need to raise more funds in order to accomplish this. We will be fundraising for resource centre set-up costs and on-going funding in the coming year with the view to open the centre in October 2019.

Financial Statement in Australian dollars

Income	
Donations	10,705.64
Total Donations	\$ 10,705.64
Expenses	
Admin costs	2473.78
10th celebration costs	1128.44
Foster care expenses	1707.1
Retained funds	5396.32
Total	\$ 10,705.64

Editor's note: Audited statements from the project show that \$3733.75 of donations received were specifically given to help meet project Admin costs.



The Freedom Project India

<u>India</u>

Impact Story

Dilip, aged 13, is from an underprivileged community in Bangalore. He dropped out of school about 2 and a half years ago, unable to cope with his studies and the financial pressure on his family. With an alcoholic father and a hardworking mother trying to keep the family afloat, the extra burden of trying to pay for school fees was too great. Dilip decided education was not for him and he dropped out. Instead, he got caught up in his local community with other dropouts – many addicted to smoking, drinking and exploiting vulnerable children to support their habits. Not unsurprisingly, two years in this environment was enough to also allow Dilip, at 15 years old, to slip into alcohol and smoking addition. To support his habit, he also began to resort to petty theft. It was a messy downward spiral.

Recently one of our soccer coaches was on a routine house visit near where Dilip lived. Running into him nearby, the coach introduced Dilip to our soccer program and he started coming along. Through ongoing soccer training, as well as life skills classes and personal mentoring, Dilip began to recover from his addictions. Not



long after, Dilip also re-enrolled in a local school, as schooling is a compulsory aspect of being in our sports program.

Today, Dilip is in grade 8 a school and doing much better in his studies. When we met his mother on a home visit recently, she exclaimed with tears, "l had decided to commit suicide because of the situation with my husband and son. Today Dilip is a changed boy and regular at school. I am a happy mother!†This is a wonderful success story which is just one example of the kind of transformation we see through our Sports and Mentoring program in India.

Challenge Overcome

In March we received a request to help find 2 missing girls. They and their family were beggars. After a police report and some searching, the girls were discovered and brought back home. The situation is complex and we are working with the families to keep their children in school rather than begging on the streets. One of the girls who went missing is currently enrolled in school and doing well. It is difficult but extremely important that we work with the local communities to encourage them to do the right thing and support the education of their children.

Philippines

Impact Story



Working to confront the pattern of sending children to learn weaponry rather than learn literacy, we provide schooling where there is none, and peace-building where there is conflict. One of the beneficiaries of our education program is Rafy. Although he is already 17 years old, he is only in grade 7. But, like his younger peers, he shares the dream of graduating school and doing more with his life than just get caught up continued generational conflict. Growing up in a poverty-stricken, illiterate and fatherless household, Rafy's mother could not afford to attend him to school. Instead, he stayed at home to help her sell firewood and other household chores.

Now that he is part of our education program, he walks 2 kilometres each way to school. Then outside of class time and on weekends, he continues to sell firewood. His determination to stay in school and achieve his dream of graduation is inspiring to other students. It is this passion and enthusiasm that keeps our kids coming to school, confident that by working hard they can positively shape and impact their future for peace and prosperity.

Challenge Overcome

The communities we work in are still facing the aftermath of the Marawi siege from December 2017. Due to its location as a series of interconnected islands, Mindanao is affected by skirmishes throughout the whole region, with impact upon workers and communities even months following uprising and heightened conflict. Our field workers are on watch and are continually sending aid and resources to the local communities whenever possible, including psychosocial support for children and youth. Recognising that rehabilitation and restoration is a long-term process, we seek to help the community through distress by building upon the strong relationships based on mutual care & support.

Myanmar

Impact Story



Due to conflict and vulnerability in the region we work in, we are committed to early intervention to protect children from military service $\hat{a} \in$ either voluntary or conscripted. One of our beneficiaries, Ai Lix, joined our safe house and education program in 2014 at just eight years old.

Four years ago, his parents came to our project and asked if we would care for their son – take him into our safe house and educate him. They were too poor to send him to school and they were desperate. The problem was that Ai Lix was already listed on the government register for compulsory military service. The only way to protect him from his fate was to stay enrolled in school and to be on the path to graduate.

Ai Lix did not want to be a soldier. Growing up in a notoriously violent region, he learnt from a young age the negative effects fighting would have on him physically and mentally, as well as the limitations it would place on his future. So Ai Lix has been working hard for 4 years to do well in his studies. He is now in grade 4,

learning to play the guitar and on a very different path than what faced him a few years ago. That is why we do what we do.

Challenge overcome

In this reporting period, we were able to take a larger number of children into our programs. There are so many children in need, especially with the increased pressure of escalation in conflict. However, our capacity is still limited not only due to funding, but also due to the volatility and emergency-based nature conflict, which could put staff and children at risk. In most cases, we are the only local organisation working with these communities and a lot of people turn to us in times of crisis. To address these need, we continue our focus on additional sources of income, and training of staff to adequately respond to difficult situations.

Financial summary

TFP is receiving all of its funds from Australia at the moment, so there has been an increase in these donations. The overall project budget remains consistent in alignment with the 3-year forecasted budget.

Amounts in the table below are in Australian Dollars

Income	
Donations July - Sept 17	102,278
Donations Jan - June 18	118,945
Other income	0
TOTAL	221,223
Expenditure	
Project Expenses Jul - Dec 17	106,947.00
Project Expenses Jan - Jun	
18	113,074.00
Unspent funds	1,202.00
TOTAL	221,223.00





Help Save The Kids Annual Report



Purpose:

Help Save The Kids is a youth based centre for development, having a strong focus on education. Located just inside Thailand on the Thai/Myanmar border, HSTK services youth from surrounding villages and into remote areas of Myanmar. Providing a safe, community based structure, for all live in students; HSTK has been strategically positioned in a region that services both the interests of Thailand and Myanmar. Therefore it is essential and the core value of the education program to assist each student in the best communication methods possible. Well rounded numeracy and literacy skills are integral for community integration as well as general life situations, holding a strong emphasis on critical/creative thinking and problem solving throughout the education programs and emphasizing the 4 major languages of the boarder line Thai, Burmese, Karen and English.

New School Year:

This year we decided to enroll our students into a migrant education program in Mae Sot, this was both exciting and challenging. We wanted our 12 school students grouped together in one school in order that they would stay connected with each other and for the convenience of one school destination for drop offs and pickup's. Registering for school was a task that proved more difficult than we had initially thought. From one school to the other we lined up with the 100's of others waiting to register. Thailand's schools for migrant children do all student registrations within



one to two days. Students typically wait for hours to be told whether they are accepted or not.

At one school we were told, "We can only take grade 8 students but not grade 9." At another, "We can only take another 3, grade 8 students." Another said, "Classes are full." We would quickly pack up once again in the truck and head off to the next school. We had begun lining up at 7am at our 1st school of choice and it was already 2pm when we had visited 3 schools only to be told no. We rushed to the last school possible - with prayers being declared all the way there. By 4pm we were finally enrolling all 12 of our kids in at BHSOH Migrant School Mae Pa.

The next day it was school uniform fittings, shoes, backpacks, pens, pencils, and notebooks. All our staff reminisced on the

feeling of great pride you have on day 1 of school. New crisp white shirts, trouser-shorts, skirts and shoes...waking up extra early to make sure your hair was just right. Sitting and waiting fully dressed and this was all before sunrise. We are so blessed to have found such a great school. Its early days but our kids have already made such a positive impression within the school. We are excited to see how our students progress during the school year and are eagerly waiting to see them bring home top student awards and sport trophies!

Volunteers:

Jerome and Lauren Gauthey

Jerome is a return volunteer and a staff member for Australian Mercy. Jerome served at Help Save The Kids several years ago, since then he returned home to Switzerland and while visiting friends in America met his beautiful wife Lauren. Jerome and Lauren arrived in October 2017 and began working once again with Help Save The Kids. Jerome and Lauren have a passion for health and fitness, as well as youth mentorship and education.

Judah and Kelly Tana

Judah is one of the original founders of Help Save The Kids, he and Kelly have served in Thailand from 2006 - 2014, they both have been busy working and fundraising in Australia from 2014 – 2018 to support our amazing work here in Thailand. Judah and Kelly returned to Thailand in April 2018 in a full time volunteer capacity. They both share a passion for the leaders of tomorrow, believing in them to be the change for the future. Education entrepreneurship and

encouragement are core values behind their drive at Help Save The Kids, its great having Judah and Kelly back with us

Min Min Soe and Saw San Nyunt Win

Min Min Soe and Nyunt Win are both graduates from Help Save The Kids education centre, from September 2017 they have been volunteering full time. They both graduated from the building design and construction-training program and have since come to share their expertise with us. These boys have been an invaluable addition to the team and are solely responsible for building the new kitchen in June 2018.

Financial statement in Australian dollars

Incon	ne & Expenses	
Opening Bal.	\$ 342.49	
All donations	\$32,778.65	
All expenses	\$33,096.56	
Closing bal	\$ 24.57	



Home of the Open Heart



The vision behind Home of the Open Heart is to model and provide a familystyle environment for children who have been affected by HIV/AIDS. Our goal is to be a family for children who find themselves without parents or relatives to care for them. We confront this massive need by prioritizing guality of our care for children over guantity.

2017-2018

Our Directors Paul and Penny were on sabbatical from April 2017 to March 2018 and our 6 Thai staff and 3 international staff cared for our project.

Currently there are15 children, 2 HIV+ women in our community. We are still doing hospital visits to HIV sufferers as well running our 6 bed hospice.

Over the time we were away, our staff matured so much! Many gained more skills and all were challenged as they took greater responsibility for the running of the program.

The 15 children in our care continued in their different education institutions, Thai school, Home school, international schools. We continue to support 6 HIV+ women who we have re-integrated to their communities after living on site with us with their infants and also nurture and support 5 children who came to us as infants and now are able to either live independently or who have returned to live with their HIV+ mothers, now that their mothers are healthier and able to care for them.

Several of our Thai boys achieved very well in Boy Scouts and one boy reached the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank possible. He is the first Thai citizen in Chiang Rai province to reach this highest Eagle Scout rank.

Whilst on Sabbatical, Paul and Penny travelled to visit sponsors and family, to raise support and awareness, as well as to rest, recuperate and receive further training. We managed to successfully complete a 7 week program in Leadership Development. We were all so grateful to be reunited with our team and adopted country again.

Financial Statement in Australian Dollars		
Income		
Cash at hand	92,508.02	
Aust. Donations	78,963.31	
Local Donations	1,144.29	
Total	\$ 172,615.62	
Expenses		
Direct Proj. costs	135,078	
Proj. Admin	15,423.56	
Other Costs	12,903.54	
Unspent funds	9,210.52	
Total	\$ 172,615.62	

A story of Interest.

With our children all growing in years, many of our teenagers are seriously considering what they will do with their future. One of our Thai girls who is in Year 11 at high school, has recently shared how serious she is about helping people less fortunate who have come from a similar background as her. She would like to return to Pattaya to work with a project in Pattaya, who rescue and empower sex workers and victims of human trafficking, where she came from as a baby to us, 16 years ago. She wants to share God's hope with women and children trapped in a web of poverty as sex workers, giving them opportunities of lifestyle alternatives.

A challenge you faced...

Our staff, our single mothers/women and our children all faced a significant challenge during our absence, as we were not present. On our return, we released they all faced issues of abandonment that they needed to overcome... even though we did our best to set support structure in place for them during our absence, they

were faced with different decisions they needed to make for themselves. For our children, having already been abandoned as infants, this came out ahead again for them and they were forced to deal in their hearts with issues they probably had buried. It was difficult, yet also wonderful to be able to work this through. It was a hard yet very good growth time for each individual in different ways. They had to face questions and responses for themselves without our presence, advice or hands-on support for such things as how do they make decisions well, how do they deal with conflicts.

It was challenging but there was much personal growth.



Penny Wilcox - Director

ICare4U

Editors Note: ICare4U is a project designed to improve health outcomes for women and children living with HIV in Papua New Guinea in a sustainable way. When operational the project will offer residential care to its already existing outreach programs.

This project is in its infancy and is run by an indigenous PNG couple.

The year in Brief

July to September We were preparing for a fundraising trip to Australia and USA. We also spent these months trying to push forward and patiently wait for our son's adoption to go through so that he could travel with us.

October We travelled to Brisbane and shared at local churches about iCare4U and showed our building project promo video clip.

November – We travelled to USA for 5 weeks trip sharing and promoting the work of iCare4U. Spoke at about 8 different locations.

December - Returned to Brisbane for a few weeks break over Christmas.

January - Travelled back to Port Moresby, PNG.

January, February, March - We had a project manager come from Guatemala to help us start work on iCare4U property. We spent two months in negotiations with a construction company called Red Sea Housing, discussing the large donated buildings from Exxon Mobile. After many meetings where discussed various sketches of buildings and designs, we came to the conclusion that it would just cost too much money to have these buildings moved and refitted to suit our needs. Our project manager was not happy about this decision and left us in March.

We were going to have to start building from scratch in order of need. 1. Manager's housing, 2. Office Space and a small accommodation for volunteer/staff. During fundraising efforts we managed to raise K85,000. around \$42,000 AUD. We added another rough figure of K90,000 \$45,000 from partnership with Wycliffe Associates bringing our budget to around K175,000 to work with for starting the build. We also had other finances in the account already.



March - Started digging the trench for foundations/slab of manager's home. It then rained for one month and the trench filled with water.

April - We prepared for pouring of slab. There were some repairs we had to make on the foundations first due to rain. We also put together some plans and ideas for building the office and accommodation. The plan was to move into the manager's house and be on site by July. This has not happened.

April, May, June - The recommendation was to use form walls for the cement house. This technique however turned out to be a long and painful process. Something we thought would take 3-4 weeks to put up ended up taking over two months. There were many unforeseen issues.

A fence was put up around iCare4U property thanks to the group of volunteers men from City Mission.

In May we had a man from New Zealand come and assist us. She was able to help us with project management. for

two months. She worked tirelessly to see all four walls go up and to also put in a septic tank. May and June saw many volunteers come to help.

We had a couple from Germany and a young guy from the States come over to help as well as John McClellend (Past ARMS volunteer). With these guys and our local boys we were able to get the form walls up. We have had YWAM teams working on property as well as within the community at Gereka. A team assisted us on our hospital visits to the

woman's PPTC program for HIV pregnant ladies at the local hospital. This program we give out care packs and offer our support.

We also visited the Children's HIV/TB ward to share and pray with the families. Donations of formula were given to the NICU at this particular hospital as well.





Encouraging Story:

Our project manager had left us at the very beginning of our building project and we were feeling very lost and stranded with a build we had no idea how to manage. Out of the blue a lady from New Zealand contacted us. She only knew our ministry name, iCare4U, and our contact number. She was a building engineer, specialising in water and sanitation. She said I am here to help you for two months. We were so thankful and relieved that she was able to take over management of the build for that period and that she had been so willing to help us in any way.

Jene, George, John, Mark, Jonathan & Louisa.



Karen Projects



The situation in Mae-la camp continues to worsen. The military control of the camp continues to oppress the refugee population which number over 60,000.

NGOs that have been working in Mae-la are all relocating to Myanmar and so a lot of services are declining.

Mae-la Rice program



We continue to provide rice supplemments preschools in the camp to try and prevent malnutrition in vulnerable people in the camp. Each month the rice is carried to a distribution point is weighed and divided up. Taff from each preschool pick up their monthly share of the rice and it is distributed from there.

In 2017/18 we upped the amount of rice we give every month and included tins of fish to improve protein in the diet. In 2017/18 we distibuted approx. 19,600 Kgs of rice into Mae-Ia camp and 2,400 tins of fish.

There is need to expand this program due to the reduction in rice being allowed into the camp but this cannot be done until more funds are available.

Z V N V tr sc nr T 7

Zone A No 9 Preschool

We continue to fund the Zone No 9 Preschool, but the withdrawl other NGOs has had an effect on the remaining 21 preschools in the camp. We have been asked by the refugees if we can cover altleast some of the costs of covering these preschools and we have attempted to do so but again lack of funds stops us from fully engaging with this great need.

The Zone A No 9 preschool in Mae-la continues to educate more than 70 children and has seven staff. This preschool continues to be the best preschool in the camp as it consistantly wins the camp preschool competitions.



The Middle School

Continues to struggle. It does not have enough funding to pay its teachers or to buy requisites for the school. Scholastically it is the poorest school in the camp. Again this is a situation where more funds are needed and staff training is also high priority.

We have tried seeral interventions ofver the years but to no avail. We feel that an onsite person needs to be there to mentor the teachers and the encourage the children.

The Zone A Boarding house

Provides accomodation for 29 persons. There are 9 girls and 14 boys who are unaccompanied and living in the camp.

Their parents live in the IDP zones and have sent their children to the camp where it is safer for them and where they can at least have access to some kind of education.

Children and teenagers who live here are living in a family environment and cared for by Lah B'tam Htoo and his wife.

They live in separate houses and all attend school in the camp and also receive rice through our rice program.

This is another project that is under supported and urgently needs more funds.

Preschool Christmas celebrations



Each Christmas Australian Mercy hold preschool Christmas celebrations in the camps 22 preschools. These celebrations are run by the preschools and each child receives a small present and a nutritious Christmas meal. It is a time of singing traditional songs, dancing and doing plays and skits and just having fun.

This event for many is the high point of their year as it is the biggest event that happens in the camp.

The Christmas celebrations build morale and make sure that 2,000 children have a time where they feel special, have fun and eat a nutritious meal.

Seeing the pictures of the Christmas mayhem in each preschool that come back to us is a real joy.

David Skeat National Director





<u> Kid's Ark – Timore Leste</u>



LEBUTUN

helping raise a new generation In July of last year, the building of a medical clinic in Lebutun was started. By July of this year the clinic was in full use and the official opening was held with the Minister of Health in attendance. The people of Lebutun (a village high in the mountains) previously needed to walk for 6 hours to get to the nearest medical assistance. They now have their very own clinic.



2 months ago, a baby was born in the clinic at Lebutun. After the birth the mother suffered from a retained placenta, meaning the placenta could not be delivered after the birth. Because of the facilities of the new clinic and the presence of an experienced midwife the mother was able to be given the required injection to allow the placenta to be delivered. Without this intervention, this new Mum would very likely have died.

Gardens are flourishing in the homes of each family in Lebutun, thanks to teaching about planting and growing nutritious food to eat. In Timor there is a tree called Akar, the wood of this tree is dried and ground into a powder, mixed with water and cooked into a flat bread. This food contains no nutritional value at all but tricks the tummy into feeling full for a short amount of time. These new

gardens are allowing the people of Lebutun to not only eat nutritious food that allows their children to grow and thrive, but also teaches future generations about the importance of eating food that nourishes our bodies. Each family is growing a variety of vegetables including mustard, eggplant and a local vegetable similar to bok choy.

Also in the village of Lebutun, toilets have started to be built. Along with this, teaching around health, sanitation and hygiene is being provided. Adding to the transforming journey of this community.

LIMAN HAMUTUK



Liman Hamutuk's weekly program for the disabled is running well with the regular staff running games and education for the disabled community and their families. Deb & Kim from MAF in Timor Leste are still coming to the centre every fortnight to help run programs with the staff.

The dedicated staff of Liman Hamutuk disability centre also run "Family Forum" days 4 times a month. On family forum day they head out into the communities of Hera (a different area each week) and share a meal together, have a guest speaker, play games, sing songs and learn about health and hygiene. The disabled community and their families are all invited along with the general members of the community. The idea is to educate and open the minds of the community to disability and love and acceptance.

A young man from Liman Hamutuk and his family found themselves in a difficult situation this year when they were evicted from their home. They had no place to go and were seeking shelter under a tree with wet season fast approaching. Thanks to the advocacy of the staff of Liman Hamutuk they were able to negotiate with the area chief and were given a piece of land to build a house for this family. Praise God funds were donated with the specific purpose of building a house for this family to live in.

A young disabled girl from the community attended Liman Hamutuk regularly. All of a sudden she didn't come anymore. The staff visited her home and found her in appalling conditions, being abused and kept in the sty with the pigs. 12 months had passed before she came back to the Wednesday program at Liman Hamutuk after the staff interceded on her behalf and involved the local police. For the first few weeks after her return she was withdrawn and would sit outside and not play games or participate in any way. Over time, with the love and encouragement from the friends and staff at Liman Hamutuk, she has returned to her happy smiling self. The centre is a place where she can feel safe and accepted and loved. Her time at Liman Hamutuk has given her back the confidence and joy she had lost.



Many of our communities we work with now have access to clean and safe drinking water, thanks to a water filter project. This relatively simple set up takes the harmful bacteria out of the local water and quickly and simply filters through clean water to drink. This saves families money on buying water, money on buying wood to boil water to make it safer, and also time and energy used picking up and delivering large bottles of safe drinking water. The clean water also prevents nasty bouts of water-bourne disease that can seriously harm a child's growth and development.

SCHOOL

This year the teachers at the school received special training from the Singaporean team. The teachers were able to add to their education and use this training to improve their teaching skills.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication that has been put into the training of the teachers the results are beginning to bear fruit. Youngsters that are just starting pre-school, after just 6 months are already learning to read. Recently a friend from the preschool came to play with Ana Paula, and we were so happy to see her pick up a book and start to read.

SIDARA



The medical clinic in Sidara received some tender loving care with the Armies of Japan, Timor, America and Australia all banding together to provide a new roof for the clinic, a lovely new verandah for the patients to sit while they wait and new toilets.

CHALLENGES

The major challenge continues to be leadership training. For the clinic and for the school, making sure that we have the right people with hearts that are passionate about the people they work with and passionate about the work they do, and training them to lead others and to take leadership of the ministries/projects.

Our major challenge is also for finance for the salaries of our bus and the ministry is always growing. With this growth comes a

staff. We have many good people who work here with us and the ministry is always growing. With this growth comes a greater challenge to provide the salaries required to keep the ministry going.





Ossa Huna Community Cooperatives and Tourism Project



The year 2017-18 has been the final year of this phase of the project. It has been a year of consolidation in the agricultural side and seen the near completion of the training centre on the tourism development side.

The five existing farmers groups have continued to be supported and each group is thriving. They are growing a wide variety of vegetables that has significantly improved the overall nutrition of the families participating. In addition to providing food for consumption, the farmers groups have grown produce for sale and this has contributed a significant amount of cash income to the families involved. Given that each group has on average 10 families involved, this nutrition and income has had a considerable positive effect on the whole community. In fact, some families not involved have seen the impact and started to copy techniques and grow vegetables themselves, independently of the farmers groups. This is a great endorsement of the project.

The greatest challenge to the project is access to non-local markets. The road out of the Ossa Huna area is poor and farmers are not able to increase production further because the local market is now satisfied and the logistics of getting food to larger towns are not yet in place. During a recent project visit we workshopped this issue with the community and a number of actions are underway to try to solve this problem. The community has also identified further training they need in organic fertilizing and pest control. Again, during our recent visit we identified some government and other NGO resources that may be available to provide this training.

The training centre for tourism and hospitality is over 95% complete and is actually being used by the secondary school at the moment because the school was damaged earlier in the year by a cyclone. The whole community came together to assist with labour on the building and it is now a facility that the community own and are proud of. Some community training has already been held in the building and more are planned. Its use as a temporary school has been invaluable as political issues have meant government funding to fix the actual school buildings has been significantly delayed.

	income	
Funds from AM	\$	49,253.00
Other Income	\$	0
Total Income	\$	49,253.00
	Expenses	
Direct Project Costs	\$	46,180.00
Admin	\$	2,307.00
Unspent Funds	\$	766.00
Total	\$	49,253.00

Incomo

Financial Statement in Australian dollars

Editor's Note: These figures were originally given to us in USD and have been converted to AUD at a rate of 1.37165 AUD per USD

The Ossa Huna community first started their journey of development just after independence in 2002. They first established a middle school and then more recently have been improving their agriculture and see agriculture and tourism as their future. Each of these are inter-related. Income from the vegetable growing has enabled families to send children to school (especially girls, who otherwise might not have had opportunity for education). The future development of a tourism enterprise gives motivation for education, especially in the English language. It also gives former community members now in Dili a pathway of involvement and support for their village.

During our recent visit, village members spoke of the hope they now have for the future and how they are motivated to work hard themselves for a better future. The support offered through this Australian Mercy project has been a key source of this hope and motivation.



Redefined Annual Report



Redefined Ministries International -Thank you from the Board

Redefined Ministries International DRC (Redefined) is a registered organization in





Ituri Province, Mahagi Territory of Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which is focused on empowering local communities and individuals in rural and undeveloped areas of Mahagi.

This year has seen some exciting achievements and some long-term goals accomplished. None of these could have been possible without the backing and hard work of individuals throughout the international community. It would also have been impossible without your financial and practical support. On behalf of the Redefined team, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our supporters who are helping us achieve this purpose.

Special thanks go out to Australian Mercy for their support and efforts on our behalf. In addition, we would like to acknowledge our partners in this work: Eyes on Africa of UK, Days for Girls Australia and Birthing Kit Foundation of Australia.

Thank you all! We hope that you will continue to partner with us as we continue this important work. With sincere thanks, from the Congo Project Board.



Our Vision

Our vision is to see the people of the Congo shed their image of a war-torn country, and be redefined, gaining a self-image built through a united community. We work with the community to create infrastructure throughout Mahagi Territory for the empowerment of all members of the community without discrimination to race, gender or tribe.

We envision a community where all children have access to school; women are valued and hold equal rights in their community; and men have respect for themselves and their neighbours. We envision access to jobs and career progression, re-population of livestock in the area, and ready access to food, medical services and good housing.

See our website for more information: redefinedministriesinternational.com

One of the most significant advances towards our vision this year was the establishment of the Redefined Fashions Tailoring Centre in Paidha – Uganda (a busy town located on the DRC / Uganda border).

Project Achievements and Highlights

Redefined Vehicle Fleet

Over the last 12 months the Ministry's fleet has increased to four motorbikes and one van. This is a great achievement given the huge expense of purchasing vehicles relative to the Ministry's annual income/budget however we deemed it necessary in order to keep expanding and meet the needs of the local community. Read more: <u>Vehicle Purchase</u> Read more: <u>Update on Fleet</u>

Construction

Construction continued over the last 12 months and was greatly assisted by donations which enabled the Ministry to purchase equipment and supplies. Read more: Other Recent Purchases

Tailoring/Sewing & Days 4 Girls Project

A new partnership with Yimba Uganda has breathed new life into this project. This is without doubt one of the major highlights from the last 12 months and the Ministry is extremely appreciative of Yimba Uganda assistance as we take a major step forwards towards sustainability in this project. Read more: <u>New Partnership Established</u> Read more: <u>Tailoring Training</u>

Agriculture

Growing cassava as part of our sustainable agriculture project. Read more: <u>Sustainable Agriculture Update</u>

<u>Addition to the Team</u> Media and Publication Assistant hired. Read more: <u>A welcome addition to the team</u>





Financial Update

Redefined is currently working hard with limited funds and we thank all those who have practically assisted this important work through donations. We could not do what we do without you.

This past year we were able to raise \$19,978.08 USD (\$26,841.61 AUD) for our work in DRC, this is down from the \$37,469.50 USD (approximately \$50,437.88 AUD) we managed to rise last year however we are extremely grateful to those who have donated. In addition to this money, we have continued to be overwhelmed by the generosity of the local community with volunteer work. We are extremely grateful for the material donations that cannot be valued however have significantly aided several projects.

All of our staff are currently unpaid volunteers. Our core team is supported by the ministry with housing and food. Australian Mercy continues to be a valued partner giving supporters the option to donate via a tax deductible method.

Thanks

The staff of Redefined Ministries International thanks all its supporters. Our greatest thanks go to the community within Mahagi Territory who are working alongside us in our efforts. If you would like to support our work financially, donations can be made via Australian Mercy: <u>Make a Donation today</u>

Financial Statement in Australian dollars

Income	
Income from AM	42,363.36
Local Donations	562.34
Other income	351.46
Total	\$ 43,277.16
Expenditure	
Direct Project Costs	25,516.30
Project Administration	11,024.73
Other costs	5,623.43
Unspent funds	1,112.71
Total	\$ 43,277.16

Editor's note: These figures were originally stated in USD and have been converted to Australian Dollars at a rate of 0.71131 USD per AUD





"Vanitashray is called to make a difference in the lives of Children, orphans, destitute women and widows. Rescuing minors from flesh trade industry. Partnering networking, nationally and globally with likeminded people and stakeholders who desire to bring change.



The importance of family strengthening to prevent separation and to help ensure successful reunification or transition into reliable alternative family care when separation has occurred.

The critical role of gate keeping in order to assess the best care options on an individual basis and to reduce unnecessary placement in orphanages. The multiple pathways that, with appropriate support, can bring a child back into family care.

Family Preservation/ Strengthening - Our key purpose

While every child needs love, safety, and nurturing care, the context for providing this care can vary greatly depending on many different factors. There are many reasons why children are separated from parental care, and many factors that determine where children go once separated and whether separation is temporary or permanent.

Preventing unnecessary separation, strengthening family care, and reducing placement in orphanages requires the existence of a "continuum" of approaches and support services. Family-based alternatives range from reunification with the child's birth family, to kinship care by a relative or member of the extended family, to foster care and adoption. Sometimes alternative family care arrangements are informal, such as when children are taking in by extended family members at the request of a parent. Gatekeeping can occur within the

community, by local social workers, and/or through government and judicial processes. Ideally gatekeeping results in placement with safe, stable, and loving family care. In the community care several layers of gatekeeping are needed given the permanency and stability. Community centres are best examples to care for such children. It allows the community services to extend help and support (Holistic approach) to help sustain and preserve families.



At Vanitashray community centres a child is monitored through the day care facility. This allows the single parents to work and earn their bread, while a child is provided with an environment of growth in every aspect (Holistic child Development) "It takes the entire Nation, Village, community, family and One committed adult to care for that One Single Child"

Preventing Separation, Strengthening Families

The continuum of care begins with a child's birth family, which is also called the family of origin or biological family. Growing up in the nurturing care of a family provides children with love, a sense of belonging, and a lifelong

connection to a community of people, shored history, and culture. However, for millions of children in India, extreme poverty, disease, and other issues put families at risk, threatening their ability to provide for and protect children's holistic needs. The best way to serve vulnerable children is to strengthen the capacity of families to care for them. Family-strengthening strategies and services address many of the root causes of separation from family care.

At community services we work to address this issue through livelihood support programs such as income-generating activities, microcredit loans, and small-business training. These programs provide parents and other family members with the skills and the start-up capital to engage in livelihoods that will help feed and clothe the children in their core and pay their school fees and medical bills.

We provide supplies and tools, and livestock to families in rural areas. Social protection programs, such as cash transfer programs, and direct material support have also been shown to help children remain in the core of their loved ones, especially when family caregivers are too ill or too old to work.



PREVENTION OF SEPARATION: FAMILY-	SEPARATION FROM PARENTAL
STRENGTHENING	OR FAMILY CARE
Examples include:	Causes include:
livelihood support,	poverty, lack of food,
cash transfers, material support,	shelter and other basic needs,
food and agricultural support,	lack of access to education,
access to education and health core,	medical care and other services, disability,
daycare, home-hosed core,	parental illness/death, family breakdown,
parent education and support groups,	abuse, neglect and abandonment,
Spiritual support.	Natural disasters.



Financial Statement in Australian Dollars

Income	
Local Donations	29,513.29
Other Donations	118,276.23
Bank Interest	218,72
TOTAL	148,008.24

Expenditure	
Project Costs	40,863.11
Education costs	16,161.64
Capital Works	25,956.57
Unspent funds	65,026.92
TOTAL	148,008.24

Editor's note: This statement only covers a 9 month period these are all the figures that were available at the time of these preparation of these reports.

Original figures were given in Indian Rupees and we have estimated the Australian Dollar equivalent using xe.com. The rate used was 51.0468 rupees to one AUD





Financial Reporting

Notes on the 2016 – 2017 Audit of Accounts

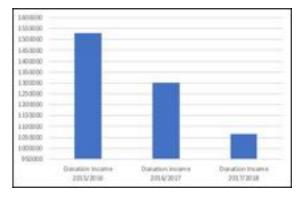
By David Skeat

Income

This year's audit shows a continued easing in company income. This financial year had income of \$1,108,466.16. This is \$235,097.72 below last year's total income. The balance of the down turn in income lies with the projects that have completed or left our project portfolio as discussed on page 14 of this document. However, it has been encouraging to see the income of some offices increase which is good news.

Table 1 below shows our annual income and monthly income over the past 3 years. The Board and our auditors are not concerned by the lower income rate as this will pick up as new projects are established.

Chart 1: Donation Income over 3 years



Overall Investment income was down by \$3,684.043 on the previous

year, mostly due to lower totals from some of our offices. We hope to see an improvement in this over the coming year

Table 1: Monthly income over 3 years

Year	Annual Income	Average Monthly Income
2015 - 2016	\$1,581,900.88	\$131,825.10
2016 - 2017	\$1,343,563.88	\$111,963.70
2017 - 2018	\$1,108,466.16	\$92,372.18

Donation Income

Donation income was down in 2017 - 2017 by \$238,644.76 on the previous year. See table 2

Table 2: Donation Income over 3 years

Year	Donation Income	Average Monthly Donation
		Income
2015 - 2016	\$1,528,566.17 (12 months)	\$127.380.51
2016 - 2017	\$1,302,328.84 (12 months)	\$108,527.40
2017 - 2018	\$1,063,684.08 (12 months)	\$88,640.34

Expenditure

Australian Mercy services both national and international projects amongst the poor and needy. Without a doubt the strongest proportion of our funding and effort is centered on international projects, but a significant effort is still spent on helping those in need within Australia. All of our projects are listed on page 8 of these reports.

International Projects

As with previous years, the largest single expenditure item in this year's audit was funds to international programs which was \$882,694.42. This represents 79.63% of total income for the year.

National Projects

The audit of accounts shows that in 2017 - 2018 that the total amount expended by Australian Mercy on National projects was \$198,913.82. In this amount is included the costs of salaries and superannuation at Shoalhaven and the costs of food for our food programs in Nowra and Canberra.

National project spending was represents 17.95% of total company income.

So putting these figures together we see that in this financial year the total amount expended by Australian Mercy on National and International projects was \$ 1,081,608.24 which represents 97.58% of total expenditure. These figures are expressed in table 3 below.

Table 3: Project expenditure over 3 years *

Year	Expenditure	Percentage of total income
2015-2016 National Projects	\$261,203.14	16.51%
2015-2016 International Projects	\$1,100,555.40	70.18%
Total 2015-2016	\$1,361,758.54	86.69%
2016–2017 National Projects	\$271,090	20.18%
2016-2017 International Projects	\$1,006,232.38	74.89%
Total 2016 -2017	\$1,277,323.30	95.07%
2017-2018 National Projects	\$198,913.82	79.63%
2017-2018 International Projects	\$882,694.42	17.95%
Total 2017-2018	\$1,081,608.24	97.58%

*These figures and percentages are effected by funds from the previous year still travelling through the accounting system. In last year's audit (2016-2017) it was shown that on June 30, 2017 that Australian Mercy had \$502,659.19 in funds available for use. On June 30, 2018 there was \$338,967.10 in funds available for use, a difference of \$163,692.09. This simply means that in this financial year Australian Mercy spent \$163,692.09 more than it receipted in the 2016-2017 Financial Year the extra funds spent were funds that were receipted in the previous financial year

Administration and Accountability

The reports show that in the financial 2016-2017 Australian Mercy spent \$245,693.38 on Administration and accountability. This is an slight increase of \$15,760.24 on last year's figure, due mostly to one of our domestic projects now paying salaries to some of their workers. Besides that change, we did see some admin savings including those in Table 4. A comparison of Admin costs over 3 years can be seen in Table 5 and Chart2.

Table 4: Admin savings

Item	Amount saved
Repairs and Maintenance	\$9,261.73
Computer Expenses	\$2,525.33
Freight and Cartage	\$1,083.22
Travel Expenses	\$8,562.13

Chart 2: Admin costs over 3 years as % of income

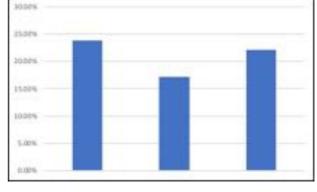


Table 5: Admin and accountability expenditure over 3 years

Year	Admin	Percentage of total income
2015 - 2016	\$377,573.89	23.87%
2016 - 2017	\$229,933.14	17.11%
2017 - 2018	\$245,693.38	22.16%

This audit of accounts shows us to be in healthy financial position we thank our auditor's T A Khoury and Co for their hard work in preparing these reports.

Details of our audit of accounts can be found on the following pages of this report.

ADMINISTRATION FEES

Australian Mercy takes a 5% administration fee from all donations and 10% from all grants and sponsorships that it receives in order to cover its administrative costs. These fees together with separate fundraising aimed at increasing the administration budget helps us to cover our administration costs without greatly impacting projects.

We also have some donors who specifically donate towards our administration costs.

Our desire is to see as much money as possible pass onto the projects where it is needed most.



11 things you should know about Australian Mercy's financial policies.

The Board of Australian Mercy wish to advise donors and supporters that it has strict accounting policies and guidelines in place to ensure that;

1. All funds that are donated to Australian Mercy, together with income from other sources are receipted and are subject to an annual independent audit. A synopsis of this audit appears in our annual reports. (A full copy of our annual audit and annual reports are available upon written request from the Australian Mercy National Office.)

2. All funds donated to Australian Mercy are used for the purposes for which they are given.

3.Tax deductible funds for development based overseas projects will not be used for welfare, religious, or political purposes.

4. Where unspecified funds remain latent in ourbooksfor12 months and the donors cannot be contacted, the Australian Mercy board will distribute such funds in ways that will benefit smaller development projects such as funding monitoring trips.

5. Australian Mercy funds will be used to assist those in need without distinction on the basis of caste, creed, class, race, gender, religion or political persuasion.

6. When a development project is completed and excess funds have been raised for that project then the Australian Mercy board will use the excess funds for another development project of a similar nature or in the same country as the original funds were donated to.(Tax deductible funds will only be used for other tax deductible projects.)

7. Australian Mercy deducts a 5% admin fee from all donations received in order to fund its operational expenses. It takes a higher admin fee of 10% or more from all grants and sponsorships (depending on the expectations of the donor). We also actively fundraise to meet for our administration costs. Some donors donate directly into our administration account in order to assist us meet the cost of our administration. Our intention is to pass on as much of each donation as possible to the project to which it is directed.

8. When we run an appeal for a project, at the close of that appeal we take out of the appeal moneys the costs of running that appeal. These might include postage and printing and stationary charges etc. Once these costs have been recouped, the appeal profit is declared. Five per cent of the profit comes back to our admin account and 95% goes to the project.

9. The Australian Mercy Board is committed to openness and integrity in all of its financial dealings. You can request a copy of the full audit of Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd by writing to: Australian Mercy National Office, PO Box132,Port Kembla NSW 2505.

10. Australian Mercy values its volunteer staff and in accordance with ACFID Code of Conduct guidelines expresses a dollar value for volunteer services in its audit documents. This can be seen in the notes to the audit. A copy of This values is derived by multiplying various categories of volunteer labour against a sliding scale of hourly rates that is provided to all NGOs by AUSAID. Hence the income and expenditure figures are inflated by these amounts and should not be mistaken as cash received or expended.

11. The Australian Mercy Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct.

Recognition and Disclosure of Contributed Services

In September 2011, The Australian Standards Accounting Board decided that;

all NFPs (Not for Profits); whether in the private or public sector, should:

(i) be required to make disclosures about the nature and significance of donated services received, whether recognised or unrecognised; and

(ii) in principle, be required to recognise donated services received at fair value, when fair value can be measured reliably; <u>http://www.aasb.gov.au/admin/file/content102/c3/Minutes_unsigned_7-8_Sept_2011.pdf</u> (Page 6.)

This concept has been further developed by DFAT's Aid arm (formerly known as AusAID and has been inserted into the ACFID Code of Conduct guidance documents.

Australian Mercy will progressively move to accurately acknowledge show volunteer hours in its audit documents. We feel we cannot include the value of volunteer hours as a line item in the audit until some work is done ACFID and other regulators with regards to the technical issues that first need to be addressed.

In calculating the value of volunteer hours Australian Mercy has derived monetary value for its volunteer hours by applying a scale that has been approved and published by DFAT. Details of this scale can be found in the following document; "Australian NGO Cooperation Program - Recognised Development Expenditure" - January 2017 http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/rde_notes.pdf (page 7-8) Annex A - Valuing Volunteer Contributions.

Australian Mercy highly values its volunteer workforce but at the same time does not want to risk inadvertently overstating its financial position in audit of accounts; therefore in calculating the value of volunteers we have chosen to use the lower end of the DFAT scale when calculating the monetary value of volunteer labor.

For example if the DFAT scale gives the designation of *Project Assistant* with the salary range of 43,368 – 47,364 per annum. This works out to an hourly rate of 20.85 to 22.77 per hour. In its calculation for volunteers working under this designation Australian Mercy has used the lower portion of the hourly rate scale in doing its calculations.

(Australian Mercy has used the same principle in calculating all volunteer hour values in all pay scales.) A statement on the value of volunteer's contribution is found in the Auditors Notes to the Financial Statements and reads:

Non-monetary items

Non-monetary items arising from the work of volunteers in the Australian offices and the overseas projects constitute a significant value to the organisation.

The current policy of the company is such that the value of these non-monetary items is not recognised in the company's accounts.

However, the directors have calculated the number of volunteer hours donated to Australian Mercy in this financial year to be 100,357.5 hours. Based on the document mentioned above we calculate those hours to be valued at \$3,439,878.50.

The Board is very grateful for this generous donation by all of our volunteers.



Explanation of volunteer hours recorded in the 2017 / 2018 audit

As a volunteer organization Australian Mercy values its volunteers. Australian Mercy relies solely on its volunteers to maintain its objectives and run its projects. We have no salaried staff: all of our workers from the National Director to the most recent volunteer worker are unsalaried and the work they do is amazing.

Last year the requirement for keeping account of estimated volunteer hours became known to us as the audit was being assembled by the auditor. In order to comply with this requirement we sought estimates from all of our projects and the auditor mentioned them in the notes as a single figure. We calculated the volunteer hours as follows.

- 1. We took the lower end of each pay scale and divided it by 52.14 (365/7) This gave us a weekly rate.
- 2. We divided the weekly rate by 38 which is the current number of hours in the Australian Working week, this gave us the hourly rate.

Designation

2. Project Officer/Technician

1. Project Assistant

4. Project Manager

Team Leader

3. Middle Professional

3. We applied the hourly rate to the number of hours worked in category on a project by project basis.

These pay scales are represented in Table 1. The source document used in these calculations can be found at http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/rde_notes.pdf (page 7-8) Annex A - Valuing Volunteer Contributions. Table 1: Pay rates used to estimate volunteer hours.

2017 / 2018 volunteer hours.

In 2017 / 2018 the estimated number of donated volunteer hours was 100.357.5 hours which we valued at \$3.439.878.50.

This slightly above last year's total and is explained by the presence of new projects in our project portfolio.

Of these hours, 68,123.5 valued at \$2,512,590.91

\$118,943 - \$139,761 **Higher Professional** 6. hours were for overseas projects; and 32,234 hours valued at \$927,287.59 were for national projects. This year the Australian Mercy Board put in 4,986 hours which were values at \$247,878.92.

5.

Our datasheet for 2017/2018 is reproduced in Table 2.

The data in Table is an estimate. Each year the Board is trying to refine the way volunteer hours are recorded so that any margins of error are reduced. This year some projects sent us one total of volunteer hours without breaking them down into categories. In such cases the number of hours has been recorded at the lowest possible hourly rate.

The Board is of the opinion that the margin of error in this year's estimates is no more than 10%. Being a solely volunteer organization means that our volunteer participations rates will be higher than most other organizations.

Table 2 Below shows the total hours and value of contributed volunteer services on a project-by-project basis.

A full copy of the Australian Mercy audit of accounts for this financial year is available from our National Office upon written request.

> **Australian Mercy PO Box 132** Port Kembla NSW 2505 info@arms.org.au

Pay scale

\$44,235 - \$50,263

\$58,033 - \$65,808

\$65,030 - \$72, 127

\$71,708 - \$79,720

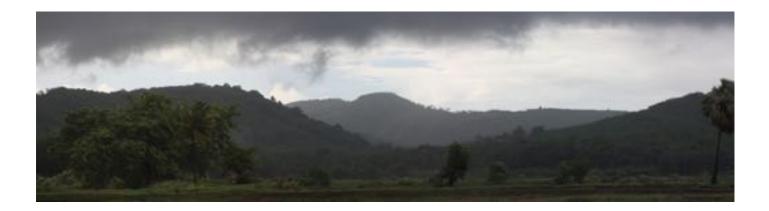
\$98,494 - \$114,579

Table 2: Volunteer hour's data sheet 2017/2018

					Volu	nteer Hou	rs Estima	tes 2017-3	2018					
Project Name:					_	-	_		-	-	_			
	Proj. Ant		Proj. Off		Mid. Proff		Proj Man.		Team Load		High Post?			
	MOURS	5	HOUFL	3	Hours.	3	Rears	5	ROWT	8	HOURS	1	TOTAL HOURS	
Ark International	12.00	367.84	15.00	#38.30	876.00	26,553.40	260.00	9,829.40	385.00	13,835-85	340.00	25,410.38	1,010,00	\$ 36,725.6
Bahareduk Housing	700.00	15,494.00	290.00	3,494.50	1000		480.00	17,871.30					1,430.00	\$ 41,409.3
Bucz Off	40.00	951.80	136.00	1,385.44	1,006.00		- 19 A						1,242.08	5 29,862.9
Cambodian Harvest	1.2			40.00	46.30	3,812.80	8,944.00	251,303.34	1000		1.000		8,584.00	\$ 252,656.3
Chong Qing China	730.00	16.000.40	8,380.20	118,396.20	341.00	4,827.62	300.00	30,007,00	18.00	1.640.43	54.00	5.245.82	3,428.00	\$ 186,727.3
Coconut Technology							680.00	36,699.30					680.00	5 24,609.3
Encodom Project Burma	425.00	1.486.00			1.1		-						425.00	5 5,486.0
Freedon Project India (sectes recented														\$ C.
Ensedion Project Philippines	164.00	1,000.00											166.00	5 3,660.4
HOOR	1000		7,360.00	218,875.00	100.00		18,300.00	807,993.00	100000				24,500.00	\$ 827,667.0
Help save the kids	180.00	4,027.80	1,382.00	40,775.48	384.00	12,462.88			2,640.00	311,234,40			4,596.00	\$ 188,626.5
Karel pite (archeorizecond)	1.000				1.11				1000				10000	4
Katen Projects (out to biactorigona)					1. Sec. 2. Sec. 2.		- A .							5
Kids Ark			3,536.00	101.340.44	486.00	33,758,000			4,992.00	346,112,52			3,008.00	\$ 167,475.3
Nowna	5,380.00	122,357.001	-		3,896.30	194,823,60	2,640,00	85,541.80					14,500.00	5 422,521.8
Ossa Hiene					706.30	22,974.00	400.00	14,836,000					1,100.00	\$ \$7,450.0
Perth Comm. Dev	2,370.00	52,098,42					180.00	6,554.20	280.00	13,918,80	48.00	2,861.84	2,878.00	5 36,212.8
Rahab	6,200.00	181.004.00			1.		0.000		1000		1.000		8,200.00	\$ 183,004.0
Redefined	538.00	11,784,96	432.00	12,495.28	360.00	11,853.20	\$72.06	24,325.68	95.00	4,325.43	240.00	14.407.00	2,825.00	5 29,541.9
RescueNet	164.00	1.082.42	1.14		1.005.00	12,984.30	2,184.00	29,032,96	1.517.00	75,430.07	1000		4,870.00	\$ 191,091.6
The Pantry			334.00	1.041.44	706-50	23,430.48			1000				1,056.00	5 88,471.8
Vanitashray	278.00	6,224,24	191.00	3,594.39	368.00	\$2,017.10	2,642.00	15.405.94	2,412.00	110.905.34	90.00	3.342.79	3,984.00	5 244,974,4
Adetaide Office			135.00	1.964.22			496.00	17,990,34					611.00	\$ 21,904.3
Burnie Office	00.00	1,105,20											00.00	\$ 1,109.3
Caniberra Office (het is thermo lease)														5
Mae-Sot Office			72.00	3.006.00									72.00	5 2,106.8
Port Kembla Office			620.00	18,834.36									670.00	5 15,624.3
Directors			1000						4,988,50	-DATE NO.				5 247,878.5
1997.00														5
TOTAL	15.050.00	475,100,84	28,780.00	110.000.00	11.194.00	107.107.00	11,118.00	1.238.256.22	18,952,58	BALLENA.OT	415.00	25.111.05	100.057.58	-



Audit of Accounts



Your directors present this report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

1. Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

David Skeat Rodney Alan Richards Nicholas John Matthews Kris Leonard Thomson Bruce Colin Skinner Christopher Lee Harrison Dianne Margaret Clark Kevin Ewart Clark Jennifer Anne Keatch

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

2. Operating Result

The profit of the company for the financial year amounted to:

Year ended	Year ended
30 June 2018	30 June 2017
\$	5
(167,313.30)	(163,692.09)

3. Principal Activities

The principal activities of the company in the course of the year were the provision or relief to persons in necessitous circumstances. There were no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the financial year.

4. Dividends

In accordance with the Memorandum of Articles of Association, no dividend can be paid, and accordingly, no dividend has been paid or recommended to be paid.

5. Events Subsequent to Balance Date

There has not arisen in the interval between the end of the financial year and the date of this report any item, transaction or event of a material and/or unusual nature likely, in the opinion of the Directors of the Company, to affect significantly the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial years.

6. Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

At the date of this report, the Directors are not aware of any circumstances not otherwise dealt with in the Report in the accounts that would render any amount stated in the accounts misleading.

7. Review of Operations

The Company continued to trade at the start of the 2017-2018 financial year in a similar manner to the previous financial year. Since the end of the financial year no matter has arisen that has or may have a significant effect on the operations of the company or results of those operations on the state of affairs of the company during the financial year subsequent to the 30th June 2018.

8. Directors' Benefits

No director has received or has become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the company or related body corporate with a director, a firm which a director is a member or an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest.

This statement excludes a benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments received or due and receivable by directors shown in the company's accounts, or the fixed salary of a full-time employee of the company or related body corporate.

9. Indemnifying Officer or Auditor

No indemnities have been given or agreed to be given or insurance premiums paid or agreed to be paid, during or since the end of the financial year, to any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company.

10.Proceedings on Behalf of Company

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings. The company was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Directors' Report

11.Auditors Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 has been included.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

e.

David Skeat Director

fel welj

Rodney Richards Director

2018 Dated:

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Statement of Financial Performance For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 \$	2017 \$
Revenue			
Donations and Gifts			
 Monetary 		1,063,684.08	1,302,328.84
 Non-Monetary 		0.00	0.00
Bequests and Legacies		0.00	0.00
Grants		1235	1443
- AusAID		0.00	0.00
 Other Australian 		0.00	0.00
 Other overseas 		0.00	0.00
Investment Income - Interest Received		5,821.67	9,506.10
Other Income		38,960.41	31,728.94
Profit on Sale of Assets		0.00	0.00
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs		0.00	0.00
Total Revenue	2	1,108,466.16	1,343,563.88
Expenditure			
International Aid and Development Programs			
Expenditure			
 International Programs 			
 Funds to International Programs 		882,694,42	961,807.92
 Program Support Costs 		0.00	44,424.36
 Community Education 		0.00	0.00
 Fundraising Costs 			
- Public		0.00	0.00
 Accountability and Administration 		245,693.38	229,933.14
- Government, multilateral and private		0.00	0.00
 Non-Monetary Expenditure 		0.00	0.00
Total International Aid and Development Programs			
Expenditure		(1,128,387,80)	(1,236,165,42)
		(11100100100)	(1)=000,1000044)
International Political/Religious Adherence Promotion			
Programs Expenditure		0.00	0.00
Domestic Programs Expenditure		147,391.66	271,090.55
Total Expenditure		(1,275,779.46)	(1,507,255.97)
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over Expenditure		(167,313.30)	(163,692.09)
Funds available for future use at the beginning of the ye	ar	338,967.10	502,659.19
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over Expenditure		(167,313.30)	(163,692.09)
		171,653.80	338,967.10

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Statement of Financial Position As At 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 S	2017 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents Other financial assets	3	302,765.89 (130,913.32)	386,140.01 (62,355.13)
Total Current Assets		171,852.57	323,784.88
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	19,034.29	23,302.29
Total Non-Current Assets		19,034.29	23,302.29
Total Assets		190,886.86	347,087.17
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5	19,233.06	8,120.07
Total Current Liabilities		19,233.06	8,120.07
Total Liabilities		19,233.06	8,120.07
Net Assets		171,653.80	338,967.10
Equity			
Retained Earnings		171,653.80	338,967.10
Total Equity		171,653.80	338,967.10

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Cash available at the beginning of the year \$	Cash raised during the year §	Cash disbursed during the year §	Cash available at the end of the year \$
Designated Purpose A – Papua New Guinea	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Designated Purpose B – Thailand, Burma	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Designated Purpose C – HOOH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total for All Other Purposes	338,967.10	1,108,466.16	1,275,779.46	171,653.80
TOTAL	338,967.10	1,108,466.16	1,275,779.46	171,653.80

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Statement of Changes in Equity For the year ended 30 June 2018

	Retained Earnings \$	Reserves \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 JULY 2017	338,967.10	0.00	338,967.10
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over Expenditure	(167,313.30)	0.00	(167,313.30)
Amount transferred (to) from reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00
Balance at 30 JUNE 2018	171,653.80	0.00	171,653.80

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Statement of Cash Flows For the year ended 30 June 2018

2018	2017	
 \$	5	

Cash Flow From Operating Activities

Receipts from customers Payments to Suppliers and employees Interest received	1,102,644.49 (1,259,679.99) 5,821.67	1,334,057.78 (1,516,060.55) 9,506.10
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (note 2)	(151,213.83)	(172,496.67)
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	(151,213.83)	(172,496.67)
Cash at the beginning of the year	379,681.13	472,544.29
Cash at the end of the year (note 1)	228,467.30	300,047.62

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Income and Expenditure Statement For the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018 \$	2017 \$
unds to Domestic Projects		
lational Office	61,431.67	61,818.42
erth	0.00	0.00
escueNet	0.00	0.00
hoalbaven	37,519.09	185,817.03
anberra	48,440.90	23,455.10
	147,391.66	271,090.55
undraising Costs		
ublic	0.00	0.00
	0.00	0.00
otal expenses	1,275,779.46	1,507,255.97
rofit (loss) from ordinary activities before income tax	(167,313.30)	(163,692.09)
come tax revenue relating to ordinary activities	0.00	0.00
et profit (loss) attributable to the association	(167,313.30)	(163,692.09)
otal changes in equity of the association	(167,313.30)	(163,692.09)
pening retained profits	338,967.10	502,659.19
let profit (loss) attributable to the association	(167,313.30)	(163,692.09)
losing retained profits	171,653.80	338,967.10

Scope

We have audited the financial statements of Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited, which comprise the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to Financial Statements for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board of Directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report to the members on our independent audit. Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view, in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the associations internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting obligations. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 30 June 2018

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements are a general purpose financial report that have been prepared in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements (Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views) and the Corporations Law. The financial statements have also been prepared on the basis of historical costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

Income tax

The company has received endorsement as an Income Tax Exempt Charity and accordingly no provision for income tax has been made.

Fixed assets

Property, plant and equipment are brought to account at cost. The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal.

The depreciable amounts of all assets are depreciable over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Investments

Investments bought to account are at cost or at valuation. The carrying amount of investments is reviewed annually to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of these investments.

Dividends and interests are bought to accounts on the profit and loss account when received.

Cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in at call deposits with banks or financial institutions, investment in money market instruments maturing within less than two months, net of bank overdrafts.

Non-monetary items

Non-monetary items arising from the work of volunteers in the Australian offices and the overseas projects constitute a significant value to the organisation.

The current policy of the company is such that the value of these non-monetary items is not recognised in the company's accounts.

However, the directors have calculated the value of the non-monetary volunteer work to be \$3,439,878.50 for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The directors of the company declare that:

- The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001:
 (a) comply with Accounting Standards described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the Corporations Regulations: and
 - (b) give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.
- In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Dunid Skew Director

ila it

Rodney Richards Director

Detel 03/12/2018

Qualification

Cash donations are a significant source of revenue for the company. The company has determined that it is impractical to establish control over the collection of cash donations prior to entry in its financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding revenue from this source was limited, our audit procedures with respect to cash donations had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We therefore are unable to express an opinion whether cash donations received by the company are complete.

In the normal course of its business, the company derives a substantial portion of its income from dorations and sales to related parties. As the effective control over such transactions are not established until they are received and entered in the accounting records, we have been unable to independently verify whether the amounts received from this source have been completely accounted for.

Audit opinion

In our opinion, except for the qualification mentioned above, the financial statements of Australian Relief & Mercy Services Limited is in accordance with:

- (a) the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of their performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
- (b) other mandatory professional report requirements.

2,00 Signed on : ecember, 2018 Tony Khoury, Partner

T A Khoury & Co Chartered Accountants 59 George Street, Burwood NSW 2134

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited ABN 84 008 643 258 Auditor's Independence Declaration

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001

TO THE DIRECTORS OF AUSTRALIAN RELIEF & MERCY SERVICES LIMITED

We declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2018 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit has been breached.

December, 2018 342 Signed on 1 6 Tony Khoury, Partner

T A Khoury & Co Chartered Accountants 59 George Street, Burwood NSW 2134

Australian Mercy's Auditors are; T A Khoury & Co

59 George St Burwood NSW 2134

02 9745 6820 www.tak.com.au

Current Board Statements





Statement on intellectual property, brandings and business names

In the past, Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd has traded under the branding of *ARMS*; in 2011 the Board decided to move to the new branding *Australian Mercy*.

Our office in Cambodia has been known as *Reverse the Curse of Landmines* but now uses the branding *Cambodian Harvest.*

Our office in Timor Leste uses the branding Kids Ark.

Our office in Yangon trades under the name of Buzz Off.

Our campaign against gender injustice and sexual abuse in the developing world is known as the *Donna McDermid Memorial Fund* in honor of our late friend and supporter Donna McDermid.

Our international initiative against malaria and other mosquito borne diseases is known as Buzz Off.

Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd operates under the following Trademarks;

Australian Relief and Mercy Services

Australian Mercy

Buzz Off

RescueNet

These trademarks are held in trust by a third party, and we use them under license from that party.

Australian Mercy also uses the following registered Business Names;

RescueNet Australian Mercy

A list of our web and social media sites can be found on page 8 of this document









Statement on Volunteers

Australian Mercy is a volunteer organization that is made up of 100% volunteers who work in a variety of ways and provide services to the organization that benefit the poor and the needy in the many communities in which it works. From the membership of our Board to our International and Australian based projects to our office staff we are all volunteers. Some volunteer staff are with us for a short time and other have worked for us for many years donating thousands of hours towards our causes.

The Board wants to publicly state it recognizes the huge contribution to our work that is achieved through our very talented and hardworking volunteer work force. The Board thanks our volunteers and recognizes that through the direct efforts of our supporters and volunteer staff Australian Mercy has developed into an effective aid and development organization.

The ACFID Code of Conduct in its desire for Recognition and Disclosure of Volunteer Services is moving towards requiring that a financial value be placed in all signatory Audit documents that reflect the monetary value of the donation of time by volunteers. The Australian Mercy Board is willingly complying with this requirement, noting that the value of its volunteer staff is really beyond measure.

In order for Recognition and Disclosure of Volunteer Services to be accurately put in place so that the company auditors can include it as a line item in the audit requires some new structure to put in place by the Board. This monetary value of volunteer staff is derived by using a scale that has been developed and approved by AUSAID. This scale provides an hourly rate for several volunteer job designations. The number of hours worked are multiplied by a pre-set hourly rate. Details of this scale can be found here.

http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/rde_notes.pdf

In its compliance with these new regulations Australian Mercy is now working with its Auditors and ACFID to include a dollar value figure in its audit documents that will reflect the value of time donated to our organization by our very talented volunteer force. Details of the formula used to arrive at this figure can be found in the financial section of these reports.



Statement on Australian Mercy Project Methodology

Projects do not just happen! They are carefully planned responses to identified needs that have been adequately researched and are presented to the Australian Mercy Board for consideration and approval. The processes in place for Australian-based and overseas projects are very similar.

Registering a project

Once a need is identified and some basic research is done an Expression Of Interest (EOI) is lodged with the Board briefly outlining the identified need and an outline of a proposed response to that need. The Board looks at the EOI and assesses it against three basic criteria:

1. Is the underlying need(s) for the project valid and the proposed response(s) to that need the best approach to take in order to address that need?

2. Does Australian Mercy have the capacity to mount a sustainable response to the identified need(s) and run the project?

3. Does the project theme fit well into the portfolio of projects that are currently being run by Australian Mercy?

If the Board accepts the EOI then a Project Proposal is lodged with the Board.

Project Proposal

Before a proposal is accepted a Project Management Group must be in place. The PMG are a group of people who are acceptable to the Board to manage the project. The Project Management Group report to the Board via the National Office.

Each Project Proposal identifies the need(s) and the developmental objectives that are sought to be addressed by the project. It outlines how the project will operate, looks at risk management issues and sets a three year budget. Sometimes some negotiation needs to happen before the Board will approve a project proposal, but once it is approved the project is handed on to the National Office who works alongside the Project Management Group.

The Board views a Project Proposal as a living document in that circumstances may change the project. Such changes need to be identified and logged as the project moves forward. Changes to the project may affect the budget and delivery of the project on the ground.

Project Monitoring

The Australian Mercy Board monitors projects in two ways. Firstly each project has to lodge a six-monthly report on the progress of the project. This report looks at changes to the circumstances of the project and any adjustments to its objectives, budget, and/or risk assessment that are a consequence of those circumstances.

The six-monthly report also looks at how the project is addressing the identified needs and how it is achieving its stated goals and objectives.

The Australian Mercy Board is fully aware that a project may look different at the end of the three-year project proposal cycle than it did on paper when it was first approved.

Projects are further monitored through annual visits. Each project is visited in the field by a person authorised by the Board to go and see firsthand what is happening at the project level.

Project leaders and staff meet with the project monitor. Staff can air grievances or concerns. Questions are asked based on the six-monthly reports and current project proposal. The project financials are available for the project monitor to review if necessary. The project monitor also seeks information from the beneficiaries of the project and the local community as to the progress of the project and the impacts it is having at the local level.

Upon return, the project monitor reports any concerns or recommendations to the Board.

Project Evaluation

The majority of Australian Mercy projects are relatively small and many of our project managers are not community development specialists. The evaluation of projects is one area in which the Australian Mercy Board is taking deliberate steps to increase the capacity of project organizations.

Impact studies and mid-term or on-going evaluations are conducted as internal evaluations by implementing agencies in the context of the annual visits.

End-of-project evaluations, addressing the broadest policy issues, are required as part of the input into the consideration of a second or continuing project proposal.

Conclusion

The Australian Mercy Board meets face-to-face four times each year and works continuously online to consider and refine project proposals, to review monitoring and evaluation reports, and to plan its work with the project organisations for greater impact, greater capacity building and better sustainability in the projects.

The Australian Mercy Board believes that the processes it has put in place enable it to reassure donors that their funds are being used wisely and appropriately and provides confidence at Board level that Australian Mercy's policies and values are being followed at project level.



Statement on international projects and tax deductibility

Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd (Australian Mercy) has been set up to care for the poor and the needy both within Australia and overseas. We are a company limited by guarantee, a Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) and an endorsed tax concession charity (TCC).

All of our Australian based projects attract tax deductible status with the Australian Tax Office. However, not all of our international projects are tax deductible.

During some of the time that these reports cover all our tax deductible international projects were done in partnership with World Relief Australia and only some of our projects were registered as Tax Deductible with them. With the coming of our own 9.1.1 fund we were able to extend tax deductibility to more of our projects.

There are many reasons why donations to a project may not be tax deductible however the lack of tax deductibility should not reflect badly upon the project itself. All of our projects whether they attract tax deductibility or not are developmentally sound and appropriate to the areas in which they are located.

The red and blue TD symbol, as seen on this page, at the end of the report of an international project indicates it is an Australian Mercy project that attracted tax deductibility for the year 2016 - 2017.





Statement on Emergency Appeals

From time to time Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd (Australian Mercy) will launch emergency appeals so that it can respond to disasters and other emergency situations.

Australian Mercy takes all donations to such appeals very seriously and handles the funds given with the same care as it does for all other support that is given to its projects.

All donations made to an emergency appeal have a 5% administration charge levied against them. This percentage has been capped by the Australian Mercy Board and the funds help us to cover the administration costs involved in running the appeal. 95% of all donations will be used to alleviate the need related to the emergency appeal.

Appeal funds are usually used to provide medicines, clothes, plastic sheeting, food, clean water and other direct needs that people caught up in disaster may have. A small percentage of the funds may be used to pay for transport costs of getting teams or resources to the disaster or refugee sites.

All emergency appeals usually have a cut-off date. Once an appeal has reached its cut-off date, Australian Mercy will do one of two things with the unspent funds or excess funds that come in.

1. The funds can be transferred to ongoing second phase projects related to the emergency, such as reconstruction work etc. For example; excess funds from our Boxing Day Tsunami Appeal in 2004 / 2005 were used to maintain a hospital in Aceh that was serving tsunami refugee populations.

2. The other option we have is to place excess funds into our Emergency Response Fund (ERF). The ERF is an account we use to launch an emergency response. It pays for some of the initial costs of sending out a disaster response team. These costs might include the purchase of medical supplies or emergency resources and equipment that teams take with them. The ERF can give team leaders cash in hand that they can use on site to buy needed resources. Eventually once donations begin to come in the ERF is repaid the money that was outlaid and the funds are there for the next time Australian Mercy responds to a disaster. The ERF is subject to Australian Mercy's annual audit.

Australian Mercy wants to thank its many donors for supporting to its emergency appeals and hopes that this statement will give better understanding of exactly how the donations to these appeals are used.

If you have any questions, please contact the National Office.





Statement on fundraising for the Donna McDermid Memorial Fund

The Board of Australian Mercy oversees the work of the *Donna McDermid Memorial Fund* and has released this statement with regards to the fundraising done by this fund.

The *Donna McDermid Memorial Fund* has two components: an investment fund and a financial appeals mechanism, these components work in this way.

Investment Fund

Australian Mercy through the *Donna McDermid Memorial Fund* solicits donations which are invested with reliable conservative financial institutions. These investments are under the direct control of the Australian Mercy Board. Dividends from these investments are distributed according to the following formula:

70% of dividends are distributed to projects that fit the funding criteria at the discretion of the Australian Mercy Board 20% of dividends are reinvested back into the fund to promote fund growth and to lessen the impact of inflation 5% of dividends are used to cover Donna McDermid Memorial Fund operational costs 5% of dividends are given to Australian Mercy to cover audit and administration costs.

Financial Appeals Mechanism

From time to time the Board of Australian Mercy will fund raise through the *Donna McDermid Memorial Fund* in order to assist an approved project or cause. In such cases an appeal target is set. Funds are distributed according to the following formula:

90% of funds raised are sent to the appeal target 5% of funds raised are used to DMMF cover admin costs 5% of funds are used to cover Australian Mercy admin costs.

Funds that are in excess of any DMMF appeal target are donated to the Donna McDermid Investment Fund.

A copy of the operational guidelines of the fund can be viewed on the fund's website www.donnamcdermid.org

The Donna McDermid Memorial Fund is subject to Australian Mercy's annual audit of accounts.

End of Reports

