



CatholicCare
Wilcannia-Forbes

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



SERVING THE WHOLE COMMUNITY



THE DIOCESE
COVERS
52%
OF NSW



414,398
SQUARE
KILOMETRES

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Background

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes (formerly known as Centacare Wilcannia-Forbes) is the official social service of the Catholic Church in the diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes. The diocese covers more than 52 per cent of NSW and 414,398 square kilometres. It ranges from beyond Bourke and Brewarrina, to Broken Hill, south to Balranald and east to Forbes and Parkes.

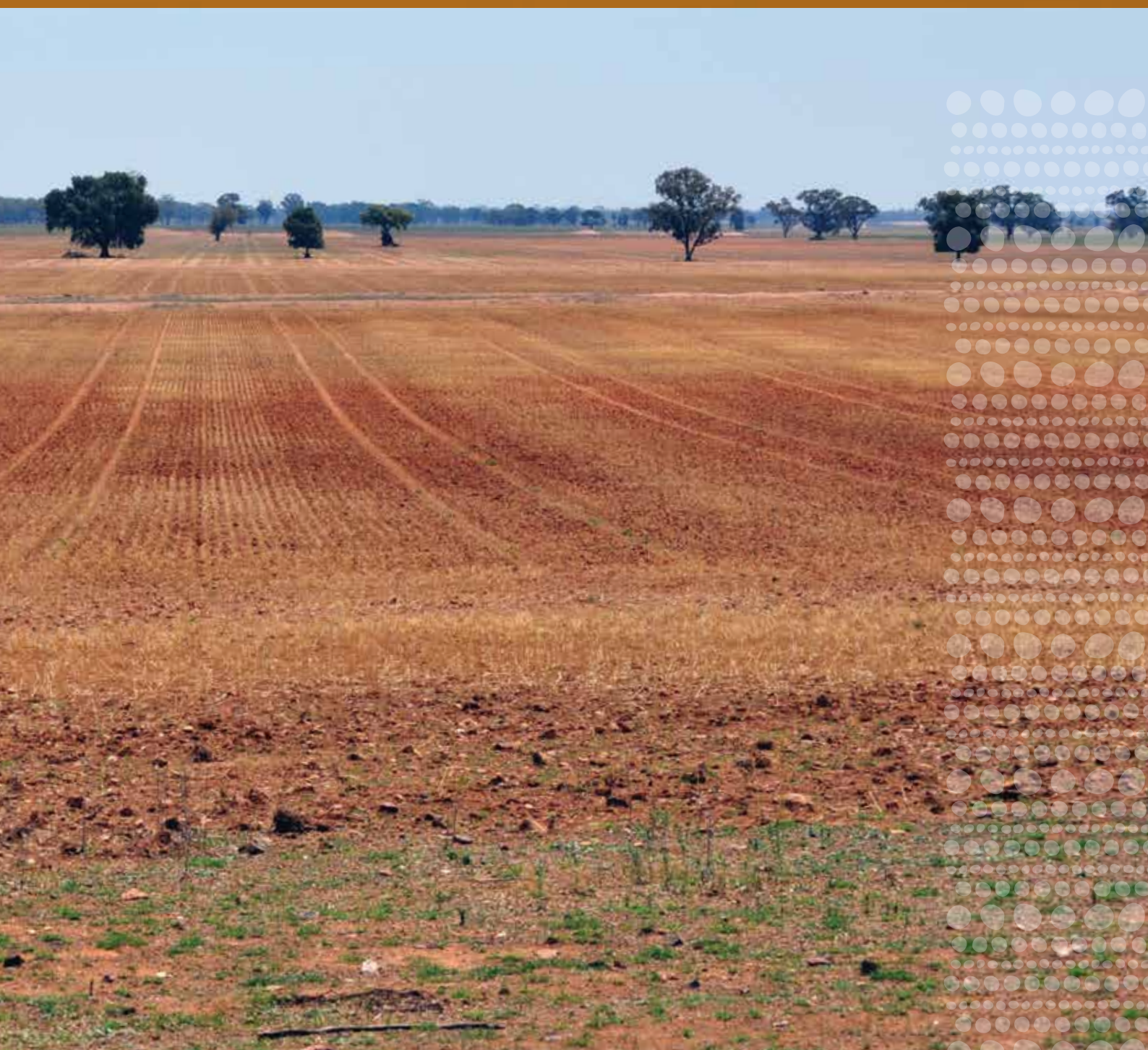
CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes has a strong reputation as a leader and innovator in the provision of support and social services. We are experienced and skilled in identifying community needs and share our vision for wellbeing, support and respect.

Our team is passionate about making a real difference in people's lives and works to empower individuals, families and communities.

People are the heart of our organisation – both our clients and our team.

All our services are offered to the whole community, regardless of religious belief or background.

Bishop's Welcome



Welcome to the 2018-2019 Annual Report for CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes, this publication is a snapshot of the organisation and its operations as it is mandated to care for and serve those in our vast Diocese.



I know all too well the extensive and expansive nature of our Diocese and I am deeply heartened to see the important work the passionate CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes team do provide. This work is especially vital in these years of sustained and crippling drought.

I commend the CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes team for being responsive to the changing needs of our drought ravaged communities. To adequately identify, diagnose and address issues of risk and crisis has long been a strength of our CatholicCare service. This year the team has met these needs with a series of drought specific events for families which have been very well received and appreciated.

The family focused events have worked exceedingly well and add to our other parish led drought initiatives. These efforts work to remind us all we are not alone.

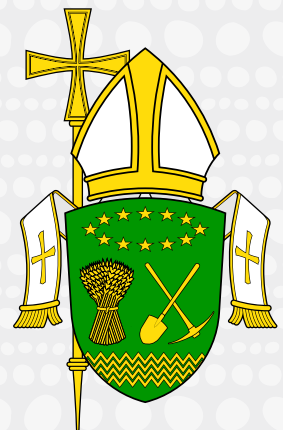
Generally our faith has been formed by tough times and a tough environment and manifests itself through resilience, good humour and a 'down to earth' spirituality. Faith that has endured these unique challenges provides precious insights and is of great value and inspiration to me.

Let us pray for rain and pray for courage while we wait for rain. May this coming year again bring us strength and spiritual capacity to endure and flourish in difficult times.

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE DD

Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese







CEO and Chairman's Report



During 2018 the organisation became incorporated and changed its name from Centacare Wilcannia Forbes to CatholicCare Wilcannia Forbes. Our new name more clearly reflects our Catholic identity while enabling us to continue to serve the whole community, regardless of circumstance or belief.

Care, Compassion and Community remain central to our mission.

As we write this report, we remain severely affected by drought and, whilst farmers are hardest hit, no part of our community is immune. Sadly, we have seen the emotional and financial impact of drought in the small towns that make up our diocese.

The support and services we deliver aim to address serious social challenges – poverty, intergenerational disadvantage and trauma, unemployment, access to health services, homelessness, and extreme drought. All this within a vast and diverse rural and remote setting occupying some 400,000 square kilometres or 52 per cent of New South Wales.

In this context, we have set demanding goals to continually stretch and improve the organisation for the coming years and coming challenges. We are dedicated to working with, and alongside, our communities, people and governments to build stronger communities and contribute to community wellbeing. A key component of our forward planning is to collaborate with Catholic Parishes and other agencies to support those most in need.

Some of our successes included:

- Our continued growth in programs and partnerships. For example, our partnership with Maranguka in Bourke, and the extension of our financial counselling program to an even larger footprint through our successful tender response.
- The new Board identified advocacy as a key priority, so this year we worked even harder to influence public policy around a range of issues relating to drought, financial hardship, homelessness and disadvantage – with both bureaucrats and politicians. We appeared in the Senate inquiry on Intergenerational Welfare Dependency and contributed to a number of discussion papers including the Department of Social Services' 'Stronger Outcomes for Families' paper.

- Information technology has the potential to help us overcome some of our tyranny of distance disadvantage. Our work to upgrade our technology to modern business standards continued. This year, for the first time, some of our services were successfully delivered utilising ZOOM technology and all our team meetings were held via videoconferencing. This helped reduce team member travel and addressed one of our key risks – road travel. Our fleet of cars is now fitted with NAVMAN devices to ensure the safety of our team.
- Marketing and communications utilising social media is essential for delivering our advocacy messages and building our profile. A communications hub was established to promote and advocate CatholicCare Wilcannia Forbes as a leading social welfare agency. We have also continued with the circulation of regular articles to the media.
- We finalised our Reconciliation Action Plan, which was an exciting milestone for an organisation that has 44 per cent of clients and 32 per cent staff who identify as Aboriginal. We continued our work with Aboriginal communities too, undertaking valuable consultations in Bourke and Condobolin. In Bourke, the consultations resulted in the launch of the Aboriginal Men's Centre in the grounds of the Missionaries of Charity Sisters' property – a space donated for this use by our Chancery.
- A key strategy adopted to address funding insecurity created by the current funding environment was to ramp up the number of tenders we submitted. This year we submitted a record number of 34 tenders, which is a remarkable effort for such a small organisation.
- Our drought relief work continued via several community events held in drought affected townships. We were very grateful to receive a donation from St Paul's Catholic School in Manly. This money helped us run community events in the drought affected villages. Knowing that someone cares had a huge impact on the wellbeing of these struggling communities.



Our mission calls us to contribute to the creation of a society built on justice, equity and social inclusion, based on genuine Christian values.

As an important step towards a more just society, we support ongoing community conversation and consideration of the Uluru Statement, which calls for an Aboriginal voice to Parliament, truth telling and agreement making.

At a time of economic stress and the severe drought, with an increasing need for our services, it is more important than ever that we all work together driven by a common vision. In doing this we are following the imperatives of the scriptures:

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves,

Protect the rights of those who are helpless.

Speak out and pronounce a sentence of justice,

Defend the cause of the wretched and poor. (Proverbs 31:8-9)

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has worked tirelessly to get us to this point.

Our Board of Directors has given freely of their time and expertise. It has been a busy year and the Board capably hit the ground running. We are fortunate to be guided and supported by their wisdom and experience.

We would also like to pay tribute to our amazing staff team who are the lifeblood of CatholicCare Wilcannia Forbes – working in communities to support some of our most vulnerable people.

We would like to thank Bishop Columba and the Catholic community for their ongoing backing for the work of CatholicCare throughout the diocese.

As an organisation working with other like-minded agencies committed to serve those in need, our capacity to make a difference in the community has been, and will continue to be, significant.

CatholicCare Wilcannia Forbes looks forward to strengthening our partnerships with other Catholic social welfare agencies, non-government organisations, Aboriginal organisations, business and governments to create a more just and inclusive society – one in which we are an instrument of Christ's liberating presence in the world.



Anne-Marie Mioche
Chief Executive Officer



Bernard Boerma
Chairman

Our Vision & Values



We are CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes

Inspired by Jesus Christ and guided by the Mission of the Catholic Church, CatholicCare Wilcannia–Forbes is an organisation that seeks to bring life to those we serve by enabling growth, hope, healing and reconciliation. By delivering effective and high quality services, CatholicCare Wilcannia–Forbes helps to build wellbeing, justice, solidarity and compassion in all people and especially those in greatest need.

Driven by our Mission and our Values, our strategic directions guide the pursuit of our goal.

Strengthening networks of support
and enhancing wellbeing.

Our Mission

Inspired by our Creator, the CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes team is committed to a mission of **empowering the individual, families and communities** of western NSW, enhancing their social, economic and emotional wellbeing and strengthening their network of support.

Our Vision

The CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes team share a vision of communities imbued with a spirit of justice, where there is tangible respect for:

- The Sacredness of all Creation
- The dignity of each person
- The Inherent right of all to participate fully in our co-creative mission.

Our Values

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes aims to be a sign of our Creator's life giving compassion, to discern the significant social, economic and emotional needs within the diocese, to provide advocacy, support and professional services to individuals, families and communities and to appreciate and utilise the gifts within ourselves and others towards the fulfillment of our mission.

The principles of Catholic social teaching frame and guide our values and approach to planning, programming and action. These values are "lived" by each member of the team and area as follows:

- Respect for the dignity of human life and for each person
- Respect and celebration for the culture of others
- Responsibility for the stewardship of creation
- Solidarity and a shared responsibility for our most vulnerable
- Equality and justice for all
- Interdependence, community and the common good
- Subsidiarity – placing ownership and responsibility with community and allowing them the primary role in the decisions that affect their lives
- Honest and open dialogue with all stakeholders within a spirit of collaboration, partnership and probity.

Our Four Destinations



Local communities are thriving

By 2023, communities in rural, regional and Western SNW are increasingly socially – disadvantage is reduced and there is increased participation in families, education, training, jobs and community activities. CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes has forged a facilitator role that supports the sharing of community knowledge and information needs; reduces silos and duplication of effort; and supports key sectors and stakeholders of the community to collaboratively engage in in partnerships that shape opportunities for their own future. This also includes innovative partnerships and alliances that promote enterprise development for individual economic participation and economic growth/sustainability. Social services and rural, regional and remote policies are also positively influenced through the advocacy of CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes; and the Aboriginal communities and organisations with the region have promoted strong leaders from within who facilitate community-based responses and solutions to the entrenched disadvantage experienced by our Aboriginal peers.



Individuals and families have expanded opportunity and improved wellbeing

In 2023, more individuals and families in rural, regional and remote Western NSW will have the opportunity to fulfil their potential and participate in their communities. They will be empowered to prevent issues before they start and have the self belief, knowledge and the skill to make positive lifestyle choices around relationships, housing, creating safe homes, education, finances and employment. They will be taking independent steps towards greater social, economic and emotional wellbeing.



Organisational excellence

In 2023, CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes will be structured for sustainability and recognised as an organisation of excellence. It will have in place a governance and accountability framework, organisational structure; policies and procedures; communication platforms and mechanisms; and tools and systems that effectively support the empowerment of more individuals, families and communities in multiple locations across Western NSW. Moreover, its funding base will be diversified; a legal entity for the agency will be in place that protects and sustains the organisation; it will have positively influenced government policy and funding frameworks and it will be a partner and ally with any number of agencies and stakeholders who are aligned with the CatholicCare Mission and Goals (should this be values and vision??)



Our team is our strength

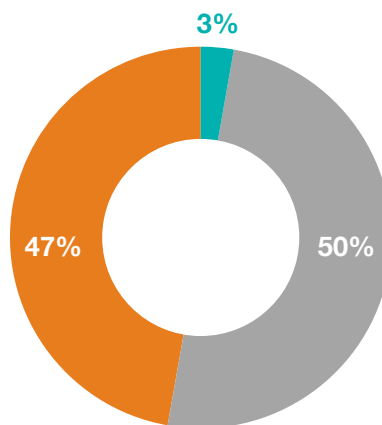
Our team is central to CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes effectively serving the individuals, families and communities of Western NSW. By 2023 CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes will have embedded a culture of excellence and the right mix of professional development, training, supervision and support for people to be able to operate at their best. The team will be skilled, knowledgeable and performance-orientated and will attest (through multiple channels) that they feel valued, equipped for their jobs, safe, clearly understand and practice self care and have an appropriate program of development opportunities to consistently empower self and others.

Our Team is our strength

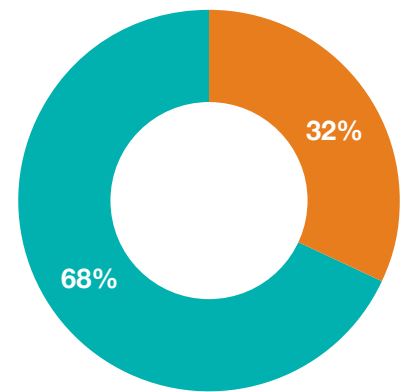
The passion of our team is paramount to the excellent level of service we provide. We emphatically believe in our mission and are committed to empowering individuals, families and communities of Western NSW by enhancing their social, economic and emotional well-being and strengthening their networks of support.



We offer a range of rewarding employment opportunities for people who want to make a real difference.



● Casual
● Full time
● Part time



● Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander
● Non Aboriginal

LONGEST
CURRENT SERVING
STAFF MEMBER **17.28
YEARS**

AVERAGE
LENGTH OF
SERVICE **4.35
YEARS**



On any given day,
our team at CatholicCare
Wilcannia-Forbes could be...



...DRIVING

to deliver programs, services and outreach to rural, remote and outlying areas contributing to the **614,128kms** we travel.



...ASSISTING

more than **2000 people** who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander who need our help.



...PROVIDING

6481 nights of emergency accommodation and working to find real solutions for those without a safe or affordable housing.



...WELCOMING

any one of the **1996 people** who received support for the first time from CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes.



...PROVIDING

face to face assistance at any of our **15 hubs** or outreach services to 52% of NSW – covering more than **414,000km²**.

...OFFERING

a total of **22579 support sessions** for our **5108 clients**.

Program Highlights



GOOD NEWS STORY

Our program was able to assist a young father who after a history of domestic violence, has shown great determination to change and be trustworthy again. He has recently taken on the role of sole carer for his child. The baby's mum is not able to help at present. The Men's Health Worker visited this client in his home to see how he was coping with sole custody of his 9 week old son. The short answer is - excellent!

The Men's Worker observed the client as he gave his son a bath, fed him and lulled him back to sleep. He acted, at all times with great tenderness and focus on the baby. He had prepared all that was needed in advance and demonstrated great confidence and familiarity with the routines to care for the baby. The entire time the baby was calm, content and readily made eye contact with his father and the worker. The baby was relaxed. He enjoyed his bath, drank most of his bottle in his father's arms and also fell asleep there, before being laid down in a cradle to sleep.

FAMILY RELATIONSHIP SERVICES

We know people in our communities can feel overwhelmed by life and changing circumstances. Some are experiencing the effects of trauma or abuse, depression, anxiety or other mental health issues. We encourage these families turn to CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes for practical assistance, emotional support and professional advice.

Through our professional counselling to individuals and families, we can help individuals, couples and families who need help during challenging times in their lives. CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes counsellors are skilled and qualified professionals experienced in individual, couple, family counselling.

Programs

- Counselling
- Regional family dispute resolution
- Men and family relationships



1206
sessions

Our client centred and solution focused counselling focuses on understanding and helping people to find solutions but also to develop strategies and tools to continue to address issues impacting their lives.

896
assessments

Our generalist counselling and holistic therapy focusing on wellbeing helps people to cope in a range of events such as relationship breakdowns, grief and loss, career direction, trauma, self esteem and confidence.

651
individuals assisted

We aim to empower individuals and continue to support them in a group or individual basis. A total of 69 group events were held to ensure ongoing support networks for clients.

Highlight

FRS has led its drought response with innovation and through its outreach model the idea for a wellbeing van was borne. The van is in direct response to requests for specific services while the modelling is fluid enough to adapt and change services offered as it moves from site to site.

The client spoke in detail of the routines he implemented, how he could interpret what the baby's different cries mean and how much milk the child would drink in relation to his length of sleep. All used clothes, towels and bedding were gathered for laundering later. The flat was warm and organised to meet the child's needs. The client explained how FaCS and Vinnies had helped him and that he had paid work coming up, when the child would go into daycare with FaCS support.



HOMELESSNESS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

We have experienced a huge increase in the demand for our specialist housing and homelessness support services. We respond in ways which make a long term difference. Homelessness continues to increase with two out of five people under 25 years of age. However with less than 10 per cent of people sleeping rough, homelessness is the hidden statistic in the Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese.

Due to the unprecedented demand for our services, our team are trying to proactively help those who are on the verge of being homeless. While access to affordable housing is a key contributor, our team is very aware accommodation alone does not solve the problem, if safe and suitable accommodation is achieved for those who are vulnerable - ongoing support is absolutely necessary.

Programs

- Specialist Homelessness Services (Bourke, Cobar, Parked And Forbes) - Specialist Homelessness Services Domestic Violence Response Enhancement (Lachlan) - Tenant Participation Resource Service
- RECONNECT (Bourke-Brewarrina)



1435
participants

Men, women, families and young people from high risk groups receive supported access to short term and emergency crisis accommodation, transport, case management and long term services to work towards independent and sustainable living.



3634
individual sessions

A key focus of the Homelessness Team is to support and empower clients to solve housing issues and engage with related services to resolve barriers. Generally facing limited tenancy options, basic living necessities, such as groceries, removalists, transport and basic furniture, are brokered in the interim.



6481
nights of emergency accommodation

The Homelessness team runs several emergency, transitional and short term housing services. Each year the actual need is considerably higher than the expected levels, some programs have needs for more than double the services available.

Highlight

DVRE secured a property in Condobolin which is being used for transitional housing for families affected by domestic violence. The cottage has become a vital stage in helping to reestablish families and work towards finding safe, affordable and suitable accommodation.



Reconnect, a community based early intervention and prevention program for young people who are at risk of homelessness partnered with Specialist Homeless Services and Birrang's SOS Youth Service, to deliver a Christmas celebration at the Safe House, to the young people of Bourke.

The young people had an open discussion with Specialist Homeless Services team to discuss safe locations during the holiday period if their families were drinking or showing antisocial behaviours. They discussed how to identify when social activities may escalate to an unsafe situation and how holiday periods can create anxiety with the young people – which can trigger trauma. A safety plan was developed for the young people to reduce their anxiety levels.



After SHS spoke to the group about safe havens, the group helped prepare lunch to sit and eat together. The youth were especially excited about the bon bon's that Reconnect supplied and felt it was a luxury to be able to share these with the group.

After lunch, the group were given presents supplied by Birrang, personal care and pamper packs. Their excitement was overwhelming and a gift to the supporters who witnessed these actions. It was an opportunity to thank the group for trying when we asked and working together as one mob towards the future.

The group were provided a Christmas themed lunch, "the meaning of Christmas." A lot of the youth related Christmas to family, a special time of the year when family visit and connected the holiday with an opportunity to spend time with close, loved ones who live further away.

Another obvious change was the connection between safe havens, identifying social behaviours and ensuring the older siblings look out for the younger siblings. Through this, it reduced the amount of night time wanderings and illegal behaviours. With the office re-opening in the new year, there has been no reports of youth committing or engaging in crime at night. Through continued engagement, support, acknowledgement and cultural education, young people have shown obvious signs of disengaging from criminal behaviour.



GOOD NEWS STORY

The Family and Carer Mental Health Program has been working with a Carer in Orange region. The Carer had experienced domestic violence in her marriage before divorcing her husband and moving herself and her four young sons away. The children have all struggled with various trauma and mental health issues, however the Carer now works in the local mental health system and is a well-informed advocate for her children.

The Carer's believes her youngest son, soon to turn 18, is living with undiagnosed mental illness and is self-medicating with marijuana and occasionally alcohol. The Carer is struggling with the dynamic of the relationship with her son, as there is often a push-pull aspect.

The Carer has started attending a Family Connection course run by local health district, which promotes a healthy family relationship and provides strategies and support in communicating and building a healthy relationship with an individual living with Borderline Personality Disorder. FCMH worker has been working with the Carer for around three months, and the Carer has provided positive feedback to Noelle, expressing that attending the Family Connections group, linking in with a psychologist and having regular appointments with Noelle has supported her and assisted her with her caring role.

MENTAL HEALTH

The primary focus of the Mental Health team is to improve the social and emotional health of those with a mental illness, their carers and families.

Programs

- Personal Helpers and Mentors Services
- Family Mental Health Support Service
- Family And Carers Mental Health Program

Family Mental Health Support Service

Assists young people aged between 0-18 who are at risk or are showing early signs of mental illness.

Family and Carers Mental Health Program

Improves the health and wellbeing of people who are caring for others suffering from mental illness.



10,451
sessions

The sessions provide individually tailored support and assistance to young people, adults, families and carers to improve their mental health wellbeing and connection with community.



557
group sessions

Programs targeted at increasing mental health wellbeing and its resilience using evidence-based practices.



1086
individuals assisted

We currently have funding to specifically run the following three programs. Personal Helpers and Mentor Services – which targets people aged 16 years and over who are living with a chronic and persistent mental health condition.



PARENT CHILD SERVICES

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes is proud to support vulnerable children, young people and families. Our Parent Child program focuses on early intervention and help for a range of stages with vulnerable families. We aim to provide options to help create stable and caring life experiences. Children and young people need help to grow, play and flourish and CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes helps disadvantaged children and young people when family life is tough.

Programs

- Family Care
- Strong Young Families
- Aboriginal Family Health Strategy
- Bourke Family Support
- Communities For Children
- Families Nsw



1667
individuals assisted

Aiming to improve the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of children and their families, specifically at-risk and vulnerable clients. There are programs specifically offered which target women, men, their children and extended families who are impacted, or likely to be, by domestic violence.



387
Aboriginal families
as teacher sessions

An exciting new program, celebrating and investing in children's play with limited resource requirements to potentially create new learning environments at home and beyond.



5957
sessions

Services are offered to increase parenting capacity to improve the lives of children growing up in central and western NSW.

Highlight

Our new program **Aboriginal Families as Teachers** is a new addition to our family based services. Focused on the importance of play as well as providing resources it focuses on play based in the home using everyday resources and equipment. As well as making home a play rich environment, it shows how easy it is to create new learning based environments for those little brain that love to absorb everything new.



A support worker has been assisting a mum who has moved into a Safe House with her little girl. This mum has come a long way in addressing the issues that have kept her from living her best life, she continues to make amazing changes and pushes herself out of her comfort zone bravely. Mum is a former ICE user and has four children, three children are in care. She has her fourth daughter living with her due to her strong resolve to provide her with a stable, loving home.

The Mum had been attending the PEDAL playgroup in Brewarrina and would arrive early, so she could help to set up for the session. She attends the Supported Playgroup and the Peer Support Group.



The support worker has been working with her on improving her organisational skills and having snacks packed for playgroup. The first time she did a wonderful job, she had packed juice poppers, a banana and some shapes in a zip lock bag. The support worker had previously discussed that it is cheaper to buy boxes of biscuits and put some in a bag, rather than buy the one big bag with the smaller packets in them.

Once at the session, the mum discovered through conversation that another mum attending is a foster parent, she had a lengthy conversation with the foster mum about her own children who are in care, she was very open about why they were not with her and how she had changed to have her youngest daughter with her. The foster mum was very moved by this and

genuinely encouraged her for being so brave and strong in herself. It was a very special interaction, which they both seemed positively affected by.

Mum has gone from not having a lot of interest in her own hygiene (although her little girl is always bathed, in clean clothes, brushed teeth) normally not doing her hair or caring about her own appearance, to caring about herself and doing things to make herself feel good.

Her parenting has improved dramatically also, she has more patience with her daughter and is able to remain calm when things are starting to get difficult. Her confidence and view of herself has also improved, she readily joins conversations with other mothers and has made friends with mums from many different backgrounds.



GOOD NEWS STORY

A 28-year-old, Newstart recipient presented as he had just received his Newstart benefit but after paying his board and a personal loan worth a further \$100, he found himself with no money for food for the entire fortnight. This posed the question as to where his remaining funds were going?

Upon further investigation, the client disclosed he was a gambler and had been for some time. He had put his remaining \$300 into the pokies and had lost it all. He was immediately referred to St Vincent's for food to cover his immediate living needs.

Together with his financial counsellor, they discussed the options available to help with his gambling.

The client was keen to get on top of it and said that he gambles due to boredom. The client elected to self-

exclude at the local gaming venues he frequents. With the support of his financial counsellor, he made the first steps and excluded from one of his frequented clubs and felt confident enough to exclude himself from the others by himself.

A referral was made for the client to attend Problem Gambling counselling with Greg from Lifeline. This would help the client address the gambling problem at a more intense level and have greater impact.

While waiting for an appointment with Lifeline, the financial counsellor and client were able to go through strategies to reduce the chances of him gambling in the meantime and in the future. Together, a money plan and budget were completed. Using strategies such as changing payments to direct debits or where available Centre pay deductions.

FINANCIAL COUNSELLING AND CAPABILITY

Financial Counselling can be an effective way to deal with the challenges that life presents. CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes has six financial counsellors who target disadvantage and financial vulnerability. Our capacity to service clients has also increased with the greater use of technology to reach clients in even more remote areas.

Programs

- Manage Your Income
- Financial Counselling



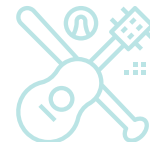
819
individuals assisted

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes target individuals and families experiencing financial hardship and difficulties due to unmanageable debt, lack of financial literacy, problem gambling and other addictions.



1330
sessions

A free and confidential service to educate people facing financial difficulty and to help them develop the skills and ability to effectively manage financials in the long term.



943
activities

Through a range of educational workshops, individual support and financial counselling, clients are empowered through education and knowledge, developing a sense of worth and belonging as they gain financial literacy and improve their life outcomes.

Highlight

On the springboard of how successful our face to face financial counselling services are, we complement this with a range of technical developments to increase our reach to stay in regular communication with our very remote clients. We have developed a central intake number for all clients, Zoom and other services to ensure if face to face help isn't immediately available some level of help is accessible.

They also looked at ways of making sure the client had food for the fortnight. These strategies included buying supermarket gift cards each fortnight. This would reduce the amount of cash the client would have left over, eliminating the risk and ability for him to gamble.

This client has since been attending Gambling Counselling with Lifeline and has self-excluded from all available clubs/pubs within Broken Hill plus. He continues to work with CCWF for Problem Gambling Financial Counselling which is educating the client on the impacts that his gambling had on his finances. A referral was also made to link this client in with job

agencies with the hope that possible employment will help reduce boredom and help him continue to stop gambling. Although it is early days, the client has not gambled since being provided with the support from CCWF and continues to follow the fortnightly strategies put in place for his finances.



Drought Initiatives – Family Fun Nights



“Thank you for the CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes drought event which was an amazing morale boost for our community at this time.”

“Thank you for organising this event, so many people can benefit from this. We have an amazing and strong community but everyone has a breaking point.”

“It was a fantastic night, there was a real sense of celebration and the fact that as parents we didn't have to pay or work was a real shift and a unique chance for us all to relax.”

Despite minimal funding opportunities, CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes really wanted to help out families during the enduring and widespread drought.

Targetting six isolated communities in Bedgerabong, Caragabal, Garema, Tottenham, Enngonia and Ungarie, our staff rallied any support they could and mostly volunteered to host events to give parents and families a chance to catch up, relax and enjoy some family fun.

Mindful in smaller communities, if an event is held it is usually a few families who tend to do all the work, so CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes staff volunteered their time to organise and set up craft, games, cooked and served dinner as well as showing a movie and serving popcorn and fairy floss.

The Community Drought Events weren't about fixing everything but just giving families a night of respite and an opportunity to catch up with friends and neighbours.

It was important to us that families came in and interacted rather than being focussed on the drought – even if it was just for one day. We hope these events provided a distraction from drought – for the whole family.

When things are tough, people who are already isolated geographically, don't go into town as often and then they become even more isolated. We also identify it is not just farmers who suffer during sustained and crippling drought. It has negative impacts on the wellbeing of all individuals, farming, business, the broader local economy and the wider community.

The drought events were supported with donations from St Paul's Catholic School in Manly, local businesses, St Vincent de Paul and funding from the Primary Health Network.

Another innovation in response to the drought is our Wellbeing Mobile. The mobile, which travels around the diocese servicing communities is in direct response to requests for specific services, usually unavailable for remote families. It follows the children's mobile playgroup.



Financial Report

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes Ltd

The Registered Company Auditor for the year ending 30 June 2019 was Pinnacle HPC Accountants. The Audited Consolidated Financial Report is available from the CEO upon request.

As CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes Limited is a newly incorporated company, the year ending 30 June 2019 is the first reporting period for the company, there are no comparative figures reported. Prior to 1 July 2018, the organisation traded as The Trustees of The Roman Catholic Church for The Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes, trading as Centacare Wilcannia-Forbes, ABN 50 528 718 036. The opening balances reported in this report were the balances transferred from this entity

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2019**2019**
\$**CURRENT ASSETS**

Cash on Hand and Cash at Bank Cash and Equivalents	3,550,868
Accounts Receivables and Other Debtors	93,422
Financial Assets	5,885
Other	165,221
	3,815,396

NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Property, Plant & Equipment	2,307,459
	2,307,459

TOTAL ASSETS**6,122,856****CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Accounts Payable & Other Payables	595,837
Lease Liabilities	293,350
Income in Advance	316,284
Employee Provision	484,433
	1,689,904

NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

Payables	39,160
Lease Liabilities	338,122
Employee Provisions	622,988.00
	1,000,270

TOTAL LIABILITIES**2,690,174****NET ASSETS****3,432,681****STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN EQUITY AS AT 30 JUNE**

Balance at 1 July 2018	3,461,848
Surplus (Deficit) for year	(29,167)
Balance at 30 June 2019	3,432,681

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AS AT 30 JUNE 2019**2019
\$****INCOME – 2018-2019**

Donation Income	221,198
Grants - Commonwealth Government	5,133,739
Grants - State Government	4,199,329
Interest and Investment Income	53,413
Profit or Loss on Sale of Assets	58,842
Other Income	161,361
TOTAL INCOME	9,827,882
CURRENT YEAR SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	(\$29,167)

EXPENDITURE – 2018-2019

Accommodation & Rent Expenses	647,060
Advertising	32,109
Computer Expenses	216,340
Depreciation	446,339
Insurance	64,934
Motor Vehicle Expenses	218,249
Printing, Stationery and Postage	88,725
Program Expenses and Consultants Fees	468,922
Salary & Wage Expenses	6,306,154
Staff Training	215,070
Sub-Contracting	766,392
Telephone & Internet	122,646
Travel Expenses	69,402
Other Expenses	194,707
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	9,857,049

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

Cash Flows generated from Operating Activities	479,509
Cash Flows generated from Investing Activities	(220,074)
Cash Flows generated from Financing Activities	0
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents	259,435
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the year	3,291,433
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the End of the year	3,550,868





This original artwork is the winning entry of the inaugural CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes Art Competition, it shows platypus (biladurangs) synonymous with our waterways running through our diocese. Traditional and intricate dot painting techniques are used to depict the communities, land and water. The artwork is entitled Platypus Waterholes and depicts a male and female coming together to make their family and to bring them up in safe waterholes. Raymond's work is on display at the CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes Corporate Services office in Lachlan Street, Forbes.

