

SOCIAL OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT

2014-15



ADVOCACY.
SUPPORT.
EMPOWERMENT.



Ella Curtis, Associate Nurse Manager at Cabrini Malvern, is pictured at work in a surgical theatre at Modilon General Hospital in Madang, Papua New Guinea.

ABOUT CABRINI HEALTH

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OUR MISSION

Who we are: We are a Catholic healthcare service inspired by the spirit and vision of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini and the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

What we believe: We are a community of care, reaching out with compassion, integrity, courage and respect to all we serve.

What we do: We provide excellence in all of our services and work to identify and meet unmet needs.

OUR VALUES

Our values form the base of our mission, are built around what we believe and drive how we act.

They are drawn from Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini's life and reflect her heart, her spirit, her conviction and her approach. They are:

- Compassion
- Integrity
- Courage
- Respect

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Boon Wurrung People, the traditional custodians of the land on which Cabrini's facilities stand. We recognise the Boon Wurrung Elders and the Elders of all Australia's First People, for they hold the memories, traditions, culture and hopes of Aboriginal Australia.

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other friends and associates

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YEAR MILESTONES REACHED IN 2014-15

- The first year of a community bereavement service in Stonnington
- The launch of JoCare and the establishment of the Boonwurrung Cultural Revival Program
- The beginning of a partnership with St Vincent's Health Australia and Caritas to support on-community renal dialysis at Santa Teresa

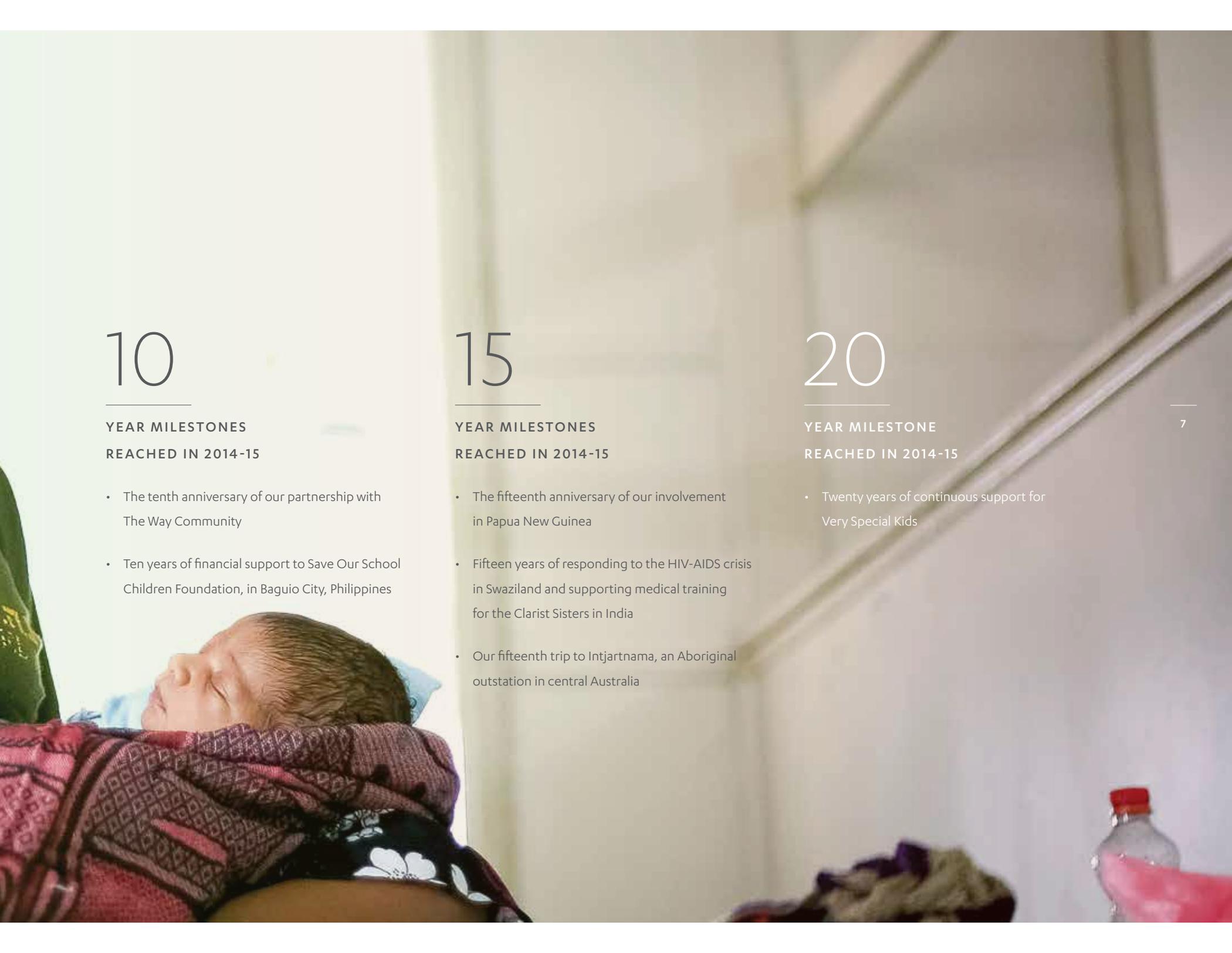
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YEAR MILESTONES REACHED IN 2014-15

- The fifth anniversary of partnership with Family Life and Ngwala Willumbong
- Dr Malcolm Altson's fifth visit to Kanabea, a remote highland village in Papua New Guinea



Mother and child pictured at Modilon General Hospital in Madang, Papua New Guinea.



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YEAR MILESTONES

REACHED IN 2014-15

- The tenth anniversary of our partnership with The Way Community
- Ten years of financial support to Save Our School Children Foundation, in Baguio City, Philippines

15

YEAR MILESTONES

REACHED IN 2014-15

- The fifteenth anniversary of our involvement in Papua New Guinea
- Fifteen years of responding to the HIV-AIDS crisis in Swaziland and supporting medical training for the Clarist Sisters in India
- Our fifteenth trip to Intjartnama, an Aboriginal outstation in central Australia

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YEAR MILESTONE

REACHED IN 2014-15

- Twenty years of continuous support for Very Special Kids

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



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Our social outreach program began in a small way in 1992 at the request of our owners, the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus (Cabrini Sisters). While the Sisters were proud of our achievements in private healthcare, they challenged us to become more closely aligned with their vision to reach out to people in the community who are marginalised and under-served.

Early in our experience, we learned that we were able to be most effective by partnering with community and social service organisations. Our involvement grew organically over the first decade, as we developed strong relationships with organisations with values and goals similar to our own. An important element of each new partnership was the opportunity for our staff to be involved in our efforts. This enabled us to add value to relationships by donating material resources, contributing our knowledge and skills, and leveraging our services to benefit those being served.

With continued support and investment from the Cabrini Board, in 2006 we reached expenditure of \$1 million. Funding continued at this level until 2009, when the program was reviewed. In 2010, we committed to a sixfold increase in investment by 2020. We have trebled expenditure during the past five years. In 2015, we invested just over \$3m on social outreach and community engagement, excluding the value of material aid, *pro bono* services and volunteer support.

At the same time as expanding our social outreach program, we wanted to reduce the number of organisations with which we work and strengthen the relationships. We identified priority areas, as well as key performance indicators and targets to help us in realigning our activities. We have made significant progress towards our goals, as follows:

- Over five years, we have reduced the number of partnerships by 75 per cent

- In the past two financial years, we invested at least 30 per cent of available funds on our three major partnerships
- Since last financial year, the percentage of funds donated to Catholic charities has increased from 40 per cent to 60 per cent
- We have complemented our partnerships and philanthropic grants with programs where we are directly involved in service provision
- Program administration costs have been contained to 5 per cent

Today, our social outreach and community engagement programs function as two complementary streams of activity. We have three methods of engagement: partnerships, philanthropic grants, and programs.

This report details our recent achievements.

Catherine Garner
Executive Director Mission and Strategy

INVESTMENT 2014-15

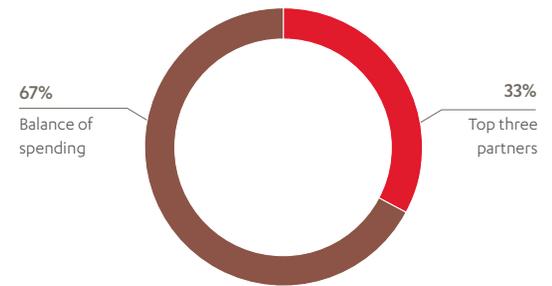
Total program expenditure



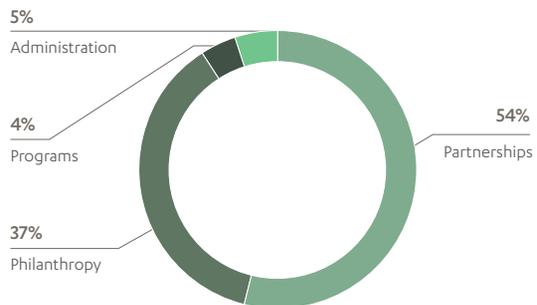
Social outreach expenditure



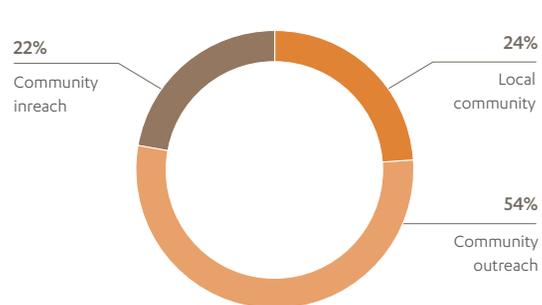
Expenditure on top three partners



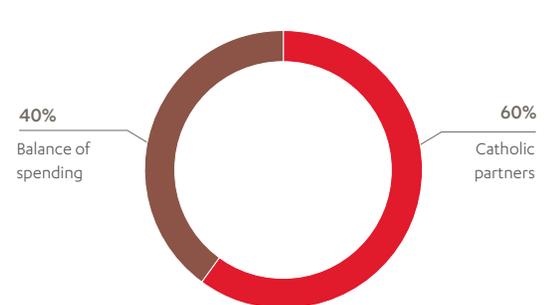
Expenditure type



Community engagement



Expenditure with Catholic organisations



Reaching out: social outreach program report



BABY OF: REBECCA
SEX: FEMALE
DOB: 13/8/14
BIRTH WEIGHT: 1.620 Kg
DATE OF ADMISSION: 14/08/2014
DIAGNOSIS: 1. BBA
2. PROM 7 48 hrs
3. LBW

Cabrini's social outreach program has operated since 1992 and has expanded with increased focus and investment from the organisation.

Within our social outreach program, we have three priorities as follows:

- 1 **Asylum seeker and refugee support**
- 2 **Aboriginal health and wellbeing**
- 3 **International health**

During 2014-15, our total expenditure on these three priorities was \$1,529,738.

Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini was declared the universal Patron Saint of Immigrants by Pope Pius XII in acknowledgement of her life's work caring for immigrant populations in the USA and Latin America. In 1946, the year of her canonisation, the Cabrini Sisters were invited to Melbourne to look after the Italian immigrants here. We continue their work by supporting asylum seekers and refugees entering Australia today.

We invested \$383,304 on asylum seeker and refugee support. While most of these funds are disbursed as philanthropic grants, during 2014-15 we began work on development of a health hub for asylum seekers who are not eligible for Medicare. The hub will be located in Sydney Road in the Melbourne suburb of Brunswick

and will serve the northern corridor of Melbourne. We anticipate services will be delivered by a consortium of providers, with Cabrini being the lead agency. We look forward to this project being realised in early 2016.

We provided \$327,600 in philanthropic grants for projects designed to enhance Aboriginal health and wellbeing. Nearly 50 percent of the funding went to Aboriginal controlled organisations. This reflects our desire to support projects that are people-centred, lead to empowerment, and where stakeholders are involved in consultation, planning, implementation and evaluation of projects.

More than 50 per cent of our social outreach funding was invested in international health programs. Most of our relationships in international health are long-standing partnerships. We believe this method of association helps to mitigate the risk of operating in countries where corruption and fraud may be more prevalent. Where the association is purely philanthropic, we usually donate through a trusted third party, such as an Australian-based charity.

Mother Rebecca Kerd and her baby daughter pictured at Modilon General Hospital in Madang, Papua New Guinea.

Asylum seeker and refugee support

By law, all people who arrive in Australia without a valid visa are subject to mandatory detention. Maritime arrivals are currently held in offshore detention centres. Those who arrive legally and later claim asylum are placed in onshore detention, either in a detention facility or in community detention.

Recently many onshore detention facilities have been closed and the detainees have been released into

the community on bridging visas. Currently, an application for refugee status may take many months or even years to be determined.

During this time, many asylum seekers do not have access to essential services such as work, housing and healthcare and must rely on the charity and goodwill of others.

Since 2013, we have dedicated a portion of our budget to support individuals and agencies on the frontline of service provision. In 2014-2015, we invested \$383,304.

The programs that we supported in Melbourne were as follows:

Baptcare/Cabrini 'Houses of Hope' pilot program

Since 2008, Baptcare has been providing transitional housing to asylum seekers and refugees through its sanctuary program. Sanctuary provides accommodation to 76 asylum seekers across two facilities in the northern suburbs of Melbourne. Residents have access to tenancy services, case workers and pastoral support. These services work together to improve the wellbeing, independence and social participation of clients. The Houses of Hope pilot program seeks to expand the availability of accommodation options by accessing houses owned by churches or other community groups that can be linked into the sanctuary program. We have

committed funding of \$68,000 per year for three years to source and establish houses. The pilot will finish in July 2017.

CatholicCare asylum seeker support program

CatholicCare's asylum seeker support program is directed towards vulnerable individuals and families released from onshore detention centres into community detention, as well as other individuals and families who are living in the community on bridging visas and who have little support. The program is built on strong partnerships with parishes and other charitable agencies. We support CatholicCare's efforts with an annual grant of \$39,200.

CatholicCare refugee and settlement program

CatholicCare's refugee and settlement program equips newly arrived refugee and humanitarian entrants with the social and life skills necessary for successful integration and settlement in Australia. The program operates in the cities



Tomasa Morales, Team Leader (South Eastern Cluster), CatholicCare's refugee and settlement program, gave her own moving account of displacement at Cabrini's annual social and community outreach project partners' event in September 2014.

of Greater Dandenong and Casey; these local government areas have the greatest diversity and highest concentration of new immigrants in eastern Melbourne.

Over the past few years, government funding of settlement programs has become increasingly tenuous. Towards the end of 2013-14, we agreed to underwrite CatholicCare's total funding, as it had no guarantee of funding after 20 June 2014. Ultimately, the government funding agreement was rolled over and has continued. We contribute annual funding of \$93,000 to complement the government grant. Cabrini's funding helps offset rent and operational costs. As well as funding, we donated material aid and provided employment for eight CatholicCare clients at Cabrini Linen Service.

***Jesuit Social Services/
Cabrini asylum seeker solidarity project***

This joint initiative between Jesuit Social Services and Cabrini was initiated in December 2013 with the goal



From left: Gula Bezhana, Settlement Support Worker, is pictured with Gulsoom, an Afghan community elder and client of CatholicCare's refugee and settlement program.



of changing the hearts and minds of the Catholic community towards asylum seekers and refugees. The project has ultimately resulted in the formation of the Catholic Alliance for People Seeking Asylum (CAPSA), a steering group comprising representatives from Catholic peak bodies, universities and other relevant organisations that have liaison with the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. During 2014-15, we provided funding of \$90,000 to support the establishment of CAPSA and the employment of a project officer, in order to facilitate the development of joint statements and regular communication.

Mental health screening tool for asylum seekers

In 2012, Professor Suresh Sundram applied for funding to develop and evaluate a tool for screening and triaging mental illness in asylum seekers. The goals were to develop a tool that is short, sensitive to asylum seeker mental

Professor Suresh Sundram has developed a mental health screening tool for asylum seekers.

health issues, and able to be administered by non-professional staff at the first interaction with people seeking asylum.

We entered into a three-year funding agreement to support the project, which has been fully funded by Cabrini. Work has been conducted under the auspices of the Florey Institute of Neurosciences and Mental Health. The tool is now in the final stages of validation. During 2014-15, we contributed \$93,000 in funding.



Sanctuary staff member and Houses of Hope resident. Photo care of Baptcare Sanctuary.



Latonia (ten) and Jacob (one) wait for their mother Tammy Wees while she has her test at Napranum Primary Health Care Centre in Queensland.

Aboriginal health and wellbeing programs

Australia's First People experience the worst health outcomes of any Australians. Therefore, we believe they have a special priority for our resources. In 2010, we named Aboriginal health and wellbeing as one of our priorities and we have sought to strengthen our contribution each year. We have learned that a key to success in this area is forming long-term partnerships with Aboriginal people and agencies, building relationships based on mutual respect and mutual obligation.

During 2014-15, we invested \$327,600 in Aboriginal health and wellbeing programs. Our Aboriginal programs tell our reconciliation story. They are as follows:

Boonwurrung cultural revival program

As all of our healthcare facilities are located in



Cabrini cardiac technologist Cathy Wilkie with Callan Bosuen (then eight) and mother Denita.

Boonwurrung country, we have sought to demonstrate our respect for the traditional owners by working with Boonwurrung leaders to enhance the wellbeing of their people. The Boonwurrung cultural revival program began in March 2015. As the name implies, the program acknowledges the direct link between cultural identity and wellbeing. The program has two goals:

- To conduct genealogy work, language reclamation and connection to country with the family groups who are descendants of Louisa Briggs (1836-1925), a Yalukit Wilam, one of the six clans of the Boonwurrung. She played a major role in the history and politics of all Victorian Aboriginal people from the 1850s until her death and provides a direct link between pre-settlement Melbourne and the history of post-settlement for this clan.
- To share cultural insights with the community at large. Sharing is an enduring cultural value of the Boonwurrung. Activities will include connection to



country programs, as well as reconciliation and cultural awareness work within existing and new communities.

A grant of \$95,000 was made available to fund establishment of the Boonwurrung cultural revival program, which is fully funded by Cabrini.

Indigenous Hospitality House

Residents of Indigenous Hospitality House open their hearts and home to Aboriginal people who are visiting a family member in a Melbourne hospital. In 2014-15, they provided accommodation and support to 130 guests who,

on average, stayed three nights. We have supported this program since 2006 with an annual philanthropic grant of \$15,000 towards the house expenses. Also, our staff donate food and other supplies to enhance the hospitality provided at the house.

Inner South Community Health Service Wominjeka Barbecue

The weekly Wominjeka Barbecue is held on Mondays at Veg Out Community Gardens in the Melbourne suburb of St Kilda. It provides an opportunity and space for the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to meet, eat and talk together. Community members and volunteers prepare a healthy lunch. They are also able to provide advice about staying well, as well as organise referrals to health and support services as required. In 2014-15, the event marked its tenth anniversary. Cabrini has supported this grassroots social inclusion initiative since 2011 with an annual grant of \$2600.

Jesuit Social Services capacity building program

This program was established by Jesuit Social Services at the invitation of the Eastern and Central Arrente Elders in response to their feelings of powerlessness, lack of local authority and uncertainty about the future for their children. Jesuit Social Services began working with community corporations to improve their governance and management skills. Our support for the program began in 2011 with an initial donation of \$75,000 followed by an annual commitment of \$150,000 for three years. This program provided an opportunity to continue our long-standing involvement with the Santa Teresa community.

As our initial funding agreement concluded in 2014-15, we took the opportunity to assess the program outcomes. Through visiting the communities being supported by the program, we found that the relationships were respectful and reciprocal and that the program had delivered

Above: Helena, Savannah and Brianna participated in Stonnington Primary School's Indigenous tutoring program. It has helped students gain places at Presentation College, Windsor. Photograph by Sarah Matray © Newspix.



Isaac Hudson (then 5) and Marcus Schuh (then 4) enjoy playtime at Napranum preschool. Cabrini provided a pro bono echocardiography health outreach service to this community.

significant benefits. The assessment led to a further five-year funding commitment from Cabrini.

Ngwala Willumbong Winja Ulupna

Ngwala Willumbong Cooperative offers specialist, outcome focused and culturally appropriate alcohol and drug rehabilitation programs for Aboriginal communities in Victoria. Through its residential and outreach support services, the cooperative aims to create an environment for positive change for people whose lives have been affected by drugs and alcohol. Its holistic approach recognises the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of Aboriginal people.

We began our relationship with Ngwala Willumbong in 2010. As the residential services are located in the suburb of St Kilda, not far from Cabrini's facilities, the cooperative invited us to support Winja Ulupna (the Yorta word for women's haven). In the first year, we recruited female staff who volunteered their time to

work alongside the staff and clients to develop a healing garden. Over time, they have become part of the broader community of support. While we have provided little financial support in the intervening years, our friendship continues through participation in NAIDOC Week and Christmas celebrations.

Opening the Doors Foundation

Opening the Doors Foundation was established in 2001 to support young Aboriginal Victorians to maximise their educational achievement. It provides grants towards the funding of educational costs not otherwise covered by government or other regular sources, such as school uniforms, books, school camps and other school associated costs. Cabrini has supported this



foundation since 2002, making us one of its longest-standing friends. From its early beginnings, the Opening the Doors Foundation's capacity has grown significantly. In 2014-15, it supported 724 students, a far cry from 32 students in its first year of operation. During 2014-15, we contributed \$15,000 to the foundation.

Western Desert Nganampa Walytja Palyantjaku Tjutaku Aboriginal Corporation

This is an Aboriginal community controlled organisation. The name translates to 'making our families well', reflecting the corporation's mission to improve the lives of people with renal failure, to reunite families and to reduce the incidence of kidney disease in the community. It was established by Pintupi people, who raised the funds required to set up the first on-community dialysis service in 2004 in Kintore,

a remote settlement in the Northern Territory. The service enabled sufferers of advanced renal failure to receive renal dialysis at home, rather than having to travel to Alice Springs for treatment. Over the next ten years, the service expanded enabling them to support more than 100 dialysis patients in Alice Springs, Kintore, Yuendumu, Ntaria, Lajamanu, Darwin, Katherine, Warburton and Kiwirrkurra.

In September 2014, we were approached by St Vincent's Health Australia and Caritas Australia to support establishment of a renal dialysis service at Santa Teresa. We made an initial donation of \$50,000 towards establishment costs. Also, we entered into a three-year partnership with St Vincent's Health Australia and Caritas Australia beginning in 2015-16 financial year. Each of us committed to donating \$33,000 per year to match a Commonwealth grant and ensure sustainability of the service.

Bernice Tate, a nurse at Cabrini Malvern, represents Cabrini in its partnership with the Winja Ulupna Women's Recovery Centre in the Melbourne suburb of St Kilda.



International health programs

Many of Australia's near neighbours and others in more distant countries do not have the same access to high quality and affordable healthcare as Australians. In this dimension of our social outreach program, we seek to leverage our knowledge, skills and resources to enable people beyond our borders to access better healthcare. In 2014-15, we invested \$818,834 in international health programs and projects. A total of \$795,834 was expended offshore. The balance funded onshore expenses, such as enabling Modilon Hospital in Papua New Guinea to access Cabrini Pathology, as well as equipping and funding staff to participate in offshore service programs.

Afghanistan

We have a long-standing relationship with Afghan Australian Development Organisation (AADO). This

Melbourne-based diaspora-led organisation has been working closely with impoverished communities in Afghanistan since 2002. The charity was founded by prominent Afghan-Australian Dr Nouria Salehi OAM to deliver sustainable, community-development programs including the creation and delivery of formal and non-formal education and training opportunities for disadvantaged Afghans, particularly women and girls.

We support AADO's life skills training program, a one-year program offered to rural women who lack education. The first semester focuses on reading, writing and simple arithmetic, taking the women from little or no literacy to the equivalent of third grade. Furthermore, they learn about basic health issues and life skills including physiology, psychology, human rights and conflict resolution. In the second semester, women learn dressmaking, tailoring and embroidery. Upon graduation, they receive a sewing machine to help them establish their own businesses.

Outcomes of AADO's life skills training program are far reaching and include women mobilising so their views can be heard by local leaders; increased access to decision-making in their families and communities; better health and wellbeing for their families and broader community; and crucially, becoming role models for other young women in local level leadership. With a small annual grant of \$40,000, more than 1250 rurally-based women in 54 villages have benefited in the program over the course of our partnership.

Ethiopia

The Cabrini Sisters have been in Ethiopia for approximately 15 years. In 2002, they assisted the Sodo Vicariate to establish St Mary's Hospital in Dubbo, a poor, rural area. It is the only hospital within a 30-km radius and serves a population of 100,000 people. Comprising approximately 100 beds, it offers emergency, medical, surgical and obstetric care. It has a good reputation

among the local community and with the local area health department, which is encouraging the hospital to expand its range of services. However, as it does not receive any government funding, it is totally reliant on limited revenue from those patients who have the means to pay and philanthropic donations from Italy, Spain and Australia, in order to cover operating and capital costs. Early in 2015, at the request of Sr Barbara Staley MSC, General Superior, we funded and organised a team to visit St Mary's Hospital to assess it and make recommendations about its future. The team comprised Associate Professor Lee Boyd (Executive Director, Nursing and Cabrini Institute), Jenny Radnell (Clinical Risk Manager) and Peter Matthey (retired Chair of the Cabrini Board of Directors). Their report was gratefully received and in the first instance, it has led to a strengthening of our support for the hospital. In 2015, we donated \$278,000 to offset an anticipated salary shortfall and support the operating costs of the hospital's maternity service.



Ella Curtis, Associate Nurse Manager at Cabrini Malvern, is pictured on the job at Modilon General Hospital, in Madang, Papua New Guinea.



Care on the wards at Modilon General Hospital in Papua New Guinea.
Dr Rob Mitchell (centre) and team are pictured.



Since 1999, we have made an annual donation of \$15,000 to the Australia-based Jesuit Mission Office to support the medical training of Clarist Sisters at the Holy Family Hospital in Khodarma. In the past 12 months, two Sisters completed their studies: one has graduated as a general nurse and one as an anaesthetic technician. Six others are pursuing studies, one in medicine, four in nursing and one as a laboratory technician.

We began a relationship with the Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI) in 2013 following its participation in the annual Catholic Health Australia Conference. In the first year of our association, we supported the development of health promotion publications, and began planning for members of the association to visit Cabrini through our overseas visiting clinician program. During 2014-15, we donated \$20,000 towards the construction of an integrated palliative care centre in Hyderabad. An estimated six million people in

India need palliative care each year; currently less than 2 per cent has access to it. CHAI hopes the centre will be a model for the development of other in-country palliative services.

Papua New Guinea

Since 2000, we have supported various projects and initiatives with our nearest neighbour, Papua New Guinea (PNG). Our involvement started when we began funding Mr John Griffiths, an orthopaedic surgeon at Cabrini, to provide an annual orthopaedic outreach service and education program in Wewak and Madang. In 2006, we provided seed funding to Wapenamanda Centre for Primary Health Care in Enga Province. In 2007, we became more directly involved through establishment of an ongoing relationship with Modilon General Hospital in Madang. Our fourth project began

in 2008 when, at the request of Melbourne Catholic Archbishop Denis Hart, we partnered with Melbourne Overseas Mission to support the provision of healthcare in the Diocese of Kerema, particularly the remote highland village of Kanabea. Throughout 2014-15, activity continued in all of these projects.

Mr Griffiths led a team to Modilon Hospital in August 2014. Unfortunately this visit had to be cut short due to a family emergency.

Wapenamanda Centre for Primary Health Care provides a holistic primary healthcare service for families, especially women and children, including health and lifestyle education and immunisation programs. Approximately 14,000 people accessed this centre's services during the year. Although our initial agreement was to fund the service for three years,



Sister Hana Beyene MSC who is missioned at Dubbo Hospital in south-eastern Ethiopia, visited Australia in 2014. She is one of the first Ethiopian women to join the Cabrini Sisters.



Surgeon Mr Ian Carlisle AM has veteran volunteer status with the charity, Interplast Australia and New Zealand. For two weeks each year, he travels to a place of need, conducting up to 200 consultations and performing up to 80 surgical operations.

we have continued to support it with an annual grant of \$30,000, as the centre has been struggling to achieve financial sustainability.

Our involvement with Modilon General Hospital is multifaceted. In 2008, the hospital management requested assistance in developing plans for a new theatre suite. With *pro bono* support from the firm Jacobs, Thomas and Associates, architects working with Cabrini, the plans were delivered in 2009. Following a series of delays, works finally commenced on the project in mid-2014 with completion scheduled for late 2015. In May 2013, Cabrini established a *pro bono* pathology service for Modilon General Hospital. In the first two years of operation, we have performed 330 tests with an average completion time (from dispatch of the specimen to receipt of the report) of 13 days. Prior to this initiative, the hospital used a local pathology service. A turnaround time of between six and 12 months was common. More timely

REACHING OUT



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pathology results has enabled more accurate diagnosis and, most importantly, better outcomes for patients. Funding contributed by Cabrini in 2012 had supported the building of a new tuberculosis (TB) clinic at the hospital. It was completed in 2014-15 and was officially opened by Peter O'Neill, Prime Minister of PNG, on 9 May 2015.

Dr Malcolm Altson, a general practitioner from country Victoria, is the face and hands of Cabrini's program in Kanabea. During 2014-15, he visited the remote highland community for the fifth time. It took three attempts to fly into Kanabea: the aeroplane had to turn back on the first two attempts due to bad weather. The aeroplane was eventually able to land and Dr Alston spent two weeks there. His role now is primarily teaching, with the goal of empowering the staff at the hospital and the workers from the aid posts in the surrounding villages.

During 2014-15, total expenditure on PNG programs was \$57,000. In January 2015, Cabrini executives and managers

Our partnership with Cabrini Missions Swaziland is our most enduring and began prior to the establishment of our formal social outreach program in 1992. It is one of our three most significant partnerships. Considered a sister organisation, it is sponsored by the Cabrini Sisters. These images were captured by a film crew from Cabrini College, located in Philadelphia USA, who visited the mission.

had the opportunity to meet with Sir Michael Somare, Prime Minister of PNG from 2002-11 and his wife Lady Veronica. Sir Michael expressed his gratitude for Cabrini's ongoing commitment to improving the standard of healthcare in PNG.



Philippines

Cabrini is a long-standing supporter of Interplast, a not-for-profit organisation working to improve quality of life for people who are disabled as a result of congenital or acquired medical conditions such as cleft lip and palate or burn scar contractures. Since 2005, our grant of \$60,000 has been directed to an annual service program in Baguio City, Mindanao, the region that has the highest incidence of poverty in the Philippines. Until recently, the Cabrini Sisters were resident there. We encourage our doctors and nurses who volunteer with Interplast to participate in this program, in order to maintain our physical connection with the local community.

Swaziland

Our partnership with the Cabrini Sisters in Swaziland is our most enduring, pre-dating the establishment of our formal social outreach program in 1992. The scope and nature of the partnership has changed over the years, in response to the needs on the ground. Since 2000, the Cabrini Sisters' primary focus has been to respond to the HIV-AIDS crisis. They established Cabrini Ministries to care for people affected by the disease and the children orphaned or otherwise vulnerable as a result of it. We contribute funding to offset the operational costs of the healthcare program and general infrastructure; our builders visit periodically to oversee the building and maintenance program; and our staff donate and/or raise funds to sponsor orphan and vulnerable children.

Over the past decade, Cabrini Ministries has matured, services have been consolidated and organisational capacity has been built. This has enabled the mission

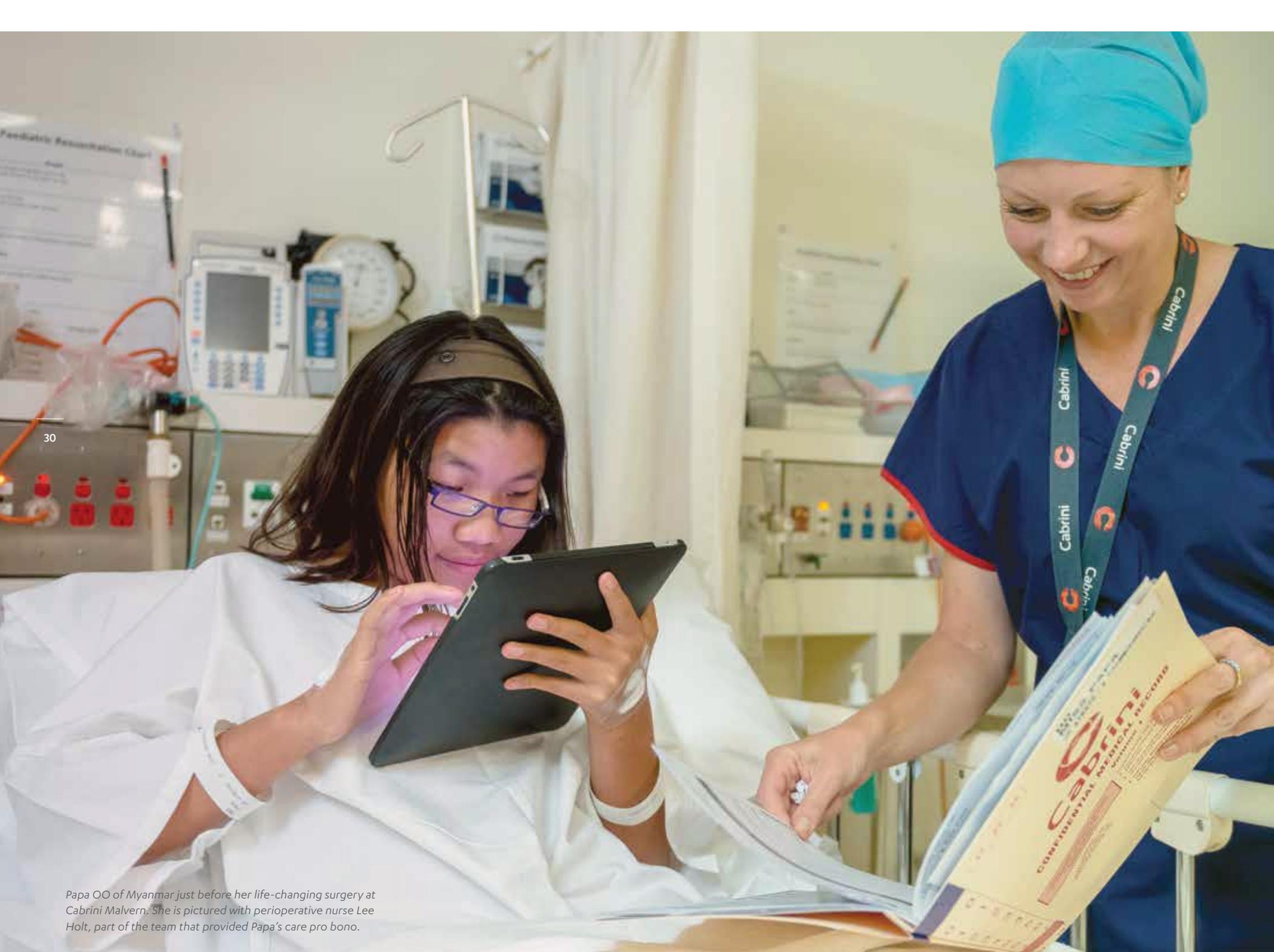


The church at St Philips Mission in Swaziland. The Cabrini Sisters have been in Swaziland since 1971.

to look beyond its current programs to other unmet community needs. In October 2012, one of Cabrini's doctors and three of our nurses worked alongside Cabrini Ministries staff to provide primary health outreach to the communities around St Philip's Mission in Swaziland's low veld (the poorest part of the country), where Cabrini Ministries is based. Over four days, they performed health checks on 350 children who had previously not had access to primary healthcare. This has become an annual event.

A partnership has been established between Cabrini's Australian palliative care team and Cabrini Ministries' healthcare team. Nurses from each organisation have visited the other, sharing their knowledge and experience. In July 2014, we funded and hosted the delegation from Cabrini Ministries in Melbourne for the 20th International Aids Conference. Together we led a workshop at the Catholic pre-conference on our experience of partnering. During 2014-15, our financial support for Cabrini Ministries programs totalled \$340,834.

Engaging:
community engagement
program report



Papa OO of Myanmar just before her life-changing surgery at Cabrini Malvern. She is pictured with perioperative nurse Lee Holt, part of the team that provided Papa's care pro bono.

A review of our social outreach, advocacy and community engagement framework has resulted in our new definition for community engagement.

Cabrini's community engagement program now comprises activities designed to:

- 1 Benefit the local community (primarily the City of Stonnington where our original hospital is located)**
- 2 Benefit marginalised and vulnerable communities**
- 3 Engage the Cabrini community**

This program area has seen the most significant change in the last 12 months, as we have reviewed and reclassified our activity to align with our new framework. In 2014-15, we invested \$1,369,562 in community programs.

In 2013, we participated in a community needs analysis in Stonnington and, since then, have sought to support programs that address unmet needs. During 2014-15, we invested \$328,160 in the local community. Both our oldest partnership and our newest program are in this domain. We have been funding CatholicCare's counselling service in Malvern since 1992 and in July 2014, we established a community-based bereavement service called Vale which is Latin for 'goodbye'. These two services are located together, which reduces the operational overheads thereby benefiting both organisations.

In 2014-15, \$738,297 was invested in outreach to marginalised and vulnerable communities. A large proportion of expenditure (90 per cent) was on longstanding partnerships. The average duration of the partnerships was 16 years. The longest partnership has been in place for 23 years. Our general approach in this domain is to establish three-year funding agreements with our partners. Progress reports are received regularly during the grant period, in order to provide transparency and accountability. Normally a new funding agreement is negotiated prior to the end of the current agreement. This provides our partners with some certainty of funding, which is unusual in the social services sector.

The third domain comprises programs that reach into the Cabrini community. Total expenditure in this area was \$303,105. Most of these funds (82 per cent) were provided as a grant of \$250,000 to the Cabrini Sisters. The balance involved programs where staff volunteered their time. We are proud that almost one in four of our staff is involved in our charitable activities. This personal involvement is transformational for the individuals involved as well as their family, friends and colleagues. We believe their involvement and commitment helps to contribute to the building of a better world.

Local community initiatives

Cabrini's healthcare services are concentrated in the south-eastern suburbs of Melbourne. We have a significant impact on these suburbs, particularly Malvern, where our original and largest hospital is located. Many of our employees, volunteers and doctors live in the local community. Many others shop at the local shopping centres and use other local services on their way to or from work.

We want to actively contribute to the development of strong and resilient local communities. We do this through initiatives that build community capacity and sustainability. We invested \$328,160 on the following initiatives this year.



Flora Gomes, CatholicCare Family Relations Manager, Eastern Region.

Bereavement support

The City of Stonnington has an older age profile and higher-than-average number of single person dwellings than other local government areas, particularly in the Malvern area. Many live alone following the loss of their life partner. In July 2014, we established Cabrini Vale, a community bereavement program. The vision for this initiative is to provide group-based bereavement support for people 65 years and older. We invested \$124,000 in the service in the first 12 months of operation. In the first six months, the primary focus was to establish program infrastructure and to develop an identity for the service in the local community. Early in 2015, we piloted the first of the group programs, a walking group, and offered our first memorial service. These activities will be complemented by other groups and opportunities as momentum builds.

Child and family counselling

A long-standing community partner of Cabrini's is CatholicCare. The Malvern child and family counselling service was established in 1992 as a joint initiative between CatholicCare (then known as Centacare) and Cabrini. In 2014-15, a total of 1137 counselling sessions were provided to 273 clients. A further 48 clients were supported through the school refusal program. While Cabrini's annual grant of \$140,000 has greater reach than just the Malvern service, we are grateful for the support that CatholicCare has provided in our local community for more than 20 years.

Community transport

In April 2014, Cabrini entered into a three-year funding agreement with Bentleigh Bayside Community Health so it could expand the reach of its TransAccess community transport program in Stonnington. The new service began in November 2014. Cabrini's annual contribution of

\$40,000 is outside the provider's government contract, providing greater flexibility in criteria for eligibility of the service. Over the first seven months of operation, TransAccess provided regular transportation and one-off outings for 20 clients in Stonnington. This enabled these people to maintain their independence and added to their overall sense of wellbeing and connectedness to the community.

Neighbourly acts of service

We worked with St Joseph's Catholic Parish, Malvern, to establish JoCare, a community service with the goal of making neighbourhoods a place where people know each other and look out for one other. During the year, we served on the steering committee of the service, contributed \$10,000 towards program costs, assisted in the recruitment of the volunteer coordinator and shared our experience in volunteer management. Since the service was officially launched in February 2015,

Client Doreen (centre) with JoCare volunteers, Pam (left) and Margaret (right). The three women have established a strong friendship through the JoCare program, launched February 2015.



ENGAGING



Cabrini Chief Executive Dr Michael Walsh (centre) with members of the Malvern Bowling Club. Cabrini sponsors this club under its community grants program.

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JoCare has recruited 16 volunteers enabling them to start a home visiting program and a neighbourly transport program, as well as a monthly community gathering.

Cabrini community grants

We established a small grants program in 2013 and invited community agencies to apply for funding to support a community engagement initiative. In the last 12 months, St Joseph's Primary School in Malvern received a grant of \$9000 to support the introduction of a bicycle education program for students. Through a Cabrini staff member, Narre Warren South Scouts Group was granted \$600 to support its social inclusion program. Cabrini became official sponsors of the Malvern Bowling Club and provided \$4560 to enable the purchase of team shirts, the first of a series of planned initiatives.

Reaching out to marginalised and vulnerable communities

We believe people who are poor, marginalised or vulnerable have a special place in God's heart and, following the example of Jesus, we have a particular obligation to people who find themselves in these circumstances. This preferential option for the poor was expressed continually in the life of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, and in the lives of the Cabrini Sisters who have followed her. We continue the tradition through this aspect of our community engagement program. Our total expenditure in this area was \$738,297. Most of our activities are undertaken through long-term partnerships as follows.

CatholicCare

Cabrini has partnered with CatholicCare since 1992. In 2011, the organisation approached us seeking

support to establish an education program for the Horace Petty Estate in the Stonnington suburb of Prahran and surrounding Office of Housing estates. CatholicCare had become aware of a high level of disengagement from school among younger children living in these areas. Although there were many agencies and programs operating on the estates, CatholicCare believed successful outcomes would be most likely if they could bridge family, school, community and social services. We donated \$51,000 to this project.

Family Life

Family Life assists families, children and young people with the goal of making our society a better place for everyone including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable. The organisation takes a whole of family approach in the provision of its services. This means that when a

person comes to Family Life for help, it offers to work with the person's entire family, in order for changes and improvements to be more effective and lasting.

Cabrini has partnered with Family Life since 2010. We began by pledging annual support for the Sandringham Community House: a focal point for service delivery and community gatherings. We expanded our financial commitment when asked to cover a funding shortfall in its Community Bubs program, and subsequently have contributed funding to evaluation of the program; an important step in regaining financial sustainability. In 2014-15, we contributed \$137,000 to these three projects. As Family Life operates in the City of Bayside, the staff of Cabrini Brighton have adopted the project and are directly involved, for example collecting and donating secondhand clothing, donating presents at Christmas time and assisting with other material aids.

Lighthouse Foundation

Cabrini's partnership with Lighthouse Foundation began in 1997. The vision of this foundation is to end youth homelessness in partnership with the community. It provides at-risk young people with a home, a family and a therapeutic model of care that is individually tailored and proven. Through their Lighthouse experience, young people can heal, learn to relate to others again and start to rebuild their lives. There are currently ten Lighthouse Foundation homes across Melbourne. Each home accommodates four young people who are supported by two live-in carers and a dedicated team of psychologists and healthcare professionals. Young people are welcome to stay with Lighthouse Foundation for as long as they need. They may continue to access support through its outreach programs after they make the transition into independent living.

Judy Nancarrow, formerly a long serving staff member and now a volunteer at Cabrini, with Claudia Paretilla of Cabrini Lighthouse.





The Cabrini Lighthouse was the second home and the first that Lighthouse Foundation established in partnership with another organisation. We make the house available rent-free. Also we provide *pro bono* property maintenance. We have an annual commitment to partially fund the primary carer, as well as an allocated budget for the purchase of food and other supplies through Cabrini. Two of our employees are members of the Cabrini Lighthouse Committee that is responsible for raising the balance of funds required each year. In 2014-15, we provided a one-off grant to offset a funding shortfall. This brought our total contribution to the Lighthouse Foundation to \$173,000 for the year.

Sacred Heart Mission

Cabrini's partnership with Sacred Heart Mission in St Kilda was established in 1996. Our first initiative was support for its dining hall. This currently takes the form of an annual budget for the purchase of food supplies and is

Young Reese Anderton pictured with her father Matthew. Photograph courtesy Very Special Kids. Cabrini provides financial and in-kind support for the hospice.

complemented with staff volunteering in the dining hall monthly. Not long after we became involved, we began contributing a *pro bono* linen service for Sacred Heart Mission's residential hostels, which continues today. In 2003, when Sacred Heart Mission lost funding for its Christmas Eve lunch, we stepped up to assist. We offered to provide lunch on Christmas Day and also encouraged our staff to donate gifts, so each client could receive a Christmas present. In 2014, four staff volunteered in the dining hall over the Christmas period and we provided 350 gifts donated by our staff and other friends of Cabrini. Cabrini has supported Sacred Heart Mission's 'Journey to Social Inclusion', a ground-breaking project designed to end chronic homelessness. We have contributed financially both to the pilot project and to its evaluation. In 2014-15, our total expenditure on Sacred Heart Mission's programs was \$121,297.

The Way Community

The Way Community in Fitzroy provides accommodation and outreach for older men who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless. True to its mission statement, the place aims to be a community of dignity, care and belonging. It is a home and outreach centre in which residents are valued and supported. The Way Community works to seek out people in local boarding houses, squats or on the street who are the neediest and, at the same time, the hardest to reach. In 2014-15, Cabrini marked the tenth anniversary of partnership with The Way Community. Like most of our partnerships, it has grown steadily over time. We provide funding to support the employment of an overnight carer and administrative support, an onsite laundry service and a diversional therapy program for the residents. In 2014-15, we contributed \$75,000 to The Way Community. Furthermore, we provide a special meal on

Christmas Day, and our staff donate material aid, such as warm coats in winter and presents at Christmas time.

Very Special Kids

Very Special Kids cares for children who have life-threatening conditions by providing a children's hospice and professional family support services. Cabrini's relationship with Very Special Kids began informally. After the Very Special Kids hospice opened in Malvern in 1985, occasionally the organisation approached Cabrini Malvern for medical supplies and equipment. We formalised the relationship in 1995 with the establishment of an annual budget for equipment purchases.

Malaysian born TS Tan works part-time as a nurse at Cabrini and volunteers for a monthly shift in the dining room at Sacred Heart Mission.



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The Big Issue magazine (sold on the street by homeless, marginalised and disadvantaged people) receives philanthropic grants from Cabrini.

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We transformed it into a partnership in 2008 when we began adding value to our financial assistance with other means of support. This partnership has continued to grow and strengthen over the intervening years.

In 2014-15, our total financial contribution was \$101,206. This included funding towards an emergency respite bed, supporting the bereavement program, funding an occupational health and safety officer position and covering the cost of a linen service for the hospice. We added more value by providing a *pro bono* biomedical engineering service and information technology help-desk function, as well as informal support and advice on occupational health and safety, fundraising, environmental cleaning, medical record storage and consumer involvement in service improvement.

Philanthropic grants

As well as supporting our various partnerships, Cabrini provides small annual grants to *The Big Issue*

(a fortnightly, independent magazine that is sold on the street in Australia by homeless, marginalised and disadvantaged people), Project Respect (a support service and community for people trafficked for sexual exploitation and people in the sex industry) and the Malvern Emergency Food Program.

We have provided financial support to Save Our School Children Foundation Inc, a charity in Baguio City in the Philippines, periodically since 2004 at the request of the Cabrini Sisters. In 2014-15, we donated \$20,000. We are in the middle of a planned reduction in funding as this foundation becomes self-sufficient.

We provided one-off grants to Knoxbrooke (which provides programs and services for people who live in eastern Melbourne and are disabled), to Prahran Mission for the St Kilda UnitingCare Drop in Centre and to St Mary's House of Welcome (a Catholic charity based in Fitzroy, which supports men who are experiencing homelessness, poverty and mental illness).

Reaching into our own community

At Cabrini, we believe that if we want to build a better world, we need to start in our own backyard. Therefore, as part of our community engagement program, we seek opportunities for staff to contribute beyond their day-to-day role. This both increases our capacity to make a difference in other people's lives and cultivates a sense of gratitude and curiosity in staff that enriches and transforms our own community. In 2014-15, we invested \$303,105 on inreach activity. This has included the following.

Cabrini-Children First Foundation Big Day Out

The idea of a Big Day Out grew from our involvement in medical evacuation surgery on children brought to Australia by Children First Foundation. Many of the children had prolonged periods of recovery following



Cabrini staff member Cassie Star (a nurse at Cabrini Malvern) and Kylie Cyrus from Vanuatu are pictured participating in the egg and spoon race during the Cabrini-Children First Foundation (CFF) annual crazy sports day held at the CFF farm in Kilmore East, Melbourne.

their surgery with us. We wanted a way to maintain contact with them and so, in 2004, the Big Day Out was born.

In 2014-15, four events were held. They included excursions to the Melbourne Zoo and Melbourne Museum, as well as ten pin bowling and a crazy sports day, which has become an annual event. Cabrini staff volunteer their time, and often their spouses and children join in the fun. The Big Day Out draws people together from across the organisation, which has the added benefit of strengthening networks and developing relationships between our various services and campuses.

Aboriginal cultural experience

The opportunity for staff to participate in an Indigenous cultural experience has been offered since 2004. That year, Aboriginal Elder Elva Cook and her family invited us to spend a few days with them at Intjartnama, their

ENGAGING



Far left: Jovie Decoyna, a nurse at Cabrini Malvern, is pictured on the job in Rwanda, working as part of the Global Volunteer Network.

Left: Sue Grasby (Nurse Manager, Cabrini Malvern) at a mobile health clinic with No Roads to Health in Papua New Guinea (November 2014).

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outstation, which is located approximately 120 km west of Alice Springs. Eleven staff plus a few family members signed up for the experience. Participants slept in the schoolroom, cooked meals over an open fire and were introduced to the country and culture of the Western Arrente people. It was such a powerful and positive experience that Cabrini made an ongoing commitment. Fifteen such trips have been conducted since the program began. Between ten and 15 staff have participated in each trip, usually comprising a mixture of newcomers to the experience plus a few staff who have been before.



Each of the participants has been touched in some way; many are transformed by the experience.

In April 2015, we were informed that Elva's health had markedly deteriorated. She was hospitalised in Alice Springs and her renal dialysis ceased. Her last wish was to return to Intjartnama, so that she could die in her homeland. This was made possible by the generosity and ingenuity of some Cabrini staff who volunteered to take her home. She passed away peacefully at Intjartnama at sunrise on 24 April aged 65 years. While Elva's physical presence will be missed on future trips, her spirit will continue to welcome and accompany us.

International service programs

In 2013, we established clinical service grants to support staff intending to volunteer their skills in international service programs. During 2014-15, grants were approved for the following staff:

- Chris Harris who volunteered with Operation Rainbow in the Philippines
- Meg Bumpstead and Natalie Bossong who volunteered with the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons' global health international development project in Vanuatu
- Sue Grasby who volunteered with the No Roads to Health program in Papua New Guinea
- Jovie Decoyna who volunteered with the Global Volunteer Network in Rwanda, Africa
- Sarah Johnstone and Jo Miller who volunteered through Cabrini Ministries/Cabrini Health primary health outreach in Swaziland

Medical evacuation program

Under our medical evacuation program, we provided surgery, treatment and care for Papa OO, a 12-year-old girl from Myanmar, who was born with severe hearing and vision impairment due to a congenital syndrome. Aged

The late Elva Cook (with great granddaughter Lily Rose), Aboriginal Elder and founder of Intjartnama, an Aboriginal outstation originally established as a therapeutic community. The family welcomes groups of Cabrini staff who visit bi-annually.

four, she was left at an orphanage by her mother. As Papa grew up, she dreamed of going to school like other children her age. However, her disabilities prevented her simple dream from being realised. Papa was brought to Australia for treatment by Moira Kelly OAM. Vision Australia provided corrective prescription glasses to improve her sight. Addressing her hearing impairment was more complex, as she had been born without ears or external ear canals. In December 2014, Mr Andrew Greensmith performed the first part of bilateral ear reconstructions. Four theatre staff, two surgeons and an anaesthetist volunteered their time to enable the seven-hour surgery to take place. The surgery was successful.

Overseas clinician training program

We commenced a partnership with Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital in Hangzhou, China, in 2009. Since 2011, we have regularly hosted groups of its clinical staff

at Cabrini in Melbourne. In 2014-15, we hosted four doctors: Dr Ling Li (ICU consultant), Dr Jian Xie (radiologist), Dr Yaqin Zhu, (ophthalmologist) and Dr Feng Luo (anaesthetist). Each was mentored by one of our accredited consultants. They valued their experience and were impressed by the professional and high quality care our patients receive, the respectful relationships they witnessed between staff and “the heartfelt compassion for all people”.

In March 2015, we met with Father Robert McCulloch, Procurator General of the Missionary Society of St Columban, who is leading some Catholic health initiatives in Pakistan. He had negotiated funding from the Canadian government to expand a palliative homecare program provided by St Elizabeth Hospital in Hyderabad. Cabrini agreed to support the initiative by providing development opportunities for palliative care nurses from St Elizabeth Hospital. The first participant was Eric Siraj. He commenced a four-week placement at Cabrini on



A game of AFL football was a highlight of the Cabrini visit to Intjartnama in November 2014.

18 May 2015. As his learning goals spanned both palliative care and infection control, he spent time with and was mentored by staff from both teams during his placement.

Supporting the Cabrini Sisters' community

The Cabrini Sisters are an international missionary congregation present in 16 countries and speaking four main languages: English, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. We belong to a region that comprises Australia, Swaziland and the USA, known as the Stella Maris Province. In 2014-15, we donated \$250,000 to support Province activities. The grant was used to assist Cabrini Sisters from Latin America and Ethiopia to spend time in the USA, strengthening both their English language skills and bonds within the broader Institute. It also supported the care of retired Sisters, many of whom provided service in Australia during their lifetime.

Our partners, philanthropic recipients, other friends and associates

PARTNERS

Australian based

Afghan Australian Development Organisation
CatholicCare
Family Life
JoCare
Lighthouse Foundation
Sacred Heart Mission
The Way Community
Very Special Kids

International

Cabrini Ministries Swaziland
Catholic Diocese of Kerema, Papua New Guinea
Modilon General Hospital, Papua New Guinea
St Mary's Hospital, Ethiopia

PHILANTHROPIC RECIPIENTS

Australian based

Baptcare
Bentleigh Bayside Community Health
The Big Issue
Jesuit Mission Office for the Clarist Sisters, India
Florey Institute of Neuroscience and Mental Health
Indigenous Hospitality House
Inner South Community Health
Interplast Australia and New Zealand
Jesuit Social Services
Knoxbrooke Inc
Malvern Bowling Club
Malvern Emergency Food Program
Narre Warren South Scouts Group
Opening the Doors Foundation
Project Respect
St Joseph's Primary School
St Kilda UnitingCare Drop In Centre
St Mary's House of Welcome
Western Desert Dialysis
Yalukit Marnang

International

Catholic Health Association of India
Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, USA
Save Our School Children Foundation Inc, Philippines
Wapenamanda Centre for Primary Health Care,
Papua New Guinea

OTHER FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES

Australian based

Jacobs, Thomas and Associates
Kogo (Knit One Give One)
Ngwala Willumbong Cooperative

International

Cabrini Immigrant Services, New York, USA

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