# Companion House

2018 –19
Annual Report

30

Companion House

# Patrons, Board, Staff and Funding

## PATRONS

**Justice Elizabeth Evatt AO**
**Professor William Maley AM**

## BOARD

Chairperson
**Ibolya Losoncz** (from August 2018),
**Kim Ryan** (until August 2018)
Secretary
**Ellie Pahlow** (from October 2018)
**Veronica Blanpain** (until October 2018)
Treasurer
**Rahul Verma**
Members
**Karen Middleton** (until October 2018),
**Ibolya Losoncz** (until August 2018),
**Melinda Tew, Michelle Fahy** (until April 2019), **Mohammad Ali** (from September 2018), **Rebecca Harnett** (from October 2018), **Randa Akila** (from October 2018)

## STAFF

Director – **Kathy Ragless**

## COUNSELLING TEAM

Team Leader – **Ina Toumoua**
Counsellor – Children - **Sam Storey**
Counsellors – **Elizabeth Price, Amelia Ishikawa, Brenda Martin** (until January 2019), **Vaneitha Balakrishnan, Mary Pekin** (from February 2019)
Complementary Therapy – **Patricia Jones**

## COMMUNITY AND TRAINING TEAM

Team Leader – **Glenn Flanagan**
Projects and casework – **Hongsar Channaibanya**
Casework – **Jennifer Tode**
Casework – **Cleo Fleming**

## MEDICAL TEAM

Team Leader – **Megan Enright**
Practice Nurses – **Allison McGurgan** (from October 2018), **Lisa Clements** (until October 2018)
Support staff – **Silvia Salas Meyer, Andrew Sein, 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 Sue Baglow, Dr Bernadette McKay, Dr Ying Ying Liew, Dr Pam Whalan**
Physiotherapist – **Therese Keily-Wynter**
Visiting Clinicians – **Dr Phillip Keightley, Dr Jarrod Holst, Kate Drummond**
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

**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

**McNeil Family Trust** – Training and employment grants of assistance

**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 Council of Parents and Citizens Associations
ACT Pathology
Adult Migrant English Program (Navitas English)
Ainslie Village
Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Association (ATODA)
Australia-Karen Organisation of the ACT
Australian Islamic Medical Alliance
Australian National University Medical School Academic Unit (AUGP)
Australian Red Cross
Asylum Seekers Transitional Accommodation Program and Everyman Australia
Calvary Hospital Refugee Mentoring Program
Canberra Institute of Technology
Canberra Refugee Support
Capital Pathology
Refugee Bridging Program,Dickson College Secondary Introductory English Centre
Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT)
Foodbank
International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT)
Legal Aid ACT
Multicultural Employment Service and Multicultural Youth Service
National Capital Diagnostic Imaging
Ochre Health Medical Centre in Bruce
ACT Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA)
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, James Brown, Ruth Haig, Jenny Rae, Hugh Wyndham, Carly Saeedi, Jennifer Tode, Owen Harris, Liz Huang-Brown.

# 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

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

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

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

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

**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 is a relatively small service that provides an extraordinary service to one of the most marginalised groups in our society - refugees and asylum seekers who have histories of profound trauma caused by war, dislocation, detention, torture and flight.*

*There is a strong and demonstrated commitment to the principles espoused by the organisation. The coherence and alignment between what Companion House says and what it does is evident across all levels of the organisation. A key to the organisation's success is the strong connection to the community in which it operates and the dedication of the Board, management and staff. With a strong positive organisational culture, staff are committed to ensuring the best outcomes for the people and community they service and are known for their can-do approach."*

**(Summary of external accreditors report from Quality, Innovation and Performance (QIP) carrying out accreditation against National Standards for Mental Health Services, 2019)**



# From the Chairperson & Director

In 2019 Companion House turned 30 years old. The organisation was established in 1989 by Canberra community members from the local Ginninderra Amnesty Group. It feels a great privilege for us to be leading this organisation 30 years on.

In the face of increasingly punitive policies worldwide for asylum seekers and refugees and growing tolerance of human rights abuses, including torture and genocide, this local commitment to both human rights and supporting torture survivors is noteworthy. In 2019 Companion House remains firmly a community based organisation, supported and cherished by our local community and working within a human rights and social justice framework.

We have worked hard over 2018-19 to provide high quality health and community services and maintain our commitment to human rights, quality services and our community.

We sincerely thank funders, donors, partners and friends for their support.

**Dr Ibolya Losoncz, Chairperson**

**Kathy Ragless, AM, Director**




## Key Performance Indicators

Organisational efficiency

**100% of organisational expenditure is dedicated to achievement of identified strategic priorities each financial cycle: achieved.**

**A minimum of 80% of total funds expended is dedicated to direct service delivery each financial year – achieved at 79% of expended funds.**

**Staff structure maintains 90% of staff in direct service delivery against strategic priorities each financial year – achieved at 91%.**

**Client to staff ratios are maintained and do not significantly decline in any given period each financial year – achieved, client to staff ratios remained within 5% variation.**

**Volume of service delivery to staff ratio do not significantly decline in any given period each financial year – achieved, total volume of service delivery remained within 1% of previous year.**

# Highlights

## 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.

1245

**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.**

**Weekly nurse led clinic for people new to Australia.**

## 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.

235

**adults and young people used torture and trauma counselling services.**

37

**children participated in groups and counselling.**

**Regular relaxation and therapeutic groups for women and men.**

## Casework

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

189

**asylum seekers and people from a refugee background used casework and advocacy services.**

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

## Complementary Therapy

Complementary therapies to provide relief from pain and distress.

21

**people accessed Bowen therapy sessions and Bach Flower Remedies.**

## 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.

80

**people sought on-site migration advice and application assistance sessions, seeking advice and assistance with asylum seeker claims, family reunion issues and citizenship.**

28

**asylum seekers worked with off-site agents on a mixture of pro bono and paid work.**

## 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.**

**LGBTIQ support group for asylum seekers and people from a refugee background.**

**Supported community initiatives: Karen MasterChef, Karen National Cane Ball Competition, Canberra Kangaroos Soccer team.**

**Facilitated regular health orientation sessions for newly arrived people from a refugee background in partnership with the Red Cross.**

**Granted approval documentation for asylum seekers to be eligible for Asylum Seekers Access Cards from ACT Government (290 cards in 2019-2020).**

## Training to other organisations

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

665

**participants trained in 45 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.**

# Highlights

## Education and employment

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

6

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

20

**carers, young people and asylum seekers were supported to access vocational training, career planning and gain drivers licenses.**

62

**job seekers accessed employment and training support, this work in close partnership with Multicultural Employment Service.**

## Emergency Relief and housing support

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

145

**people in financial distress, mainly asylum seekers, accessed food, bus tickets, donated goods, food vouchers, payment of essential medications, external medical services and rental payments.**

**Worked to establish Acute Rental Support Coordination Committee (ARSCC) with Canberra Refugee Support, St Vincent de Paul and the Red Cross. ARSCC then provided regular rental support to**

11

**asylum seekers families to prevent homelessness.**

10

**families and individuals accessed ongoing accommodation support.**











*"Your services are excellent and always give hope"*

(Arabic speaking man, 2019)

*"Counselling helped my mentalities a lot, and I thank Companion House very much"*

(Dari speaking woman, 2019)

*"Thank you for such excellent work and for making me feel welcomed, for helping me and giving me advice. Thank you for such humanitarian work and being so proactive to help"*

(Spanish speaking woman, 2019)

1287 people

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**

**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.**

# Companion House turns 30 years old in 2019

Companion House was established as an organisation in 1989 by Canberra community members.

In 1988 the Ginninderra Amnesty Group prepared a five point framework for a service based on a 1987 report to NSW Health called the "Health care needs of torture and trauma victims". In November 1988 at an Amnesty meeting here in Canberra with State representatives a voluntary service to be ultimately called TRANSACT* (Torture Rehabilitation and Network Service ACT) was agreed upon. The service began work immediately out of the ACT Amnesty office through local health carers. Late in 1989, the ACT began funding the service, professional workers were employed and accommodation acquired. (Digby Habel, 2019)

* Transact changed its name to Companion House in 2000.

















# Financial Report

## Companion House

### Assisting Survivors of Torture and Trauma Incorporated

ABN 98 349 936 816


| | |
|---|---|
| Board Report | 13 |
| Statement by Members of the Board | 14 |
| Auditor's Independence Declaration | 14 |
| Independent Auditors report | 15 |
| Statement of Financial Position | 16 |
| Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income | 17 |
| Statement of Changes in Members' Funds | 18 |
| Statement of Cash Flows | 18 |
| Notes to & Forming Part of the Financial Statements | 19 |




# 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 2019.

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)
E. Pahlow (from October 2018)
T. Gutman (from June 2019)
D. Mahesan Divakaran (from September 2019)
K. Ryan (resigned October 2018)
V. Blanpain (resigned October 2018)
M. Fahy (resigned April 2019)
E. Pahlow (Secretary)
K. Ragless
M. Ali (from September 2018)
R. Harnett (from October 2018)
R. Akila (from October 2018)
K. Middleton (resigned October 2018)
M Tew (resigned July 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 $492 (2018 - $25,163).

**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 4 October 2019

(Board Member) Date 4 October 2019

# 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 2019 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 4 October 2019

(Board Member) Date 4 October 2019

# Auditor's Independence Declaration

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2019 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 PARTNER

SYDNEY.
Date: 4th October 2019

Chartered Accountants



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 2019, 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, 2019 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.

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

- 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

# Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2018

| | Note | 2019 $ | 2018 $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Current assets** | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 2 | 470,066 | 466,984 |
| Trade and other receivables | 3 | 20,791 | 5,230 |
| Investments | 4 | 29,845 | 29,156 |
| **Total current assets** | | 520,702 | 501,370 |
| **Non-Current Assets** | | | |
| Property, Plant and Equipment | 5 | 37,989 | 50,287 |
| **Total Non-Current assets** | | 37,989 | 50,287 |
| **Total assets** | | 558,691 | 551,657 |
| **Current liabilities** | | | |
| Creditors and accruals | 6 | 59,078 | 60,087 |
| Grants received in advance | 7 | 97,595 | 93,542 |
| Provisions | 8 | 177,683 | 174,185 |
| **Total current liabilities** | | 334,356 | 327,814 |
| **Total liabilities** | | 334,356 | 327,814 |
| **Net assets** | | 224,335 | 223,843 |
| **Members' funds** | | | |
| Retained surplus/(deficit) | 9 | 224,335 | 223,843 |
| **Total members' funds** | | 224,335 | 223,843 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements



# Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 30 June 2018

| | Note | 2019 $ | 2018 $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Revenue | | 2,006,604 | 2,065,447 |
| Employee Benefits | | (1,297,595) | (1,297,277) |
| Depreciation | | (12,298) | (14,921) |
| Computer Expenses | | (18,342) | (17,098) |
| Insurance | | (75,286) | (60,659) |
| Medical Contracts and Expenses | | (209,620) | (177,236) |
| Program and Donation Expenditure | | (233,586) | (313,950) |
| Rental Expenses | | (47,145) | (49,197) |
| Other Expenses | | (112,240) | (109,946) |
| **Surplus / (Deficit) before Income tax** | | 492 | 25,163 |
| Income Tax Expense | 1(c) | - | - |
| **Surplus / (Deficit) after Income tax** | | 492 | 25,163 |
| Other Comprehensive Income | | - | - |
| **Total comprehensive income attributable to the members of the association** | | 492 | 25,163 |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

# Statement of Changes in Members' Funds

For the year ended 30 June 2018

| | 2019 $ | 2018 $ |
|---|---|---|
| Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of Year | 223,843 | 198,680 |
| Surplus / (Deficit) after Income Tax | 492 | 25,163 |
| Other Comprehensive Income | - | - |
| **Accumulated Surplus at 30 June 2018** | 224,335 | 223,843 |

# Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 30 June 2018

| | Note | 2019 $ Inflows (Outflows) | 2018 $ Inflows (Outflows) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Cash flows from operating activities** | | | |
| Interest received | | 6,817 | 7,999 |
| Grants received | | 1,809,108 | 1,705,840 |
| Other receipts | | 178,482 | 229,463 |
| Payments to suppliers and employees | | (1,991,325) | (1,999,238) |
| **Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities** | 12 | 3,082 | (55,936) |
| **Cash flow from investing activities** | | | |
| Payments for property, plant and equipment | | - | (12,051) |
| **Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities** | | - | (12,051) |
| Net increase / (decrease) in cash held | | 3,082 | (67,987) |
| Cash at the beginning of the financial year | | 466,984 | 534,971 |
| **Cash at the end of the financial year** | 2 | 470,066 | 466,984 |



# Notes to & Forming Part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

**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. If specific conditions are not satisfied at balance date any unspent funds are recognised as grants received in advance.

*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 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**

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.

**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 Equipment | 20% 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 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 Association 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 & Forming Part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018


**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.

**(j) New and Amended Accounting Policies**

The company has adopted AASB 9 with a date of initial application of 1 July 2018. On the application of this standard there were no restropective changes required to prior period comparatives.

There were no financial assets/liabilities which the company had previously designated as fair value through profit or loss under AASB 139 that were subject to reclassifcation upon the application of AASB 9. There were no financial assets/liabilities which the company had elected to designate as at fair value through profit or loss at the date of initial applicaton.

| | 2019 $ | 2018 $ |
|---|---|---|
| **NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS** | | |
| Cash at bank & on hand | 470,066 | 466,984 |
| | 470,066 | 466,984 |
| **NOTE 3 - TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES** | | |
| Trade Debtors | 20,791 | 5,230 |
| | 20,791 | 5,230 |
| **NOTE 4 - INVESTMENTS** | | |
| Term Deposit | 29,845 | 29,156 |
| | 29,845 | 29,156 |

| | 2019 $ | 2018 $ |
|---|---|---|
| **NOTE 5 - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** | | |
| Building Improvements at cost | 17,215 | 17,215 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation | (6,721) | (5,924) |
| | 10,494 | 11,291 |
| Plant and Equipment at cost | 105,817 | 105,817 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation | (90,178) | (82,119) |
| | 15,639 | 23,698 |
| Motor Vehicles at cost | 68,934 | 68,934 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation | (57,078) | (53,636) |
| | 11,856 | 15,298 |
| **TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** | 37,989 | 50,287 |
| **NOTE 6 - TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES** | | |
| Sundry Creditors and Accruals | 59,078 | 60,087 |
| | 59,078 | 60,087 |
| **NOTE 7 - OTHER LIABILITIES** | | |
| Grants Received in Advance | 97,595 | 93,542 |
| | 97,595 | 93,542 |
| **NOTE 8 - PROVISIONS** | | |
| **Current** | | |
| Annual Leave | 124,528 | 121,467 |
| Long Service Leave | 53,155 | 52,718 |
| | 177,683 | 174,185 |




# Notes to & Forming Part of the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018


| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **NOTE 9 - RETAINED SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)** | | |
| Balance at the beginning of the year | 223,843 | 198,680 |
| Surplus / (Deficit) for the year | 492 | 25,163 |
| Other comprehensive income | - | - |
| Balance at the end of the year | 224,335 | 223,843 |
| Operating surplus / (deficit) from ordinary activities after income tax | 492 | 25,163 |
| *Non cash items* | | |
| Depreciation | 12,298 | 14,921 |
| (Profit) / loss on sale of assets | - | - |
| Reinvested interest on investments | (689) | (660) |
| *Change in operating assets and liabilities* | | |
| (Increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables | (15,561) | 8,608 |
| Increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables | (1,009) | 22,469 |
| Increase / (decrease) in income in advance | 4,053 | (130,093) |
| Increase / (decrease) in employee provisions | 3,498 | 3,656 |
| Cash flows provided by / (used in) operating activities | 3,082 | (55,936) |

# Thank you

COMPANION HOUSE
ASSISTING SURVIVORS
OF TORTURE AND
TRAUMA INC.

41 Templeton Street
COOK ACT 2614

Telephone
(02) 6251 4550
Fax
(02) 6251 8550

Mailing Address
PO BOX 112
Jamison Centre ACT 2614

Email
info@companionhouse.org.au
Website
www.companionhouse.org.au

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.

Saymaa Selman for her work to establish the Australian Islamic Medical Association and all the 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) and Laurien Wells (probono Nia dance classes).

The leaders and peer mentors from all the refugee communities we work with particularly Manoranjitham Ramachandran, Mustafa Ehsan and Zelai Chinzah.

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

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

Mohammad Ali with Gunghalin Mosque and Pakistani Community for generous provision of food relief.

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

Migration agents network: James Brown, Ruth Haigh, Marion Le, Marianne Dickie, Er-Kai Wang, Jessica Kinsella, Jenny Rae, Liz Huang Hughes-Brown, Owen Harris, Jennifer Tode.

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 and Elizabeth King.

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.

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 – again!

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 Kambah.

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 for her warm support of asylum seekers and Rhys Freeman and Digby Habel for always helping us out so generously with their practical skills.

Mosaic Baptist Church in Page- Another Chance Op Shop, National Film and Sound Archive, Alliance Francaise Canberra.

Canberra Youth Theatre and Arthritis Foundation for donations.