




CatholicCare
Wilcannia-Forbes

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20





Cover art: *Relentless Dust* by Jenny Greentree, Jenny has always drawn and painted but it was her depiction of the landscape around Bourke and beyond that realised her dream of becoming a full time artist and gallery owner.

"I see that the landscape almost tells the story of the people and the people tell the story of the landscape – they are intrinsically tied together."

"When you see a tough, gnarly tree, it has a story to tell. It has survived, it has a new shoot coming out, it has wildflowers underneath. The people of the region are like this – in times of difficulty or suffering, they are resilient and overcome with innovative ideas and a happy, positive attitude no matter the adversity. I love that," Mrs Greentree said.

Back O' Bourke Gallery is the home studio and gallery of Jenny Greentree offering high quality original Australian art and digital fine art productions for the hundreds of tourists that visit each year. Jenny's artworks are also available from her online shop www.backobourkegallery.com.au

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes acknowledges and pays respect to the Traditional Custodians of the land. We recognise their continuing connection to the land, waters and culture. We would like to pay our respects to elders, past, present and emerging.

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BACKGROUND

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes provides a broad range of programs and services caring for the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities, especially the vulnerable and at risk. We offer social and support services to 52% of NSW (414,398km²) to the Wilcannia-Forbes Catholic Diocese. 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.**



CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes

SNAPSHOT

WE SUPPORTED

5093

PEOPLE IN 2019-20

OFFERING A TOTAL OF

26,135

SUPPORT SESSIONS

57,808 PEOPLE ATTENDED

CATHOLICCARE WILCANNIA-FORBES EVENTS

WE HELD

467

PLAYGROUPS FOR

7915

ATTENDEES

WE OFFERED

826

EDUCATION
SESSIONS

FOR 4350

ATTENDEES

40

% OF OUR CLIENTS
IDENTIFY AS
ABORIGINAL
AND TORRES
STRAIT ISLANDER

WE TRAVELLED 337,875 KILOMETRES TO DELIVER
PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND OUTREACH TO RURAL,
REMOTE AND OUTLYING AREAS WHEN WE COULD TRAVEL

BISHOP'S WELCOME



Welcome to the 2019-2020 CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes Annual Report, this annual publication provides an insight into the social and support services provided in our Diocese. The Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes is unique in scope, given we span 52% of NSW and in nature – we are resilient, good humoured and down to earth despite the challenges of living in rural, regional and remote NSW.

This year has proved itself to be particularly challenging with persistent drought, a pandemic and social restrictions impacting much of the time. However, it is these difficult times which has shone a light on the capabilities and services of CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes.

I commend the team at CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes for their innovative and important social supports for so many families, individuals and communities – whether it was distributing care or support packs, creating new online communities or giving clients important and real access to services.

Those vital support services through CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes were available for the lockdown phase of Covid and continue to be throughout all the highs and lows. While the means of service delivery had to be altered from the traditional face to face contact, the team at CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes reacted quickly and confidently.

They continued to provide support services to parents and children, including a completely new online platform for 500 people, they responded quickly to the many who were plunged into financial desperation, they increased their contact and groups for Mental Health Carer support. Teams at CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes quickly developed new ways to communicate with their clients – especially targeting risk behaviour which increased during lockdown and they sought innovative partnerships and projects to address impacts for rural and remote communities.

It really does seem whatever is thrown at us here in the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes we can weather together and can continue to support you. Thank you to the team at CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes for maintaining this, even in a time when it was difficult for yourselves or your own families.

May this coming year again bring us all strength and the spiritual capacity to endure and flourish.

Yours in Christ,

Most Rev Columba Macbeth-Green OSPPE DD

Bishop of Wilcannia-Forbes Diocese

CEO AND CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

This reporting year began as we experienced yet another year of terrible drought. The environmental effects were everywhere from the menacing dust storms rolling into our small communities, to the mass fish deaths in our rivers. People in our communities are used to drought but many old timers said they had never seen it this bad. As devastating fires raged in eastern NSW, we counted one blessing – our paddocks, long turned to dust would not burn.

This kind of crisis is when being a values-based organisation gives us strength and determination. Bolstered by donations from metropolitan diocese and local support, our team members volunteered their own time to run events such as movie nights designed for a fun family evening, a night of respite and much needed social interaction with the community. Our Wellbeing Mobile – another innovative mode to deliver support to rural and remote families was providing valuable off-farm income in addition to wellbeing.

We hosted vital events such as the Women's Gathering, Dads in Schools, drought events and continued work on projects in local communities, such as the Walker Crescent Park in Wellington.

We are particularly proud of a series of videos shot and produced to answer the age old question of 'what do you do?'. If you haven't already, please review these videos, on our website.

As an organisation we formalised our Child Safe Commitment with zero tolerance to toward child abuse and championing a child's right to develop physically, intellectually, socially and experience freedom and dignity. We also delivered Mental Health First Aid Training for our team members.

At our whole of organisation Gathering in December in Dubbo we all welcomed and celebrated our Reconciliation Action Plan which was beautifully presented in a message stick by our RAP committee. This plan represents a continuation of our long commitment to working with Aboriginal people in our communities – as our clients and as our team members. We are very proud of the fact that over 30% of our team members identify as Aboriginal.

We commenced accreditation with the Australian Service Excellence Standards, which provides assurances to all stake holders that CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes is delivering services and achieving the best possible outcomes for our communities within a national quality framework.

In February, just as we saw the first rains with hope that this might be the end of the drought, international news of a pandemic began to break. Australia braced for its impact.

We started planning early. Fortunately, we work remotely so we had a strong focus on maximising the use of technology to increase our digital capacity. Just before lockdown we had time to consult with our team members to gather their ideas for modified service delivery and they came up with great models.

When lockdown was announced we were fully operational and were able to quickly offer our services over the phone, by video and online. During this time, we experienced significant increases in service demand of between 30-45% across our programs.

CARE, COMPASSION AND COMMUNITY REMAIN CENTRAL TO OUR MISSION.

Our team is and always has been our strength, so we felt we needed to check on how to best support them through this period. A Wellbeing Survey showed many of our team were not just coping, they were thriving.

Thankfully the rains kept falling and farmers were able to get back to planting and harvesting. The landscape changed from dust to paddocks of green and yellow, and our rivers flowed mightily once again. Smiles once again appeared in our towns as people commented on the improved conditions.

COVID-19 has been a terrible event but it has, however, also opened up new opportunities for further innovation of our service provision which has enabled us to access

more of our remote clients. We continue to explore many exciting options.

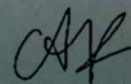
We have specifically chosen our cover artwork by Bourke artist, Jenny Greentree, one of our region's most iconic artists known for her works capturing the beauty and nature of outback Australia. The painting shows one of the many 'Relentless Dust' storms which were a very big part of 2019/20.

At CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes it is our job to serve the whole community to help you get through those difficult times to navigate, to help strengthen your networks of support and to discover hope.

Congratulations to our team members and our greatest thanks to our clients who continue to trust us in the worst of times – because you know we can deliver hope, support and strength. We would like to thank everyone who has supported CatholicCare during these tough times, including Local, State and Federal Government, local businesses and other community service partners.

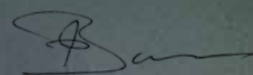
We thank our Board Directors too, for their leadership, wise decision making and support. We would particularly like to express our appreciation to retiring board director Tom Hynes who provided his invaluable expertise and wisdom to the Board. We would also like to welcome two recently appointed Board directors, Dr Lana Leslie and Lynda Edwards.

Our thanks to Bishop Columba who is our greatest supporter in working for a just and inclusive society, one in which we are an instrument of Christ's liberating presence in the western part of NSW.



Anne-Marie Mioche

Chief Executive Officer



Bernard Boerma

Chairman



FAMILY AND RELATIONSHIP SERVICES

- Supports families
- Helps with positive and productive relationships
- Child-focused mediation
- 1:1 support, parenting education, peer support to Dads

The Aboriginal Men's program aims to improve mental and physical wellbeing through:

- Cultural camps and workshops
- Education
- 1:1 support

Conference presentation

Our Regional Family Dispute Resolution (RFDR) practitioner and FamilyCare Worker presented at the Family and Relationships Service Australia conference in November 2019.

They described the successful collaboration between Regional Family Dispute Resolution and FamilyCare as a case study for a holistic and integrated service response.

They told the story of a client who was left overwhelmed with a service system that addresses complex needs through a disconnected and often complicated approach. The RFDR – FamilyCare collaboration enabled a wrap-around support for the client addressing all her needs in one place.

Evidence informed practice

In early 2020, CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes (CCWF) gained provisional accreditation as a Men Behaviour Change Program Provider (MBCP). CCWF saw an increasing need for MBCPS in all our communities in response to the alarming increasing numbers of domestic and family violence cases.

Once provisional accreditation was granted, CCWF recognised the need for co-designed MBCP content. Key Stakeholders from Men's, Parent and Child and Homelessness and Domestic Violence teams, client and community representatives and partner agencies – two advisory committees – the MBCP Men's Advisory and the MBCP Women's Advisory Committee are contributing.

We are now working with the Parenting Research Centre and No to Violence Group to assist with the program manual underpinned by a strong theory of change and best practice models.

667
MEN
SUPPORTED

1035
INDIVIDUAL
SUPPORT
HOURS

79
GROUP
SESSIONS

163
EDUCATION
SESSIONS

HIGHLIGHTS

RAGE anger management

Ever-increasing demand for RAGE anger management with referrals from legal practitioners, Community Corrections, Health Services including Mental Health Services.

- > During 2019-20 we observed an increase in self-referrals.
- > Geographical spread has also grown, enabled by remote delivery via Zoom.
- > Client engagement, retainment and participation has improved significantly with introduction of Zoom delivery. Participants are more comfortable to share their stories when in the 'safe space of the Zoom room'.
- > Recently one of our facilitators received a self-referral from a young man who had just been released from jail. Our facilitator asked 'How did you hear about us? And the young man responded, "I asked around town and your name was mentioned to me by six other blokes; they said your course was really good."

Do you want to be dead or deadly?

Our Family Health Strategy team joined forces to create a Quit Smoking video Hey Brothers, hey Sisters – Do you want to be dead or deadly? for World Tobacco Day.

This video was a prompt for clients to contact us for Quit Smoking educational materials and products. 80 men and women across four communities, received 'Quit Smoking' packages during lockdown – a time when smoking was likely to increase.

"All but one stopped smoking while on the treatment and two continued to not smoke. These clients were issued more smoking cessation packs. Unfortunately many said it was cheaper to buy a packet of cigarettes than the aids."

IN 2019-20 WE RECEIVED 54 REFERRALS AND HAD 69 RAGE PARTICIPANTS WITH A 90% COMPLETION RATE

FINANCIAL COUNSELLING AND CAPABILITY

- Understand and take control of finances
- 1:1 counselling, education and awareness campaigns
- Advice and support for people in financial difficulty
- Confidential service
- Advocate and negotiate for clients
- Mortgage and rental stress
- Problem gambling support
- Energy saving
- Debts and fines
- Scams

2985
ATTENDED
EVENTS

4407
SUPPORT SESSIONS

568
REGISTERED
PARTICIPANTS

STRENGTHENING NETWORKS OF SUPPORT

HIGHLIGHTS

Responsible Gambling Awareness Week 2019 Roadshow

We hosted a series of events and workshops in the Far West & Orana regions – with a focus on healthy alternatives to gambling.

Team growth

Our team has grown to seven Financial Counsellors and two Financial Capability Workers. Including an inaugural Aboriginal Financial Counsellor intern who is being monitored by one of our Aboriginal Financial Counsellors.

Presentation at the annual Financial Counsellors NSW Conference

Louise Cormie – team leader presented a 15 minute speech on trends and review of CCWF 2018/2019 achievements in Tamworth during September.

Central intake system

Due to our immense geographical coverage (Broken Hill to Lithgow, from Walgett to West Wyalong and Young) and demand for our service we have introduced a central intake system with stepped care triage to quickly manage new clients.

Swift adaption to COVID-19

Our team rose to the challenge to present accurate online interactive webinars for people unemployed overnight and created nine Youtube educational videos for viewing during lockdown.



HOMELESSNESS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Specialist Homelessness Service

- Assists with crisis, transitional and long term housing
- Operates a safe house and a refuge for women and families escaping violence
- Intensive support.

Reconnect supports people under 18

- Homeless or at risk
- Disconnected from education, employment or community.

6430
REGISTERED
EVENT
ATTENDEES

3959
SUPPORT
SESSIONS

5879
NIGHTS OF
CRISIS
ACCOMMODATION

1027
PEOPLE
ASSISTED

SERVING THE WHOLE COMMUNITY

HIGHLIGHTS

Domestic violence awareness campaign launched at Lake Cargelligo

Catholic Care Willcannia Forbes (CCWF) domestic violence awareness campaign was launched in Lake Cargelligo at the local football game, ensuring this vital message gets out to community. CatholicCare Willcannia-Forbes DVRE and SHS team attended and provided information and a point of contact for community in bringing awareness to the impacts of domestic violence in our communities.

Players wore white arm bands in aid of the white ribbon campaign, which greatly helps to promote awareness, community members asked questions and took away information about where to go for help, emergency contact details, flyers promoting groups and activities and promotional resources completing a very successful day.

Homelessness awareness in Bourke

Our team raised awareness in the Bourke community about homelessness which involved a workshop and photography exhibition in August 2019.

A client with a little girl was referred to CCWF for accommodation at Forbes Women's Refuge. The client has been raised in Out of Home Care and found the structure of communal living challenging.

Her case management was focused on how to care for her child, maintain a clean standard of living and access to secure safe and stable housing – with the support of the refuge staff she was supported to maintain care of her child and obtain a Department of Communities and Justice housing property.

The client has also been able to successfully gain part time employment, which is an exceptional outcome for this young mother who has experienced many barriers in her life.

Teaming up

Our Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) team helped a 17 year old client, her partner and six month old baby to find housing. She had faced difficulty in finding long term accommodation and our team worked with Housing NSW for a rental guarantee, and the young client and her family are now happily settled in a private rental.

SHS will continue to provide tenancy education and support to this young family to help them to be good tenants and avoid losing the relationship with the real estate agent.

MENTAL HEALTH

Our goal is to improve the social and emotional wellbeing of those diagnosed with a mental illness, their carers and families.

Family Mental Health Support Service

Supports children 0-18 who may be at risk of mental illness and their families.

Family & Carers Mental Health program

Supports carers and family members who care for a person diagnosed with mental illness.

National Psychosocial Transition Program

Supports people over 16 who are living with a chronic mental illness.

WE RECEIVED
404
NEW REFERRALS

AND ASSISTED
604
YOUNG PEOPLE
WITH 3988
HOURS OF
INDIVIDUAL
SUPPORT
SESSIONS

WE RECEIVED
132
NEW REFERRALS

AND ASSISTED
282
CARERS WITH
2190 HOURS OF
INDIVIDUAL
SUPPORT
SESSIONS

WE PROVIDED
974
INDIVIDUAL
SESSIONS TO
17
PARTICIPANTS
OVER 633
HOURS

RESPECT - PRIVACY - INCLUSIVENESS

Increased need for support through Covid

Carers requested more support as they felt more isolated and anxious which saw a significant increase in the demand for family carers mental health programs and support.

In remote locations, our Family Mental Health Support Service recorded an increased demand for basic needs and general wellbeing, including:

- Assistance with travel (200 kms to nearest services)
- Pharmacy and groceries needs
- Budgeting and bills due to home users staying home
- Activities and guidance for children.

With extra money provided by the government, there was an increase in excessive alcohol use by some community members.

Overcrowding in the homes meant that many took to tents outdoors, in order to feel safer – more families at risk of homelessness and in need of more housing.

There was an increased need for face to face counselling as most families do not have internet or telephone. Our team adapted to face-to-face contact in environments that the client felt comfortable in.

Supporting parents increased, with the team providing more hands on activities for the whole family which included assisting in relationship building within the family. Some workers have identified an increase in anxiety due to the impact of media and increase use of social media.

Battling the past with success

A 43-year-old National Psychosocial Transition (NPST) participant is on the road to recovery, after many years of experiencing anxiety and depression. The participant who has been with CatholicCare since 2016, has a diagnosis of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. The illness has resulted in a co-existing battle with drugs and alcohol. Substance abuse and mental health conditions are often closely linked, and alcohol and drugs are often used to self-medicate.

Due to the participant's condition, her children were put in foster care and now has limited access to them. Over time, the participant has experienced periods of improvement and had education and employment opportunities. However, due to stressful situations and family relationship issues, triggering relapses in her mental health which prevents her from moving forward.

NPST supports the participant through the good and bad times. The program has assisted the participant with her contact with Children's Services and visits with her children. This year was the first Mother's Day the participant has spent time with her children in six years. The participant now has regular contact with them, and a positive relationship has been built with their foster mum.

This family reunion has given the participant the confidence to move forward and concentrate on her journey to recovery. The participant is now looking forward to commencing employment within our community as a Peer Support Worker, where she can draw on her personal mental health issues and recovery to assist other people to find their own sense of confidence and recovery.

Peer workers lead the way

Our Family and Carers Mental Health team has been supporting a carer, who was referred by the Child and Adult Mental Health Service unit in Orange, as her daughter was not engaging with services.

The carer attended the local support group, where she was introduced to Community Mental Health Peer Worker. The carer believed her daughter would connect and engage well with the peer worker. FCMHP support worker made a referral for the consumer to see the Community Mental Health Peer Worker.

This referral has resulted in the carer's daughter engaging regularly with the peer worker and Community Mental Health CAMHS unit, where she is feeling supported by someone with a lived experience and accessing the required clinical supports needed.

The daughter's mental health has improved immensely from this connection. The carer has regular support from FCMHP and in particular attends regular individual emotional support sessions and is attending support groups and has made connections with other local carers.

The carer has been able to return to work and her daughter's mental health issues have improved.

PARENT CHILD SERVICES

Our Parent Child Services support parents and families in creating supportive and nurturing environments that enable children to grow up healthy, confident and resilient.

Family Care Program

Targets families with children up to the age of 18 through parenting education, peer support groups, supported playgroups, home visiting and school readiness programs.

Targeted Earlier Intervention Programs

Provides a mix of activities for families with children aged 0-8 including parenting education, supported playgroups and intensive family support.

Aboriginal Families as Teachers Program

Is a home visiting program that helps families create learning rich environments in the home.

Communities for Children

Assists families with children aged 0-12 through the provision of intensive family support, parenting education, school holiday and after school activities, disability-focused education for parents and children and community events.

1041
REGISTERED
PARTICIPANTS

703
REGISTERED
PARTICIPANTS

188
REGISTERED
PARTICIPANTS

1520
REGISTERED
PARTICIPANTS

2057
SESSIONS

3121
SESSIONS

1061
SESSIONS

1844
SESSIONS

EMPOWERING OUR COMMUNITY

HIGHLIGHTS

Home Visiting in Bourke

The Bourke family worker has been able to assist a mother with her breastfeeding challenges, thanks to her Breastfeeding Mentoring Training. The mother was having significant issues and was seriously considering giving up breast feeding her baby.

However, the family worker helped mum to attach her baby and provided information that helped lessen her discomfort and anxiety.

Mum is continuing to breast feed, and she is starting to enjoy the experience of feeding her baby.

Circle of security in Broken Hill

A Broken Hill family worker ran the evidence-based parenting program *Circle of Security* with a participant that she had been working with. The participant was a mother with five children, however three of the children were in Department of Communities and Justice care.

The participant had been dealing with court and attending drug and alcohol counselling.

The family worker was providing *Circle of Security* parenting program to increase the participant's knowledge around the importance of providing children with a safe, caring environment. The participant was keen to get her three children back and made the effort to attend all the parenting program sessions.

The dedication of the participant completing *Circle of Security* enabled her visits to her children to increase, from two days a week to four days a week with three of those days being unsupervised visits. She has now started an intensive treatment program for families to live together for 6-9 months whilst working with psychologists, therapists, doctors, case workers etc to help families stay together.

Narromine Community Skills

The *Parenting Under Pressure* group in Narromine has a young mum of three who grew up in a household with trauma, domestic violence and much more. This woman is amazing, she is now the rock of her family and often expresses she wants to do better for herself and make changes in her life – she wants more for her children.

During *Parenting Under Pressure* we have undertaken modules to develop parenting and employment skills for those in the group. In the second term we undertook learning experiences around the hospitality industry with the women learning waitressing, coffee making, food presentation, table setting, food hygiene, OH&S, personal presentation and more.

This was all done with a hope that it would increase skills, give them opportunities they had never had and build confidence within the industry so they could pick up casual work or spark an interest to undertake further training.

This young mum did exactly that. After completing these learning opportunities, she went on to do her RSA and RCG. Then an amazing opportunity came her way and she was offered a position at a local restaurant waitressing and as a kitchen hand. She is currently working and loving it.

PARENT CHILD SERVICES

Cobar parenting support

A Cobar family worker has been providing parenting support for a participant and her four children that had been having medical issues with boils on their bodies. This condition was highly contagious, with the children at risk of spreading it to other children in the community.

The family worker supported the family at the doctors, school and Department of Communities and Justice and supported the participant with ways to keep the house clean and stop the spread of boils. This helped motivate the participant, who became very proactive in making sure the house and all clothing was clean and disinfected. These measures, along with the correct antibiotics, were very effective.

The participant was also having problems with communicating with the school. The family worker then advocated for the participant and her children and ensured if the children were not at school, schoolwork was able to be taken home for the children to complete so they did not miss out on the class work and fall behind.

The family worker and the participant also obtained support from Department of Communities and Justice to help the participant purchase scripts and proper coverings, such as large band aids, creams needed and other supplies.

All these combined measures have resulted in the participant and her children being able to clear the boils and remain healthy. The participant now has the confidence to communicate with the school and build a relationship that will benefit the children and ensure less missed days of school.

Addressing aggression in Parkes

A Parkes family worker was working with a single mum experiencing parenting issues with her three and four year old boys. Due to the positive rapport the family worker had with Mum, the family worker conducted a home visit to observe the boys.

As Mum was also participating in "Circle of Security" parenting program, she could use some of those strategies suggested: 15 minutes of play, where each child and mum would take turns at picking a play activity and some basic rules around play. One of the rules was that mum must have some 'enjoy and delight in me' moments. The family worker and Mum also added the five steps to managing big emotions chart to the wall, as a reminder for Mum.

A week later, the family worker received a message from the Mum saying the boy's behaviour had significantly improved. Mum was so amazed that something she thought was so little, could impact so much on their behaviour. Mum including 'time in' at bedtime where the boys are taking turns of choosing a book to be read before bed. There has also been a huge improvement in the boy's behaviours at playgroup, including being able to sit down and engage during reading time. .

OUR EXECUTIVE



Anne-Marie Mioche
Chief Executive Officer

Anne-Marie Mioche commenced as CEO of CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes in January 2017 and brings a strong commitment to the values embodied in principles of Catholic social justice.

Anne-Marie is passionate about doing all she can to support work environments that nurture care, compassion and service to those in need.

Previously she has led several national not for profit companies and associations including Families Australia and Carers Australia, which she established. During her career Anne-Marie has been employed in the political sphere as an adviser to a Commonwealth Government Minister and has worked at senior levels in the Commonwealth Public Service.

In the Commonwealth Department of Health, Anne-Marie headed a taskforce that was responsible for developing Australia's first national strategy for the prevention of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander suicide. She has had responsibility for and managed \$45 million worth of projects including programs for the Stolen Generations and programs around Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander social and emotional wellbeing.

Anne-Marie has extensive knowledge and understanding of Government policy as well as issues relating to rural and remote issues and challenges in the lives of First Australians.



Kate Gibson
Deputy CEO

Kate Gibson has worked with CatholicCare for more than 10 years as the Director of Programs and Service Delivery and now the Deputy CEO. She had previously worked at the Catholic Education Office as a Senior Education Officer and Coordinator of Schools Curriculum and was awarded the Brother John Taylor Award for Excellence in Catholic Education for her significant commitment to education within the Diocese of Wilcannia-Forbes for over 20 years.

Kate has lived and worked in Broken Hill, Trundle and Forbes and has held management positions at several schools in our diocese.

Kate is very aware of the social issues impacting our diocese and has a strong commitment to the CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes mission, vision and values. Her central focus is ensuring that we are providing the highest quality of service for our participants and communities with an emphasis on continual growth and improvement.

She has specifically trained in Planning, Techniques and Communication in Public Participation, Mercer Job Evaluation, Staff Supervision and participated in the Harvard Business School for Social Enterprise.



Margie Johnson
Chief Financial Officer

Margie Johnson has more than 20 years of experience in accounting, including management accounting, business management, taxation and superannuation. Margie is a Certified Practising Accountant and has worked for CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes since 2007.

Margie has a Bachelor of Agricultural Economics from the University of Sydney and a Masters of Accountancy from Charles Sturt University.

Using her knowledge and experience, Margie has guided CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes through the recent transition to a company and with the Executive Team will continue the journey of growth and expansion of services to achieve the strategic objectives.

OUR BOARD



Bernard Boerma

Chairperson and
Company Director

Bernard is a teacher at the University of Sydney and a non-executive director of a number of not for profit human services and research non government organisations.

He has held senior leadership and policy development roles in the human services sector, including 13 years as CEO of CatholicCare Sydney. Bernard has research interest in social justice and the impact on human service NGO values when operating in a market based service context.

His passion is to build a just society and a better world in which all people are treated with dignity and have an opportunity to contribute.



Stefanie Loader

Deputy Chairperson and
Company Director

Stef is a former mining industry executive and aspiring small-scale farmer. She has lived and worked in remote communities in Laos, Peru, Canada, London and New Dehli and now calls regional NSW home.

Stef's focus is on building diverse, regional economies and strong, supportive regional communities.

This includes the work of CCWF in encouraging strong social networks and wellbeing, supporting vulnerable and potentially vulnerable people as well as growing economic activity.

"I want to see my region, the central west and western NSW communities, grow and thrive for many years to come. That's why I am on the board of CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes."



Allen Duggan

Company Secretary,
Public Officer and
Company Director

Allen has been a solicitor for more than 50 years. He has worked as a consultant, sole practitioner, as a partner in firms in Sydney.

"My love of the law comes down to a feeling of being able to help people, really in its most simple form."

Practicing since 1969, Allen has vast experience in land and property law, commercial law, estate planning, succession and family law.

He credits his career with giving him the skills to serve the community with more than 10 years on the CentaCare Advisory Board and now as a director of CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes along with other service organisations.



Dr Mark Buhagiar

Company Director

Before taking on his current role as the Head of Clergy Health and Wellbeing for the Catholic Diocese of Parramatta, Mark worked for over 15 years within the healthcare sector in a variety of clinical, research and management roles.

He has experience in both the public and not for profit sectors, with a particular focus on rehabilitation, palliative care and residential aged care.

"I am on the board of CCWF because its drive to empowering individuals, families and communities, in a practical and tangible manner that is inspired by our Creator and imbued with a spirit of justice. This aligns with my own work ethos and gives real direction to my working life."



Father Barry Dwyer
Company Director

Father Barry is presently the parish priest of Parkes. He was born and raised in Parkes and was ordained there in 1973.

He has worked in the parishes of Broken Hill, Forbes and Hay and as a Police Chaplain for the past 36 years. During this time he was fulltime chaplain, counsellor and lecturer at the Goulburn Academy for 7 years and later fulltime with the Specialist Operations of the NSW Police Force for the next 15 years and presently he is an honorary police chaplain in the Parkes district.

His studies include a BA (Soc. Sci.), Grad. Cert. Somatic Psychotherapy, Grad. Dip Systemic Couple Therapy and presently completing a Grad. Cert. in Church Governance and Canon Law. He is a Fellow of the Australian College of Biomedical Sciences and a Justice of the Peace.

His appointment as a board member is as a liaison between the board and the Bishop, and, as CatholicCare is a part of the apostolate of the diocese, to be a spiritual support person to the board members and to assist in furthering the work of the Church in the area of social justice and welfare.

Father Barry enjoys working with people and his interests include photography and travel.



Michael Digges
Company Director

Michael worked in senior management roles in private industry before his current role as the Executive Director, Administration and Finance of the Catholic ArchDiocese of Sydney. The Chancery provides administrative and accounting support to the parishes.

"I see my role on the board of CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes as both a support to management and also exercising oversight on behalf of the Diocese."

"Outreach to those less fortunate, in particular, our Indigenous brothers and sisters, is something that I regard as an essential duty of the Catholic Church that I strongly support."



Michael Wright
Company Director

With more than 30 years of experience working in the rural industry and more than 20 of those years based in regional NSW, Michael Wright has developed an excellent understanding of the issues affecting rural and isolated communities.

Michael is currently the Livestock and Client Finance Manager for Schute Bell (Wool Brokers and Stock & Station Agents) and is based in the head office, Sydney. Through his vast experience in dealing with rural and regional people, Michael has developed a very strong network of contacts and business skills which he utilises to assist clients and staff, particularly during times of hardship within the rural industry.

A respected advocate and contributing member of several industry-based boards and advisory committees, Michael is eager to contribute to the CatholicCare Board with his vast rural experience.



Tom Hynes

A solicitor and engineer, Tom Hynes has had experience working in Governance, Commercial Law, Finance and Engineering. In the last five years, as well as working with two legal firms, Tom has been the chair of two government boards within the health and agricultural sectors.

Tom has degrees in Engineering, Commerce and Law and a post graduate diploma in Legal Practice. He was the recipient of the University of NSW Bronze Medal in Engineering.

Tom and his wife Heather live in Broken Hill where they own and operate a small business.



FINANCIAL REPORT

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes Ltd

The Registered Company Auditor for the year ending 30 June 2020 was Crowe Central West. The Audited Consolidated Financial Report is available from the CEO upon request.



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2020
2020
\$

2019
\$

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash on Hand and Cash at Bank	3,891,617	3,550,868
Receivables	333,388	93,422
Financial Assets	4,062	5,885
Other	149,582	165,221
	4,378,650	3,815,396

NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Property, Plant & Equipment	1,730,987	2,307,459
	1,730,987	2,307,459

TOTAL ASSETS
6,109,637 **6,122,856**
CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts Payable & Other Payables	449,355	595,837
Lease Liabilities	233,495	293,350
Income in Advance	644,837	316,284
Employee Provision	560,653	484,433
	1,888,339	1,689,904

NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES

Payables	0	39,160
Lease Liabilities	111,525	338,122
Employee Provisions	130,376	622,988
	241,900	1,000,270

TOTAL LIABILITIES
2,130,239 **2,690,174**
NET ASSETS
3,979,398 **3,432,681**

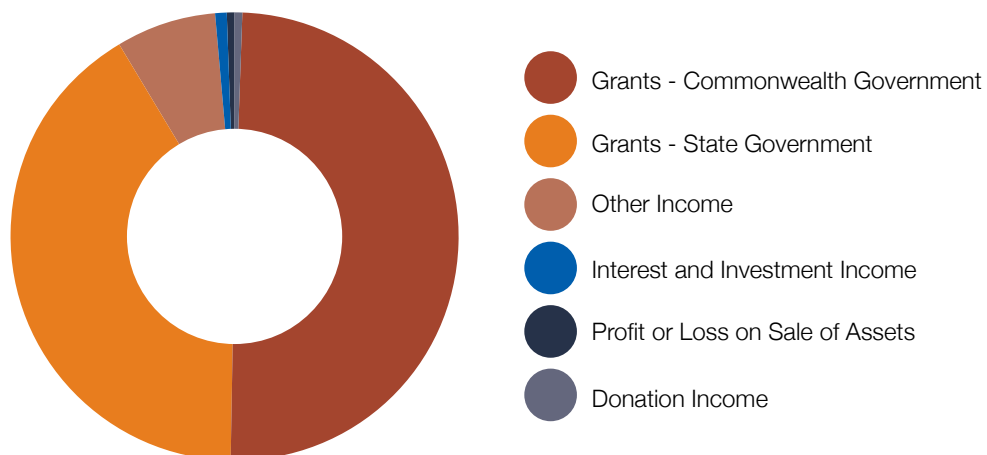
STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN EQUITY AS AT 30 JUNE

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Balance at 1 July	3,432,681	3,461,848
Prior Year Adjustment - Wages & Superannuation Accrued	(143,756)	0
Surplus (Deficit) for year	690,472	(29,167)
Balance at 30 June	3,979,398	3,432,681

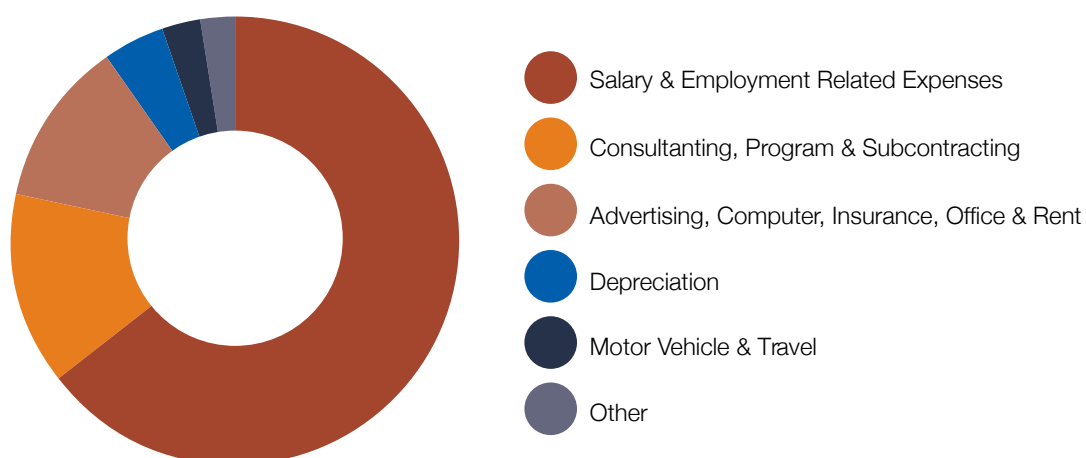
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW AS AT 30 JUNE

Cash Flows generated from Operating Activities	724,436	479,509
Cash Flows generated from Investing Activities	(100,104)	(220,074)
Cash Flows generated from Financing Activities	(283,583)	0
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash & Cash Equivalents	340,749	259,435
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the year	3,550,868	3,291,433
Cash & Cash Equivalents at the End of the year	3,891,617	3,550,868

STATEMENT OF INCOME 2019/20



STATEMENT OF EXPENSES 2019/20



WITH THANKS

CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes' important work is only possible thanks to the generous support of State and Commonwealth governments, businesses, benevolent trusts, sectors of the Catholic Church and individual donors. This support allows us to provide quality services to families and communities of Western NSW.

The Commonwealth Government

- Department of Social Services
- Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
- Department of Human Services
- Western NSW Primary Health Network

NSW State Government

- Department of Communities and Justice (formerly Dept Family and Community Services)
- Office of Fair Trading
- NSW Health
- NSW Education
- NSW Office of Responsible Gambling

Non-Government

- Foundation of Rural and Regional Renewal
- Mary Ward International
- Oxfam/Maranguka
- Financial Counselling Foundation
- Individual Donors



ccwf.org.au

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Bourke
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Brewarrina

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Cnr Bourke &
Young St. Brewarrina

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Broken Hill
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Cobar NSW
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