Companion House

2014 – 15 Annual Report



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.

Patrons, Board, Staff and Funding

PATRONS

Justice Elizabeth Evatt AO
Professor William Maley AM

BOARD

Chairperson Michael Brown
Secretary Ibolya Losoncz (until Oct 2014), Eleanor Browne (from Oct 2015)
Treasurer Cade Brown (until Oct 2014), Rahul Verma (after Oct 2014)
Members Liz Callaghan (until May 2015), Toni Matulik, Kylie Woodward, Kim Ryan (from Oct 2014), Gordon Scott (from Oct 2014)

STAFF

Director Kathy Ragless
Operations Manager Jeannie McLellan

COUNSELLING TEAM:

Team Leader Deborah Nelson
Counsellor – Children Sam Storey
Counsellors Elizabeth Price, Ina Toumoua, Fiona McDonald (until Nov 2014), Anna Molan, Brenda Martin (from November 2014)
Support worker and case work Jill Caley – passed away July 2015 and missed deeply by many
Complementary Therapy Rosemary Taylor

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING TEAM:

Team Leader Glenn Flanagan
Project Officers Hongsar Channaibanya, Habibullah Azimi, Sandra Lloyd, Peter Kuot, Tytti Makinen, Vieli Choka (until November 2014), Velupillai Ariyaratnam Balasanthira

MEDICAL TEAM

Team leader Lisa Clements
Practice Nurses Lisa Clements Tytti Makinen, Megan Enright (from May 2015)
Medical Coordinator Silvia Salas Meyer
Support staff Andrew Sein and Pam Mitchell
Clinical Director Dr Christine Phillips
GP Dr Katrina Anderson, Dr Joo-Inn Chew, Dr James Eldridge, Dr Sue Baglow, Dr Bernadette McKay

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Team Leader Loan Freeman
Finance Officer Gen Jones and Oki Widodo (from May 2015)
Admin/Reception Staff Andrew Sein, Pam Mitchell
IT contractor: Forward IT with special thanks to Hrovje Grabic.

MIGRATION AGENTS

IAAAS Jennifer Tode and James Brown
Probono David Chen, Marianne Dickie, Marion Le, James Brown, Ruth Haig, Fragomens, Ebenezer Banful, Er-Kai Wang
Low fee James Brown, Hugh Wyndham, Carly Saeedi, Jennifer Tode, Owen Harris, Ruth Haig, Ebenezer Banful

FUNDING

In addition to donations gratefully received from many very generous individuals, we acknowledge the following funding bodies for their financial support:
Margaret Augusta Farell Trust – with grateful recognition of donated trust funds for support work with asylum seekers- This was the key element to our ability to provide support to asylum seekers in 2014-15.
Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing – Program Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma (PASTT - counselling, training and community capacity building)
Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Border Protection – Immigration Advice and Application Assistance Service (IAAAS), Complex Case Services , counselling for people in community detention and asylum seekers participating in CAS/ASAS.
Commonwealth Department of Social Services – Emergency Relief, Sharing and Learning Program
ACT Government Health Directorate – counselling, primary health services and health promotion projects
ACT Government Community Services Directorate – children's program, community development program activities, work with youth, training

PARTNERS AND ALLIANCES

ACT Dental Program
ACT Mental Health
ACT Health Community Pediatrics Registrar Program
ACT Council of Parents and Citizens Associations
ACT Social Enterprise Hub
ACTCOSS
Adult Migrant English Program (Navitas English)
Australia-Karen Organisation of the ACT
Australia Mon Association Inc
Asylum Seekers Transitional Accommodation Program (Canberra Men's Centre, Connections ACT, St Vincent de Paul, Australian Red cross, Companion House Canberra, Canberra Refugee Support, Housing ACT)
Belconnen Child and Family Centre
Belconnen Community Service
Calvary Hospital Refugee Mentoring Program
Canberra Multicultural Communities Forum
Canberra Men's Centre
Canberra Refugee Support
Capital Medical Supplies
Capital Pathology
Capital Football
Communities at Work
Dickson College Secondary Introductory English Centre
Dinka congregation at St Phillips Anglican Church
Flamen nominees
Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT)
Foodbank
Gungahlin Child and Family Centre
Housing ACT
Industry Compliance Systems and Training
Interchange General Practice
International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims
Kambah Community Gardens
Little Athletics
Majura Tennis Club
Medicare Local
Multicultural Youth Service
National Capital Diagnostic Imaging
Office of Multicultural Affairs
Our Place Youth Accommodation
Australian Red Cross
Relationships Australia
Rodney's Plants
Refugee Council of Australia
Spectacle Subsidy Scheme
St John the Apostle Refugee Resettlement Committee
St John's Anglican Church
St Vincent de Paul
Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program, CIT
Snow Foundation
Sudanese Australia Community Association
Tuggeranong Child and Family Centre
Uniting Church Gunghalin and the Mustard Seed pantry
Youth Coalition of the ACT
Our Place Youth Accommodation Program

From the Chairperson and Director

Over 2014-5 Companion House remained strongly committed to support and strengthen adults and children who have sought safety in Australia from persecution, torture and war. We worked with over 1000 people in medical, counselling, migration support, community development and health promotion programs. We were privileged to work with so many skilled and resourceful people, setting out to rebuild their lives in Australia with tenacity.

Companion House also remained strongly committed to human rights principles. The uncertain and often punitive environment for asylum seekers remained a challenge with some public policy undermining efforts to build safety and dignity for vulnerable people. We thank lawyers, migration agents and psychiatrists who have donated their time or charged us low fees for working with asylum seekers on legal and health issues. This work has only been possible through generous donations from private donors.

A further core focus for our organisation over 2014-5 was strengthening our anti torture advocacy. As an organisation we believe torture to be an unacceptable violation of human rights and the right of survivors to rehabilitation is a core principle behind our service design.

As Chairperson and Director we have both felt privileged to work with highly functional, skilled and collaborative staff and board teams over 2014-5. It has also been a privilege to work in partnership with funders, donors, supporters, members and friends. With many thanks for your contributions to recovery, rebuilding and human rights principles.

Michael Brown
Kathy Ragless

We worked with over 1000 people in medical, counselling, migration support, community development and health promotion programs.

Youth leader Bo Doh Wah speaks to Refugee Week gathering



Young leader Garang Bul speaks about safe alcohol use





Community leaders - Peter Aleer and Zelai Chinzah



Manoranjithan Ramachandran accepts life membership from Companion chair Michael Brown

Goal One

Survivors of torture and trauma heal and rehabilitate from torture and trauma experiences

Counselling, support work and complementary therapy with adults and young people

We worked with people who have just arrived in Australia and those who have been here for some years, from many different cultural backgrounds and across the age spectrum. We worked with both people from a refugee background and asylum seekers.

We used a wide range of therapeutic tools with a strong focus on building safety. Our work with asylum seekers in this area tends to focus on containment of distress and anxiety and symptom management

The team also had a support worker over the year. Most of this work was with families and focused on housing issues, homelessness and financial distress.

As part of this work we managed two private rental properties head leased for vulnerable people.

We continued to work with primary aged children both individually and in groups. Much of this work is done in close cooperation with ACT schools. We also continued to run programs for children in school holidays.

Medical Service

Companion House's Medical Service worked 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.

The medical service provided GP and Registered Nurse services five days a week. This included health screening and primary health care such as vaccinations when people first arrive in Australia. We also worked with people over a longer period to help them manage chronic and complex health needs. Our clinic also provided a range of referral, coordination and outreach services to ensure clients can access other health and allied services in the ACT.

We continued to have a paediatric registrar working with our GPs once a week under a memorandum of understanding with ACT Health Directorate. Over 2014-15 the team were very pleased to be joined by a pro bono psychiatrist, Dr Emma Adams. Companion House GPs also successfully established a network of psychiatrists willing to work with our service over coming years. In addition, we became one of very few general practices with practitioners licenced to prescribe Hepatitis B antiviral medications in the ACT.

Counselling, Casework and Primary Health Services

Program	Number of Clients
Counselling with adults and young people	265
Children's holiday programs, group work and individual counselling	56
Counselling with people in community detention (asylum seekers)	19
Complex Case	8
Complementary Therapy	39
Support Work and casework	107
Medical patients	1197



Canberra's newest growers



Soil tillers for Tribal Gardens from the Snow Foundation



Growing for community and meaningful enterprise

The community welcomes refugees and is sensitive to the needs and strengths of survivors of torture and trauma

Goal Two

Training

Companion House continued to deliver training and community education program aimed at increasing understanding of the refugee experience and building skills in working with survivors of torture and trauma. During the 2014-15 year, we facilitated 49 training sessions with a total of 780 participants from 57 Government and community agencies in Canberra and Queanbeyan.

Policy Advocacy

We worked with partner agencies and with policy makers on a large variety of systemic advocacy issues at the local level. Our organisation put the highest priority on the local issues described below.

Service Access for Asylum Seekers

Over 2014-15 Companion House continued to collaborate with the ACT Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and Office of Regulatory Services (ORS) in the granting of ACT Access Cards to asylum seekers (which ensure access to ACT local Government services). Companion House granted approvals for cards to be generated by ORS to asylum seekers each quarter. We are not funded by government for this activity.

Asylum Seeker Housing for Unaccompanied Men

Companion House was very pleased to continue to work together with eight local partner agencies to operate the Asylum seekers Transitional Accommodation Program (ASTA) over 2014-15. This initiative provides shared accommodation for vulnerable unaccompanied asylum seeker men. Housing ACT provides the properties for this program, which is otherwise unfunded by Government

Interpreter Use in the ACT Health System

Companion House worked with ACT Health Directorate on the issue of interpreter use in the ACT health system. The Medical Service also documented research findings from our medical client management system which found lack of interpreter use with non-English speakers in the ACT health system is a serious issue in the ACT. As part of this issue we also provided free interpreter training to ACT Health staff.

Education Pathways for Young Asylum Seekers

Companion House started work with policy makers in ACT over the year to find education and training pathways for young asylum seekers graduating from Dickson College at the end of 2015.

Advocacy for people in the Migration Process

We linked asylum seekers and asylum seekers/ people from a refugee background who had visa cancellations to migration advice and legal support when needed. We also advocated for torture survivors and people with vulnerable mental health in decision making processes.

Goal Three

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

Community Development and Capacity Building

We worked with a number of refugee communities to facilitate links, draw out the considerable strengths and skills within the community and to assist people as they transition to life in Australia. We continued to focus on cultural transition, health promotion, governance of community associations, social enterprise and parenting activities.

This work is only possible through the ongoing support and guidance from leaders and peer mentors from each community.

Highlights included:

- Fresh produce gardens at Pialligo involving 30 families, regular fresh produce markets and annual open day
- Gym, swimming and nutrition sessions with Muslim women
- Driving lesson program for 13 young asylum seekers unaccompanied by family
- Cricket, tennis and cooking with Tamil men
- Cultural transitions sessions with young people
- Gym, bowling and swimming for unaccompanied minors
- Support of Canberra Kangaroos Soccer Team
- Sessions for women focused on nutrition and exchange
- Walking groups
- Playgroups for isolated parents and Mon and Karen playgroups
- Eid celebrations with young Muslim men
- Active children's days in school holidays in partnership with Little Athletics

Migration Advice and Assistance

Over 2014-15 we managed the Immigration Advice and Application Assistance Scheme (IAAAS) for the ACT.

Under the IAAAS we provided 325 immigration advice sessions. Most of these sessions were focused on family reunion applications. We also supported 15 asylum seekers with advice and application assistance.

We sourced support for people not eligible for the IAAAS - this work is reported more fully under Goal 4. In addition, we ran a volunteer program to support people to complete migration documentation.

Emergency Financial Relief and Donated Goods

We granted emergency financial relief to 165 people in financial distress over 2014-5. Most of this group of people were asylum seekers. We provided food vouchers, bus tickets and fuel cards and paid for medications.

We distributed a large volume of donated clothing and food over 2014-15, including regular deliveries of bread and groceries. We also facilitated a program which received donated computers and laptops and prepared them for donation.

Goal Four

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

We continue to ensure that human rights principles are at the core of our work. There were many compelling human rights issues at the national level for our asylum seeker clients in particular. We worked at the individual level to assist asylum seekers to cope with delayed processing times, re-detention, lack of migration support, financial stress and separation from family. We also fed policy input about the experience of our clients at the national level to Government and peak bodies.

Under Goal 2 in this report we describe a number of key local issues which Companion House focused on over 2014-15. These included asylum seekers access to secure housing and key services, interpreter use in the ACT health system and education pathways for young asylum seekers.

However, most energy and resources were directed into securing migration advice and assistance for asylum seekers who arrived to Australia by boat. Companion House expanded our network of migration agents over 2014-15. We supported agents by providing interpreters, office space, organising appointments and paying for work when we have donations to do so. Over 2014-15 Companion House was very pleased to be able to facilitate migration support to 85 asylum seekers.

In addition, we linked asylum seekers/ people from a refugee background who had visa cancellations to migration advice and legal support when needed.

Companion House also advocated for torture survivors and people with vulnerable mental health in decision making processes as a core part of our commitment to human rights principles.

In June 2015 we marked International Day in Support of Victims of Torture with a joint forum with the Department of Political and Social Change at the Australian National University. We focused on torture: Its prevalence, politics and lessons from working with survivors. We hope to increase activities which advocate against torture in the future.

Goal Five

Companion House is a high quality and responsive service with excellent governance and management



Women's only swimming program

Over 2014-15 Companion House reviewed core documents, started the revision of all policies and procedures and embarked on the beginning of accreditation under the National Mental Health Standards.

We consulted widely with communities we work with to ensure our services are responsive to the people we serve. We maintained active involvement in a wide range of multi agency forums and continued to host the ACT Asylum Seekers Network (ACTASN).

At a national level, our involvement in the Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT) remained important for service quality and development. Most staff attended the national FASSTT conference focused on clinical work in 2015.

Financial Report

Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated

ABN 98 349 936 816

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The Members of the Board present their report on the Association for the year ended 30 June 2015.

The names of members of the Board in office throughtout the year and at the date of this report are:

M. Brown
T. Matulick
K. Ragless
K. Woodward
K. Ryan (from August 2014)
G. Scott (from October 2014)
R. Verma (from October 2014)
C. Brown (until October 2014)
E. Browne
I. Losoncz (until October 2014)
L. Callaghan (until May 2015)

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

Significant Changes in State of Affairs
No significant changes in the associations state of affairs occurred during the year.

Operating Results
The loss of the Association for the year amounted to $67,088 (2014 - loss $81,577).

After Balance Date Events
No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the reporting period which significantly affected or may 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.

.....
(Board Member)
MICHAEL BROWN

Date 12 October 2015

.....
(Board Member)
RAHUL VERMA

Date 12 OCTOBER

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The Members of the Board have determined that the association is not a reporting entity. The Board have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outline in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the members of the Board of the association the financial report including the statement of comprehensive income, statement of financial position, statement of changes in members' funds, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act); and

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Companion House Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated as at 30th June 2015 and its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. comply with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1; and

3. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

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

.....
(Board Member)
MICHAEL BROWN

Date 12 October 2015

.....
(Board Member)
RAHUL VERMA

Date 12 OCTOBER 2015

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO COMPANION HOUSE ASSISTING SURVIVORS OF TORTURE AND TRAUMA INCORPORATED UNDER SECTION 60-40 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012 (ACNC ACT)

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2015 there have been no contraventions of:

(a) the auditor independence requirements under section 60-40 of the ACNC Act in relation to the audit; and

(b) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Thomas Davis & Co.

THOMAS DAVIS & CO.

J.G. Ryan

J G Ryan Partner

SYDNEY,
Date: 12th October 2015

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

THOMAS DAVIS & CO.
(ESTABLISHED 1894)
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Liability limited by a scheme approved
under Professional Standards Legislation

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TO THE MEMBERS OF COMPANION HOUSE ASSISTING SURVIVORS OF TORTURE AND TRAUMA INCORPORATED

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Companion House Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in members' funds and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory information and the statement by board members'.

Board Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Board members of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Board members' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Board members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that 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 based on our audit. We conducted our audit 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 reasonsable 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 judgment, 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 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonsableness of accounting estimates made by the Board members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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 ACNC *Act.*

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report is in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. Presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Companion House Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated, as of 30 June 2015, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Regulation 2013.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Companion House Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated, meet the requirements of the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Thomas Davis & Co.

THOMAS DAVIS & CO.

J.G. Ryan

J G Ryan Partner

SYDNEY,
Date: 12th October 2015

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 $	2014 $
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	226,451	352,180
Trade and other receivables	3	64,810	120,528
Investments	4	27,046	26,222
Total current assets		318,307	498,930
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	86,867	107,981
Total Non-Current assets		86,867	107,981
Total assets		405,174	606,911
Current liabilities			
Creditors and accruals	6	58,742	81,190
Other	7	13,000	86,000
Provisions	8(a)	95,900	101,194
Interest Bearing Liabilities	9(a)	-	30,683
Total current liabilities		167,642	299,067
Non-Current liabilities			
Provisions	8(b)	37,988	41,212
Interest Bearing Liabilities	9(b)	-	-
Total Non-Current liabilities		37,988	41,212
Total liabilities		205,630	340,279
Net assets		199,544	266,632
Members' funds			
Retained profits/(losses)	11	199,544	266,632
Total members' funds		199,544	266,632

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015 $	2014 $
Revenue	1,880,441	1,910,472
Employee Benefits	(1,413,102)	(1,370,302)
Amortisation and Depreciation	(24,214)	(24,468)
Borrowing Costs	(533)	(4,487)
Other Expenses	(509,680)	(592,792)
Profit / (Loss) before Income tax	(67,088)	(81,577)
Income Tax Expense	-	-
Profit / (Loss) after Income tax	(67,088)	(81,577)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to the members of the association	(67,088)	(81,577)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS' FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015 $	2014 $
Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of Year	266,632	348,209
Profit / (Loss) after Income Tax	(67,088)	(81,577)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Accumulated Surplus at 30 June 2015	199,544	266,632

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 $ Inflows (Outflows)	2014 $ Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Interest received		6,569	9,520
Grants & Medical Programs received		1,766,065	1,741,530
Other receipts		102,168	100,645
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,966,748)	(1,920,628)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	12	(91,946)	(68,933)
Cash flow from investing activities			
Increase / (decrease) in investments		824	1,009
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(3,246)	(30,226)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		(2,422)	(29,217)
Cash flow from financing activities			
Hire purchase and lease payments		(31,361)	(31,585)
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities		(31,361)	(31,585)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		(125,729)	(129,735)
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		352,180	481,915
Cash at the end of the financial year	2	226,451	352,180

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting preparation requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act). The Members of the Board have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis. It is based on historical cost, and does not take into account changing values or, except where specifically 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 specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period, unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report.

(a) Revenue recognition

Government grants

Government grants are recognised at fair value when there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received, and all grant conditions will be met.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised on a time proportionate basis that takes into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

Fundraising and other income

Fundraising and other income are recognised as revenue when received.

(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 Act 1936 , as it is a public benevolent institution.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(d) Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are brought to account at cost or at independent or Committee of Management valuation, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation or amortisation.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including leasehold improvements, are depreciated over their useful lives commencing form the time the asset is held ready for use, to their residual values.

The depreciation rates for each class of asset are as follows:

Asset	Rate	Method
Office Equipment	20% to 40%	Diminishing balance
Motor Vehicles	22.5%	Diminishing balance
Improvementrs	5%	Straight line

(e) Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, the association reviews the carrying values of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and the value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of comprehensive income.

(f) Leases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership are transferred to the company are classified as finance leases.

Finance leases are capitalised recording an asset and a liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual value. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Leased assets are amortised over their estimated useful lives.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

(g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(h) Goods and services tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods are services tax (GST),

(i) where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense; or

(ii) for receivables and payables which are recognised inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

(i) Economic Dependency

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

	2015 $	2014 $
NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at bank & on hand	226,451	352,180
	226,451	352,180
NOTE 3 - TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Trade Debtors	52,343	120,528
Deposits	2,550	-
GST Receivable	9,917	-
	64,810	120,528
NOTE 4 - INVESTMENTS		
CPS Investment	27,046	26,222
	27,046	26,222

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015 $	2014 $
NOTE 5 - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Building Improvements at cost	17,215	17,215
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(3,533)	(2,736)
	13,682	14,479
Plant and Equipment at cost	91,195	87,949
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(50,875)	(36,854)
	40,320	51,095
Motor Vehicles at cost	68,934	19,377
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(36,069)	(8,175)
	32,865	11,202
Motor Vehicles under lease	-	49,557
Less: Accumulated amortisation	-	(18,352)
	-	31,205
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	86,867	107,981
NOTE 6 - TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	58,742	81,190
	58,742	81,190
NOTE 7 - OTHER LIABILITIES		
Grants Received in Advance	13,000	86,000
	13,000	86,000
NOTE 8 - PROVISIONS		
a. Current		
Annual Leave	95,900	101,194
	95,900	101,194
b. Non-Current		
Long Service Leave	37,988	41,212
	37,988	41,212

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015 $	2014 $
NOTE 9 - INTEREST BEARING LIABILITIES		
a. Current		
Lease Liabilities	-	30,683
	-	30,683
b. Non-Current		
Lease Liabilities	-	-
	-	-
NOTE 10 - LEASING COMMITMENTS		
Finance leases capitalised in the accounts in accordance with the accounting policies defined in Note 1		
Payable - minimum lease payments		
- not later than one year	-	31,216
- between 1 and 5 years	-	-
Minimum lease payments	-	31,216
Less: future finance charges	-	(533)
Total lease liabilities	-	30,683
NOTE 11 - RETAINED PROFIT/(LOSS)		
Balance at the beginning of the year	266,632	348,209
Profit/(loss) for the year	(67,088)	(81,577)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Balance at the end of the year	199,544	266,632
NOTE 12 - RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS		
Operating profit / (loss) from ordinary activities after income tax	(67,088)	(81,577)
Non cash items		
Amortisation and depreciation	24,214	24,468
Reinvested interest on investments	(824)	(1,009)
Change in operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables	55,718	(75,005)
Increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables	(22,448)	(7,464)
Increase / (decrease) in income in advance	(73,000)	17,237
Increase / (decrease) in employee provisions	(8,518)	54,417
Cash flows provided by / (used in) operating activities	(91,946)	(68,933)

Thank you

A very big thank you to the many friends and donors who have worked with us over the year. With special thanks to:

The four Tonne project from Four Winds Winery, Collector Wines and Eden Road Wines for very generous donations.
See fourwindsvineyard.com.au/the-4-tonne-project

One Voice Community Choir for donation of concert proceeds and lots of groceries

The leaders and peer mentors from all the refugee communities we work with particularly Manoranjitham Ramachandran, Garang Bul, Deng Aleer, Peter Kuot , Mustafah Ehsan, Zelai Chinzah, Poe Wah, Bu Doh Wah and Velupillai Ariyaratnam Balasuthanthira.

The volunteers supporting the migration agents by assisting people with filling of forms – Carolyn Toms, Elaine Francis, Pat Wagner., Christine Stewart, Jenny Rae, Gabriela Samcewicz and Carol Patrick.

Dickson College with special thanks to Ros Phillips and Brenda Larmour.

Anne Marie Nichol for donation of rental property at cost.

The Australian National University Medical Students, who through the Medical Revue Committee, donated all the profits of their annual Med Revue to Companion House Medical Service

Fred Fawke for shifting furniture and building gardens.

Psychiatrist network: Dr John Saboisky, Dr Meredith Whiting, Dr Kate Lubbe, and Dr Ann Harrison

Our Place Youth Accommodation Service for collaboration and commitment to young people from diverse backgrounds.

Jamal Halal for weekly donations of fresh produce.

Digby Habel for doing lots of practical jobs.

Jenny McGee for bringing weekly delivery of donated bread from Brumby's bakery in Lyneham.

Rosie Done and Pat Varga for lots of practical help including hanging curtains and delivering donated goods regularly.

Café Ink for donated food.

Roy and Barbara Priest from Flamen nominees for their support of the community garden.

Margaret Mckinnon and Evelyn Gore for coordinating warm knitted items needed for a Canberra winter.

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Dr Nick Cheeseman from the Department of Political and Social Change at the Australian National University for his assistance to organise the International Day in Support of Torture Victims event.

FreeComputer Coop for rebuilding and supplying computers and laptops at no charge for Companion House clients. Also to the many donors of laptops and computers for the FreeComputer service.

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