
Companion House
Annual report
2021-22

Patrons, Board, Staff and Funding

Patrons

Justice Elizabeth Evatt AO
Professor William Maley AM

Board

Chair
Tara Gutman
Secretary
Mustafa Ewazi
Treasurer
Diva Mahesan Divakaran
Members
Manar Ahmad, Mohammad Ali

Staff

Director
Kathy Ragless

Counselling Team

Team Leader
Ina Toumoua
Counsellors
Elizabeth Price, Amelia Ishikawa (until Jan 2022), Hanalei Bickley (from April 2022), Vaneitha Balakrishnan, Mary Pekin, Sam Storey
Physiotherapist
Therese Keily-Wynter

Community and Training Team

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

Medical Team

Team Leader
Allison McGurgan
Medical Clinical Director
Dr Christine Phillips
Clinical Support Doctor
Dr Sue Baglow
Practice Nurses
Allison McGurgan (Lead), Stacey Graham (Immunisation Lead), Megan Enright (New Arrivals Lead), Janet Lennox, Caroline Patrick
Support staff
Silvia Salas Meyer, Andrew Sein and Pam Mitchell
GPs
Dr Katrina Anderson, Dr Joo-Inn Chew, Dr Sue Baglow, Dr Bernadette McKay, Dr Fred Chung, Tom McGuire
Visiting Clinicians
Dr Amaryah Paul (psychiatrist) and Dr Jarrod Holst (child psychiatrist),
Surge support clinicians
Dr Bec Karthage, Dr Bethan McDonald, Dr Ros Marshall

Operations Team

Team Leader
Loan Freeman
Accountant
Oki Widodo
Admin/Reception Staff
Saw Andrew Sein, Pam Mitchell
Cleaning and deliveries
Nai Win

Migration Agents (pro bono)

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 - 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, Covid-19 Support, Infrastructure Grants.

Snow Foundation - University fees

Multicultural Employment Services - Employment support services

Duo Life without Barriers- Community Assistance Program (CASP)

Key Partners

With special recognition of the very strong partnerships with Canberra Refugee Support, St Vincent de Paul, Canberra Multicultural Hub and ACT Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) over 2021-2022.

Recognising collaborative work and partnerships with the following organisations:

- ACT Dental Program
- ACT Mental Health
- ACT Health Community Pediatrics Registrar Program
- ACT Pathology
- Adult Migrant English Program (Navitas English)
- ASEC (Australian Security Education & Consulting Pty Ltd)
- Arthritis Foundation of the ACT
- Asthma Australia
- Australia-Karen Organisation of the ACT
- Australia's National Research Organisation for Women's Safety (ANROWS)
- Australian Islamic Medical Alliance
- Australian National University Medical School Academic Unit (AUGP)
- Australian Red Cross
- 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
- Doris Women's Refuge
- Refugee Bridging Program, Dickson College Secondary Introductory English Centre
- Forcibly Displaced Peoples Network
- Forum of Australian Services for Survivors of Torture and Trauma (FASSTT)
- Foodbank
- Helping ACT
- Health Protection Services – Vaccine Management Unit
- Hobart Place General Practice
- Interchange Health Cooperative Tuggeranong
- International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT)
- Jocelyn Pederick, Goodmorningbeautiful Films
- Kippax Care Pantry – Uniting Care Kippax
- Legal Aid ACT
- Little Athletics
- Multicultural Employment Service and Multicultural Hub
- Multicultural Youth Affairs Network (MYAN)
- 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



Canberra Kangaroos Awards Night



Tamil community walk at the zoo



Healthy Happy Life healthy food discussion with Arabic speaking dietitian.



Tamil community visit to the zoo

Companion House

Vision statement

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

Mission statement

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 informs policy makers and the community at large.

Goal 5
Companion House is a high quality and responsive service with excellent governance and management.



Healthy Happy Life outing for children

From the Director and Chairperson

2022-2022 was an intensely busy and constructive year for Companion House.

Once again, the year was dominated by Covid-19 issues and concerns. We kept our organisation safe over the year and had no Covid-19 transmission on site despite large numbers of our patients unfortunately becoming sick from August 2021. We administered over 1600 Covid-19 vaccines over the year and cared for many patients with Covid-19, with a significant number of people becoming seriously ill in the first Delta wave in 2021. We particularly recognise the enormous contribution of Companion House doctors and nurses over this intense pandemic period.

We were able to offer deliveries of food, medications and other essentials to people in quarantine over 2021-2022. This was possible through the good will of Companion House staff and strong partnership with Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and community partners, the Multicultural Hub and leaders of the South Sudanese community.

Of course, our core business continued at the same time with primary health care, counselling services, casework and community services all under intense demand. Our medical and counselling teams did a high volume of work on health and advocacy issues. Casework services, focused strongly on people with a disability and asylum seekers, continued to grow. Community services focused on health promotion, community capacity building, migration and asylum seeker support. We maintained our commitment to our scholarship program, assistance with training and skills building, assistance with emergency housing and other unfunded needs using donor funds.

We were very pleased to welcome evacuees from Kabul over the last quarter of 2021 and to receive newly arrived people from a range of countries once the Australian border re opened.

We also maintained a strong commitment to asylum seekers who have suffered so disproportionately from the effects of the pandemic and punitive policy settings at the Commonwealth level. Our efforts in this area are only possible with the strong partnership with Canberra Refugee Support, St Vincent De Paul and the ongoing support of ACT Government, with special thanks to the ACT Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA).

The issues we heard most about from people over the year were firstly the distress of long-term separation from family and secondly the impact of poverty and housing stress. This clearly reflects the blockages in migration systems which make family reunion very slow or impossible, the negative mental health impact of temporary visas which prevent family reunion and the increasing pressure of cost of living and lack of affordable housing in the ACT.

Thank you so much to staff, Board, funders, members, donors, partners and friends for your contributions –it was such a pleasure to work with you. We go into 2022-2023 in good spirits for another year focused on advancement of health, healing and human rights.

Tara Gutman, Chairperson
Kathy Ragless, AM, Director

Service highlights over 2021 – 2022

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. These services focuses on (1) new arrivals in their first two years in Australia (2) asylum seekers and people on temporary refugee visas and (3) people with complex care needs.

2021-2022 was a very intense year for our health services. With strong Covid-19 controls in place there has been no Covid-19 transmission on site and teams were able to function very productively over the entire year. We are in fact very proud of what we were able to achieve over 2021-2022 – with highlights below.





Tibetan Diabetes Group

1289
medical patients.

Care of 70
people with Covid-19 through telehealth, hospital liaison and medication deliveries.

Covid-19 large scale vaccination clinics
1606 vaccinations
delivered to adults and children.

New arrivals medical clinics
for 190 new arrivals including 120 people evacuated from Kabul in late 2021.

2400 hours
of GP consults and 1560 hours of nurse consults over the year.

Regular
psychiatric consultations
with both adults and children.

334 hours
of coordination for internal and external appointments.

Achievement of medical accreditation
against RACGP standards for general practice in February 2022 for three years ahead.

Changeover of
patient management software.

Quality primary health care
clinical analysis and health outcomes analysis illustrated constancy of high-level health care.



Dinka Diabetes Group

Counselling

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

276
adults and young people used torture and trauma counselling services.

Service is staffed by
6
part time counsellors from psychology or social work backgrounds and a physiotherapist.

21
children participated in groups and individual counselling.

Intensive family support
to families of children in counselling services.

44
people used physiotherapy services for treatment of pain and distress.

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
147
asylum seekers and people from a refugee background.

Service is staffed by
4
caseworkers with an average of
15 years work experience each
in casework with asylum seekers and people from a refugee background.

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

112
households from asylum seeker and refugee backgrounds with financial assistance over Covid-19 period.

170
households in Covid-19 quarantine were privided with deliveries of food, medications and essentials.

Community work

Partnerships with community utilising community strength and capacity, focused on health promotion and prevention of family and gender-based violence.

Healthy Happy Life project outing for Arabic speaking families



Leading Healthy Communities:
increasing knowledge, social connectedness and health management strategies for people from refugee backgrounds living with diabetes, asthma and arthritis and pain.

Recruited and trained
8
bilingual educators in seven community languages in managing pain, diabetes and asthma and in group facilitation skills.

Facilitated regular
support groups
and information sharing sessions in targeted community languages.

Coordinated four
walking picnics
to enjoy healthy activity with family and loved ones.

Translated
and disseminated information on managing chronic illness to households in seven community languages.

Healthy Happy Life:
Healthy activity and eating for Arabic speaking community members

Organised regular
Family and Community Walks
and visits to playgrounds.

Coordinated
Family Fun Days
activities and active games for children and families.

Ran sessions with Arabic speaking nutritionist on
health eating.

Translated and distributed resources on healthy eating, drinking and
active play.

Created and shared new resources on local
Canberra parks,
playgrounds and walking trails in English and Arabic.

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities Leading Prevention:
young people sharing their messages of respect and preventing family and gender-based violence

Young people shared
messages of respect
and preventing family and gender based violence at community events, group discussions and through social media.

Supported
community led events
to share messages: Awards nights, Master Chef, Football.

Shared 6 YouTube short films
viewed 16,000+ times
so far.

Shared Posters,
resources
and printed messages at community events.

Held regular
Youth Advisory Group
meetings to guide our project.

Training with other organisations

Training with other organisations to build understanding, skills and capacity to work with survivors of torture and trauma, work cross culturally and use interpreters

Training with
353 participants
in 51 health, welfare and community agencies and groups over the year.

28 sessions
focused on working with survivors of torture and trauma, cross cultural skills and interpreter use.

Sessions were
highly evaluated
across training sessions.



Karen Masterchef

ACT Asylum Seeker Access Card

Grant of entitlement and ID card to enable asylum seeker access to ACT Government funded services in partnership with Office of Regulatory Services (ORS) and Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Granted ACT Asylum Seeker Access Cards over 2021-2022 in partnership with Office of Regulatory Services (ORS), maintained Access Card database and reported data to Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA).

Access Card Data:

255
individuals held a current Access Card as of June 25th 2022.

394
individuals have been granted an Access Card since the inception of the Access Card database in 2020 (July 2020-end June 2022)

The most common country of origin for Access Card holders was
Iraq, followed by Sri Lanka, Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan and China.
Numbers also include 38 Australian born children.

Asylum seekers came from
40 different countries
of origin.

As of June 25th 2022 there were
27 children
with Access Cards at Canberra schools.

Education and employment

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

Worked in partnership with Multicultural Employment Service to source
employment and training pathways
to register 30 job seekers.

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

Financial support to
16 young people
and asylum seekers to access vocational training, career planning and gain drivers licences, including 2 asylum seekers studying enrolled nursing at CIT.

Emergency relief

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
190
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 seekers families do not become homeless.

Submitted
97
applications to the OMA Discretionary Fund for financial relief for asylum seekers.

Migration Advice and Assistance

Specialist advice and assistance to help 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
40
people seeking advice and assistance with asylum seeker claims, family reunion issues and citizenship.

Key client demographics

Most common languages

- Farsi
- Dari
- Arabic
- Karen
- Tamil
- Spanish

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.
- 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 organisational expenditure is dedicated to achievement of identified strategic priorities each financial cycle –achieved 100% 2021-2022.
2. A minimum of 75% of total funds expended is dedicated to direct service delivery each financial year –75% 2021-2022.
3. Staff structure maintains 80% of staff in direct service delivery against strategic priorities each financial year –achieved 2021-2022.
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 2020-2021.
5. Staff retention rates do not fall below the range of 8 average years of service or annual and staff turnover of less than 10% in a year –average length of service 10.2 years in 2021-2022.

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 76% 2021-2022.
2. Local community built understanding of refugees and survivors of torture and trauma: target of 300 people in training annually –353 people achieved 2021-2022.
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 in 2021-2022.
4. Local communities affected by torture and trauma built skills and knowledge in employment and training pathways: target of 100 people –52 people in 2021-2022.
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–maintained existing partnerships and built two new partnerships 2021-2022.
6. We can demonstrate commitment to continuous improvement through accreditation against mental health and primary health care standards –achieved accreditation against RACGP Standards for General Practice for a further 3 years in March 2022.

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2022

COMPANION HOUSE
ASSISTING SURVIVORS OF TORTURE AND TRAUMA INCORPORATED
A.B.N.98 349 936 816

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 2022.

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

T. Gutman (Chair)
E. Pahlow (Secretary until 27 October 2021)
M. Ahmad
P. Hemming (until 20 November 2021)
D. Mahesan Divakaran (Treasurer)
M. Ewazi (Secretary from 27 October 2021)
K. Ragless
M. Ali

Principal Activities

Companion House is a non government community based organisation working with adults and children 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 $28,452 (2021 - $1,334).

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.

Tara Gutman
Chair

Date 3/10/2022

Diva Mahesan Divakaran
Treasurer

Date 1/10/2022

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 2022 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.

Tara Gutman
Chair

Date 3/10/2022

Diva Mahesan Divakaran
Treasurer

Date 1/10/2022

THOMAS DAVIS & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
ESTABLISHED 1894

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mail@thomasdavis.com.au

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 2022 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

Chartered Accountants

SYDNEY,
Date: 3rd October 2022

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

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Independent legal & accounting firms

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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

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

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 2022, 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, 2022 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

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

J G Ryan Partner

Chartered Accountants

SYDNEY,
Date: 3rd October 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30TH JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 $	2021 $
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	722,728	664,116
Trade and other receivables	4	37,710	41,725
Investments	5	30,838	30,730
Total current assets		791,276	736,571
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	6	16,238	22,733
Total Non-Current assets		16,238	22,733
Total assets		807,514	759,304
Current liabilities			
Creditors and accruals	7	59,364	68,813
Contract liabilities	8	187,865	181,031
Provisions	9	248,833	226,460
Total current liabilities		496,062	476,304
Total liabilities		496,062	476,304
Net assets		311,452	283,000
Members' funds			
Retained surplus/(deficit)	10	311,452	283,000
Total members' funds		311,452	283,000

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 $	2021 $
Revenue		2,918,707	2,613,122
Employee Benefits		(1,763,719)	(1,573,833)
Depreciation		(6,495)	(7,295)
Computer Expenses		(30,459)	(27,641)
Insurance		(93,499)	(110,186)
Medical Contracts and Expenses		(270,240)	(248,464)
Program and Donation Expenditure		(547,265)	(461,661)
Rental Expenses		(49,737)	(26,713)
Other Expenses		(128,841)	(155,995)
Surplus / (Deficit) before Income tax		28,452	1,334
Income Tax Expense	1(c)	-	-
Surplus / (Deficit) after Income tax		28,452	1,334
Other Comprehensive Income		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to the members of the association		28,452	1,334

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN MEMBERS' FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	2022 $	2021 $
Accumulated Surplus - Beginning of Year	283,000	281,666
Surplus / (Deficit) after Income Tax	28,452	1,334
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-
Accumulated Surplus - End of Year	311,452	283,000

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 $ Inflows (Outflows)	2021 $ Inflows (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Interest received		589	855
Grants received		2,601,693	2,306,243
Other receipts		327,166	292,083
Payments to suppliers and employees		(2,870,836)	(2,580,586)
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	12	58,612	18,595
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		58,612	18,595
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		664,116	645,521
Cash at the end of the financial year	2	722,728	664,116

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

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

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 categories of income as follows:

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).

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(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 customer).

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.

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.

(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 2022

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 2020. 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.

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

NOTE 1 - STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(k) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

(l) Economic Dependency

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

(m) Comparative Figures

Where necessary, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation in the current year.

(n) New and Amended Accounting Policies

The association has considered all new and amended accounting standards effective from 1 July, 2021.

	2022 $	2021 $
NOTE 2 - REVENUE		
Grants received	2,218,094	1,980,557
Medicare income	372,750	289,321
Donations received	291,822	240,048
Hall hire	28,842	43,902
Other income	6,502	8,133
Interest received	697	1,161
Government COVID-19 Stimulus	-	50,000
	2,918,707	2,613,122
NOTE 3 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at bank & on hand	722,728	664,116
	722,728	664,116

	2022 $	2021 $
NOTE 4 - TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Trade Debtors	37,710	41,725
	37,710	41,725
NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS		
Term Deposit	30,838	30,730
	30,838	30,730
NOTE 6 - PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Building Improvements at cost	17,215	17,215
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(9,112)	(8,315)
	8,103	8,900
Plant and Equipment at cost	105,817	105,817
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(103,201)	(99,105)
	2,616	6,712
Motor Vehicles at cost	68,934	68,934
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(63,415)	(61,813)
	5,519	7,121
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	16,238	22,733
NOTE 7 - TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Sundry Creditors and Accruals	59,364	68,813
	59,364	68,813
NOTE 8 - CONTRACT LIABILITIES		
Grants Received in Advance	90,729	97,306
Unexpended Donations	97,136	83,725
	187,865	181,031
NOTE 9 - PROVISIONS		
Current		
Annual Leave	174,712	156,029
Long Service Leave	74,121	70,431
	248,833	226,460

	2022 $	2021 $
NOTE 10 - RETAINED SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)		
Balance at the beginning of the year	283,000	281,666
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	28,452	1,334
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Balance at the end of the year	311,452	283,000
NOTE 11 - RECONCILIATION OF CASH FLOWS		
Operating surplus / (deficit) from ordinary activities after income tax	28,452	1,334
Non cash items		
Depreciation	6,495	7,295
Reinvested interest on investments	(108)	(306)
Change in operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables	4,015	(28,484)
Increase / (decrease) in trade and other payables	(9,449)	(4,381)
Increase / (decrease) in contract liabilities	6,834	14,849
Increase / (decrease) in employee provisions	22,373	28,288
Cash flows provided by / (used in) operating activities	58,612	18,595

NOTE 12 - COVID-19 PANDEMIC

There was no material impact of COVID -19 on Companion House regarding asset impairment or going concern based on impact on ongoing grants during the year.

EXPENDITURE OF DONOR FUNDS

Donor funds were expended on direct financial and material assistance with priority for asylum seekers without income, students on temporary visas and people in financial distress.

$85,243 was spent on general support: including $32,531 to support people in housing distress, $10,825 on pharmacy medications for people in financial distress, $7751 on migration assistance for asylum seekers and temporary visa holders, $6550 on food vouchers, $5735 on utilities and phone bills, $2497 for support to disabled children, $2128 on pathology bills and $2223 on translation of documents to support asylum seeker applications.

$30,589 was spent on educational fees and student support: including $9075 on university fees and $21,017 on CIT fees and student support.

$12,044 was spent on support of evacuees from Kabul: including clothing vouchers, food vouchers and bus tickets.

Thank You for your Contribution

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

The Australian National University Medical Students Society for generous provision of donations from their annual ANU Med Revue –an enormous and very useful contribution over many years and the generous fundraising from Capital Pathology.

University of Canberra 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.

Vanessa Crimmons and the O'Connor Uniting Church for weekly deliveries of 30-60 dozen free range eggs and the farmer Bernie Cusack who gives them a discount and delivers the eggs every week.

Jennifer Tode for provision of pro bono migration services at Companion House –a long term commitment and the wonderful volunteers supporting citizenship applications by assisting people with filling of forms – Helen Cory and Jenny Rae.

Anne Marie Nichol for donation of rental property at cost for over 11 years – an outstanding contribution.

Dr Tuan Pham for making ENT services accessible, Braddon Dental Surgery for their donations and Dr Kate Drummond for making dermatology services accessible.

The many generous donors to Companion House with a special shout out to: Richardson Family Trust, Simon Murnane, Andrew Bidwell and the Bidwell family, Rosemary Royds, Juliet Tootell, Dean Trengenza and Annette Jackson, Evan Tully, Jennifer Yeats, Elizabeth Oliver, Jane Lake, Jamie Christie. There were other generous donors who declined to be named, many thanks to you.

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

Sincere thanks to the following organisations for your donations: The Medical Women's Society of the ACT and Region, St Paul's Anglican Church, Manuka, Woden Valley Uniting Church, Holy Covenant Anglican Church, St Francis Xavier College, Radford College, Tamil Senior Citizens Association ACT Inc, Department of Infrastructure Staff Ramadan Appeal, Adore Tea, Rotary Gungahlin Steve Bell Award and ACTCOSS.

The leaders and peer mentors from all the communities we work with particularly Manoranjitham Ramachandran, Mustafa Ehsan, Zalei Chinzah, Inas Alkhazragi, Sameer Al-Azraqi, Ka Ban Soe Pah Eh, Tendar Tenzin, Aluong 'Nomia' Buol, Lailuma Haidari, Diana Rowbotham, Chitra Arvind.

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

National Zoo and Aquarium for providing free visits for Dari and Tamil speaking communities, and Lyn Rainforest and Roberta McRae for helping people prepare for the Australian citizenship test .

The stars of our film On the frontlines: Vinefreeda Kaneshan, Hussain Jafari, Martin Ngor, Peter Kuot, Ray and Eh Paw.

Psychiatrist network proving external psychiatric reports for asylum seekers: Dr John Saboisky, Dr Meredith Whiting and Dr Ann Harrison.

St Pauls Anglican Church Manuka for donations and support specially Claudia Hyles, Phoenix Knitters and South Woden Craft Group for warm knitted items, Helen Bessey and Carol Chapman and the U3A art class for the pantry donations each week, and the Right Reverend Carol Wagner, Assistant Bishop, Anglican Diocese of Canberra and Goulburn for support of asylum seekers.

Canberra Seed Savers Cooperative for weekly donations of plants for garden planting, O'Connor community gardens for regular donation of fresh vegetables and herbs, Pat Toumoua and Able Rubbish removals, and Dendy Cinemas for free movie tickets.

Dr Ahmad Farshid and Ashley Ilken for conducting heart health information sessions to Arabic speakers.