

# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

“Creating a foundation  
for the future community”

**mfc**  
malleefamilycare



We acknowledge the Traditional owners of the lands on which we work and live. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as the first people. They have never ceded sovereignty, and remain strong in their enduring connection to land, water and culture.

Caring for local people since 1979, Mallee Family Care promotes strong, connected and inclusive communities by embedding diversity and equity practices at the centre of everything we do.

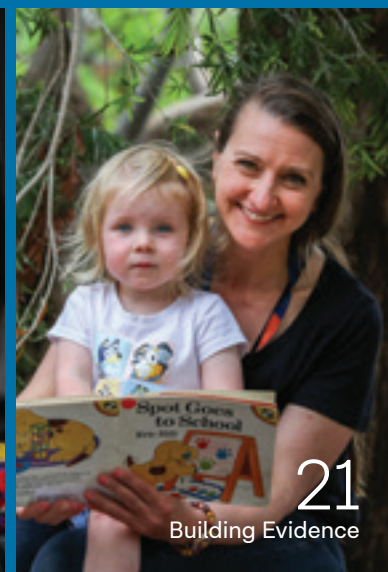


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# STRATEGIC PLAN

## Priority 1

### Drive change around known inequities

- Halt further rollout and call for the abolition of the welfare card based on human rights
- Address the thin markets for NDIS services in regional southwest New South Wales
- Advocate for equitable regional transport, linking people to services
- Support the Raise the Rate campaign by regionalising and highlighting the impacts that will be delivered through an increase in support payments
- Attract community mental health investment
- Influence social housing investment

## Priority 2

### Empower individuals, families and communities to seek help early

- Promote and normalise 'early help' as a way to open up possibilities and take positive steps, especially post COVID-19
- Create an early help element to all Mallee Family Care services
- Introduce models and pathways that support community helping community
- Evaluate the impact on clients who have sought help early

## Priority 3

### Focus on children, families and individuals early, and build their capacity to transition through the key stages of life

- Support young people transition through each phase of adolescence
- Provide support and early help to parents and carers
- Provide support for financial and relationship issues associated with changes in circumstance
- Amplify the voice of the child across Mallee Family Care
- Improve educational attainment, and the mental health and wellbeing of every child in care





#### Priority 4

Build an Organisation that reflects the diversity, intersectionality and lived experience of our community

- Build Mallee Family Care's capacity to provide sustained mental health support
- Identify fee-for-service opportunities to support increased demand for service provision

#### Priority 5

Increase our service capacity and innovative models to address current and evolving community needs

- Create governance approaches that enable services and support to be co-designed and co-delivered by people with lived experience
- Develop plans that support diversity and inclusion

# DIRECTORS



## Ross Lake OAM - Chair

Non-executive Director

### Qualifications

Bachelor of Law, Bachelor of Economics, Diploma of Education

### Experience

Board member for most of the period since the inception of Mallee Family Care in 1984. Mr Lake holds a number of other Directorships including the Mallee Regional Innovation Centre Strategic Advisory Panel and Institute of Post Colonial Studies.



## Jenna Yetman - Deputy Chair

Non-executive Director

### Qualifications

Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting), Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice, Company Directors Course

### Experience

Ms Yetman was appointed Deputy Chair in 2020. Ms Yetman holds a number of other Directorships including Madec Australia and Country Fire Authority - Patchewollock Brigade.



## Ms Belinda Hudak

Non-executive Director  
(appointed April 2022)

### Qualifications

Masters of Leadership and Management, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts

### Experience

Belinda is the Principal of Mildura Senior College. Belinda was appointed Principal in June 2017. She is also on the board of the Northern Mallee Local Learning Employment Network, Independent Chair of Mildura headspace Consortium and the Mallee representative of the State-wide Committee of the Victorian Association of Secondary School Principals.



## Dr Suriya Hariprakash

Non-executive Director

### Qualifications

MBBS, DCH, MRCP (Paediatrics), MRCPCH, CCT in Paediatrics and Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine, FPCCM, FRACP

### Experience

Dr. Hariprakash is the Senior Staff Specialist in Paediatrics and the Clinical Director of Paediatrics at Mildura Base Public Hospital. He received the Lucas Excellence Award in recognition of his contribution to the health and wellbeing of children in this region. Dr. Hariprakash is a member of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and the Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy.



### Christine Cottrell

Non-executive Director

#### Qualifications

Graduate Certificate in Business Administration

#### Experience

Ms Cottrell has spent 20 years working in Not-For-Profit Services including Australian Institute of Company Directors, Australian Sonographers Association and Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators. Ms Cottrell currently holds a Directorship with Mildura Community House.



### Geoff Dea

Non-executive Director

#### Qualifications

Bachelor of Business (Accounting), CPA

#### Experience

Mr Dea is the CEO of Sunraysia Institute of TAFE and is a member of the Board and Audit Committee of Mildura Regional Development.



### Dr Andrew Kremor

Non-executive Director

#### Qualifications

PhD (Engineering Geology), Master of Business Administration, GAIDC

#### Experience

Dr Kremor has held various executive and non-executive directorships with private and public companies including Zero Emissions Water, Salinity Accountability Advisory Committee, Babcock and Brown Finance, Flinders Power, Sparq Solutions, Alinta Energy, Allgas Networks, Energy Networks Association and Windmill Performing Arts Company. Dr Kremor is a General Manager at the Murray Darling Basin Authority.



### Dr Chelsea Todd

Non-executive Director

#### Qualifications

Bachelor of Psychology (Hons), Doctor of Philosophy, and has completed the Advanced Leadership Program with the Australian School of Applied Management.

#### Experience

Chelsea has worked as a senior researcher and evaluation officer at Universities and Government Departments in South Australia as well as in policy and Management within Victorian Government Departments.



### Mr Eelco Vugs

Non-executive Director (appointed December 2021)

#### Qualifications

Masters in Mental Health, Masters in Criminology Experience

#### Experience

Mr Vugs has more than 15 years' experience in child protection and safeguarding roles for both government and non-government organisations in Australia and overseas. He is currently the Regional Safeguarding Manager East and South Asia for British Council.



### Ms Cynthia (Cyndi) Power

Non-executive Director (resigned February 2022)

#### Qualifications

BSc (Public Relations), BSc (French)

#### Experience

Ms Power was elected as a Councillor for the Mildura Rural City Council in November 2020, where she holds the portfolio of Community Health and Wellbeing. She is an advocate for women's health with a particular focus on birthing education and birthing services.

# SECRETARY, AUDIT, FINANCE AND RISK COMMITTEE



## Teresa Jayet CEO

Secretary

### Qualifications

MBA, Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Education, Diploma of Financial Counselling, Graduate Diploma Family Dispute Resolution

### Experience

Mrs Jayet has been an employee of the Agency, in various positions, since 1994 and is currently the Chief Executive Officer. She was appointed Company Secretary on 11 March 2021 when the Agency was first incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee.



## Don Wall

Independent Member, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee

### Qualifications

A bachelor's degree in business.

### Experience

Don has been a member of the Risk and Audit Committee of Mallee Family Care since 2019 and has extensive experience in high-risk industries within the resource sector throughout Australia. Before retiring and relocating to Mildura, Don worked as a Risk Management Officer for a large council in Adelaide.



## Greg Gooch

Independent Member, Audit, Finance and Risk Committee

### Qualifications

A bachelor's degree in business.

### Experience

Greg has been on the MFC Audit, Finance and Risk Committee since February 2017. Greg has in excess of 37 years' experience in public practice. He has been a partner of Findex Accountants for the last 29 years and his diverse experience and broad knowledge enables him to create financial strategies for his clients.





# LEADERSHIP TEAM



## Melissa Amos

Director Corporate Services

Melissa was born in South Africa and emigrated to Australia in 2006. Melissa has had a diverse career which includes 11 years in the private sector incorporating market research, logistics and six years as an account executive. Before entering the not-for-profit sector with Mallee Family Care in 2020, Melissa worked in Local Government in both Management and Executive roles for seven years.

Melissa has a Bachelor of Commerce in Business Management, Honours in Marketing and is currently completing a double diploma in Project Management and Human Resource Management.

Melissa is passionate about community and loves being part of an organisation that delivers positive social and economic outcomes which empower the vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our communities.



## Lisa-Maree Stevens

Executive General Manager  
Community, Mental Health  
and Wellbeing Services.

Lisa Maree has more than 30 years experience within the social services sector and has experience working within Education Welfare Support, Family Dispute Resolution, Counselling, Groupwork facilitation and project work. Lisa-Maree has practiced as a social worker in Centrelink and was also a Lecturer at the Mildura Campus of La Trobe University. Lisa-Maree has worked in senior Leadership roles across specialised family violence and sexual assault services and within Mallee Family Care.

Lisa-Maree has a Bachelor of Social Work, Post Graduate Master of Social Work and a Graduate Diploma Family Dispute Resolution.

Lisa-Maree has a keen interest in ensuring safety for all within our communities, particularly women and children, which has been paramount in her practice as a social worker and in her leadership roles. The drive to have a community that is free from violence is stemmed by her long term commitment to the sector, personal experience and her passion for human rights and social justice.



## Chris Forbes

Executive General Manager  
Education Training and Research

Chris has been a dedicated social worker and leader within the social services sector for more than 30 years.

Chris has worked within the areas of Child and Family Services, Residential Care, Centrelink, Family Violence, Lecturer at La Trobe University Mildura and has held Community Development, Research and Senior Leadership roles.

Chris has a Bachelor of Social Work and a Post Graduate Master of Social Work.

Chris has consistently demonstrated her passion to working within a human rights and social justice framework, which was evidenced by her leading the first Human Rights Festival in Mildura, research on behalf of Mallee Family Care and the broader community regarding the lack of air-conditioning in public housing properties, which successfully lead to a strong advocacy platform to make change to Victorian Government policy. Chris is dedicated to building the skills of the workforce with the aim of creating better outcomes for our communities.



## Andy Charles

Executive General Manager  
Child and Family Services  
NSW and Victoria

Andy is a proud Yorta Yorta/Wemba Wemba man and whilst only being at Mallee Family Care for just over a year, Andy has spent over ten years in the Mallee Community Services sector (primarily the Aboriginal space) in which he has had multiple roles across various programs areas including; Family Support Services, Youth Services, Therapeutic Residential Care, Family Violence, Homelessness and Housing support and Out of Home Care.

Andy holds a Diploma of Community Services, Advanced Diploma of Management, Post Graduate Certificate in Family Therapy, and is currently studying a Master of Business Management.

Andy is committed to utilising his skills to build the capacity of others to better meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our local communities. Andy is committed to supporting, mentoring colleagues within the Child and Family Services team and to ensure Mallee Family Care is the service provider of choice.



Teresa Jayet CEO



# CHAIR AND CEO REPORT



Whilst COVID-19 continued to challenge our region in the latter part of 2021, the new year brought with it the first hints of normalcy.

**As an Organisation, we could once again travel around the Mallee, connecting with our remote communities and providing them with the face-to-face support we know is so valuable for our clients and participants.**

We also implemented new programs and services and advocated for meaningful reform and investment targeted at delivering better outcomes for regional areas. Our Mallee communities demonstrated great resilience over the last two years, and this has been mirrored by the Mallee Family Care team. They've been committed to supporting people experiencing hardship, to identifying service gaps and developing ways to address them and this forward-thinking approach will be critical as we confront new challenges, primarily driven by cost-of-living pressures.

One of our pivotal projects during the 2021-2022 year was the development of our 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. The Plan, released in the first quarter of 2022, outlines our direction and priorities for the next three years and represents the thoughts and suggestions of our staff, stakeholders, partners, and community. Established through the lens of global and regional crisis, our Strategic Plan reflects the entrenched, and emerging, disadvantage experienced in our region, and our commitment to supporting positive long-term outcomes.

We have identified five key priorities that we will address in our work to help ensure all Mallee people, regardless of background, can live their best life. Our goals will be achieved by working in collaboration with federal, state, and local government, allied organisations, key stakeholders, community, and our clients. We will be fearless in our advocacy for policy reform that will support our most vulnerable and we will keep their voice at the centre of everything we do.

**We believe place-based service delivery is vital to achieving positive outcomes. As such, we will pursue collaborative opportunities that seek to attract investment to our region, and build the capacity of local organisations, founded on the understanding that local knowledge, established relationships and shared goals are intrinsically linked to driving change.**

Mallee Family Care has called for a genuine review of the government funding model, as the competitive nature of the current tendering process by its very nature, pits agencies against each other, reducing collaboration, coordination, and information sharing. The government directed processes and procedures for the funding of social services were put in place to manage contractual outputs which are at odds with the client and outcomes-focused work of the sector. Essentially, excessive compliance and increased regulatory mechanisms have been prioritised over the wellbeing outcomes of the people our services support.

Furthermore, particularly in regional and isolated regions, community organisations are losing program funding due to the awarding of government contracts to large, city-based agencies with little or no established relationships in the region and no understanding of local context. Such rationalisation risks ill-informed service provision. In our Strategic Plan we have articulated the need to introduce models and pathways that will support the implementation of local solutions for the challenges facing community.

From its earliest days, Mallee Family Care's core mission has been to provide programs that support families and children. The Organisation has significant local knowledge and using a strengths-based approach, it consults widely to ensure the voices of community are at the heart of all its programs. This enables Mallee Family Care to optimise every service it delivers for the benefit of those it supports. Over the years of its operation, the Organisation has witnessed a great deal of change in its communities and has adapted service delivery to reflect these changes. This flexible approach enabled us to respond to the increase in calls for support, as the impact of rising living costs were felt, particularly in the last quarter of the reporting period.

**Mallee Family Care is receiving referrals from external organisations including councils, housing services, domestic violence support services and mental health services, in greater numbers. Many of the clients we are seeing are newly vulnerable; they've never required assistance before.**

We are helping people who tried to keep up with mortgage payments at the expense of other costs and are now facing unmanageable debts, while mortgage repayments continue to escalate.

Rent increases across our region are also a major stressor and we are supporting people who are struggling to find affordable rental properties, and this is of considerable concern given rent will continue to rise in tandem with interest rates, as property owners endeavour to meet their mortgage repayments.

With rising living costs, impacting everything from grocery bills and fuel, to rent, mortgages and utilities, it is proving difficult for people to stay on top of the bills, particularly those who are on a fixed Centrelink income. Clients are reporting that they are making difficult choices, going without medication and food, to pay bills. Even those who are working are facing a daily struggle to cover their costs. We know that the pressure is going to worsen in the coming months and beyond the financial strain, we are seeing people struggling with mental health issues and worryingly, we are also seeing a rise in family and domestic violence.

Considering this scenario, we are strengthening our call for the Federal Government to commit to significantly increasing support payments. As a signatory to the 'Raise the Rate' campaign, Mallee Family Care has long advocated for an increase, and current economic pressures mean that now more than ever, the Government needs to address the inadequacy of payments. Mallee Family Care will continue to lend its voice to this campaign because while payments remain so low, our communities will continue to suffer. As we have seen in recent years, when communities rally, great achievements can be made. In 2020, after thirteen years

of work, Mallee Family Care gained a commitment from the State Government to install air-conditioning in public housing in northwest Victoria and following the 2022 Federal Election, in response to nationwide lobbying, one of the first actions by the new Labor Government was to abolish the Cashless Credit Card, bringing freedom and empowerment to thousands of support payment recipients. The stories of people with lived experience helped to secure these policy reforms and we will continue to work to have Mallee voices heard.

The inequity and growing financial, and mental health and wellbeing vulnerabilities that are evident across the region, were the main driver behind much of our advocacy during the past twelve months. We have made over ten Submissions and Tenders with a focus on early intervention and prevention reforms and programs. We provided feedback to the Mental Health and Wellbeing Act, the Successor Plan to the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children, the Inquiry into Victoria's Justice System, the Local Adult and Older Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Services Survey, and the Social Housing Regulation Review - Consultation Paper 2 and 3. We also made a Submission to the Attorney General's Consultation Paper, 'Improving the competency and accountability of family report writers.'

Throughout the year, Mallee Family Care continued to seek opportunities to partner and collaborate with other agencies across the social and allied services sector. As a result of this, in 2022, we successfully applied for funding to deliver the Early Help Program, in partnership with the Murray Valley Aboriginal Corporation and Our Place Robinvale. This Program supports families with emerging issues,

with a focus on the parent-child relationship, access to early years education, self-care, connections to allied support services and community inclusion.

The Early Help Program has a unique approach in that the experiences of families will be used to identify emerging issues and service gaps. They will also contribute to the development of early intervention responses and relationship-building between families, individuals, and community, and to greater collaboration of local services. The pandemic highlighted the importance of timely responses in preventing the escalation of emerging issues, and the Early Help Project has been roundly welcomed by local services, in recognition of the value of a community-led approach that delivers targeted and agile solutions.

During this year, Mallee Family Care also received funding to deliver one of the Victorian Government's Mental Health and Wellbeing Hubs, developed in response to the growing mental health crisis being experienced by Victorians, because of COVID-19. The free service supports individuals who are struggling with mental health issues brought about by the pandemic and is available to all Victorians. The Hub can also assist people with substance use or addiction, and those feeling distressed due to other life stressors, such as homelessness, financial difficulties, and social isolation. To date, the Mallee Family Care Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub has supported over two hundred local people and the feedback we are receiving reflects the importance of funding local providers to deliver free and easily -accessed services.

Further to the Early Help and Mental Health and Wellbeing programs, Mallee Family Care



also received funding to implement Targeted Care Packages (TCP) for our Victorian Out Of Home Care Program, and to deliver a Tenancy Assistance and Advocacy Program (TAAP).

The Targeted Care Packages Program enables the transition of eligible children and young people from residential care to more suitable care arrangements, where their overall needs are better met. Alternative placements which could be considered as part of the package include placements with parents, extended family or friends, Home Base Care, independent or semi-independent living or other identified forms of accommodation.

The package includes an allocation of funding tailored to the needs of each individual child. This financial year we supported seven children and young people, aged between 11 and 17, across the Mallee region, through the TCP Program. In all cases, we have achieved positive outcomes for the individual children and young people being supported through the Program.

The TAAP, which commenced in May 2022, provides advocacy and support for people in private rentals who have a tenancy agreement under the Residential Tenancies Authority, the program can assist with a range of matters including providing advocacy at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

**The TAAP is part of the Community and Wellbeing Services team and working alongside the Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre, and Financial Counselling and Specialist Homelessness programs, it further strengthens the range of services we offer community.**

Since commencing, the TAAP has assisted fifty-two clients across four Local Government Areas.

It is also pleasing to report that the LGBTIQ+ Family Counselling and

Support Service, which we received funding for in 2021, launched this year. We know that members of LGBTIQ+ communities often experience significantly poorer mental health and wellbeing outcomes than their cisgender and heterosexual peers and this service, delivered in partnership with Drummond Street, takes a holistic approach, providing them with another critical layer of support.

All these innovative programs complement the framework of services that we offer and are vital to ensuring our Mallee communities have access to the support they need, when and where they need them.

Looking forward, we know that we face challenges but within those challenges there are also many opportunities. With a new government installed federally, we can approach our advocacy with renewed vigor, we can establish new relationships and ignite new conversations. At a state level, an upcoming election provides us with a chance to lobby for investment in, and consideration of, our region's needs. We know there is much to be done but guided by our Strategic Plan and supported by a dedicated team,

**Mallee Family Care is well-placed to play its part in our region's recovery and to promote better long-term outcomes for all members of our community, regardless of their background.**

Ross Lake OAM, Chair  
and Teresa Jayet, CEO

Over **200** local people have been supported by the Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub.

TCP has supported **7** children and young people, aged between 11 and 17, across the Mallee region.

TAAP has assisted **52** clients across four Local Government Areas.

# OUR SERVICES

## Child and Family Services

- Circle Program
- Complex Specialist Disability Program
- Cradle to Kinder
- Integrated Family Services
- Placement, Prevention and Reunification
- SafeCare Parenting Program
- Targeted Care Packages
- Children and Schooling Program NSW
- Family Preservation NSW
- Homes Out West NSW
- Indigenous Transitions: Early Years and School Years
- Permanency Support Out of Home Care NSW
- Safety and Wellbeing Program NSW
- Stronger Pathways – Dareton and Wentworth Playgroups
- Targeted Earlier Intervention NSW
- Caregiver Recruitment (Foster Care) Vic & NSW
- Caregiver Support (Foster Care) Vic & NSW
- Out of Home Care (Foster Care) Vic & NSW

## Education Training and Research

- Access to Early Learning
- Children and Parent Support Services
- Communities for Children
  - Facilitating Partners
- Kindergarten Inclusion Support (KIS) Program
- Playgroups
- Pre-School Field Officer
- Principal Practitioner Program
- Research (Case work, Systems and Policy Review)
- Student Placement Coordination
- Workforce Professional Development

## Community, Mental Health and Wellbeing Services

- Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre
- Financial Counselling
- Tenancy Assistance and Advocacy Program
- Specialist Homelessness Support Service
- Humanitarian Settlement Program
- Family Relationship Centre
- Regional Family Dispute Resolution
- Children's Counselling
- Queerspace and Family Counselling Support Service
- Family and Relationship Services
- Child Contact Service
- Post Separation Cooperative Parenting Program
- Parenting Education Support Programs:
  - The Triple P Family Transitions Program
  - Bringing Up Great Kids
  - The Seven Principles for Making Marriage Work
  - Young Children in Divorce and Separation
  - Children Beyond Dispute Early Intervention
- Mental Health and Well-being Hub
- Psychological Support Response (EIPSR)
- Psycho-Social Recovery Services:
  - Continuity of Support
  - Extended Transitions
  - National Psycho Support Measure
- NDIS:
  - Support Coordination
  - Allied Health and Therapy Services
  - Mental Health

## Universal Intake

- Intake and Assessment (Triage, Referral and Coordination)

## Corporate Services

- Finance
- Accounts
- NDIS Plan Management
- Human Resources
- Workforce Development
- Payroll
- Business Systems
- Records Management and Archiving
- Partnerships and Fundraising
- Chances for Children
- Asset Management
- Administration
- Governance and Compliance
- Workplace Health and Safety
- Quality Assurance
- Policy and Procedure
- Risk Management
- Reconciliation Action Plan
- Rainbow Tick
- Communications and Marketing
- Public Policy and Research
- Event Coordination



## YEARS OF SERVICE

### 15 Years

Mary Symes

### 10 Years

Shaun Clark  
Carly Davis  
Donna Johnson  
Ben McCoy





## MAKAYLA DIREEN A CHANCE FOR SUCCESS

Makayla Direen always dreamed of being a teacher but like so many young people living in our region, she wasn't sure she could make her dreams come true.

Then she heard about Chances for Children. Makayla is now 23, and after completing a double degree in early childhood and primary education at the Australian Catholic University in Ballarat, she's recently returned to Mildura to begin her first job as a teacher at Irymple South Primary School.

*What did you love about school and how do you think your school experience will influence the way you teach?*

I loved my teachers and learning new things. To this day I still love

learning and being able to share my knowledge with others.

My parents were really engaged in my education which helped make it a positive experience for me. I grew up knowing they'd support me in any way they could. They gave me the freedom to be who I wanted to be and encouraged me to work hard and chase my dreams.

I'd love all my students to have the same positive school experience that I had. I want them to feel safe and supported, so they can grow up to be whoever they want to be.

*Did you always want to go to university?*

Yes, I did. I always told my family that I'd choose a career that meant I'd have to study at university.

When I enrolled, in 2018, I became the first person in my family to go to university.

*What barriers did you encounter in pursuing further study?*

In 2015, during my year 11, my mum was diagnosed with breast cancer. It made things tough but I tried everything I could to still do well in school. My mum was away in Melbourne a lot and my dad was often with her. I began questioning whether I'd still be able to go to university. My family was struggling, and we had no idea what the future held.

At that time, mum was unable to work and my dad had to take time off too, so he could support mum. This caused major financial problems for our family. When it



came time for me to apply for university, I knew my mum and dad were stressed – I'd worked hard and wanted to go – but we couldn't really afford it. Then we found out about Chances for Children.

*What difference did Chances for Children make in your life?*

Chances for Children was amazing. The day I received a phone call saying my application was successful is definitely something I'll never forget. I remember telling my mum that my dreams were coming true, that my stars were aligning!

Chances was an incredible support financially, there is no way I could have survived without them and they gave me great emotional support too.

They constantly checked up on me and whenever I needed help, they sorted it as quickly as possible.

They are the most helpful and supportive people I've ever been lucky enough to have contact with. I would donate to Chances in a heartbeat to ensure other young people, like me, get the opportunity to go away and study and chase their dreams.

*What would you say to someone who wants to study but isn't in a position to afford it?*

Apply to Chances! Just do it. I didn't even know I was eligible for funding like this until I tried.

All you can do is give it a go and you might discover someone is right there ready to help you. Don't give up on your dreams.

*What would you say to someone in the position to support Chances through donations?*

I'd encourage anyone who can afford to donate to Chances to do so. It's so worthwhile. Chances

supports local children in ways no one can imagine until they've experienced it themselves and I know anyone who benefits from the donation will be so grateful.

When I'm in a comfortable position and can afford to donate money, I definitely will.

I think Nelson Mandela summed it up best when he said;

'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.'

Anyone who donates to Chances is changing our part of the world.

# MILDURA AND ROBINVALE EARLY HELP FAMILY SERVICES

**Early Help Family Services is the newest of services available to parents living in Mildura, Robinvale, Merbein, Irymple and Red Cliffs with children aged 0-12 years.**

Early Help began in May 2022 and created a partnership between Murray Valley Aboriginal Corporation (MVAC) and Mallee Family Care (MFC).

The pilot program is funded by the Department of Fairness Families and Housing (DFFH) until June 2023.

**Early Help is an evidenced place-based response designed to overcome challenges of families needing support early in need and early in life. By supporting families who are accessing universal services, it aims to address emerging needs of families early, reducing the need for tertiary or crisis responses.**

Connecting with community members is the key element within the Early Help project, when worries about family, stress, life pressures or just feeling alone in parenting or community are first felt.

It's natural for parents to have both concerns and questions around their child's development.

Another key ingredient of Early Help is the partnership and collaboration between universal services, which allows for creative and innovative approaches to responding to our families. Partnership and collaborations are key features in the work we do at Mallee Family Care.

The Early Help staff are now located at a number of universal settings, delivering group evidence-based parenting programs, self-care workshops, individual counselling and support.

Early Help staff can support staff working in universal services, as well as identify any service system

gaps. The program takes a family centred approach, with the family taking the lead in identifying worries and finding options to connect into the community.

The partnership and collaborators with Early Help, and the locations of where you will find our team located regularly or as required, include:

Sunraysia Mallee Ethnic Communities Council (SMECC) playgroups, Sunraysia Community Health Services (SCHS) Family and Child Hub, Our Place Robinvale, Robinvale District Health Services (RDHS) Early Years Department, Mildura Rural City Council playgroups, home daycare, Playalong Early Learning Centre, Maternal and Child Health, and the Mildura Primary School and Mildura Specialist Schools' wellbeing teams.

**Other partnerships are also in the pipeline and we look forward to reporting back to community and services the work we are undertaking alongside our families.**









**Spot Goes to School**  
Eric Hill

Having lessons is no new... and Left the Flaps and  
Join Spot on the very first day at school.  
Spot is in the essential experience  
of a school day. Parents

Also published by Puffin in  
WORLD'S CLASSIC  
READER'S DIGEST  
PENGUIN BOOKS

THIS BOOK BELONGS TO  
READING DISCOVERY

# BUILDING THE EVIDENCE TO IMPROVE ORGANISATIONAL OUTCOMES FOR COMMUNITY

Building the evidence is a key driver in the work of Mallee Family Care.

Our Organisation's investment in research ensures that we include the voice of the community that we work with. It is their lived experiences that provides the change that we advocate for in policy, system reform and improvements in our workplace practice.

In the past twelve months we have successfully completed the following projects and implemented the recommendations to improve organisational practice and experiences for clients.

- 1 Safe Care Implementation Project
- 2 Swan Hill Community Needs Assessment Report
- 3 Out of Home Care Review Report
- 4 Centralised Intake Model Review to improve client experience
- 5 Mallee Family Care Retrospective Internship Report
- 6 Early Help Program Logic Outcomes Framework
- 7 Community for Children small grants evaluation
- 8 Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre 2021-2022 Feedback Report
- 9 Mallee Family Care Financial Counselling Program 2021-2022 Feedback Report
- 10 New South Wales Playgroup Outcomes Framework
- 11 Mallee Family Care Student Placement Review
- 12 Exploration into Podcasts as an option for Service Provision for the Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre
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## MALLEE FAMILY CARE SCHOLARSHIPS

For more than 20 years Mallee Family Care has supported the growth and capacity building of children, adolescents and adults through our Scholarship Program.

We hold a firm belief that a lack of financial supports should not discourage any person from attaining an education.

We not only offer financial support, but we also provide mentoring and work placements.

## CHANCES FOR CHILDREN SCHOLARSHIPS

Chances for Children (Chances) was established in 2000 as a partnership between Mallee Family Care and the then three water authorities.

Now in its twenty-second year, Chances for Children is a program of Mallee Family Care that provides scholarship funding and ongoing support to young people located in North West Victoria and South West New South Wales.

Without this support, many young people may have struggled to remain engaged at Secondary School, lacked the freedom to realise their talents in sports or the arts or would not have had an opportunity to pursue a tertiary pathway.

Chances has supported **2,079** young people and provided **\$5.4 Million** in funding



To date Chances for Children has provided mentoring and financial support to 2,079 young people from our region and \$5.4 million in funding has been dispersed.

Over the 2021 and 2022 calendar years, Chances for Children has continued to support 74 existing scholarship recipients and provided scholarship funding to 45 new recipients.

### Sunraysia Institute of TAFE and Chances for Children Scholarship

#### Mildura Campus

<b>Jayde Galea</b>	Diploma of Nursing
<b>Justin Garner</b>	VCAL Intermediate (Automotive) VCAL Senior (Automotive)
<b>Prue Dodemaide</b>	Diploma of Nursing
<b>Shay Povey</b>	VCAL Intermediate
<b>Szara Stevens</b>	Certificate IV Visual Arts
<b>Tarlissa Camelutti</b>	VCAL Senior
<b>Emily Hocking</b>	Certificate IV in Visual Arts - 1st Year

#### Swan Hill Campus

<b>Emily Behrendt</b>	Diploma of Nursing - 1st Year
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### Wentworth District Community Bank Scholarship

<b>Mikayla Martin</b>	Bachelor of Nursing
<b>Olivia Watt</b>	Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery - 3rd Year
<b>Jessica McCarten</b>	Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Science
<b>Jesse Jackson</b>	Bachelor of Fine Arts (Printing) - 3rd Year





# MALLEE FAMILY CARE'S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM A HEAD START

Mallee Family Care was founded on the principal of local people finding solutions for the challenges faced in this region. The Organisation is a fierce advocate for government investment in services delivered by agencies with an enduring connection to the Mallee, believing that local knowledge, experience and relationships are vital to achieving better outcomes. This philosophy drives everything Mallee Family Care does, including its commitment to local recruitment and capacity building.

Providing opportunities for Mallee residents to complete their education and training and pursue careers locally is the cornerstone of Mallee Family Care's employment strategy and over the years, many people have benefited from the Organisation's Internship and

Placement Program, people like Tannar Aksu.

In 2021 Tannar began an Information Technology Internship, while completing his studies at SuniTAFE, and just recently, he accepted a full time position with Mallee Family Care.

**"I was so grateful for the opportunity to obtain an Internship with Mallee Family Care, it helped me get my foot in the door and I was able to finish a Certificate IV in Accounting and Bookkeeping, to complement my Diploma of Information Technology Networking, at the same time."**

Tannar says there are many benefits to the Internship Program, not least of which is the ability to gain on-the-job experience, which

he says made studying easier, by putting his learning in context.

**"Through the Internship I was able to apply what I was learning at TAFE and I learnt so much from my colleagues. I found everyone to be so welcoming and supportive and they were always happy to share their knowledge and experience with me."**

As the leading social services provider and employer in the region, Mallee Family Care offers over 60 programs, supporting the more vulnerable members of our community. Known for its work in child and family services and mental health and wellbeing, Tannar was surprised by the variety of roles that are available through the Organisation.



“There are so many options for people looking to build a career at Mallee Family Care. We have large IT and communications teams, we have community engagement specialists, business and administration and so much more.”

**“All these roles support the important work the Organisation does in the community and personally, I love the feeling I get from knowing that I’m working somewhere that makes a difference.”**

The Chief Executive Officer of Mallee Family Care, Teresa Jayet, says that the Internship Program has been extremely successful and in response, the Organisation has gradually broadened its scope.

“Initially, our Internship Program was largely focused on allied health, social work and psychology. However, as we tracked the outcomes, and saw how many Interns transitioned to permanent employees of Mallee Family Care, we decided to expand the Program to include Financial Counselling, Legal, Information Technology, Research and Accounting.”

**“As an Organisation, we are committed to developing the capacity and opportunities for local people. Mallee Family Care has doubled in size over the last ten years and our growth means that we have more career options than ever before.”**

“It’s no longer true to say that people need to move outside the region to pursue careers. We offer pathways for our team and actively encourage professional development because we believe local people, with local knowledge and connections, are best placed to support our community.”

“We also know that communities that can offer varied and reliable career pathways will thrive.”

**Tannar says he is a great example of the Internship Program, now a full time employee of Mallee Family Care he sees opportunities to continue to learn and take on new challenges and roles within the Organisation.**

“There’s no doubt that it has given me a head-start in my career and in my personal growth.”

Building capacity so that Mallee Family Care can continue to support people when, where and how they need it is clearly critical to the Organisation’s forward planning but it’s also apparent that Teresa gets genuine satisfaction from seeing the Interns develop and transition to permanent employees.

“I value the contribution all our Interns make to the Organisation, they bring their own insights and lived experience to the teams they work with and to see them grow and accept roles within Mallee Family Care is gratifying.”

**Undoubtedly, accepting an Internship with Mallee Family Care was a pivotal moment for Tannar and his message to anyone else out there looking for an opportunity, is to follow his lead.**

**“The Internship changed my life and it can change yours too.”**



# MALLEE FAMILY CARE'S ADVOCACY AND THE VOICE OF COMMUNITY

Living and working in regional, rural and remote communities means that as an Organisation we observe gaps within service systems.

These gaps are part of the inequity for individuals and families that result in poor outcomes.

As a consequence, we work tirelessly to promote change and provide recommendations that are equitable on behalf of our communities to ensure that nobody is left behind by decision makers as a direct consequence of our isolation.

The following is a summary of the Advocacy work we have participated in during the 2021 - 2022 financial year:

## Submission to the Inquiry into the Use of School Buses in Rural and Regional Victoria - July 2021

Our submission to this inquiry was drawn from organisational data and staff experiences in supporting clients. We advocated the need for infrastructure that supports pathways to education, employment, health and wellbeing and social inclusion.

Our Organisation made recommendations to provide safe, connected and inclusive communities for residents of the Mallee which included that the Victorian Government does not extend school buses for use by the wider public during school runs; that the Victorian Government immediately undertake a place-based, community consultation as per Infrastructure Victoria

recommends to reflect the importance of connectivity and inclusion for rural and regional Victorians; and that the Victorian Government instigate a trial of 'on demand' transport within the Mallee, with a focus on smaller towns such as Manangatang and Robinvale.

## Submission to Implementing the successor plan to the National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009 - 2020 - August 2021

In 2019 and 2020, National consultations occurred to consider the broad direction of the successor plan to the *National Framework*. Mallee Family Care provided views on the Implementation of the Successor Plan that highlighted partnerships, child safety and wellbeing as well as early intervention initiatives.

Our submission also highlighted the barriers that individuals and families experience when attempting to access support, primarily children with a disability and/or parents and carers with a disability, children and families with multiple and complex needs, and children and young people experiencing or who have experienced abuse and/or neglect, including children in out-of-home care, and young people leaving out-of-home care and transitioning to adulthood.

We highlighted that Government could play a key role in pursuing a 'child centred or focused' approach by providing more flexible funding to service providers that follows

the child, enabling organisations such as Mallee Family Care to be innovative in providing supports to children and families.

## Mental Health and Wellbeing Act: update and engagement paper - June 2021

Mallee Family Care welcomed the final report released in March 2021 from the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System.

The Royal Commission made a recommendation that the *Victorian Mental Health Act 2014* be replaced with a new Mental Health and Wellbeing Act.

Our Organisation provided feedback to the proposed objectives and principles of the new Act. Our submission identified the critical importance of addressing stigma regarding mental health and while the objectives addressed culturally diverse backgrounds, ages, gender and disability, the objectives did not go far enough to addressing diagnosis and treatment. With the feedback from consumers of Mallee Family Care programs, the objectives could be improved within the new Act that acknowledges the diversity of diagnosis within the population and the stigma that diagnosis can cause. This would improve cultural issues and ensure consumers are listened to and treated with dignity. It is with this feedback that Mallee Family Care believes that Guidelines, Statements and Service Agreements do not go far enough to address this issue.



## Submission to the Inquiry into Victoria's Justice System - October 2021

This submission was drawn from both legal and non-legal staff experiences in supporting clients, predominately women and children, through the complexities and exigencies of the family law system in a rural and regional setting.

It is through this lens that Mallee Family Care advocated for a sustained effort to reduce or eradicate family and domestic violence, a major contributor to women's exposure to the justice system, early intervention for children exposed to family violence, domestic violence or the justice system and reforms to bail, parole and sentencing legislation that simplify the process, address gender-based issues and protect those cohorts most at risk within the current criminal justice system.

## Local Adult and Older Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Services - October 2021

The Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System recommended that 60 new Local Adult and Older Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Services (Local Services) be established.

The Local Services are to support people to prevent, manage and recover from mental illness.

Mallee Family Care provided feedback regarding the establishment of a model of care that will ensure safe, high-quality treatment and integrated care and wellbeing supports.

## Social Housing Regulation Review - Consultation Paper 2 - Service Delivery and the Tenant Experience - October 2021

The Social Housing Regulation Review highlighted the scarcity of social housing and what is the best way for the Victorian Government to support long-term well-being of existing and prospective tenants and the growth of social housing. The model must be adaptable and responsive as research, evidence-based practices and issues emerge.

Mallee Family Care emphasised the principles that are important for a well-functioning regulatory system for social housing. These principles include the promotion of tenant outcomes, integrating housing with support services that tenants need and promote accountability and transparency.

Our Organisation also identified some issues with the current system and the priorities for reform should include a system that is equitable and inclusive, meaning that policies and protections need to be expanded and streamlined across the public and community housing sector and improvements to be made, due the lack of choice within the social housing sector.

## Social Housing Regulation Review - Consultation Paper 3 - Accountability, Viability and Growth - October 2021

As with the Social Housing Regulation Review on Service Delivery and the Tenant Experience, Mallee Family Care confirmed in this Consultation Paper that regulation is an important step towards ensuring fairness and equity across the social housing sector.

In considering the role that tenants and prospective tenants have in the design of social housing, Mallee Family Care suggested that it is vital that mechanisms are inbuilt into the process of designing social housing regulation to enable the sector and clients to provide feedback. Co-design of social housing regulation by tenants and prospective tenants will foster ownership and participation in the process, resulting in improved outcomes across the sector.

## Mental Health and Wellbeing Workforce Forum - December 2021

Mallee Family Care stressed that workforce supply, capability and retention are challenges due to our rural and regional location.

As an Organisation, we aim to recruit degree-qualified social workers, psychologists and allied health practitioners. However, without the same volume of university and TAFE students as our metropolitan counterparts, we do not have enough graduates locally to fill vacancies. We would encourage the development, or expansion of, partnerships between education providers and mental health providers in the provision of place-based education, as there is evidence to show that people who study in regional areas, are more likely to remain in regional areas after graduating. We also advocated for a review of qualification and training pathways to enable community mental health providers to build the capacity of existing staff.

One area where we challenged was the narrative regarding the perception that careers in rural and regional areas offer less opportunities than those in urban regions. With fewer competitors and resources in rural and regional areas, workers can have a broad range of experiences and progress

their career in ways that may not be possible in an urban setting.

An incentive program that offers additional financial inducements to relocate, promotes lower costs of living and a family friendly lifestyle, whilst highlighting the opportunities to shape a mental health career in rural and regional Victoria would also be advantageous.

### Submission to Improving the Competency and Accountability of Family Report Writers - February 2022

Mallee Family Care welcomed the Attorney-General's consultation, and our submission was drawn from staff working across both legal and non-legal programs with clients navigating the family law system in a rural and regional setting.

These programs included the Mallee Family Care Community Legal Centre, which provides advice and support to individuals regarding family violence, separation, divorce, parenting arrangements and property settlement, together with an extensive program of community legal education. We also offer a suite of family relationship services, through our Family Relationship Centre and Regional Family Dispute Resolution programs, Post Separation Co-operative Parenting and Child Contact Services which support individuals, couples and families who are engaging with the family law system.

Our submission confirmed the importance of a legal definition of family report and family report writer, and the professionals should be suitably qualified. Mallee Family Care is mindful that holding the requisite qualifications is only one element of what makes a competent, unbiased report writer.

Experience, additional training and mandated ongoing professional development is vital in this field.

Mallee Family Care also strongly advocated for minimum content requirements for family reports as well as changes to the process of gathering information for the purpose of family reports. Our Organisation underscored a common theme that interviews are not usually undertaken in an appropriate manner, for example, via the telephone where family report writers have no line of sight with the child or their environment. Another concern is the very limited time some report writers spend on each interview with both staff and parents commenting that a 30 minute interview does not provide an accurate picture of circumstance.

# INVESTMENT IN OUR COMMUNITY



In the past year, Mallee Family Care has supported individuals, children and families across our communities.

We are committed to our place-based service provision which ensures a 'no wrong door' approach for clients seeking assistance.

Our Organisation is committed to providing support for people when and where they need it.

Over the last year, our reception staff managed 56,890 telephone calls and responded to 359 website email enquiries for service.

One community member thanked our reception team for their "respectful, kind and caring way

she was treated when she called in distress."

**Our Financial Counselling Program assisted 646 clients for the Power Saving Bonus and provided Intake and Assessment to 795 individuals.**

Within our family law suite of programs, we provided mediation to 673 clients. One parent reported, "that attending the mediation program and having the practitioners support in making a Parenting Plan has helped to iron out a lot the kinks and that they are all better for it and our communication is better."

Despite Victorian Pandemic restrictions and stay at home orders, our Child Contact Service

provided 786 facilitated change-over and supervised visits to 224 families.

The delivery of our Child Inclusive Practice Program supports children who are experiencing the effects of their parent's separation. The Child Inclusive Practitioner meets with children aged 5 - 17 years whose parents are also engaged in mediation.

**One parent reported, "our eldest daughter told us how much you helped her emotionally. She's really proud of herself."**

Another parent commented "we think he really benefited from coming in and talking to someone that isn't mum or dad. We just want to be able to support him as best



we can and getting feedback gives us that opportunity, so thank-you.”

One young child felt that the Child Inclusive Practice Program was helpful as ‘the last time I hugged dad goodbye and went back to mum, I didn’t even cry.’

**119 individuals participated in our Family Relationship Services Education Programs: Triple P Family Transitions, Bringing Up Great Kids, Young Children in Divorce and Separation and the Seven Principles for Making Relationships Work.**

**Our Homelessness Support Program assisted 248 clients in the Southern Mallee due to housing affordability stress and inadequate or inappropriate housing.**

Mallee Family Care’s mental health team supported 365 clients.

289 children and young people were supported with a safe environment that assisted them to maintain connection to family and education.

**Our NDIS programs provided assistance to 986 individuals through support coordination, allied health services, capacity building and psychosocial recovery coaching.**

SafeCare is an evidence-based training program that assists parents of young children at risk of neglect and abuse. The families

we work with have noticed their confidence increase in their parenting and one participant in the program stated, “I have loved working with Mallee Family Care for the SafeCare Program. My worker was very patient and helpful, and has made it very comfortable to engage and learn. I have really enjoyed this program so far, in many ways.

“I found it very helpful and simple to understand and learn many new things and also refreshed quite a lot, I was very interested by some. I like the way the program is structured and the safety it teaches, anything from the smallest less stressful situations to the biggest most stressful situations.

It has really opened my eyes to a lot of things. I believe so many people will benefit from this program and it makes it a lot more fun and enjoyable when you a great person like my worker to help you through it.

More than 500 children woke up on Christmas morning with a gift thanks to our generous community who provided gifts to our Christmas Appeal.

Over the last year, our reception staff managed **56,890** telephone calls

Within our family law suite of programs, we provided mediation to **673** clients

**289** children and young people were supported with a safe environment



When Rananjay Singh Chundawat and Calum Taylor had the opportunity to complete student placements with Mallee Family Care as part of their Social Work studies, they jumped at the chance. Coming from large cities, both Calum and Rananjay discovered the joys of regional living during their time in Sunraysia and they say their experiences have set great foundations for their future careers.

Mallee Family Care offers student placements across a range of disciplines from Allied Health and Social Work to Information Technology and Accounting, highlighting the diversity of careers that can be pursued within the social services sector. The Organisation welcomes local students, but it is increasingly attracting students from further afield, seeking experience in a regional or rural setting.

Calum is studying a Bachelor of Arts (Political Science / Indigenous

Studies) and a Bachelor of Social Work (Honours) through the University of Sydney and lives in the heart of the inner city, so his placement within Mallee Family Care's Dareton Child and Family Services team has given him insights he would never have gained by completing his placement in his local area.

"To come to Dareton for placement has been a total change in scenery and I have loved every minute of it. Going outside that circle of familiarity has challenged me and I've learnt things about myself – both professionally and personally that I might never have done, had I stayed in Sydney for my placement.

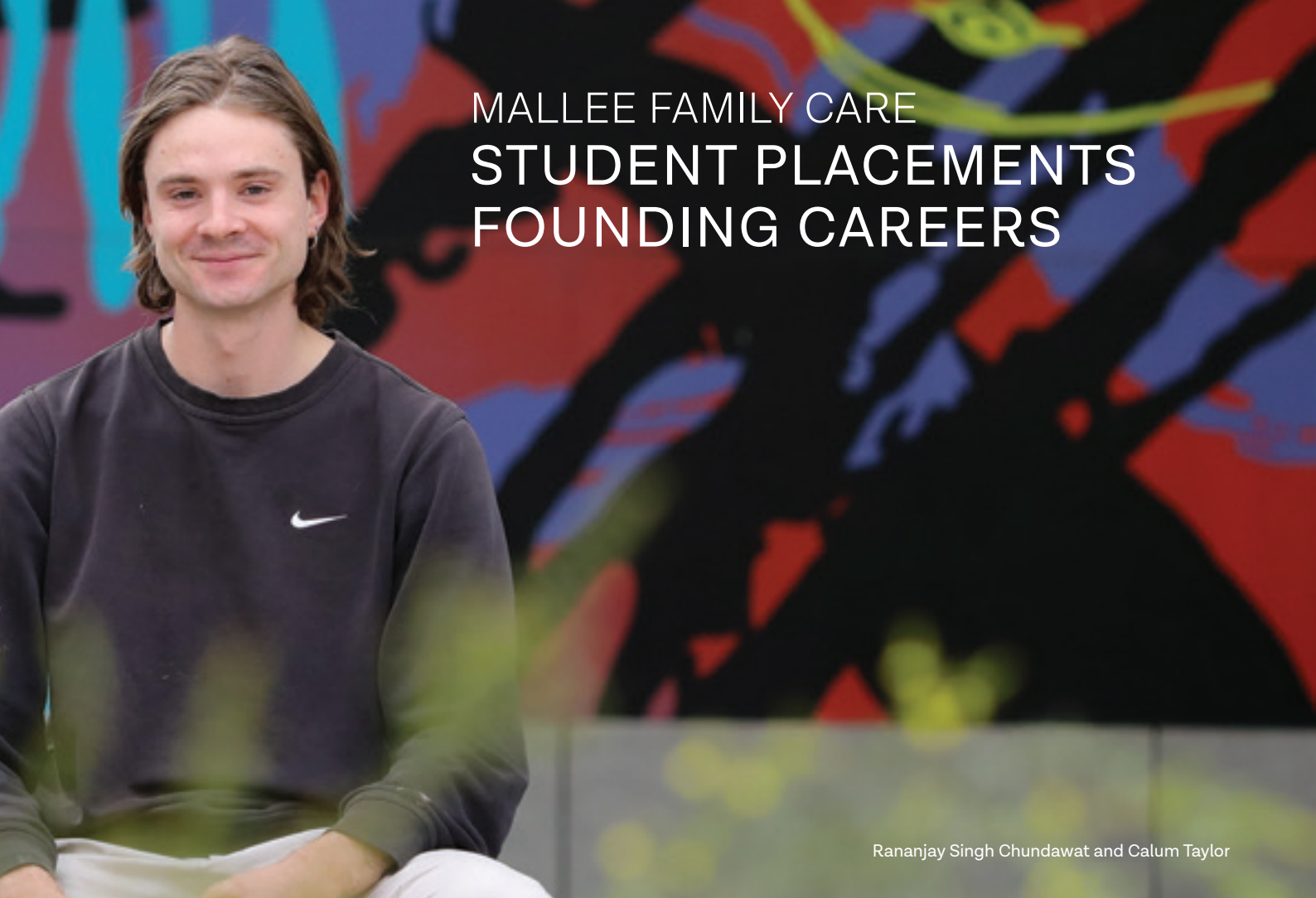
**"Being able to engage with the Aboriginal community has been a privilege and it's taught me a lot about how to practice as a social worker, respectful of Indigenous ways of being, doing and knowing."**

"I've also been able to develop an understanding of the additional barriers faced by rural and relatively isolated communities and services, such as Mallee Family Care."

Calum has appreciated the opportunity his placement has given him to wrap lived experience around his academic learning and he says he is grateful for the connections he's made during his time in Dareton.

**"I've learnt so much about the capacity for resilience and strength from working with the Mallee Family Care team and the families they support. I've witnessed how people in the community resist and push back against challenges – it's an absolute credit to them."**

"The Dareton team has supported my transition from a student to a practitioner in a way that has been not only supportive, but incredibly



# MALLEE FAMILY CARE STUDENT PLACEMENTS FOUNDING CAREERS

Rananjay Singh Chundawat and Calum Taylor

rewarding. They are some of the hardest working, humble and dedicated people I've ever met, and these are qualities I hope I can emulate in my career going forward."

Federation University fourth year Social Work student, Rananjay, hails from Melbourne and like Calum, when it came time to choose his placement, he decided to focus on Organisations in rural areas. When he discovered Mallee Family Care and the range of services and programs it offers, he immediately applied.

**"I thought the diversity of programs, and the rural area it caters to, would prove a great learning experience for me and the experienced team leaders and field educator offered great opportunities for mentoring."**

During his time with Mallee Family Care, Rananjay has not been disappointed. He's developed

a strong connection to Mildura and says he's learnt more than he ever expected to from his student placement experience.

**"I cannot say enough about this. The benefits have been huge – I have gained an understanding of the particular challenges and demands of rural life, and it has pushed me out of my comfort zone. The team I have worked with is young, dynamic, and supportive and I've found Mildura to be a great community."**

Rananjay and Calum come from vastly different backgrounds, Rananjay grew up in India, while Calum spent his early years in Canberra but despite these differences, they share a passion for supporting people to make positive changes in their lives and a commitment to creating meaningful community connections. Both their experiences in Sunraysia have further cemented their resolve to make social work

their career but more than that, to bring their skills, experience, and compassion to regional Australia. Summing it up for them both, Calum explains, "It's endlessly fulfilling to walk alongside people at some of their most vulnerable moments and see them through to the other side, to have a positive impact.

**"I've enjoyed my time out here immensely, to the point where I would be more than happy to come back to Dareton to work after I graduate."**

There is no doubt that living in regional Australia presents challenges but while our 'open sky, landscapes and kindness of people' attracts the likes of Calum and Rananjay, our part of the world is also one that offers potential and opportunity.





# OUR STAFF

Katie Aarons	Stacey Coverdale	Annita Hawkins	Donella Lay
Adele Adelle	Emily Craig	Ashlyn Healy	Christina Leamon
Jema Aksu	Terry Cronin	Kerryn Healy	Carli Leishman
Tannar Aksu	Rebecca Cupitt	Tayla Healy	Shauna Lenagh
Raymond Alabaster	Adelle Currow	Jacqueline Heaysman	Georgia Leutner
Kane Alderson	Janet Dale	Yvonne Hedges	Maeva Lopez
Kristen Alicastro	Sarah Darling	Kylie Henderson	Kelly Lorrie
Jade Alvey	Carly Davis	Wendy Hersey	Sheel Lotia
Melissa Amos	Tracey Davis	Lisa Hickinbotham	Bronte Loveridge
Tayla Anderson	Gordon Dehne	Cherie Hocking	Kaisa Lyons
Fred Apthorpe	Brian Dodson	Rozanne Hogan	Nicole Macdonald
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Whitney Bartsch	Monica Doherty	Rebecca Holme	Nathan Maiorana
Carmen Bellini	Jamie Dominelli	Katy Hope	Lauren Maloney
Linda Bennett	Fatma Donmez	Glen Hornsby	Hazel Mangano
Deborah Berg	Tess Dowdy	Robyn Hosking	Christina Marett
Kiarah Birthisel	Lauren Droffelaar	Mitchell Hoye	AnneMaree Martin
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Rebecca Bishop	Abida Elahi	Sandi Hunter	Aleisha Mataele
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Maureen Body	Shai-Lee Fargher	Michelle Ilsley	Patrice McCarthy
Rebecca Boin	Amanda Ferguson	Crystal Jackson	Benjamin McCoy
Janet Bonython	Ashlee Field	Danielle James	Anita McDonald
Leanne Bosman	Tamara Field	Karren James	Shae McDonnell
Rachel Bosman	Aroha Fisher	Teresa Jayet	Kim McGrath
Cara Bradshaw	Madlen Fitzgibbon	Aimee Job	Adam McGregor
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Natahlia Brown	Elli Fraser	Angela Johnstone	Allison McLeod
Susan Bryan	Maree Fullgrabe	Naomi Jory	Tory McNabb
Karen Bulman	Lateisha Gates	Amanda Judd	Sarah Merry
Jane Burrows	Alysha Gebhart	Christopher Judd	Ashleigh Middleton
Margaret Burton	Belinda Goodin	Fiona Judd	Karen Middleton
Aislinn Campbell	Corrina Graham	Sandra Judd	Verity Mihan
Josephine Carbone	Kiri Graham	Leyla Karabas	Setaita Miki
Tracey Carruthers	Kahlia Gray	Manjeet Kaur	Zachary Mill
Karen Casey	Jordyn Greenhill	Samantha Keller	Fraser Mitcham
Natalee Catanzariti	Kylie Grenfell	Catrina Kelly	Cheryle Mitchell
Andrew Charles	Julie Grimshaw	Julie Kelly	Kerrie Mitchell
Salina Chirozva	Shelley Gunn	Karen Kelly	Linda Mitchell
Shaun Clark	Greta Haig	Whitney Kendrigan	Tarissa Mitchell
Sharon Coburn	Ofa Hakalo	Kristin Kirkpatrick	Lauren Moore
Shaina Collins	Gemma Hall-Kelly	Leah Klaassen	Julia Morgan
Adele Collinson	Margrete Hamence	Alicia Knight	Natalie Morgan
Allison Collyer	Emily Hancock	Karri Krasna	Pardon Muyambo
Josephine Comitti	Tracey Hanner	Jaimee Lake	Razia Najafi
Carly Connell	Stacie Harding	Megan Lane	Louise Nicholas
Rennae Cope	Sophie Hart	Breanna Lanza	Margaret Nugent

# OUR STAFF

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Donna Peters  
Melissa Pitt  
Tracey Pitt  
Alana Pollard  
Tracey Presley  
Sioned Price  
Rachel Pumpa  
Rosalynd Quodling  
Kaylie Reid  
Sharen Riley  
Tayce Ritchie  
Catherine Robbins  
Ashleigh Roberts

Elisa Robinson  
Daniel Ross  
Maddison Ross  
Mia Rovere  
Mary Ruane-StClair  
Jeraldine Rule  
Kerry Russell  
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Stacey Sherrah  
Bronwyn Sherwell  
Elizabeth Shirley  
Anna Simoes  
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Amanda Smith  
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Rhonda Smith  
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Stephen Williams  
Steven Williams  
Sara Wilson  
Nicole Woods  
Gemma Young  
Katrina Young  
Nancy Zaccone  
Hazel Zagar  
Eilish Zappia  
Joanne Zappia  
Laura Zappia  
Tiarna Zara  
Michelle Zmarzly







# OUR NETWORK

## Education Training and Research

### AEL Governance

Best Start - Partnership

### Best Start Early Childhood Education and Care Working Group

Best Start Literacy Working Group

### Best Start Maternal Child Health Advisory Working Group

Best Start Supported Playgroups Advisory Working Group

### Better Together Collective Table Partnership Swan Hill

Better Together Collaborative Table Communities for Children Committee

### Communities for Children Facilitating Partner Northern Victoria Network

Communities of Practice for Department Families Fairness and Housing (DFFH) funded Playgroups by Playgroup Victoria (Also known as: smalltalk)

### Early Help Partners Advisory Group

Evaluator Community of Practice

### Hands up Mallee Red Cliffs Rich Home Learning Environment Project

Hands up Mallee Research Evaluation and Measurement Working Group

### Mallee Community of Practice

Maternal Child Health (MCH) Buloke Shire Council

### Maternal Child Health (MCH) Swan Hill Shire Council

Mildura Early Years Conference Community Committee Mildura Primary School

### Donald Primary (MFC Dynamic Butterflies Donald Playgroup)

### East Wimmera Parish (MFC Birchip Tiny Bulls Playgroup)

SHRCC (MFC Manangatang and Baby Playgroup smalltalk)

### St Mary's Primary School Sea Lake (MFC Sea Lake Tiny Tigers Playgroup)

Swan Hill North Primary School (MFC SHN smalltalk Playgroup)

### Swan Hill Primary School (MFC SHPS smalltalk Playgroup)

YMCA Ballarat (MFC Playful Potoroos Wycheproof Playgroup)

### Our Place Robinvale Partnership

Regional Assessment Group (Kindergarten Inclusion Support Applications)

### Robinvale Early Years Network

Swan Hill District Gender Equity Network

### Swan Hill LGBTQ+ Network

## Child and Family Services

Balranald/Euston Violence and Abuse Network

### Take Two Partnership for Circle Program and Family Preservation Reunification Response (Berry Street)

Local Implementation Family Preservation Reunification Response Network

### Mallee Family Violence Executive

Police Aboriginal Consultative Committee

### Robinvale Early Years Network (REYN)

SafeCare Provider: University of Georgia United States of America

### Wentworth/Dareton Violence and Abuse Network

## Community, Mental Health and Wellbeing Services

Aged Care Planning and Advisory Network (APCAN)

### Community Legal Centre (CLC) Youth Network

Cross Border Justice Network

### Financial Counselling Victoria (FCVic) Agency Managers Network

Federation of Community Legal Centres

### Gannawarra Local Area Meeting

Gender Equity Action Sunraysia Meeting

### Local Aboriginal Justice Action Committee (LAJAC) Mildura

Local Aboriginal Justice Action Committees (LAJAC) Robinvale

### Local Aboriginal Justice Action Committees (LAJAC) Swan Hill

Loddon Mallee Local Area Services Network

### Professional Standards and Support Committee (Victorian Community Legal Centre (CLC) Network)

Regional Rural Remote (RRR) Community Legal Centre (CLC) Network

### Swan Hill District School Wellbeing Network

Youth Network Service Providers Mildura

### Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVic) Swan Hill

# FOSTER CARE

## Foster Care Assessment and Placement Panel

Deb Berg  
Barbara Clifford  
Michael Coleman  
Nicholas Ferry  
Sue Hermans  
Rachel Johnson  
Sue Lacey  
Sarah Medwell

Natalie Mensforth  
Jenny Nolen  
Deborah Paull  
Jennifer Robertson

## Foster Carers

Kylie and Travise Andrews  
Tarnya Andrews  
Wendy Arthur  
Sharon and Stephen Ash  
Heather Miller and William Blaney  
Rhonda Brown  
Melissa Burns  
Barbara Clifford  
Jennifer and Phillip Connell  
Patricia Dannatt  
Tony DeLittle  
Rachel and Daniel Eastwood  
Belinda Fanshaw  
Adam and Kellie Farley  
Jenna and Keith Fitzpatrick  
Julie and Bruce Harvey  
Vicki Hayes  
Maryann and Brendan Hearne  
Alanna Hill

Kristy Hosking and Paul Marshall  
Tania and Andrew Howe  
Rachel Hughes  
Leah and Geoff Hunt  
Leanne and Graeme Ibbs  
Christine and Max Jones  
Danni Sue Jones and Desmond Lanigan  
James Knell and Megan Scully  
Sian Lennon  
Terri McArdle and Jeff O'Neil  
Marion Munro  
Jenny and Peter Nolen  
Hannah O'Neil  
Timothy Page and Trudy Jowett  
Deborah Paull  
Warren and Debra Pearce  
Paul and Tracy Pickering  
Chloe Poth and Jackson Underwood  
Melissa Powell  
Nikki Rayson  
Vivian Riley  
Kathy Treweek  
Vicki and Danni Riordan  
Cheryl and Dale Robertson  
Cathy Young  
Cassandra and Dean Scott  
Patricia Jones  
Barbara & Athena Sichounidis  
and Antonella Onzo  
Lynise Sherlock  
Deri Singleton  
Chloe Sloan  
Lisa and Greg Sloan  
Veryan Jane and Allan Smyth (Rogers)  
Heather Young



# MALLEE FAMILY CARE DONORS, PARTNERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Judith Antcliff  
Karen Beggs  
Barry Blight  
Estate of Helen Bowie  
Chris Chatfield  
Helen Connolly  
Zack Emonson  
Les Grey  
Valda Hanns (Uniting Church)  
Andrew Jirik  
Anita Kataja  
Anne Lowe

Mary Elizabeth McKenzie  
Jan McLean  
Bill Marriott  
Jeremy Morgan  
Ella Partington  
Debra Pearce  
Betsy Powell  
Keith OAM and Jan Richards  
Andrea Smith  
Tenielle Thornton  
Wili Tupou

Catholic Diocese of Ballarat  
Central Mallee Co-Operative Parish  
Central Mallee Cooperative  
Eastern Mallee Parish Uniting Church  
Lake Boga Uniting Church  
Nyah West Uniting Church  
Pethard Tarax Charitable Trust  
Reject Shop Swan Hill  
Rotary Club of Swan Hill  
Share The Dignity  
Underbool Anglican Unity Church  
Underbool Ladies Guild  
Uniting Church of Manangatang  
Walpeup Uniting Church

# CHANCES FOR CHILDREN PARTNERS

Euston Club Resort  
Findex Mildura  
Freemasons Mildura  
Freemasons Swan Hill  
Freemasons Victoria

Lower Murray Water  
Mildura Fruit Company  
Mildura Rural City Council  
Powell Plaster Group Pty Ltd  
Studio De Vin

Sunraysia Institute of TAFE  
Uteznvanz Inc.  
Wentworth District Capital Limited  
Yeast Foundation

# CHANCES FOR CHILDREN SUSTAINING SUPPORTERS, DONORS AND WORKPLACE GIVERS

Katie Aarons  
Adele Adelle  
Riley Allen  
Melissa Amos  
Fred Apthorpe  
Natasha Baker  
Whitney Bartsch  
Christine Bishop  
Carol Blundy  
Maureen Body  
Tiffany Bolton  
Leanne Bosman  
Cara Bradshaw  
Alicia Bruton  
Sarah Carn  
Karen Casey  
Natalee Catanzariti  
Alison Clarke  
Ross and Margaret Cleeland  
Adele Collinson  
Allison Collyer  
Mrs Rosemary Connell  
Terence Cook  
Catherine Cousins  
Stacey Coverdale  
Sarah Cox  
Yazmin Cox  
Ms Erika Cross  
David & Liz Dawes  
Fiona and Peter Devilee  
Erissa Dipu  
Alana Doe  
Fatma Donmez  
Dipu Erissa  
Alwin Fadzli  
Amanda Ferguson  
Lidia Finna  
Christine Forbes

Gemma Forrest  
Yvonne Foureur  
Janet Furze  
Hutchison Vineyard G&B  
Hutchison  
Kathy Gadsden  
Malcolm Gallasch  
Lauren Gearman  
Corrina Graham  
Colleen Grant  
Riza Gultekin  
James Henderson  
Anthony Hickey  
Karen Hogarth  
Karren James  
Teresa Jayet  
Jemma Johnson  
RWG (Bob) Jolley  
Gayle Maree Kennedy  
Kim Lavery  
Christine Leamon  
Amanda Lowe  
Mr Andrew Lucchesi  
Kerri McLeod  
Sarah Merry  
Norma Minney  
Mike & Tracey Mooney  
Lauren Moore  
Michael Morey  
Julia Morgan  
Natalie Morgan  
Ruby Moseley  
Rosemary Norton  
Cath O'Connor  
Mr Peter O'Donnell  
Rini Op't Hoog  
Kira Orsini  
Kayleen Potter

Tracey Presley  
Keith Richards  
Donna Robertson  
Timothy Rodger  
William Ryan  
Brett Saunders  
Willi Sharon  
Josne Sheldrick  
Rhonda Smith  
Diane Smith  
Amanda Sommers  
Lesley Stephens  
Samantha Stitt  
Sharyn Sturre  
Daniel Sutanto  
J&R Toms Investments Pty Ltd  
T/A Totally Workwear Mildura  
Courtney Tepper  
Jeremy and Jess White  
Clinton Wills  
Country Care Hearing  
David Carsons Electronics Pty Ltd  
Euston Bowling & Recreation Club  
Freemasons Foundation Victoria  
Freemasons Mildura  
Freemasons Swan Hill  
Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund Foundation  
Funded by Cheryl and David Baer  
Family Fund  
Lower Murray Water  
Mallee School Nursing Program - DET  
Secondary School Nurse.NWVR  
Mildura Cardiology Group Pty Ltd  
Nyah District Lions Club  
Rotary Club of Swan Hill Inc  
Uteznvanz Inc  
Wentworth District Capital Limited  
Yeast Foundation

# 2021 MALLEE FAMILY CARE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Connie Aldamiz  
Fred Apthorpe  
Bernadette Brougham  
Chris Chatfield  
Allison Clarke  
Allie Collyer  
Carly Davis

Bernadette George  
Corrina Graham  
Courtney Henderson  
Ange Johnstone  
Carli Leishman  
Ben Stoeckel  
Bendigo Bank Langtree  
Big W Mildura  
Collie & Tierney Real Estate  
Compound Financial Group

Crowies Paints  
Eastern Mallee Parish Uniting Church  
Findex  
Fire Rescue Victoria Station 72  
Good 360  
Lake Boga Uniting Church  
Lime Therapy  
MADEC  
Monash University  
Powell Plaster Group  
Ray White Swan Hill  
SuniTAFE  
Uniting Church of Manangatang

## Thank-you

Mallee Family Care is very appreciative of the enormous amount of support that is provided to us through our partners, stakeholders and funders. There are many individuals, families and businesses that understand our firm commitment to investing in our local communities. We also acknowledge the investment made available to us from our donors who wish to remain anonymous.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Directors' Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

Your directors present their report on Mallee Family Care Ltd ("the Agency") for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

### Directors

The details of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

#### Mr Ross Lake OAM

Non-executive Director

##### Qualifications

Bachelor of Law, Bachelor of Economics, Diploma of Education.

##### Experience

Board member for most of the period since the inception of Mallee Family Care in 1984. Mr Lake holds a number of other Directorships including the Mallee Regional Innovation Centre Strategic Advisory Panel and Institute of Post Colonial Studies.

##### Special Responsibilities

Chair, Member Finance Audit and Risk Committee.

#### Ms Jenna Yetman

Non-executive Director

##### Qualifications

Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting), Bachelor of Laws and Legal Practice, Company Directors Course.

##### Experience

Ms Yetman has held a number of directorships of community organisations in the Mallee region.

##### Special Responsibilities

Deputy Chair.

#### Ms Christine Cottrell

Non-executive Director

##### Qualifications

Graduate Certificate in Business Administration.

##### Experience

Ms Cottrell has spent 20 years working in Not-For-Profit Services including Australian Institute of Company Directors, Australian Sonographers Association and Royal Australasian College of Medical Administrators. She now works in the area of social impact, aiming to improve the lives of children in Mildura.

Ms Cottrell currently holds a Directorship with Mildura Community House.

##### Special Responsibilities

Chair of Finance Audit and Risk Committee since December 2021

#### Mr Geoff Dea

Non-executive Director

##### Qualifications

Bachelor of Business (Accounting), CPA.

##### Experience

Mr Dea is the CEO of Sunraysia Institute of TAFE and is a member of the Board and Audit Committee of Mildura Regional Development Ltd.

##### Special Responsibilities

None

#### Dr Suriya Hariprakash

Non-executive Director

##### Qualifications

MBBS, DCH, MRCP(Paediatrics), MRCPCH, CCT in Paediatrics and Paediatric Intensive Care Medicine (UK), FPCCM (Toronto, Canada), FRACP.AFRACMA

##### Experience

Dr Hariprakash is the Senior Staff Specialist in Paediatrics and the Clinical Director of Paediatrics at Mildura Base Public Hospital. He received the Lucas Excellence Award in recognition of his contribution to the health and wellbeing of children in this region. Dr Hariprakash is a member of the Royal Australasian College of Physicians and the Australian Society of Clinical Immunology and Allergy.

##### Special Responsibilities

None

#### Ms Belinda Hudak

Non-executive Director

(appointed April 2022)

##### Qualifications

Masters of Leadership and Management, Bachelor of Education, Bachelor of Arts

##### Experience

Ms Hudak is the Principal of Mildura Senior College, a senior school of over 950 students and 100 staff. The College is one of only a few senior colleges in the state catering exclusively for Year 11 and 12 students.

She is also on the board of the Northern Mallee Local Learning Employment Network, Independent Chair of Mildura headSpace Consortium and the Mallee representative on the State Wide Committee of the Victorian Association of Secondary School Principals.

##### Special Responsibilities

None

## Dr Andrew Kremor

Non-executive Director

### Qualifications

PhD (Engineering Geology), Master of Business Administration, GAIDC.

### Experience

Dr Kremor has held various executive and non-executive directorships with private and public companies including Zero Emissions Water, Salinity Accountability Advisory Committee, Babcock and Brown Finance, Flinders Power, Sparq Solutions, Alinta Energy, Allgas Networks, Energy Networks Association and Windmill Performing Arts Company. Dr Kremor is a General Manager at the Murray Darling Basin Authority and has extensive senior management experience in the energy and water sectors.

### Special Responsibilities

None

## Ms Cynthia (Cyndi) Power

Non-executive Director (resigned February 2022)

### Qualifications

BSc(Public relations), BSc (French) Illinois State University.

### Experience

Ms Power was elected as a Councillor for the Mildura Rural City Council in November 2020, where she held the portfolio of Community Health and Wellbeing. She is an advocate for women's health with a particular focus on birthing education and birthing services. Ms Power continues to be closely involved in the planning and operations of a health industry business operated by her family.

### Special Responsibilities

None

## Dr Chelsea Todd

Non-executive Director

(appointed July 2022)

### Qualifications

PhD, Bachelor of Psychology, Advanced Leadership Program

### Experience

TBC Dr Todd has previously been a director of Mallee Family Care Ltd in 2018/2019. She has held senior positions in both the South Australian and Victorian public service, most recently as Principal Advisor for the Mallee region, Department of Families, Fairness and Housing. She is now is director of her own business, Chelsea Todd Pty Ltd, which provides multi-disciplinary support to women throughout Motherhood.

### Special Responsibilities

None

## Mr Eelco Vugs

Non-executive Director

(appointed December 2021)

### Qualifications

Masters in Mental Health and Masters in Criminology

### Experience

Mr Vugs has more than 15 years' experience in child protection and safeguarding roles for both government and non-government organisations in Australia and overseas.

He is currently the Regional Safeguarding Manager East and South Asia for the British Council.

### Special Responsibilities

None

Directors have been in office since the commencement of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

## Company Secretary

Ms Teresa Jayet held the position of Company Secretary at the end of the financial year:

### Qualifications

MBA, Bachelor of Social Work, Bachelor of Education, Diploma of Financial Counselling, Graduate Diploma Family Dispute Resolution

### Experience

Ms Jayet has been an employee of the Agency, in various positions, since 1994 and is currently the Chief Executive Officer. She was appointed Company Secretary on 11 March 2021 when the Agency was first incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee.

## Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 16 meetings of directors (including committees of directors) were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

	Directors' Meetings		Finance Audit and Risk Committee	
	No. eligible to attend	No. attended	No. eligible to attend	No. attended
Mr Ross Lake	10	10	6	5
Ms Jenna Yetman	10	8	-	-
Ms Christine Cottrell	10	9	5	5
Mr Geoff Dea	10	3	-	-
Dr Suriya Hariprakash	10	7	-	-
Ms Belinda Hudak	3	2	-	-
Dr Andrew Kremor	10	8	-	-
Ms Cyndi Power	5	4	-	-
Mr Eelco Vugs	6	6	-	-

## Review of Operations

Mallee Family Care Ltd has delivered a solid performance despite the continuing impacts from the Covid-19 pandemic. A contributing factor to the successful financial outcome has been the effective implementation of the pillar of the new strategic plan centered on staff retention and recruitment.

Opportunities have been provided for new and existing staff to upskill through the use of internships and training programs together with tertiary student placements. This workforce planning has increased staff numbers by 17% over the course of the financial year including many previously "difficult to fill positions", despite strong competition within the sector.

The better staffing levels have resulted in more comprehensive achievement of service delivery targets, leading to the recognition of additional income from government contracts.

Whilst full Covid-19 lockdowns did not feature greatly in the 2021-22 financial year, the normalization of working in a community which has a significant spread of the disease has had considerable impact on Mallee Family Care. The most visible indicator of this is an increase in staff sick leave taken, almost 60% higher than the prior year, due to a combination of direct infection, isolation requirements, and the caring for affected family members. Despite the absences, service levels have been largely maintained with significant additional input from remaining team members.

Further, there has been a major investment in information technology resources and support to ensure all staff are able to meet the needs of their clients remotely if required. A legacy of the Covid-19 lockdowns has been the continued use of on-line meetings and video conferencing, greatly reducing travel time and expenditure from pre-Covid levels.

## New Accounting Standards Implemented

No new Accounting Standards which impact on the operations of the Agency have come into effect during the 2021/2022 financial year.

## Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

No significant changes in the state of affairs of the Agency occurred during the 2021/2022 financial year.

## Principal Activities

The principal activity of Mallee Family Care Ltd is the advancement of social and community welfare through the provision of a diverse range of services and supports to vulnerable children; disadvantaged families and individuals; and, people with a disability.



## Likely Developments and Expected Results of Operations

In October 2021 the Agency was notified that it had been successful in its application for grant funding of \$4.9 Mil through the Commonwealth Building Better Regions Fund to assist with the construction of a new home for the Agency in Mildura. After an extensive planning and design process, tenders for construction of this building will shortly be sought, in anticipation of construction commencing in the fourth quarter of 2022. Management and delivery of this multi-million dollar project will be a key focus for the Agency in the 2022/23 and 2023/24 financial years.

The operating budget for the 2022/23 financial year projects a surplus of almost \$600,000. Staffing costs are projected to increase due to an anticipated increase in employments costs in excess of 5% and additional staffing numbers. A significant number vacant positions have been filled in recent months and it is anticipated that further positions will be filled in early part of the new financial year. A forecast increase in government and fee for service funding will largely offset the increased staffing costs. Some key funders have already flagged meaningful indexation adjustments for 2022/23 funding levels.

## Auditors' Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under s 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 47. This report is signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors



Ross Lake  
Chair of the Board  
Dated: 25 August 2022

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 60-40 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT FOR PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012 TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MALLEE FAMILY CARE LTD**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief during the year ended 30 June 2022 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

*William Buck*

**William Buck**  
ABN 38 280 203 274

*G. W. Martinella*

**G.W. Martinella**  
Partner

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

## Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Income</b>			
Contract income from Government	2.1	18,720,461	16,411,334
Fee for service income	2.2	3,224,574	3,540,553
Other program income		69,558	85,772
Donations and fundraising	2.3	328,437	233,061
Investment income	2.4	78,126	89,458
Sundry income		193,430	276,029
Profit on sale of fixed assets		287,999	4,161
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>22,902,585</b>	<b>20,640,368</b>
<b>Less: Expenses</b>			
Employee benefits	3.1	16,132,999	13,981,581
Program delivery		2,577,289	2,704,067
Administration		1,437,589	1,366,147
Building occupancy and operating		681,066	645,357
Motor vehicles		177,805	145,672
Payments to beneficiaries		46,121	40,304
Fundraising costs		128,369	95,152
Interest and finance charges		8,874	17,541
Depreciation and amortisation	3.3	566,628	636,411
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>21,756,740</b>	<b>19,632,232</b>
<b>Net Surplus For The Year</b>		<b>1,145,845</b>	<b>1,008,136</b>
<b>Other Comprehensive Income</b>			
<b>Total Comprehensive Income For The Year</b>		<b>1,145,845</b>	<b>1,008,136</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



## Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.2	6,975,767	8,779,456
Cash investments	5.2	10,392,559	7,026,790
Receivables	2.5	604,405	346,689
Other current assets	7.4	291,929	407,312
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>18,264,660</b>	<b>16,560,247</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4.1	7,247,950	7,403,561
Intangibles	4.2	361,432	399,406
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>7,609,382</b>	<b>7,802,967</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>25,874,042</b>	<b>24,363,214</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	3.7	1,298,594	869,140
Employee benefits	3.5	1,561,778	1,580,085
Other current liabilities	2.6	5,128,048	4,926,081
Hire purchase liability (net)	5.3	70,629	261,505
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>8,059,049</b>	<b>7,636,811</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Employee benefits	3.5	62,873	85,290
Hire purchase liability (net)	5.3	27,482	62,320
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>90,355</b>	<b>147,610</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>8,149,404</b>	<b>7,784,421</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>17,724,638</b>	<b>16,578,793</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Accumulated surplus		13,721,694	12,672,583
General reserves	5.5	2,081,066	2,081,066
Chances for Children - Special Purpose Reserve	8	469,740	373,006
Chances for Children Bequests - Special Purposes Reserve	8	1,452,138	1,452,138
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>17,724,638</b>	<b>16,578,793</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Total 2022 \$	Total 2021 \$	Accum. Surplus 2022 \$	Accum. Surplus 2021 \$
Balance at beginning of the financial year	16,578,793	15,570,657	12,672,583	11,809,218
Surplus (Deficit) for the year	1,145,845	1,008,136	1,049,111	863,365
Transfers to (from) Reserves	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>17,724,638</b>	<b>16,578,793</b>	<b>13,721,694</b>	<b>12,672,583</b>

## Statement of Cashflows for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	Note	2022 \$ Inflows (Outflows)	2021 \$ Inflows (Outflows)
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
<b>Receipts</b>			
Contract Payments from Government		20,334,232	18,975,078
Donations and Fundraising		328,437	233,061
Interest received		820	1,467
Other receipts		3,834,395	3,965,967
		<b>24,497,884</b>	<b>23,175,573</b>
<b>Payments</b>			
Payments to employees		(16,175,281)	(14,134,524)
Payments to suppliers & providers		(5,075,465)	(5,687,380)
Payments to beneficiaries, Chances for Children		(48,427)	(42,319)
GST paid		(1,539,913)	(1,300,507)
		<b>(22,839,086)</b>	<b>(21,164,730)</b>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>1,658,798</b>	<b>2,010,843</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for fixed assets and intangibles		(338,891)	(389,147)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		13,500	28,141
Proceeds from sale of assets held for resale		449,701	-
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>124,310</b>	<b>(361,006)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Hire purchase contracts prepaid		(276,429)	(285,659)
Transfer from (to) term deposits with terms exceeding 3 months		(3,310,368)	(2,420,009)
<b>Net cash from (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>(3,586,797)</b>	<b>(2,705,668)</b>
		<b>(1,803,689)</b>	<b>(1,055,831)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash for the year</b>			
Cash at beginning of financial year		8,779,456	9,835,287
<b>Cash at end of financial year</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>6,975,767</b>	<b>8,779,456</b>

General Reserves (Note 5.5) 2022 \$	General Reserves (Note 5.5) 2021 \$	Special Purposes Reserves			
		Chances For Children (Note 8.2) 2022 \$	Chances For Children (Note 8.2) 2021 \$	Chances For Children Bequests (Note 8.2) 2022 \$	Chances For Children Bequests (Note 8.2) 2021 \$
2,081,066	2,081,066	373,006	228,235	1,452,138	1,452,138
-	-	96,734	144,771	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>2,081,066</b>	<b>2,081,066</b>	<b>469,740</b>	<b>373,006</b>	<b>1,452,138</b>	<b>1,452,138</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

### NOTE 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board on 25 August 2022.

#### Basis of Preparation

Mallee Family Care Ltd (“the Agency”) applies Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (‘AASB’).

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (“AASB”) and the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profit Commission Act 2012. The Agency is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards. Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

#### Historical cost convention

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis.

#### Accounting policies

##### a) Rounding

The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar. All amounts are expressed in Australian dollars.

##### b) Internal Transactions

In compiling this financial report, internal transactions, including charges to programs for use of motor vehicles, property, occupancy, general administration and other services have been eliminated.



### **c) Goods and Services Tax**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office ("ATO").

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

### **d) Income Tax**

The Agency has an Income Tax Exemption under Subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and therefore is not subject to income tax.

### **e) Fair Value of Assets and Liabilities**

The Agency measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value on a recurring basis.

Fair value is the price the Agency would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (i.e. unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market value may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset or liability. The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. The valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from the principal market for the asset or liability (i.e. the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability) or, in the absence of a such a market, information is extracted from the most advantageous market available to the entity at the reporting date (i.e. the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of an asset or minimises the payment that would be required to transfer a liability, after taking into account transaction and transport costs).

### **f) Critical Accounting Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements.

Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed in the relevant notes.

### **g) New Accounting Standards For Application in Future Periods**

Certain new Australian Accounting Standards have been issued that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2022 reporting period.

The Agency has assessed these pending standards and has identified that no material impact will flow from the application of these standards in future reporting periods.

## NOTE 2: Funding Our Diverse Services

The Agency provides around 40 discreet service lines across a very broad range of disciplines, from Family Services and Mental Health Support to Relationship Services and Legal Services. Funding for these services is derived from a variety of sources, which are summarised below.

### Recognition of Income

#### Government Contract Income

Service delivery contracts with government departments and other agencies are assessed to determine whether they are enforceable and have specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

The core principle of AASB 15 is that revenue is recognised proportionally on a basis that reflects the provision of promised services to funders. Income is recognised by applying a five-step model as follows: identify the contract with the customer, identify the performance obligations, determine the transaction price, allocate the transactions price to the performance obligations and recognise revenue as and when control of the performance obligations is transferred.

Where AASB 15 applies, the Agency identifies each performance obligation relating to the contract; recognises a liability, Contract income in advance (refer 2.6 below), for its obligations under the contract when funds are received; and recognises income as it satisfies its performance obligations. Where contracts are not enforceable or performance obligations are not specific, income is recognised when received.

### Other Income

- Fee for Service income is recognised at the point when services are delivered to clients.
- Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.
- Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets, is the rate inherent in the instrument.
- Income from other sources is recognised at the point the Agency has a contractual right to bill, or when the income is received. All revenue is recognised net of goods and services tax.

### 2.1 Government Contract Income

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Victorian Government	10,489,603	8,342,298
Commonwealth Government	5,145,462	4,932,982
New South Wales Government	3,085,396	3,136,054
	<b>18,720,461</b>	<b>16,411,334</b>

### 2.2 Fee For Service Income

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Income from service provided on a fee for time basis and service delivery contracts not directly funded by government	<b>3,224,574</b>	<b>3,540,553</b>

Includes activity funded by the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

### 2.3 Donations and Fundraising

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Bequests	156,495	10,000
Other fundraising	171,942	223,061
	<b>328,437</b>	<b>233,061</b>

### 2.4 Investment Income

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Interest	<b>78,126</b>	<b>89,458</b>

## 2.5 Receivables

Sundry debtors and other receivables is largely made up of amounts owing in respect of services undertaken on a fee for time basis and income from other sources in the ordinary course of business.

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Sundry Debtors	624,405	356,689
Other receivables	-	-
Less provision for expected credit losses	(20,000)	(10,000)
	<b>604,405</b>	<b>346,689</b>
<b>Movement in Provision for Expected Credit Losses:</b>		
Opening balance	(10,000)	(10,000)
Charged to expense	(10,000)	-
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>(20,000)</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>
<b>Financial Assets at Amortised Cost Classified as Receivables:</b>		
<b>Total current</b>	<b>604,405</b>	<b>346,689</b>

Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets. Receivables are non interest bearing and are generally collected within 30 days.

## 2.6 Other Current Liabilities

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Contract Income in Advance	5,128,048	4,926,081
	<b>5,128,048</b>	<b>4,926,081</b>
Balance at beginning of year	4,926,081	4,441,320
Add funding received	19,459,044	17,420,430
Less recognised as Income	(19,036,413)	(16,184,962)
Less repaid to funder	(220,664)	(750,707)
<b>Balance at end of year</b>	<b>5,128,048</b>	<b>4,926,081</b>

Contract income in advance relates mainly to service contracts with various government departments for delivery of a range of welfare services in future periods. The movement in income in advance is attributable to payments received from customers in advance of services to be provided less the recognition of income from amounts received for services provided during the year.



## NOTE 3: The Costs of Service Delivery

Details of the expenses associated with the provision of services by the Agency and the liabilities associated with the those expenses are outlined below:

### 3.1 Employee Benefits

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Superannuation Contributions	1,392,837	1,134,715

In accordance with statutory requirements the Agency contributed 10% (2021: 9.5%) of gross remuneration for its accumulation members to a range of funds as designated by the members. Assets accumulate in the funds to meet members' benefits as they retire. These contributions are recognised as an expense when incurred.

### 3.2 Key Management Personnel Compensation

Any persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling activities of the Agency, directly or indirectly, are considered to be key management personnel (KMP). The totals of remuneration paid to KMP of the Agency during the year are as follows:

Key management personnel compensation	535,232	636,801
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For details of any other transactions with KMP, refer to Note 7.1.

### 3.3 Depreciation and Amortisation

Depreciation is comprised of the following:

Buildings and building improvements	75,409	88,485
Furniture and equipment	118,778	108,832
Motor vehicles	199,108	250,313
<b>Total depreciation</b>	<b>393,295</b>	<b>447,630</b>
<b>Amortisation is comprised of:</b>		
Amortisation of Intangibles (Software at Costs)	173,333	188,781
<b>Total Depreciation and Amortisation</b>	<b>566,628</b>	<b>636,411</b>

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are based on an assessment of the useful life of the asset class as discussed at Note 4.5 and are set out in the table below:

Depreciable Asset	Depreciation Method:	Depreciation Rate:
Furniture and equipment	Prime Cost	10.0% to 20.0%
Computer equipment	Prime Cost	25.0% to 40.0%
Buildings	Prime Cost	1.67%
Building improvements	Prime Cost	5.0% to 20.0%
Motor vehicles	Prime Cost	20.0%

The cost of Software developed specifically for the Agency is amortised to profit and loss using the straight-line method over its estimated useful life which is generally three years, an amortisation rate of 33.3%

### 3.4 Other Expense Items for Disclosure

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Provision for expected credit losses	10,000	-
Lease payments, short term and low value leases	207,269	166,423

### 3.5 Employee Benefits as Liabilities

<b>Current</b>	<b>2022 \$</b>	<b>2021 \$</b>
Provision for annual leave	835,153	805,928
Provision for time-off in lieu of overtime	32,270	27,240
Provision for long service leave	694,355	746,917
	<b>1,561,778</b>	<b>1,580,085</b>
<b>Non Current</b>		
Provision for long service leave	62,873	85,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,624,651</b>	<b>1,665,375</b>

#### Short term employee benefits

Provision is made for the Agency's obligation for short-term employee benefits.

Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including annual leave and time-off in lieu of overtime. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled.

The Agency's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages and salaries are recognised as a part of current trade and other payables in the statement of financial position.

#### Long term employee benefits

Provision is made for employees' annual leave and long service leave entitlements not expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. Long-term employee benefits are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to end-of-reporting-period market yields on government bonds that have maturity dates approximating the terms of the obligations. Any remeasurements of other long-term employee benefit obligations due to changes in assumptions are recognised in profit and loss in the periods in which the changes occur.

The Agency's obligations for long-term employee benefits are presented as non-current provisions in its statement of financial position, except where the Agency does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date, in which case the obligations are presented as current provisions.

### 3.6 Accounting Judgements and Estimates Relating to Employee Benefits as Liabilities

#### Employee benefits provision - current

For the purpose of measurement, AASB 119: Employee Benefits defines obligations for short-term employee benefits as obligations expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service. As the Agency expects that all of its employees would use all of their annual leave entitlements earned during a reporting period before 12 months after the end of the reporting period, the Agency believes that obligations for annual leave entitlements satisfy the definition of short-term employee benefits and, therefore, can be measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid to employees when the obligations are settled.

#### Employee benefits provision - non-current

As discussed in note 3.5, the liability for employee benefits expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date are recognised and measured at the present value of the estimated future cash flows to be made in respect of all employees at the reporting date. In determining the present value of the liability, estimates of attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation have been taken into account.

### 3.7 Payables

<b>Current</b>	<b>2022 \$</b>	<b>2021 \$</b>
<b>Unsecured</b>		
Trade creditors	425,743	244,917
Sundry creditors	338,203	99,271
GST and PAYG payable	252,385	281,790
Other creditors	282,263	243,162
	<b>1,298,594</b>	<b>869,140</b>
<b>Financial liabilities at amortised cost classified as payables</b>		
<b>Total current</b>	<b>1,046,209</b>	<b>587,350</b>

#### Collateral pledged

No collateral has been pledged for any payables balances.

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Agency during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

### 3.8 Prepayments

Prepayments	291,929	232,110
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Prepayments are payments in advance, predominantly for services like insurance, licences and maintenance, which extend for a period beyond the current accounting period.



## NOTE 4: Assets Used to Support Service Delivery

The Agency uses a range of infrastructure and other assets to facilitate and support service delivery.

Details of material items are outlined below:

### 4.1 Property, Plant and Equipment

#### a) Gross carrying amount and accumulated depreciation

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Land at fair value (i)	3,865,923	3,865,923
	<b>3,865,923</b>	<b>3,865,923</b>
Buildings at fair value (i)	2,848,263	2,848,263
Capital Work in Progress - Buildings (i)	170,171	74,731
less Accumulated depreciation	(324,837)	(277,274)
	<b>2,693,597</b>	<b>2,645,720</b>
Building improvements at cost and fair value (i)	929,945	929,945
less Accumulated depreciation	(814,007)	(786,160)
	<b>115,938</b>	<b>143,785</b>
Motor vehicles (at cost)	1,446,541	1,431,642
less Accumulated depreciation	(1,240,804)	(1,064,088)
	<b>205,737</b>	<b>367,554</b>
Furniture and equipment (at cost)	1,094,244	989,291
less Accumulated depreciation	(727,489)	(608,712)
	<b>366,755</b>	<b>380,579</b>
<b>Net Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>7,247,950</b>	<b>7,403,561</b>

(i) The Board has reviewed fair values at 30 June 2022 and is satisfied that carrying values are consistent with fair values at that date. Refer below and Note 4.4.

#### (b) Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of asset

Year Ended 30 June 2022 Reconciliation of carrying values by asset class

	Land \$	Building Improvements \$	Buildings \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Furniture and Equipment \$	Total \$
Balance at the beginning of year	3,865,923	143,785	2,645,720	367,554	380,579	7,403,561
Additions	-	-	95,439	37,291	104,954	237,684
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation expense	-	(27,847)	(47,562)	(199,108)	(118,778)	(393,295)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of year</b>	<b>3,865,923</b>	<b>115,938</b>	<b>2,693,597</b>	<b>205,737</b>	<b>366,755</b>	<b>7,247,950</b>

Year Ended 30 June 2021 Reconciliation of carrying values by asset class

	Land \$	Building Improvements \$	Buildings \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Furniture and Equipment \$	Total \$
Balance at the beginning of year	3,914,923	217,451	2,717,116	622,555	334,525	7,806,570
Additions	-	9,995	74,730	-	159,078	243,803
Disposals	-	(15,100)	-	(4,688)	(4,192)	(23,980)
<b>Properties Actively Marketed (Refer Note 4.3):</b>						
Transfer to Non current assets held for sale	(49,000)	(29,107)	(97,095)	-	-	(175,202)
Depreciation expense	-	(39,454)	(49,031)	(250,313)	(108,832)	(447,630)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of year</b>	<b>3,865,923</b>	<b>143,785</b>	<b>2,645,720</b>	<b>367,554</b>	<b>380,579</b>	<b>7,403,561</b>

## Valuation

Land and buildings are measured at fair value based on periodic, but completed approximately every 5 years, valuations by external independent valuers, less accumulated depreciation for buildings.

In periods when the freehold land and buildings are not subject to an independent valuation, the directors conduct directors' valuations to ensure the carrying amount for the land and buildings is not materially different from fair value.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation surplus in equity. Revaluation decreases that offset previous increases in the same class of assets are recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus. Other decreases are recognised in profit and loss.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis and are therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event that the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than the estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount and impairment losses are recognised either in surplus or deficit, or as a revaluation decrease, if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset.

## Impairment

At the end of each reporting period, the Agency assesses whether there is any indication that an asset (including Intangible Assets) may be impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit and loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another Standard (eg in accordance with the revaluation model in AASB 116: Property, Plant and Equipment). Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with that other Standard. Where an impairment loss on a revalued asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

## Subsequent Costs

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Agency and the costs of the item can be measured reliably. All repairs and maintenance are recognised as expenses in profit and loss during the financial year in which they are incurred.

## Capitalisation and Useful lives

Assets with a cost in excess of \$1,500 are capitalised and depreciation has been provided on depreciable assets so as to allocate their cost - or valuation - over their estimated useful lives using the methods as set out in Note 3.3. Estimates of the remaining useful lives and depreciation method for all assets are reviewed at least annually.

## Disposal

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing net proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are recognised in profit and loss in the period in which they occur. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to that asset are transferred to retained surplus.

## 4.2 Intangible Assets

### (a) Gross carrying amount and accumulated amortisation

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Software (at cost)	1,097,595	962,236
less Accumulated amortisation	(736,163)	(562,830)
<b>Net Intangibles</b>	<b>361,432</b>	<b>399,406</b>

### (b) Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of asset

Year Ended 30 June 2022 Reconciliation of carrying values by asset class	Software \$	Total \$
Balance at the beginning of year	399,406	399,406
Additions	143,049	143,049
Amortisation expense	(7,690)	(7,690)
<b>Software development expensed</b>	<b>(173,333)</b>	<b>(173,333)</b>
<b>Carrying amount at the end of year</b>	<b>361,432</b>	<b>361,432</b>
Year Ended 30 June 2021 Reconciliation of carrying values by asset class		
Balance at the beginning of year	442,843	442,843
Additions	145,344	145,344
Amortisation expense	(188,781)	(188,781)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of year</b>	<b>399,406</b>	<b>399,406</b>

## Capitalisation and Useful Lives

Acquired computer software licences are initially capitalised at cost, which includes the purchase price (net of any discounts and rebates) and other directly attributable costs of preparing the asset for its intended use. Direct expenditure including employee costs, which enhances or extends the performance of computer software beyond its specifications and which can be reliably measured, is added to the original cost of the software.

These costs are amortised to profit and loss using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, usually three years. The amortisation period and amortisation method are reviewed at least at each balance sheet date. The effects of any revision are recognised in profit and loss when the changes arise. Costs associated with maintaining the computer software are recognised as an expense when incurred.

## Impairment

Computer software licences are subsequently carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

## 4.3 Non-current Assets Held For Resale

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Non-current assets held for sale</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>175,202</b>

During the year ended 30 June 2021 a property in Robinvale was transferred to Non-current assets held for resale after it was listed for sale with an agent. Sale of this property was completed during the year ended 30 June 2022 with a gain recognised in profit on sale of fixed assets.



Movements in Non-current assets held for resale are summarised below:

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Balance at beginning of year	175,202	-
Transferred from property, plant and equipment, Refer 4.1(b) above	-	175,202
Book value of asset sold	(175,202)	-
<b>Balance at end of year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>175,202</b>

#### 4.4 Fair Value Measurements

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Agency has assets as set out in the table below that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis after initial recognition. The Agency does not subsequently measure any liabilities on a recurring basis and has no assets or liabilities that are measured at fair value on a non-recurring basis.

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Non-financial assets			
Non-current assets held for sale (i)	<b>4.3</b>	-	175,202
Freehold land (ii)	<b>4.1 (a)</b>	3,865,923	3,865,923
Freehold buildings (iii)	<b>4.1 (a)</b>	2,809,535	2,789,505
		<b>6,675,458</b>	<b>6,830,630</b>

(i) For non-current assets held for sale (where applicable), the fair values have been based on a signed contract of sale for the property.

(ii) For freehold land, the fair values have been determined using a market approach based on 2016 independent valuations. The board has reviewed the carrying values at 30 June 2022 and is satisfied that these are consistent with fair value at that date.

(iii) For freehold buildings, the fair values have been determined using a market approach based on 2016 independent valuations. The board has reviewed the carrying values at 30 June 2022 and is satisfied that these are consistent with fair value at that date.

#### 4.5 Accounting Judgements and Estimates Related to Non-Financial Assets

##### Estimation of useful lives of assets

The Agency determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and charges for its property, plant and equipment. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

##### Impairment of non-financial assets

The Agency assesses impairment of non-financial assets at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Agency and to the particular asset that may lead to impairment. If an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. This involves fair value less costs of disposal or value-in-use calculations, which incorporate a number of key estimates and assumptions.

## NOTE 5: Financing Our Operations

Details of the sources of finance used by the Agency to fund its operations and activities, including operational cashflow, cash holdings, investments and borrowings.

### 5.1 Cash Flow From Operations

Reconciliation of Net Result for the year to Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Net surplus for the year		1,145,845	1,008,136
<b>Non-cash items in current year surplus:</b>			
Depreciation and amortisation		566,628	636,411
Hire purchase finance charges		8,874	17,541
Provision for doubtful debts		10,000	
Intangible asset written off		7,689	
Interest reinvested in deposits with maturities longer than 3 months		(55,401)	(73,766)
Profit on sale of fixed assets		(13,500)	(4,161)
Profit on sale of asset held for resale		(274,499)	-
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities:</b>			
Increase (decrease) in payables		457,301	(210,003)
Increase (decrease) in contracts income in advance		201,967	484,761
Increase (decrease) in employee provisions		(40,724)	(106,224)
Increase (decrease) in GST and PAYG payable		(27,847)	(17,332)
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable		(267,716)	327,409
Decrease (increase) in prepayments		(59,819)	(51,929)
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>		<b>1,658,798</b>	<b>2,010,843</b>

### 5.2 Cash and Cash Equivalents and Cash Investments

Cash at bank - unrestricted		213,153	1,328,929
Cash at bank - Chances for Children	8	266,517	178,712
Short term investments - term deposits		6,496,097	7,271,815
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		<b>6,975,767</b>	<b>8,779,456</b>
Term deposits where term exceeds 3 months		8,737,198	5,380,358
Term deposits where term exceeds 3 months - Chances for Children	8	1,655,361	1,646,432
<b>Cash Investments</b>		<b>10,392,559</b>	<b>7,026,790</b>

The effective interest rate on short-term bank deposits was 0.45% (2021: 0.59%). These deposits have maturities ranging from 150 to 180 days.

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. For purposes of the Statement of Cashflows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, at bank and on deposit.

### 5.3 Hire Purchase Liabilities

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Current</b>		
Secured hire purchase contracts	72,758	269,380
Less Unexpired finance charges	(2,129)	(7,875)
	<b>70,629</b>	<b>261,505</b>
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Secured hire purchase contracts	28,691	63,360
Less Unexpired finance charges	(1,209)	(1,040)
	<b>27,482</b>	<b>62,320</b>
<b>Hire Purchase Commitments:</b>		
Payments due not later than 12 months	72,758	269,380
Payments due between 12 months and 5 years	28,691	63,360
<b>Minimum Hire Purchase Payments</b>	<b>101,449</b>	<b>332,740</b>
Less: Future finance charges	(3,338)	(8,915)
	<b>98,111</b>	<b>323,825</b>

Each hire purchase contract is secured by the underlying asset, which in all cases is a motor vehicle.

### 5.4 Lease Commitments

The Agency has entered into rental lease agreements for use of premises at 64 Lemon Ave, Mildura; 59 Darling St, Wentworth; 1/22 Victoria St, Kerang; 60 Madden Ave, Mildura and 62 Madden Ave, Mildura.

The Directors, after considering modelling of the application of AASB16, have determined that there are currently no material leases to be recognised under the standard and therefore there has been no impact in the 30 June 2022 financial statements. The Directors will continue to consider leases on an annual basis and material leases will be accounted for under AASB16 (Refer below).

#### Minimum lease payments under short term and low value leases:

Payments due not later than 12 months	36,667	171,757
Payments due between 12 months and 5 years	-	36,667
<b>Minimum Operating Lease Payments</b>	<b>36,667</b>	<b>208,424</b>

At the inception of a contract, the Agency assesses if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present that is material to the financial statements, a right of use asset and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the Agency where the Agency is a lessee. However, where leases are not material together with all contracts that are classified as short term leases (ie a lease with a remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets, lease payments are recognised as an operating expense on a straight line basis over the term of the lease.

Initially, the lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments still to be paid at commencement date. The lease payments are discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Agency uses the incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are as follows:

- fixed lease payments less any lease incentives;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options;
- lease payments under extension options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.



The right of use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability as mentioned above, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, as well as any initial direct costs. The subsequent measurement of the right of use assets is at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Right of use assets are depreciated over the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset, whichever is the shortest. Where a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset, or the cost of the right of use asset reflects that the Agency anticipates to exercise a purchase option, the specific asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset.

## 5.5 Reserves

Reserves are amounts set aside from past surpluses which have been used for specified purposes, as set out below:

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Swan Hill building reserve	95,000	95,000
Kerang building reserve	72,820	72,820
Mildura building reserve	269,638	269,638
General capital reserve	551,343	551,343
Asset Revaluation Reserve	1,092,265	1,092,265
	<b>2,081,066</b>	<b>2,081,066</b>

### Building Reserves - Swan Hill , Kerang and Mildura

These reserves were created to identify funds raised specifically for the construction and upgrade of buildings at the three locations. The funds were treated as income when received.

### General Reserve

The general capital reserve is used to record funds received and brought to account as income which have been applied to the acquisition of capital assets.

### Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets. The Assets Revaluation Reserve is comprised as follows:

	Land		Buildings	
	2022 \$	2021 \$	2022 \$	2021 \$
Balance at the beginning of the year	1,012,238	1,012,238	80,027	80,027
Revaluation increment (decrement)	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance at the end of the year</b>	<b>1,012,238</b>	<b>1,012,238</b>	<b>80,027</b>	<b>80,027</b>

## NOTE 6: Contingencies, Risks and Valuation Practices

### 6.1 Capital Commitments

As at 30 June 2022 the Agency had a capital commitments for software development amounting to 26,400 (including GST) - (2021: \$nil)

### 6.2 Contingent Assets And Liabilities

As at 30 June 2022 the Agency had no contingent assets or contingent liabilities (2021: \$98,000).

### 6.3 Events Occurring Subsequent To Reporting Date

No events have occurred subsequent to balance date which are likely to materially effect any of the balances or values reported in the financial statements.

### 6.4 Financial Risk Management

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	15,446,448	13,981,102
Cash and cash equivalents, Chances for Children	1,921,878	1,825,144
Loans and receivables	604,405	346,689
	<b>17,972,731</b>	<b>16,152,935</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>		
Financial liabilities at amortised cost		
- payables	1,046,209	587,350
- hire purchase liabilities	98,111	323,825
	<b>1,144,320</b>	<b>911,175</b>

#### Financial Instruments - Recognition, Measurement and Classification

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the Agency commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (ie trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified as at fair value through profit and loss, in which case the transaction costs are recognised immediately as expense in profit and loss.

#### (i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments, that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rates method.

#### (ii) Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities (excluding financial guarantees) are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

#### Impairment

At each reporting date, the Agency assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. Impairment gains and losses are recognised in the statement of operations.

#### Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the Agency no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are either extinguished, cancelled or expire. The difference between the carrying value of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in the profit and loss.

## NOTE 7: Related Parties and Other Disclosures

### 7.1 Related Party Transactions

#### (i) Responsible Persons

The names of the board members who held office during the reporting period are:

- Ross Lake (Chair)
- Christine Cottrell (Chair of Finance Audit and Risk Committee)
- Geoff Dea
- Andrew Kremor
- Dr Suriya Hariprakash
- Belinda Hudak (appointed April 2022)
- Cyndi Power (resigned February 2022)
- Eelco Vugs( appointed December 2021)
- Jenna Yetman (Deputy Chair)

#### (ii) Board Members' Remuneration

No remuneration was paid to board members during the year.

#### (iii) Board Members' Transactions

During the year the following transactions with Board Members or Board Member-related entities were recognised:

- A business in which Ross Lake has a beneficial interest is a supplier of fuel to the Agency. The terms of the transactions were net 30 days and the total payments recognised in the financial report were \$10,473 (2021 - \$10,100). An amount of \$nil was owed by the Agency at 30 June 2022 (2021 - \$100).
- A school of which Belinda Hudak is the Principal is a supplier of education services supported by the Agency's Chances for Children program. The terms of the transactions were net 30 days and the total payments recognised in the financial report were \$1,383. An amount of \$nil was owed by the Agency at 30 June 2022.
- A organisation for which Geoff Dea is CEO is a provider of education and training services supported by the Agency's Chances for Children program. The terms of transaction are net 14 days and total payments included in the financial report were \$3,812 (2021:\$7,148). An amount of \$nil was owed by the Agency at 30 June 2022 (2021: \$nil).

#### (iv) Retirement and Superannuation Payments

Amounts paid directly on retirement from office or to prescribed superannuation funds for the provision of retirement benefits for board members were \$nil (2021 - \$nil).

#### (v) Loans

No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the Agency to Key Management Personnel during the reporting period.

#### (vi) Other related party transactions

There are no other matters to report.

### 7.2 Operating Region

Mallee Family Care Inc. operates in one geographic area being the Mallee region of north west Victoria and south west New South Wales.

The principal places of business of the Agency are as follows:

1-3 Devenport Street	DARETON
1/22 Victoria Street	KERANG
122 Ninth Street	MILDURA
229 Beveridge Street	SWAN HILL

### 7.3 Members' Guarantee

The Agency is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company Limited By Guarantee. If the entity is wound up the Constitution requires that each member is required to contribute to a maximum of \$10 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Agency. At 30 June 2022, the number of members was 8.

### 7.4 Other Current Assets

Other current assets, as reported in the Statement of Financial Position, is comprised of the following items which are reported separately in the Notes:

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Prepayments	3.8	291,929	232,110
Non-current assets held for sale	4.3	-	175,202
		<b>291,929</b>	<b>407,312</b>

### 7.5 Impact of Covid 19 Pandemic

While regional Victoria was subject to less restrictive Covid-19 orders in 2021/22 than metropolitan Melbourne, the impact of the pandemic was firmly felt by the Agency and the community we serve.

The most significant impact was the increased level of sick leave being taken by staff either for themselves or in the role of Carer. Sick leave expenditure increased by nearly 60% compared to the 2020/21 financial year. Whilst productivity has not been significantly reduced, additional pressure has been placed on remaining staff to pick up the shortfall.

The Agency has continued to expand its information technology hardware, software and support to ensure service can be delivered remotely as required. Reduced levels of travel have continued during 2021/22 as on-line meetings and video conferencing become the preferred method of delivery.

Consistent with the 2020/21 financial year considerable cost has been incurred for additional cleaning, sanitizing and PPE with the additional cost of the purchase of rapid antigen tests available for staff use as required.

The impact of mandatory Covid -19 vaccination led to a small number of staff resignations and a great deal of additional work for the human resources team and management of the Agency.

The Agency remains committed to ensure all necessary resources are available to keep all staff members and the community safe during the continued threat of the Covid-19 Pandemic.



## NOTE 8: Chances For Children- Our Philanthropic Fund

The Chances for Children Fund (“Chances”) was established in the 2001 financial year. Chances was founded as a partnership between the Agency and three water authorities, Lower Murray Water, First Mildura Irrigation Trust and Sunraysia Rural Water. Its charter is to raise money from public subscription and general donation which is to be used to enhance opportunities for disadvantaged young people from the region. Chances will provide funding to assist such children with education, dealing with disabilities and deprivations arising from disadvantage.

The Agency considers that funds raised through the efforts of Chances (less any applicable expenses) are quarantined for use in assisting beneficiaries, in accordance with the recommendations of a separate advisory board. As such, Chances is operated as a Special Purpose Reserve within the Agency.

Financial statements for the Chances for Children Fund Special Purposes Reserve are set out in 8.1 to 8.3 below:

### 8.1 Chances For Children Reserve - Statement of Profit and Loss

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>8.3(a)</b>		
Sustaining Supporters		53,976	71,475
Other donations		100,084	113,752
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>		<b>154,060</b>	<b>185,227</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>8.3(a)</b>		
Other operating and project expenses		11,700	152
<b>Total Operating Expenditure</b>		<b>11,700</b>	<b>152</b>
<b>Funds Available For Distribution</b>		<b>142,360</b>	<b>185,075</b>
less Payments to beneficiaries		(45,626)	(40,304)
<b>Operating Surplus Chances For Children</b>		<b>96,734</b>	<b>144,771</b>

### 8.2 Chances For Children Reserve - Statement of Financial Position

<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at bank		266,517	178,712
Term deposit where term exceeds 3 months		1,655,361	1,646,432
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>1,921,878</b>	<b>1,825,144</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>1,921,878</b>	<b>1,825,144</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>1,921,878</b>	<b>1,825,144</b>
<b>Fund Equity</b>			
Opening general reserve balance		373,006	228,235
Surplus for year		96,734	144,771
<b>Closing general reserve balance</b>		<b>469,740</b>	<b>373,006</b>
<b>Closing bequests reserve balance</b>		<b>1,452,138</b>	<b>1,452,138</b>
<b>Total Fund Equity</b>		<b>1,921,878</b>	<b>1,825,144</b>

### 8.3 Chances For Children Reserve – Notes to Financial Statements

#### (a) Basis of Accounting

Income and expenditure identified as relating to Chances is recognised accordingly in the Statement of Profit and Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

Assets representing the net balance of the fund are identified in the Balance Sheet and the capital of the fund is disclosed as a Special Purpose Reserve within Equity.

#### (b) Internal Transactions

Revenue and expenditure in these supplementary financial statements may include internal transactions with the operating fund of the Agency. In the income and expenditure statement, these transactions have been eliminated in accordance with the accounting policy outlined in Note 1(b).

#### (c) Contingent Liability For Future Beneficiary Payments

A significant proportion of payments to beneficiaries of Chances For Children represents support for young people undertaking tertiary study. No guarantee is given to tertiary beneficiaries at the commencement of the first year of their studies that support will automatically be granted over the duration of their course. However, in the normal course of events beneficiaries do receive support from Chances For Children for the second and following years of their studies. Circumstances where funding will not be continued include deferral or termination of the course and an improvement in the student's financial situation.

At 30 June 2022, the estimated commitment to future funding of existing tertiary beneficiaries is \$171,950 (2021: \$124,356). This figure is calculated based on the net present value of estimated future cash outflows relating to these beneficiaries. It takes account of anticipated future drop out rates and other mitigating factors.

## Directors' Declaration for the Year Ended 30 June 2022

In accordance with a resolution of the Directors of Mallee Family Care Limited, the Directors of the registered entity declare that, in the Directors' opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 48 to 69, satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:
  - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements applicable to the entity; and
  - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of the registered entity as at 30 June 2022 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable

This declaration is signed in accordance with subsection 60-15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission Regulations 2013.



Ross Lake  
Chair of the Board

Dated: 25 August 2022

## Mallee Family Care Ltd

Independent auditor's report to members

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Mallee Family Care Ltd (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the statement by members of the Board.

In our opinion the financial report of Mallee Family Care Ltd has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Regime and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other Information

The members of the Board are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.



In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Responsibilities of the members of the Board for the Financial Report**

The members of the Board of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Regime and the ACNC Act and for such internal control as the members of the Board determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the members of the Board are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the members of the Board either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The members of the Board are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of these financial statements is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

[www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_responsibilities/ar4.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf)

This description forms part of our independent auditor's report.

**William Buck**

ABN 38 280 203 274



**G.W. Martinella**

Partner

Dated this 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.



Registered NDIS Provider



[www.malleefamilycare.com.au](http://www.malleefamilycare.com.au)

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