



COMPANION HOUSE

Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma

2009-10

ANNUAL REPORT











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Staff, Management, Patrons and Funding

Staff

Director:
Kathy Ragless / Clare Doube

Counselling Team:
Counselling Team Leader - Elizabeth Price
Counsellor/Advocate - Children - Deborah Nelson
Counsellor/Advocate - Children - Carolyn Rolls
Counsellor/Advocate - Early Intervention - Fiona Delacy
Counsellor/Advocate - Early Intervention/General Services - Clare O'Rourke
Counsellor/Advocate - General Services (Young people and adults) - Robin Alderson Smith
Counsellor/Advocate - General Services (Young people and adults) - Ina Susljik
Complementary Therapist - Rosemary Taylor

Community Development Team:
Team Leader - Vesna Golic
Project Officer - Hongsar Channaibanya
Project Officer - Sandra Lloyd
Project Worker - Lucia Costa

Medical Team:
Practice Nurse - Fiona McDonald
Medical Coordinator - Silvia Salas Meyer
Clinical Director - Dr Chris Phillips
GP - Dr Joo-Inn Chew
GP - Dr Bernadette McKay
GP - Dr Katrina Anderson
GP - Dr Alex Stevenson
GP - Dr James Eldridge
GP - Dr Robert Hain

Training, Advocacy and Community Awareness:
Team Leader/Trainer - Glenn Flanagan
Trainer/Sudanese Bi-cultural worker - James Atem Mayen

Complex Case Services:
Pam Mitchell

Administrative Team:
Administrative and Reception Coordinators - Loan Freeman and Sai Maung
Finance Officer - Gen Hemsley Wilken
IT Support - Eric Warner from Epi Media

Board of Management

Chairperson - Helen Cory
Secretary - Jennifer Hurley
Treasurer - Satnam Singh
Members - Elizabeth McLaughlin, Jackie Wenner, Brooke McKail, Carol Keil, Kathy Ragless / Clare Doube (ex-officio)

Patrons

Justice Elizabeth Evatt AO
Professor William Maley AM

Funding

In addition to donations gratefully received from many individuals, we acknowledge the following organisations for their financial support:

Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing - Program Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma (PASTT - counselling and advocacy and community capacity building)

Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Citizenship - short term torture and trauma counselling, community awareness and Complex Case Services

Commonwealth Department of Family, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs - Emergency Relief, Sharing and Learning project and Mon Community in Cultural Transition project

ACT Health - Counselling and primary health services

ACT Health Promotion - Young People Growing and Building Healthy Communities Together projects

ACT Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services - Children and Young People Program, Community Development Program, Sudanese Women's Dancing Group project and Infrastructure Grant

Partners and Alliances

- Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT)
- International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims
- Australia Mon Association Inc
- Australia-Karen Organisation of the ACT
- Canberra Sierra Leone Association
- Chin Community Goulburn
- Sudanese Australia Community Association
- Sierra Leone Community
- Dinka congregation at St George's Anglican Church
- Canberra Institute of Technology and Adult Migrant English Program
- Northside Community Service
- Dickson College Secondary Introductory English Centre
- North Ainslie Primary Introductory English Centre
- Translating and Interpreting Service
- St John the Apostle Refugee Resettlement Committee
- Canberra Refugee Support
- CatholicCare
- ACT Housing
- St Vincent de Paul
- Multicultural Youth Service
- Goulburn Multicultural Centre
- Migrant and Refugee Settlement Service of the ACT
- Migrant Health Unit interpreters
- Multicultural Youth Service
- Interchange General Practice
- ACT Division of General Practice
- ACT Dental Program
- Arcidiacono Optometrists
- OPSM
- Spectacle Subsidy Scheme
- Macquarie Pharmacy
- Capital Pathology
- National Capital Diagnostic Imaging
- Gungahlin Child and Family Centre
- Capital Medical Supplies
- Australian Institute of Sport
- YWCA
- ACT Playgroups
- Chef's Toolbox
- Red Cross

Mission

Companion House is a non government community based organisation. We work with adults and children who have sought safety in Australia from persecution, torture and war related trauma. We believe that people who have survived torture, trauma and human rights violations should have access to services that respect, empower and promote recovery.

Principles of Service

1. We acknowledge and respect the strength and resourcefulness of survivors of the refugee experience.
2. We respect and respond to diverse needs including those determined by culture, religion, ethnicity, gender and sexuality.
3. We promote client independence, self-determination and informed choice.
4. Our services are based on a holistic approach to health care.
5. We are committed to the confidentiality of all client information.
6. We work in strong partnerships with government and non-government agencies and individuals to ensure health care and other service systems and communities are accessible and sensitive to the needs of survivors of torture and trauma.
7. Our services are open and accountable to feedback and suggestions from clients and the community.
8. We promote and preserve human rights.
9. We as staff support each other in our work.

From the Chairperson

This year has been characterised by some major celebrations, new staff and new initiatives and periods of careful scrutiny and examination.

On 2 December 2009, we celebrated 20 years of providing services to refugee communities and communities in transition. We had a festive evening of speeches, performances and refreshments. This was a great time to meet people who had shaped the life of Transact, as it was first known and who have contributed in an ongoing way to the organisation, now known as Companion House.

The next celebration was our move to new premises in Cook, to the former Cook Primary School. After 10 years in O'Connor, the move to Cook went smoothly and presented an opportunity to review and refresh our policies and procedures in providing services. Thanks to members and volunteers who greatly assisted in the move and in setting up the new offices.

Other annual celebrations in the Companion House calendar were the World Refugee Day Soccer Tournament on 19 June 2010 and the Fund-raising Dinner on 8 September 2010. Both events bring large numbers together in a spirited and enjoyable way. Thank you to Board members and particularly Carol Keil for a well-organised dinner, which raised $3,032.

Our long-standing Director Kathy Ragless took 12 months Maternity Leave in May and we welcomed Clare Doube as our Acting Director. Clare brings expertise in policy and organisational skills and has confidently managed and directed our staff and ensured a smooth transition to the new premises.

The Board committed to rewarding our dedicated and enthusiastic staff, numbering 17 at present, by implementing pay increases above the SACS award. We acknowledge the creative and productive work of our staff, often on shoe-string budgets.

The design skills of our Board members are evidenced by a new Membership Form and the 2011 Calendar, illustrated with artworks from the Children's Program. Thanks Jackie Wenner and Lizzie McLaughlin respectively for making these projects happen.

This year has been the first anniversary of Companion House opting in to be bound by provisions of the ACT Human Rights Act 2004. As the first community organisation in the ACT to do so, we have lead the way.

Being in the community sector means limited finances and constant scrutiny of income and expenses. Many thanks to our Treasurer Satnam Singh and Director for keeping their eyes on the ball and their willingness to be innovative and explore all options.

I would like to thank everyone who makes this organisation tick – staff, clients, Board members, volunteers and funders. We look forward to another full year in 2011.

Helen Cory
Chair, Companion House Board

From the Director

Companion House's 21st year has certainly been a busy one! There have been celebrations, soccer matches, reflection and learning, an office move – and lots of work in between…

We marked our 20th anniversary with a celebration in December 2009 that included dance and song, an exhibition of children's art and speeches from the Minister of Multicultural Affairs, Joy Burch, and one of our patrons, Bill Maley. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring together the wider Companion House family – current and former clients, partner organisations and our alumni of past staff and Board members – to reflect on and celebrate our achievements and to look forward to a future just as bright.

The national conference of the Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma in early 2010 then gave us a chance to strengthen relationships with staff from our sister agencies in other states, reflect on our approaches and share experience and learning. This conference is held every five years so it was a rare treat to bring all the agencies together.

Events continued to be an important part of the year, including our annual Refugee Day Soccer Tournament, which brought together six teams from Canberra and Goulburn, each with lots of enthusiastic supporters! Another important event was a Community Exchange Forum, where 60 representatives from five refugee communities exchanged experiences on settlement and discussed how Companion House could best support and cooperate with them. This is now informing our priorities for the year ahead.

And then in June 2010, we finally moved offices! Everyone who has visited our old office, which had started to crumble around us, would know that it was time to move. We are now located in the Cook Community Hub, in beautiful refurbished office space with lots of windows and light. If you haven't already, please do come and visit us in our new home.

In between all of this, our ongoing programs continued to blossom. The Counselling team continued to provide services to adults and children – both those who have just arrived and those who have lived here for some time – to help them to come to terms with past experience and settle into a new environment. The work of the Medical Service continued to grow, with expanding numbers of patients due to the ongoing challenge to find other GPs in Canberra.

Our work with communities continued apace, including activities to support families with young children to build their skills in cultural transition and parenting, and health promotion activities involving sport and dance. Our training expanded considerably, with 70 training sessions to mainstream services to increase their understanding of the refugee experience and build skills in working with survivors of torture and trauma – a substantial increase from 49 sessions the year before.

All these activities have been conducted by our small staff team who I would like to pay tribute to, for their commitment and hard work. I would also like to acknowledge Kathy Ragless, under whose leadership most of these achievements occurred. Kathy is now on maternity leave but will return to Companion House in May 2011. Our work would also not have been possible without the support of our funders, members and partners.

But most of all, I would like to honour the hundreds of people we have worked with over the last year – their efforts to recover from past experiences and rebuild their lives is truly an inspiration to us all. Thank you for the opportunity to work with you.

Clare Doube
Director, Companion House

Report

Objective One: Survivors of torture and trauma from refugee backgrounds have the opportunity to heal and rehabilitate

Counselling and Complementary Therapy are part of the range of services Companion House offers to people who have sought refuge in Australia from persecution, torture and war-related trauma. We work with people of all ages and cultural backgrounds, including who have just arrived in Australia and those who have been here for some time. The establishment of safety is a core aim of our counselling work. During this year, we completed practice manuals for the Children's Program, Early Intervention Program and for Complementary Therapy.

Newly arrived people

Companion House's Early Intervention Program works with newly arrived humanitarian entrants in their first year in Australia, as part of the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Scheme (IHSS). During the 2009-10 year, we worked with 190 people in Canberra, Goulburn and Bega. Clients came from 21 countries, with many from Afghanistan, Burma, Iraq, Sri Lanka and Sudan. The Early Intervention Program assesses psychosocial needs, in close cooperation with the Medical Service's assessment of primary health needs, and then offers short term counselling and support.

It is an exciting area of activity – although often a very busy one – and it is inspiring to have the opportunity to work with people as they first arrive and become used to all aspects of their new lives. We would like to pay tribute to the strength, resilience and good humour of the new arrivals we have welcomed to ACT and NSW and wish them the very best for their settlement in Australia.

Adults and young people

Our General Service Program provides counselling and advocacy services to adults and young people over the age of 15. In 2009-10, we worked with 182 people in this program in Canberra and Goulburn. We worked with people from refugee backgrounds, asylum seekers and people with a refugee like experience.

This program gives people the opportunity to explore painful issues and symptoms that have been concerning them, to process these and to alleviate their distress. Advocacy is an important complement to counselling services, and often involves supporting clients to access social entitlements, reunite with family or deal with legal issues.

As part of Complex Case Services (CCS), we also provided intensive case management services to five families in 2009-10, assisting fourteen people. This program provides short-term intensive support for people with a range of complex health needs.

Children

Our Children's Program works with children and young people individually, in family settings, in groups and in schools. We work with them (and their family and school) to come to terms with past experience and adjust to their new environment in Australia. During the year we worked with 113 children. Activities included: assessment and activity programs during each school holidays, play therapy individually and in groups, and support to parents and carers. Engagement with schools was also very important, including liaison with schools and families and supporting them to understand the impact of torture and trauma on children and their recovery needs.

A special project during this year was an art exhibition created for Companion House's 20th anniversary. Children from the Mon, Karen, Iraqi, Dinka and Sierra Leone communities helped us create a beautiful, colourful visual display representing the involvement of children in Companion House's programs.

Complementary Therapy

Our Complementary Therapy program assists people to manage physical pain and distress. Our focus is on providing Bowen Therapy and Bach Flower remedies. During the year, we worked with 30 people in this program.

Objective Two: Health systems are appropriate for and accessible to refugee survivors of torture and trauma

Medical Service

Companion House's Medical Service works with newly arrived people from a refugee background as they settle into Australian life, people with complex needs over the longer term, and asylum seekers. Our aim is to be a transition service for new arrivals during their first year in Australia, however the shortage of accessible primary health services in the ACT makes it difficult to refer our clients to other GPs. Our Medical Service therefore continues to expand and we currently have more than 600 clients-450 received services in 2009-10.

During the year, we provided GP sessions five times a week, as well as services by our full-time Practice Nurse. The busy service conducts health screening and vaccinations when people first arrive in Australia – often after many years of poor access to primary health care. We also work with longer-term settlers from a refugee background to help them manage any chronic and complex health needs.

We also provided a range of referral, coordination and outreach services which, combined with Memoranda of Understanding with other services including dental, pathology and diagnostic imaging, ensured clients could access other health and allied services in the ACT. Outreach and advocacy focused on encouraging other health services to use interpreters.

Program	Number of Clients
EIP Program	190
Children	113
General Services	182
Complex Case Services	5
Complementary Therapy	30
Medical Services	600

Objective Three: The Community welcomes refugees and is sensitive to the needs and strengths of survivors of torture and trauma

Training

We provided training and orientation to a range of mainstream services to increase understanding of the refugee experience and build skills in working with survivors of torture and trauma. There has been increasing demand for this training and during 2009-10 we facilitated 70 training sessions with a total of 1,194 participants. This is a considerable increase from the 49 training sessions conducted the year before.

Sessions were delivered to a variety of agencies, including police, employment services, school teachers and counsellors, community services and Care and Protection, education institutions including Canberra Institute of Technology and Goulburn TAFE, and health services including dental services, hospitals, GP clinics and specialists. We would like to thank all agencies for their time and interest, and their commitment to improving the services they provide to people from a refugee background.

During the year we also updated our training methods, focusing on adult learning methodologies. Evaluations from sessions were also used to adjust future training. Feedback from participants was extremely positive. Some examples of comments include: "very informative, highly valued" (Families ACT), "very good discussion and helpful presentation" (Youth Coalition of ACT), "wonderful presentation – interesting, informative" (the Junction Youth Health Service), and "very effective including the exercises and participatory content" (Civic Police Station).

Advocacy

Our advocacy is conducted at the individual and systemic levels. At an individual level, staff members advocate for clients to access services and entitlements. This is not only important for clients, but tracking experience with services also informs our wider policy advice and systemic advocacy.

During 2009-10 Companion House prepared two substantial papers documenting and analysing the experience of people from a refugee background

with two crucial services: schools and Care and Protection. These submissions included recommendations for changes in policies and procedures that we believe would make a tangible difference. These include related to use of interpreters, foster arrangements, dedicated resources for teachers, and communication with parents and carers.

Our advocacy and policy advice is sometimes conducted alone, sometimes as a member of FASSTT, and sometimes as part of the two working groups established last year – the ACT Refugee Housing Working Group and the ACT Asylum Seekers Network (ACTASN). A particular focus for ACTASN this year has been access to services for asylum seekers in the ACT. There have been commendable efforts in some areas, notably the Canberra Institute of Technology publishing a policy on access to English classes for asylum seekers. We will continue to encourage the ACT Government to make clear their commitment that all services in the ACT should be accessible to asylum seekers.

Community Awareness

Our annual Soccer Tournament held on World Refugee Day was again a fun day, which also allowed participants to showcase their sporting skills, and helped build links and friendships within and between the communities involved. This year six teams participated, from the Chin, Karen, Liberian, Mon, Sierra Leone and Sudan communities. And not only did the Liberian team participate for the first time, they also went home with the winner's trophy!

Another important way to increase understanding in the Australian community and build a welcoming environment for refugees is through our engagement with community groups and agencies. Throughout the year we spoke at many events, highlighting the achievements and contributions of people from refugee backgrounds.

Objective Four: Communities affected by torture and trauma are strong, resilient and skilled in ways that enable them to thrive in Australia

Community Development

Our approach to working with refugee communities is to draw out the considerable strengths and skills within the community and to assist them in their transition to life in Australia. In 2009-10, we particularly worked with the Sierra Leone, Sudanese, Karen, Mon, Chin and Tamil communities. We are constantly guided by the leaders and other representatives of each community and we would like to thank them for their time, support and ongoing efforts for the benefit of their community.

Community exchange and capacity building

All our projects have a strong focus on building community capacity and skills. In 2009-10 we continued working with each community separately, but also supported sharing of experience between communities. This was facilitated by a very successful Community Exchange Forum which brought together leaders and representatives from the Sudanese, Karen, Mon, Chin, Sierra Leone and Hazara communities.

Community representatives shared experiences, achievements and challenges their communities have encountered, and reflected on their communities' future development. They identified areas of future cooperation and requested Companion House to continue facilitating this exchange. This event was a valuable learning experience for Companion House and discussions have informed our priorities for the year ahead.

During the year we also continued our liaison and support to community associations, building governance and leadership capacities and helping develop communities' internal and external networks.

Health promotion

2009-10 was the last year of two health promotion projects. The Healthy Communities project covered a range of healthy living activities with adults, including nutrition, hydration, dance and sport. The Young People Growing project used sport and dance activities to promote a healthy lifestyle with young African men. Through

these two projects, we worked with over 200 people from the Sudanese, Sierra Leone, Mon and Karen communities. In addition, a new project has just commenced, supporting dancing, cooking and cultural heritage with Sudanese women.

During the year, community peer mentors were trained in health promotion issues, including substance misuse. They were resourced with relevant health promotion material and supported to promote health in their communities. Karen and Sudanese groups developed health promotion messages that were printed on T-shirts and caps and distributed in the communities. Sports activities included: Karen and Sudanese soccer and basketball teams, Sudanese teams' involvement in sport tournaments, Karen people trying new sports such as tennis and swimming, and a Sudanese women's walking group which was linked to the Heart Foundation. We organised social events in each of the communities to enhance social connections and community strength.

Parenting and Cultural Transition

Through two projects - Sharing and Learning, and Mon Community in Cultural Transition - we continued focusing on parenting issues, including making the cultural transition to parenting in Australia, encouraging greater access to mainstream services and building community capacity to support families in parenting and cultural transition. These two projects were highly interactive, with ongoing exchange, mutual learning and building on existing strengths. Topics discussed included issues related to families' preserving their own culture while accepting the best that Australian culture has to offer, and how Australian services work. Over 140 people were involved in these projects during the year.

Living support

Direct Financial Support

We provided $10,295 of Emergency Relief payments to assist people in financial distress on 137 occasions throughout the year. Generous donations from members and supporters and fundraising events ensured that we could provide a further $10,424 to people in need. This helped people access migration advice, organise cultural events and pay study related expenses, such as text books.

Refugee Transitional Housing Program (RTHP)

The Refugee Transitional Housing Program is a tripartite agreement between CatholicCare, ACT Housing and Companion House, providing transitional housing for newly arrived people. In 2009-10, ACT Housing provided 14 houses to the program. CatholicCare provided tenancy management, case management and exit planning with people eligible for the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Scheme; and Companion House provided case management and exit planning for asylum seekers in the program.

Objective Five: Human rights principles underpin our work and our expertise about human rights issues informs policy makers and the community at large

It has now been a year since Companion House "opted in" to the ACT Human Rights Act. We were the first organisation in the ACT to voluntarily agree to being covered by the Act and so far only two other community organisations have followed. In June, the ACT Attorney General issued a media release calling on the business sector to follow our example. Companion House's associated media release highlighted the importance of the community and commercial sectors standing with the government in their commitment to human rights throughout their approach and activities.

Objective Six: Our organisation is well governed and managed and has strong relationships with and understanding of communities affected by torture and trauma, and other Forum of Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT) agencies

Relationships are essential to the work we do and we are pleased to continue our strong, collegiate and effective relationships with other community groups in the ACT and southern NSW, and to participate in networks such as the ACT Office of Multicultural Affairs' Refugee, Asylum Seeker and Humanitarian Coordination Committee and the Department of Immigration's Committee on Migration Planning and Settlement Services. Our involvement in FASSTT also provides ongoing peer support and sharing.

During the year we continued our ongoing planning processes, developing and implementing an annual plan, and were proud to achieve most of the targets we'd set for ourselves last year. Internally, our emphasis on documenting approaches and procedures continued, with three practice manuals for the counselling team completed during the year. Work on data collection and collation continued, using the FASSTT national minimum data set to ensure comparability across Australia.

Our move to a new office, refurbished to our requirements, was a real achievement for 2009-10 and will ensure that we have space for our activities and can provide an appropriate environment for our clients.

Thank You

In recognition to the many friends and donors who worked with us over the year. With special thanks to:

- Board members who retired in October 2009, Digby Habel and Gillian Hunt
- Digby Habel for all his support and practical assistance throughout the year
- The University of Canberra's Student Equity and Support Unit, particularly in organising a fundraising breakfast
- Graeme Wallace for help with our website
- Oliver family for generous donations
- CIT teachers for all their support
- Guest speakers at our fundraising dinners - Virgina Hausegger in 2009 and Pat Power in 2010
- CARE Financial Services for their assistance to clients
- Wellness Foundation for support to health promotion activities
- The wonderful volunteers supporting new arrivals, notably those working with CatholicCare, St John's Kippax and Canberra Refugee Support
- All the interpreters who go well beyond the call of duty in their work
- Jennifer Tode and Hugh Ford for migration services
- Geoff McPherson and Don McDonald for their help with the IAAAS
- All who helped with the office move, particularly Digby Habel, Mike Varga and Evan Tully
- All who assisted with World Refugee Day Soccer Tournament: Australian Institute of Sport, Radford College, U-Turn Youth Services, Kaleen Sports Club, Canberra Milk, Dickson SIEC, UNHCR, Din Pla Hongsa, Ros Phillips, Vanny Ho, Bill Quinn, Bianca Elmir, Rachel Duff, Sameer Mathur, Phil Turini, Yolanda Turini, Les O'Donoghue, Chris Jennaway and Patrick Toumo'ua.
- Martin Pikler, Jennie Roberts and Jean Pierre Le Fevre for their generous support to Mon and Karen families to learn how to play tennis and enjoy the hospitality of the Turner Tennis Club.
- Bi-cultural networkers and peer-mentors: Zehan Nai, Phu Pyu Mon, Shin Thu Gay, Tha Wah K'hser, Pui Tui Cung, Myo Myint Aung, Cheam Gakao Banyar, Graceman Abakah, Garang Bull, Abuk Ayom, Abuk Dau, Peter Kuot and Bashir Alzubier for their time, knowledge, invaluable cultural advice and generosity.

Companion House
Financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2010

COMPANION HOUSE

DIRECTORS REPORT

The Board of Directors present their report together with the financial report of Companion House (the Association) for the year ended 30 June 2010 and auditors report thereon.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The names of the members of the Board of Directors throughout the period and at the date of this report are:

H. Cory	J. Hurley
C. Keil	J. Wenner
K. Ragless	B. McKail
S. Singh	E. Mclaughlin
C. Doube	

Results

The profit of the Association for the period amounted to $82,798 (2009 – $38,996).

Review of Operations

The Association continued to engage in its principal activity, the results of which are disclosed in the attached financial report.

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the period.

Principal Activities

Companion House provides counselling and advocacy for survivors of torture of trauma. There was no change to the nature of this activity during the period.

After Balance Date Events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the period which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Association in future periods.

Likely Developments

The Association expects to maintain the present status and level of operations.

COMPANION HOUSE

DIRECTORS REPORT (Continued)

Environmental Issues

The Association's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

Indemnification of Officer

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the period, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the Association.

Proceeding on Behalf of the Association

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Association or intervene in any proceedings to which the Association is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Association for all or any part of the proceedings.

The Association was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 required the Association's auditors Mark Hayes and Co, to provide the Directors with an Independence Declaration in relation to the review of the financial report. The Independence Declaration forms part of the financial report.

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

Helen Corry .....

Director

22nd day of September 2010

..... TREASURER

Director

7/10/2010

Dated ~~this ..... day of August 2010.~~

Companion House
Independent Audit Report
To the Members of Companion House

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Companion House (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2010, and the income statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Board of Director's declaration.

Board of Director's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Directors of the association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the association's constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The director's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing 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 procedure 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 entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedure that are appropriate in the circumstance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for the distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the association's financial reporting under the constitution. 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 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.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Companion House
Independent Audit Report
To the Members of Companion House

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Companion House as of 30 June 2010 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

Mark Hayes & Co

Accountants

23 Isa Street, Fyshwick ACT 2609

Mark Hayes Mark Hayes.

B of A Accounting, Grad Cert in Financial Planning, Registered Tax agent

Dated this 30th day of August 2010.

Companion House
Auditor's Independence Declaration
For the year ended 30 June 2010

To the Members of Companion House:

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit of Companion House for the year ended 30 June 2010 there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Mark Hayes & Co

23 Isa Street, Fyshwick ACT 2609

Mark Hayes Mark Hayes.

Dated this 30th day of August 2010.

Companion House
Income Statement
For the Year ended 30 June 2010

	Notes	2010 $	2009 $
Revenue		1,352,864	1,233,169
Employee Benefits Expense		974,804	879,959
Depreciation		19,495	18,519
Other Expenses		275,767	295,695
Profit before Income Tax		82,798	38,996
Income Tax Expense			-
Profit from Operations		82,798	38,996

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Companion House
Balance Sheet
As at 30 June 2010

	Notes	2010 $	2009 $
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	245,520	237,016
Receivables	3	208,941	103,012
Investments	4	21,496	20,749
Other Assets	5	-	1,250
Total Current Assets		475,957	362,027
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	6	58,945	61,681
Total Non-Current Assets		58,945	61,681
Total Assets		534,902	423,708
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accruals		54,987	56,716
Grants paid in advance		39,839	6,190
Provisions	7A	73,321	74,818
Total Current Liabilities		168,147	137,724
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	7B	28,825	23,195
Other	8	52,314	59,972
Total Non-Current Liabilities		81,140	83,167
Total Liabilities		249,287	220,891
Net Assets		285,615	202,817
Member's Funds			
Accumulated surplus		285,615	202,817
Total Member's Funds		285,615	202,817

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Companion House
Cash Flow Statement
For the Year ended 30 June 2010

	Notes	2010 $	2009 $
Cash Flows From Operating Activities			
Cash Received			
Grants & Medical Programs received		1,231,780	1,219,260
Interest received		7,749	9,779
Other income		33,661	29,278
Total Cash Received		1,273,190	1,258,317
Payments			
Payments to suppliers		-275,766	-293,759
Payments to employees		-970,670	-858,487
Total Payments		-1,246,436	-1,152,246
Net Cash from Operating Activities		26,753	106,071
Cash Flow from Investing Activities			
Proceeds from sales of plant and equipment		14,500	24,090
Payments for purchases of plant and equipment		-32,750	-41,314
Net Cash from Investing Activities		-18,250	-17,224
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		8,504	88,847
Cash at beginning of the financial year		237,016	148,169
Cash at end of financial year		245,520	237,016

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Companion House
Statement of Appropriations
For the year ended 30 June 2010

	Notes	2010 $	2009 $
Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of Year		202,817	163,821
Profit before Income Tax		82,798	38,996
Income Tax		-	-
Profit after Income Tax		82,798	38,996
Accumulated Surplus at 30 June 2010		285,615	202,817

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

COMPANION HOUSE

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the ACT Association Incorporation Act 1991. The financial report is prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical cost and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report:

(a) Depreciation of Non-current assets

Non-current assets are carried at cost and are depreciated on the straight line basis at rates considered adequate to write off over their estimated useful lives.

(b) Employee Benefits

The amount expected to be paid to employees for their entitlements to annual leave and long service leave is accrued annually at current pay rates.

(c) Income Tax

Taxation has not been provided for as the association is exempt for taxation under section 23(e) of the Income Tax Assessment At 1936, as it is a public benevolent institution.

(d) Revaluation of Non-current assets

The carrying amount of non-current assets is reviewed annually by the directors to ensure that it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

(e) Economic Dependency

The Association's continuing operations are based on the understanding that there will be future government grants to cover ongoing commitments.

COMPANION HOUSE
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	2,010 $	2009 $
2. Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Cash at Bank	245,520	237,016
3. Receivables		
Sundry debtors	208,941	103,012
4. Investments		
CPS Investment	21,496	20,749
5. Other Assets		
Prepayments	-	1,250
6. Property, Plant and Equipment		
Plant & equipment at cost	59,530	47,607
Plant & equipment accumulated depreciation	(44,381)	-37,013
	15,149	10,594
Building improvements at cost	1,275	1,275
Building improvements accumulated depreciat	(1,275)	-547
	-	728
Motor vehicles at cost	59,164	62,786
Motor vehicles accumulated depreciation	(15,368)	-12,427
	43,796	50,359
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	58,945	61,681

COMPANION HOUSE
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	2010 $	2009 $
7. Provisions		
7A. Current		
Annual leave	73,321	74,818
Long service leave		-
	73,321	74,818
7B. Non-Current		
Long service leave	28,825	23,195
	28,825	23,195
8. Other Liabilities		
Hire Purchase Loans	52,314	59,972

Companion House
Statement by Directors

The Board of Directors has determined that Companion House is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board as set out in the accompanying financial report;

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Companion House as at 30 June 2010 and its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe Companion House will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

Helen Corry

.....
Director

22 September 2010

.....
Director TREASURER

Dated this .....~~day of August 2010~~
7 OCTOBER 2010

Companion House
Information for the Members
On the 2010 Financial Statements

Detailed Income Statement

DISCLAIMER

The additional financial information presented on the following pages is in accordance with the books and records of Companion House which have been subject to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the association for the year ended 30 June 2010.

It will be appreciated that our audit did not cover all the details of the additional financial information. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on such financial information and no warranty of accuracy or reliability is given.

In accordance with our firm policy, we advise that neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility arising in any way whatsoever to any person (other than the company) in respect of the additional financial information, including any errors or omissions therein, arising through negligence or otherwise however caused.

Mark Hayes & Co

23 Isa Street
Fyshwick ACT 2609

Dated this 30th day of August 2010

Mark Hayes
Director

