



ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19



St Vincent de Paul Society
(NT) Inc.
good works

OUR ORGANISATION

The St Vincent de Paul Society is an international, voluntary, Catholic organisation dedicated to tackling poverty and disadvantage by providing assistance to the poor.

Founded in France by a group of young men in 1833, the principal founder was Blessed Frederic Ozanam. Today the Society has more than 950,000 members in 150 countries. The first Australian Conference was established in Melbourne in 1854. The first Northern Territory Conference, St Mary's Conference Darwin, was launched in September 1949 and is still assisting Territorians today.

OUR VISION

The St Vincent de Paul Society Northern Territory is pursuing key areas of growth, service delivery and outreach to the most vulnerable. We have a growing, sustainable membership base and are an employer of choice with committed and enthusiastic staff. We are engaged in passionate advocacy and are making an impact for the poor.

OUR MISSION

The Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope, and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.

OUR VALUES

Commitment – loyalty in service to our mission, vision and values

Compassion – welcoming and serving all with understanding and without judgement

Respect – service to all regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender, or political opinions

Integrity – promoting, maintaining and adhering to our mission, vision and values

Empathy – establishing relationships based on respect, trust, friendship and perception

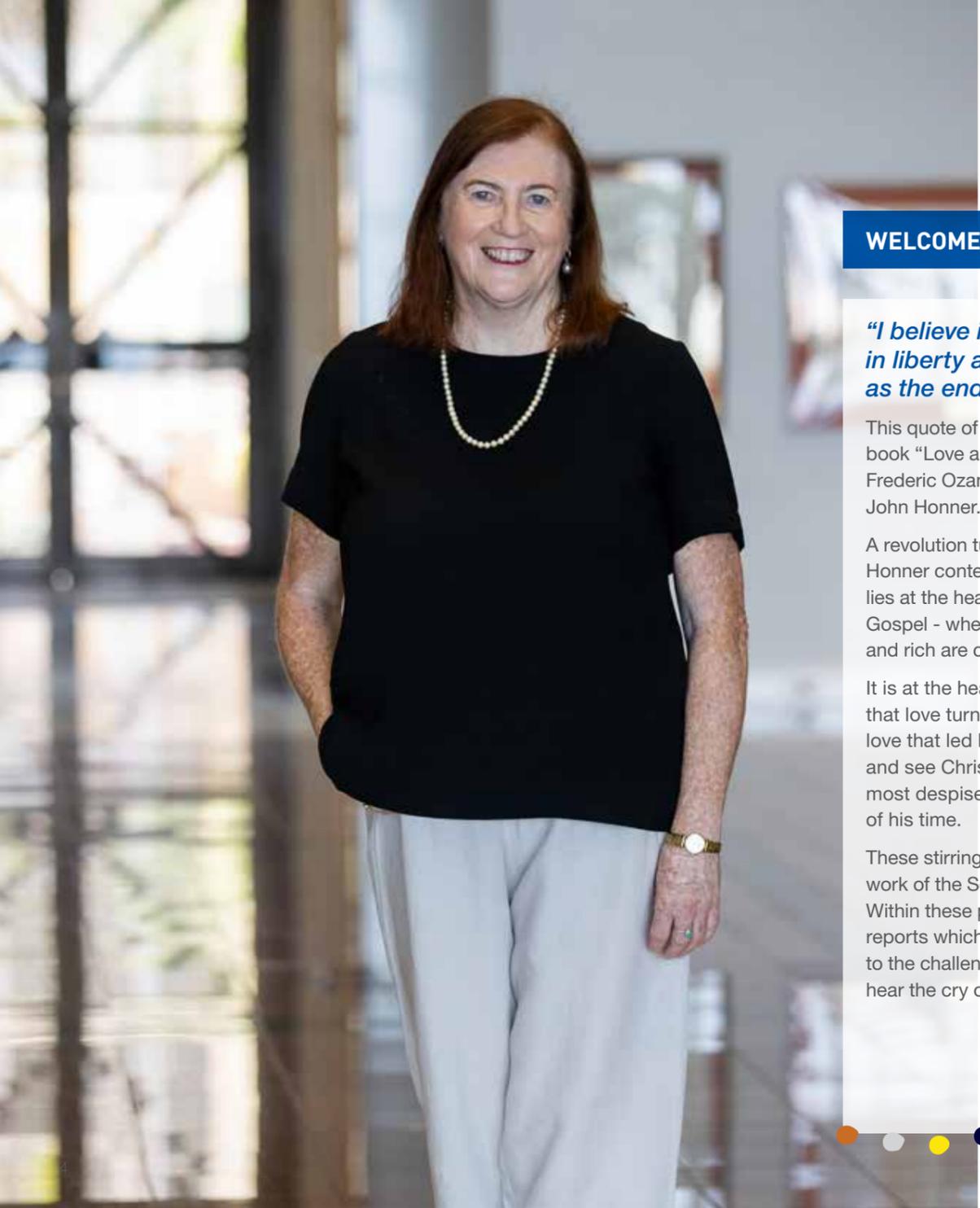
Advocacy – working to transform the causes of poverty and challenging the causes of human injustice

Courage – encouraging spiritual growth, welcoming innovation and giving hope for the future



Welcome from the President	4
Message from the Bishop	6
Message from our Spiritual Advisor	7
Chief Executive Officer's Report	8
Key achievements 2018/2019	9
Who we are	10
Following our faith	12
Our Council members	16
Helping the homeless	20
Year in review	26
Assisting the aging	28
More than a store	30
Our people	34
Our governance	36
Treasurer's Report	38
Financial Summary	40
How you help us to help others	42
Looking forward to 2020	45

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and live, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders past and present.



WELCOME FROM THE PRESIDENT

FAY GURR

“I believe in authority as a means; in liberty as a means, and in love as the end.”

This quote of Frederic Ozanam begins the book “Love and Politics - the Revolutionary Frederic Ozanam”, written by an Australian John Honner.

A revolution turns society upside down and Honner contends that for Ozanam it is what lies at the heart of the spirit of Matthew’s Gospel - where the poor are called blessed and rich are cursed.

It is at the heart of Ozanam’s revolution so that love turns everything upside down, a love that led him to give his life for others and see Christ in the people who were most despised and degraded in the Paris of his time.

These stirring ideas set the scene of the work of the Society in the Northern Territory. Within these pages are stories, pictures and reports which depict our modern response to the challenge of how we as Vincentians hear the cry of the poor and respond with

strength of faith, trust and belief in our hands being Christ’s hands to help the poor. The Annual Report is written for the members of the Society. It is also a report to our companions whether they read it or attend the Annual General Meeting or have no knowledge of the Society beyond how they are cared for through our works. The work of St Vincent de Paul Society in the Northern Territory wouldn’t happen without our staff, volunteers, the community and Government partners who support us through their work and programs and this report reflects this breadth. The ‘revolution’ we are called to continue in the name of Ozanam is to work for the ‘blessed’ in our Society where all works of charity are familiar to us and we do all things for God.

A challenge for the Society in this century and into the future is the other part of Matthew’s Gospel message – that the ‘rich are cursed’. The Society nationally and in the Territory seeks opportunities to do more through the generosity of donors – those who have more and could be deemed rich.

We have programs which have thousands and millions spent from Government funds. They are not ‘cursed’ as their hopes of serving the poor and the needy are those of Vincentians. It is the lived love of Vincentians with the poor which inspire the rich to a more fair and just society. It is the purity and honesty of the members of the Society which engenders trust from governments and other funding bodies that St Vincent de Paul Society builds communities; gives strength to the weak to believe in a better life and walks humbly with the poor in courageous revolution of our own times.

Our housing, emergency relief, programs for the aged and Vincentian visits through the Conferences have been outstanding in this reporting year. I wish to acknowledge the leadership and support of the Council in setting the strategic direction of the Society and energetically pursuing our service of the poor.

I wish to celebrate the work of Fran Avon - our CEO. She has brought a thoughtful, passionate and creative perspective to the goals of the Council. Fran is truly a person of compassion, strength and love of community. Thank you, Fran.

Our staff have a proven commitment to do everything in the service of others. They are kind, selfless, energetic and professional. The Council and I recognise their immense efforts which has supported the positive results this year.

As a Catholic lay organisation, we work with our Church leaders in realising the call by Jesus to serve others. I’d like to acknowledge the work of Emeritus Bishop Eugene for his years of prayers for our companions and his enthusiastic support of the Society.

I have felt that Bishop Charles has shown his love of the Society. He has ignited the Diocese to love the poor and to show courage in creating a just society in the Territory.

I pray for our members and volunteers who see Christ in the faces of the poor. They stand up for the refugees; aborigines who live ‘longrass’, for the single parent who is homeless and in support of each other. Your compassion and Vincentian spirit are at the heart of the Society.

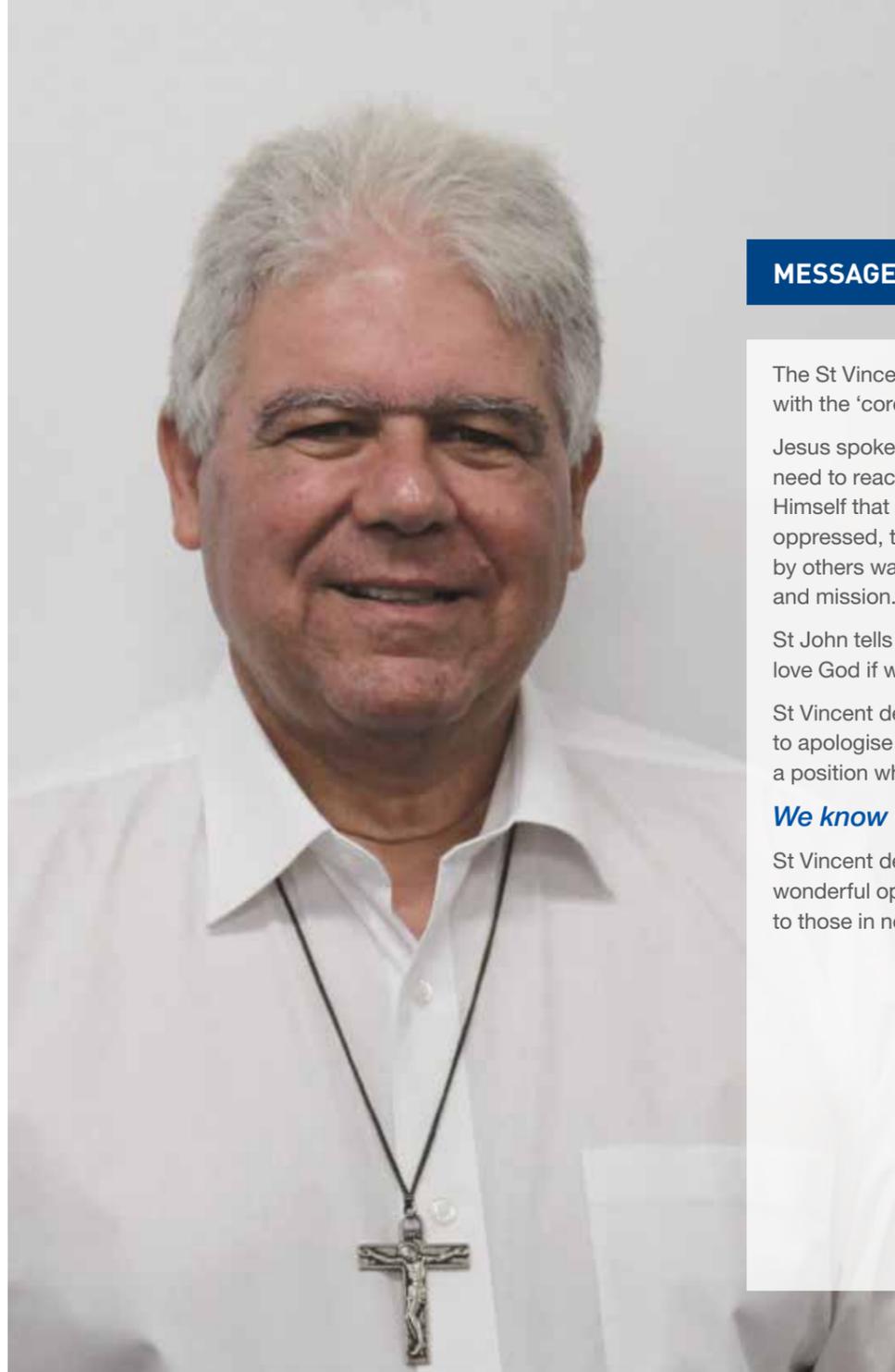
This report is one of Community, Strength and Compassion. I commend this Annual Report to members as a testimony to the unfailing hope we have in the future.

‘When Love combines with justice, revolutions can occur.’ (Frederic Ozanam)

President

St Vincent de Paul Society
Northern Territory





MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

BISHOP CHARLES GAUCI

The St Vincent de Paul Society is concerned with the 'core business' of our Church.

Jesus spoke many times about the call and need to reach out to those in need. He said Himself that reaching out to the poor, the oppressed, the outsider, to those rejected by others was at the heart of His message and mission.

St John tells us that we cannot say that we love God if we do not love our neighbour.

St Vincent de Paul used to say that we need to apologise to the poor because they are in a position where they need our help.

We know God when we truly love!

St Vincent de Paul Society provides a wonderful opportunity for us to reach out to those in need in practical ways.

You are a reminder to us all about the need to help others, not to judge, to respect and work for the good of all.

I am grateful to 'Vinnies' for your generosity and spirit of self-sacrifice in the service of the poor.

God bless you,

**The Most Reverend
Charles Gauci
Bishop of Darwin**



MESSAGE FROM OUR SPIRITUAL ADVISOR

SISTER LUCY KERT

***See, I am making all things new.
(Rev. 21:5)***

Another year has closed, a year of grace and challenge, while a new year of opportunities is unfolding before us.

We rejoice at having welcomed Fran Avon, our new CEO, and the opening of the new office at Casuarina.

The face of the Society in the Territory is constantly changing, and the names and faces are becoming more and more part of one team. As one, we are all seeking to share something of humanity and Christian love with our companions who are so often caught in a cycle of need, anxiety and helplessness.

There is no magic wand to reveal an immediate answer. We continue to trust in Jesus' promise to be with us always. Through the gift of the Spirit we reach out in prayer and discernment. The challenge is to remain open and attentive to the signs of the Spirit in our surroundings and experiences, to humbly listen to good inspirations and insights, share them and discern together within the Conferences and working committees, and then bring them to

Council for further deliberation and decision-making.

While, we don't always get it right, discouragement, blame and unhelpful criticism can feel like insurmountable obstacles. If, like Blessed Frederic Ozanam, we are grounded in our relationship with the Risen Jesus and remain true to the charism of St Vincent de Paul, we will be faithful to God's call to live the gospel through a respectful, loving and compassionate attitude to one another and the companions. We will see the face of Christ in each person we encounter, be stirred to leave behind our individual comforts, and walk joyfully the human journey together.

Spiritual Advisor
St Vincent de Paul Society
Northern Territory



CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

FRAN AVON

It is a privilege to be writing my first report as the CEO for St Vincent de Paul Society in the Northern Territory. As a CEO, and a new Territorian, I have felt warmly welcomed and supported by the Council, our team and my peers across Australia to continue the good work and leadership of those who have gone before me.

The challenging and necessary decisions implemented in our operations over the last two years laid the platform to support the Society in the Territory to move forward in strength. The last 12 months has set us on a journey of consolidating what we do well and developing robust plans for growth.

During this reporting period we have implemented governance to reflect the new leadership structure, recruited for new roles and developed plans for growth that will see us extend our retail footprint and leverage opportunities for growth in housing and aged services over the coming years. Despite the changes, the team on the ground has not missed a beat continuing to provide high standards of care and support for those we serve in our community. I am grateful for the dedicated and hardworking team of members, volunteers and staff who demonstrate their compassion for those in need every day.

In our sector, strong relationships are the life blood of good works. Our relationships with government continue to develop positively and this is evident in their ongoing support of our work.

Moving forward we will continue to build our presence with our communities and key stakeholders through cohesive and consistent systems from HR through to the visual application of our brand and relevant messaging in our communications.

I am grateful for the unfailing support and wisdom of our President Fay Gurr, and the Council who give so much of their time and reflection to direct and guide the implementation of our Strategic Plan. I thank Sister Lucy for the nourishment of her prayer and insights. I also wish to acknowledge Peter Maher, Edwina Wagland and our colleagues in Queensland for their collegial support.

It is the contribution of so many that has created such a strong and compassionate Society and I look forward to what we can achieve over the next 12 months.



Chief Executive Officer
St Vincent de Paul Society
Northern Territory



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AT A GLANCE 2018/2019

21,561
Territorians assisted

HELPING HANDS

13% increase in members

9% increase in volunteers

25% increase in employees



REACHING OUT TO THOSE IN NEED

Emergency relief
8,996 services

Transport program Home maintenance



160 trips



2,683 services

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

\$729,982 direct financial assistance

\$191,626 in emergency relief

\$59,864 in kind support



OUTCOMES

\$313,788
increase in revenue from Centres of Charity **↑ 20%**

\$2,427,864
in government funding. 10% decrease due to change in Alcohol and Other Drug funding

\$146,574
increase in client contributions **↑ 20%**

HELPING THE HOMELESS



36,162
showers provided



3,360
loads of washing



70,453
meals provided

ACCOMMODATION

59,623 nights of accommodation provided. **↑ 51%**

130 tenancies under management **↑ 42%**



WHO WE ARE

We are principally a volunteer based organisation with 51 members, 293 volunteers and 30 employees delivering emergency relief and other community services across Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

Seventy years on from the establishment of the first conference in Darwin, the Society continues to rise to the challenge of supporting those who are marginalised and disadvantaged. Through our devoted conference members, our generous volunteers and our dedicated staff we continue to make a difference to the communities we serve.

At the core of our Society are our members known as Vincentians. They live out their faith and volunteer their time by joining together in a Conference. Conferences may be established within a Parish, town, suburb, school, workplace or social group. They provide expertise to the Society and support the delivery of special works and general works.

Today, in the Territory we have five Conferences:

- Holy Family Conference Darwin
- Holy Spirit Conference Darwin
- Mary MacKillop Conference Darwin
- St Mary's Conference Darwin
- St Paul's Conference Darwin

St Vincent de Paul Society is also blessed with devoted volunteers. Our volunteers are attracted to our ethos and mission. They contribute significantly to our capacity to serve those most in need.

Our skilled and dedicated employees provide the robust operational support to deliver on our commitment to the community and those who fund our community service activities. Our staff strive above and beyond inspired by our vision.

Ultimately, it is the wholehearted commitment to our companions, those we assist, that galvanises each of us to respond to a plea for help. Our companions, with their challenges, their strength and resilience, inspire us daily to do more. They are our blessing.

JUSTIN'S STORY

A MEMBER'S JOURNEY

'For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'
Matthew 25: 35 – 40

When Justin Dezyuva heard these words in the gospel, he felt compelled to utilise the business skills he had the privilege to acquire through a good education, to contribute and be accountable in his community.

"I believe in my heart that if a man is hungry, thirsty or lacking dignity until this problem is solved there is no other conversation worth having."

Justin's journey with St Vincent de Paul Society began as a youth member with the Mary MacKillop Conference in 2007. Guided by his faith, he volunteered his time to support disadvantaged youth in Palmerston, Casuarina and Darwin under a program called 'Buddies Day'. In the same year, Justin was appointed the very first President of the Conference. Twelve years on, Justin's

commitment and dedication continues. He now serves as Secretary on the Territory Council, and as a member of the Mary MacKillop Conference and the Membership Committee.

"As a Vincentian member, it is important you have the front foot forward. This means being flexible and using your skills; whether to respond in the moment to a person in need on the street; assisting your local Conference through planned action; or working to install solar panels to Vinnies centres to reduce carbon emissions."

It fills Justin's Christian heart that he can respond through his membership of the Society to something more important than himself. "Through membership we can realise our vision of a compassionate society. We can address temporary housing

relief including domestic violence and drug abuse incidents. Our centres provide revenue that can be distributed to provide help to the disadvantaged, and they provide the environment to identify people in need and to respond – whether in need of accommodation, clothes, food, medical, legal assistance or companionship."

When asked why he keeps giving of his time, Justin just shrugs and with a clear and determined look says, "I am a Dad with a family. I love to sit down for breakfast and dinner. I love to wear clean clothes. I want to be appreciated by my friends and community, and I hope my health will allow me to participate in my community each day."

"Every person has the right to sleep, food, medical assistance and then to be respected and appreciated by friends and their community for their own gifts. There is no reason for someone to live without dignity", Justin added.

FOLLOWING OUR FAITH

Our Conferences walk in the path of Jesus and work tirelessly throughout the year, devoting their hearts and hands to easing the burdens of the poor and disadvantaged.

While the faith of our members brings love, strength and hope to our communities, the challenges are ever present. A society with less compassion for the poor has placed increasing demand on our existing resources and membership, but Conference members and volunteers remain steadfast in continuing their good works.

While new members have joined this year, many long-standing, valued members have retired or passed away. One of those called to God was Jack Evans, a past President of the Society responsible for establishing Ozanam House. We are grateful for the many years of generous service provided by all members who are no longer with the Society.

All our Conferences are taking steps to develop their membership and attract new members to continue strengthening their work and contribution. However, while some things change, others remain the same. Our Conferences remain in touch with the needs of the communities they serve undertaking

emergency relief services; visiting homes and hospitals. They distribute Christmas hampers to families and organise fund-raising activities. Their compassionate and non-judgemental support frequently extends beyond our shores through programs such as the overseas Twinning Program and Assist a Student scholarship.

A HELPING HAND IN TIMES OF CRISIS

The people we assist, our companions, come to us seeking compassion. They may have drug or alcohol dependency, be escaping domestic violence, or be struck by an unexpected crisis such as serious illness or unemployment. In the Territory particularly, they may have ended up 'stuck in town' from an outlying community or be refugees in hope of finding work and a new life. Whatever their circumstance, they are all Children of God, deserving of respectful care.

While Conference communities differ, most visitations and emergency relief provided is in response to requests for furniture, emergency food, clothes or bedding. Sometimes assistance is requested for an unexpected large bill which can take a struggling household from 'just managing' to real hardship and hunger. At times,

companions need support to deal with a specialist service such as Legal Aid, financial counselling, or mental health services.

In Darwin, our emergency relief services are provided through the dedication of our members and volunteers. Where possible, our members follow up a meeting with a phone call to see how the companion is going. In Alice Springs we have a case worker to deliver emergency relief. There is a shortage of community services in Alice Springs, and this service operating from our centre is essential. The shortage of accommodation and reliance on shared housing can often lead to violence and other serious issues. Our workers engage with specialist providers and advocate for those in need, supporting companions to link with services such as Centrelink or the Police. With the growing needs of refugees in the area, in the coming year we will build stronger links with multicultural services to improve outcomes for companions.

ALLAN'S STORY

A VOLUNTEER'S JOURNEY

Allan quietly recalls, "I started volunteering here at Ozanam House in April. Sarah, my mentor from Team Health suggested it to me, and I really feel it's making as much a difference to me as to those I help".

Allan, now in his 60's suffered through many years of depression and he often found it difficult being around people. "I've really been a gypsy for much of my life. I spent a lot of my time travelling between the UK and Australia. But in Darwin I have found so much support, I've been here for a year now, the longest I've ever stayed in one spot!"

When Allan arrived in Darwin, he struggled with paying his rent and having enough to get by. That's when he met Vinnies. He secured housing at the Society's Park Lodge and has been engaged with the Team Health Personal Helpers and Mentors program. Encouraged by Sarah, and Pam, the St Vincent de Paul Tenancy Officer for

Park Lodge, Allan approached Ozanam House to see if he could lend a helping hand.

Six months later, Allan thoroughly enjoys volunteering. "I am happy that we can always help people in need – we never deny people help at Ozanam. People can have a shower, get a nutritious lunch – with vegies which they really need! Sometimes we refer them to our emergency relief service, and other times we give them frozen food that's been donated. No matter what, we always find a way to help."

When Allan first started, he was volunteering two days per week. He enjoyed it so much he quickly upped it to five days a week. These days, Monday to Friday, Allan walks around the corner from home to Ozanam House, where he does the laundry for those who are homeless.

"My days are busy here, last month alone we did 300 loads of washing."

"I know I am helping others, but I feel it's really helping me. I seem to be a better person for it. I enjoy talking to the companions who come to the centre, and the other volunteers and staff are just great to work with."

Without the support and commitment of kind-hearted volunteers like Allan, the Society could not operate.



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

51 Conference members

more than **220** visits

416 companions assisted

HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE

- 'Vintertainers' - music and singing program held at Tiwi Aged Care facility
- 'Making Jesus Real' awarded to Year 6 student whose values align with the program
- Initiated project archiving the rich history of the Society
- Initiated 'Assist a Student' funding in Parish

MARY MACKILLOP CONFERENCE

- Immersion program for young Vincentians from across Australia
- Gold coin collection at Darwin Caravan and Camping show

ST PAUL'S CONFERENCE

- Vincentian Cross awarded to Bill Burford
- Fundraising film night for 'Yesterday' and 'Mamma Mia' attended by 400 members
- Initiated home gardening and clean up service to companions

HOLY FAMILY CONFERENCE

- 'Food for Thought' - shared meals provided social interaction and Vincentian support
- Visitations undertaken in Palmerston
- Sourced additional household goods for families in need

ST MARY'S CONFERENCE

- Membership drive - gained 8 new members
- Commenced to align conference works with passion of the membership
- Established Advocacy Committee to work with Council



FROM DESPAIR TO JOY

Members and volunteers commit many hours to set up 'giving' trees, collect goods, and to prepare and distribute Christmas hampers. This year we were blessed to be able to distribute hampers to more companions in need at this time. One of the most satisfying moments for our members and volunteers is seeing the look of joy on the face of a companion when receiving a Christmas hamper. The relief is evident when they see they have a gift for the kids and something special to eat, and with that little bit more they can have a very special day.

OUR COUNCIL MEMBERS



FAY GURR, PRESIDENT
My favourite place:
Parliament House, Darwin

“In Darwin there are many beautiful places to view the magnificent harbour. Its colour and grandeur have inspired me since first visiting in 2009. I was drawn to the unique building of the Parliament. Its vaulted ceilings, artistic use of Territory timbers and the peace of the gardens is inspiring. The decision to move to Darwin meant leaving what I knew and setting forth in uncharted waters. I spent time looking at the harbour reflecting on how I came to be here and what I would do. The answer came through prayer and reflection. This beautiful place where ideas are shared

and the future of the Territory is decided, gave me strength and hope and this has not changed or diminished but means more to me each day.”

Elected to the role of President in 2016, Fay brings a depth of experience from many years in the education sector culminating in 17 years as a Principal. Working within a Catholic environment developed Fay’s leadership skills while taking her on a spiritual journey of service to the poor. Fay has degrees to Masters level in Educational Leadership and Administration, and qualifications in Theology and Religious Education.



JOCELYN CULL FINCH, ST MARY’S CONFERENCE PRESIDENT
My favourite place: East Point, Darwin

“I find East Point is both calming and majestic. The combination of land, sea and sky is compelling. Watching the weather from across the horizon is a constant reminder to me of change, and the hope and opportunity that it can bring.” Jocelyn has been a member of the Society for three years, having moved to the Territory in 2011. Her background in law and commerce have led to senior roles in government agencies. This extensive experience has provided her with insights into the societal challenges our institutions face, inspiring Jocelyn to support the Society to move forward, and grow in membership and impact across the Territory.



JUSTIN DEZYLVA, SECRETARY
My favourite place: Cafe De La Plage, Darwin

“I find meaning sitting at this beachside cafe on a Saturday morning, watching people of all walks of life enjoying the sunshine and friendly birds. Here I reflect on the blessings in this life and witness the presence of God all around me.” Appointed to Council in 2018, Justin brings business skills and an understanding and compassion for all people drawn from an extensive career in the energy sector working and travelling across 25 countries. “As a new Dad, I would like to see a sustainable future for my son, and those around him, which is why I am passionate about assisting the energy sector to transition to a renewable energy driven economy.”



SISTER LUCY KERT, SPIRITUAL ADVISOR
My favourite place: The garden

“I enjoy spending time in my community’s garden. My Hungarian surname means ‘garden’, inspiring me to nurture a beautiful ‘garden’ for the Lord. I hope that through my ministry and presence people will deepen their meaning of life and blossom with hope, gratitude and joy.” Sister Lucy continues to inspire, guide and support the Council and the Society so that its good works may flourish.

OUR COUNCIL MEMBERS



CEDRIC FRANCIS, HOLY SPIRIT CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

My favourite place: Botanic Gardens, Darwin

“The Botanic Gardens hold loving memories for me, it’s where I got married.” Cedric forged his lifelong commitment here; a commitment of respect, compassion and love. “This place reminds me of a very special day in my life and of God’s commitment and compassionate love for us all. We see His hand in all our good works as we go about assisting those in need”. Cedric joined the Society on retirement in 2014. Appointed to Council in 2015, Cedric offers his experience drawn from a career in management, and his commitment to Christian love, to the work of the Council and the Society.



DAMIAN LEGG, ST PAUL'S CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

My favourite place: Central Cafe, Nightcliff

“I enjoy going to this nearby café. It’s a place where I relax and feel connection.” Damian’s commitment to the Society first began as a youth member. Having served on the previous Territory Council as Vice President Centres of Charity, from 2013, Damian has continued as a member of the current Council from 2016. He draws experience from a long career in the Public Service.

RETIRING COUNCIL MEMBERS

We are grateful for the contribution of the following retiring Council members and wish them well as they move forward in God’s work.

ANGELA MARTINEZ, YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE

Angela joined the Society in 2014, after being an active volunteer since arriving in Darwin in 2009. Her roles with the Society have included Twinning Coordinator for the Holy Spirit Conference. Angela resigned her position on Council in March 2019 to pursue theological studies.



JOHN TOBIN, HOLY FAMILY CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

John’s contribution to the Society stems from the early 1970’s as a youth in Brisbane. He was appointed to the Territory Council on retiring from a career in roles across the Public Service with the Northern Territory Government. John’s term with Council ended in June 2019.



JADE GARRARD, TREASURER

Jade was appointed Treasurer in October 2017. She joined the Society in 2006 and is a long-standing member of the St Mary’s Conference. Jade contributed her 15 years’ experience in finance to the service of the Society. Jade resigned her position on Council in March 2019 to travel overseas.



KATHRYN PETERSEN, MARY MACKILLOP CONFERENCE PRESIDENT

Kathryn formally joined the Society when the Mary MacKillop Youth Conference was formed. Her journey with the Society as a Vincentian began through her involvement with her high school Conference. Kathryn finished her term as a Council member in June 2019.

HELPING THE HOMELESS

Shelter, or a place to call home, is a fundamental human need, and yet so many in our community continue to experience homelessness or live with the constant anxiety of being at risk of homelessness. During 2018/2019 our Society provided 59,623 bednights of accommodation to people with nowhere to call home, 51% more than in the previous year.

The issues that lead to homelessness are complex. Relationship breakdown, loss of employment, drugs and alcohol, domestic violence, and complex mental and physical disability can all result in a moment of crisis and a lifetime of hardship. Everyday our people assist those disadvantaged to meet these challenges; connect with others and build confidence and hope for the future.

A PLACE OF DIGNITY AND RESPECT

Between 70-100 people per day come through our doors at Ozanam House, the largest day centre in Darwin, and the only centre providing services five days per week.

Well known locally, Ozanam House provides hope and dignity to those who are homeless or rough sleeping. Companions can enjoy a hot shower, a good meal, take a nap or have

their laundry done. They also have access to support services to address their needs through case management, referrals to mental health, accommodation, drug and alcohol rehabilitation, financial counselling and similar support services. Clinics such as Casuarina Community Health and Danila Dilba attend the centre weekly to assist companions on site.

Above all, Ozanam House is a safe place and a compassionate community embracing all who visit; providing nourishment for body and soul. In the last 12 months we have seen participation in our Arts Program double, and we will extend this to include a Music Program in the coming year. We also work with organisations such as Many Rivers, who provide enterprise support to assist companions to make their business ideas a reality.



TRANSITIONING FROM HOMELESSNESS

Since 1984, we have worked to assist vulnerable people transition from homelessness to permanent housing. With Government funding, we assist to secure accommodation and provide the necessary supports and life skills to sustain a tenancy. The Bakhita Centre, a Society owned property in Darwin with 35 beds, provides Transitional Housing and case management for single men. In addition to accommodation, our case management team develop plans with tenants, providing linkages to appropriate services, training and engagement opportunities. All making a positive impact on tenant wellbeing.

Some tenants have trained and secured 'tickets' in Test and Tag, and Forklift Operation, and gained their Driver's licence and Heavy Rig licence. Chefs to Go are engaged in a weekly program, teaching tenants to cook affordable meals. Tenants are supported to attend medical appointments and encouraged to engage in social outings organised by our team.

Over the last 12 months, we have witnessed the Bakhita community go from strength to strength with a greater sense of unity. Five

tenants have successfully transitioned to permanent housing with Territory Housing and ten have moved onto private rental accommodation.

WRAP AROUND SERVICES IN KATHERINE

The Society owned property, Ormonde House, has provided supported accommodation for over 40 years. Today it is one of three accommodation services and the only wrap around service in Katherine. Ormonde House assists single men with accommodation and case management to develop life skills and links to support services. Through communal living, tenants develop confidence that so many of us can take for granted in skills such as cooking, cleaning, communication and appropriate social behaviour. All so important to sustaining a tenancy. Our team on the ground are developing strong links with local agencies such as Anglicare, Catholic Care, The Hub and Venndale Transitional and After Care to deliver wrap around services.

COMMUNITY HOUSING

As a registered Community Housing provider, St Vincent de Paul Society in the Northern Territory manages 63 tenancies in government owned properties in Darwin and Katherine.

In Darwin, Park Lodge provides 20 tenancies for single men offering medium term or Transitional housing. To be eligible for this accommodation tenants must be on the Territory Housing priority list. With individual bedrooms and communal living areas, the tenants gain experience in sustaining a tenancy while they work to secure permanent housing.

NEW PATHWAYS TO PERMANENT HOUSING

Under an innovative program, 'Same House Different Landlord,' St Vincent de Paul Society leases four Darwin properties from Territory Housing to support women and families who are homeless as a result of domestic violence. We provide tenancy support for the first six months, assisting the family to manage the home and learn household skills including budgeting, financial management, cooking and

cleaning. Upon demonstrating the ability to maintain the tenancy, the house is provided to the family on a long-term basis and they manage the home without the support of our tenancy team. Once a property is handed over, St Vincent de Paul Society secures another property and the cycle begins again with another family.

SUPPORTING OUR REGIONS

This year St Vincent de Paul Society was awarded the management of government owned housing in Katherine. The Bernhard Centre, a one and two-bedroom unit complex provides 39 tenancies for singles, couples and families. We have a dedicated Centre Manager who has undertaken education programs with tenants, supported them to understand tenant rights and responsibilities, and provided opportunities for engagement among families. Engagement with tenants and building local police support is helping to create a safer and more resilient community at the property. There is now a marked decrease in anti-social behaviour and the tenants are developing increasing respect

and support for each other. Tenants feel safer and neighbouring businesses are reporting increased patronage as a result of the improvements. At the Bernhard Centre we have supported our tenants with greater knowledge of tenancy law and rights and as a result, tenants have felt more confident to seek out private rentals. Two families have successfully moved into the private rental market this year. A Community Hall onsite at the Bernhard Centre provides a facility for tenant engagement where external groups such as Centrelink can provide talks for tenants on how to manage finance and other relevant topics.

CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVING

In line with the Strategic Plan we are improving our service delivery. This year we recruited a Property Maintenance team to undertake repairs and maintenance across all our housing properties. This improves our effectiveness, but more importantly supports our tenancy and case management team to focus on the tenants and building stronger community and government relationships to support tenant outcomes. Over the next year with the support of a dedicated team, we will continue to focus on increasing safety and improving the quality of housing and grounds.

EDUCATING TO POSITIVE OUTCOMES

Providing links to training and skilling our tenants to sustain a tenancy is at the heart of providing more than a bed. At the Society owned Ted Collins Village we manage 20 two-bedroom units for families, providing medium term Transitional Housing. We encourage tenants across all our housing to engage with community supports and development opportunities that can facilitate achievement of their goal to secure longer term housing.

In the coming year we will continue to implement best practice in our housing operations, as we seek to grow much needed accommodation and facilitate positive outcomes for our companions.





SYED'S STORY

A CLIENT'S JOURNEY

My family was killed by an air strike when I was eleven. I had to see the burned bodies of my family in the rubble of the house when I came home. Everyone I loved was gone.

In 1987, Syed was the tragic victim of violent conflicts in his native country, Myanmar. The scale of the atrocities meant Syed lost his entire family and most of his large tribe; enduring a great deal of hardship in his life. Syed came to Australia in 2010 as a refugee, like other refugees he arrived with hopes for a new life, but suffering with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder life has not been easy. He has battled financially and struggled with homelessness, moving from place to place, and often not eating for days.

"I would travel from town to town with nothing but a swag sleeping out in the bushlands. I slowly made my way from Broome to Kununurra before I came up here," he recalls. "When I needed to sleep I would go far away from people out bush, where there's a river nearby, someplace where there's water and I can hide myself so

I felt safe. I saw homeless people get hurt when I was rough sleeping. A lot of people like me were on edge."

Arriving in Darwin on New Year's Eve 2018, Syed spent months in crisis accommodation before securing accommodation at the Bakhita Centre Transitional Housing for single men. With a safe place to call home and the help of his case worker, Syed is working towards achieving his goals of employment and long-term housing.

While still a financial battle, bus tickets and food vouchers provided through the program have enabled Syed to pay for driving lessons and secure a Driver's licence. He has completed his Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management and is currently studying for his Certificate III at Charles Darwin University.

"I am always looking for apprentice jobs or employment. My goal is to work as a ranger, or in a job outdoors where I can work on environmental sustainability projects".

Although the scars of trauma remain, Syed faces each day with more hope. With secure accommodation, he is eating more regularly, has quit smoking and developed positive relationships in his local community.

Pam, his case worker shares, "Syed is a valued member of the Bakhita community. He's always putting time and effort into the place, whether lending a listening ear to

fellow residents, cleaning the common areas, or working on his wildlife garden sanctuary here. It is so good to see."

"The Society has given me a sense of security and the

staff have given me the feeling that I am not alone - that I have a family again. This gives me a reason to keep going, as at times in the past I have wanted to end my life. I look forward to graduating and the future looks like there might be a possibility of me achieving my dreams."

"The Society has given me a sense of security and the staff have given me the feeling that I am not alone"



YEAR IN REVIEW



ASSISTING THE AGING

Our good works continued in 2018/2019 with the aged and vulnerable, supported through government funding of the Commonwealth Home Support Program.

COMMONWEALTH HOME SUPPORT PROGRAM

Improving the quality of life of our elderly clients by enabling them to live in their own home, provides a degree of dignity, independence and wellness. Services include transport to medical appointments, hospital visits and collection of essentials such as food and prescriptions. Home maintenance, cleaning and gardening are also available.

St Vincent de Paul Society is the only service provider funded in the Northern Territory to offer home maintenance services to our aged residents. With the renewal of our funding we are assured of providing services through to 2022.

Throughout the year, we provided home maintenance and transport services to over 500 clients in the Darwin and Palmerston area. However, like other aged care services in the Territory, the need far outstrips supply. In the Vincentian way, we continue to seek opportunities to do more with what we have.

A FRIENDLY FACE AND QUALITY SERVICE

This year we changed our model by employing staff to deliver our cleaning and gardening maintenance rather than outsource all the work to contractors. By operating more cost-effectively and efficiently the sustainability of our activity is improved. Importantly, we can better manage the quality of our service and respond to individual requirements. At the time of year when less garden maintenance is required, we adjust what we do in a visit. For example, we may undertake a smoke alarm battery replacement, remove mould or clean fans and louvres.

Having someone deliver a service may be the only opportunity for a chat or compassionate connection for many of our elderly clients who can often feel isolated or alone. With the new team there has been some adjustment for our clients, however, a lovely rapport is now being established between our clients and our kind-hearted staff.

FLEXIBILITY AND CHOICE

A new web-based payment gateway, Webdosh, was introduced this year. Our maintenance team are equipped with a mobile payment system on their phone, enabling clients to complete their transaction on the spot without having to use cash. This not only supports our clients, who may not have the mobility or access to get to the bank, but also ensures we are improving the efficiency of our operations.

Our clients appreciate the independence and flexibility that our transport program offers with the use of taxi vouchers. Having the flexibility to travel to appointments at times when they feel strongest is invaluable to people who are going through the challenges of major illness or post-operative support.

While we are grateful for the government funding to deliver our services, we are able to assist more because our Conference members and volunteers visit and support elderly clients who may be isolated or in need, offering prayer, companionship and a helping hand. Over the next 12 months we will continue to improve our delivery of services and create opportunities to lessen the social isolation for our aging clients.

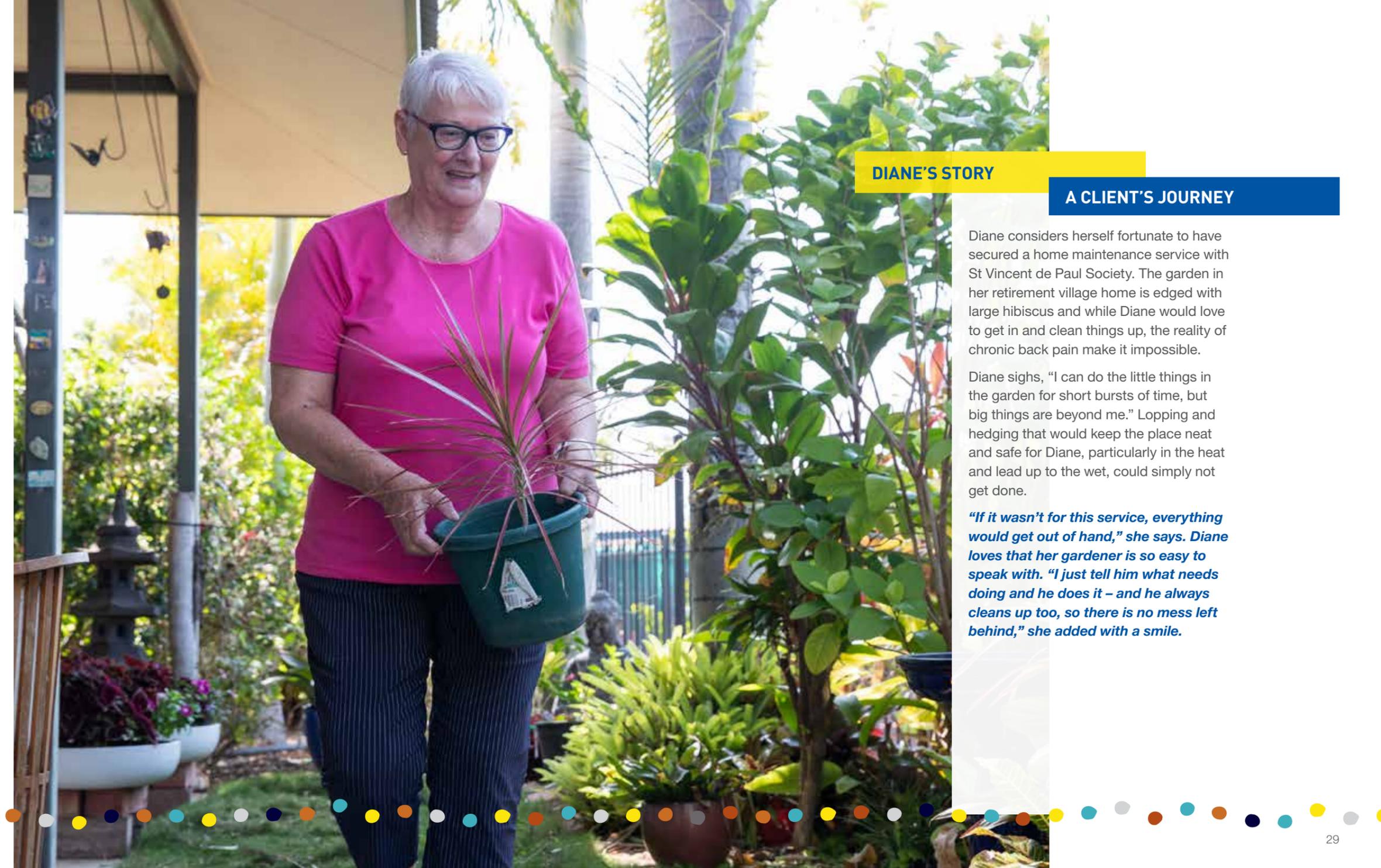
DIANE'S STORY

A CLIENT'S JOURNEY

Diane considers herself fortunate to have secured a home maintenance service with St Vincent de Paul Society. The garden in her retirement village home is edged with large hibiscus and while Diane would love to get in and clean things up, the reality of chronic back pain make it impossible.

Diane sighs, "I can do the little things in the garden for short bursts of time, but big things are beyond me." Lopping and hedging that would keep the place neat and safe for Diane, particularly in the heat and lead up to the wet, could simply not get done.

"If it wasn't for this service, everything would get out of hand," she says. Diane loves that her gardener is so easy to speak with. "I just tell him what needs doing and he does it – and he always cleans up too, so there is no mess left behind," she added with a smile.





VINNIES, MORE THAN A STORE

Our Centres of Charity are a vibrant and visible presence in the Northern Territory with ten centres and a warehouse across Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs.

For a companion our centres can be a place to meet a need, whether for clothing, connection, household items, or on a more serious note, emergency relief. For our community, they are often a treasure trove of amazing bargains, vintage wear, a special costume for book week or sometimes a designer label – you just never know what you may find in a Vinnies centre. To our operations they underpin our capacity to deliver services, with approximately 35% of operating revenue coming from our retail activity,

In the Northern Territory our centres provide a footprint across vast distances and many communities. Keeping our centres and warehouse open would simply not be

possible without a team of passionate and committed volunteers and members. Fannie Bay and Coolalinga centres are managed entirely by volunteers.

GROWING OUR FOOTPRINT

This year we invested in improvements and growth in our retail operations with the opening of a new centre in Winnellie, and the purchase of the building in Tennant Creek. The property purchase at Tennant Creek is a demonstration of our commitment to the communities in regional areas. We are testing a new approach with our Winnellie centre by locating it in a ‘second hand’ precinct on the Stuart Highway, rather than a shopping centre. Early indications are positive.

A BETTER EXPERIENCE

We undertook refurbishments across a number of centres to standardise our approach and create a more pleasant and

inviting environment overall. We are working to create more appealing front of store displays and functional back areas. Staff have been provided with new uniforms, making it easier to seek assistance.

WORKING TOGETHER

Behind the scenes we have collaborated to respond to the different needs of each community, identifying centres that have greater demand for a particular type of stock and distributing our stock accordingly. For example, in our Darwin centre we have a lot of tourists and young travellers and party clothes appear to be in high demand, in Coolalinga there is a higher demand for general and practical working clothes such as long-sleeved shirts and work boots. In Alice Springs, Tennant Creek and Katherine where the weather can sometimes be a little cooler, we swap out winter clothing. The increased collaboration is enabled by monthly managers’ meetings which are possible due to our very capable and dependable volunteers.

HELPING COMMUNITIES

While engaging in retail, the purpose of our centres is never far from sight. Our Alice Springs, Palmerston and Stuart Park centres house an emergency relief service, providing food vouchers, blankets and emergency items for those in immediate crisis. In addition to assisting those in our community, we also ship containers of clothing and accessories to African communities. If we are overstocked, or clothing items can’t be used, we sell the items for use overseas. Not only are we reducing waste and our landfill costs, but we are also generating additional revenue to sustain the Society’s good work. This initiative has the potential to generate an additional \$52,000 in revenue annually.

NEW WAYS OF WORKING

As part of our continuous improvement, we introduced a new full time ‘mobile’ staff role to provide coverage when managers are on leave or when there is a staffing shortage. Every time we can’t open a centre, people lose out. Having this role in place ensures we can operate to generate the revenue that ultimately benefits the poor in our community.

“There is so much disadvantage, especially in the NT, so many people don’t have the basics. You get people coming in with only the clothes on their back, and being able to help that person is immeasurable.”

Sonya – Store Manager



AN EMPLOYEE'S JOURNEY

While you may not have met Peta, you may have been lucky enough to purchase one of her unique bags in one of our centres.

Peta, a Territorian for the last ten years, began her journey with the Society as a volunteer working in our Knuckey Street centre. Move the clock forward six months and today she is a fulltime employee in her role as manager of our large Alice Springs centre. Peta is one of four staff members recruited over the last 12 months who started out as volunteers with the Society.

“I recall times going back 20 years, when I was given much needed help from the St Vincent de Paul Society myself.

As a mum with five young kids living in Melbourne, there were times when food relief, or other assistance for my kids was most welcome.”

“Vinnies would randomly drop off fresh fruit and vegetables, or baking goods, as they knew I cooked mostly from scratch and it would never be wasted. It was the most humbling gesture and I’ve never forgotten the gratitude that I felt,” Peta added.

It’s not surprising that when Peta decided to volunteer for a while after leaving her job last October, St Vincent de Paul Society was her first choice. “I was happy to have an opportunity to give something back after what I had been given when I needed help.”

Over this time, Peta has made wonderful friendships with her fellow volunteers, other managers and staff. She has not only enjoyed being able to help those in her community, but she has really valued the support of the workers around her. “At those times when I couldn’t come to the centre, they knew I was going through a rough patch and someone would always follow up to see if I was okay.”

It was the manager at the time, Janine, who prompted Peta to share her creative talents. A seamstress by trade, Peta had mentioned her love of sewing. Getting together with Janine and Colin, the Retail Operations Manager, they brainstormed ideas for how Peta could use her creative skills for Vinnies. They decided to look at how they could recycle unsellable items such as ripped doona covers, excess jeans, skirts, belts,

whatever Peta could see had potential.

Peta kicked off by taking R.M.Williams seat covers, a couple of old checkered shirts and some denim that hadn’t been selling, and before long she had created one large backpack, one small shoulder bag and one large shoulder bag. No sooner did the items hit the shop floor than they were sold! Over her time as a volunteer Peta has continued to create some stunning bags, always in demand.

When the centre manager role came up in Alice Springs, Peta was approached to see if she was interested. Always being one to experience new places and new people, Peta jumped at the opportunity. “I’m a bit of a gypsy and I love a challenge.”

Three months into the role and Peta is loving it. “While it is a bigger operation than I am used to, I know that support from my colleagues is just a phone call away. They are amazing.”

When asked what she has noticed about working in our Alice Springs centre, Peta’s response is resounding, “The generosity of

the people in Alice Springs blows me away! They are incredibly generous in their donation of goods, not a day goes by without getting donations – and the quality is exceptional. At the same time, our goods are priced differently, people in Alice Springs just don’t have the money – some people are really doing it tough”.

It is through the dedication of an army of people like Peta, that we run ten centres and a warehouse across the Territory. Peta’s passion for life, people and doing good works is palpable.

“I work hard, but I know it’s doing good and helping others, and that is fulfilling. Working with Vinnies in the Northern Territory has certainly brought back my faith in humanity at a time when I had lost my faith in people.”





OUR PEOPLE

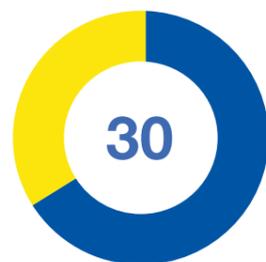
Our people are a gift of grace. The care and service they provide to the poor in our community is both humbling and inspiring.

Principally a volunteer organisation, the Society is uniquely placed to deeply understand and advocate for the needs of the marginalised, while delivering on the ground support that makes a difference. We could not deliver our good works and achieve outcomes without our valued members, volunteers and employees.

OUR MEMBERS

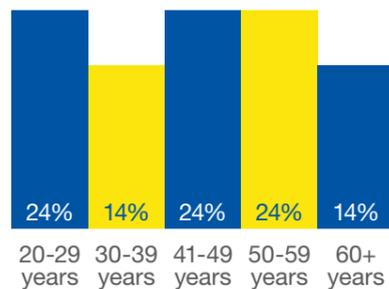
Ask a member why they give of their time and their first response will likely be “it is the work of Jesus Christ and that is what we are here to do”. We have 51 members operating through five Conferences in the Northern Territory. This year saw a growth in membership of 13%, and initiatives are in hand to continue to grow Conference and member numbers over the coming year.

NUMBER OF STAFF



Female – 66%
Male – 34%

STAFF AGE RANGE



OUR VOLUNTEERS

In many instances the important work of the Society would not be possible without our volunteers. They enable services to be delivered, centres to remain open, and warehouses to function, to name but a few. The dedication, passion and commitment of our volunteers is commendable, and it was pleasing to see our numbers grow by 9% over the last 12 months. We continue to implement strategies to encourage volunteers to the Society and to acknowledge their commitment.

OUR EMPLOYEES

Our employees provide the operational support to ensure the Society functions viably and sustainably as we move forward with the implementation of the Business Plan. Our small and capable team have worked diligently to deliver improvements across all areas of activity. Uniforms were introduced during the year to raise professionalism and provide a consistent and visible presence of the Society in our communities. The team are wearing their uniforms with pride in the work they do.

STRENGTHENED OPERATIONS

This year saw the strengthening of Northern Territory operations with the appointment of a dedicated Chief Executive Officer. Our Strategic Vision to pursue growth, both in

membership and services delivered, requires a sustainable platform. This role enables us to build the strong leadership structure and best practice systems and governance we need in place for future growth.

During the year we reviewed operations, and roles and responsibilities were more clearly defined to improve effectiveness and maximise resources. This enables us to improve our quality of service and deliver improved outcomes for our clients.

We value the ongoing support from our Queensland colleagues in delivering our HR, Legal and Finance services. This year we are managing marketing directly in the Northern Territory to deliver targeted and relevant messaging and to drive growth in fundraising and membership. We have appointed a new role to drive this activity. Another key change is the appointment of a Property Maintenance team enabling the delivery of our Community Home Support Program to be bought in house and to ensure all our properties are maintained in a cost-effective manner.

We experienced 25% growth in the number of employees to support strategic operational initiatives. A reflection of the strength of the Society is that four of our full-time appointments during the year were people who had been volunteering with us.

STRENGTHENING OUR PEOPLE

We continue our commitment to develop and grow our people, providing more opportunities to connect, share knowledge and leverage experience. With the vast distances between our centres this is challenging, however, the provision of training courses such as Cultural Intelligence and Improved Communication Skills have been appreciated by all attendees.

We are grateful to our volunteers whose capability and reliability enables our managers to participate in meetings and training, critical to their roles.

KEEPING SAFE

We have commenced a review of our policies this year and are in the process of developing an online induction program for all members, volunteers and staff. This robust and trackable process will ensure all are better informed, feel safer and are more supported in the workplace.

OUR GOVERNANCE

The full name of the Northern Territory Society is “St Vincent de Paul Society (NT) Inc”. Our Australian Business Number (ABN) is 11 300 386 527 and we are incorporated under the NT Associations Act 2015. The Society is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) and holds the appropriate Deductible Gift Recipient endorsement.

As a Public Benevolent Institution, we are endorsed to access the following charity tax concessions:

- Income tax exemption from 1 July 2000 under Subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997
- GST Concessions from 1 July 2005 under Division 176 of A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999
- FBT Exemption from 1 July 2005 under section 123C of the Fringe Benefits Tax Assessment Act 1986.

Our insurance is held through Catholic Church Insurance.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

The Society has three categories of membership, Conference members, Associate members and Volunteer members. There are established procedures for registration as a member, and any

person registered as a Conference or Associate member has voting rights in relation to the Society.

OUR CONFERENCES

Our five Territory Conferences report bi-monthly to the Territory Council and meet on a regular basis. All bank accounts relating to the Conferences are managed by their respective Treasurer and report to Council. Conference Presidents are elected for a term not exceeding four years, and the President appoints all other office bearers in their Conference. All Conference member and volunteer positions are unpaid.

THE TERRITORY COUNCIL

The Council is ultimately responsible for the oversight and review of the management, administration, and overall governance of the Society in the Northern Territory. Council responsibilities include:

- Meeting the Society’s objectives and reporting against the Strategic Plan
- Protecting members’ interests
- Upholding the values of the St Vincent de Paul Society and adhering to high moral standards and ethical behaviour
- Authorising policies and overseeing the strategic direction of the Society

- Establishing management goals and monitoring their achievement
- Approving major capital expenditure, major financial commitments and the annual budget
- Approving the annual report and financial statements
- Ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations
- Monitoring the risk management strategy
- Providing a linkage between subsidiary Councils and Conferences to the National Council.

The composition of the Territory Council is determined using the following principles:

- The President of each Conference is a member of the Territory Council
- The Territory President is elected by the Territory Council for a period not exceeding four years
- The Territory President has the right to appoint Society Conference members to the Council including Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary, a Youth Representative, and a Spiritual Advisor.

The Territory Council meets at least once every quarter and is currently composed of nine members and a non-voting ex-officio

member, being the Spiritual Advisor. The Territory Council President is the Society’s representative on the National Council of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Australia. The Territory Council delegates management of the Society’s resources to the Executive team under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, to deliver the strategic direction and goals determined by Council. A financial audit is conducted by an independent auditor chosen through a select tender process.

INVESTING IN OUR COUNCIL

During the reporting period, our President, Fay Gurr, completed training with the Australian Institute of Company Directors and Territory Council members participated in financial training.

CHANGING FACES

Our Territory Council Treasurer, Jade Garrard and Angela Martinez, Youth Representative, left the Council in March 2019. John Tobin and Kathryn Pettersen finished in the role of Conference Presidents and Council members at the end of the financial year. We are grateful for their contribution during their term. We have replaced these roles and they commenced in the new financial year.

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND OCHRE CARD

The Society is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children. All staff, volunteers, and members of the Society complete a current “Working with Children” check through SafeNT.

WORK, HEALTH AND SAFETY VISION

The Society is committed to ensuring the health and wellbeing of its employees, volunteers, and the community by increasing awareness of workplace safety; providing a safe place and safe systems of work and eliminating or reducing hazards that could result in injury or ill health.

NOTIFIABLE INCIDENTS

There were no notifiable incidents to NT WorkSafe during the 2018-19 financial year.

Council Member	Meetings entitled to attend	Meetings attended
Fay Gurr	4	4
Jocelyn Cull Finch	4	3
Justin Dezylyva	1	1
Cedric Francis	4	2
Damian Legg	4	4
Angela Martinez	2	2
Jade Garrard	2	2
John Tobin	4	4
Kathryn Pettersen	3	3

Other committees

Finance Committee	Reviews monthly financial reports, budget and end of year statements. Reviews policies and procedures relating to finance. Provides advice on financial implications of any significant decisions or investments. Issues are reported to the Territory Council.
Membership Committee	Supports implementation of 2019-2022 Strategic plan. Committee is at initial stages of development.
Advocacy Committee	Supports implementation of 2019-2022 Strategic plan. Committee is at initial stages of development.



TREASURER'S REPORT

EMIL JOHN

St Vincent de Paul Society in the Northern Territory has delivered another surplus for the financial year 2018-2019. This is the third year in a row that the Society has achieved this outcome, with a surplus of \$229,000.

While this surplus appears to be a decrease of \$830,000 on the previous year's surplus of \$1,059,000, when non-recurrent grants are excluded it is a \$77,000 decrease.

Non-recurrent grants, such as the Builder's Grant for the refurbishment of our Coconut Grove housing development and a National Council Grant were attributed to the previous financial year. At the same time funding ceased from the Alcohol and Drug Program, and increased investment was undertaken on bringing our properties to standard.

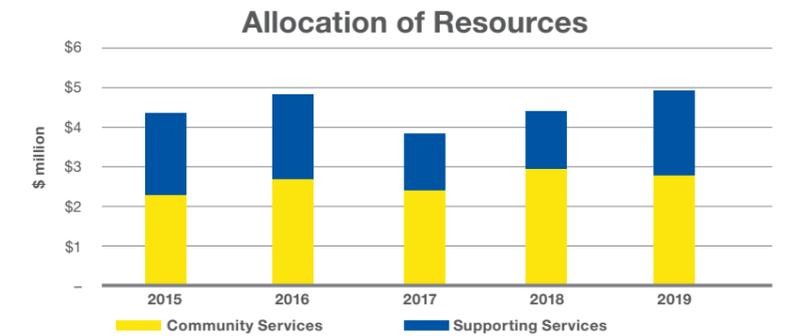
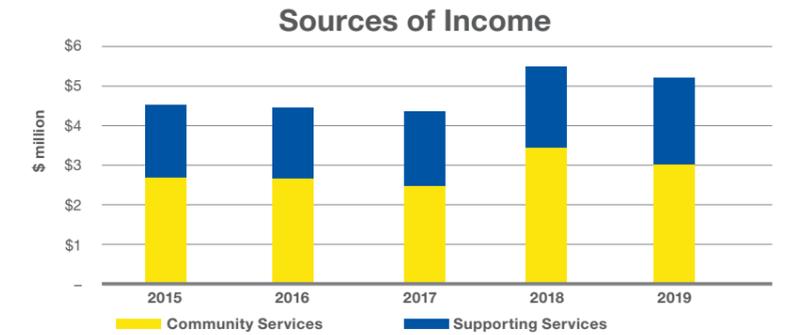
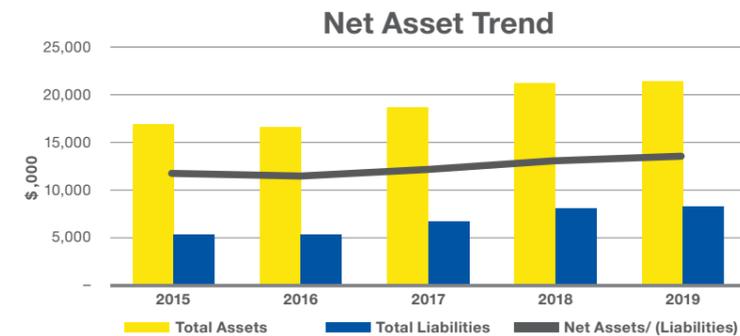
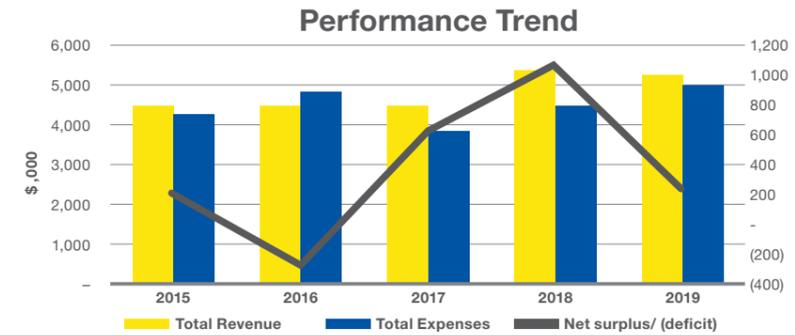
We have noted a 20% increase in retail sales, compared to the previous year. Our retail sales now account for over 35% of the total revenue generated by the Society in the Northern Territory. While we have seen a decrease in revenue from community services for the financial year; supporting

services, our secretariat, property and centres, have seen an increase in revenue by approximately 10% year on year. Commensurate with this, the split of resources allocated has also changed with 57% of funds directed towards community services and the remaining 43% directed towards supporting services. Expenses for the financial year were up by 12%, accounting for additional expenses associated with staffing and new properties coming online during the year.

The total equity position for the Society has seen a modest growth of 1.7% to \$13,383,000 for the financial year ended 2018-2019, with the net asset position maintaining a generally upward trend.



Treasurer
St Vincent de Paul Society
Northern Territory



SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30 June 2019

	2019			2018		
	\$			\$		
	Revenue	Operating Expenses	Net surplus / (deficit)	Revenue	Operating Expenses	Net surplus / (deficit)
Community Services						
Homelessness	2,284,926	1,732,095	552,831	2,042,829	1,577,879	464,950
Help for People in Crisis	58,533	407,434	(348,901)	914,323	798,338	115,985
Migrants, Refugees & Overseas	1,120	5,830	(4,710)	1,620	2,670	(1,050)
Youth	-	1,035	(1,035)	100	2,535	(2,435)
Community Care & Health	706,542	684,974	21,568	535,716	536,913	(1,197)
	<u>3,051,121</u>	<u>2,831,368</u>	<u>219,753</u>	<u>3,494,588</u>	<u>2,918,335</u>	<u>576,253</u>
Supporting Services						
Administration	6,066	15,146	(9,080)	13,987	72,920	(58,933)
Operations	266,143	399,906	(133,763)	396,891	177,804	219,087
Retail	1,886,277	1,429,765	456,512	1,572,489	1,021,019	551,470
Warehouse	44,934	348,878	(303,944)	70,643	299,514	(228,871)
	<u>2,203,420</u>	<u>2,193,695</u>	<u>9,725</u>	<u>2,054,010</u>	<u>1,571,257</u>	<u>482,753</u>
	<u>5,254,541</u>	<u>5,025,063</u>	<u>229,478</u>	<u>5,548,599</u>	<u>4,489,592</u>	<u>1,059,006</u>
Total Surplus			<u>229,478</u>			<u>1,059,006</u>

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 30 June 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Total Surplus brought forward	229,478	1,059,006
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>229,478</u>	<u>1,059,006</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the year ended 30 June 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,564,375	3,822,799
Trade and other receivables	16,828	34,741
Inventories	-	96
Other assets	15,810	25,252
Assets held for sale	-	131,250
Total current assets	<u>3,597,013</u>	<u>4,014,138</u>
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	17,934,684	17,292,345
Other Assets	-	-
Total non-current assets	<u>17,934,684</u>	<u>17,292,345</u>
Total assets	<u>21,531,697</u>	<u>21,306,483</u>
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	329,821	271,757
Current Provision	163,898	146,725
Borrowings	181,310	148,526
Grants in Advance	2,163,935	2,101,726
Total current liabilities	<u>2,838,964</u>	<u>2,668,734</u>
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings	1,568,038	1,579,386
Provisions	62,002	48,526
Grants in advance	3,679,607	3,856,229
Total non-current liabilities	<u>5,309,647</u>	<u>5,484,141</u>
Total liabilities	<u>8,148,611</u>	<u>8,152,875</u>
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>13,383,086</u>	<u>13,153,608</u>
Equity		
Reserves	3,307,508	3,407,508
Accumulated funds	10,075,578	9,746,100
Total equity	<u>13,383,086</u>	<u>13,153,608</u>

Detailed financial statements with accompanying notes are available from our website.

HOW YOU HELP US TO HELP OTHERS

OUR LOYAL DONORS

We are indebted to the generous financial assistance provided by our loyal donors. This support assists the many activities undertaken by the Society. Donations can be directed to a specific special work or general works.

GIFTS OR BEQUESTS IN WILLS

We are grateful to the gifts bequeathed to our Society. Such legacies live on through the assistance provided.

DONATIONS OF GOODS

Our Centres of Charity, or Vinnies centres, are reliant on the donations of quality second-hand clothing, furniture and household goods to generate revenue to support the poor and disadvantaged. We thank all the individuals and organisations that have donated their excess goods throughout the year.

WORKPLACE GIVING

Individuals in the workplace, or a group of employees, can donate a regular amount from their salary each pay period. This donation is deducted from employee salaries by their payroll department and forwarded to the Society.

OUR COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

As a membership led organisation, members and volunteers are our lifeblood. We thank those who have contributed their time and talents to the Society over the last year.

OUR CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS AND SUPPORTERS

We thank those organisations that collaborated with our Conferences and the Society during the year, whether through volunteering, financial assistance or donations in kind.



THANK YOU, OUR VALUED SUPPORTERS

PARISHES

We acknowledge the support of Parishes and the Catholic Diocese of Darwin, Bishop Charles Gauci, Bishop Eugene Hurley and our Spiritual Advisor, Sister Lucy Kert.

- Christian Brothers
- Holy Family
- Holy Spirit
- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart
- Our Lady Help of Christians
- St Francis of Assisi
- St Joseph's
- St Mary's Star of the Sea
- St Paul's
- St Peter's

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

- Department of Jobs and Small Business, Australian Government
- Department of Social Services, Australian Government
- Department of Health, Australian Government
- Department of Housing and Community Development, Northern Territory Government

ORGANISATIONS WHO PROVIDED FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Above Capricorn Technologies
- Catholic Church Insurance
- Kevin King Pty Ltd
- McArthur Insurance
- Randazzo Properties

ORGANISATIONS WHO PROVIDED GOODS AND SERVICES IN KIND

- Asian United
- Barkley Work Camp
- Charles Darwin University
- Darwin Caravan and Camping Show
- Greyhound
- Share the Dignity
- Ward Keller

SCHOOLS

- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart College, Alice Springs
- St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School
- Mother Teresa Catholic Primary School
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School
- St Paul's Catholic Primary School

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2020

The second year of implementation of our Strategic Plan will focus on initiatives to grow our membership, increase our surplus, strengthen and improve our systems and develop our people. We began to focus on these areas this year and will continue the journey in 2020. With the new committees for Membership and Advocacy in place, we will drive membership growth and develop our programs for advocacy in the Territory. We will continue to build staff capacity through an online induction program and training of staff and build on our 87% workplace satisfaction rating.

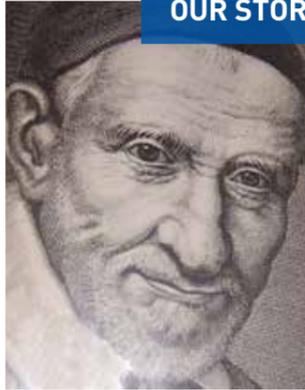
Impact in our communities is amplified by the strength of the relationships we build with members, volunteers, government, community groups, specialist services and supporters. We will implement a communications strategy in 2020 and create opportunities to deliver more services to those most in need.

Building on initiatives this year, we will continue to introduce best practice improvements in our operations and leadership to ensure a sustainable Society

for the future. We will introduce innovations such as solar panels for our centres; these will deliver long term cost-effective measures to the Society and contribute to the wellbeing of our community.

Every day in our Northern Territory communities we are called to serve the poor and disadvantaged who would otherwise be left behind. Our initiatives and activities moving forward continue to be inspired by Christ's love and our commitment to a vision for a compassionate and just society.

OUR STORY IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY



1581
Vincent de Paul born in France

1833
St Vincent de Paul Society founded by Frederic Ozanam in Paris



1854
First Australian Conference founded in Victoria

1949
First Conference founded in Northern Territory, St Mary Star of the Sea Darwin

1967
Centre opens at Stuart Park

1968
First regional centre established, Alice Springs



1974
Ozanam House day centre established in Darwin

1975
Second regional centre established, Tennant Creek



1983
Third regional centre established, Katherine

1984
Bakhita Centre established in Darwin. Housing for single men



1987
Centre opens in Palmerston

1988
Ormonde House. First regional housing established in Katherine



2011
Ted Collins Village. Housing for families established in Darwin.

2016
Centre opens in Darwin

2017
Centre opens in Coolalinga and Fannie Bay



2018
Centre opens in Casuarina

2019
New office established in Casuarina. Centre opens in Winnellie.





St Vincent de Paul Society
(NT) Inc. *good works*

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