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2024 Mallee Family Care Annual Report highlights advocacy, community impact and value of place-based services

Mallee Family Care (MFC), has released its Annual Report for the 2023-24 Financial Year, showcasing its steadfast commitment to supporting vulnerable children, families and individuals in North West Victoria and South West New South Wales.

Board Chair Ross Lake OAM officially launched the Annual Report at the agency's Annual General Meeting in Mildura on Wednesday 23rd October.

The event brought together Board members, staff, volunteers, stakeholders and community partners to reflect on a year of achievements and to celebrate long-serving staff members.

During the AGM Mr Lake highlighted Mallee Family Care's dedication to showing up for Mallee people.

"For 45 years, Mallee Family Care has worked to strengthen communities, focussing on early assistance to prevent increased vulnerability due to circumstance," Mr Lake said.

"The rising cost of living has put Mallee communities under enormous pressure and over the past twelve months this has led to a notable increase in demand for assistance from Mallee Family Care across all programs."

Servicing a catchment area of 165,841 km², Mallee Family Care provided support to 7,095 clients through more than 70 different programs in the 2023-24 Financial Year. The agency's 306 staff work right across North West Victoria, South West New South Wales and parts of the Riverland region of South Australia.

CEO Teresa Jayet said providing place-based support where people needed it, was central to the agency's ethos.

"Our dedicated teams have worked tirelessly to ensure that those people who require assistance the most, can access it easily, Ms Jayet said.

"In the last twelve months our staff travelled more than 776,000 kilometres to deliver programs, education activities and support in communities that would otherwise miss out – increasing their isolation and vulnerability."

Ms Jayet also highlighted the agency's advocacy work during the 2023-24 Financial Year.



Media enquiries

Mieka Symes | Communications Manager

T: 03 5023 5966 M: 0439 850 638

E: misymes@malleefamilycare.com.au



“We strive to ensure local perspectives and experiences are considered in the context of State and Commonwealth policy,” she said.

In the last twelve months, Mallee Family Care has made submissions on more than a dozen occasions, providing a local lens on significant social issues including the NDIS, State and Federal government budgets, homelessness, autism, early years, cost of living, family law reform and financial wellbeing.

“As post code injustice becomes more apparent, we will continue advocating for the realities of rural, regional and remote life,” Ms Jayet said.

Mallee Family Care’s 2024 Annual Report is available to read in full at bit.ly/MFCAnnualReports

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