

Catholic Social Services Australia

Annual Report
2012-13



Catholic Social Services
Australia

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About Catholic Social Services Australia

Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) is the Catholic Church's peak national body for social services in Australia. Our 63 member organisations provide social services to over a million Australians a year, delivering services in local communities in metropolitan, regional and remote Australia.

Our Vision

CSSA envisages a fairer, more inclusive Australian society that reflects and supports the dignity, equality and participation of all people.

Our Mission

CSSA advances the social service ministry which is integral to the Mission of the Catholic Church in Australia.

Operations

CSSA works with Catholic organisations, governments, other churches and all people of good will, to develop social service policies, programs and other strategic responses that work towards the economic, social and spiritual well-being of the Australian community.

CSSA is a commission of the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference (ACBC) and reports to the ACBC through a Board of nine persons. Each Board member is appointed to their position by the ACBC.

Catholic Social Teaching

CSSA seeks to embody and promote the core principles of Catholic Social Teaching:

Dignity of the person

Our vision for society springs from an understanding of the fundamental dignity, sanctity and worth of every human life.

Common good and community

People are fundamentally social beings, and how we organise socially, politically and economically has implications for our capacity to grow in community.

Preferential option for the poor

The most important measure of the success of our community is the manner in which we direct our resources to assist those people most in need.

Rights and responsibilities

Our participation in community brings with it both a range of rights and protections and a range of duties and obligations.

Chair's Report

Fr Joe Caddy



For all those working within the national network of Catholic social service agencies, it was a great source of encouragement to hear the newly installed Pope, His Holiness Pope Francis, set out his vision for the Church. His Holiness called on Catholics to be fully focused on the poor, the homeless, the disabled and the outcast.

His Holiness reminded us all how ever-present poverty is in our communities:

“We cannot become starched Christians, too polite, who speak of theology calmly over tea. We have to become courageous Christians and seek out those who need help most”

This has been a significant year for CSSA in our own efforts to seek out those who need help most, and to do so courageously. Our advocacy work is further challenged in the face of our Church's history in relation to child sexual abuse and our Government's increasingly hard line policies, especially relating to asylum seekers and the unemployed. However, we refuse to become 'starched, or too polite'.

As I reflect on this, my last full year as Chair of the CSSA Board, I am both heartened and humbled to be part of this network of 63 agencies which every day take steps towards achieving our vision of a fair and inclusive Australia characterised by dignity, equality and participation of all people.

Our advocacy emphases over the year have shifted as some projects were completed and new issues emerged. The year began with a vocal concern for problem gamblers and ends with a renewed focus on asylum seekers and refugees. Either with like-minded organisations or as a single voice we have continued to give voice to the inadequacy of the Newstart allowance for jobseekers, the need for strong, sustained support for vulnerable families and children, the importance of community engagement in mental health reforms, and the re-shaping of disability care and the employment services system.



While not losing sight of the people for whom our agencies exist, the CSSA National Office and Board also dedicated significant time and effort to strengthening the social services sector in the context of the establishment of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

In part due to the nature of a minority federal government, the views of CSSA were actively sought out by senior politicians from across the parliament. This has enabled CSSA to foster relationships not only with the Government and Opposition leaders of today, but also the prospective political leaders of the next term.

At the same time, CSSA has used forums, meetings and online resources to facilitate exchanges of ideas about significant challenges our members face in being able to continue to provide high quality services to over one million Australians. These provide a collegiate platform for equipping our leaders to embrace both challenge and opportunity; and for enhancing our collective understanding of the way our network's mission, values and Catholic identity are promoted and lived out.

This year, the CSSA Board agreed to build on this strength by launching the first CSSA scholarship program. Open to all staff of our member agencies, the two-year scholarship scheme will provide an opportunity to raise the Australian community's awareness of the need for a fairer, more inclusive society.

None of the achievements of the past year would have been possible if it were not for our small, but hard-working team in the National Office under the leadership of our Executive Director, Paul O'Callaghan. I also acknowledge the generous efforts of my fellow Board members in steering the work of CSSA, helping to keep it focussed on the needs of the poorest and least well off in our society and the mission of the member agencies that seek to meet those needs.

I wish to offer special thanks to Mr Tony Davies, Director of Centacare Port Macquarie, and Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO who both retired in late 2012. They have both made outstanding contributions on the Board to assist the network over many years. I also welcome Ms Barbara Hingston and Mr Dominic Kelly to the Board.

Finally, after having been privileged to serve as the Chair of CSSA over the last nine years, I am stepping down in November 2013. I wish to thank all those who have contributed their efforts to CSSA's mission during this period; and leave you with Pope Francis' exhortation to be courageous in your efforts to seek out those who need help most.

Executive Director's Report

Mr Paul O'Callaghan



This year the CSSA network was again recognised as providing vital and high quality services to over one million Australians. One reflection of that recognition is the large number of federal parliamentarians who chose to join us at our annual Awards presentation ceremony at parliament house last June. Another has been the regular occasions on which parliamentary committees, politicians and officials seek out the views of CSSA on a range of social policy and national regulatory reform issues.

It was pleasing that CSSA's significant commitment to influencing the Government's Not-for-profit (NFP) reform agenda produced some positive outcomes. As a result of quiet advocacy with like-minded Church agencies, we were able to improve the Bills for an ACNC before they were passed by the parliament and to obtain at least some specific commitments related to red-tape reduction. It is to be hoped that, over coming years, Commonwealth and State governments will commit to a bona fide streamlining of the onerous regulatory burden faced by NFP agencies, including CSSA members.

This was also a year of active collaboration across the CSSA network to various ends, including strengthening family support services, promoting better ways to assist disadvantaged job seekers and calling for an increase to the Newstart allowance. At a strategic level, we continue to advocate for a much improved policy framework linking measures to increase federal tax revenue and the range of income support payments. It is regrettable that neither side of parliament has yet to show a willingness to lead in this regard, despite the increasingly urgent need for the Commonwealth to substantially raise revenue to meet recurrent expenditure for health, aged care, education, disability and other social services.

The CSSA network never ceases to impress me. The preparedness of managers across the network to assist one another and share good practice in many areas is noteworthy. The quiet but effective way in which Catholic mission is embedded at all levels of the agencies is also impressive, as is the support by so many members for the National Office in its work.



Ms Mary-Helen Martens, Director of Centacare South West NSW; Mr Barry Sheehan, Director of Centacare Toowoomba; and Dr Peter Munn, CEO, Centacare Catholic Family Services Country SA.

CSSA's Directors and Senior Managers Forum in June 2013 highlighted concerns by boards and managers about the combined impact on their organisations arising from new funding models, rising cost pressures, increased emphasis on high quality evaluation of outcomes and the unpredictability of Commonwealth and State government funding. The opportunities to debate and consider these challenging issues within various CSSA forums is valued by members and will be even more important over the coming years. The active support by member agencies for CSSA's policy, advocacy and network activities, as well as the sharing of knowledge and good practice is a great strength in this regard.

I wish to pay special tribute to Fr Joe Caddy for his exceptional leadership of CSSA since 2003. As Board Chair, Fr Joe has steered CSSA through periods of significant and often challenging times, remaining a steady source of inspiration for CSSA and its members. Fr Joe has earned the respect and affection of CSSA Board members and staff, as well as Australia's Bishops and religious leaders throughout that period. His leadership skills, commitment and humility will be greatly missed.

I also congratulate and thank my National Office colleagues for their professionalism and their deep commitment to our vision of creating a fairer and more inclusive Australia. Finally, I thank all Board members for their tremendous support and guidance throughout the year.

Government and Public Relations

Ms Jackie Brady, Director, Government and Public Affairs

Not-for-profit (NFP) reform, the future of the Family Support Program, the adequacy of income support payments and better social support for people in rural Australia were among the issues on CSSA's advocacy agenda over the past year.

The Government announced major NFP reforms in the May 2011–12 Budget and the consultation process continued through to 2013. As well as meeting directly with Ministers, CSSA made a number of submissions on issues including the definition of a charity, governance and reporting standards, tax concessions and a code of best practice for engagement with the sector.

CSSA has taken a cautious approach to reform. While the broad aims of the Government's reforms are sound, legislative details and implementation will determine the outcome.

CSSA provided responses to government discussion papers on the future of the Family Support Program (the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs) and the Family Support Program Family Law Services Review (the Attorney General's Department).



The Hon Tony Abbott MP, Leader of the Opposition and Fr Joe Caddy, CSSA Board Chair and CEO of CatholicCare Archdiocese of Melbourne.

Together with other community sector organisations, CSSA continued to advocate for an increase in the Newstart Allowance and Youth Allowance.

CSSA also advocated for improvements to the employment services system, particularly for highly disadvantaged jobseekers. While outcomes for jobseekers in Stream 4 of the Job Services Australia system are an improvement on those in earlier arrangements, CSSA believes the system can be further reformed to support more effective services.



Many rural communities have benefited from social support services during droughts. But the end of “exceptional circumstances” declarations has seen funding for these services withdrawn. CSSA has advocated for funding arrangements that reflect ongoing need rather than depend on “exceptional circumstances” declarations. While the government’s National Drought Program Reform framework includes a commitment to “a coordinated, collaborative approach to the provision of social support services” there has been no announcement on funding.

National Directors and Senior Managers Forum

Over the last 12 months, CSSA held two National Directors and Senior Managers Forums in Canberra. These events provided a unique opportunity for senior leaders in our member agencies to engage directly with Federal politicians within a ‘Canberra context’.

The Forums also provided Directors and Senior Managers with an opportunity to discuss at a peer level some of the significant challenges and opportunities that exist for the network – as a whole and in its individual parts.

The National Directors and Senior Manager Forums were held over:

- 12-13 October 2012
- 24-25 June 2013



The Hon Andrew Robb AO MP at the 2012 National Directors and Senior Managers Forum.

Communications

A significant area of work for the Communications team has been the development of a new website for to form the central point of CSSA’s communications activity, CSSA has transitioned our regular publications, newsletters and updates to a web-based format so as to continually draw an audience back to the website as our Facebook friends continue to grow in number.

It is great to have a new Communications Officer on staff. Mr Sam Edwards joined the CSSA National Office in September 2012 and he has brought a range of skills to his role. With his appetite for social media, CSSA is certainly well placed to meet our objectives in the digital space over the next twelve months.

Policy and Media Output

Submissions

03/05/2013	Response to the Statutory Definition of Charity
29/04/2013	Response to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet's "Engaging today for a better tomorrow: Code of Best Practice for Engagement with the not-for-profit sector"
26/04/2013	Submission to the ACNC's Consultation on the 2014 AIS
22/03/2013	Response to the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Issue Paper on Employment Services - Building On Success
21/02/2013	Response to the Regulatory Impact Assessment of Potential Duplication of Governance and Reporting Standards for Charities
15/02/2013	Response to the ACNC's Draft Governance Standards
15/02/2013	Submission to the ACNC's discussion paper on Financial Reporting Standards
31/01/2013	2013-2014 Pre-Budget Submission
17/12/2012	Response to the Treasury's Not-for-profit Sector Tax Concession Working Group Discussion Paper
28/11/2012	Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs - Family Support Program Future Directions Discussion Paper
12/09/2012	Senate Committee Hearing - The adequacy of the allowance payment system for jobseekers
30/08/2012	Exposure Drafts – ACNC Bill 2012 and ACNC (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2012

Opinion Pieces

14/05/2013	Flawed beauty in back-to-the-wall Budget
10/04/2013	Is there really no such thing as society?
18/11/2012	Charles Murray's war on equality
06/11/2012	Sting in the tail of Gillard charities red tape reduction



Mr Paul O'Callaghan, Executive Director of CSSA and the Hon David Bradbury MP, Assistant Treasurer.

Media Releases

- 25/06/2013** Community Innovators Take Centre Stage at CSSA Awards
- 14/05/2013** No time to be at the margins of society
- 10/05/2013** Targeting the poor to find budget cuts - a far cry from 'Labor Values'
- 23/04/2013** CSSA Launches Research Scholarship Scheme
- 07/03/2013** Not an either-or: Newstart must be lifted to ease worsening poverty in Australia
- 04/03/2013** Protecting free speech for Not-for-Profit organisations

- 26/02/2013** CSSA Executive Director appointed to ACNC Advisory Board
- 25/02/2013** National Children's Commissioner a most welcome voice
- 13/12/2012** CSSA congratulates new FRSA Chair
- 30/11/2012** Australian Churches Gambling Taskforce - Historic Pokies Legislation a Win for Australian Communities
- 11/11/2012** The Federal Government Should Increase Newstart
- 01/11/2012** ACNC an important step – if matched by red tape reduction
- 19/09/2012** Good step to protect an independent NFP voice
- 27/08/2012** Inadequate dole makes it hard to get a job

Other

Daily News clips

Regular member updates

Annual Report

Network News

Member and Network Support

Ms Sue Ludwig, Director, Member and Network Support

One of CSSA's strategic priorities is to “develop and strengthen the Catholic social services sector... in order to improve the provision of social services to people who are poor, vulnerable, or disadvantaged.”



Ms Mary-Helen Martens, Centacare South West NSW, Mr Don Arthur, CSSA; Mr Peter Burgoyne, CatholicCare Wollongong; and Ms Sandra Sutalo, CSS NSW/ACT.

CSSA's member and network support function aims to assist member agencies to share information and expertise while working together on common interests. Over 2012-13, member and network support has focused on:

- Strengthening the network's responsiveness to emerging service delivery opportunities, particularly in the area of family support and mental health; and

- Reinforcing the network's commitment to mission and identity.

Family Support

Thirty-two of CSSA's 63 member agencies are funded under the federal Family Support Program (FSP) to deliver a range of services to vulnerable and disadvantaged children and families. For the 2011-14 contract period, total funding to CSSA member agencies was around \$245 million (18 per cent of all FSP funding for that period).

In 2012, all 32 agencies committed to strengthening their national and local presence and effectiveness in supporting vulnerable families by:

- Increasing the CSSA network's national visibility as providers of family support;
- Collaborating to enhance effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery; and
- Strengthening the network's national advocacy voice on behalf of vulnerable and disadvantaged clients.



Ms Sue Rice, Centacare Rockhampton; Ms Anna Nicholls, Centacare Toowoomba; and Ms Paula Washington, Centacare Catholic Family Services Diocese of Townsville.

Achievements over the past year include:

- Endorsement by all 32 agencies of 'Core Practice Principles' to guide the CSSA-FSP network's work with vulnerable children and families and reflect the mission and values of the network, drawing on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching;
- Coordinated input to government discussion papers: *FSP Future Directions* (FAHCSIA) and *FSP Family Law Services Review* (Attorney General's Department) and facilitation of meetings and teleconferences with departmental officials; and
- Appointment of a Steering Committee and part-time project officer to guide the collaboration over 2013-14.

CSSA-FSP Steering Committee and Project Officer:

Mr Peter Burgoyne (co-chair)
CatholicCare Wollongong

Ms Paula Washington (co-chair)
Centacare Catholic Family Services Diocese of Townsville

Ms Dorothee Crawley
CentaCare Wilcannia-Forbes

Ms Francesca Gerner
CatholicCare Victoria-Tasmania

Ms Sandi McGowan
Marymead

Ms Ann O'Brien
CatholicCare Social Services Diocese of Parramatta

Ms Catherine Spini
Centrecare Perth

Ms Liese Savage (Project Officer)
CatholicCare Archdiocese of Melbourne

Family and Relationships Services Australia (FRSA)

Thirty of CSSA's member agencies are also members of FRSA and CSSA is an associate member. Once again, with the generous support of several CSSA members, CSSA was a gold sponsor at the annual FRSA Conference, held in Darwin in November 2012. Delegates from CSSA member agencies took the opportunity to reconnect with each other and progress national collaborative activity while at the Conference.

At the November 2012 FRSA AGM, two CSSA member agency senior staff were elected to the FRSA Board; Mr Michael Austin (CatholicCare Sydney) was subsequently selected as Board Chair and Dr Ricki Jeffrey (Centacare Rockhampton) as Conference Reference Group Chair.

Other national engagement:

- **Family Intervention Post Separation (FIPS):** Twenty-six CSSA members hold a single contract with the Federal Circuit Court of Australia to deliver "post separation services – children's matters" on a referral basis, with CatholicCare Archdiocese of Melbourne as the lead agency for this arrangement.
- **Family Relationship Centres:** Thirteen CSSA members are the lead agencies for 16 Family Relationship Centres (FRCs) across Australia. FRC managers from the CSSA network met in person in Darwin (November 2012) and by teleconference (February 2013) to discuss issues in common and



Ms Georgina McLagan, Centacare Tasmania; Ms Deborah McLachlan, Centacare Toowoomba; and Ms Christine Hodge, Centacare Brisbane.

share resources and information. Members also connect regularly by email to pool practice wisdom across issues as diverse as training solicitors to undertake intake and assessment, setting fee-for-service schedules, child-inclusive mediation and screening and assessment in relation to grandparents.

- **National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2021:** CSSA is a member of the Coalition of Organisations Committed to the Safety and Wellbeing of Australia's Children. The Coalition of 180 agencies acts collectively to support implementation of the National Framework action plan which this year entered its second three-year stage. At its 2013 annual meeting the Coalition was pleased to welcome Australia's first National Children's Commissioner, Ms Megan Mitchell.



- **Child Support National Stakeholder Engagement Group:** CSSA is represented on the Group by Ms Sue Lloyd, Centacare Brisbane. The Group operates as an advisory body on issues affecting separated or separating parents and their children. Stakeholders include federal, state and local government departments and agencies, advocacy groups, employers, the legal community, support service providers and peak bodies, professional associations and academics.
- **Catholic Society for Marriage Education:** The Society promotes marriage and family life in accordance with the beliefs and teachings of the Catholic Church by encouraging marriage and relationship education for couples considering marriage and for married couples. Its membership includes many CSSA member organisations and individuals. The CSSA national office provides a 'public officer' function.

Mental Health

A large number of CSSA member agencies provide support to people with a mental illness and their carers. Over the year the national office provided regular updates to members on key issues, funding opportunities and national events relating to mental health.

National Engagement

- As a member of the Mental Health Council of Australia, CSSA and its members participated in national consultations and policy forums over the year and both promoted and participated in World Mental Health Week during October 2012.
- Along with many other organisations and peak bodies, CSSA welcomed the National Mental Health Commission's first national *Report Card on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention* in late 2012 and encouraged the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) to use the Report Card as a Framework for further developing its *Ten Year Roadmap for Mental Health Reform 2012-2022*.
- CSSA is one of the inaugural members of the Council of Non-Government Agencies (CONGO) on Mental Health, which first met in World Mental Health Week, October 2012. CONGO is seeking to bring community sector expertise to the shaping of the government's national mental health reforms. A key exercise in 2013 has been the development of targets and indicators for monitoring the success of mental health reforms over time.
- Over the past year staff of CSSA member agencies participated in two series of teleconferences to pool learning and questions about two key program areas that underpin national mental health reforms – Partners in Recovery (2012) and Family Mental Health Support Services (2013).

Mission and Identity



Dr Tony McMahon, Director of Centacare Catholic Family Services Diocese of Townsville; Fr John Chalmers, Centacare Brisbane; Ms Kate Venables, Centacare Rockhampton; and Mr Jim Curtain, St John of God Social Outreach and Advocacy Services.

A new Mission and Identity Steering group was established in October 2012 to develop a Catholic Identity and Mission focus for the CSSA network over 2013. The Group is chaired by Mr Otto Henfling, CEO of CatholicCare Social Services, Diocese of Parramatta, and is implementing an action plan based on understanding and integrating the core principles that characterise and underpin the mission, identity and delivery of Catholic social services in Australia.

Over the past year the group has begun to compile foundational documents and resources, available on the CSSA website, held a leadership forum for agency staff and commenced a number of projects to facilitate shared learning over coming months.

April 2013 Forum: Leadership to inspire compassionate, inclusive social service

Senior staff of 19 CSSA member agencies and the CSSA national office participated in our Mission and Identity Forum at Mary MacKillop Place in Sydney in April. This two day residential forum was an opportunity to think about Catholic mission and identity as integral to organisational planning and practice, and explored how 'mission and identity' might be fully enmeshed in agencies' recruitment, induction, training, supervision and staff development processes.

The forum facilitator, Dr John Honner, drew on his considerable experience as a Jesuit priest and Church-related community services expert over 33 years to inspire participants and stimulate reflection. An important ingredient for the success of the forum was the rich and sometime humorous mix of agency-based experience and broader life experience of participants. The forum focussed on the range of ways in which staff at various levels can embed spiritual mission throughout our agencies' and indeed network's organisational fabric.

Catholic Social Services NSW/ACT

Ms Sandra Sutalo, Executive Support Officer

The Catholic Social Services NSW/ACT Branch (CSS NSW/ACT) currently has 30 members and is led by an Executive, consisting of the following members:

Mr Fergus Fitzsimons

Chairman
CEO, Centacare New England North West

Mr Otto Henfling

Deputy Chair
Executive Director, Catholic Social Services –
Diocese of Parramatta

Bishop Terence Brady DD VG

Bishops Commission for Health and
Community Services
Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney

Mr Bernard Boerma

CEO, CatholicCare Sydney

Ms Mary-Helen Martens

CEO, Centacare South West NSW

Ms Hilary Martin

CEO, Marymead

Ms Cate Sydes

CEO, Marist Youth Care

Key Highlights

Goal 1 - Clear Communication

The NSW/ACT 2013 Branch Survey confirmed that members are well engaged with 72% attending Branch meetings regularly and 90 per cent indicating satisfaction with agenda items and opportunities for member discussion and participation. Meetings aim to engage members in matters of strategic, political, community sector and Church-related interests to members, as well as provide agency updates and special interest group reports. From time to time, guest speakers are invited to present on particular topics. Hot topics over the past year included asylum seekers and refugees, homelessness, sector development, gambling reform and the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

The Branch is also committed to regular communications with the Catholic Bishops of NSW and ACT and the Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes in NSW.

Goal 2 - A Voice of Influence

CSS NSW/ACT Parliamentary Forum

The October 2012 Forum networking Breakfast, held at Parliament House in Sydney, was hosted by Ms Leslie Williams MP and included ten Members of Parliament in addition to Branch members. Guest speaker Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO set the scene by speaking about the two-way relationship between government and Catholic social service agencies; and after the breakfast twenty-one Branch members held private meetings with Ministers, strengthening member relationships and building on the Branch's profile with government.

Other political engagement

- Meeting with the Shadow Attorney General (NSW), the Hon Paul Lynch MP, on 16 August 2012 in relation to Indigenous and migrant issues from a justice perspective
- Meeting with advisory staff of the NSW Treasurer's office on 31 October 2012 to convey Branch concerns about Equal Pay Remuneration
- Letter to (selected) NSW Members of Parliament on 19 November 2012 to highlight the multiple problems experienced by youth and adults affected in the NSW Justice system and point to the effectiveness of programs run by member agencies.
- Breakfast Briefing with the Honourable Kevin Andrews MP on 12 June 2013. Mr Andrews drew on excerpts from his book 'Maybe I do' to discuss contemporary trends in marriage in Australian society



The Hon Kevin Andrews MP at the 2013 Breakfast Briefing.

- Regular meetings with external stakeholders, including the NSW Council of Social Services (NCOSS), the Forum of Non-Government Agencies (FONGA), the Catholic Commission for Employment Relations (CCER) and the Catholic Education Commission Social Welfare Coordinating Committee.

Goal 3 - Member Connection

The NSW/ACT Branch continues to foster collaboration among member agency staff for the purpose of information sharing, learning from experience, considering responses to emerging issues and strengthening operational capacity.

Four special interest groups meet regularly to facilitate capacity building through collaboration and knowledge sharing. These focus on Youth Services, Quality Assurance, Marketing and Communications and National Mental Health Standards. Also formed this year is the National Disability Insurance Scheme discussion group, which meets to share knowledge and experience about Member agency engagement in the DisabilityCare Australia trials.

Catholic Social Services Victoria

Mr Denis Fitzgerald, Executive Director

Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) works to advance the work of the Church in Victoria, in service and for justice. We do this as a peak body, with 54 members – an increase of five over the past year.

Guided by a representative Council, chaired by Ms Patrice Scales, our work is organised under three strategic directions and complements the national activity of CSSA:

Policy and advocacy

Throughout 2012/13, CSSV submitted responses to five Parliamentary and Government enquiries:

- Improving diversion for young people in the criminal justice system;
- Public housing policy;
- Enforced sterilisation;
- Development of a new private prison; and
- Service Sector reform

Our engagement with Ministers and officials concentrated on the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, priorities for the Victorian Budget, treatment of asylum seekers and a range of criminal justice issues – sentencing, aboriginal incarceration, youth justice, and conditions in Victorian prisons.

Throughout the year we facilitated guest speaker forums or workshops on human rights and religious freedom, asylum seekers, the criminal justice system and Catholic Social Teaching.

Inter-church engagement included chairing an Inter-church Criminal Justice Taskforce and membership of the Inter-church Gambling Taskforce. CSSV also hosted a liturgy during Anti-Poverty Week (October 2012), during which we also worked with St Vincent de Paul Society and others to organise a conference on human rights.

Network development and Member support

CSSV actively fosters member networks for mutual cooperation and enhanced effectiveness, and to build a community of shared mission and interest.

Our two major events continue to be the Annual General Meeting and Commissioning Mass, and our Annual Dinner. Around 300 people attended the 2012 Dinner to hear American author and speaker Chris Lowney speak on the leadership role of every member of an organisation.

We also hosted Breakfast Briefings on the topics of child protection, not-for-profit reform, the use of social media, human rights issues, the changing composition of the Catholic Church, and the role of marriage in society. Other member forums included workshops on family violence, cultural alignment of organisations, particularly in relation to aboriginal culture, and working with mental health clients; and a gathering of Burmese community groups and those parts of the Catholic Church that engage with them.

Fostering a Catholic ethos, identity and profile

The principles of Catholic Social Teaching have been a strong focus this year as we developed a series of formation modules for our members, including workshops for Board personnel, new staff and whole staff development days.

Playing our part in addressing sexual abuse of children within the Church has become an increasing focus. During the year we hosted several events to facilitate dialogue and engagement, including a briefing on the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry and an opportunity to contribute input to the Church's submission to that Inquiry, and a reflection on how best to support victims as well as staff of member organisations.



Mr Robert Sims, Centacare Rockhampton; and Ms Tricia Robinson, Centacare Family Services Geraldton.

In September 2012 we launched *Charity and Justice - St Mary MacKillop and Australian Society*, by Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO. The booklet built on our 2011 Conference on Saint Mary MacKillop and her influence on Catholic social services in Australia. This will be an enduring contribution to the understanding of an Australian approach to Catholic Social Teaching in action.

Our mission network continued to meet bi-monthly to provide mutual support for people engaged in mission and to plan events such as the October 2013 'Listening, Learning and Leading' conference which will explore the impact of Catholic identity and mission on what we do and how we do it.

Treasurer's Report

Mr Trevor Murphy



Financially, 2012-13 was a stable year for Catholic Social Services Australia. Total costs rose by 1.5 per cent when compared with the previous year but the ratio of expenses to income remained at a level consistent with the preceding three years.

This outcome is significant because during the 12 month period, the Organisation was able to embark on three initiatives which will strengthen its “reach” into the community namely, the National Office communication enhancement, the redevelopment of the CSSA web site and as well, the preliminary tasks associated with the introduction of the recently announced Scholarship. Even though these projects were financed out of the accumulated funds of Catholic Social Services Australia Ltd (the Company), it was necessary to engage additional staff to handle the increased workload.

CSSA's income during 2012-13 rose by 1.7 per cent when compared with the previous year and membership fees (the major part) increased by 0.6 per cent for the 12 month period. Elsewhere in the Annual Report there are commentaries about the major components of the year's output including the two Director's Forums. In overall terms, each initiative not only generates varying levels of interest in the community but also heightens respect for the work of the Organisation as was recently evidenced by the number of politicians attending the June gathering.

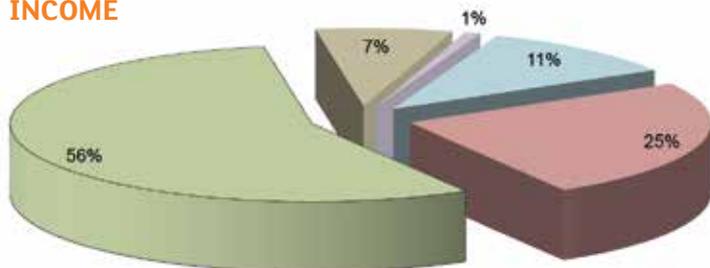
While sometimes the advocacy on certain issues does not seem to be heard, on many occasions it has been. The fact that this occurs is tangible evidence of the regard which the politicians and senior officials have for the work done by CSSA members. It is the fees the latter pay which enables the voice of the Catholic Church on social service matters to remain in the forefront of the minds of policy makers. The Board extends its grateful thanks for the continuing support for those endeavours.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES AUSTRALIA

SUMMARY FINANCIALS

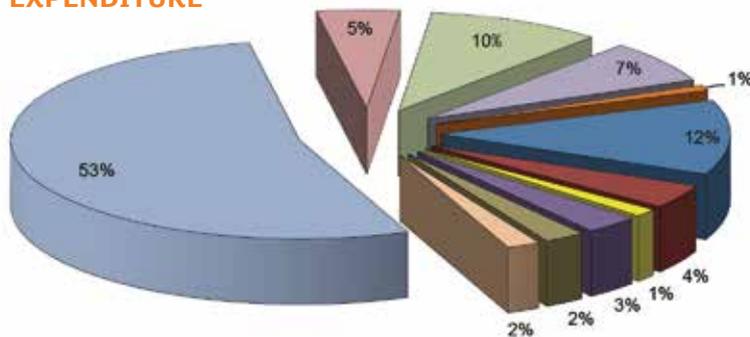
for period ended 30 June 2013

INCOME



- Membership Fees
- ACBC Funding
- Other Operating Revenue
- Special Projects
- Family Support Collaboration

EXPENDITURE



- Staff Expenses
- Administration
- State Allocation
- Special Projects
- Events
- Computer & Equipment Expenses
- Promotion, Marketing, Printing & Telecommunications
- Board
- Travel
- Consultancies
- Family Support Collaboration

CSSA Awards

Sponsored by Catholic Church Insurances



CSSA was in the unique position of having two Award ceremonies throughout this financial year. The opportunity to celebrate these Awards is always a highlight of the CSSA calendar and the time to stop and appreciate the contribution of the network in Australian society is extremely valuable. Such contributions can only be made thanks to the tireless efforts of the people who work for our organisations.

Both ceremonies were held in the heart of Parliament House as part of the CSSA Forum agenda. Over 45 federal politicians, in addition to our various representatives from member agencies, attended each ceremony highlighting organisations, programs and people who give testimony to what it means to be an agency or person living out their mission with a strong foundation in Catholic Social Teaching.

CSSA has three categories of Awards, and these are:

The Perkins Award for Excellence in Service (Individual)

- Presented to an individual who has shown outstanding commitment to service. The award is open to people from Catholic Social Services Australia agencies and also to people in the wider community.

The Award for Excellence in Service (Organisational)

- Presented to the program which has most successfully met or is meeting the needs of a local community.

The Norma Parker Award for Most Innovative Program (Organisational)

- Presented to the program that set trends and benchmarks in their particular area of service.



The CSSA Awards winners for 2012; Dr Ricki Jeffrey, Ms Lorri Chandler and Mr Aaron Stuart.



Bishop Patrick P Power DD DCL, former Auxiliary Bishop of Canberra and Goulburn; Ms Cate Sydes, CSSA Board Member and CEO of Marist Youth Care; and Senator Catryna Bilyk, Senator for Tasmania.



Dr Peter Munn, CEO, Centacare Catholic Family Services Country SA; Mr Aaron Stuart, Perkins Award Winner 2012; Mr Rowan Ramsey, MP, Federal Member for Grey; and Fr Jim Monaghan, Chair, Centacare Catholic Family Services Country SA.

2012

The 10th Annual CSSA Awards were presented at Parliament House on 12 October 2012, by Ms Cate Sydes (CSSA Board Member and CEO of Marist Youth Care) and Mr John Apter (Catholic Church Insurances). The CSSA Award winners for 2012 were:

Mr Aaron Stuart, Centacare Catholic Family Services Country SA

The Perkins Award for Excellence in Service (Individual)

Mr Stuart has shown an active interest in the direction of Aboriginal issues at a national level and has developed a wide knowledge base in areas such as culture, heritage and suicide prevention through training in remote communities and through male 'healing' camps. He has also demonstrated an admirable work ethic and continues to develop innovative means to achieve the best possible results for the community.

Using his creative streak, he produced a book titled 'Yudum' which is about dealing with grief within Aboriginal communities. The film version of Yudum premiered in Adelaide during NAIDOC week and Mr Stuart also developed the concepts for another film titled 'Child Focused Dreaming' which is being released by the South Australian Family Pathways Network.



Fighting for your Family Program - Centacare Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Inc

Award for Excellence in Service (Organisational)

The Fighting for your Family program was developed by Centacare Ballarat from conception to completion in order to support, nurture and foster positive family relationships within the Indigenous family community of Kirrae. Respect, love, honesty and communication are the cornerstones of the group. The program also provides an opportunity for community members to come together and reflect on family related issues through various activities and the level of community support has been high.

Formation in Gospel Values Workforce Development Program - Centacare Rockhampton

The Norma Parker Award for Most Innovative Program (Organisational)

The primary purpose of the Formation in Gospel Values Workforce Development Program is to increase the recognition of Catholic identity in the workplace for all members of staff. The program has provided coaching in gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching; a focus on discovering, naming and celebrating gifts; and a way to balance ministry and business in the organisational model.

In recognising and nurturing their staff, the program has introduced several initiatives of support which include an understanding of mission in real terms,

testing the communication of living values within the workforce, designating specific roles to bring this to realisation and developing a strategic plan where Mission is integral and recognisable.

The 2012 Awards were judged by: the National Director of UnitingCare Australia, Ms Lin Hatfield-Dodds; the Editor of The Catholic Voice newspaper, Mr Geoff Orchison; and Fairfax journalist, Ms Stephanie Peatling.

2013

The 11th Annual CSSA Awards were presented at Parliament House on 24 June 2013. Presented by Ms Paula La Rosa (CSSA Board Member), Mr John Apter (Catholic Church Insurances) and Ms Judith Tokley (member of the judging panel). The winners of the CSSA Awards for 2013 were:

Dr Eugenie Tuck OAM

The Perkins Award for Excellence in Service (Individual)

Based at Port Phillip Prison in Laverton, Dr Tuck has responsibility for oversight of patient-oriented clinical services. She has been instrumental in the development of improved practices in the management of State correctional health systems and has gained the trust of her correctional service patients by always treating them with respect and maintaining the strict confidentiality of the patient-doctor relationship that is expected of a medical professional.



The CSSA Award winners for 2013; Mr John Adams; Dr Eugenie Tuck OAM, Ms Anne Russell-Brown and Mr Kevin Taylor.



Dr Eugenie Tuck OAM accepting the Perkins Award 2013.

Central Australia Program, Jesuit Social Services

Award for Excellence in Service (Organisational)

This program aims to assist local community members to find ways to enhance their lives, strengthen their family relationships and suggest how they can have greater control over their communities. The program also aims to advocate on behalf of the Eastern and Central Arrernte people and some remote communities around Alice Springs have benefited from the qualitative aspect of service delivery to these communities. Improvements have included enhanced dialysis service in Kiwirrkurra, more culturally appropriate leadership in Santa Teresa, and the development of new infrastructure in the Atitjere community.

Horizon House Dianella, St John of God Social Outreach and Advocacy Services

The Norma Parker Award for Most Innovative Program (Organisational)

This project provides 24-hour supported accommodation across two adjacent residential homes and individual case management support to young pregnant women aged between 16 and 22, who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in Perth.



Mr John Adams accepting the Award on behalf of Jesuit Social Services.

Residents enter the program when they are pregnant and can stay for up to six months after the birth of their baby until they find suitable independent accommodation. The service provides individualised, case management support to residents and optimises antenatal and postnatal health as well as addressing psychosocial factors which may be impacting on young women's mental, physical and emotional wellbeing.

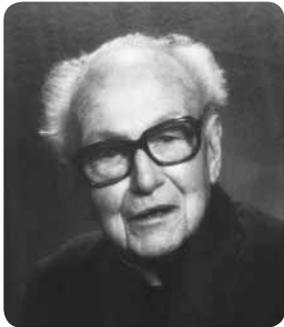
There have been nine babies born since the service began in September 2012 and at the time of the Award presentation the service had just taken on its 12th resident new-mum-to-be.

The 2013 CSSA Awards were judged by: Director of ACTCOSS, Ms Susan Helyar; Director, Public Affairs, UnitingCare Australia, Ms Judith Tokley; and the Editor of The Catholic Voice, Mr Geoff Orchison.



Ms Anne Russell-Brown, Group Director of St John of God Social Outreach and Advocacy Services, and Mr Kevin Taylor with the Norma Parker Award.

McCosker Oration



A key event on the CSSA calendar is the McCosker Oration which is held in honour of Monsignor Frank McCosker who played a leading role in developing the Catholic Church's involvement in the provision of social services in Australia. This presentation is held in conjunction with the National Directors and Senior Managers Forum and over the last twelve months, due to the timing of these events, we have heard from two McCosker Orators, Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM and Rev Tim Costello AO.

2012

Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM

*Productivity Commissioner
29 October 2012*

Fit for purpose, fit for faith

The McCosker Oration by Robert Fitzgerald was both thought-provoking and challenging.

Mr Fitzgerald touched on his high regard for the Catholic social service ministry and its engagement across the Australian community, including as the principal point of contact with the Church for most Australians.

"Catholic Social Services is forged in and embraces a post Second Vatican Council model of church, where the lay, religious and ordained share co-responsibility for the church, its mission and its ministries.



Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM during his 2012 McCosker Oration.

It is based on a different view of the way in which power is granted and exercised. It is premised on the notion of leadership as service and a servant church, one that seeks to include not exclude, especially those on the margins of society. For the laity it holds a promise of a new world of co-responsibility and genuine engagement in the life of our Church."



He saw this work in terms of the Gospel in action and urged those in the audience to reflect on how they can hone in on their central mission, while being effective in advocacy on behalf of the disadvantaged.

“Monsignor McCosker commenced upon a journey that would consume his life and would forever change the face of Catholic social action in this nation. You are his successors. He wrote the first few chapters of this extraordinary story, you must write the next few. The challenges are great but so too the opportunities. Are you fit for the task?”

2013

Rev Tim Costello AO

CEO World Vision Australia

24 June 2013

Why the Australian Churches need to be more active in championing the interests of the poor and disadvantaged in adverse political times.

Rev Tim Costello inspired those gathered to be confident of the Church's place as an advocate and a provider of services to poor and disadvantaged Australians.

“The role of the Church has never been more important. In the courtesies, the protocols and the profound sense of respect for people with difference,



Rev Tim Costello AO delivering his oration in 2013.

remember that our faith comes out of respect for difference; the widow, the orphan, and most particularly the stranger. The Hebrew Scriptures says God's face is known in the stranger. The person who isn't our mob, our faith, our ethnic group, God's face will be known there. How fundamentally important this is in these times.”

Rev Costello also reflected on the contribution of Catholics, their social teachings and how important it is to Australia's understanding of itself and its future.

“To exercise influence, to speak of justice, to remind ourselves that the Church is a movement, not just an institution, to play a role in this time of grumpiness and toxicity of language, to keep the fabric of Australia together and be the glue. This is why Australia not just values your work, but needs your voices. You may have more influence than you think.”

CSSA Board

As at 30 June 2013



Fr Joe Caddy – Chair

CEO, CatholicCare Archdiocese of Melbourne

Appointed by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



Most Reverend Terence Brady DD VG

Auxiliary Bishop of Sydney
Bishops Commission for Health and Community Services

Appointed by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



Sr Margaret Mary Flynn ibvm

Province Leader Loreto Sisters
Catholic Religious Australia
Representative

Appointed by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



Ms Barbara Hingston

Appointed by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



Mr Dominic Kelly

Appointed by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



Ms Paula La Rosa

Deputy Director, Centacare
Catholic Family Services Townsville
Member organisation elected
representative



Mr Trevor Murphy – Treasurer

Appointed by the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference



Mr Peter Selwood – Deputy Chair

Executive Director, Centacare
Brisbane
Member organisation elected
representative



Ms Cate Sydes

CEO, Marist Youth Care
Member organisation elected
representative



Board Meetings

28 August 2012

13 November 2012

25 & 26 February 2013

14 May 2013

Annual General Meeting

29 October 2012

Working Parties

The CSSA By-Laws provide authority for the Board to establish Working Parties from amongst its members and other persons co-opted by the Board. The composition and operations of each of the committees during the 2012-13 Financial Year include:

Membership Committee

Chair: Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO

Members: Fr Joe Caddy, Mr Trevor Murphy, Ms Cate Sydes, Mr Paul O'Callaghan

Established by the Board in July 2009 and in operation until May 2013. The Membership Committee has responsibility for the broad range of matters relating to CSSA membership including assessing applications for new membership, membership fee issues and making recommendations to the Board on these issues. Due to the low number of matters coming

before the Committee, in May 2013 the CSSA Board suspended the Committee until further notice with any membership fee issues to be considered by the full Board.

Governance Committee

Chair: Fr Joe Caddy

Members: Mr Peter Selwood, Ms Cate Sydes, Mr Paul O'Callaghan

Established by the Board in 2011 to oversee the selection, appointment and induction of new Board members and manage the process of Board performance evaluation. The Committee also oversees the strategic planning for the organisation and provides advice to the Board on changes to the Constitution or other proposed changes related to membership.

Scholarship Committee

Members: Ms Cate Sydes, Ms Paula La Rosa, Mr Trevor Murphy, Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO (until November 2012), Mr Paul O'Callaghan

In 2012, the Board explored the concept of CSSA establishing a recurring scholarship fund for research that helps to raise the Australian community's awareness of the need for a fairer, more inclusive Australian society that reflects and supports the dignity, equality and participation of all people. The scholarship was subsequently established in 2013.

CSSA Scholarship Selection Panel

Established by the Board in May 2013 to administer the CSSA Scholarship, to assess Scholarship proposals and to award the CSSA Scholarship. The Panel of three people is made up of two independent persons and a CSSA Board Representative, including:

- Panel Chair: Emeritus Professor John Warhurst AO, College of Arts and Social Sciences, Australian National University
- Professor Peter Whiteford, Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University
- CSSA Board Representative: Sr Margaret Mary Flynn, ibvm

Fundraising Task Group

Members: Ms Cate Sydes, Mr Dominic Kelly, Mr Paul O'Callaghan

Established by the Board in February 2013 to assess potential future funding streams related to sustaining the expanded National Office capacity.

Royal Commission Working Group

Members: Sr Margaret Mary Flynn, ibvm, Ms Paula La Rosa, Ms Cate Sydes, Mr Paul O'Callaghan

Established by the Board in November 2012 to steer CSSA's engagement with the Church in the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.



Ms Francesca Gurner, CatholicCare Victoria Tasmania; and Mr Dominic Kelly, CSSA Board Member.

Bishops Commission for Health and Community Services

The Bishops Commission for Health and Community Services promotes the life and mission of the Catholic Church in Australia in the areas of social services and health and aged care. CSSA is the Secretariat for the Commission and continues to assist the Commission in fulfilling its tasks.

Membership of the Bishops Commission for Health and Community Services comprises:

Chair: Bishop Donald Sproxtton

Members: Bishop Terence Brady DD VG, Bishop Joseph Oudeman OFM CAP, Bishop David Walker

CSSA National Office Contacts

As at 30 June 2013

Catholic Social Services Australia

PO Box 326, Curtin, ACT 2605

Phone: (02) 6285 1366

Fax: (02) 6285 2399

Email: admin@cssa.org.au

Website: <http://www.cssa.org.au>

Executive Director

Mr Paul O'Callaghan

Director, Government and Public Affairs

Ms Jackie Brady

Communications Officer

Mr Sam Edwards

Director, Membership and Network
Support

Ms Sue Ludwig

Membership and Network Support Officer

Ms Kylie Burgess

Director, Corporate Services

Ms Mary Jamieson

Administration Officer

Ms Heather Grant

Librarian

Ms Fay Padarin

Policy and Research

Mr Don Arthur

CSSA Member Organisations

As at 30 June 2013

NSW/ACT

CatholicCare Canberra & Goulburn

CatholicCare Diocese of Broken Bay

CatholicCare Social Services Hunter-Manning

CatholicCare Social Services – Diocese of Parramatta

CatholicCare Sydney

CatholicCare Wollongong

Catholic Community Services NSW/ACT

Centacare Ballina (St Francis Xavier's Parish)

Centacare Bathurst

Centacare New England North West

Centacare Port Macquarie

Centacare South West NSW

CentaCare Wilcannia-Forbes

Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes in NSW

Daughters of Charity of St Vincent de Paul

Dunlea Centre, Australia's Original Boys' Town

Good Grief Ltd

Marist Youth Care

MaroniteCare

Marymead

Rosemount Good Shepherd Youth and Family Services

Sisters of Charity of Australia

Sisters of Mercy of Australia and Papua New Guinea

Sisters of the Good Samaritan

Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart NSW Congregation Leadership Team

St Anthony's Family Care

St Francis Social Services

St Joseph's Cowper

Trustees of Mary Aikenhead Ministries

Trustees of the Sisters of Mercy Parramatta

CENTRAL

Catherine House Inc.

CatholicCare NT

Centacare Catholic Family Services

Centacare Catholic Family Services Country SA - Diocese of Port Pirie

Mary MacKillop Care SA - Ain Karim

South Australian Province of the Sisters of St Joseph to Central



SOUTHERN

CatholicCare Archdiocese of Melbourne
Catholic Society for Marriage Education
Centacare Catholic Diocese of Ballarat Inc
Centacare Gippsland
Centacare Sandhurst
Centacare Tasmania
Jesuit Social Services
MacKillop Family Services
Marriage Education Program (Inc.)
Sacred Heart Mission (St Kilda)
Sts Peter and Paul Centacare, North Melbourne

WESTERN

Catholic Marriage and Fertility Services
Centacare Family Services Geraldton
Centrecare Inc. Perth
Centacare Kimberley
MercyCare
Personal Advocacy Service
St John of God Healthcare Inc, Social Outreach and Advocacy Services
St Patrick's Community Support Centre (Fremantle)

QUEENSLAND

Centacare Brisbane
Centacare Cairns
Centacare Catholic Family Services Diocese of Townsville
Centacare Rockhampton
Centacare Toowoomba
Mercy Family Services (Qld)
North West Queensland Indigenous Catholic Social Services (NWQICSS)
Sisters of Mercy Brisbane Congregation Leadership Team



Catholic Social Services
Australia

PO Box 326, CURTIN ACT 2605

Ph: (02) 6285 1366

Fax: (02) 6285 2399

www.cssa.org.au