



McAuley Community
Services for Women
A ministry of the Sisters of Mercy

2020-21
ANNUAL REPORT



OUR VISION:
ALL HOME SAFELY

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Acknowledgement of Country

McAuley recognises that we live, learn and work on unceded lands. We acknowledge the First Nations Peoples as custodians, and we pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.



Visit mcauley.org.au to find out how to support our work with women and children

About McAuley

McAuley Community Services for Women helps women and children who have faced family violence and/or homelessness to regain control of their lives.

Starting with accommodation and meeting immediate needs, we support women and their children to be safe. We provide 24/7 crisis support and temporary accommodation: independent housing and supported community care.

Women needing support have experienced, or are at immediate risk of, serious harm: through physical and emotional violence, threats, sexual assault, and stalking. We work alongside them to plan their move towards a life free from violence.

McAuley House, Footscray and Ballarat, provide inhouse support to women who are homeless, many of whom have also experienced family violence. It is a place for rest, recovery and reconnection, as well being a welcoming hub for women and children who have moved into the surrounding community.

Our origins

In 1986, the Sisters of Mercy established Regina Coeli (now McAuley Houses) and later, in 1988, Mercy Care (now McAuley Care) was founded. Twenty years later, in 2008, the two were combined to become McAuley Community Services for Women, expanding the Sisters of Mercy's commitment to women and children and social justice.

The spirit and ethos of Catherine McAuley, the founder of the Sisters of Mercy, continues to live through the work of McAuley Community Services for Women. Inspired by visionary values, we follow in her footsteps, providing disadvantaged women and children with housing, education and social services – supporting them toward a brighter future.

Family violence, women and homelessness

Because we work at the intersection of family violence and homelessness, we know that the lived experience of women and children is often complex and multi-layered, and often includes mental and physical ill health, isolation, poverty and unemployment. These issues overlap and co-exist, meaning one-size-fits all models – or efforts to tackle one issue at a time – are bound to fail.

Our response: services that fit together

Our approach puts each woman and child at the centre of their support regardless of when they first engage with the service and the complexity of their need. We bring together health, legal, employment and recreational responses. We also recognise that children's needs are unique and different in nature to that of their mothers' and requires a specialist response. We recognise the strengths of women and children and foster their resilience in creating a new future.

The right help at the right time

Our approach addresses the individual and systemic factors that keep women trapped in cycles of homelessness, family violence and mental illness. We know that help with those underlying problems is essential for our work to have a lasting impact. We help women and children navigate from a place of trauma to safety, healing, confidence and hope.

Advocacy

We advocate for the removal of systemic barriers that inhibit the ability of women and children to live safely and securely.

"Thank you so much for your kindness and helping me out with the most needed things"

The women and children we support



432 women



363 children



117 supported by **2 or more** McAuley Services

Homelessness support services

McAuley House
Footscray

40

women supported

McAuley House
Ballarat

26

women supported

Family violence support services

Crisis

104

women

Refuge

25

women

Outreach

172

women

116

children

37

children

207

children

Skills 4 Life

1682

interactions with
Skills 4 Life program

21

group activities
on average per month



72% of women report **mental health issue(s)**



68% of children experienced **disruption in education** due to family violence



52% came from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds

45% main language other than English

8% Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



Average age of women was **41**

64% experienced family violence



11% of women had no income

46% came from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds



39% main language other than English

3% Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



Average age of women was **37**

44% of women had been living in short term or emergency accommodation



21% of women had no income

McAuley Works

47

women **referred and registered** in the program

20

women **commenced employment**

A message from our Chair



“The simplest and most practical lesson I know is to resolve to be good today, but better tomorrow.” Catherine McAuley.

2021. What's to say? Another year where “safe at home” took on a very literal meaning for all of us. A year where the right of women to be safe – in or out of their homes – became a loud and angry and well overdue national conversation. A year where the number of women and children forced to leave their homes because of violence continued to grow. A year where the number of homeless women also continued to grow. And a year where McAuley Community Services for Women continued to provide beds, find homes, connect to services, offer respite and facilitate counselling. To listen, to care, and to help. To advocate, to plan and to innovate. To be good. This report provides details of many of the achievements of 2021, and I want to congratulate Joce and her team on, yet again, an extraordinary year.

I have had the privilege of serving on the McAuley Community Services for Women Board since 2016, and to have been its Chair since 2017. Through that time, McAuley has continued to expand our footprint, our services, our voice, and our reputation. This Board, like those before it, has taken our role of stewardship – to hold in trust that which is special and precious – very seriously.

As a Board, we have been inspired by the work of Joce and her team, and their commitment to keeping women safe, and to holding government and others accountable. We have continued to learn from the team, from each other, from the women whose lives are changed by our services, from the wisdom of Catherine McAuley and from the humour, strength and determination of the Sisters of Mercy.

In December, the McAuley Board will be replaced by Mercy Community Services, a new Board overseeing a group of Mercy organisations (the organisations themselves will remain separate). Three of our Directors, Ella McPherson, Bridgid Connors and Michelle Cotter, will journey with McAuley to the new Board, providing critically important continuity of governance. I want to thank them and wish them all the very best. To the rest of the Board, who along with me, will retire in December – Matt Tilley, Anita Morris, Rob Scenna, Angela Scaffidi, David Whelan and Mai Nguyen-Doan – thank you for being such a joy to work with.

To the McAuley team: You are extraordinary. It both saddens and angers me that you have to exist at all – that nearly 200 years after Catherine McAuley established her first house, we are still beset by the scourge of violence and homelessness for women and children. But until we can solve these wicked problems, I am so pleased that women and children have you in their corner. Good today, better tomorrow.

Dr Sonja Hood
Chair

“I am so grateful for your time and the help you all and the help you are such an amazing place.”

A message from the CEO



What a remarkable year 2020–21

has been! Against a backdrop of continued uncertainty and ongoing challenges we have, with extraordinary effort, continued to deliver better outcomes for the 801 women and children we supported.

Proving true once again, that out of adversity comes opportunity, we have made a number of meaningful advances in our programs this year. In response to COVID-19, McAuley Learning Support was moved entirely online, removing geographic barriers and enabling volunteers to remain connected to children as they move between motels and safe houses, and with greater efficiencies being achieved with volunteers no longer needing to travel, for example, a volunteer tutor based in Gippsland continued to with a child based in Sunshine. The constancy tutors provide as they work with children and their mothers to repair their relationships and encourage commitment to learning, will have long-term benefits for individuals and communities.

The pandemic didn't dampen our ambitions to expand our operations. In February, we celebrated the history of McAuley Care, our family violence crisis service started by Sisters of Mercy in 2001 – at that time a volunteer-led affair. Since it opened, thousands of women and children have been welcomed with respect and compassion. The site will now be redeveloped into 12 apartments that will serve as independent housing for those who have experienced family violence. For now, our crisis service continues at a different location, with the apartments expected to open mid-2022.

Throughout this year we have greatly missed the presence of our dedicated volunteers whose enthusiasm and generosity of spirit brings a special energy to our service. We were fortunate to be able to hold a gathering in May to mark Volunteer Week and celebrate our volunteers, who make McAuley what we are today. We look forward to welcoming them back as soon as possible.

Our donors' generous contributions continue to make a real difference both to our work and to the lives of those we support. Their incredible patronage enables us to provide the additional support services we've built our reputation on. This year, it has also afforded us a great focus on our advocacy agenda; identifying the barriers and possible solutions that will enable more women and children to remain safe in their homes after violence. With family violence the reason for 45 per cent of homelessness, the Safe at Home project aims to ensure that leaving family violence doesn't mean taking a step towards homelessness.

I would like to thank our dedicated volunteer Board for their warmth, diligence, courage, and the great care they took over this turbulent year, despite having to manage their own busy professional and personal lives.

And finally, our talented Team who continue to demonstrate their resilience. Your ability to deliver under very difficult circumstances, has ensured that McAuley will remain uniquely placed to support and advocate for women and children in the family violence sector. Thank you.

As we enter a new year, it will become more important than ever to ensure that we continue to advocate for and support these women and children, so that they are given hope for a future free of violence and homelessness.

Jocelyn Bignold OAM
Chief Executive Officer

*me I will
for the rest of my life.*

Safe at Home: driving systemic change

In 2020, McAuley made the decision to escalate the conversation about and focus on the correlation between, homelessness and family violence. Working with stakeholders from across the sector, we began to lead a project to examine what more can be done to further an approach called 'Safe at Home.'

'Safe at Home' would mean that wherever possible, women and children who have experienced family violence could stay in their homes, while the perpetrators must leave.

Routinely women and children end up with all the disadvantages of having to leave their homes to be safe from violence. We know that when they do so, they leave behind a network of friends, family and neighbours, the children's schooling is disrupted, they have to leave jobs unexpectedly, and they can begin to struggle financially. With housing in short supply and so unaffordable, they often end up couch-surfing, staying in a series of emergency motels, living in cars, and homeless.

McAuley sees 'Safe at Home' as a social justice issue and a means of preventing further violence, disadvantage and homelessness.

This project directly relates to Recommendation 13 of the Royal Commission into Family Violence.

'The Victorian Government give priority to supporting victims in safely remaining in, or returning to, their own homes and communities through the expansion of Safe at Home-type programs across Victoria.'

After five years of investment by the Victorian Government, the system is slowly coming together as intended. 'Flexible Support Packages' and 'Personal Safety Initiatives' are examples of options now available to support women and children to stay home. Despite this work, women and children continue to turn up in homelessness services because they've left family violence. The number of adult women who presented to specialist family violence, or general homelessness services during 2019–20, is 32,405. It's clear there is a lot more work to do.

This project gathers key stakeholders from across the family violence system, including Victoria Police, Magistrates' Courts, Family Violence and Peak Bodies, SafeSteps, No to Violence, Specialist Services, Government Departments, Family Safety Victoria, and Universities. This group is mapping the system to identify the barriers and enablers to progressing a safe at home response for victim-survivors, with the view to determining what actions can be taken that will make a real difference.

The project involves consultation with women with lived experience to ensure that the system is adapted to their needs. This has already given us valuable information about what really happens on the ground and where things aren't working well.

We thank supporters such as JB Hi-Fi, Baker Foundation, Blue Sky Foundation, Family Safety Victoria and the Rotary Club of Brighton North for allowing us to commit resources to this endeavour. We hope this project will not only raise the profile of this issue but will also drive the change required to deliver positive outcomes for the women and children experiencing family violence.



Online support for education success

McAuley Learning Support is a philanthropically funded program, which as a result of COVID-19, now operates entirely online. Each year, the program works with children and young people who have been displaced because of family violence and aims to strengthen their connection to learning and their identity as successful students.

Following incidents of family violence, women and children are often forced into hiding or must move multiple times over the course of a year in order to stay safe. For school-age children, this means regularly changing schools, a disruption that can lead them to become disengaged and fall behind their classmates. Research shows that high levels of absenteeism results in reduced engagement, underdeveloped social skills and a greater likelihood of leaving school prior to completion.



Skilled, volunteer tutors, trained in trauma informed practice, tailor the program and their approach to meet the age and specific needs of each child, with a strong focus on wellbeing. The unique online program provides a safe, fun and engaging way for children to build up their confidence and desire to learn.

Sessions begin by determining whether a child is ready to learn, or if they simply need support to deal with the trauma in their lives. Over time, the program sets children up for success by leveraging the intrinsic motivations of what they want and need to learn about.

Children in the program have given us great feedback about their experience and how their tutors have supported them with their education.

“My tutor helps me do stuff I don’t know. She mixes up ... things I don’t like with ... things I love which really helps me. We meet every week, and we share our feelings.”

(Aged 9 years)

“My tutor helps me so much with my maths and she is really kind. We meet every week, and we do any homework that I haven’t done. I have learned how to work with ratios and how to solve equations.”

(Aged 14 years)

Tutors also work with mothers and primary carers to ensure that they are engaged in their child’s learning process and that routines are supported between sessions. By working with and championing these individuals, we aim to ensure the learning journey is well supported and that independent learning will continue in the future.

The online nature of this program not only ensures the continuity of a child’s learning journey regardless of their physical location, but also provides an additional level of security for families who need to relocate as a safety measure or to access available housing. Online delivery has also enhanced McAuley’s ability to identify and manage risk, build relationships with schools and strengthen support for students.

The program is available to children who are clients of any family violence service rather than exclusively McAuley clients. Case managers are able to refer children to the program, where we work with families to determine starting points for learning and allocate a tutor.

If you are interested in working with us as a volunteer tutor, please visit our [website](#) for further information.

New beginnings from where it all began

When Sisters of Mercy, Angela Reed and Carole Carmody stood outside a non-descript home in Melbourne's west in 2001, awaiting the first arrival to the new Mercy Care Crisis Service, they could never have imagined the change they would affect over the coming decades.

In February, McAuley celebrated its proud history of providing safety and refuge to over 3,000 women and children escaping family violence. Some twenty years after that fateful day in 2001, we welcome the next chapter for McAuley.

"We're excited about this new chapter," said McAuley CEO, Jocelyn Bignold. "This redevelopment fits our vision of 'all home safely' and our strategy to expand accommodation options and the reach of our integrated support services for women and children who come to us following incidence of family violence."

"This special place is filled with such love and care that you can allow yourself to take the time to heal from the trouble and hurt and pain."

From humble beginnings

The life-changing services offered by Mercy Care began well before 2001. This was, in fact, a continuation of the pioneering service set up by Sr Sheila Heywood and Sr Wilma Geary in 1988.

At that time, women leaving family violence had nowhere to go and the Sisters, propelled by an urgent sense that they must create a safe house, set up the first 24/7 service of its kind to operate in Victoria. Run on a shoestring, with no government funding, and dependent mainly on the two Sisters' pensions, the house in North Melbourne was often full to overflowing.

While the service evolved over time, the heart of the Mercy Sisters' work remained the foundation of operations when this house in Maribyrnong opened in 2001. Carole remembers that first day fondly.

"We received a phone call saying that a woman needing safety from family violence was on her way," Carole recalled. "We didn't know yet what her story would be, or how we could help her. Not long after, a taxi pulled up and out stepped a larger-than-life woman, clutching a giant teddy bear. She yelled at the top of her voice: 'Is this the safe house?' And so it began."

As the number of women and children seeking refuge at the property increased, so too did the number of volunteers wanting to help. They provided on-the-ground support at the house as well as helped to link survivors with health programs, employment services and support, to begin to rebuild after violence, homelessness and mental illness. Volunteers also dedicated their time to ensuring this home was a sanctuary for those who walk through the doors.

"For many years, the property in Middle Road was run solely by volunteers," says Angela. "They were the foundation of our Service. They came from all walks of life and all were truly committed to helping women who sought refuge with us. We even had teachers that would come after school, stay the night and then go back to work the next day, ensuring there was 24/7 support available."

In 2008 Mercy Care merged with Regina Coeli to become what is now McAuley Community Services for Women.

Celebrating those we've supported

The anniversary celebration, held in February 2021 prior to the house's demolition, was attended by many former and current staff, volunteers and supporters, and marked both the end of an era and the beginning of a new chapter for McAuley.

Since it opened in 2001, thousands of women and children have been welcomed with respect and compassion to this home in Middle Road. Those seeking safety and refuge at Victoria's only 24/7 crisis accommodation benefitted from the wrap-around support which, in many cases, changed their lives.

"It is important to acknowledge McAuley's history," says Chair of the McAuley Board, Dr Sonja Hood. "Though like any farewell, it is tinged with sadness, the future ahead is an exciting one. We're not done yet: there is so much more to do."

"I'm out of the system. I'm happy. I can't remember the last time I could say that."

Building safer futures

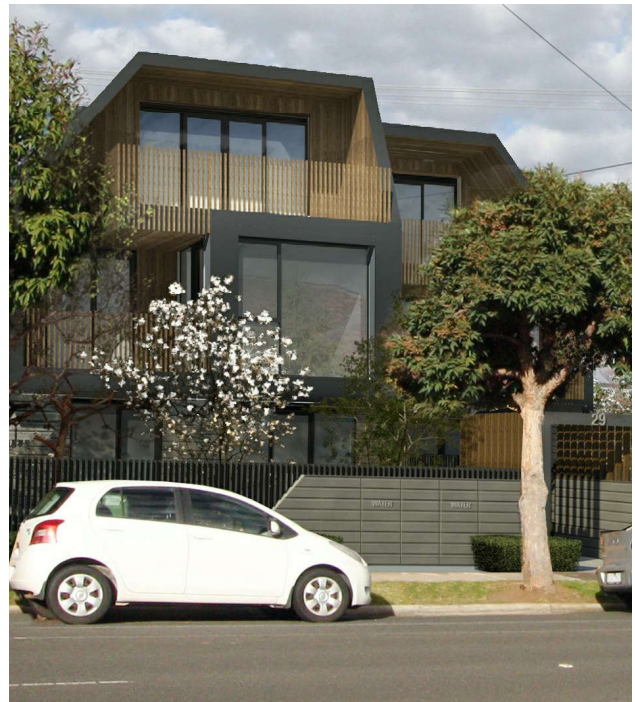
While this last year has presented many challenges for our team, it has also been a year of significant progress and development at McAuley including the beginning of the redevelopment of our former crisis site which has made way for 12 apartments, which will provide medium-term tenancies for women and children for stays of up to two years.

Wrap-around support for our most vulnerable

The new development is a comprehensive response, providing not only accommodation for women and their children, but also access to McAuley's integrated services including 'as needs' intensive support, specialist children's support (learning support, therapeutic play spaces), employment, skill development, social opportunities and access to McAuley's partner services provided by WEstjustice, Bolton Clarke nursing, and North Western Primary Health Network.

The development, made possible by \$4.7 million in funding from the Victorian Government and a grant of \$500k from Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation, is a scalable and replicable solution to providing affordable housing with access to support not just for victim survivors of family violence, but for those in need across a range of sectors.

"We are delighted to provide this grant to McAuley Community Services for Women, to enable them to provide the urgent housing needed for women and children," said Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation Chief Executive Officer Dr Catherine Brown OAM. "McAuley has a unique model aimed at helping women and children experiencing homelessness, particularly those who have escaped from family violence. The McAuley model offers not just housing, but extended case management that recognises the importance of wrap around support to both access and maintain housing."



Design for sustainable recovery

The property model was co-designed with McAuley clients, ensuring the spaces are family friendly, high-quality, safe and affordable. The units will accommodate 12 families at any given time with plans boasting a car space for each apartment, communal gardens and flexible configurations for different sized families. The building's thermal performance is 6-star standard and additional sustainable design principles have been applied to the architecture and construction.

The property is also well located, ensuring residents have access to a range of facilities including public transport, walking trails, shopping centres, grocery stores, childcare, and schools. It will allow women and children the time, space, support, and access to services they need to rebuild their lives following violence or homelessness.

"We know that access to safe and secure housing can be lifechanging," said Carol Vale, McAuley's Head of Strategic Projects. "This development goes a step further ensuring that residents have the best chance at recovery in a meaningful and sustainable way."

The project is well underway and expected to open mid-2022.

*stable and
best time*

JB Hi-Fi staff making an impact

In 2019 McAuley and JB Hi-Fi began a ten-year partnership that would not only impact our work, but also help to drive reform across the family violence sector.

A Helping Hand for McAuley

JB Hi-Fi's 'Helping Hands' is an award-winning, high-impact workplace giving program. It allows all JB Hi-Fi employees to donate to one of ten charity partners, of which McAuley is one, through regular payroll deductions which are then matched by JB Hi-Fi.

The company's commitment to workplace giving is extraordinary, with 72 per cent of their workforce across Australia (almost 6,000 staff members) giving to the program each week.

In light of this, the Helping Hands Program has won several times at the Workplace Giving Excellence Awards. In 2020 they took out the awards for Best Overall Program and Best Innovation. Since the program's inception in 2008, over \$26 million has been donated to charity partners across a range of sectors, which were identified as being important to staff as well as aligning closely with the company's values.

Rachel Riordan, JB Hi-Fi's Group Workplace Giving Manager says of the program, "Workplace giving is an incredibly important part of our culture at JB Hi-Fi and offers a common purpose for good which is shared by employees and the business. It provides an opportunity to be part of a team that collectively has a real impact and helps our charity partners support the vulnerable members of our community."

In 2020-21 JB Hi-Fi and its staff donated more than \$215,000 in matched donations to McAuley.

McAuley updates JB Hi-Fi monthly with developments across the organisation and details how the support is impacting the lives of women and children who have experienced family violence and/or homelessness.

"We're delighted and very grateful to be part of JB Hi-Fi's 'Helping Hands' workplace giving program," said Felicity Pringle, Head of Advocacy, Marketing and Fundraising. "This partnership has real impact for McAuley, knowing we have a regular and reliable stream of income to support our work. Workplace giving is a simple and effective way of supporting organisations like ours. If one million Australian workers were to get involved in workplace giving, a staggering \$215 million would be raised each year."

Generous support for systemic change

In addition to their ongoing monthly support of McAuley, JB Hi-Fi also ran a national, month-long, instore fundraising postcard campaign throughout October 2020. McAuley postcards were sold at counters for a \$20, \$10, \$5 or \$2 donation, allowing customers to support our work directly.

According to McAuley CEO Jocelyn Bignold, the outcomes of this partnership have been far reaching.

"Not only have we been successful in engaging with many high-profile stakeholders, but we have also been able to financially compensate victims-survivors for their time and insight. We have also been able to dedicate a staff member to advancing the Safe at Home project, who has carried out workshops with a wide variety of stakeholders to gain a better understanding of where there might be barriers to implementing a 'Safe at Home' strategy".

To date, there have been 15 workshops and consultations with stakeholders and a working group formed. The task this group set was to complete a systems map that will help identify where change must be made in the family violence system, so women and their children can remain home safely.

We want to thank JB Hi-Fi and its generous workforce for their incredible support and commitment to help grow community and monetary support for McAuley's projects. We look forward to continuing our ongoing partnership with them, ensuring that together, we can create lasting change in our communities.



Donor spotlight – Kathleen Jordan

From inspiring international leadership coach to trauma advocate and stroke survivor, Kathleen Jordan's story of strength and survival is truly inspiring. In sharing her story with the world, Kathleen has also chosen to support McAuley.

Kathleen Jordan was a successful businesswoman, Board Member of the Bionics Institute, prominent international leadership coach, mother and grandmother. She worked with leaders, teams and individuals around the world to understand the essence of who they are and how they could choose a way forward that gave meaning and purpose to their work and life. Kathleen loved her job and the great variety of people she met along the way.

"It was wonderful making a real difference in people's lives and that of their organisations. I loved my time in Sydney, Canberra, Darwin, Arizona, Hong Kong and Bahrain. I was in flow in my business and thriving on all the activities, from dinners and meetings to forums."

In 2011, Kathleen's life changed forever, when she suffered a sudden and very severe catastrophic hemorrhagic stroke. Doctors believed her prognosis to be so severe that they suggested a Do No Resuscitate order. Her journey to recovery has been long and filled with adversity. The skills she taught others for so many years, were now the foundations for her own recovery. But according to Kathleen, it was the vital support and advocacy from her family, in particular the strength of her daughters Emma and Lucinda, that really changed the course of her recovery, and ensured she returned to independence and her career.

"Modern medicine was responsible for my survival but determination, hard work, self-discipline and, of course, extraordinary support from family and friends has guided my recovery."

In 2016, Kathleen published her book *Standing Up! My Story of Hope, Advocacy and Survival after Stroke*. In it, she shares both her physical and mental journey following her stroke and her experience in building resilience and achieving happiness after major trauma. She also details the vital support and advocacy needed when she could not stand up for herself.

"The system does allow for a state appointed advocate, which is a worthy step. But as the nurses know, family and friends are the critical people ... Someone in my position needs people who will fight unceasingly to get the absolute best, defying predictions and the grimmest of prognoses along the way. That takes love."

"I have learnt so much from my recovery, about life, about the way our thoughts can help or hinder our progress, and on the need to be open to a new life", says Kathleen.

Sadly, during her journey to recovery, Kathleen lost her loving and beautiful daughter, Lucinda, to illness. Before her illness, Lucinda was to begin work with children in

McAuley programs, focusing on resilience, mindfulness and play to address the trauma of family violence. It is in Lucinda's loving memory that Kathleen supports our work with children and has, since her book's publication, donated the proceeds of the sales to McAuley.

"McAuley's reason for being was Lucinda's reason for being, she was dedicated to improving the lives of children who had experienced family violence and it was important to her that they were supported and protected", says Kathleen.

The story of Kathleen and Lucinda's passion and strength continues to inspire us here at McAuley and we are so grateful for the ongoing support.



Our financial performance

Profit and loss statement

INCOME	2021	2020
State government funding	5,431,962	4,361,745
Donations/bequests	1,659,030	2,644,722
Rent received	209,549	263,269
Interest received	14,526	63,160
Miscellaneous	169,936	55,683
TOTAL INCOME	7,485,003	7,388,579

EXPENSES	2021	2020
Employee benefit expenses	5,376,597	5,054,211
Depreciation and amortisation expense	252,487	235,742
Program resources	433,534	653,380
Occupancy expenses	391,729	396,641
Administration expenses	451,358	495,671
Finance charges on lease liability	6,058	8,724
TOTAL EXPENSES	6,911,763	6,844,369
OPERATING PROFIT	573,240	544,210

Statement of equity

	2021	2020
Retained earnings at beginning of financial year	4,327,973	3,783,763
Entity profit	573,240	544,210
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	4,901,213	4,327,973

Balance sheet

Current assets	2021	2020
Cash and equivalents	7,435,458	4,984,466
Receivables	148,871	19,183
Other current assets	291,225	313,307
Non-current assets		
Investments	1,700	1,325
Property plant and equipment	794,193	469,637
Intangible assets	105,926	176,544
TOTAL ASSETS	8,777,373	5,964,462

Current liabilities	2021	2020
Payables	3,214,080	919,466
Provisions	548,697	534,320
Lease liabilities	74,446	69,319
Non-current liabilities	2021	2020
Provisions	38,937	113,384
Lease liabilities		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,876,160	1,636,489
NET ASSETS	4,901,213	4,327,973

EQUITY		
Retained earnings	4,901,213	4,327,973
TOTAL EQUITY	4,901,213	4,327,973

"Firstly, a huge thank you for everything. Thank you for my safe place. Thank you for my freedom but most, of all thank you for my life!"

Donors and supporters

After another challenging year delivering programs under restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 Pandemic, we have been humbled by the generosity, encouragement and support of our community of donors and supporters. Our ability to provide extended services to our clients as well as to develop and imbed unfunded programs that provide so many benefits to the women and children we support is largely thanks to that support.

Our philanthropic supporters, the many Sisters of Mercy (together with the entire Mercy network) along with our regular and workplace givers are unfailing in their generosity and interest in our work – we thank you for your commitment to McAuley and we feel so fortunate to have you all in our corner.

Our supporters:

Australian Philanthropic Services, Baker Foundation, Edward Wilson Estate, Barr Family Foundation, Blue Sky Foundation, Desmond Prentice Charitable Trust, Helen Macpherson Smith Trust, Hu Family Charity Fund, JB Were Charitable Endowment Fund, Jenkins Foundation, Katiritom Investment Trust, Melbourne Catholic Archbishop's Charitable Fund, Portland House Foundation, Russell and Womersley Foundation, Scanlon Foundation, Sisters of St John of God Ministries, Lord Mayor Charitable Foundation, The Myer Family Foundation, The Ross Trust, The Wood Foundation, George Perry Fund, Academy of Mary Immaculate, Loyola College, Our Lady of Mercy College (OLMC), St Aloysius College, Society of the Sacred Heart, Institute of the Sisters of Mercy Australia and Papua New Guinea, Sisters of Mercy, Magistrates Court of Victoria, Department of Education and Training, VicHealth, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions, Jobs Victoria, 150 Clarendon Apartments, Abode Restoration, AIA Australia, Alannah and Madeline

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"All the ladies at McAuley House that lived there with myself were also great, each one of them taught me valuable lessons in life. The laughter we all shared at times was a wonderful gift. Thank you McAuley House I found me, the one I left behind so many years ago, is now back and I have learnt to like myself once again."

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