



*Strong, caring
communities
inspired through the
love of God*



L U T H E R A N
community care

Annual Report

2016-2017

Contents



About Us	1
Director and Board Report	2
Our Board	4
Thank you	5
Highlights	6-7
Our Numbers	8-9
Our Volunteers	10
Meeting our Strategic Plan	11-22
Audit Report	23
Financials	24-25

About Us



FOR 47 years, Lutheran Community Care has existed to deliver high quality services to build strong communities.

We have grown out of the vision of a small group of Lutheran women, who were inspired to show Christ's love and care in action.

Today that vision has expanded to provide services on behalf of the Lutheran Church in both South

Australia and the Northern Territory.

Our staff and valuable volunteers work to assist the lives of 17,000 people each year, including families living on low incomes, children who are unable to live with their birth family, new parents struggling to cope, adults at risk of becoming homeless and people from refugee backgrounds.

Our services are based on respect,

integrity and compassion.

We embrace all people, regardless of language, culture, ethnicity or religion.

Our vision of 'Strong, caring communities inspired through the love of God' guides us, as we contribute positively to our South Australian and Northern Territory communities and make a difference in the lives of individuals and families.



LCC's Blair Athol Team at the 2016 Staff Conference Day - 'A Landscape of Voices'.

● ● ● Director's report

Conferences highlight growth and commitment

THE theme of the 2016 staff conferences in South Australia and Northern Territory, 'A Landscape of Voices', gave an opportunity for staff to gather, to be inspired and to learn from each other.

At Lutheran Community Care, we work with people from many different backgrounds and experiences, across diverse programs and geographical areas. We create effective staff and volunteer teams, with people of different skills and gifts, to ensure that together we build strong, caring communities. We are diverse and yet we try to work in harmony. Our inspiration is God's love, which shows itself in our actions as individuals and as an organisation.

Our staff conferences highlighted the growth of the organisation and the depth of knowledge and commitment of the staff. Many are working with people with high levels of trauma and we need to be constantly aware of the impact on staff and the volunteers who support them in their programs. We continue to equip our staff by developing training and support. This year, we launched our new training for staff and volunteers in Aboriginal Cultural Respect and Awareness.

Often the people we work with have experienced major changes in their lives, such as the loss of a job, or the death of a family member. Others have come to Australia as refugees. We also support foster carers to provide loving homes for children who have had to leave their birth family. We do our best to provide support through those times of upheaval.

Sometimes, we as a staff and volunteer team, are affected personally by similar changes. The death of our staff member at Peachey Place, Rodney Sands, was an unexpected tragic loss to the community there. A number of LCC's founding mothers have also died in the last year and we remember them with gratitude for their care for others, which inspired them to establish LCC. Other staff have experienced sickness, both themselves, and in their families. At times like these, we are comforted by the selfless care of the community and the desire to carry on the work of those who have left us or need to take a break for a while.

Much of our work also takes place against a changing environment in the community sector. The recommendations of the Nyland

Report into the Child Protection System should see radical changes to the way in which we as a community support and protect children and families. The Foster Care system is stretched to its limits, but things will not change unless there is greater investment in supporting families early and appropriately, as well as greater support and recognition given to the role of foster carers. We continue to work with our peak bodies, Child and Family Welfare Association and South Australian Community Services Association, as well as the Department of Child Protection, to bring about systemic change. Other areas experiencing change are homelessness services, financial wellbeing and the work in Central Australia.

We continue to seek diverse sources of funding to ensure the sustainability of our work. We are committed to working where the need is greatest and where longevity of relationships is of utmost importance.

We cannot do any of this work on our own. I want to acknowledge our many partners and supporters, as well as our volunteers, including our board under the capable leadership of Simon Rodger.

Against the backdrop of all this change, we continue to work effectively, walking alongside people, empowering them and celebrating their strength and resilience. The Afghan Youth of South Australia is an excellent example of resilience. This group, supported by LCC, have made a movie entitled 'Nowhere' and

held several art and video exhibitions about their lives. This is helping to keep their own families strong in this new land, but also help all of us build a diverse and resilient community. Many of this very talented group are recent arrivals in South Australia and we were very proud when they won the Governor's Multicultural

Award for 2016. We hope this report gives you greater insight into Lutheran Community Care and the work we do to build strong, caring communities and that it will inspire you to continue to work with us.

Helen Lockwood
Director

Board Chair report

The only constant in the world of LCC is change

THE only thing constant in the world of Lutheran Community Care is change and 2016-17 was no exception. The director's report highlights many examples of this, and Helen Lockwood, together with all staff and volunteers, can be very proud of the way the challenges presented by these changes have been handled.

As a board, we aim to embrace change, especially if it is for the right reasons, namely the objective of improving the lives of so many people in communities with desperate need.

The changes aren't only external though, and in the year just gone, your board has continued to explore ways that Lutheran Community Care can be improved and enhanced. A review of the way the organisation is structured and how it operates

was conducted, and because of this review, a new, refreshed organisational design will be launched in November 2017.

Over time, we expect this new structure, together with the addition of new senior positions will allow Lutheran Community Care to operate more efficiently, increase the sustainability of funding and performance, increase the awareness and understanding of the work we do, and most importantly, assist many more people, families, children, refugees and communities who continue to struggle in all sorts of ways.

During the year, your board also participated in the early stage of a governance review of Aged Care and Community Care Services being conducted by the Lutheran Church of Australia. As part of the

review, which is still in progress, the standard of governance of the Lutheran Community Care Board was independently reviewed and it was very pleasing to receive a good assessment.

We are currently in the process of filling board vacancies, following the departures of Keith Blyth and Mike Pearson, as well as the impending departure of Malcolm Pech later this year. We have been very fortunate to have people of this calibre on the board and each has contributed in different but valuable ways and deserve recognition.

Finally, it is worth recognising the sacrifice, passion and effort of our Director, Helen Lockwood, who continues to lead by example at Lutheran Community Care.

Simon Rodger
Board Chair

Our Board



Simon Rodger
Chairperson
(2010-current)



Rev Malcolm Pech
Deputy Chair/ Spiritual Adviser
(2009-current)



Dr Michael Pearson
Treasurer
(2012-2017)



Kym Wallent
Treasurer
(2014-current)



Barbara Power
Board Member
(2014-current)



Shona Reid
Board Member
(2015-current)

Thank you



Thank you to our donors, funding bodies, volunteers and everyone who has supported and worked together with us this year.

A very special thank you to our Lutheran Church of Australia supporters, including:

- The Lutheran Women of South Australia
- Bishop David Altus, directors and departments of the SA/NT District
- Congregations and members
- Congregational representatives and money box secretaries
- Lutheran congregations that partner with LCC
- Lutheran Schools Association of SA/NT and all Lutheran schools who have worked with us
- Finke River Mission
- Lutheran Laypeople's League

Additional acknowledgements:

- Department of Social Services
- Department for Communities and Social Inclusion
- The Wyatt Trust
- Morialta Trust Foundation
- City of Playford
- Kickstart for Kids
- Backpack for Kids SA
- Kiwanis Reynella
- Terry Howe Printing
- Oz Harvest
- Community Health Onkaparinga
- Brumby's Bakery Alice Springs
- Second Bite
- City of Marion
- Housing SA Elizabeth
- Rod Scriven Memorial Fund
- Lions Club of Brighton
- Bake 'n' Serve Hectorville
- il nido Children's Centre for Early Childhood Development & Parenting
- Nuriootpa Co-Op
- Barossa Council
- Community Helpers Nuriootpa
- City of Port Adelaide Enfield
- Bachelor Institute of Indigenous Tertiary Education
- Mental Health Association of Central Australia (MHACA)
- Pine Gap Base Community
- Volunteering SA/NT
- Department of Health
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Community Benefit SA
- Centracorp Foundation
- Anglicare NT
- Salvation Army, Ingle Farm
- Uniting Care Country
- Ian Potter Foundation
- Broadley Trust
- Harvey Foundation
- Housing SA, Southern Adelaide Region (Noarlunga Office)
- City of Salisbury
- UnitingCare Wesley Bowden
- UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide
- CareWorks
- Department for Child Protection
- Department for Education and Child Development
- CAFWA
- SACOSS
- CFC-SA
- CREATE Foundation
- City of Playford
- City of Campbelltown
- Rotary Club, Salisbury
- Salisbury Uniting Church

Our Highlights

Aboriginal Culture and Respect Training

IN 2017, LCC launched staff training in Aboriginal culture and respect.

This is such an important area of learning and we are privileged to have staff who are able to work with us to encourage greater understanding and gain wisdom.

Thanks to Leila Plush and her supporters who have put this training together.



Staff at the launch of Aboriginal Culture and Respect Training

FOSSILS concert a fundraising success

LCC held a successful fundraising concert in 2016, which raised over \$7000.

The FOSSILS, which featured Peter Combe, Monica Christian, Hugh Rudham, Brian Loffler and Alan Hartley, revived popular folk music from the 60s and 70s.

More than 300 people enjoyed the occasion and gave generously to LCC.



Glynde redevelopment completed

THIS financial year, renovations to the Foster Care offices at Glynde Lutheran Church were completed.

The redevelopment was officially recognised at a special Sunday worship service in May, which attracted a full church.

The work took about nine months to complete and there is now a new front entrance and foyer, bathrooms and a lift to service the LCC offices upstairs.

The new LCC Foster Care office provides space and training for about 20 staff.



Above: The completed exterior at Glynde Lutheran Church.



Right: Helen Lockwood, Pastor Wayne Boehm, Andrea Konigsmann, Tessa Joppich and Helene Schulz at the Glynde redevelopment opening.

LCC awarded Australian Service Excellence certificates

IN 2016, Lutheran Community Care achieved both Award and Certificate levels in Australian Service Excellence Standards, DCSI.

This quality assurance is specifically designed for community organisations to meet high level accreditation standards and to ensure a culture of continuous improvement.

Accreditation assures those we serve and our donors of the quality of service LCC provides.



How we made a difference



FAMILIES AND CHILDREN



1,392

ATTENDANCES AT
FAMILY & RELATIONSHIP
SERVICES SESSIONS



840

FAMILIES
RECEIVED
CHRISTMAS
HAMPERS

FAMILY ZONE SUPPORTED

6,944 PEOPLE

284 CRECHE SESSIONS

KWATJA ETATHA PLAYGROUP

850

PEOPLE ATTENDED
THIS SERVICE IN
ALICE SPRINGS

276

SESSIONS WERE HELD
AT THE CHURCH AND
IN THE COMMUNITY



326

FOSTER CARE
PLACEMENTS

640 PEOPLE

ATTENDED TALKING WITH TOTS
PLAYGROUP IN THE BAROSSA



1,216

PEOPLE SUPPORTED THROUGH
OUTER SOUTHERN GENERIC
HOMELESSNESS SERVICE

119

HOUSEHOLDS
SUPPORTED AS
REGISTERED
FOSTER CARERS

COMMUNITY AND LIFE SKILLS

100

PEOPLE HELP AT PEACHEY PLACE'S COMMUNITY GARDEN

167 OLDER PEOPLE REGULARLY VISITED BY 92 COMMUNITY VISITORS

2,482 SESSIONS OF EMERGENCY RELIEF REACHING ABOUT 1,271 PEOPLE



VISITS WERE MADE AS PART OF THE COMMUNITY VISITORS SCHEME AROUND SOUTH AUSTRALIA



1,893 PEOPLE SUPPORTED THROUGH FINANCIAL COUNSELLING 850 HOUSEHOLDS

2,758



2,469 NEW ARRIVALS SUPPORTED IN NEW NEIGHBOURS SETTLEMENT SERVICES

576 PEOPLE BORROWED TOOLS AT PEACHEY PLACE

180 PEOPLE ATTENDED LIVING SKILLS SESSIONS AT PEACHEY PLACE

751 PEOPLE ATTENDED SESSIONS AT THE CENTRE FOR LEARNING



8

PEOPLE SUPPORTED WITH NO INTEREST LOANS IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



Our Volunteers



529 REGISTERED VOLUNTEERS

GAVE OVER

38,911 HOURS

WORTH AT LEAST
\$1.6 MILLION



Volunteers and coordinators gathered to celebrate 25 years of service through the Community Visitors Scheme. LCC has over 100 volunteers who visit people in aged care facilities who are socially isolated. Remarkably there were still 4 volunteers who have been involved in visiting for all of the 25 years. What dedication to building strong communities.



Back: Helen Lockwood, Director Lutheran Community Care; Brian Abbott, 25 years; Penny Pfitzner, 10 years; Peter Rudiger, 15 years; Jean Higginbottom, 10 years and Dean Messner, 5 years. Front: Karen Grieger, Metro Worker; Annie Chambers, Community Visitors' Scheme Co-ordinator; Barb Samuels, 25 years and Cesarina Tarca, 5 years.



Meeting our Strategic Plan



Youth win multicultural award

Afghan Youth of South Australia recognised for promoting diversity

THERE has been reason to celebrate for Lutheran Community Care's Afghan Youth of South Australia (AYSA), with the group winning the youth organisation category at the Governor's Multicultural Awards in March.

Presented on Harmony Day (March 21) in the grounds of Government House, the AYSA was recognised for its promotion of multiculturalism, diversity and harmony.

In particular, the AYSA was applauded for its production of 'Nowhere', a 30-minute film addressing healthy relationships between young males and females in the Afghan community. The film aimed to increase knowledge and awareness about hidden relationships, forced and arranged marriage, family conflict and violence.

LCC AYSA Support Worker Mohammad Hamidi said he was very proud of what the group had achieved.

"The work that they did last year with the movie was a huge success, because it was not only them making it, it was about how to work as a team," he said.

"The encouragement and the passion from the young people shown through this project was exciting."



Above: LCC's Mohammad Hamidi, SA Governor Hieu Van Le and Pari Moradi.

The AYSA was established in 2010 as part of LCC's New Neighbours Settlement program, which offers a range of services to help new arrivals participate in the wider community with confidence.

Hamidi, who is of Afghan background, began working with the group in 2012 when it offered a small number of activities and information sessions. Since then, he has assisted in growing the services it provides and worked with members to ensure their talents and experiences can be shared with others.

"From 2013, we made some changes to our activities and added some event programs, to give people an opportunity to organise something for the community," he said.

"We began an intro to art, sport, and

since 2014 we have moved towards more skills programs."

Hamidi said it was important to make groups such as the AYSA available to new arrivals.

"When I came here 15 years ago, we couldn't access these kinds of activities, so we tried everything ourselves, we had no mentors," he said.

"The group activities help today's youth get more involved with the community, and it's not only about the community work, it's about the study and education as well."

The Governor's Multicultural Awards celebrate South Australians who promote multiculturalism and increase understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity in our community.

1 People are connected, belong and are valued in our community

» **Support our volunteers as they connect with people to build their social community connectedness.**

Our **Volunteer** program supports more than 500 volunteers in various roles through our op shops, emergency relief service delivery, financial counselling, administration, living skills sessions, support groups and much more. Volunteers have always been central to the heart and vision of Lutheran Community Care.

The **Community Visitors Scheme** recruits, trains and matches volunteers to visit people who live in residential aged care homes and those in the community who are socially isolated and lonely. Many of these matches turn into lifelong friendships for the volunteer and resident. LCC has been continuously funded for the CVS since it received its first grant in December 1991.

» **Strengthen our relationship with Lutheran congregations and schools in SAINT by fostering partnerships and equipping them to engage with their community.**

We continue to look at ways to partner and connect with the Lutheran Church of Australia congregations and schools in South Australia and the Northern Territory. We receive incredible assistance through our church connections, particularly in donations to our pantry and shops, and through volunteer support.

Each month, **Family Zone Hub** staff welcome student representatives from Endeavour College who volunteer bright and early to provide breakfast for children at the Ingle Farm Primary School. Other schools, including Concordia College and Immanuel College, have supported LCC through the use of their facilities.



Alice Springs volunteers attended a celebration lunch.

1 People are connected, belong and are valued in our community

» Celebrate our diverse culture and people.

New Neighbours Settlement Services provides support and assistance to newly arrived humanitarian entrants to Australia, who have been residents between six months and five years. As well as the core business of case work with new arrivals and their families, there are regular information sessions and specialist programs for women and youth.

Cultural Support Groups at Family Zone encourage families to meet with others from their culture for friendship. These friendships often become substitutes for the families left behind.

The **Centre for Learning** holds yearly staff development days where staff are recognised for their hard work and encouraged to learn from each other.

» Encourage participation to improve community capacity and sustainability especially for those who are disadvantaged or marginalised in community life.

The **Op Shops** provide high quality and affordable clothing from Blair Athol, Payneham, Smithfield Plains, Swan Reach and Alice Springs. People who visit for Emergency Relief are also able to choose clothing and home goods on their first visit to us.

Peachey Place Living Skills Centre offers a place for people to make friends while learning a variety of life skills such as cooking, gardening, budgeting, healthy living, and English and pre-vocational classes. The aim is to encourage people to connect together to learn and live fuller lives both socially and physically.



From top: A highlight of the year was the Staff Conference, which was held in Adelaide and Alice Springs.

Members of the Burundian community during the maize harvest at the Peachey Place Living Skills Centre.

2 Everyone is able to live well

» *Support people to gain meaning, purpose and hope in their lives.*

Family and Relationship Services assists vulnerable and disadvantaged individuals, couples and families through counselling and other supportive and educative groups. Areas covered include Adelaide's east and west, the Adelaide Hills, Barossa and Murraylands.

» *Empower people to become self reliant and achieve economic and personal wellbeing.*

Our **Emergency Relief** service involves working with people who are in need of immediate material support. When a person visits us for the first time, we often provide basic emergency food, but also look at all factors preventing a person from their own version of success and work with them to make positive changes for the future.

» *Build the financial capability, resilience and wellbeing of people who are vulnerable and most at risk of financial and social exclusion.*

We provide free **Financial Counselling** at various locations across Adelaide and in the Barossa. This is a valuable service in terms of its ability to prevent crisis.

In Alice Springs, we also have the **Financial Wellbeing, Capability and Resilience Hub**. This program provides assistance to people in financial difficulty and helps them to address their financial problems. ww



Through Financial Counselling, LCC assists almost 600 people a year.

3 Everyone has a place to call home

» **Expand access to supported, stable and nurturing homes to children 0-18 who are unable to live with their families.**

LCC Foster Care Services recruits, trains and supports foster carers who are able to provide a caring home for children unable to live with their birth parents.

Foster carers provide emergency, short term, long term or respite care for children. The service is delivered from offices based at Pasadena, Glynde and Gawler.

LCC also holds regular foster care information sessions throughout the year and sets up information stalls at events across SA.

We hope to continue to increase the number of carers, so that children can grow up with families, rather than in commercial care.

Right: LCC foster carers Lauren and Adam.



» **Provide support and accommodation options for people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or in housing stress.**

The **Outer Southern Generic Homelessness Service** provides support and assistance to people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless in the Onkaparinga Council area in South Australia.

Case managers provide targeted

support for people to address barriers preventing them from accessing housing or maintaining their current tenancy.

Programs include Crisis and Transitional Housing, Supportive Housing, Intensive Tenancy Support, Boarding

House Support and Motel and Responsive Housing. Financial Counselling is also provided for people supported in these programs.

Bikers bring warmth for winter blues

Joining together with big hearts and one goal

EIGHTY members of the Longriders Christian Motorcycle Club (LCMC) took part in the Winter Blues Blanket Run, to support the work that Lutheran Community Care does with emergency relief and homelessness.

The event was organised by the LCMC and several Lutheran pastors joined in on the day, including Pastor David Kuss (Birdwood), Pastor Adrian Kitson (Nuriootpa) and Pastor Geoff Havelberg (Gawler).

Riders from as far away as Mount Gambier made the trek to Littlehampton where the event began, and donated various items to LCC, including blankets, coats, non-perishable goods and toiletries.

Members of the public also made several donations, which helped families doing it tough during winter.

LCC Director Helen Lockwood said she was extremely grateful for the generosity of all involved with the event.

“We were getting very short on blankets this winter,” Mrs Lockwood said. “This went a long way to help the many struggling families out there. We were very appreciative of over \$1000 raised on the day, along with the van load of blankets for this very worthy cause.”

The motorcycle ride took the group through Woodside, Tanunda and Angaston, with the final stop at Salisbury.

Event organiser Shaun McGrath was pleased with the number of bikers that turned up, despite the bleak weather forecast.

“The road prayer worked,” Mr McGrath said. “Amazingly, the day turned out to be quite sunny despite a couple of minor showers along the way.”

Below: Shaun McGrath, Helen Lockwood, David Kuss, Adrian Kitson and Leigh Goodenough.



4 Everyone is safe in their homes, community and work

» *Advocate against and respond to abuse, bullying and violence through a continuum of interventions: education, prevention, referral and support.*

LCC is a member of the Australian Children's Safety Alliance (previously Safe and Together Australian Alliance). The alliance is made up of a number of organisations who work collaboratively to develop policy and practice models for strengthening the safety of women and children to keep

them free from violence and abuse.

The Centre for Learning also provides regular training for staff and volunteers to gain a deeper understanding of domestic violence. Courses based on mental health and suicide prevention are provided as well.

The **Outer Southern Generic Homelessness Service** is a partnering organisation in the Southern Domestic Violence Community Development Network, which works to raise awareness about the effects of family violence in Australia.

» *Ensure safety for all who seek our services, our volunteers and our staff.*

As part of the **Family and Relationship Services program**, we have a trained counsellor who works with women at a domestic violence shelter by providing personal counselling sessions and support groups.

At the **Outer Southern Generic Homelessness Service**, support workers assist with the 'Walking on Eggshells - Step Up for SA'

program. This is a free 13-week program for parents and young people addressing adolescent family violence. Workers help young people learn about the impact of their behaviour and assist parents with skills to support a behaviour change in the family.



The team who support the Outer Southern Generic Homelessness Service.

Expanding our services

Growing greener thumbs in Playford

A NEW project at Peachey Place Living Skills Centre in Davoren Park is improving the wellbeing of people in the local area and increasing community pride by providing gardening assistance and other life skills training.

Growing Greener Thumbs in Playford has been running since August 2016 and is a joint initiative between LCC, Housing SA, City of Playford and the SA Burundian Association.

The project received two years of funding from the Ian Potter Foundation and is being led by Peachey Place's coordinator Kevin Sharp.

It also includes volunteer opportunities for local people to help their neighbours, which builds social connection and early intervention strategies for those who require tenancy support.

Davoren Park is ranked as the fourth most disadvantaged area in South Australia and clients have initially been Housing SA

residents. Housing SA has identified that failing to maintain properties and gardens is a factor that places people at risk of losing their tenancy.

Mr Sharp said residents were encouraged to incorporate longer term garden maintenance strategies, as well as getting further involved with their community.

"We also encourage them to look at Peachey Place and the other types of programs and services that we have," he said.

"It's easy to lose that sense of community pride, particularly when you have a whole lot of other issues to deal with, so building up that individual community capacity is really important too for the longer term."

Remembering Rodney

At the end of 2016, LCC was saddened by the sudden loss of Rodney Sands (pictured right). Rodney was a valued worker at Peachey Place and the garden has become a place of rich memories of the work that volunteers and staff did with him.



Above: Volunteers and staff combine to look after the Peachey Place Living Skills Centre community garden.



5 All families are strong and help to build community

» ***Deliver integrated services that strengthen families and build cohesive communities.***

The Hand in Hand Family Centre in the Barossa is a joint project of LCC and St Petri Lutheran Church in Nuriootpa.

It aims to connect families with the community through parenting and relationship information and support, and provides positive programs for those living in the Barossa and surrounding districts.

Programs include a Talking with Tots playgroup, craft groups,

literacy support and a Free to Write therapeutic journaling group.

The **Intensive Family Support** program at Ntaria (Hermannsberg) aims to reduce child neglect by providing intensive support to parents and caregivers. This increases their capacity to overcome issues affecting their ability to meet the needs of their children.



Lutheran Community Care is strengthening families and building community through many of its programs.

» ***Support people to build stable, healthy and resilient family relationships to ensure the lifetime wellbeing of families.***

Toolbox Parenting courses were delivered by the Centre For Learning at schools and several LCC locations to equip parents with a variety of

practical ways to build stronger relationships in their families.

The positive feedback from participants and organisations

means that we will seek to grow this work in schools and through local government initiatives.

One family's story with foster care

Giving children a place to call home

FOSTER care has been a rewarding experience for Mary and Brian,* a couple who has been with Lutheran Community Care since 2012.

Back then, the pair provided respite care one weekend a month, which suited Mary's full-time working schedule.

Respite care can be a single occurrence or an ongoing relationship with a young person, and usually takes place over weekends and school holidays.

"It (respite care) is a great way to start making a positive difference," Mary said.

Mary and Brian only saw their first respite arrangement once, but the couple still provides fortnightly care for their second placement four years later.

They are reliable, consistent and positive role models for her.

"She's really part of the family," Brian said.

Many carers choose to become registered for more than one type of care, and with Mary working part-time now, the couple are also registered as emergency and short term carers.

Emergency care may be needed at any time and can range from an overnight stay or up to two weeks, while short term care is required for a period between two weeks and two years.

Each type of care has its benefits and challenges. What fostering is like for one family, could be very different for another. However, what LCC foster carers have in common is their ability to provide a stable, supportive and nurturing home.

Mary and Brian said providing a safe home for

children who hadn't had an easy start to life was definitely worth the experience.

"You just can't explain how it feels," Mary said. "Seeing the changes in some of the kids in a short period of time is so rewarding."

**Names have been changed.*



6 All children are healthy, capable and resilient

» *Provide integrated, early intervention and prevention services that support parents to support their children to reach their full potential.*

The **Family Zone Hub** at Ingle Farm helps to increase the confidence and skills of parents with young children. Staff run a variety of groups that connect new parents with others in the community, increasing their support network, which in turn

strengthens their ability to cope in tough times.

These include a craft group, children's playgroups, conversational English group, school holiday programs and a support group for dads. A mobile crèche service is

available for children whose parents attend support groups.

Family Zone also provide a **Home Visiting** program, where volunteers visit isolated parents at home and assist them in building their confidence as parents.

» *Build child friendly learning environments that improve children's development and wellbeing and the capabilities of those in a parenting role.*

In Alice Springs the **Kwatja Etatha Playgroup** is run from the Alice Springs Lutheran Church and runs five days a week.

Activities are designed to meet educational outcomes and parents are encouraged to play with and support their children's

learning and development.

There is also a **Mobile Playgroup** that visits four town camps and one community each week. Staff use a retrofitted van that features cooking facilities, books, toys and craft supplies so that all families can join in playgroup.

At Family Zone in Ingle Farm, we provide **Breakfast Club** for children three mornings each week at the Ingle Farm Primary School. Run completely by volunteers, the program provides children with healthy food options to sustain their minds and stomachs until lunch.

Independent Audit Report

for year ending 30 June 2017

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the financial report of Lutheran Community Care, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity 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 statement by the members of the Lutheran Community Care Council.

In our opinion, the financial report of Lutheran Community Care 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 Lutheran Community Care's financial position as at 30 June 2017 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 Division 60 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 Lutheran Community Care 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

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling Lutheran Community Care's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

MRL GROUP PTY LTD
Chartered Accountants



Mark LeCornu
Director

24th October 2017

A full set of accounts are available upon request from Lutheran Community Care.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenues from ordinary activities		789,911	821,010
Donations and bequests received		626,867	573,412
Grants received for operating activities		8,889,038	7,715,652
Interest received		120,238	110,244
Gain on disposal of non-current assets		491	3,342
Employee benefits expense		(7,174,043)	(6,275,732)
Administration expenses		(529,963)	(550,779)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(160,658)	(162,387)
Other expenses from ordinary activities		(2,338,893)	(2,166,027)
Surplus from ordinary activities		222,988	68,735
Capital spending income and Reserve transfers:			
- Building donations utilised for property	1	291,802	10,315
- Government grants utilised for property	2	21,001	92,422
Net Surplus and total comprehensive income for the year (before transfers)		535,791	171,472
- Transfer (to) Bequests reserve		(125,800)	(26,105)
Net Surplus (after transfers)		409,991	145,367

Notes:

(1) Specified donations - Lutheran Community Care utilises accounting methodology whereby it holds moneys donated for specified purposes as funding in advance until appropriately expended. This has historically included specified donations for building works and improvements.

During the year ended 30 June 2017, Lutheran Community Care utilised specified donations received from donors to fund leasehold improvements at Zion Lutheran Church Glynde amounting to \$291,802.

(2) Government Grants - Grants received from the South Australian and Commonwealth Governments are taken up as grants received in advance in the balance sheet. Grants are treated as income in the period in which the grants are expended. In some instances, grant moneys are utilised for capital purposes in the form of upgrading or acquiring assets and are distinguished from operating grants in the income and expenditure statement where appropriate.

Statement of Financial Position

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash on hand	4,130	3,490
Cash at bank	3,846,440	4,163,168
Trade and other receivables	165,502	222,479
Loans receivable	21,000	0
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	4,037,072	4,389,137
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Loans receivable	186,355	0
Property	2,501,490	2,204,099
Plant and equipment	542,813	564,890
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	3,230,658	2,768,989
TOTAL ASSETS	7,267,730	7,158,126
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	1,023,080	1,175,929
Provisions - Current	491,000	388,000
Loans Payable	51,741	97,178
Government grants received in advance	366,711	736,101
Other grants received in advance	718,065	743,094
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	2,650,597	3,140,302
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions - Non-current	430,000	396,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	430,000	396,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,080,597	3,536,302
NET ASSETS	4,187,133	3,621,824
EQUITY		
Retained surpluses	3,628,608	3,189,099
Reserves	558,525	432,725
TOTAL EQUITY	4,187,133	3,621,824



Our vision

Strong, caring communities inspired through the love of God.

Our values

Respect

Treat each individual with dignity and recognise their value before God.

Integrity

Consistently act in a professional, honest and transparent manner.

Compassion

Be caring and non judgmental in our actions.

Humility

Serve for the good of others.

Faithfulness

Remain true to God's word in serving others.

Trust

Trust God to guide us in all that we do.

Our philosophy

We show God's unconditional love for us through sharing the love of Christ and building caring communities.

We work with communities with compassion and respect to develop efficient and effective ways to respond to individuals and families in need.

We seek to address poverty and injustice so that those in need are empowered to achieve their full potential.

We embrace all people regardless of language, culture, ethnicity or religion.

In doing this we pray for God's guidance, protection and blessing.



L U T H E R A N
community care

Lutheran Community Care

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