



annual report

2016



Catholic Social Services
Victoria

...building a more just and compassionate society

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES VICTORIA

annual report

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Episcopal Vicar for Social Services

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Chair of Council

Staff (at 31 December 2016)

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Mission of Catholic Social Services Victoria:

To assist the Catholic Church in Victoria to fulfil the gospel imperatives to:

- Stand with and serve those who are poor, disadvantaged and marginalised; and
- Work for a just, equitable and compassionate society.

Objectives:

Catholic Social Services Victoria is auspiced by the Archbishop and Bishops, and its member organisations to act as a peak body for Catholic community service works in Victoria by:

- Discerning and promoting within the Church and its agencies and ministries a contemporary vision and focus of the Church's social mission
- Representing its members and the Church in responding to social welfare issues so as to bring about social change in accordance with Catholic Social Teaching
- Resourcing the Bishops, Religious Institutes, Church agencies, ministries and other Church-based groups with regard to their social welfare pastoral responsibilities and ministries
- Encouraging collaboration in the promotion of opportunities for service delivery and mission development
- Giving effective voice to the experiences and struggles of people who are disadvantaged and marginalised through researching, publishing and speaking on issues of justice and equity.



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episcopal vicar's reflection

Our past year at Catholic Social Services Victoria has been conducted within the global event of the Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis for 2016. He wants to re-awaken the conscience of us all "too often grown dull in the face of poverty. And let us enter more deeply into the heart of the Gospel where the poor have a special experience of God's mercy".



This year of Mercy reminds us that mercy is not only shown by God. It should also be shown by us. We who are experiencing mercy must in turn grant it to others.

The challenge at the end of this year of jubilee is to continue living in receiving and giving mercy. Within our own organisations, our works of mercy go on in the breadth and quality our responses to so many vulnerable and marginalised people who long for the loving and reassuring embrace of our God.

Whether we are supporting a vulnerable woman and her children; visiting someone who is incarcerated; caring for an aged or disabled person, or empathising with a person who has suffered sexual abuse, we are challenged that our responses must always find their source in the compassion and honesty of God's unconditional love and mercy. Our Catholic social services sector is a living reminder of the practical and all-embracing response that we are called to in our living out of the Gospel values of truth and justice.

Fr Joe Caddy

Episcopal Vicar for Justice & Social Service

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.

Matthew 25:35-36



Presenters at Family Violence Forum at the 2016 CSSV Conference:
L to R: Jocelyn Bignold, Patrice Scales, Bishop Vincent Long, Donella Johnston, Sr Michelle Reid, Charlie King

chair of council's report

... a true ecological approach always becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear *both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor*.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si* #49

Catholic Social Services Victoria has a unique place as a body representing and serving Catholic social service agencies in Victoria.

Our mission is to assist the Catholic Church in Victoria to fulfil the gospel imperatives to stand with and serve those who are poor, disadvantaged and marginalised; and work for a just, equitable and compassionate society. Our strategy in implementing this over the past three years, has focused on the following four priority areas:

- identity and shared commitment
- the changing social services environment
- better outcomes for the disadvantaged and vulnerable, and
- our response to the issue of sexual abuse

This strategy is guided by the Council and enacted by a hard working secretariat. It is powered by the active involvement of members.

At the end of 2016, we completed this three-year strategy. This annual report outlines what has been done and what is in progress towards the mission. It is also an occasion to reflect on some key questions:

What has been the collective impact of Catholic Social Services Victoria in 2016? Has it achieved its strategic objectives? How has CSSV added value to its members and the dioceses of Victoria?

The world economic, social and political environment is changing rapidly with worrying ripple effects impacting on those who are most disadvantaged and vulnerable in our society. In the face of this, Catholic Social Services Victoria and its members have worked steadily in line with Pope Francis' inspiration to renew the church and be responsive to those most in need in this world.

At our 2016 conference – *Review, Reimagine, Renew – Mission making a difference in a changing world* - speaker John Allen highlighted 'three pillars' of Pope Francis' challenge to us all. CSSV has responded to these, not in isolation but working in harmony with, and to facilitate or support the work of members. Some examples of our collective work under each of Pope Francis' three pillars are:



Bernie Cronin (CSSV Chair), Denis Fitzgerald (CSSV Executive Director), Suzanne Greenwood (CEO Catholic Health Australia)



Welcome The Asylum Seeker PARISH SUPPORT PROGRAM

Passion for the peripheries

- Asylum seekers. Many parish and community members were generously involved in the 'Welcome the Asylum Seekers' program. This movement continues to grow and complements our work with parishes as centres of service and mercy.
- CSSV member agencies' continued advocacy for the homeless.
- Support for the work of so many of our members to support young people, not least the Jesuit Social Services-led campaign on youth justice.

Mercy as the cornerstone

- Who can forget the stirring conference address by Julian McMahon on the value of human life?
- Monitoring responses to the Royal Commission into sexual abuse, with member agencies actively listening and responding to the pain.

A deeply missionary church

- The work of our family violence working group leading to a statement by the Victorian Bishops and a resource kit for parishes
- Mission-inspired leadership seminars engaging many leaders in our sector.
- An outstanding conference highlighting the critical role of agencies in addressing disadvantage and meeting people in the street.

In summary, Catholic Social Services Victoria and member agencies have made a significant collective impact and achieved most of its strategic objectives. CSSV Council has added value to members and the Dioceses through facilitating collective action on critical issues of concern.

As we move forward in 2017 guided by the three pillars of Pope Francis, CSSV will continue to live out its mission, supporting its members in responding to the current challenges.

The Council of Catholic Social Services Victoria is indebted to the enthusiastic contributions of so many deeply committed people in this sector. We appreciate the continuing support and guidance of the Victorian Bishops and agency leaders. Thanks are due to all Council members, and at this time thanks in particular to those who completed their terms during 2016 – Jan Horsnell and Gerard Jones, Bishop Vincent Long, whose service as Episcopal Vicar inspired all those he encountered, my predecessor Patrice Scales, whose term as Chair of Council took the network to new levels, and David Beaver, who retired after 23 years as CEO of Centacare Ballarat.

Thanks are also due to the hard work and dedication of the secretariat and volunteers who make it all happen, including the many who have been engaged in the activity of CSSV over the year in Council sub-committees, conferences, seminars, workshops and activities, and who are acknowledged later in this Annual Report.

Catholic Social Services Victoria has developed a new three-year strategy commencing 2017. Guided by Pope Francis, we will continue to do our utmost, in collaboration with members, in responding to current challenges and seeking better outcomes for those who are most disadvantaged and vulnerable.

Bernie Cronin

Chair of Council

In responding to those who are isolated and excluded, we must be guided by the healing ministry of Christ. He never turned his back on the outcast ... Jesus' healing went beyond the physical to recognise the inherent dignity of these invisible and shunned people of God.

A place at the table – Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement 2016

executive director's report

The joys and the hopes, the griefs and the anxieties of the people of this age, especially those who are poor or in any way afflicted, these are the joys and the hopes, the griefs and anxieties of the followers of Christ.

Second Vatican Council,
*The Church in the Modern
World* #1

There is much to give thanks for in Victoria in the early months of 2017. There are many talented and generous people working for the good of others and of society as a whole. With some qualifications, our society remains at peace, education and health care systems are widely accessible, our Governments are honest; employment rates remain high; and we enjoy freedoms and opportunities that could only be dreamt of in many other times and places. Sports and entertainment of various sorts are thriving, as is the stock market and the housing market –creating the most comfortable middle class in history.

But challenges and deep uncertainties hover. Governments and other institutions have lost trust and respect; income inequality and disadvantage have become more stark; President Trump's policies on immigration, trade and equity seem to have gained traction well beyond the USA; the Church and many of its leaders are deeply affected by the scandal of clerical sexual abuse. Alongside these features of the general landscape, underemployment looms large; there are severe challenges for services for people with disability, people who are homeless, enduring precarious visa arrangements or generally without family or supports. The 'gap' between Indigenous Australians and the rest of society remains an occasion for national shame.

Against this background, the services provided by Catholic agencies for people at the margin stand out like a beacon. They are not the only services, and the only voices for justice – far from it – but they are remarkable in their scope and the depth of their engagement with people's lives.

This work is privileged. It involves intimacy with individuals and families well beyond normal civic or commercial relations. We are invited into the lives of people, whom we are committed to listening to and serving.

This privileged access across our network makes it even more important for us to advocate for these communities to Government and to the community at large.

Work in our sector is never going to be easy; and it is never going to be a financial bonanza: our political economy has an in-built financial bias towards some sectors over others. While there is a wide-range of good Government programs, many generous donors, and so many staff and volunteers for whom financial reward is not a principal driver, the scarcity of resources is a constraint on many of our services: out of home care, for example, where funding for young people who have turned 18 is at very modest levels, or affordable housing, which is still not funded at the levels appropriate for such a fundamentally critical foundation for a decent life.

In terms of policy direction, too, a steady, informed voice is needed to assist Governments to respond to the angels of their better nature. For example, community safety is a key objective of Government, but popular sentiment in relation to criminal justice, and youth justice, errs on the side of concern for the avoidance of risks to members of the general community in the short term. Such an approach gives inadequate weight to the need to address the causes of offending, rehabilitate the offender and restore victims; and to help offenders to build a future where they can contribute positively to the common good.



Denis Fitzgerald

Other parts of this Annual Report outline our main activities for the year. To highlight just a few items:

Our conference in February 2016 – *Review, Reimagine, Renew: Mission making a difference in a changing world* – was connected with many aspects of our work over the year as a whole. It reflected on and informed advocacy on refugees and settlement, the National Disability Insurance Scheme, market structures around social services, trauma informed care, safe organisations, family violence, etc. It focused on challenges and opportunities for our Catholic social services sector in remaining effective in support for people on the margins, for ways the Church can genuinely redress the damage done to so many through child sexual abuse, and for responding effectively and sensitively to changes in society and changes in Government attitudes and policies. And, through our partnership with Catholic Social Services Australia, it brought together the Catholic social services sector from across Australia in embracing Pope Francis' call for all of the Church to be outward looking and dynamic as we bring the love and mercy of God to all in need.



Participants discuss at Parish Services Expo Cheltenham August 2016

The book that emerged from conference papers and discussions explored these issues more deeply, and the launches of the book at various venues provided opportunities for further explanation of the issue.

The conference was also a significant element in our broad program of building a network of shared endeavour across the sector, as a base for cooperation in many further aspects of our work. Breakfast briefings, forums of various sorts and social functions contributed here.

Building on our policy work and the report of the Family Violence Royal Commission, our working group on family violence advised the Bishops of Victoria in their 2016 statement on Domestic Violence. The development of resource kits for parishes followed, to assist parishes in their understanding of family violence and capacity to prevent, intervene and respond appropriately and meaningfully. That project continues into 2017.

Criminal justice issues, and youth justice, continued as a focus of our advocacy work; asylum seeker settlement in Victoria inevitably led to engagement with broader Government policy; and aspects of competition policy in the social services were given priority in light of a current review by the Productivity Commission. The Victorian Budget remains a perennial area of focus.

Our engagement with parishes and support for their outreach to those in need continued to expand. Catholic Social Services Sunday has been re-established; our parish forums around support for asylum seekers continued to attract good support; and in August at Our Lady of the Assumption parish, Cheltenham, we led a well-received Expo for parishes and agencies on parishes as centres of service. These programs are continuing into 2017.

The natural environment is a collective good, the patrimony of all humanity and the responsibility of everyone. If we make something our own, it is only to administer it for the good of all. If we do not, we burden our consciences with the weight of having denied the existence of others.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si* #95

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executive director's report

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What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Micah 6:8

Our network revolves around people and the organisations they give life to, and many parts of this Annual Report record gratitude to all those who have contributed over the year: a daunting number of people are involved, encompassing our member organisations, our Council, committees and working groups, those who contributed to the 2016 conference, and so on.

But it is appropriate at this point to make some special mentions.

Our staff members Peter Hudson, Lucia Brick, Antony McMullen and Helen Burt, and the many others that have contributed in our office and administration have done such a great job; as have Adrian Foley, coordinator of our Asylum Seeker Parish Support Program, and his colleagues.

A particular type of contribution has been made by the Chairs of Council – Patrice Scales until March 2016 and Bernie Cronin since then. Their leadership and support has been invaluable. Along with other members of Council, they have set the framework, and guided the programs, activities, and our engagement.

In 2016, as in other years, thanks are due to many who lie beyond our own Catholic social services sector. Within the broad reaches of the Church, we are indebted to the Bishops of Victoria and the people in health services, education authorities, Catholic Social Services Australia and their members across the country; other mission-focused and support services. Many agencies and individuals beyond the Catholic Church; and many from the community sector and Government are also key parts of our endeavours.

All remain in our prayers, and deserve more thanks than we can give.

Our Catholic social services sector continues to change, in quite a number of ways. People change: experienced leaders such as David Beaver from Centacare Ballarat retired, Bishop Vincent Long moved on to Parramatta from his role as Episcopal Vicar in Melbourne, many talented, enthusiastic young people joined our various services, and Fr Frank Brennan stepped up to lead Catholic Social Services Australia. Organisations also change,



Michelle Date (Good Shepherd ANZ) & Paula Sgherza (MacKillop Family Services) at Train the Trainer Workshop November 2016



John Allen Jr Opening Keynote Speaker at CSSV Conference February 2016

God is not a noun.
God is a verb.
God is crying out
to us in the
ordinary lives of
people around us.

Fr John Petrus,
Sacred Heart Mission

with amalgamations and other forms of cooperation now a standard feature of the environment.

Rapid change affects our operational environment, as evidenced by the volatile growth of the National Disability Insurance Scheme and the major changes to aged care funding.

And most importantly, the needs of people change, with a related challenge to us to respond to, for example, the varied needs of recently arrived communities; the effects of changing patterns of drug use; changes in the pattern of employment, and in the geographic spread of suburban population.

Nor is the Church environment stable. The Gospel call to love of neighbour remains as a constant for each part of the Church, as well as for each individual. But in each time and place we need to 'read the signs of the times and interpret them in light of the Gospel', to ensure the relevance and priority of what we are doing, and to ensure that our choices about what we are unable to do are made in light of all relevant circumstances.

The devastating impact on so many lives of sexual abuse of children weighs heavily. The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Abuse will continue to impact on the Church for many decades. Its findings challenge many of the earlier

patterns of authority, and lead to an increased onus on each part of the Church to play its part in ensuring safe environments for all vulnerable people and in responding to victims of abuse. This places added responsibility on each member organisation of Catholic Social Services Victoria, as well as on us as a peak body. It also places pressure on each part of our sector, and each person participating, to reflect on the value of their work, so as not to be overwhelmed by the evils of recent decades with which we have been confronted.

As part of the Church, we seek guidance, wise decision-making and solidarity to heal and help as best we can. Against this setting too, the services provided by Catholic agencies for people at the margins shine brightly. They epitomise so much of the Jubilee of Mercy which Pope Francis initiated to renew the focus within the Church on the love and mercy of God for all.

The light that they shine for so many people at the margins makes it such a privilege for Catholic Social Services Victoria to work with its members and many other parts of the Church and community as we seek to improve and expand the service that is provided; to stand with and serve those who are poor, disadvantaged and marginalised; and to advance the Gospel imperatives of work for a just, equitable and compassionate society.

2016 activities report

The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si* #48

The Catholic Social Services Victoria year was launched during February 2016 with our popular and successful biennial conference: *Review, Reimagine, Renew: Mission making a difference in a changing world*. Leaders of Catholic social services from across the country participated: Board members and staff from Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia, senior executives from nearly all States and Territories, and a range of Board members, practitioners, mission leaders, members of auspicing bodies and leaders from the wider social services sector.

This was a rich mix that brought practical experience as well as informed reflection to bear throughout the conference. Like its predecessor, this 2016 conference engaged with contemporary themes to empower participants to approach renewal in Catholic social services underpinned by both the timeless message of the Gospels and the necessary innovation for effective ministry in a changing environment. Issues addressed by the conference included, in the Australian context, institutional child abuse, family violence, engagement with Indigenous Australians, offering disability services, supporting resettlement, and

breaking the poverty cycle and, in the wider international setting, the situation of refugees and asylum seekers and capital punishment. Across all these themes, and expressed in a variety of ways, the focus was on how our response should be shaped by our call to bring the “compassionate gaze of Christ” to disadvantaged and vulnerable people.

The conference was challengingly bookmarked with addresses from John Allen Jr, the senior Vatican analyst for CNN and editor of *Crux* and Fr Frank Brennan SJ, priest and lawyer and prominent Australian human rights advocate. John Allen looked beyond the celebrity of Pope Francis and presented an understanding of Pope Francis’ leadership on mission as firmly embedded in three pillars: a passion for those on the peripheries, a deeply missionary concept of Church and, thirdly, mercy as the cornerstone message the world needs to hear from the Church at this moment in time. Frank Brennan in his concluding masterclass melded the themes of Catholic Social Teaching and the right to migrate. He saw Pope Francis’ words and actions around asylum seekers and migrants as the Pope’s challenge to both individual citizens, communities and legislators to extend mercy across all barriers. The book based on the conference, and with the same



Participants at CSSV Conference February 2016



Patrice Scales at CSSV Conference Book Launch
October 2016

title, was edited by Gabrielle McMullen, Patrice Scales and Denis Fitzgerald. It has been well received as an accessible way of extending engagement in conference themes to those who could not attend.

The conference gave many in Catholic Social Services Victoria an affirming and challenging launch into the issues and works of 2016. Members of Council and Committees of Catholic Social Services Victoria have been busy again in their commitment and responses to a diverse range of issues. Most of the work undertaken is reflected in detail on our website and the following paragraphs outline the main elements of our activities, under the strategic headings of:

- Policy and advocacy
- Network development and member support
- Catholic ethos and identity

Policy and Advocacy

The Policy and Advocacy Committee was chaired this year by John Blewonski and brought together a wide variety of expert policy practitioners from across our member organisations. Family Violence has been a major focus again with the Victorian Royal Commission Report being released in February 2016 with its 227 Recommendations. A Family Violence Working group has continued to reflect and develop on best practice responses

to these recommendations. Their work culminated in the Victorian Catholic Bishops' Statement in December 2016 on Domestic and Family Violence and this was followed up with a comprehensive resource kit for all parishes and Catholic organisations which was circulated in early 2017. This working group, under the leadership of Helen Burt, has collaboratively developed a set of resources which will effectively assist all in the church to respond in an informed and just way to this major issue within our society.

Criminal Justice issues were also a regular element of this committee in such areas as ageing in prisons; lowering rates of Aboriginal incarceration; young people on remand; children in adult prisons. Catholic Social Services Victoria also participated in the Police Commissioner's Youth Summit in July and conducted a very informative Breakfast Briefing in November on Education Pathways through Youth Justice with Brendan Murray, Principal of Parkville College. We have continued our involvement with the Smart Justice group of the Victorian Council of Churches particularly in the areas of rehabilitation and reintegration of offenders into society.

Both Federal and State Budgets engaged the attention and energy of this committee in a number of areas of concern for our members. The 2016 budget invested heavily in the main areas of traditional Victorian Government responsibility, and extended beyond that, particularly with its family violence response. There were modest but welcome initiatives in crime prevention, diversion and rehabilitation; child protection and building stronger families; some areas of housing and disability.

The committee was encouraged by the Australian Bishops' statement *Voice for the Voiceless* in the lead up to the 2016 Federal Budget and were further encouraged to strengthen their efforts in such areas as family violence, survivors of sexual abuse, refugees and asylum seekers, the elderly, indigenous peoples and mental health issues.

In the present condition of global society, where injustices abound and growing numbers of people are deprived of basic human rights and considered expendable, the principle of the common good immediately becomes, logically and inevitably, a summons to solidarity and a preferential option for the poorest of our brothers and sisters.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si* #158

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2016 activities report

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When money becomes the end and the motive of every activity and of every venture, then the utilitarian perspective and brute logic – which do not respect people – prevail, resulting in the widespread collapse of the values of solidarity and respect for the human being.

Pope Francis, November 2014



Peter Hudson at Train the Trainer workshop November 2016

During August we made a submission to the Productivity Commission's review on competition and choice in human services. Some human services have been subject to competitive tendering, and that experience has been very mixed. Our submission explored some of these issues, which arise from experience, from the role that faith-based and other community sector bodies play in our society.

Network Development and Member Support

In our work this past year of establishing a community of shared identity we conducted our usual gatherings which were well received and attended. Our Network Development and Member Support Committee was chaired by Peter Richardson and it oversaw and monitored these various events for their reach and effectiveness.

The Conference Dinner in February was our 2016 opportunity for our annual membership social gathering and the highlight of the evening was the Mary MacKillop Oration

presented by Julian McMahon. Julian reflected on courage that he deeply experienced in his journey with Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan in the final seventy-two hours of their lives. He claimed that the term 'speaking the truth to power' was never more apt than at that time.

In March we conducted our 2016 Commissioning Mass and Annual General Meeting again at MacKillop Family Services in South Melbourne. Bishop Vincent Long as Episcopal Vicar for Social Services led the celebration of Mass and Sr Joan Healy RSJ offered a rich reflection after communion linking the readings of the Mass with our call to justice and service within our Catholic services community. All of the above events were strongly supported by our members, and we express our thanks to the many people who contributed to the good organisation, hospitality and success of each of these occasions.

The Asylum Seeker Parish Support program has continued its valuable role of networking and resourcing the Catholic



Jan Hayes for CSSV at Parish Services Expo Cheltenham August 2016

parishes of Melbourne in their efforts to respond practically to one of the most marginalised groups in our society. Adrian Foley and his volunteer project team are to be thanked for the passion, energy and professionalism they continue to bring to developing this program over the past four years. During 2016 they facilitated a number of well attended forums for parishes across Melbourne to increase awareness and support for asylum seekers and refugees.

More than 100 adults and children gathered at Our Lady of the Assumption Parish in Cheltenham on Saturday, 27 August for the “Reimagining Parish Services Expo”. Leaders from more than 15 parishes in the south eastern corridor of Melbourne and social service agencies exhibited a diverse range of services. The aim of the gathering was to give inspiration and to learn from others how they are responding to the Gospel call to help those in need. Further Expos in the north, east and west of Melbourne, and hopefully in regional dioceses, are envisaged into the future.

There was a very successful Breakfast Briefing in November when Brendan Murray the Principal of Parkville College engaged with a large, varied audience on Youth Justice through Education. Brendan reflected on the fact that up until five years ago young offenders were detained in Victoria with little to no access to appropriate schooling. Their education was neglected. He highlighted the need for families and the broader community to understand their role in helping re-integrate these young offenders into the community.



Brendan Murray, Principal of Parkville College presenting at November CSSV Breakfast Briefing

We must address the challenge of ageism, which stereotypes people as being dependent, incapable or a burden on society. The human dignity of older people is undermined when the wishes of a person are overlooked, their decision-making power is curtailed or their basic rights infringed.

A place at the table – Australian Catholic Bishops Social Justice Statement 2016

2016 activities report

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What we would like to do is change the world – make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves as God intended for them to do.

Dorothy Day



Jim Curtain and Julie Fewster at Train the Trainer workshop November 2016

Catholic Ethos & Identity

All of our work is undertaken as part of the Church, and under the guidance of Catholic social teaching. Br Bill Wilding chaired the Committee that has responsibility for continuing our reflection and articulation of how we in social services, shaped by Catholic identity, make a difference.

Catholic Social Services Victoria works regularly with member organisations and beyond to share and to deepen our understanding of this teaching, and of how it can be drawn on to make a difference in practice to those we serve. This has included workshops, presentations and seminars, for both beginners and at a deeper level. A 'Train the Trainer' workshop in November marked a further step in deepening the engagement of Catholic social services with Catholic Social Teaching. The Train the Trainer day resourced participants to apply this teaching in the work of their organisation. It was developed as an interactive model in adult learning practices and for the sharing of a wide range of techniques and resources in the development of training programs for personnel in our Catholic organisations. The target audience was people who have responsibility in their organisations for

training and development in Catholic culture and identity. Twenty people from around Australia (and one colleague from New Zealand) interacted with facilitator Peter Hudson and his colleagues from Catholic Social Services Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia. It was a rich learning experience for all concerned, including the presenters. Initial feedback was very positive and all participants appreciated the valuable opportunity for focussed collaboration and networking.

Our Leadership for Mission series was conducted again across three workshop evenings in 2016 but re-badged as *Mission Inspired Leadership*. Fifteen leaders and Board directors across our Catholic social services sector participated in this professional development program which explores the mission and faith dimension of leadership in a Catholic social services setting. Many thanks to our three expert facilitators for these forums: Br Mark O'Connor FMS, Ms Sandie Cornish, Fr Joe Caddy. The evaluation clearly demonstrated that the program was very much appreciated and feedback strongly indicated that participants felt that the series could beneficially be extended into four evenings in our 2017 series.

Our Mission Network meetings continued on five occasions during the year, providing a forum for people with a responsibility for advancement of mission. These meetings are an opportunity to enhance our mission leadership through the sharing of ideas, experiences and resources in a faith-based, reflective environment. At the April gathering Fr Frank O'Loughlin lead us in our continuing reflection and discussion of the place of Eucharist in our workplace prayer and ritual.

During October and November we hosted again the series of the *First Spiritual Exercises*, conducted through the Campion Centre of Ignatian Spirituality. These are a set of prayers and reflection structured in a four week program, and built on the



Bishop Mark Edwards, Marcelle Mogg, Maria Harries, Barbara Hingston at CSSV Conference February 2016

Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius. A small group of people from Archdiocesan departments, member organisations and parishes committed to the afternoon program this year which was gently led again by Sr Margaret Claver FCJ.

Working with others

A great deal of our work is in various partnerships with other church-sponsored groups and organisations who share our goals. Many of the people that we work with are from our member organisations. Developing linkages with other parts of the Church is a continuing priority for Catholic Social Services Victoria. Mention has already been made of our member organisations, the Bishops and Religious leaders, and parishes. In addition, the agencies and staff of the Archdiocese of Melbourne have continued to be central to our work. We have worked with Catholic health and education sectors in the developments of events and ideas. There has been beneficial cooperation with various agencies of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference which has enriched many of our endeavours. We have engaged with many in the not-for-profit sector. VCOSS

and the Smart Justice coalition are among our partners; as are the various sector peak bodies in Victoria for such groups as housing and homelessness, disability, drugs and alcohol, child and family welfare.

Cooperation with other churches, in particular the Melkite Community, and with other faith bodies also continued in 2016. Catholic Social Services Victoria continued their membership of the interchurch Criminal Justice Taskforce and the Social Questions Commission at the Victorian Council of Churches, and participated in the Interchurch Gambling Taskforce, among other forums.



Being unwanted, unloved, uncared for, forgotten by everybody, I think that is a much greater hunger, a much greater poverty than the person who has nothing to eat.

St Teresa of Kolkata

finance report

Where profits alone count ... biodiversity is considered at most a deposit of economic resources available for exploitation, with no serious thought for the real value of things, their significance for persons and cultures, or the concerns and needs of the poor.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si* #190

Catholic Social Services Victoria: Finances for 2016, and previous periods (\$)			
	2016	2015	2014
Income			
Membership fees	\$93,658	\$82,901	\$86,470
Grants from regional Dioceses	\$67,344	\$66,348	\$64,416
CSSA support	\$30,000	\$26,170	\$33,225
Other	\$113,967	\$44,202	\$74,431
Subtotal	\$304,969	\$219,621	\$258,542
Support from Archdiocese of Melbourne	\$296,230	\$312,757	\$304,107
Total income	\$601,199	\$532,378	\$562,649
Expenditure			
Staff and related costs	\$433,274	\$407,680	\$429,388
Other operating	\$167,925	\$124,698	\$133,261
Total expenditure	\$601,199	\$532,378	\$562,649
Net result	-	-	-
Memo			
CSSV trust fund balance at 31 December 2013	\$84,820	\$83,782	\$85,835

Catholic Social Services Victoria financial results for 2016

Highlights

Total income and expenditure, each at \$601,199 were \$68,821 more than for 2015, reflecting additional income and expenditure relating to an output level similar to 2014, but with the addition of a major conference in February 2016.

The financial contributions from all parties towards the operations of Catholic Social Services Victoria are very much appreciated:

- The Archdiocese of Melbourne continues to be the largest contributor to CSSV income, at \$296,230, which balances expenditure and other income and for the year.
- Membership fees were \$93,658, and contributions from regional dioceses totaled \$67,344 in 2016. These represent 16% and 11% respectively of total income.

- The contribution from Catholic Social Services Australia was \$30,000 for the calendar year. We have been advised that this contribution will not continue.

Other income rose substantially, by \$69,765 to \$113,967. This related to sales and sponsorship associated with the conference.

Trust fund

CSSV maintains a Trust Fund that can be used for the purposes of the organisation. The balance in the Fund at 31 December 2015 was \$84,820, an increase of \$1,038 over the 12 month period. A payment of \$5,612 from the Trust Fund was transferred to general income during 2016.

council, committees & membership

Members of Council and Council Committees at Catholic Social Services Victoria from March 2016

Bishop Vincent Long Van Nguyen
OFMConv (until 31 May 2016)
Episcopal Vicar for Social Services

Fr Joe Caddy (from 1 June 2016)
Chief Executive Officer, CatholicCare
Episcopal Vicar for Social Services

Mr Bernard Cronin
Chair of Council

Ms Cathy Humphrey
Deputy Chair of Council
Chief Executive Officer
Sacred Heart Mission

Mr David Beaver (Treasurer until October 2016)
Chief Executive Officer
Centacare, Diocese of Ballarat

Mr Tony Fitzgerald (from February 2017)
Chief Executive Officer
CentaCare, Diocese of Ballarat

Dr Anne Astin (Treasurer from October 2016)
Associate Member CSSV

Mr John Blewonski
Chief Executive Officer
VincentCare

Ms Helen Cooney
Chief Executive Officer
Caroline Chisholm Society

Ms Jenny Glare
Manager – Heritage and Information Services
MacKillop Family Services

Deacon Mark Kelly
Bishop's Representative, Diocese of Sale

Ms Michelle Pereira
Manager – Youth, Education, Development
St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria

Mr Peter Richardson
Director
CatholicCare Sandhurst

Br Bill Wilding cfc
Representative, Catholic Religious Victoria

Membership of Council Committees

Governance and Finance Committee.

Bernard Cronin (Chair)
David Beaver (until October 2016)
Cathy Humphrey
Denis Fitzgerald
Dr Anne Astin (from October 2016)
Michael Dillon (from February 2017)

Member Support Committee

Peter Richardson (Chair)
Sherry Balcombe
Michelle Pereira
Helen Burt
Denis Fitzgerald
Peter Hudson

Policy and Advocacy Committee

John Blewonski (Chair)
Dr Anne Astin
Fr Joe Caddy
Gavin Dufty
Dr Glenn Jessop
Dr Kathy Landvogt
Angela Merriam
Che Stockley
Professor Ruth Webber
Vin Martin
Helen Burt
Denis Fitzgerald
Peter Hudson

Catholic Ethos and Identity Committee

Br Bill Wilding cfc (Chair)
David Beaver
Jenny Glare
Julie Morgan
Livia Carusi
Deacon Mark Kelly
Michael Yore
Bishop Vincent Long (until 31 May 2016)
Helen Burt
Denis Fitzgerald
Peter Hudson

The urgent challenge to protect our common home includes a concern to bring the whole human family together to seek a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si* #13

Continued on page 18

council, committees & membership

Continued from page 17

I am not sure exactly what heaven will be like, but I know that when we die and it comes time for God to judge us, he will not ask, 'How many good things have you done in your life?' rather he will ask, 'How much love did you put into what you did?'

St Teresa of Kolkata

Members of Catholic Social Services Victoria

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry
Assisi Centre
Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans (ACRATH)
Brigidine Asylum Seeker Project
Cabrini Health
Catholic Chaplains' Association for Health Care
CatholicCare Melbourne
CatholicCare Sandhurst
CatholicCare Victoria Tasmania
Catholic Womens League Victoria and Wagga Wagga
Centacare, Diocese of Ballarat
Corazon
Corpus Christi Community
Don Bosco Youth Centre and Hostel
Edmund Rice Camps
Edmund Rice Refugee & Community Services
Good Samaritan Inn
Good Shepherd Australia New Zealand
Griefline
Jesuit Social Services
John Pierce Centre for Deaf Ministry
Kewn Kreestha
Keysborough Learning Centre
Larmenier Child and Family Centre (until 31 July 2016)
MacKillop Family Services
Marillac
Marist180

Mary Aikenhead Ministries
Mary MacKillop Aged Care
McAuley Community Services for Women
Missionary Sisters of Service
Nazareth House – Sisters of Nazareth
Office for Justice & Peace, Archdiocese of Melbourne
Order of Malta Hospice Home Care Victoria
Pregnancy Assistance Frankston
Rosies Oblate Youth Mission
Sacred Heart Mission St Kilda
Society of St Vincent de Paul
Solo Catholics
Southern Cross Care (Vic)
St John of God ACCORD
St Joseph's Flexible Learning Centre
St Joseph's Home for the Aged, Little Sisters of the Poor
St Mary's House of Welcome
The Way Community
Vietnamese Catholic Family Mutual Assistance Network
Villa Maria Catholic Homes
VincentCare Victoria
Wellsprings for Women

Life Members of Catholic Social Services Victoria

Sr Toni Matha AM ibvm
Rev Kevin Mogg AM PE
Mr Bernie Geary OAM
Ms Vicki Clark



Parish Services Expo Cheltenham August 2016

acknowledgements

In carrying out its mission, Catholic Social Services Victoria relies on the input of many people and organisations, as mentioned in the various parts of this annual report.

Special mention has been made of our member organisations, people from within these bodies, the Bishops of Victoria and others working with the Dioceses and other parts of the Church, and the members of our Council and its Committees. Financial contributions from our member organisations, the Dioceses of Victoria and Catholic Social Services Australia have also been highlighted.

In this section, we also acknowledge with thanks the sponsorship, material support, and other special assistance, received from a wide variety of supporters across our Conference planning and facilitation, our asylum seeker parish support program, our various committee involvements, our workshops, forums and briefings and our wider engagement with other churches and the wider social services sector.

Aboriginal Catholic Ministry
Adrian Foley
Al Curtain
Alison Mann
Anne Kirwan
Anne Leyland
Anne Tuohy
Monsignor Anthony Ireland
Antony McMullen
Archbishop's Office for Evangelisation
Asylum Seekers Resource Centre
Australian Catholic University
Belinda Cowie
Bernie Cronin
Dr Bob Dixon
Brenda Hubber
Brendan Murray
Sr Brigid Arthur csb
Fr Bruce Duncan CSsR
Catherine Garner
Catherine McGovern
Catholic Church Insurances Ltd
Catholic Communications Melbourne
Catholic Development Fund Melbourne
Catholic Education Melbourne
Catholic Health Australia
Catholic Social Services Australia

Catholic Super
Charlie King
Che Stockley
Chris Smyth
Cynthia Viti
David Moloney
Deb Tsorbaris
Donella Johnston
Eureka Street
Evangelia Kladou
Facilities and Reception staff
at Cardinal Knox Centre
Fr Frank Brennan sj
Frances North
Fr Frank O'Loughlin
Professor Gabrielle McMullen
Genevieve Bryant
Geraldine Carrodus
Gerard Jones
Sr Giovanna Danza ssj
Dr Glenn Jessop
Monsignor Greg Bennet
Greg Pullen
Gwen Fitzgerald
Huong Nguyen
Ingrid Hatfield
Jacinta Bright
Jan Hayes
Janet Cribbes
Jayne Lloyd
Jenny Glare
Deacon Jim Curtain
Joce Bignold
Fr Joe Caddy
John L. Allen Jnr
John Falzon
Fr John Petrus
Julian McMahan
Julie Boffa
Julie Edwards
Julie Owens
Fr Kevin Mogg
Kris Johnstone
Kylie Burgess
Lansdowne Cafe
Laurie Findlay
Len Monk
Libby Saunders
Lisa McDonald
Liz Freeman
MacKillop Family Services
Marcelle Mogg
Sr Margaret Claver fcj
Margaret Gearon
Margaret Nutbeam
Maria Harries

Maria Pires
Marija Dragic
Mark Clarke
Mark Edwards
Mark Northeast
Mary MacKillop Heritage Centre
Br Mark O'Connor FMS
Sr Mary O'Shannassy sgs
Matthew Cassin
Matthew Etty-leal
Michael Dillon
Michael Liddy
Michael Yore
Michelle Date
Sr Michelle Reid sgs
Pastoral Research Office
Patrice Scales
Patrick Lawrence
Paul Linossier
Paul Pretty
Dr Paul Taylor
Peter Charles
Peter King
Fr Peter Matheson
Phil Glendenning
Phillip Steele
Ray Johnson
Dr Ricki Jeffrey
Sr Rita Malavisi ssj
Robert Fitzgerald
Ruth Knight
Professor Ruth Webber
Sally Parnell
Samuel Dariol
Sandie Cornish
Sheree Limbrick
Sherry Balcombe
Sisters of St Joseph
Solah Cafe
Sonia Starc
Sophia Erickson
St Patrick's Cathedral Gift Shop
Stephen Schmidtke
Susan Sullivan
Sylvia Wong
Fr Thang Vu
Thomas Carr Centre Staff
Tiffany Davis
Tomas Morales
Tony Hollamby
Tony Nicholson
Bishop Vincent Long
Villa Maria Catholic Homes
Vin Martin
Wayne McGough
Yvonne Lay

The following sponsors provided generous and valuable support to the ministry of Catholic Social Services Victoria



**Everything is connected.
Concern for the environment thus
needs to be joined to a sincere love
for our fellow human beings and
an unwavering commitment to resolving
the problems of society.**

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*



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