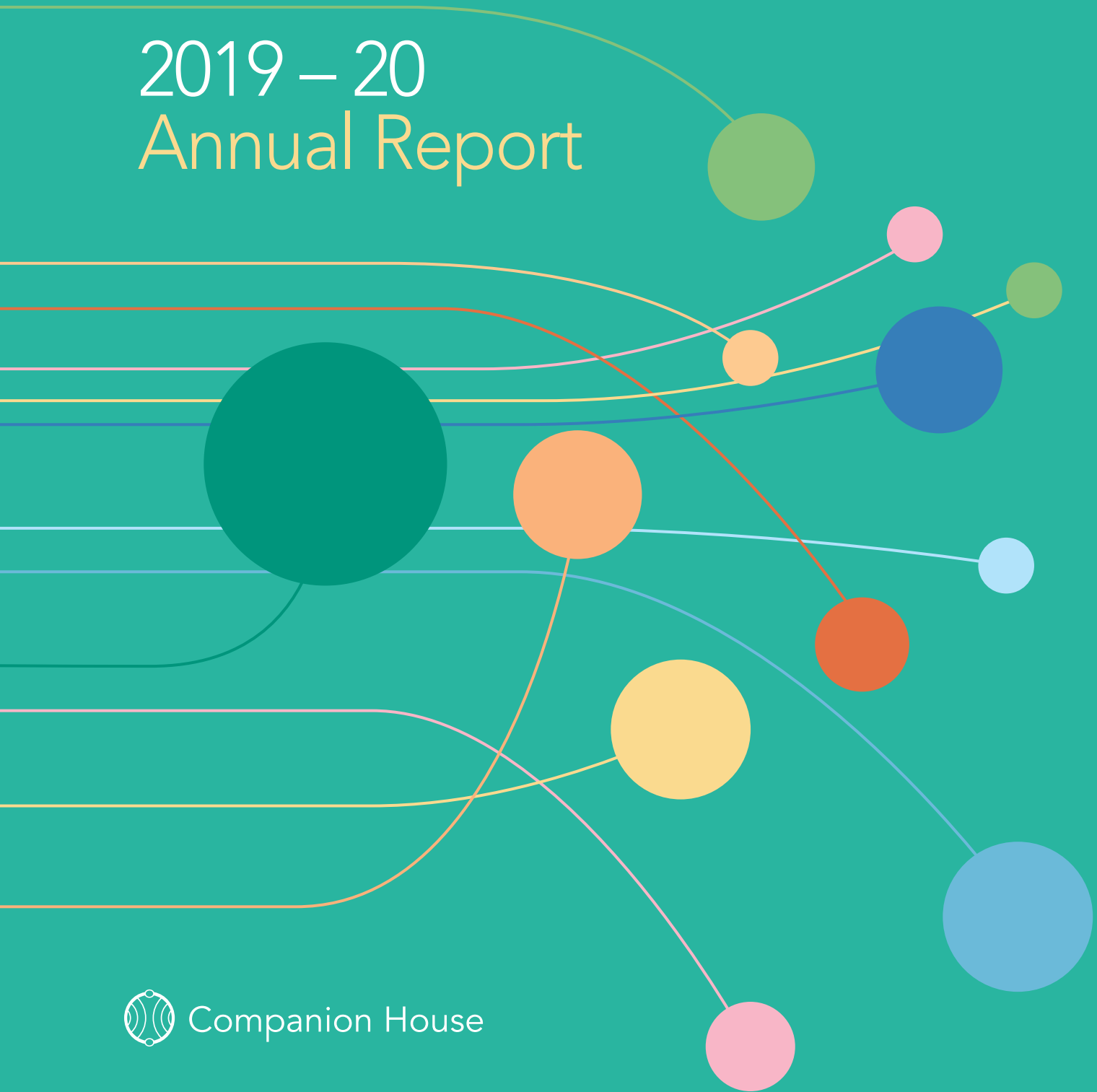
Companion House

2019 – 20 Annual Report



Companion House

Patrons, Board, Staff and Funding

PATRONS

Justice Elizabeth Evatt AO
Professor William Maley AM

BOARD

Chairperson
Ibolya Losoncz
Secretary
Ellie Pahlow
Treasurer
Rahul Verma
Members
Tara Gutman, Manar Ahmad (from October 2019), Rebecca Harnett, Diva Mahesan Divakaran (from September 2019), Mohammad Ali, R.Akila (until October 2019)

STAFF

Director – Kathy Ragless

COUNSELLING TEAM

Team Leader – Ina Toumoua
Counsellor – Children – Sam Storey
Counsellors – Elizabeth Price, Amelia Ishikawa, Vaneitha Balakrishnan, Mary Pekin
Complementary Therapy – Patricia Jones

COMMUNITY AND TRAINING TEAM

Team Leader – Glenn Flanagan
Projects and casework – Hongsar Channaibanya
Casework – Jennifer Tode
Diabetes Project – Cleo Fleming
Healthy Happy Life Project – Saba Rawdhan

MEDICAL TEAM

Team leader – Megan Enright
Practice Nurses – Allison McGurgan and Jane Desborough
Support staff – Silvia Salas Meyer, Andrew Sein and Pam Mitchell
Medical Clinical Director – Dr Christine Phillips
Clinical Support Doctor – Dr Sue Baglow
GPs – Dr Katrina Anderson, Dr Joo-Inn Chew, Dr James Eldridge, Dr Bernadette McKay, Dr Ying Ying Liew, Dr Pam Whalan
Physiotherapist – Therese Keily-Wynter
Visiting Clinicians – Dr Phillip Keightley (psychiatrist) and Dr Jarrod Holst (psychiatrist) Dr Kate Drummond (Dermatologist)
Surge support clinicians: Dr Bec Karthage, Dr Bethan McDonald, Lisa Clements

OPERATIONS TEAM

Team Leader – Loan Freeman
Accountant – Oki Widodo
Admin/Reception Staff – Andrew Sein, Pam Mitchell
IT and special projects – Jeannie McLellan
IT contractor – Forward IT with special thanks to Hal Hrovje Grabic.
Migration Agents (pro bono)
Jenny Rae
Jennifer Tode

FUNDING

We acknowledge the following funding bodies and partners for their financial support:
Commonwealth Department of Health – Program Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma (PASTT – counselling, training and community capacity building)
Commonwealth Department of Social Services – Emergency Relief and Prevention of Domestic Violence Project.
ACT Government Health Directorate – counselling, and primary health services, health promotion projects
ACT Government Community Services Directorate – children's program, community development program activities, work with young people, training and casework with families.
Snow Foundation – University fees
Multicultural Employment Services – Employment support services
Duo Life without Barriers: Community Assistance Program (CASP)

Key Partners

ACT Dental Program
ACT Mental Health
ACT Health Community Pediatrics Registrar Program
ACT Pathology
Adult Migrant English Program (Navitas English)
Ainslie Village
ASEC (Australian Security Education & Consulting Pty Ltd)
Australia–Karen Organisation of the ACT
Australian Islamic Medical Alliance
Australian National University Medical School Academic Unit (AUGP)
Australian Red Cross
ARUMA Disability Services
Asylum Seekers Transitional Accommodation Program and Everyman Australia
Calvary Hospital Refugee Mentoring Program
Canberra Institute of Technology
Canberra Refugee Support (CRS)
Capital Pathology
Canberra Community Law Centre
Canberra Institute of Technology English Language Centre
Diabetes NSW and ACT
Refugee Bridging Program, Dickson College Secondary Introductory English Centre
Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT)
Foodbank
Helping ACT
International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT)
Kippax Care Pantry – Uniting Care Kippax
Legal Aid ACT
Multicultural Employment Service and Multicultural Youth Service
National Capital Diagnostic Imaging
Ochre Health Medical Centre in Bruce
Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA)
QTIC – Quality Training in Construction
Relationships Australia
Refugee Council of Australia
Spectacle Subsidy Scheme
St Vincent de Paul
University of Canberra
Snow Foundation
Psychiatrist Network: Dr John Saboisky, Dr Meredith Whiting, and Dr Ann Harrison
Migration Agents Network: Marion Le, Owen Harris, Liz Huang–Brown, Hugh Wyndham

Vision

A community that supports the health, wellbeing and human rights of people who come to Australia seeking protection from persecution, war and torture.

Mission

Advance the health, well-being and human rights of people who have sought safety in Australia from persecution, torture and war.





Principles of Service

1

We promote and respect human rights encompassing the values of respect, dignity and equality for every person.

2

We acknowledge and respect the strength of our clients and promote self-determination and informed choice.

3

We foster professionalism through evidence based practice, our accountability to clients and the community, and strong staff collegiality.

4

We foster partnership and collaboration with clients, partners, funders and community.

5

We work within a framework of recovery that is based on building safety and control, fostering connections and belonging, and building meaning, justice and dignity.

Companion House Goals

Goal 1:

Survivors of torture and trauma are supported to achieve good health, wellbeing and trauma recovery.

Goal 2:

The community welcomes asylum seekers and people from a refugee background, and is sensitive to the needs and strengths of survivors of torture and trauma.

Goal 3:

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

Goal 4:

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

Goal 5:

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







Companion House celebrated 30 years in October 2019 working with some of the most inspiring and resilient people it is possible to meet. This was a wonderful evening with new and old friends sharing memories and hopes for the future.



From the Chairperson & Director

2019-2020 in the ACT will be remembered for hazardous smoke and bushfires encircling Canberra over the spring and summer and Covid-19 restrictions and close downs over autumn and winter.

Companion House closed on a few hazardous smoke days over summer but has remained open for the rest of 2019-2020.

From March-June 2020, over the close down period, we had a strong focus on primary health care. We used a mixture of tele health and on site consultation to meet health care needs of patients over these months. Companion House nurses also gave 600 flu vaccines over this period.

The other strong focus for Companion House March-June 2020 was the provision of emergency relief to people losing employment and income support for asylum seekers without income. Working with key partners (ACT Office of Multicultural Affairs, Canberra Refugee Support and St Vincent de Paul) we were able to ensure asylum seeker households did not descend into destitution and homelessness over this time.

Counselling services with survivors of torture and trauma were carried out predominantly by phone March-June 2020 but returned to face to face service in late June. We learnt a lot about virtual delivery of counselling services and worked closely with clients to understand their needs and preferences.

Casework services and employment support continued over the whole financial year on site and face to face to ensure we met urgent needs and could support community over difficult times.

Training services built capacity to work on line over a March-June suspension of all group programs at Companion House due to Covid-19.

Nonetheless, group projects flourished in between the challenges. It was a great pleasure to work with young people from refugee backgrounds on social media messaging about prevention of family violence, clearly reflecting the depth of leadership skill amongst this talented group of young people. We also highly valued the work we did with bilingual community educators who worked hard with their communities on diabetes prevention.

Companion House also worked on improvements to the ACT Asylum Seeker Access Card grant process and data collection in collaboration with ACT Office of Multicultural Affairs over 2019-2020.

Additionally, we also maintained our accreditation under RACGP Standards for General Practice and were assessed in September 2019 for a second three year cycle of accreditation under the National Standards for Mental Health Services (NSMHS). We met all standards under the NSMHS and are accredited until 2022.

For Companion House staff and Board it remained a privilege to work so closely with our community and to offer health and support services over 2019-2020. We in turn are also well supported by the Canberra community in so many ways and are very grateful for the trust and generosity afforded our organisation.

We sincerely thank funders, donors, partners and friends for their support. Your supports are not merely generous acts, but also an investment into our future and an affirmation of the ACT community's commitment to the health, wellbeing and human rights of people who come to Australia seeking protection.

Dr Ibolya Losoncz, Chairperson
Kathy Ragless, AM, Director

Service highlights over 2019–2020

Medical

Health services for people from a refugee background and asylum seekers with a strong focus on long appointments, interpreter use and accessible and respectful health care.

1295

medical patients used primary health care services at Companion House.

Weekly paediatric clinic, physiotherapist and yoga for women, monthly psychiatric clinic for adults and a monthly psychiatric clinic for children (other than March-July when suspended due to Covid-19).

700

flu vaccines given over 2020 flu season.

Weekly nurse led clinic for people new to Australia until border restrictions as a result of Covid-19 stopped the flow of new arrivals in April 2020.

Counselling

Counselling services for people from torture and trauma backgrounds across the age spectrum focused on symptom relief, using clinical frameworks based in person centred and respectful care.

229

adults and young people used torture and trauma counselling services.

32

children participated in groups and individual counselling.

Intensive family support to

10

families of children in counselling services.

Casework and Advocacy

Casework and advocacy with priority for torture survivors, families with children, young people, asylum seekers and temporary refugee visa holders.

Casework and advocacy services were used by

205

asylum seekers and people from a refugee background.

Focused on housing, migration, and a wide range of other life issues.

Provided 90 households from asylum seeker and refugee backgrounds financial assistance over Covid-19 period.

Complementary Therapy

Complementary therapies to provide relief from pain and distress.

Bowen therapy sessions and Bach Flower Remedies to

22

people (suspended March-June 2020).

Migration Advice and Assistance

Specialist advice and assistance to assist people navigate Australian migration systems to enable family reunion, establishment of refugee claims and citizenship application.

On site migration advice and application assistance sessions for

65

people seeking advice and assistance with asylum seeker claims, family reunion issues and citizenship (suspended March-June 2020).

Worked with off site agents on a mixture of pro bono and paid work for

29

asylum seekers.

Community work

Partnerships with community utilising community strength and capacity

Worked with young people to discuss prevention of domestic violence, formulate key messages for peers and produce social media resources.

Community consultations with Arabic and Spanish speaking community members.

Supported community initiatives: with highlights being Karen MasterChef, Canberra Kangaroos Soccer team, Family Fun Day for children and African Soccer Tournament.

Granted approval documentation, provided photos and card collection service for Asylum Seeker Access Cards in partnership with ACT Government. Also provided options paper to ACT Government regarding future shape of Access Card processes and built a new Access Card Database with contractor Agileware.

Worked with eight community bilingual educators on diabetes education.





Canberra Kangaroos soccer team organised their very first awards night in July 2019 acknowledging the skill, passion and commitment of young community members.



Family Fun Day at Companion House: A merry-go-round, visits from zoo animals and face painting brightened Winter school holidays in July 2019 for children and families.

Training to other organisations

Training with other organisations to build understanding, skills and capacity.

Training to

484

participants in 41 health, welfare and community agencies and groups over the year. Sessions were focused on working with survivors of torture and trauma, cross cultural skills and interpreter use (suspended March-June 2020).

Education and employment

Services, advocacy and partnerships to build pathways to education and employment.

Supported

5

tertiary students on Safe Haven Enterprise Visas with university fees and living costs and maintained strong partnerships with University of Canberra.

Supported

15

young people and asylum seekers to access vocational training, career planning and gain driver licences.

Worked in close partnership with Multicultural Employment Service to source employment and training pathways for

102

job seekers in search of employment.

Emergency Relief and housing support

Food, transport, medication and housing relief for people living in poverty and destitution.

Food, bus tickets, donated goods, food vouchers, payment of essential medications, access to external medical services and rental payments for

250

people in financial distress, mainly asylum seekers.

Secretariat to Acute Rental Support Coordination Committee (ARSCC), providing rental support with Canberra Refugee Support, St Vincent de Paul and Red Cross to ensure asylum seeker families do not become homeless.

Ongoing accommodation support to

9

families and individuals.

Most common languages

Farsi

Dari

Arabic

Karen

Tamil

Spanish

Most common country of birth

Afghanistan

Burma

Iran

Iraq

Sri Lanka

El Salvador

Key advocacy and human rights issues

Companion House worked with services, policy makers and funders to advocate regarding:

Access to social entitlements, particularly social housing

Support for asylum seekers without income living in destitution over Covid-19 period

Asylum seekers service access in the ACT, particularly school education

Use of interpreters in service delivery across service systems, particularly in the health system

Asylum seeker access to migration advice and assistance

Health effects of long term detention on clients in indefinite detention

Anti-torture advocacy

Access to education for young people on temporary refugee visas.

Key Performance Indicators

Efficiency indicators

1

100% of organizational expenditure is dedicated to achievement of identified strategic priorities each financial cycle. → **achieved 100% 2019-2020**

2

A minimum of 75% of total funds expended is dedicated to direct service delivery each financial year. → **74% 2019-2020**

3

Staff structure maintains 80% of staff in direct service delivery against strategic priorities each financial year. → **81% 2019-2020**

4

Overall client to staff ratios are maintained within 10% variation of 1:50 and do not significantly decline or increase in any given period each financial year. → **within variation 2019-2020**

5

Staff retention rates do not fall below the range of 8 average years of service or annual staff turnover of less than 10% in a year → **achieved at 2% staff turnover 2019-2020**

Mission indicators

1

Survivors of torture and trauma who used Companion House maintained/improved physical and mental health and reported well-being and social benefits from engagement with our organisation: target percentage of 70%. → **achieved at 79% 2019-2020**

2

Local community built understanding of refugees and survivors of torture and trauma: target of 300 people in training annually. → **achieved 2019-2020.**

3

Our organisation influenced public policy directions at the local level in the area of asylum seekers policy: target of 2 key policy areas. → **achieved impact on public policy directions on income support for asylum seekers and increase in discretionary fund over Covid-19 period**

4

Local communities affected by torture and trauma built skills and knowledge in employment and training pathways: target of 100 people. → **on target at 102 people**

5

We build partnerships and better access to services for vulnerable people through maintenance of existing partnerships and formation of new formal alliances in identified sectors of need: target 2 new formal strategic partnerships each year. → **achieved with health promotion partners over 2019-2020**

6

We can demonstrate commitment to continuous improvement through accreditation against mental health and primary health care standards. → **achieved RACGP accreditation 2018-2021 and achieved second round of National Standards for Mental Health Services in September 2019 for the period 2019 - 2021.**

A Celebration of Culture and Respect

In this project young people from Canberra communities created strong positive messages of respect to prevent family and gender based violence.

See also Companion House YouTube channel to see local young people talk about their hopes and messages.

















Companion House launched *A Celebration of Culture and Respect* in 2019 at the ACT Legislative Assembly. Young people spoke powerfully at this event which was also attended by Minister Yvette Berry.

Financial Report

Companion House

Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated

ABN 98 349 936 816

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Board Report

The Members of the Board present their report on Companion House Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated "the Association" for the year ended 30 June 2020.

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

I. Losoncz (Chair)
R. Verma (Treasurer)
T. Gutman
M. Ahmad (from October 2019)
D. Maheson Divakaran (from September 2019)
E. Pahlow (Secretary)
K. Ragless
M. Ali
R. Harnett
R. Akila (Resigned October 2019)

Principal Activities

Companion House is a non government community based organisation working with adults and chlidren who have sought safety in Australia from persecution, torture and war related trauma. The organisation provides medical, counselling and a range of community services. There was no change to the nature of this activity during the year.

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

No significant changes in the Association's state of affairs occurred during the year.

Operating Results

The surplus of the Association for the year amounted to $57,331 (2019 - $492).

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)

Date 15 October 2020

.....
(Board Member)

Date 13 October 2020

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 outlined 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 profit or loss and other 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 2020 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 declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board and is signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

.....
(Board Member)

Date 15 October 2020

.....
(Board Member)

Date 13 October 2020

Auditor's Independence Declaration

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020 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.

J G RYAN PARTNER

SYDNEY,
Date: 15 October 2020

Chartered Accountants

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

THOMAS DAVIS & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
ESTABLISHED 1894
www.thomasdavis.com.au
mail@thomasdavis.com.au

Independent Auditors Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Companion House Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, 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, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Board Members' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Companion House Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including;

(a) giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June, 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and

(b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards.Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution and Use

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Association's financial reporting responsibilities under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Board Members for the Financial Report

The Board Members of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the needs of the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 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 a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board Members are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board Members either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to audit 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 Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board Members.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board Members' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board Members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Thomas Davis & Co

THOMAS DAVIS & CO.

J G Ryan Partner

Chartered Accountants

SYDNEY,
Date: 15 October 2020

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 $	2019 $
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	645,521	470,066
Trade and other receivables	4	13,241	20,791
Investments	5	30,424	29,845
Total current assets		689,186	520,702
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	6	30,028	37,989
Total Non-Current assets		30,028	37,989
Total assets		719,214	558,691
Current liabilities			
Creditors and accruals	7	73,194	59,078
Contract liabilities	8	166,182	97,595
Provisions	9	198,172	177,683
Total current liabilities		437,548	334,356
Total liabilities		437,548	334,356
Net assets		281,666	224,335
Members' funds			
Retained surplus/(deficit)	10	281,666	224,335
Total members' funds		281,666	224,335

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 $	2019 $
Revenue		2,435,570	2,006,604
Employee Benefits		(1,481,290)	(1,297,595)
Depreciation		(7,961)	(12,298)
Computer Expenses		(24,804)	(18,342)
Insurance		(64,336)	(75,286)
Medical Contracts and Expenses		(239,834)	(209,620)
Program and Donation Expenditure		(408,982)	(233,586)
Rental Expenses		(35,289)	(47,145)
Other Expenses		(115,743)	(112,240)
Surplus / (Deficit) before Income tax		57,331	492
Income Tax Expense	1(c)	-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) after Income tax		57,331	492
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to the members of the association		57,331	492

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Changes in Members' Funds

For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020 $	2019 $
Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of Year	224,335	223,843
Surplus / (Deficit) after Income Tax	57,331	492
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Accumulated Surplus - End of Year	281,666	224,335

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 $ Inflows (Outflows)	2019 $ Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Interest received		3,094	6,817
Grants received		2,279,011	1,809,108
Other receipts		229,023	178,482
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,335,673)	(1,991,325)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	12	175,455	3,082
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		175,455	3,082
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		470,066	466,984
Cash at the end of the financial year	2	645,521	470,066

Notes to & Forming Part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2020

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Financial Reporting Framework

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 as there a no users dependent on general purpose financial statements.

Statement of Compliance

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the basis of accounting specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of Accounting Standards AASB 101: Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107: Cash Flow Statements, AASB 108: Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 1031: Materiality and AASB 1054: Australian Additional Disclosures.

The association has concluded that the requirements set out in AASB 10 and AASB 128 are not applicable as the initial assessment on its interests in other entities indicate that it does not have any subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures. Hence, the financial statements comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis of Preparation

The financial report, except for cash flow information, 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.

Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue recognition

The association has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15) and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 1058) using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 July 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: Revenue and AASB 1004: Contributions.

On the application of these standards there were no adjustments required to be made to the opening balance of equity.

Grants and donations

Contributed assets

If the association receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives, these assets would be recognised in accordance with the recognition requirement of other applicable standards (AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

(a) Revenue recognition (continued)

On initial recognition of an asset, the association recognises related amounts (being contribution from owners, lease liabilities, financial instruments, revenue or contract liabilities arising from a contract with a

The association recognises income immediately in profit and loss and the difference between the initial carrying amount and the asset and the related amount.

Operating grants and donations

When the association receives operating grant revenue or donations, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficient specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15. When both these conditions are satisfied the association identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant, recognises a contract liability for these obligations and recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations the association either recognises the asset received in accordance with the requirements of other applicable accounting standards, recognises related amounts or recognises income immediately in profit and loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the association recognises income in profit and loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of taxes paid. Revenue is recognised for the items as follows:

Interest received

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 generally recognised as revenue when received. Contributions that are received for specific purposes are recognised as revenue when the funds are expended. Where those funds have not been fully spent at balance date this revenue is recognised in advance.

(b) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee entitlements arsing from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year, together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at their nominal amount.

(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 & Forming Part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2020

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(d) Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are brought to account at cost, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

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 and Other Equipment	10% to 40%	Diminishing balance
Motor Vehicles	22.5%	Diminishing balance
Improvements	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 profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

(f) Leases

Leases are recognised under Accounting Standard AASB 16: Leases. Applicable leases whether finance or operating in nature are to be recognised on the statement of financial position as liabilities with corresponding right-of-use assets. These leases are measured at their net present values and include future lease payments under an option where that option is reasonably expected to be taken up. The leases are amortised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. For operating leases that do not need to meet the requirements under this standard being leases that are less than 12 months or of minor values, and where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, these are recognised as expenses over the term of the lease.

The association has adopted AASB 16: Leases retrospectively with the cumulative effect of initially applying the standard recognised at 1 July 2019. In accordance with AASB 16 the comparatives for the 2019 period have not been restated.

The association only holds low value or short-term leases and therefore no adjustments were required on the application of this standard.

(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.

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(h) Financial instruments

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the association commits itself either purchase or sell the asset (trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

Trade receivables are initially measured at transaction price if the trade receivables do not contain significant financing components.

Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest method, or cost. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Amortised cost is calculated as the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments and any reduction for impairment, and adjusted for any cumulative amortisation of the difference between the initial amount and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying amount with a consequential recognition of an income or expense item in profit or loss.

Fair value is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

As per AASB 9 an expected credit loss model is applied, and not an incurred credit loss model as per the previous applicable standard (AASB 139). To reflect changes in credit risk, this expected credit loss model requires the association to account for expected credit losses since initial recognition.

AASB 9 also determines that a loss allowance for expected credit loss be recognised on debt investments subsequently measured at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income, lease receivables, contract assets, loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts as the impairment provision would apply to them.

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(h) Financial instruments (continued)

In the case of financial assets carried at amortised cost, loss events may include: indications that the debtors or a group of debtors are experiencing financial difficulty default or delinquency in interest or principal payments; indications that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; and changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with defaults.

If the credit risk on a financial instrument did not show significant change since initial recognition, an expected credit loss amount equal to the 12 month expected credit loss is used. However, a loss allowance is recognised at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit loss if the credit risk on that financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, or if the instrument is an acquired credit-impaired financial asset.

The association has adopted the simple approach under AASB 9 in relation to trade receivables, as the loss allowance is measured at the lifetime expected credit loss.

The association reviewed and assessed the existing financial assets on 1 July 2019. It was determined that there was no significant change in credit risk from the date they were initially recognised and no adjustment was required.

Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expire or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability, which is extinguished or transferred to another party, and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

(i) Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(j) Goods and services tax

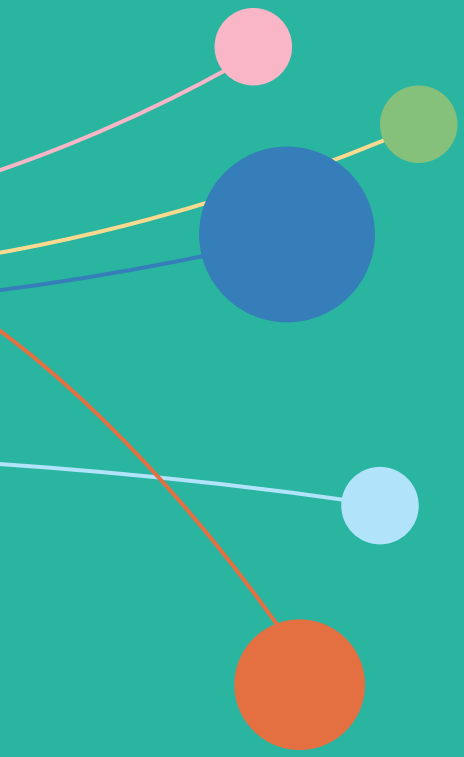
Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods are services tax (GST), except:

(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.

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:

Jenny Rae and Jennifer Tode for provision of pro bono migration services at Companion House – an amazing commitment.

Tina Chen and Edward Aspinall for bringing Companion House face masks during our Covid-19 period just when we had nearly run out and Mi Pakao Sorn and Vi Mon for making hundreds of free face masks for Companion House over the same period.

Saymaa Selman for her work to establish the Australian Islamic Medical Association and all the medical specialists in the network for commitment to provide accessible specialist services to people from a refugee background.

Sue Gair and Sue Behm (fortnightly pro bono yoga teachers).

The leaders and peer mentors from all the refugee communities we work with particularly Manoranjitham Ramachandran, Mustafa Ehsan and Zelai Chinzah, Mustafa Ewazi, Hamasa Rostazada, Atem Kuer, Mu Leh Ler, Farishta Arzoo, Inas Al-Khazraji, Rahaf Ashkar, Canary Istephan, Deng Aleer, Ana Leticia Garcia Velasco, Iris Elgueta, Shin Thu Gay, Yin Aye Wah , Kumutha Nagarajan.

Monica Lindemann from Big Bang Social for pro bono services.

Dr Tuan Pham (ENT Specialist), Dr Nicole Sides – Compass Fertility.

Slade Smith for providing graphic design services to Companion House for ten years – and often not charging us.

Paula Simcocks and Dien Nguyen from Northbourne Lodge for lots of help with accommodation over many years.

Mohammad Ali from Helping ACT for generous provision of food relief.

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

Marion Le and Hugh Wyndham for pro bono migration work.

University of Canberra and University of New England for waiving international fees for tertiary students who have Safe Haven Enterprise Visas(SHEVS) and working in partnership with Companion House to ensure students get their tertiary education.

Australian National University for establishment of Humanitarian Scholarship for student on a Safe haven Enterprise Visa (SHEV).

St Pauls Anglican Church Manuka for donations and support specially Claudia Hyles.

Al Azmi for working on images and videos for Celebration of Culture and Respect.

The volunteers supporting the migration agents by assisting people with filling of forms – Peter Williams and Helen Cory.

Dr Andrew Miller and Dr Kate Drummond for providing accessible specialist services to vulnerable people.

Southside Physiotherapy.

Phoenix Knitters and South Woden Craft Group.

Anne Marie Nichol for donation of rental property at cost for nearly ten years.

The Australian National University Medical Students for donations.

Fred Fawke for shifting furniture and donated goods and always providing practical support and lots of good cheer.

Jamal Halal for weekly donations of fresh produce and Rosie Done for delivering it.

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

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.

Pat Toumoua and Able Rubbish Removals, Rosie Done, Rhys Freeman and Digby Habel for always helping us out so generously with their practical skills.

Shingo Ishikawa for spending a day building Companion House shelves and Julia Wee for singing at our 30th anniversary.

O'Connor Uniting Church for weekly donation of 30 dozen fresh eggs for clients.

Quakers ACT for generous donations for soccer and support for disabled children.

Hockey ACT for donation of free court and St Francis Xavier College for fundraising.

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