

# Chair's Report



Catherine's call that,

*The poor need help today, not next week' continues to resonate at the heart of all we do.*

## **Mercy Works continues to adapt to rapid change.**

This year, we haven't been able to visit our programs in Papua New Guinea or Timor Leste, or our new programs in the Philippines. We have had limited opportunity to visit our Australian programs. Staff have spent weeks working from home and the board has not had a face-to-face meeting since the pandemic began.

Yet, there have also been blessings.

In the Baucau district of Timor Leste, we have partnered with Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) to bring hope and opportunity to children and adults with disabilities. In the Philippines, our new program partners provide support to vulnerable women and children affected by human trafficking and prostitution. In Australia, we have commenced new programs in partnership with our First Nations people, that range from supporting an alternative educational model for young women (at Cape York Girl Academy, Cairns) to strengthening ties for vulnerable women between community and country (The Miewi (Spirit) and Culture Matters Project, Adelaide, SA).

Unfortunately, the pandemic has caused delay in the roll out of our new program in Simbu, in the highlands of Papua New Guinea. As I write this, the current rate of double-dose vaccination in PNG is less than 2%. Timor Leste is currently at about 35%. Meanwhile, Australians are starting to receive their third dose of Pfizer. This avoidable disparity in vaccination coverage is deeply frustrating, especially because for a time there was genuine hope that appropriate assistance would be given to developing nations, to ensure vaccine equity.

This year, Mercy Works staff and directors took time to revisit our Mission, Vision and Values, as part of our strategic planning process. Our new Vision statement is:

*Mercy In Action. Partnering with the most vulnerable, toward opportunity, dignity and self-reliance.*

Catherine McAuley gave shelter and nurture to women and children in need at a time when the only alternative for the sick, homeless, poor or otherwise vulnerable, was the workhouse. She provided them with education and 'built capacity', generations before that phrase became jargon for developing a person's skills and abilities. Mercy Works seeks to walk in Catherine's shoes.

On occasion, however, our long term aims need to give way to short term necessity. This was the case in Papua New Guinea this year. Our appeal in April for emergency relief

for PNG followed a plaintive call for help from Sr Maryanne Kolkia in Simbu, where serious disruptions to the food and water supply chains in remote areas of the Highlands resulted in food shortages. The generosity of you, our supporters and donors, to this appeal was overwhelming. It resulted in food, water and water tanks being supplied to people throughout the Highlands, and in Kiunga and Wewak. Sincere thanks must go to the extraordinary team of volunteers on the ground in PNG, who undertook the huge task of rolling out the deliveries to all those people in need.

Many thanks must go to the Members of Mercy Works Ltd: the four Congregations of the Sisters of Mercy in Australia, for their continued support. To all our donors and supporters, heartfelt thanks. This essential work cannot continue without your ongoing generosity.

As I finish my time as Chair of Mercy Works this year, I would like to thank all the hard-working Board directors and Committee members. I do want to offer particular thanks to committee Chairs, Travis Bowman and Frank Elvey for their support of Mercy Works, and of me personally. Deep thanks also, to the Mercy Works staff and to the many volunteers, all of whom are in their roles because they are moved by Catherine's call to walk with those in need. Huge thanks must go to Sally Bradley RSM, for her insightful and energetic leadership. It has been a joy to work closely with Sally.

Finally, I want to wish Mercy Works all the very best as it heads into the future. I have felt honoured to Chair such a mission-filled ministry. I know that Joe Zabar, as the new Chair, will bring great, new gifts to the role, and I know that he will be well supported by a highly capable board and Executive Director.

While processes and people will continue to change along the way, what does not change is the Mercy Works mission. Catherine's call that 'The poor need help today, not next week' continues to resonate at the heart of all we do. I feel so very fortunate to have had the opportunity to be part of this earthy, people-focused and highly effective organisation, which will remain very close to my heart.

Christmas blessings to you all.

**Kathleen Donnellon**  
Board Chair (To November 2021)

SCAN the QR code with your smart phone to read the full story



# Project Review

With several new projects, as well as the completion of others, Mercy Works continues our partnerships in Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste as well as expanding to the Philippines this year. We have also increased our partnership with Indigenous Projects across Australia. Here is a snapshot of what Mercy Works has achieved in 2020-21.

## Overseas Projects

### PAPUA NEW GUINEA

- Conclusion of our projects in Goroka and Mt Hagen after 15 years in June 2021.
- Conclusion of Women's Wellness Program in September 2021 which raised awareness of causes of HPV and Cervical Cancer and training for treatment.

### Kiunga (Continuation of 6 projects)

- Village Health Program to improve living standards.
- Non-Violence training Program.
- Senior Teacher's Training to upskill teachers.
- Remote Girls Hostel for education & vocational training.
- Educating and empowering women and girls through the Diocesan Adult Literacy Program.
- Capacity building in program support and management for staff.
- Focus on cocoa tree farming as an alternative to cash crop.

### Simbu (New Project)

- Outreach and development work with Prisoners in Barawagi Prison.
- Small to Medium Enterprise skills training (SME).
- Youth and agricultural skills training.
- Marketing and building financial literacy.
- Daily Radio Programs delivering information on local, national, and global issues affecting the community. With 600,000 listeners, this service has provided vital information during COVID.

### TIMOR-LESTE

#### Maucatar

#### Nutrition Project at Teresa Orsini Maternity Clinic in Cova Lima

- Improving protein intake for pregnant mothers and children through a nutritional program run by the Hospitaller Sisters of Mercy.
- Funding pays for the regular purchase of chickens and eggs as a source of nutrition. Hens are placed with families.
- House to house assessment of children who are severely malnourished continued through COVID.

### Bacau (2 new projects in partnership with the Australian Marist Solidarity)

#### The Uai Lili Computer Centre

- Classes in computer programs and English for children and young adults.
- Assists with new computer capacities that allow access to Tertiary Education, employment, and other opportunities.

#### Katilosa

#### Community Centre for the Disabled

- Children, youth and adults with disabilities receive support and training.
- Rehabilitation support (eg. referrals and physiotherapy) continued during COVID with in-home visits.

### THE PHILIPPINES

#### Creating Change for Women through Advocacy, Cebu

- This new project, in partnership with the Villa Maria Good Shepherd Sisters, aims to raise the level of society's response to human trafficking and the safeguarding of the rights of women and children.
- Includes mentoring recovered trafficked women to advocate for change and become strong advocates against human trafficking.

#### Balay Banaag, Davao City, Mindanao

- Residential Centre, run by Marist Sisters, creating supporting experiences for children of prostituted women.
- Focus is on education, rehabilitation, and healing, to increase the capacity of vulnerable girls to protect themselves and for the mothers to protect their children.

## Domestic Projects

### REFUGEE AND ASYLUM SEEKER SUPPORT

- Mercy Connect Volunteers mentoring programs for refugee students in primary and secondary schools in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Ballarat, and Bendigo.
- In 2021, Volunteer programs stopped in all Australian schools, except in Perth, due to COVID lockdowns but Mercy Connect Coordinators maintained connections with schools and volunteers and hope the program will again gather momentum in 2022.

### PROJECTS WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

#### Baabayn Aboriginal Corporation in Mt Druitt NSW

- A childcare project with 25 Indigenous young mums and 20 babies and toddlers who gather each week and enjoy culturally sensitive programs. Provides early learning services as well as improving mental health, self-confidence and building connections.



TIMOR-LESTE	759 children and adults nutritional status assessed between January & October 2021 in Maucatar	40 families across 22 villages received 2-3 egg laying hens for protein and income generation
AUSTRALIA	33% of female prisoners in Australia are Aboriginal verse 3% of the non-Indigenous population	Under 5 mortality rate for Indigenous children is twice that of non-Indigenous
PAPUA NEW GUINEA	1,000 Masks sent to Simbu to combat Delta spread	600,000 regular listeners to our Mercy Works radio programs



**Prospering After Prison – Port Augusta in SA**

- Aboriginal women are supported by dedicated caseworkers to help them build personal & financial resilience after prison including finding housing and employment and reconnection with their families, communities and Country.

**The Miewi (Spirit) and Cultural Matters, Adelaide, SA**

- Fostering healing from trauma by rebuilding ties between community and country, celebrating culture and tradition.

**Salt n’ Pepper, Adelaide, SA**

- Support for Aboriginal women released from prison returning to their families, communities and Country.

**Adelaide First Nations Advocacy, Adelaide, SA**

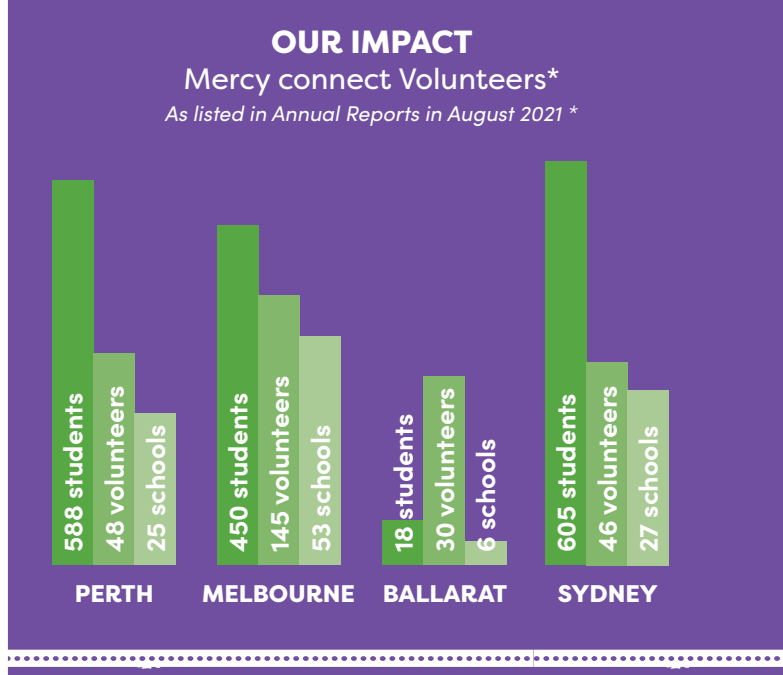
- Advocating with the Department of Child Protection for family and community placement for children and awareness-raising with the Aboriginal community of child protection issues.

**Cape York Girl Academy, Cairns, QLD**

- Australia’s first boarding school for young Aboriginal mums and their babies. Focus on holistic, healing mentoring of young women to reconnect with their education for hope-filled futures.

**Special Measures, Brisbane, QLD**

Addresses two aspects of human rights: the right to empowerment and self-determination, and special measures to overcome racism through establishing an effective training centre through building a website.



- Perched slightly back from Wangetti Beach, The Cape York Girls Academy is a unique shelter for holistic education
- Women in Cebu City receive their Livelihood Assistance for Php 6,000 to start a small enterprise
- Cocoa farmers with their plantation in Kiunga, PNG
- Teaching mums and bubs about nutrition in Timor-Leste with Sr Gilbert is “saving lives”
- Children in Cova Lima are excited to receive new books



# Financial Statements

## INCOME STATEMENT

For year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Monetary Donations and Gifts		
- From Members	475,084	425,886
- From Other Parties	1,023,874	1,711,551
Grants - Other Australian	103,141	202,281
Grants - Other International	-	-
Bequests	-	20,000
Investment Income	167,439	105,724
Other Income	-	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>1,769,538</b>	<b>2,465,441</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
International Aid & Development Programs Expenditure		
International Programs		
- Funds to International Programs	426,008	1,182,110
- Program Support Costs	57,989	95,651
Community Education	64,716	73,224
Public Fundraising Costs	68,472	76,848
Accountability and Administration	178,426	242,408
Other Expenditure	559	10,362
<b>Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>	<b>796,170</b>	<b>1,680,603</b>
Domestic Program Expenditure (incl Monetary and Non Monetary)	414,875	588,379
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,211,045</b>	<b>2,268,983</b>
<b>Excess of Revenue Over Expenditure</b>	<b>558,493</b>	<b>196,459</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For year ended 30 June 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Current Assets		
- Cash and Cash Equivalent	518,928	1,035,201
- Trade and Other Receivables	16,023	101,964
- Financial Assets	2,399,168	2,305,249
- Other Assets	16,019	29,551
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>2,950,138</b>	<b>3,471,965</b>
Non Current Assets		
- Financial Assets	1,096,936	-
- Property, Plant and Equipment	2,095	4,790
- Right-of-use Assets	17,756	58,794
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>	<b>1,116,787</b>	<b>63,584</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>4,066,925</b>	<b>3,535,549</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Current Liabilities		
- Trade and Other Payables	140,929	84,546
- Other Liabilities	157,740	201,656
- Employee Benefits	28,385	38,188
- Lease Liability	-	4,511
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>327,054</b>	<b>328,901</b>
Non Current Liabilities		
- Employee Benefits	10,830	9,199
- Lease Liability	28,364	55,265
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>	<b>39,194</b>	<b>64,464</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>366,248</b>	<b>393,365</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>3,700,677</b>	<b>3,142,184</b>
<b>Equity</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Retained Surplus	3,700,677	3,142,184
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>3,700,677</b>	<b>3,142,184</b>

## STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For year ended 30 June 2021

	Retained Earnings	Reserves	Other
Balance as 1 July 2020	3,142,184	-	-
Excess of Revenue over Expenses	558,493	-	-
<b>Balance as 30 June 2021</b>	<b>3,700,677</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

The income for our programs comes from a wide variety of donors, including the Sisters of Mercy, associated ministries, Corporations and members of the public. During the year, specified donations have been received for Papua New Guinea, Timor Leste, Mercy Connect and other domestic projects.

Obligations for projects carried forward to FY22 are adequately covered by cash and cash equivalents. The delivery of some projects have been interrupted and or deferred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. These funds have been directed towards the retained earnings and will be used to fund future projects.

The ACFID-Code-compliant financial statements comply with the presentation and disclosure requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct. Refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct website for further information. <https://acfid.asn.au/code-of-conduct>

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with relevant legislation, accounting standards, provide a true and fair view of their financial position and performance, and that the organisation can pay its debts as and when they become due. These financial statements have been reviewed and approved by the Board.

The full statutory financial statements separately from the Annual Report is available on: <https://www.mercyworks.org.au/financial-statements-and-annual-reports/>



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR MERCY WORKS LIMITED

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, and the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year then ended, are derived from the audited financial report of Mercy Works Limited for the year ended 30 June 2021. We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on that special purpose financial report in our report dated 4 November 2021. That financial report, and the summary financial statements, do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on that financial report.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, or the relevant Australian Accounting Standards. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report of Mercy Works Limited.

### The Responsibility of the Board Members for the Summary Financial Report

The Board Members of the entity are responsible for the preparation of a summary of the audited financial report.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial report of Mercy Works Limited for the year ended 30 June 2021 are consistent, in all material respects, with that audited financial report.

NOT FOR PROFIT ACCOUNTING SPECIALISTS  
KESWICK SA 5035

*N Matsis*

Nicholas Matsis CPA  
Registered Company Auditor No 77466

Dated: 4 November 2021



Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

# Our People

Everyone involved in delivering Mercy Works' programs shares an enduring commitment to strengthening communities and delivering positive change for people in need.

## OUR BOARD



**Ms Kathleen Donnellon**  
(To November 2021)  
Current Board Chair  
Finance Risk and Audit  
Committee Member



**Mrs Sheena Barber**  
(To November 2020)  
Board Member



**Mr Travis Bowman**  
Board Member  
Finance Risk and Audit  
Committee Chair



**Sr Mary Densley RSM**  
(To November 2020)  
Board Member



**Mr Mark Sleight**  
(From November 2020)  
Board Member Finance,  
Risk and Audit Committee  
Member and Program  
Committee Member



**Mr Francis Elvey**  
Board Member  
Program Committee  
Chair



**Sr Berice Livermore RSM**  
(To November 2020)  
Board Member  
Finance Risk and Audit  
Committee Member



**Sr Catherine Ryan**  
(From October 2020)  
Board Member



**Mrs Megan Giles**  
(To November 2021)  
Board Member



**Sr Duyen Thi My  
Nguyen RSM**  
(From September 2020)  
Board Member

## OUR MEMBERS

**Elizabeth Moloney RSM**  
Institute Councillor,  
ISM PNG

**Gaye Lennon RSM**  
Institute Councillor,  
ISM PNG

**Catherine Reuter RSM**  
Leader, Sisters of Mercy  
Brisbane

**Caroline Ryan RSM**  
Institute Vicar, ISMAPNG

**Maureen Sexton RSM**  
Institute Councillor,  
ISM PNG

**Eveline Crotty RSM**  
Leader, ISMAPNG

**Loreto Conroy RSM**  
Leader, Sisters of Mercy  
North Parramatta

**Mary-Louise Petro RSM**  
Leader, Sisters of Mercy  
Parramatta

## OUR STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Michael Elphick**  
Program Committee  
Member

**Paul Lentern**  
Program Committee  
Member

**Therese Canty**  
Program Committee  
Member

**Bernard Dobson**  
Program Committee  
Member

**Steven Collins**  
Program Committee  
Member

**Christopher Bisset**  
Finance, Risk and Audit  
Committee Member

## OUR STAFF

### MERCY WORKS AUSTRALIA STAFF

**Sally Bradley RSM**  
Executive Director

**Anne Foale RSM**  
Program Manager –  
Overseas projects

**Clare Bennett**  
Program Manager –  
Indigenous and  
Refugees projects

**Martin Binoj**  
Finance Manager

**Sandra Marreiros**  
Finance Officer

**Katrina Richardson**  
(From April 2021)  
Grants Coordinator

**Jo Casamento**  
(From September 2021)  
Communications  
Coordinator

**Vanessa Burke**  
Administrative Assistant

**Paul Taylor**  
Mercy Connect  
Sydney Coordinator

**Mary Lewis RSM**  
Mercy Connect  
Melbourne Coordinator

**Thathathai Singa**  
Mercy Connect  
Melbourne Assistant  
Coordinator

**Kristen Soon**  
(From November 2021)  
Mercy Connect  
Perth Coordinator

### MERCY WORKS LTD PAPUA NEW GUINEA STAFF (MWLPNG)

**Maryanne Kolkia RSM**  
Mercy Works PNG  
In-Country Coordinator

**Andrew Waike**  
(From April 2021)  
Officer in Charge of  
Agricultural Activities  
in Simbu

**Stephen Dude**  
Mercy Works Coordinator  
Kiunga

**Janet Andrew RSM**  
Finance Assistance Officer  
Simbu