



**Australian Relief & Mercy Services
Ltd**

ABN 84 008 643 258

Annual Reports 2019 - 2020



ACFID
MEMBER

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 www.acfid.asn.au or email code@acfid.asn.au

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 www.acfid.asn.au



Australian Mercy is an accredited member of **Missions Interlink**, an Australian network for global mission: www.missionsinterlink.org.au



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 – it's 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 australianaid.org

Australian Mercy supports the Millennium Development Goals an initiative of the United Nations that seeks to make a difference 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)** **Director: Rodney Richards**
2 Wentworth Street
Port Kembla NSW 2505
Ph: (02) 4274 1090 F: (02) 4274 9909
info@australianmercy.org

- 2) **Office of the National Director** **National Director: David Skeat**
PO Box 878
Burnie TAS 7320
Ph: (03) 6431 1218

- 3) **Adelaide Office** **Manager: Marion Winn**
Cambodian Harvest
PO Box 658
Morphettville SA 5162

- 4) **Australian Capital Territory Office** **Director: Dianne Clark**
76 Federal Highway
Watson ACT 2602
Ph: (02) 6241 5500 F: (02) 6241 6098

- 5) **Darwin Office** **Director: Jen Keatch**
PO Box 290
Darwin NT 0801
Ph/F: (08) 8981 2424
jen@australianmercy.org

- 6) **Perth Office** **Contact: Kathy Kennedy**
PO Box 8501
Perth Business Center
Perth WA 6849
Ph: (08) 9328 5321 F: (08) 9328 1324
dir_office@ywamp Perth.org.au

- 7) **Rahab** **Manager: Paulette Cairns**
PO Box 1014
Firle, SA 5070
reachus@rahab.com.au

- 8) **RescueNet** **National Co-ordinator: Ilari Makinen**
PO Box 7
Mitchell ACT 2911
ilarimakinen@rescuenet.net
www.rescuenet.net

- 9) **Nowra Office** **Manager: Helen Esdaile**
9 Nundah Close
Bomaderry NSW 2541
Ph: (02) 432 034 148
helene@australianmercy.org

The Board Of Australian Mercy

	<p><u>David Skeat (National Director and Chairman)</u> <i>Dip T Early Childhood Education (Hartley CAE, Adelaide South Australia 1980)</i> <i>Cert IV Emergency Medical Technician (First Response, Cairns, Queensland, 2007)</i></p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>David is now based in Burnie, Tasmania with his wife Marie, where he also volunteers with the Tasmanian SES.</p>
	<p><u>Kris Thomson (Director)</u> Kris is formerly the Director of YWAM South Australia and has served in development in a cross-cultural context. Kris co-owns an Internet Hosting Company (KJ Hosting) and lives in the Netherlands.</p>
	<p><u>Jen Keatch (Director)</u> <i>Cert IV Education of Intellectual Handicapped (Burwood State College, Victoria)</i></p> <p>Jen has a background working with children with disabilities and also 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.</p>
	<p><u>Chris Harrison J.P. (Director)</u> 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 the Adelaide.</p>
	<p><u>Nik Matthews (Director)</u> <i>Bachelor of Arts Honors Degree, Business with Economics (University of Central Lancashire), 1995</i></p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><u>Dianne Clark (Director)</u> 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 to assist those in need both within Canberra and overseas.</p>
	<p><u>Bruce Skinner (Director)</u> <i>Associate Diploma Structural Engineering (Wollongong TAFE 1991), Cert IV Work Place Training & Assessment (Institute of the Nations 2006)</i></p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><u>Kevin Clark (Director)</u> <i>Cert IV in Financial Services Accounting (Canberra Institute of Technology 2005)</i></p> <p>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.</p>
	<p><u>Rodney Richards (Director)</u> <i>NZ Certificate in Civil Engineering (NZ Standards Authority, 1988)</i></p> <p>Rodney manages the National Office of Australian Mercy. He has a background in IT and Civil Engineering and lives Tauranga, NZ. Working with Australian Mercy and the various international projects connects well with Rodney's heart for mercy and justice issues in the world.</p>

Ministries and Projects Projects and Organizations

Organization / Project	Australian Rep Office	Country of Focus	Focus
INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS			
Ark International	Perth, WA	Thailand	Child at risk
Buzz Off Malaria Campaign	National Office	Burma /Thailand / PNG/ Indonesia	Malaria, Dengue, Zika etc
Cambodian Harvest	Adelaide, SA	Cambodia	Landmine Victims
Emergency Relief Projects	National Office	Various	Disaster Response
Equal Access	National Office	Indonesia	Youth / Poverty
Global Advance Projects	National Office	Thailand	Children at risk
Home of the Open Heart	National Office	Thailand / Myanmar	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
Kokonut Pacific	National Office	Solomon Islands	Poverty Reduction
Partners Relief And Development	National Office	S.E. Asia and Middle East	Refugees and IDPs
Project LIFE	National Office	Thailand	Various Development Proj.
Redefined Ministries	National Office	Democratic Republic of Congo	Comm. Development
RescueNet	Canberra, ACT	Various	Disaster Relief
Vanitashray	National Office	India	Women & Chn at risk
AUSTRALIAN BASED PROJECTS			
Canberra Pantry	Canberra ACT	Australia (ACT)	People of necessitous circ.
G'day Farmer	Canberra ACT	Australia	Rural communities in need.
Nowra Community Food Store	Nowra NSW	Australia (Nowra)	People of necessitous circ.
Perth Community Development Project	Perth	Australia (Perth)	Families in need
Rahab Australia	Adelaide SA	Australia (Various)	Women in sex trade

Overseas Offices

East Timor - PO Box 151 Dili, East Timor

Cambodia - PO Box 486 Phnom Penn, Cambodia

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/rescuenetinternational	
	https://www.facebook.com/goldcoingiving/	
http://www.australianmercy.org/gdayfarmer	https://www.facebook.com/GDay-Farmer-106231121102402	

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



About Australian Mercy

Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd (ARMS), now known as Australian Mercy, commenced operation in Canberra, on August 23, 1988. It was set up as and remains a standalone charitable company. Australian Mercy is financially independent of and is not governed by any other third party.

We are 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 and Perth.

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 is committed to reducing its environmental footprint, by improving energy efficiency, using resources responsibly, and reducing waste.

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 2015 – 2016 financial year.





2019/2020 has been a huge year. Like everyone else on the planet, we too have been affected by COVID 19. Not only have we had to keep our staff safe here in Australia, which has meant closing our offices and many of our staff working from home, but we have also had to try and keep staff and clients safe in the Developing World which in some cases is a little tricky, and you will read more about our COVID 19 responses in the reports that follow.

It is times like this when you are against the wall that you realize yet again, what a wonderful and devoted staff you have. Yes, we are all volunteers, but the work done in times of crisis is amazing. So I want to say a big thank you to all of our wonderful staff and donors who have made it possible for us to try and keep everyone safe from COVID19.

This year has also seen projects come and go, one of the most significant project that we welcome is G'day Farmer which is caring for families in crisis in Australian rural communities. Already they are making such a difference to families who are living in crisis after last year's disastrous bush fires. We welcome G'day Farmer and look forward to the journey they are on and the stories that will tell.

Changes to the Board.

There have been no changes to the Board in the past 12 months. The full Board has met on four occasions during the 12 month period. Table 1 (below) shows the frequency of full Board meetings held during the 2019-2020 financial year. The meetings held on August 12-15, 2019 and February 10-12, 2020 were full board three day face to face board meetings. The meetings in November and May were online meetings. The Darwin meeting was especially significant as after the meetings were over, most of the Board members continued on to Timor Leste to visit the projects that we are running in that nation.

Table 1: Board Meetings

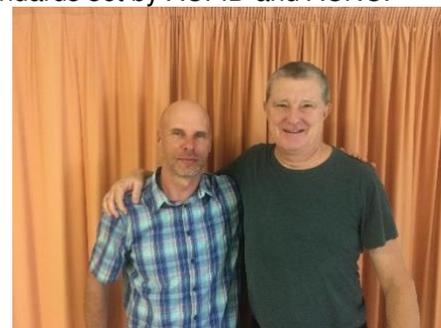
Board Meetings 2019-2020		
Date	Location	Directors present
August 12-15, 2019	Darwin	8
November 5, 2019	Online	5
February 10-12, 2020	Port Kembla	8
May 19, 2020	Online	8

Major Board Decisions

Over the past year, the Board has been working on refining its policies and has reviewed much of the policy manual. This is an ongoing process. The Board also has done a review of its Annual reporting

and auditing processes to make sure that all our reporting meets compliance standards set by ACFID and ACNC.

We also saw a change of leadership in RescueNet as Mark and Robin Cockburn move on to start a new ministry called G'day Farmer. (More about that later in these reports.) The Board expressed its deep thanks to Mark and Robin for their years of tireless leadership of this amazing ministry. Ilari Makinen has replaced Mark as the National Coordinator for RescueNet Australia.



Revolving Door Loan Fund for Refugees

Table 2: Funds in Australian Mercy Revolving Door Loan Fund

Revolving Door Loan Fund 2019/20		
Amounts are shown are in Australian dollars		
Balance of Fund 1/7/2019		1,830.40
Repayments Received 2019 - 2020		2,477.00
Other income		0.00
Total Cash Assets		4,307.40
New loans made in 2019 -2020		1,500.00
Other expenses		0.00
Total Expenses		\$ 1,500.00
Balance of Fund at June 30, 2019		\$ 2,807.40
Total loans outstanding @ 30/6/2020		\$ 2,595.00
Actual fund size		\$ 5,402.40
Total loans made as at 30/6/2020		\$ 8,725.50
Total expected interest on existing loans		\$ 403.00

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.

One new loan of \$1500 was made from the fund in 2020 and one loan was fully paid out. Total of cash in the fund at June 30,2020 was \$2,807.40 Details can be seen in Table 2.

Table 3: Necessitous Circumstances (All amounts in AUD)

	Income	Expenses	Total
Opening Balance			200
Donations	1968.90		2,168.90
Outgoings		1,968.90	200
Fund Total 30/6/19			200

In 2019/2020 Australian Mercy provided support for families who were found to be of necessitous circumstances.

In this financial year we provided \$1,968.90 for the fund to assist a Burmese family who required urgent legal assistance for a case in the Burmese Supreme Court. The case was urgent and family with means to pay the legal costs that we necessary to defend the case. The result of the provision of finds was that the legal outcome for the family was good and their situation vastly improved but the final judgment of the court.

Charitable Gift Funds

The five charitable gift funds that Australian Mercy has with Equity Trustees have continued to grow. These funds are shown in Table 4.

Table 4: 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 and Equity Trustees in turn give us a quarterly report 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 (EQT)

Equity Trustees
575 Bourke St
Melbourne Vic 3001

OMNIBUS ACCOUNT - EQUITY TRUSTEES EFT DETAILS

Account Name: Equity Trustees Limited
BSB: 083 092
Account Number: 57 080 8888
EFT Reference: CH00XXXX (use code in Table 4)



If sending to Equity Trustees, please quote the account numbers listed in Table 4. If make a direct deposit, please email Equity Trustees giving them the amount you sent and the CH No together with your address so that they can send you your TD receipt. (DCheng@egt.com.au)

Tables 5 to 10 cover the charitable gifts managed by Equity Trustees show the status of these funds as of June 30, 2020.

The outbreak of COVID 19 has affected the value of the funds and will possibly affect them for the next 2 years or so, consequently we expect that dividends over the next 2-3 years will be reduced.

The tables below give account of the state of the funds at June 30, 2020, all amounts are in Australian dollars

Table 5: Australian Mercy Disaster Relief Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy Disaster Relief Charitable Gift (Est. 2006) - EQT Account No CH002155	
Capital Value as 30/06/2020	73,553.20
Capital Value as at 30/6/2019	79,111.58
Variation	-5,558.38
Total dividends received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	32,591.84
Dividend received 2019/2020	3,170.00
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2019/2020 financial year.	1,232.09

Table 6: Australian Mercy Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy Charitable Gift (Est. 2016) – EQT Account No CH002309	
Capital value as at 30/06/2020	34,001.62
Capital Value as at 30/6/2019	36,465.56
Variation	-2,463.94
Total funds received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	4,250.33
Dividend received 2019/2020	1,405.00
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2019/2020 financial year.	390.13

Table 7: Australian Mercy International Women's Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy International Women's Charitable Gift (Est. 2016) EQT Account No CH002310	
Capital value as at 30/06/2020	26,773.75
Capital Value as at 30/06/2019	28,698.72
Variation	-1,924.97
Total funds received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	3,275.05
Dividend received 2019/2020	1060.00
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2019/2020 financial year.	321.13

Table 8: Australian Mercy 3 Diseases Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy 3 Diseases Charitable Gift (Est. 2018) EQT Account No CH002440	
Capital value as at 30/06/2020	2,605.22
Market value as at 30/6/2019	2,706.55
Variation	-101.33
Total funds received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	0
Dividend received 2019/2020	0
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2019/2020 financial year.	0

Table 9: Australian Mercy Medical & Training Charitable Gift

Australian Mercy Medical & Training Charitable Gift (Est. 2018) EQT Account No CH002441	
Capital value as at 30/06/2020	2,054.35
Market value as at 30/6/2019	2,142.93
Variation	-88.58
Total funds received by AM since the establishment of the Charitable Gift	0
Dividend received 2018/2019	0
Total donations sent to Equity trustees in the 2018/2019 financial year.	0

Distributions from special funds held by Australian Mercy

Australian Mercy has several projects that acquire special funds with which to do targeted work. These special funds are fed by the Charitable Gifts that we have with Equity Trustees and are listed in Table 4.

It is the Boards policy to distribute special funds coming into these projects through Equity Trustees according to the following formula.

Admin Costs 5%

Re-bank into Equity Trustees 20%

Funds banked into the special project's funds. 75%

Table 10 below shows the state of these special projects as at 30/6/2020.

Table 10: Special Project funds (all amounts are in Australian dollars)

Australian Mercy – Special Projects status 2019/2020				
Project	Income from Equity Trust. 19/20	Distributions made 19/20	Donations to EQT 19/20	Capital Value EQT 30/6/2020 *
AM Disaster / relief efforts	3,170.00	2,015.68	634.00	73,553.20
The Australian Mercy Fund	1,405.00	100.00	390.13	34,001.62
Donna McDermid Mem. Fund	1,060.00	10.00	321.13	26,773.75
Malaria, TB and HIV Projects	0	0	0	2,655.22
The Vicki Project	0	0	0	2,054.35
TOTAL	5,635.00	2,125.68	1,345.26	\$139,038.14

*denotes total donations made to Equity Trustees from the founding of the charitable gift.

Financial Statements for Projects

The following reports will give you a good idea about the achievements we are making in the many countries in which we work. All funds received by Australian Mercy within Australia are subject to our stringent independent annual audit. However, funds spent in country are audited in country and do not appear in our Annual Audit of Accounts. For this reason, we ask all of our projects that are operational outside of Australia whose in-country books are audited outside of the Australian Mercy Audit to show a brief financial statement showing their income and expenditures. These appear at the end of each report. In this year's reports, most projects have been able to do this, however due to the impact of COVID 19 not all have been able to supply all of the data that we have requested. However, after talking with the projects, we are of the view that their finances and projects are in good order and the in the coming years they will be able to provide the information for publication

Statements of evaluation

In line with the ACFID Code of Conduct, we also have asked each project to make a statement of evaluation. The purpose of this being, that such a statement will indicate that the projects are indeed evaluating their actual performance against their stated goals and objectives that are part of their Project Proposal.

Most of our projects qualify for tax deductibility for donations that are made towards their work within Australia. These projects have the following tag at the bottom of their report.



Australian Mercy does qualify for tax deductible status in United States and also in Canada and receives funds form American and Canadian donors towards some of its projects.

COVID 19

COVID 19 has greatly affected the way we live in Australia and will do for a long to come. Australian Mercy did not qualify for any of the government's relief packages and estimates that the pandemic will reduce its income by at least 10% in this financial year.



National Reports



National Office Report

By Rodney Richards

As I write this 2019-2020 report for the National Office, I am reminded of how strange it finished. The last 5-6 months of operation have been in the grip of the COVID 19 pandemic that continues to affect the world. During this time we are so very thankful to have not seen much in the way of regular donation drop-offs. In this, projects are continuing to be supported in situations that are now much harder than the normal challenges facing them in the different countries that they operate in. I want to acknowledge all who are running the projects and their continued courage and commitment.



We have seen some changes to the office operations over the year, both in personnel and operating location. Meghan Cuthbertson, who has served in the office overseeing the accounts so well these last years has now finished with us and we thank her so much for her commitment and skilled work. Bryan Friesen, who has worked in the office in the past, has now picked up the accounts roles for the National Office while we look for a replacement Accounts Manager, of which we are so thankful. Also, due to the effect of COVID 19 and lockdown guidelines, Bryan relocated the accounts portion of the National office to a spare room in his apartment so that it could continue to operate. Thank Bryan for that dedication and effort.

Alongside these personnel and locations changes, Rodney Richards left Australia to return to his New Zealand homeland. This has meant a shift in how things operate and roles, but he continues to maintain remote accounts support as well as overseeing the project management and regular executive online meetings.

We saw some changes to the number of projects working with us that included:

New Projects

- G'Day Farmer,
- Pacific Development Projects

Closed/Transferred Projects

- Operation Restoration – Bolivia,
- ARMS China (Australian Mercy office and project),
- Osso-Huna Community Cooperatives and Tourism,
- Multipliers Fund

In December 2019, David Skeat, Dianne Clark and myself visited Anu and the Vanitashray project in Pune, India on behalf of the Australian Mercy directors. This visit was to join with them, for their 20th Anniversary celebrations. It was a wonderful time of celebration and remembrance, as well as meeting all those connected with the project, and an honour to be able to visit. The Vanitashray project is such an inspiration!



We look forward to the coming year, continuing to serve each of the projects that we are honoured to be partnering with.

Nowra Report

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

By Helen Esdaile

The Shoalhaven Branch of Australian Mercy has experienced a challenging, but rewarding year. July 2019 started the current fiscal year as a relatively normal, low-key month and as I outline later, this all changed later in December.



Our part of the organisation is committed to helping local people who are struggling financially, to have access to cheap groceries and fresh fruit and vegetables. Accessing these products has become increasingly more difficult for us as many more charities in NSW are now also pursuing them through our major supply source – Foodbank NSW & ACT.

In late December, the first of two devastating situations was thrust upon us. The first being the massive bushfires that ended up lapping the outskirts of Nowra after having destroyed many coastal communities and farming properties in the approach. Two of our volunteers lost everything they owned in the fires, but many more bushfire victims used our free food distribution till they were able to secure government assistance.

That disaster was immediately followed by the advent of Covid-19, with a greater demand being placed on our resources commencing in March 2020. This increase in demand is expected to continue till well into 2021 as the nation continues to be affected by the economic downturn the virus has created. Covid-19 also severely affected our volunteer base and we lost about half of those who were working with us. A few older volunteers chose to fully self-isolate, while the Work for the Dole Scheme closed and Community Corrections stopped people on Community orders from coming to work. Of course, this meant that there were fewer of us doing more of the work and some of our volunteers have really given so much in seeing the store continue to function so well. I am very grateful for each one of them.

Sadly, though, we will be losing a faithful and competent bookkeeper at the beginning of July. Despite being so busy herself, she is going to train one of our staff to take over when she finishes. I extend my thanks to Joy for the 10+ years she has so brilliantly served this project.

Locally, probably the most seriously affected since Covid-19 disrupted our way of life, are people who have arrived in Australia on work visas and have either not yet been able to get work or have lost their job and source of income. They also cannot get any support from Centrelink and cannot safely or easily return to their home country, so are left in an insecure and frightening situation. Their need is so much more than groceries and to some extent we have been able to get furniture and negotiate for very cheap, but acceptable accommodation for them. We have also had several local people who have lost their jobs seeking immediate relief prior to them receiving JobKeeper payments.

While our usual target clientele has changed somewhat, we have managed to supply many people with inexpensive groceries, and in the situations where the need is desperate – free groceries. This has been helped by adding to the twice-weekly food rescue from the Aldi stores in Vincentia and Ulladulla, with daily pickups from Woolworths Stockland Nowra, and thrice weekly from Kinghorne Street Woolworths. We look forward to picking up from a large new Woolworths due to open early August in Bomaderry and also Foodworks in Worrigea, a suburb of Nowra, in July.



It has been rewarding being able to continue to help people from the early accelerating stage of Covid-19 as we were deemed 'an essential service'. Of course this required some significant changes to our Community Store's operations in order to comply with the new government legislation for Covid-19 safety. Most of our clientele were able to accommodate the changes easily but for those who found it difficult, the store's staff and volunteers were very caring and patient with those people who came, in a combative mind frame. We were aware that there was, and still is quite a high level of stress in a section of the community, brought on or exacerbated by Covid-19.

It is also very heart-warming when customers come in and urge us to never close down the store because they love shopping with us and they acknowledge the friendliness of our workers. Or people on Corrective Service Orders doing community work who say "I didn't know how I'd be received here but no-one has treated me any different and this place has helped me a lot." Some have volunteered beyond their required time and maintain contact for a long while



after leaving. Some of the volunteers have left with a real anticipation of getting paid work because they have developed confidence during their time with us.

Aside from the day-to-day workings of the store, Australian Mercy Shoalhaven has continued to financially support the school in Hera, Timor Leste and also Jed Brien and his work amongst the young street kids in Nicaragua. We were able to make a number of donations to help fire victims, Foodbank and others in a time of severe financial stress. It is a privilege to be able to continue to provide assistance to others who are struck down in unimaginable ways or who are significantly more disadvantaged than Australians will ever be.

RescueNet Annual Report

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Ilari Makinen



Since taking on a new, leadership structure just over 12 months ago, RescueNet Australia has been going through a restructuring process.

During this reporting period, our operations have been limited council meetings where we have discussed and processed the following items;

- The future direction of RN Australia
- If and when to run the next regional introductory course
- Brainstorming on possible future outreach/ soft deployment options

During this period we began as a new council with myself as the new coordinator. We have accomplished to form a good working relationship and form of operating as the council. Further developing our cloud based personnel data base and updating our membership info

Two members of our regional council have been part of regular meetings of the RIC (RN International Council). The RIC has accomplished a number of improvements in certain processes and procedures. One of the main changes we have agreed upon is the changing of our membership probational process. Under the new guidelines each member is assessed individually in a more thorough way where prior learning and field experience among other factors are taken into consideration in determining when someone is ready for deployment and when they need further preparation. This will allow those who are deemed mature and ready for deployment to be able to get into the field quicker and more effectively than under the previous guidelines.



As part of the RN international body, some of our members have been assisting working groups and helping in the WHO verification process.

Due to the nature of the ministry of RN, responding to international disasters cannot be preplanned. However, as that is the core of who we are, we hope that should such a disaster occur that calls for international assistance, we would be able to respond and have members who are available.

A challenge we face as a region is low numbers of active members, who are able to deploy. This includes leadership.

Currently we are in a situation where we have to rely on the leadership of other regions as we don't have any qualified deployment leaders in their own right. However, we have 2-3 members, who would be capable of co – leading with another leader. As such we can respond to disasters in our region individually, but more on an “outreach” or “soft-deployment” approach. We have currently only three members within our region with deployment experience which is considered “Rapid International response”. This limits our ability to provide leadership into disasters as well as experienced staff into training courses.

Statement of evaluation

For this period there was no activities planned and the operations have been limited to administration. From that perspective we have been able to move forward as an organization. However, Covid 19 has restricted us and continues to do so. We already had to cancel the planned International Council meetings in Australia this year due to the epidemic.

After connecting with our membership, we have come to realize that due to most of our members being working people, it is a challenge for them to respond to rapid onset disasters. As a result, we are now looking into more regional ongoing 'lower risk' activities and outreach options where it is easier for members to be involved as they can plan their annual leave for that period for example



Perth Community Development Project

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

By Darcy Thiel



During the past year, we have been very busy. Just in the last 6 months, we were able to serve 41 families doing 117 visits to their homes. During lock down, we continued to stay connected to families in need by calling them regularly. We connected with local churches that were gathering food and delivered food hampers to those that needed them. Once the lockdown lifted we have facilitated between 10-15 people from other ministries

in YWAM to help families in crisis. We are in the process of training a team member to cover more of the administration.

In this project report time, with the pandemic, staff morale has fluctuated. We stayed well connected during lock down, but all the changes were hard on people. We continue to focus on training and developing the staff. We have been doing a seminar on "How to help people"

We continue to have a good connection with government and non-government agencies. While people were working from home we focused on sending cards and email thank you' to our referral agencies. Since coming out of lock down we have had invitations to come and share what we do and how we can partner together



Statement of evaluation

Our project is achieving its goal of helping families in need in the city of Perth, but as we have been evaluating our project outcomes we want to serve more families, so we took the following action.

1. We sent out a letter of introduction to other agencies and government departments outlining the services that we provide.
2. We have actively sought to recruit and train more volunteers.



G'day Farmer
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

This project only finished its registration late in the financial year – a full report will appear in next year's Annual report



Rahab

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020



Rahab is a free and confidential resource for Sex workers in Australia. We provide free services such as English classes, referrals, emotional and physical help, and a chance to talk over a cup of coffee.

Rahab's heart is to help restore, inspire and assist those who feel trapped in the sex industry

In the past 12 months, we have been very busy. Covid 19 has had a huge effect on our ministry and we have had to adjust some of our ministry programs accordingly. Here are some dot points.

- We have run training for 2 new volunteers.
- We have launched our Shelter project 'Coming home' was launched in February.
- Presents for upcoming outreach have been prepared.
- One and a half 'rounds' of outreach had been completed before COVID lockdown.
- Not yet being able to purchase a van for the ministry. We have the money for it and looking at different options now.
- Rahab retreat for all the leaders has been postponed till October 2021 due to the lockdown and currently limited travel options.
- Zoom meeting for Australian team leaders is considered as an alternative this year.
- All volunteers are required to have Police or/and DCSI clearance.
- Despite COVID difficulties, staff morale is high.

During one of Rahab outreaches, a staff member learnt that a massage parlour worker was studying for an English test exam to apply for further studies in Australia. The volunteer offered her help tutoring the girl free of charge, as she was familiar with the exam and successfully had passed it before. They started meeting twice a week before Covid outbreak. This is an example of some of the practical ways our workers are being used to help women leave this industry. More stories can be found here; <https://www.rahab.com.au/stories>

As for the organization overall, the new project Shelter 'Coming home' is being considered at the moment. Due to the lack of housing options for the sex workers leaving the industry and no rehab program for sex trafficking victims available in the State, this shelter is necessary for the further successful development of the ministry. Rahab is developing a blueprint for this Shelter.

Statement of evaluation

At the present time, the project's goals are not being achieved now due to lack of access to the brothels and massage parlors because of COVID 19. Even the girls who work on the streets are getting quite hard to find. This time of 'quietness' was used for Shelter project planning and research. In addition, our re-evaluation of outreach methods should bring more success in this coming period.

THE PANTRY report – September 2020



In 2020 The Pantry continues: 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 93 people registered and see around 40 people attend each Thursday with 52 recently being the highest. We continue to have new members joining as we allow anyone living in the Canberra region to join. Many of our customers represent families, which greatly increases the number of people for which we are providing. We would estimate that we provide food and household products for close to 120 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 also receive referrals from ACT Housing, Financial Care, St Vincent de Paul and Salvation Army.

Canberra Relief Network:

In response to Covid-19, the ACT government in conjunction with Foodbank NSW allows any Canberran to register and order a free weekly Food Hamper depending on the size of the family. People can nominate a pick-up location and we are one of those. Several of our customers do make use of it but most prefer to shop specifically only for the items they want that week as to avoid wasting food.



Pantry Plus:

With Covid -19 health restrictions my older co-worker Katherine had to stop being inside and younger female co-workers Los, Tress or Linda have taken her place. Due to only 2 customers currently allowed into our shop area at a time plus restrictions on food and drink handling etc we started Pantry Plus.

This team of 3-5 people provides hot drinks and snacks and friendly conversation in an area undercover close to the shop. The team begins serving 1 hr before the shop opens due to the numbers of customers who arrive early. As it takes longer now for everyone to get in to do their shopping more time is available to sit and chat and with social distancing enforced Katherine is able to be involved.

Pantry Plus team members tell of building stronger connections as people are sharing a lot more about what is happening in their lives in a more relaxed manner. The opportunity for prayer is given and now more accepted and many lonely people are having meaningful contact each week.

In July 2019, we obtained a grant to purchase a commercial grade Double glass door refrigerator and a large Chest Freezer with sliding glass lids. It is now much easier for customers to see what is available and it gives extra storage space with immediate access to restock items.

Our support network continues to be greatly valued. We are grateful to Foodbank NSW, YWAM Canberra, Hope Korean Church, Ainslie Bakehouse, O'Connor Uniting plus other individuals for their generous financial gifts, gifts in kind and volunteers. Extra money is used to supplement fruit and veggies as some weeks Foodbank has only a few items.

Lyle Hutchinson
The Pantry



Canberra Office Report

By Kevin Clark

The main ministry of AM Canberra continues to be the "Pantry", a foodbank outlet which operates every Thursday. This year we have tried to provide more of a social atmosphere for customers coming to get supplies. We call it "Pantry Plus". It is simply a place where people can come and have a chat and a cuppa. It has proven to be very popular and has become quite a social event for many.

Up until recently, we worked very closely with RescueNet with their office being located at the Canberra Base. As you know, Mark and Robin Cockburn have moved on from RescueNet and begun the ministry of G'day Farmer which is closely linked to YWAM Canberra and AM Canberra. AM Canberra looks after the accounts and the Cockburns and G'day Farmer are very much a part of our Canberra Family.

So much has happened over the last year with the bush fires, the launch of G'day farmer and The COVID Pandemic but we are looking forward to seeing what God has for us in the year to come.



International Reports



ARK International

We are an international body defending the rights of children at risk in South East Asia. We strive to educate, train, network and facilitate projects focusing on the specific needs for children at risk and their providing organizations, so that children can be restored, equipped and transformed for their unique contribution to the world.

OUR VISION: Every child deserves a chance



HISTORY

Ark International was founded in Perth, Australia in 2004 to advocate and build restorative programs for children at risk worldwide.

In 2006, ARK INTERNATIONAL THAILAND was established with a S.E.Asian focus and has been involved in helping children at risk since this time in

Bangkok. ARK International is a registered Thai Foundation, under the Thai Ministry of Social Development and Human Security since 2013.

STORY

ARK always provides specialized opportunities outside of our regular programs that happen intermittently throughout the year. These moments provide tangible opportunities for input, fun, and skill enhancing endeavours. These opportunities are either provided by ARK staff or are taught by volunteers that are recruited to come for a short and specified time.



“A highlight moment this year was taking some of our teen girls on a practical service outreach to Cambodia. In partnership with Love without Boundaries, ARK was able to raise money in order to provide school supplies for each child located in specialized schools (approximately 300 kids) and teacher’s packs that were individualized for each grade. Our teen girls were involved in assembling all of the packs and gave these out in an outreach program. In addition, the teens facilitated kids program that they ran for each grade. It was incredible to watch them pour their hearts into the lives of other disadvantaged children. These are youth that have been engaged in ARK for over 10 years and to watch them give themselves back to other impoverished children was a beautiful gift of life.” Nicole – ARK Director.

Due to COVID, there have other extenuating needs that have taken precedence in our ministry. This has been within the framework of our ministry but has equated to more crisis operation in order to serve and assist families in our impoverished communities. This has meant that some of our original vision and project planning to date has been postponed until it can be evaluated at the end of 2020. Based on global response to COVID and access to targeted threshold, we will project a new timeline for this.

Statement of evaluation

Yes, our project is achieving its goals, but as we have been evaluating our project outcomes, we have made the following changes.

Our management has been evaluating the timing of our Crisis Pregnancy Center and will project a new initiation date at the end of 2020.

In addition, as many of our children do not have access to computers or family support outside of school or with online school format, it is critical that our support structures within our tutoring center are increased. For example, more computers, updated software programs, and enhanced tutoring for more children to access services so they can be successful in this school term.

Buzz Off

By David Skeat



The Buzz Off malaria campaign is continuing but there is still an urgent need to locate further funding. We have an incredible team of workers spread over Asia, Europe, Australia and New Zealand, who despite the difficulties we are all experiencing with COVID 19 are still working hard on reducing malaria in vulnerable communities.

Regular income is still coming through donor giving and sales of nets and testing kits through our website, but the large funding required to finance the campaign still eludes us.

The team in Burma are continuing to do training outreaches in remote areas every month. When floods hit Bago the team deployed with the army and emergency services to distribute mosquito nets and run emergency mosquito management training.



When COVID 19 broke out in February 2020, the team distributed thousands of COVID 19 information sheets that we had translated into Burmese into remote communities, at one point these were the only information sheets available in Myanmar.

The international training team are moving to release the Buzz Off training online. In the coming months, new videos of the training will be made and released in 2021 along with the training manual online so that Buzz Off

seminars can still take place even if the world is in lockdown.

Our search for funding continues.

Statement of evaluation

The COVID 19 emergency and reduced funding have forced us to try to be more innovative in achieving our goals.

The move to web based training will still allow the training to continue. The first round of the online training will be in English, which will make it available to vast sectors of Africa, as well as other countries where English is readily understood or easily translated. Releasing the training on other languages will be explored once the first round of training seminars are online.



Kids Ark Ministry Hera, Timor-Leste 2019 – 2020

By Soraya Nepomuceno

During the period of July 2019 and June 2020, the work in Hera happened in a normal space, but with less teams coming and some areas affected by the Covid 19. We continued the work in the clinic, disability centre and school.

At school, we received the second visit of the medical/dentist team that is working with our school in a preventive way and applying fluoride to the kid's teeth twice a year. The dentist team is from Singapore and are committed to come every March and September.

For two groups of Pre School it was the first time ever to see a dentist and have the teeth check. Some kids were a bit scared, but after stories and songs, they were all happy to take care of the teeth. This program also includes regular classes, which are given by the teachers about oral hygiene. The team also prepares the teachers for that and there is a workshop for parents during this week.



The kids all receive a new set of toothbrush and tooth paste to take home, they also have one to use at school. Every day the children brush their teeth after the school meal. It's great to see the parents, teachers and students learning and being aware of the importance of oral hygiene and how this can affect their lives.

Once again we had a team of science teachers coming from Korea and giving the kids and teacher a 3 days science workshop, there is so many amazing things the teachers and students are learning about science and that science is fun and is everywhere.

We had our graduation for kids finishing preschool and grade 6. A time of saying goodbye to year 6 and welcome Pre School kids into our Primary school.

The school is also in an ongoing project to have the library set up at school and also for other children in the Community. Library is a new concept and having book available for kids and adults to read is something new here.



We are organizing the books we have been asking for donation of more Portuguese and Tetum books. Tetum books are expensive specially kids ones because there is not many available . We had a volunteer and friend coming to spend a week organizing the library, still need to be finish but with the corona 19 she wasn't able to come back, but the kids in school are able to use the books already.

Portuguese being the official Language as well we need to have our teacher learning Portuguese , so we have a Brazilian teacher coming from Dili once a week and give an intensive 3 hours classes a week for one year to the teachers.

Disability Centre.

It was a great year for this group as many of them got involved in Art classes, a volunteer that comes once a week transformed this time into a special time and the guys into artists. They were able to participate in a fair market and present their work. They were very proud to see themselves as a whole and believe in themselves. To have the work appreciate by others and see what they could do brought a whole new perspective for them, their dignity is being restored and they are learning that they are way more than the disability they have.



Local Clinic and Mountain clinic

We continue to attend people many times even with lack of medicine. In the mountain the clinic is the only facility they have and is being open during the whole State of emergency . Many lives continue to be saved because of the clinic there.

Our other clinic here in Sidara have been open every day and even nights as a requirement during the Emergency State , providing the basic care to the community and taking other cases to main hospital in the city.

With the Covid 19, all activities at school stopped for 3 months and the disability centre as this is a risk group. The Clinic was open the whole time. Also in Sidara community, we continued with the vegetable garden project bringing better food to the families and some extra income.

During the Emergency State the community Garden was a blessing to bring food and help many very needed families.

We also did Aid food parcel with main food like rice, vegetable, eggs and some extras things to many families that already live in a vulnerable situation and with the ES the situation became worse.

TEAMS

- We had 5 Dentists from Singapore
- 10 Korean Science teachers.
- 1 Librarian from Australia
- 3 volunteers working with the disability program
- 5 Brazilian teachers, doing teacher language training
- 1 Portuguese teacher.

Kid's Ark Financial Statement 2019-2020		
Income		
Funds received through Australian Mercy	\$	22,416.42
Local donations	\$	-
Other income	\$	43,111.72
Total	\$	65,528.14
Expenditure		
Direct Project costs	\$	49,610.48
Project Admin	\$	4,202.75
Other costs	\$	11,610.09
Unspent funds	\$	104.82
Total	\$	65,528.14



In addition, we received a special visit from our National Director and members of our leadership team form Australia. It was a time of encouragement and thanksgiving. We were very happy to have them here.

A short story about Julio one of the disable young man that comes to the Disability centre.

During the State of Emergency the Centre was closed and in the last month he started to come to the door and ask, "when are you opening our house, we need to come back, this is our house." Once the centre opened he said, "ah so good to be back home".

This is a simple history about ownership. When the centre was first opened it was a foreign idea to them and their families, they never been to a place that it was "their" place, didn't feel worth of having a nice space to come and hang out, learn. Now they said this is their home and they missed and felt sorry when they could not come. We were very proud and happy to see and hear that.

It has been a great year in spite of everything! Thank you!

Statement of evaluation

Our project is achivieng its goal but in the last 6 months our donation have droppped significantly. This drop in income plus the COVID 19 situation has cuased us significant problems. We have not been able to receive teams that were scheduled to come and work in some areas of buiding/maintanace/ training, and also our ability of fudraise has been restricted. We have had to cut back our program significantly and will delay building and maintenance work until things returnd to normal.



Karen Projects

By David Skeat

The work among the Karen refugees and IDPs on the Thai/ Burmese border continues. In Mae-la camp restrictions are very tight and the refugees are continually struggling to survive.



The military rule the camp with iron fist, food rations are constantly reduced, medical services a just the provision of basic first aid. The refugees are charged for the power they use. They are not allowed to work. The plan seems to be that if we make things bad for them they will go back to Burma. However, Burma is not safe, the Burma army still continues to commit atrocities against the Karen people. Returning families are sometimes dragged through the courts when they try to return to their village lands as their land has been leased or sold to western companies or third parties whilst the refugees have been on the camp. Suicide rates in the camp have risen.



In January 2020 a team from Australia went to the Border to run Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol training.

This training was led by Dr. Ken Curry, an Addiction Medicine specialist. Other team members included Sally Grant Social Worker/ counsellor and Kevin Lieschke, social worker. 37 health care workers were trained. The training was well received by students and KDHW staff. In many ways it was the best training we have provided with more interaction and experiential content of healing and strategies for positive mental health.



This training course is part of the regular mental health training that is done each year by this same team on behalf of Australian Mercy.

Australian Mercy continues to supply rice and nutritional support to Mae-la camp preschools and continues to financially support some projects in the camp including the Zone A No 9 Preschool.

thousands of kids in the camps preschools.

We also provide funding for annual preschool Christmas celebrations which provides nutritional support for hundreds of families and fun and laughter for the



Covid 19 has brought new challenges. The refugees in the camp are not being tested for COVID 19. So the official word is that there is no COVID 19 in the camp, which seems most unlikely as people are dying from respiratory diseases. Australian Mercy has been importing soap into the camp and has distributed COVID 19 information sheets in the camp so that the refugees know to try and protect themselves from the disease. This is as much as we can do from a distance.

Statement of evaluation

The circumstances of 2019/2020 has caused us to have to re-evaluate how we achieve our goals without having the ability monitor on site. Monitoring from a distance is always more difficult. Our contact with the camp has had to be more frequent but via email and personal calls made by relatives.

From what we can ascertain, we are still achieving our goals, albeit information is harder to come by with regards being able to adjust the settings of our programs as things change in the camp. It is hoped that 2021 will be a better year for information flow.



CAMBODIAN HARVEST DRIED FRUIT CO. LTD.

By Marion Fromm



Cambodia is going through a severe economic crisis and we have had to adapt to the sudden and complete collapse of tourism, which the Covid 19 virus has inflicted on Cambodia. Our dried fruit sales dried up, causing us to reinvent our way of doing business, in order to survive and keep everyone employed and well fed.

We have formed a new way to use the farm for agriculture and remain sustainable through the pandemic. Instead of manufacturing dried fruit, we are now growing free range chickens and ducks for eggs and meat, fish in two fish ponds and growing organic vegetables, where there used to be old mango trees. A new drainage system for storm water was installed and the soil level raised one meter to the same level as the factory, from the middle of the block to the back fence. The land was originally a rice field and only the front half had been raised to road level.



Cambodian Harvest factory staff are now employed growing vegetables, assembling orders and delivering them to the local market and taking orders direct to local families. Chickens, ducks and fish are prepared for immediate delivery.



We thank Bunthoeun for his vision of how to sustain the company in difficult times. His agricultural science degree, received at the time of his land mine accident, prepared him for such a time as this and enabled him to make the new changes needed for sustainable farming until the tourists return and the economy improves and garment factories reopen.

The staff of Cambodian Harvest sincerely thank you for your donations and support for the ministry to the nation of Cambodia. May you know God's blessings in increasing measure.

Financial Statement Jul 2019 to Jun 2020	
<i>All figures are in Australian Dollars</i>	
Income	
Funds received via Australian	121,887.99
Local donations	0
Other income	111,077.26
Total	232,965.25
Expenditure	
Direct Project Costs	160,472.72
Project Admin	86,643.48
Other costs	4,619.79
Deficit	-18,770.74
Total	232,965.25

Statement of Evaluation
Our project is still meeting our original goals, however to a smaller extent than originally expected.
We are still respected by the government because we have been the employer of more people with disability than any other organization.
Our staff experience high levels of respect in their home villages for their ability to maintain a job and take care of and educate their families. Their health is good and none of them have fallen sick with the virus.
Through the current difficult environment they have all maintained a positive attitude and Bunthoeun Thong and his wife Netha are to be greatly commended by their vision and diligence to protect and support all the staff in every way possible.



Equal Access

By Zack Muetterties

Equal Access Education is actively involved with Peace & Community initiatives. These include Education Programs of the Associations Asian Partners who hold to similar values, involving Muslim and non-Muslim

Pesantren Education Project: There are 45 Locations where those sent are teaching in rural Boarding schools. This totals 2,500 children.

Despite challenges with Covid-19, we are still receiving monthly reports that are encouraging. In this last 6 months we have sent families to 5 new locations. These families have not been able to be sent out from the central training Centre in Java due to the air transport closures with COVID. Three of these families were because they had finished training a local leader and were now pioneering in a new area, while 2 others were relocated due to local opposition that were staunch traditionalists, and didn't desire the new approaches presented.

Flourish Project: 5 Flourish trainings were completed involving over 70 women. The last 2 trainings were completed by women who were trained by us. This now is a total of 10 women trained to run Flourish programs.

Peace Camp Project: As stated in the 6 monthly report, we have re-evaluated the peace camps and have chosen a model that doesn't depend on any foreign financing, and is self-sustaining. With Covid as well this has meant that we cannot do the camps as previously done, so we have begun trying online models of peacemaking training which have in a couple sessions reached 60 people, and a webinar which was viewed by 2.5k people. These are new experiments so far, with lots of interest from people in Tunisia, Indonesia, and Afghanistan.



Covid-19 has affected the different locations throughout the country of teachers who run small businesses in order to be self-sufficient. Many of their businesses have been closed due to restrictions from the Indonesian government. It would be a monumental task to gather all of the stats on all of these small businesses, and how exactly they have been impacted. The businesses range from selling carrots at floating markets to running fish farms. Many of them would have approximately estimated 50% decreases in income.

Covid-19 has also affected the sending of teachers due to the shutting down of all internal and international flights within Indonesia. This had limited some of the new pioneering and the sending of teachers to Malaysia and South Thailand.

These impacts from Covid-19 have also led to the surplus shown in our finances as we have pioneers ready to go to Malaysia and Thailand but are waiting on international borders to open. This has created a good cash flow backup for the next 6-12 months in dealing with the challenges Covid-19 will present.

Flourish Project: Participant Feedback

What influenced you the most through this training?

"More self belief and understanding yourself and others."

"It motivated me to become a woman who can develop and progress."

"I realize I need to have a life purpose."

"I realized I am a person of value."

"Through this training I was taught about good character and a more positive way of thinking." Peace Camp Project:

Story from South Thailand where the donation for ASEAN Sending was directed.

Since the outbreak of COVID19 and lockdowns in Thailand and state of emergency the virus has lead to a lot of human tragedy. On the Thai-Malaysian border in Su-Ngai Kolok where the border people live the most effected people are the most vulnerable people.

These people include the ones who have no papers and have come from Malaysia to live in Thailand through 'marriage' or other relationships. From these relationships and people coming over families have been started and the children with their parents often do not have the required papers to be eligible for Gov. assistance at any level. So this has left communities looking for relief.

So we together with your support have been able to be part of the answer.

Statistics for April-June:

Visited homes in 4 communities connecting with 2,073 peoples home checking for COVID 19 infections. Also checked for peoples well-being.

Made about 700 face masks.

Helped with emergency food for 350 people.

Food supplement like milk products and some food items for 370 kids and young people

Project Financial Statement 2019-2020	
Income	\$AUD
Money received via Australian Mercy	35,505
Local Donations	0
Other income	0
Total	35,505
Expenditure	
Direct project costs	29,199
Project admin	0
Other costs	0
Unspent funds	6306
Total	35,505



Statement of evaluation

Our Projects are achieving their goals and exceeding them in numerous areas, but we have seen the need to readjust due to Covid-19 towards an online approach towards peacemaking training, and also towards including Covid-safe practices for all of our teachers and flourish trainings. So far, there has been no major change to the programs and trainings we have been doing, but we continue to monitor the situation in Indonesia to see how the projects will need to be reshaped. With the new campus starting opening to 100 students, we hope to see even more impact into the communities we serve.

Home Of the Open Heart

By Penny Wilcox

Home of the Open Heart cares for those who have been affected by HIV/AIDS.



Over the years, we have assisted and empowered many mothers and their children to integrate back into their communities.

They have lived with us for different periods of time and we have assisted in

stabilizing their health and passing on valuable life skills.

2019-2020 saw all 10 of our children completing their respective levels in school.

Noon*, who completed year 11 this year, accepted an internship as a veterinarian assistant and has since worked long hours 5 days a week, including a recently added night shift. Her goal is to be a hired as a paid employee by the veterinary clinic when she turns 18 years old in March 2020.



All of our teenagers over the age of 15 successfully got their motorcycle drivers licenses.

Two of our 18 year olds also successfully obtained their car drivers licenses.

Ben* became a part of our family when he was 4 years old, arriving as a scared and emotionally wounded young boy after his mother died of AIDS. It was our joy to walk alongside him.

Ben is now 19, has graduated high school with a GED, and is living independently in Bangkok, working part-time while also studying full-time at Bangkok University. We are proud of him for all that he has accomplished.

Ben's sister Beth* is 17, still living in our home and working full-time in order to save. She hopes to pursue a degree in media design in 2020.

Our management has been working together toward our goals of empowering the HIV+ women, single mothers and nurturing HIV affected infants, children and teens.

Within our communities we support and organize informal and formal training and education about HIV. The training is of a good standard and we are noticing that as many in our communities are growing in understanding, people living with HIV are experiencing less and less stigma, including less torment in school and ostracization in general.

Covid-19 Interruptions and travel restrictions affected us greatly.

Of course, much of the world has been affected greatly by covid-19, while Thailand stayed mostly unaffected in comparison to other more developed countries, the pandemic affected our work greatly as I had travelled on March 14th, intending to visit my aging mother in Brisbane for one week before travelling to Adelaide, where Paul was to join me and we would be attending our son's wedding, obviously unaware at that point of what was ahead. I was not about to visit my elderly mother due to covid-19 restrictions, plus our son's wedding was postponed. When I tried to return to Chiang Rai to be with Paul and the kids, I was refused entry in Bangkok, due to covid-19 restrictions and forced to return to Australia. I was stuck in Australia for just over 5 months when I finally managed to return on August 25th. So as a project, we were greatly disadvantaged by my absence during this time and not being able to be 'on the ground'. This was a difficult time of separation.

We are grateful in this time period, even though much of it has been sevely different than we anticipated and we have been grossly affected by covid-19 global pandemic, many of our project goals have still been achieved. The project has been able to stay on track, even though we were home schooling, even though three of our older teen girls moved out to live independently, even though the director (Penny) was stuck in Australia from mid-March. Proud to report that the staff made the adjustment, kept the home-based project going, even were able to continue almost all of

Financial Statement 30/06/2019 to 30/06/2020	
Income	AUD
Funds received through Australian Mercy	48,561.64
Local donations	6,059.04
Other income	28,243.03
Total	82,863.71
Expenditure	
Direct Project Costs	50,844.61
Project Admin	10,990.00
Other costs	6,812.10
Unspent funds	14,217.00
Total	82,863.71

our community work and they developed more community work - distribution of care packages to needy families and communities affected by covid-19.

Statement of Evaluation

Yes, our project is achieving its goals, but as we have been evaluating our project outcomes we have made the following changes.

1. Adjustment of support for HIV+ single mothers according to their needs and their children's ages.
2. Offering employment to one of our HIV+ mothers who's older sons are both in higher levels of education.
3. Encouraging/empowering three teenage girls (18-19 yrs) to move out of home into independently living together, supporting each other.
4. Empowering our two 16 year olds with independence, making adjustments to transport options by teaching scooter (small 100cc motorcycle) lessons until they qualify for Thai license.
5. Making adjustments in daily schedule and training options for our 15 year old special needs teenage girl, who has been given the opportunity to manage a chicken farm onsite, with oversight by one of our Thai staff working alongside in supervision.



ICare4You

iCare4U

Restoring Dignity, Rebuilding Identity, Releasing Hope.

Over this year we have been able to support 20+ Women with care packs, and counselling. We have also been able to run a Women's Hope group for a short period mid to late last year with the hopes to offer life skills. We will continue with this model until we can get our live in program up and running.



We have also been able to host at least four YWAM outreach teams that have offered children's programs in our Gereka Community. The two times we offered the Discipleship intro we have numbers attending of 60+ and 80+. The teams are always very well received.

We have individuals from all over Port Moresby interested to attend future programs.



Since early March we have been in Brisbane waiting out COVID and planning the right time to return to PNG. Visa's have also got in the way of this and we are currently waiting for an Australian Visa approval for our son. We have used this time to try catch up on reporting and raising some funds. We have also been in the process of organising a 20ft container to head over to PNG end of August.

This will be filled with donated items for iCare4U. These items will allow us to furnish the Women's housing and our Office/Training /Accommodation.

Our Building Project

In July 2019, we finally got the foundation going for the office/training/accommodation building. The photo to the left was our second attempt at this. The first job was not done correctly.

We had a number of people helping with this build. A fellow missionary builder was able to assist us along with a few local builders and young guys from Gereka village. We also had a guy from Australia volunteer to help us with the electrical work and Crystal's dad helped to put walls on and build cupboards etc.

By Christmas we had the building exterior completed for the most part and most of the office was complete in January. We had planned to be in our office come mid year but because of COVID this has been impossible. Now hoping for October.

We were able to meet with our engineering friend early 2020 to talk about the development on our property and draw up a sketch of the layout. We are now addressing timelines and funding etc

In February we took care of this little guy for a short time until he was placed with his new family. His mother and relatives did not want him. We offered some support however they decided to give him up for adoption. He is now with his new family and very happy.

Our volunteer will be featured in an upcoming documentary about HIV in PNG and keeping family together. She has had a tough time this past year but is doing better due to the support she has had through iCare4U. She also has volunteered three days a week doing community visits and counselling/ encouraging other women living with HIV including those living in rural settings.

Project Financial Statement 2019-2020	
Name of project: Partners Middle East	
Income	AUD
Money received from Australian Mercy	50,045.00
Local donations	5,326.00
Other income	0
Total	55,375.00
Expenditure	
Direct Project Costs	37,000.00
Project Admin	2,200.00
Other costs	2500.00
Unspent funds	13,675.00
Total	55,375.00

We have spent the past several months supporting woman in pregnancy who will give their babies up for adoption.

In February, we also had a film team here from YWAM to do filming for an upcoming documentary on HIV and keeping family together.

Finances

In 2019/2020, iCare4U had an income of around \$55,375 AUD. The bulk of the funds were used again for direct project costs. These costs cover such things as:

- Building supplies
- contractors
- Vehicle expenses / running costs
- Food
- Electricity
- Volunteer Support

One of our biggest costs this year has been towards the building of our office/ training/accommodation. We predict the costs needed will be around \$50,000 AUD. With the growth of this ministry and the demands we are facing, this building will bring a lot of relief and support. We are in desperate need of all three things. (Office, training room, accommodation) Continues from last year.

With the growth of the property and plans for our woman's program and community involvement, we are expecting to need to raise a further \$60,000 AUD this coming year. We are also looking into ways for us to be more sustainable through gardens and small second hand business ideas.

There is also some opportunity for us to get grants for a few of the projects that will directly affect the Women's program and training.

Kokonut Pacific

The vision of the CTC is to support remote village communities to build livelihoods through value adding to their existing coconut resource.

The Direct Micro Expelling (DME) technology for high value Virgin Coconut Oil production enables a network of certified organic farmers to supply village based presses, which then ship oil to Kokonut Pacific at the Coconut Campus where the CTC is located.

The CTC demonstrates and trains best practice operation of the DME system as well as developing new uses for the co-products of the process.

We also run a Salvage Value Project (SVP) where dead coconut palms that have been destroyed

The Solomon Islands is being severely impacted by the invasive attack of the Guam sub-species of the Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (CRB-G) (CRB). This major biosecurity crisis commenced about 4 years ago. The attacks have spread out from around Honiara and to the Guadalcanal Plains Palm Oil plantations.

While maintaining its core activities, this crisis has caused the CTC to shift its emphasis for towards seeking to gain some salvage value from the large number of dead coconut palms being cut down by Biosecurity Solomon Islands (BSI). The Salvage Value Project is based at the CTC.

Recent project accomplishments

- The conversion of 3 piles of BSI logs consisting of >3,000 dead palms into charcoal & biochar thus destroying these CRB breeding places.
- Assisting the CTC to produce and export over 10,000 coconut shell bowls.
- BSI has re-commenced felling dead palms in the Honiara area and asked SVP to convert another 1,000+ palms into charcoal.
- BSI and MAL to now recommend nationally value-adding to palms killed by CRB or removed due to senility.
- CTC's Rural Advisory Service has started to introduce pit-kiln charcoal making and cooking with charcoal in all their extension work.
- The SVP Manager had great success in his home village in West Guadalcanal during lockdown. "The food tastes so much better (*than cooking on smoky wood!*)" They said.
- SVP has commenced formal biochar trials in food production with the Kustom Gardens and Bethesda farms.
- SVP will seek to 'harvest' the Koivo charcoal as proof of longer-term ground storage.
- The Foundation has given SVP increased exposure in its new website: www.niulife.foundation .

Story

In April, the Government of Solomons Islands implemented a COVID-19 emergency restricting employment in the Honiara area to essential services. All other employees and their families were to return to their home villages for three months. The Coconut Technology Centre (CTC) and the Salvage Value Project (SVP) were not 'essential' so followed the 'lockdown' protocols. For SVP, the lockdown coincided with completing the conversion of over three thousand dead coconut logs at the Biosecurity Quarantine Station into over 600 bags of charcoal. Destroying the logs removed these significant Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle breeding sites.

As the lockdown in Honiara was implemented a remarkable change took place in the cooking habits of the remaining Honiara households who used imported fuel (gas or kerosene) for their stoves. A media campaign advertised SVP's 'new' smokeless fuel so there was a rapid increase in demand for this locally produced charcoal. All 600 bags of coconut log charcoal produced by CTC's SVP sold very quickly. The SVP Manager also had great success in his home village during lockdown. He taught the villagers how to make charcoal in a simple pit-kiln and then how to cook with charcoal rather than on their traditional smoky wood fires. "The food tastes so much better!" They said.



PARTNERS

Partners run two significant projects through Australian Mercy; one is located in the Middle East and the other in SE Asia.

Partners Middle East

Highlights

One highlight achieved during the reporting period was the massive amount of people Partners was fortunate to be able to feed in Syria during the Turkish invasion. This effort started at the beginning of October and lasted until the last day of December 2019. Over this timeframe Partners managed to provide millions of meals to displaced families in north east Syria, often being the only food source many could rely on. This took significant effort from Partners and its local partners and was only made possible by the strong support of all our donors.

Project Financial Statement 2019-2020	
Name of project: Partners Middle East	
Income	Thai Baht
Money received from Australian Mercy	4,811.96
Local donations	0
Other income	14,258,595.01
Total	14,263,407.97
Expenditure	
Direct Project Costs	9,045,380.26
Project Admin	2,138,798.25
Other costs	0
Unspent funds	3,079,228.45
Total	14,263,407.97

Another particularly significant work given the current world situation is Partners' medical programs that are currently running in Syria. The Hospitainer has been operating in the Idlib area for some months now and has treated thousands of civilians affected by the ongoing conflict and the COVID-19 pandemic. Medical professionals at the Hospitainer are also doing all they can to educate people about the prevention of the virus and how best to react if symptoms arise. Right now work is beginning on a quarantine facility in Dara'a in south west Syria to provide care specifically for those with disabilities who are suffering from COVID-19.



Team Activities (how many in each team, what did they do?)

The size of Partners teams ranged from one to four staff per activity. The size of operating teams of local partners assisting in the delivery of Partners' aid programs were dictated by the local partner based on their view of program delivery needs.

Number of people helped

Late 2019 and the first half of 2020 saw Partners Relief & Development expand its Middle East relief activities to unprecedented levels. Ongoing conflicts in Iraq and Syria created a human disaster crisis displacing hundreds of thousands of IDPs and refugees. Partners was uniquely placed to assist a great amount of these IDPs and refugees through quick and effective relief programs. Our best tracking indicates we directly assisted approximately 133,918 people across the Middle East. In addition that we also served 4.9 million meals served between October and December to those fleeing the conflict in Northeast Syria.



It is impossible to come up with a precise breakdown of our relief efforts according to gender or age. However, since the vast majority of these people were fleeing in large family units, there is likely a close balance between the number of males and females assisted through our efforts. It is also likely, because of the high number of children in a traditional Middle Eastern family, that most of our efforts went to helping children.

New developments being worked on

Due to the major changes in travel and mobility caused by the COVID-19 pandemic we have experienced difficulties in accessing areas where we work all over the world, especially in the Middle East. We have been looking for ways around this to facilitate delivery of monies to keep our programs running. We are making progress on this front and so far have been able to continue delivering care to many despite the accessibility challenges.

We are also working to find ways to update our Enable Her program to make it more effective in reaching women in difficult situations in Kurdistan, Iraq.

Statement of Evaluation

For most of our activities our project is achieving our goals, but have been evaluating project out comes and made the following changes:

School Rebuilds: We managed to rebuild and open Sina school in northwest Kurdistan in August and September 2019. However, due to the Turkish invasion of northeast Syria starting in October 2019 we have been unable to reach our goals for this project in Syria. As we evaluated the state of instability and residual conflict caused by the invasion of northeast Syria, we decided that rebuilding schools was something that would neither be beneficial nor safe. When the region has returned to a more stable state we plan to again begin rebuilding and opening schools.

Clinic Rebuilds: After deploying our mobile field hospital to Maarat al-Numan near the conflict in Idlib Governorate we realized that because of COVID-19 movement restrictions being imposed by the government, many civilians who were sick or injured could not attend the clinic for life-saving health care. To solve this issue we began having the clinic move more regularly, stopping in at many of the little surrounding villages to tend to their sick before moving on to the next. This solved the problem, bringing the clinic back up to maximum operating capacity.

Emergency Relief Distribution: Over the reporting period we far surpassed our goal for distributing emergency food and supplies. However, changes caused by the COVID-19 pandemic made it difficult to facilitate the delivery of emergency aid. To work around these problems we have explored new ways of transferring money to the Middle East and have also further empowered local partners who have now become invaluable in the delivery of our emergency aid in Iraq and Syria.

Community Support: Although initiatives in this regard were showing promising results, the COVID-19 pandemic proceeded to throw a wrench in the works. Changes in plans have included relying more on local teams and partners to conduct community support and to network with local leaders and emergency relief authorities.

Sustainable Feminine Hygiene: Although we did reach this goal, teaching 264 women about sustainable feminine hygiene, we realized that this project is not contextually the best fit for Middle Eastern culture. Interaction with local women showed us that our efforts may be best directed in a slightly different manner. We have taken these suggestions and are currently conducting data analysis and needs assessments to better understand how to go forward with this program.

For two of our activities we have not achieved our goals, have evaluated, and are making the following changes:

Trauma Care: At the start of the Turkish invasion of northeast Syria all our effort and finances were diverted toward feeding those fleeing for their lives. Because of this we did not manage to attain our goal for trauma care training and support. We have changed our plans to continue this initiative as soon as possible, but it remains excessively difficult due to the travel restrictions introduced by COVID-19.

English & Life Skills: At the start of the Turkish invasion of northeast Syria all our effort and finances were diverted toward feeding those fleeing for their lives. Because of this we did not manage to attain our goal for teaching English and life skills. We have changed our plans to continue this initiative as soon as possible, but it remains excessively difficult due to the travel restrictions introduced by COVID-19.



Story Sarbst fixes cars, tractors, and anything with a motor for a living. He has a rented a shop in his hometown of Sari Kani that sits on the Turkey-Syria border. His fingers and grip reveal burley toughness that compliment his kind demeanor.



We parked above his tent halfway down the market corridor of Badarash refugee camp. He saw us and grinned, beckoning us toward his tent, one of his 4 children slung over his hip. He pushed the flap from the entrance and invited me into his tent with a broad grin and wholehearted “welcome” while his wife grabbed the pail of sugar, cups, and black tea to brew a cup of sweet tea.

His 7-month-old boy was sleeping on a thin mattress on the floor. While I took my place beside him, Sarbast said he has had diarrhea because the infant formula they gave him at the refugee camp clinic was different than the one they had been using. He could sell the can he was given at a low price and use some of his own remaining money in addition to what he earned from the sale to buy the more expensive formula. But the cost of that transaction was prohibitive. He hoped his baby boy’s body would quickly adjust to the new elixir contained in the blue can.

“When bombs started falling in the city, I sent my 4 children with my wife and youngest brother to stay in a nearby village with my wife’s mom and dad.” The attack on Sari Kani started with artillery and Sarbast wanted to protect his belongings, shop, and home. He also told me that the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) took a defensive line against the Turkish troops on the border to defend and protect but in the chaos of artillery and air strikes the sleeper cells and Turkish supported militias began killing people from inside the city, behind the SDF lines. “We didn’t know who was friend, who was a neighbor, or who was going to kill us.”

In the violence of October 19th, Sarbast and two friends left the city on foot and walked four hours to his in-law’s house. He gathered his family together and decided to flee the country and seek safety in Iraq. They travelled to the border where they were accepted by the Kurdish authorities and sent to Badarash camp, just outside of Duhok, with 11,000 others.

Now in a camp of hastily organized single wall tents, Sarbast is still tenuous about his family’s prospects. He expresses gratefulness that they survived and made it without injury. But he said to me “We fled because of war. We did not know we would have to live like this. Now we are in a camp and cannot leave, can’t work, and have no freedom to choose our next steps. We don’t want to be refugees; we want to go home.”

Partners SE Asia

Outline of Activities

Health – Partners ran healthcare projects in Myanmar with the Shan and Karen people groups, in Bangladesh with the Rohingya, and in Thailand with migrant workers. Our projects include training healthcare workers, supporting clinics, and helping patients to access hospital level care.

Education – Our main activities include providing support of school materials and other resources to 10 boarding homes, 4 nursery schools, 4 Bible schools, and community schools in 7 districts in Karen State, Myanmar and along the Thai-Myanmar border. We also run a GED (University Entrance) school and classes for migrant workers in Thailand.

Project Financial Statement 2019-2020	
Name of project: Partners South east Asia	
Income	Thai Baht
Money received from Australian Mercy	18,543.38
Local donations	946,109
Other income	38,004,601
Leftover Income from previous year	7,447,069
Total	46,416,322.40
Expenditure	
Direct Project Costs	41,557,742.40
Project Admin	4,858,581
Other costs	0
Unspent funds	0
Total	46,416,322.40

Livelihood – Partners run an agriculture training project to provide sustainable agriculture solutions, research new farming methods, and train ethnic communities throughout Myanmar and Thailand to learn better agriculture techniques, increase food stability, and improve the health of their communities. We also run sewing training, sew feminine hygiene products, and work with traditional weavers to help sell their products. The sewing and weaving projects will give them the skills to repair their clothing and make new clothes that will save them money.

Community Building – We have been working closely with communities to help them start up business to support education in their community in Shan and Karen States. We also help the communities organize support for each other through a system of volunteers in Kachin State and run training to help strengthen families.

Relief – We have provided essential relief items to those that have been displaced including the Rohingya, Shan, Karen, and Kachin. Relief items include, food, tarpaulins, wells, medical support, and school support.

Highlights



Partners has pivoted our work to respond to this need through providing COVID-19 education along with masks, soap, hand sanitizer, and other items to help people protect themselves and others. We have also provided other items such as food for those that have lost their jobs or simply don't have enough to eat. Partners has tried to be creative in our response as well, using our existing sewing program to make masks in Chiang Mai, Mae Sot, and Karen State. We have given out seeds and vegetables from our training farms and organized our health workers and clinics in Karen State, Shan State, and Rohingya refugee camps to provide

COVID-19 education and medical assistance.

Team Activities (how many in each team, what did they do?)

Health Team – 8 people. The team is responsible for running trainings, reporting and monitoring, coordinating patient hospital visits, and writing reports.

Education Team – 6 people. Organize the running of the GED program and SEED migrant center. Distribute supplies and support to boarding schools. Reporting and monitoring and writing reports.

Livelihood – 8 people. Some members of the team manage the farm and run agriculture trainings. Others are involved in sewing woven items to be sold, making feminine hygiene kits, or running sewing training

Community Building – 3 people. This is mainly project management including monitoring and evaluation of the projects.

Relief – 2 people. The relief team travel to areas where relief is needed and coordinate with the community or with other partners to distribute relief. It also involves running logistics and keeping track of numbers and finances.

Admin – 5 people. The admin staff are involved with a number of things including finance/accounting, office management, helping staff with work permits and visa's.

Fundraising Events, how much raised, what will spend on?

Partners was able to raise \$3,121,144 for a special COVID-19 response which was over and above the budget.

Major expenses outside of usual running expenses – what were they spent on?

In 2020 Partners raised money outside of budget to be able to respond to the COVID-19 crisis. This was mainly for emergency food, masks, soap/hand sanitizer, and clinic supplies.

Number of people helped

Health – 32,790

Education – 6,575

Community Building – 15,265

Livelihood – 1,404

Relief – 71,367

COVID-19 -124,428

Total number of people directly helped – 251,829



New developments being worked on?

COVID-19 has had an impact on our work and in particular our ability to travel so it's difficult to make too many plans at this stage however two new projects we are looking at for next year are a trauma program to train people to work with children who had suffered from trauma. Another project we are looking at is doing a much larger sustainable school program where we work with a community to help them to start a business which will make income to support education in the community.

Story (with 3-4 quality photos they can use)
Phyu Phyu Win

I have been in Thailand three years already. I have two children. Since I moved to Mae Sot I left my oldest kid with my parents in Myanmar. My youngest son just turned 7 months. I usually work in the fabric factory, however because of the COVID-19 I could not work anymore. I also have a young baby and now only my husband works, he earns 200 Baht per day (\$6.45 USD). He works in the fields, growing sugar cane and cucumbers. We don't have enough for our family, it is a very difficult time for our family. It made it worse than before. We live in a small hut in the fields. Which has no walls and strong roofs. During the night, it was very windy, every night we could not sleep well. Partners came to help us with rice, dry food, masks and tarps to make walls for the house. My family was really happy. I wanted to say Thank you very much for helping our family.



Statement of evaluation

In general, our projects have been meeting their goals, however COVID-19 has had an impact on our work and has meant that we have not been able to do as much training or monitoring and reporting as we had planned. However, we have been able to pivot some of our work to respond to the needs. For example, our sewing team that normal makes feminine hygiene kits has now been making masks instead.

Project LIFE



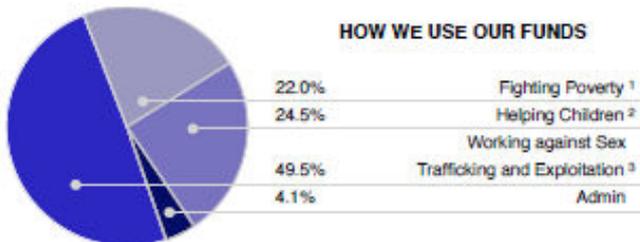
Since 1987, Project L.I.F.E. Foundation has been involved in helping the poor and vulnerable of Thailand, particularly women and children. Project L.I.F.E. is a registered Thai Foundation under the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security of the Royal Thai Government.

All Project L.I.F.E. programs, including the administrative office, are funded solely by donations. All expatriate staff are strictly volunteers and receive no salary from Project L.I.F.E. Each Project L.I.F.E. ministry and all Thai staff involved are dependent on Project Partners to enable the work to continue. Project Partners are people or businesses who want to help Thailand's poor and needy. They are L.I.F.E.-givers.

In 2019-2020

Together we raised more than **30 MILLION Thai Baht (1.34M AUD)** to change the lives of over **6,430 PEOPLE** and **320 FAMILIES** in **11 PROVINCES**

*Administration accounted for only 4% of our 2019 expenditure.



¹ Child Sponsorship Program, Hope Cards, Pattaya Slum Ministry, Rural Women Development, Ruth Center.

² Friend to Friends, Home of Joy, Home of the Open Heart, My Home, SaiLom.

³ Eden House, House of Refuge, Tamar Center, Tamar Korat.

Further details about the work of Project LIFE can be found on its website <https://www.projlife.com/>

A copy of their most recent Annual Report can be downloaded from this link <https://australianmercy.org/wp-content/uploads/2019AnnualReportEng.pdf>



Redefined



Redefined Ministries International DRC (Redefined) is a registered organization in Ituri Province, Mahagi Territory of Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which is working to rebuild lives and communities after the damage caused by war.

Annual Financial Statement 01/07/2019 to 30/06/2020	
Income	AUD
Funds received through Australian Mercy	53,555.11
Local donations	1,500
Other income	500
Total	55,555.11
Expenditure	AUD
Direct Project Costs	13,540.38
Project Admin	750
Other costs	250
Unspent funds	41,014.73
Total	55,555.11

Milestones Accomplished

- Days for Girls: on the path towards self-sustainability.
- The Sewing/Tailoring Project: on the path towards self-sustainability.
- Partnership with Waterworks (clean water kits) established. Water filtration kits purchased, and distribution has commenced. Small and large kits ordered. Our preference for our area of operations has been the larger kits, which the Community appear to find most useful.
- Provided food supplies to displaced communities due to unrest and communities in lockdown to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Milestones that on the way.

- The Redefined Health Facilities were firmly established and provided for the medical needs of the local community despite the recognised need of more finance and more staff. Buildings and equipment destroyed during recent unrest. The Staff and local people had to flee the area to preserve life.
- Birthing Kits Australia: distribution of birthing kits continues.



Challenges

Lack of business skills and training in the team to move forward with coffee project past training stage. It is recognised that Redefined will need another team member with understanding of international trade or will need to up skill one of its workers to take on this role. Due to team numbers, it is felt wiser to recruit an individual to Redefined who could focus on this specific area of the project.

We are yet to identify this individual but are continuing to search. Continued advertising of the need to try and locate a suitable individual to lead the project for coffee processing. This will be helped by the commencement of farmer training, which will show interested parties that work is underway.

The global pandemic of COVID-19 impacted all ministry projects. This led to us refocusing our resources and efforts in supplying people with basic needs such as food.

During the COVID-19 outbreak there was significant violence in our area of operations which led to of all Staff and the local community fleeing. Whilst this is not uncommon for the area, which has long suffered the effects of war, there was however, a reduction capacity of government authorities in the northern eastern area of DRC to respond as rebels took advantage of the pandemic stretching government security resources. The result was the displacement of countless families who fled for their lives to the border of DRC and Uganda to seek refuge. We are not able to provide an accurate number for the displacement or deaths because of the senseless rebel violence. A team member has since visited our main area of operations and confirmed that much of the ministry buildings and equipment has been destroyed.



Statement of evaluation

Prior the COVID-19 outbreak and unrest in our main area of operations in northern eastern DRC and the bordering town of Paidha in Uganda, some of main goals/objections were being achieved. Like the rest of the world we have had to reprioritise our projects and redirect the assistance to where it is needed most.

One of our main goals set out by our founding Members was to strive towards sustainability in our projects. We have no better example of this than the sewing project, which has taken on its own identity under the name of *PREFAD*. The name of the project has become well known in the town of Paidha and its growing reputation of supporting local women with the opportunity to learn new skills. Overall, the project appears to be strongly poised to provide an income stream in the future as products can be made and sold to the local community. However, like many projects, it has been affected by government direction to remain isolated (lockdown) to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This has caused teaching and production to slow. On recent lifting of restrictions such as lockdown, production has recommenced, and attention has switched to the production of the much-publicised facial coverings (masks). There has been much confusion in global media as to whether masks are an effective tool against the spread of COVID-19 however it appears the consensus is now lending towards something is better than nothing. Therefore, production of masks has commenced.

We look forward to what the future has in store for this particular project, as we believe the long-term outlook is good despite the short-term disruption for a variety of factors outside of our control.



Vanitashray

By Anu Silas Dongadive

Caring for orphans, the destitute and widows.



Vanitashray is committed to facilitating the best childcare practices possible in our approach to serving families. We care for the destitute and widows. We speak up (advocating) for those who cannot speak for themselves. We fight and defend the rights of all who are destitute.

Underprivileged children, children from hard places, are exposed to abuse and trafficking, most die before they reach the age of 15. They lack shelter, access to food, education, and healthcare. These are the ones that Vanitashray seeks to serve.

work of Vanitashray at <https://vanitashray.com/>

You can find out more about the

COVID 19

As the COVID-19 crisis continues to loom over us. At this great hour of need, The Golden Heart Foundation, in partnership with Vanitashray NGO and in coordination with local Government & District Administration, volunteers have stepped in to provide relief by providing food to several communities since past 5 months in Pune, Maharashtra.

By adhering to all safety and hygiene measures, we have relief service by providing meal or packed grocery kits to the marginalised and low-income segment of the society comprising of daily wage workers, migrant labourers, construction site workers, and needy people at old age homes and night shelters. Presently, the Foundation is providing cooked meals and dry ration for relief in Basti's- communities of Pune.

Support from friends, local partners, donors and citizens has been encouraging, and is enabling us to make a difference in these tough circumstances.



For much of the past 6 months Vanitashray has had focus on making a COVID 19 response.

- Vanitashray Response to COVID-19 in India Is Currently Focused on Multi-Level Risk-Mitigation:

- Bringing Immediate and short-term relief, food security, health and & hygiene kits, and more.
- Enabling continued education, health & nutrition, and protection to most affected children and their families.
- Ensuring long-term support for the most affected communities, including mental health for children, livelihood for caregivers, providing continued education and learning.
- Working with key stakeholders- the government, local bodies, partner NGO's working for the cause of children and policyholders to ensure children's needs are prioritized in these dire times.
- Vanitashray along with our ministry partners, Golden Heart Foundation and Deeds for Needs (daughter Organizations) is mounting one of the biggest humanitarian responses to address the crisis.
- The global Covid-19 pandemic has caused an unprecedented change in all walks of life. It has clutched different sectors and overthrown people around the world to a new social and economic crisis. Education is one of them, due to the pandemic around 1.52 billion students stranded at home and over 60.2 million teachers remain out of schools
- As of 4 May 2020, more than 12,900 people have been reached out with food kits, hygiene kits have been distributed to more than 8,000 families.
- More than 450 children have received a supply of Vitamin- A, fortified milk. Along with healthy meals cooked at our community centre daily.
- Close to 46,000 individuals have received support at ensuring their surroundings are hygienic, and efforts are being amped up to ensure their good health. In addition to this, we have also sensitized and spread awareness among more than three lakh people through information dissemination.
- Apart from many other immediate and long term efforts made, the highlight for over past 5 months is Vanitashray with GHF has sponsored 300,000 cooked meals across the city of Pune, Maharashtra.





Financial Reporting



Background

In accordance with the financial reporting requirements that are set out in section 60 of the Australian Charities and Non Profits Act 2012, Australian Mercy undergoes a rigorous audit of its accounts and finances on an annual basis. The highlights of this audit are always reproduced in our Annual Reports.

This section of our Annual Report focuses on that report and issues that are directly related to it. A full copy of our audit of accounts for the Financial Year 2019-2020 can be obtained upon written request to the Australian Mercy National Office.

Australian Mercy ABNs

Table 1: Australian Mercy ABNs

84 008 643 258	Australian Mercy entity ABN
66 005 308 526	ARMS Aid and Relief Fund ABN
34 925 133 826	ARMS Gift Fund ABN

In accordance with ATO provisions Australian Mercy operates three Australian Business Numbers (ABNs).

These ABNs include our main ABN which covers the entity Australian Relief & Mercy Services Ltd (Australian Mercy) and the other two ABNs which are attached to two

Ancillary Funds that we operate. These ABNs are listed in Table 1 above. All three ABNs are audited annually and included as part of the ABN 84 008 643 258 Audit of Accounts.

Notes on the 2019 – 2020 Audit of Accounts

By David Skeat

Income

This year's audit shows a significant increase in our annual income that nearly brings us back to 2017-2018 income levels.

This is a great result when you consider that Australian Mercy estimated that COVID 19 would negatively impact its income by at least 10%. In the 2019-2020 Financial Year. Over this Financial Year our monthly income actually increased by \$3,440.61 per month. (See table 2)

This financial year we had a total income of \$1,106,814.75 which is an increase of \$41,287.40 on last year. (See Table 1)

Chart 1: Donation Income over 3 years

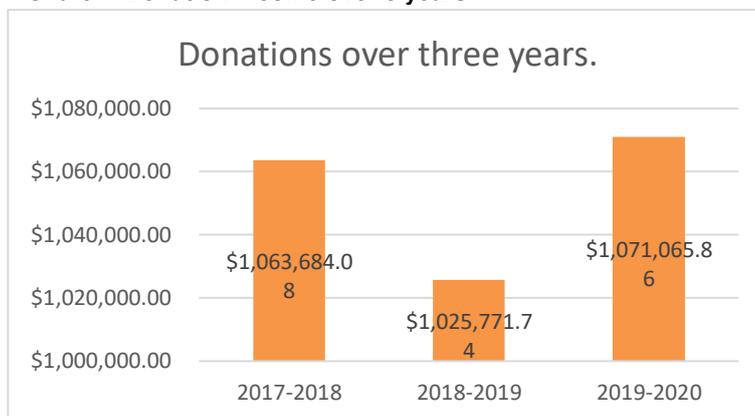


Table 1: Monthly income over 3 years

Year	Annual Income	Average Monthly Income
2017-2018	\$1,108,466.16	\$92,372.18
2018-2019	\$1,065,527.35	\$88,793.94
2019-2020	\$1,106,814.75	\$92,234.56

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

**59 George St
Burwood NSW 2134**

**02 9745 6820
www.tak.com.au**

Table 2: Donation Income over 3 years

Year	Donation Income	Average Monthly Donation Income
2017-2018	\$1,063,684.08	\$88,640.34
2018-2019	\$1,025,771.74	\$85,480.97
2019-2020	\$1,106,814.75	\$92,234.56

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.

Over the Financial Year, Australian Mercy had a total income of \$1,106,814.75 of this \$950,694.82 (85.88%) were disbursed to both International and Domestic projects.

International Projects

Our largest single expenditure item is always funds sent to international programs which this year was \$586,227.68. This represents 52.96% of total income for the year. In Table 3 we can see the breakup of international expenditure by country.

National Projects

The audit of accounts shows that in in the 2019-2020 Financial Year that the total amount expended by Australian Mercy on National projects was \$364,467.14 or 32.92% of total income. Table 4 shows the disbursement of funds to Domestic projects.

Table 3: Project funds disbursed (by country)

Country	Amount (AUD)
Australia	364,467.14
Burma (Myanmar)	8,812.96
Cambodia	125571.90
D.R. Congo	31,377.55
India	5,540.32
Indonesia	36,500
Nicaragua	12.200
Philippines	0
PNG	34,845.51
Solomon Islands	41,500.00
Thailand	111,485.80
Timor Leste	65,662.44
Vanuatu	1,230.00

*funds sent to Netherlands to assist an emergency team deploying to a disaster in Mozambique

Table4: Funds to Domestic Projects

Domestic Project	Expenditure	% of income
National Office	158,979.05	14.36
Canberra	60,140.91	5.43
Perth	17,650.00	1.59
Rahab	3,515.82	0.31
RescueNet	10,000.00	0.90
Shoalhaven	112,836.10	10.19

**Table 5: Project expenditure over 3 years ***

Year	Expenditure	Percentage of total income
2017-2018 National Projects	\$198,913.62	17.95%
2017-2018 International Projects	\$882,694.42	79.65%
Total 2017-2018	\$1,081,608.24	97.58%
2018-2019 National Projects	\$284,251.16	26.66%
2018 -2019 International Projects	\$625,374.56	58.67%
Total 2018 - 2019	\$909,625.72	85.34%
2019-2020 National Projects	\$364,467.14	32.92%
2019-2020 International Projects	\$586,227.68	52.96%
Total 2019 - 2020	\$950,694.82	85.88%

*These figures and percentages are effected by funds from the previous year still travelling through the accounting system. In the audit documents it shows that at 30 June 2020, Australian Mercy has more than \$357,000 in its bank accounts.

Administration and Accountability

The 2019-2020 Financial audit shows that Australian Mercy spent \$196,432.20 on Administration and accountability. This figure is made up \$130,413.40 (11.78%) in administration costs and \$66,018.80 in asset purchases and salary costs. This is a decrease of \$23,248.90 on last year's administration figure. The Australian Mercy Board are always looking for ways to reduce out overheads and although this is a very good effort we will continue to find cost savings so what we continue to maximise the benefit we give to the projects that we serve.

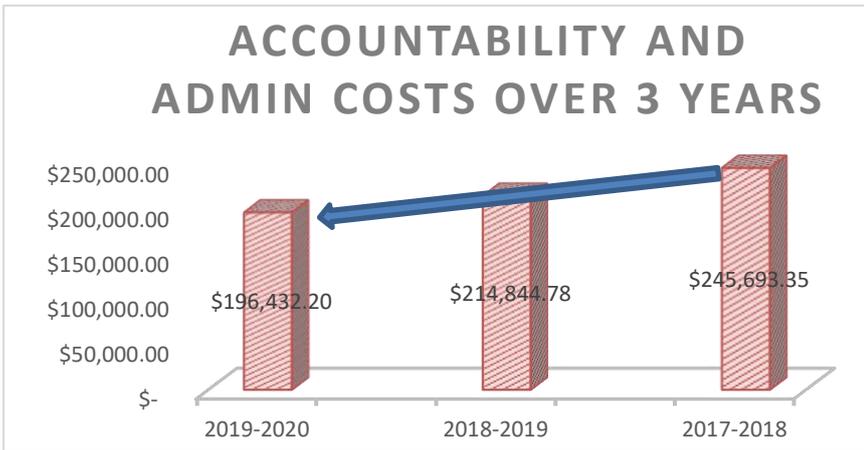
Table 6: Admin and accountability expenditure over 3 years

Year	Admin & Accountability	% of total income
2017 - 2018	\$245,693.38	22.16%
2018 - 2019	\$214,844.78	20.15%
2019 - 2020	\$196,432.20	17.74%

This audit of accounts shows us to be in very 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 page 62 of this report.

Chart 2: Admin costs over 3 years



Note on fundraising and fundraising expenses.

Australian Mercy does most of its fund raising via the internet. We no longer do mail outs and do not hire advertising firms or professional fundraisers to work for us. Sometimes we produce items such as pens or fridge magnets which we freely give away as a means of thanking donors. Occasionally we may buy some form of media advertising in a local newspaper or magazine in order to raise our public profile.

Some of Australian Mercy’s fundraising is done by donors and supporters who may take a collection or hold a small event such as a coffee morning in order to support a specific project. We may be totally unaware that these events have happened until we actually receive the funds. In such cases the cost of the fundraising is not borne by Australian Mercy but by organizers of the spontaneous fundraising event. Australian Mercy faithfully receipts and distributes all funds that are sent to us from such fundraisers.

For these reasons our audits often show that our expenditure on fundraising and advertising is low and in some years may actually be shown as \$0.

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 our books for 12 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 Box 132, 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. These values are determined by using a formula that is stipulated by DFAT against various categories of volunteer labor whose value is also determined by DFAT. These figures are not included in the income and expenditure statements found in our Annual Audit
11. The Australian Mercy Financial Statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID website www.acfid.asn.au.

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; http://www.aasb.gov.au/admin/file/content102/c3/Minutes_unsigned_7-8_Sept_2011.pdf (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 2019 http://dfat.gov.au/about-us/publications/Documents/rde_notes.pdf (page 7-9) 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: and have used



Explanation of volunteer hours recorded in the 2019 / 2020 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.

In recent years, the requirement for keeping account of estimated volunteer hours has become a sector standard. 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 in this report in accordance with the formula laid out by DFAT in the document mentioned above. That formula being $annual\ salary \times 12 / 313) / 75$.

The pay scales in Table 1 we used in these calculations.

2019 / 2020 volunteer hours.

In 2019 / 2020 the number of donated volunteer hours was 115,745 hours which we valued at \$4,319,587.72.

This well above last year's total. Table 2 below shows that the number of hours donated and their estimated value has continued to increase over the past three years.

Designation	Pay scale
1. Project Assistant	\$46,022 - \$53,339
2. Project Officer/Technician	\$60,377 - \$69,836
3. Middle Professional	\$67,657 - \$76,542
4. Project Manager	\$74,605 - \$84,600
5. Team Leader	\$102,432 - \$121,592
6. Higher Professional	\$123,749 - \$148,315
7. Medical Professional	\$136,726 - \$179,847

The data we publish as volunteer estimates are just that; they are estimates of the volunteer hours that have been donated to us by our volunteer staff. We continue to find way to make sure that our possible margins of error are reduced.

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.

2019/2020		2018/2019		2017/2018	
Hours	Value	Hours	Value	Hours	Value
115,745	\$4,319,587.72	80,986	\$3,093,452.57	68,123.50	\$2,512,590.91



Audit of Accounts



**A full copy of the Australian Mercy
Audit of Accounts for this financial year
is available from
The National Office upon written request.**

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

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited
ABN 84 008 643 258
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
As At 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenue			
Donations and Gifts			
- Monetary		1,071,065.86	1,025,771.74
- Non-Monetary		0.00	0.00
- Bequests and Legacies		0.00	0.00
Grants			
- AusAID		0.00	0.00
- Other Australian		0.00	0.00
- Other overseas		0.00	0.00
Investment Income – Interest Received		553.11	7,181.94
Other Income		35,195.78	32,573.67
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	<u>1,106,814.75</u>	<u>1,065,527.35</u>
Expenditure			
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure			
- International Programs			
- Funds to International Programs		586,227.68	625,374.56
- Program Support Costs		0.00	0.00
- Community Education		0.00	0.00
- Fundraising Costs			
- Public	3	0.00	0.00
- Accountability and Administration		196,432.20	214,844.78
- Government, multilateral and private		0.00	0.00
- Non-Monetary Expenditure		0.00	0.00
Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		<u>(782,659.88)</u>	<u>(840,219.34)</u>
International Political/Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure		0.00	0.00
Domestic Programs Expenditure		364,467.14	284,251.16
Total Expenditure		<u>(1,147,177.02)</u>	<u>(1,124,470.50)</u>
Surplus/(Deficit)		<u>(40,362.27)</u>	<u>(58,943.15)</u>
Other Comprehensive Income		0.00	0.00
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		<u>(40,362.27)</u>	<u>(58,943.15)</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited
ABN 84 008 643 258
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
As At 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	33,501.65	85,772.09
Other financial assets	5	24,164.29	21,531.20
Total Current Assets		57,665.94	107,303.29
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	6	15,547.43	13,469.29
Total Non-Current Assets		15,547.43	13,469.29
Total Assets		73,213.37	120,772.58
 Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	7	864.99	8,061.93
Total Current Liabilities		864.99	8,061.93
Total Liabilities		864.99	8,061.93
Net Assets		72,348.38	112,710.65
 Equity			
Retained Earnings		72,348.38	112,710.65
Total Equity		72,348.38	112,710.65

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited
ABN 84 008 643 258
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Retained Earnings \$	Reserves \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 JULY 2019	112,710.65	0.00	112,710.65
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over Expenditure	(40,362.27)	0.00	(40,362.27)
Amount transferred (to) from reserves	0.00	0.00	0.00
Balance at 30 JUNE 2019	72,348.38	0.00	72,348.38

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited
ABN 84 008 643 258
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<hr/>		
Cash Flow From Operating Activities		
Receipts from customers	1,106,261.64	1,058,345.41
Payments to Suppliers and employees	(1,303,303.83)	(1,136,830.11)
Interest received	553.11	7,181.94
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (note 2)	<u>(196,489.08)</u>	<u>(71,302.76)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	(196,489.08)	(71,302.76)
Cash at the beginning of the year	229,990.73	301,293.49
Cash at the end of the year (note 1)	<u><u>33,501.65</u></u>	<u><u>229,990.73</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

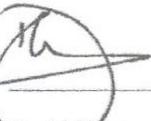
Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited
ABN 84 008 643 258
Directors' Declaration

The Directors of the company declare that:

1. 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 2020 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.

2. 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.



David Skeat
Director



Nicolas Matthews
Director

Dated: *13th November 2020*

Australian Relief and Mercy Services Limited
ABN 84 008 643 258
Independent Audit Report to the Members

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 2020.

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
Independent Audit Report to the Members

Qualification

Cash donations are a significant source of revenue for the company. The company has adopted and implemented an appropriate policy and procedure in relation to the receipt of cash donations; however, it has determined that it is impractical to establish reporting control over the collection of cash donations prior to entry into its financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding revenue from this source was limited, our audit procedures with regards to cash donations had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records and we are therefore 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 donations and sales to related parties. The company has adopted and implemented appropriate policies and procedures in relation to such transactions; however, as the effective reporting control over such transactions are not established until they are received and entered into 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:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2020 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.

Signed on : 16th November, 2020 .



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

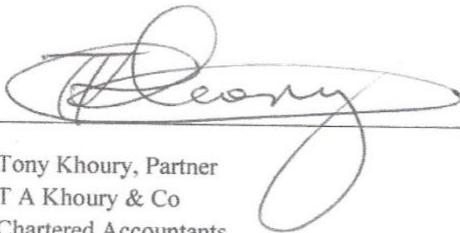
**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE
CORPORATIONS ACT 2001**

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 2020 there have been:

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

Signed on : 16th November, 2020.



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

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

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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 organizations 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 2019 - 2020.





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