

Driving change for a fair, just and compassionate society





**Our vision is an
Australia free
of poverty**

We work to enable all Australians to experience freedom by having the capability and opportunity to build a good life, to live a life of dignity and to contribute to the common good.

We stand with the poor

We stand in solidarity with all people and communities in Australia who experience, or are vulnerable to, deep and persistent disadvantage and are thereby deprived of the right to participate and contribute to the economic and social life of their communities.

Our mission is to pursue systemic change

We pursue systemic change to ensure people experiencing, or vulnerable to falling into, deep disadvantage and exclusion, enjoy economic security and social inclusion.

In practical terms this means change in our policy context at all levels of government, including in the way services are designed and delivered so that people can access:

- › income to meet basic needs for shelter and food security;
- › quality education, training and support to attain decent work; and,
- › support which provides care and enables independent living.

Our values

1. We are fierce advocates for justice
2. We act with compassion and integrity
3. We are innovative and always learning
4. We are accountable, collaborative, respectful and inclusive

These values guide our behaviour and work practices, and they influence how we interact with colleagues, partner organisations, program participants and the broader community.

Outcomes and strategic objectives

All our resources – staff, volunteers, partnerships and finances – are focused on the following five outcomes. The strategic objectives, each linked directly to an outcome, articulate our choices about how we will pursue these outcomes.

- › Human services that build inclusive communities
- › Thriving and resilient children and young people
- › Economic security for all
- › A trusted voice nationally on poverty and disadvantage
- › An inclusive, effective, efficient and agile organisation

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Report from the Executive Director and Chair of the Board

With entrenched poverty amid prosperity our work together is vital

Report from the Executive Director

I am pleased to introduce our Annual Report outlining the breadth of the Brotherhood of St Laurence's work to eliminate poverty and disadvantage in Australia. Inspired by the vision of our founder, Anglican priest Father Gerard Tucker, we advocate for the rights of all people to share in the nation's prosperity so they can live with dignity and contribute their talents to our community.

In the 21st century, too many people in Australia miss out on opportunities to live a good life. Despite 27 years of continuous economic growth, we are faced with a profound moral challenge – entrenched poverty amid national prosperity. In the face of new disruptions in our society and economy, the Australian ideals of social justice, of a 'fair go' for those in need, are eroding. For example, how can it be so that 739,000 children under 15 live in poverty; that people living on Newstart struggle to cover the costs of their job search; that asylum seekers living among us are left without income support; or older, single women are at increasing risk of homelessness? How can we still have so many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experiencing extreme poverty and deprivation?

In part, the challenge is linked to our fraying social security system. We are witnessing a significant shift in

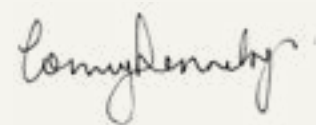
our understandings of government's role in social security to protect the community's most vulnerable and enable them to thrive. Today, we have arrangements which impose increasingly onerous conditions on social security recipients, assuming they aren't trying hard enough to change their circumstances. Our research challenges these assumptions, highlighting how poverty is becoming more entrenched in areas of existing disadvantage, including for young people from poorer areas who face stubbornly high youth unemployment rates.

These outcomes are not inevitable results of changing times, but rather the result of policy choices and priorities. We need to be bolder, to push for solutions that achieve fairer outcomes. Our nation needs a renewed focus on building the capabilities of people experiencing disadvantage so they too can participate in economic and social life, building better futures for themselves and their families.

This report provides examples of how we have identified solutions that are informed by the best evidence and practical work we do. Working with employers, government at local, state and national level and community organisations, our models enable young people, mature-aged workers

and refugees to find sustainable employment. In aged care, we are developing care models supporting vulnerable older people while providing fair working conditions for our staff. In our work with the National Disability Insurance Scheme, we contribute to scaling up this social policy innovation while seeking to shape it so it is more responsive to the needs of people with disability. In our work with children, we enable them to have rich learning experiences so they can thrive and be resilient for changing economic times.

Since I began as Executive Director in January 2018, I have been listening to the people we work with and talking to our supporters, volunteers, partners and the general community. I am encouraged by the range of people who are so passionate about wanting to see a fairer Australia. Our programs will continue to sow seeds of reform, collaborating with others and harnessing community goodwill, to secure lasting change for people experiencing poverty.



Conny Lenneberg
Executive Director



Conny Lenneberg

Executive Director
Brotherhood of St Laurence



Archbishop Philip Freier

Chair, Board of Directors
Brotherhood of St Laurence

Report from the Chair of the Board

In creating a dynamic legacy that is the Brotherhood of St Laurence, Father Gerard Tucker was animated by an emphatic Christian faith that shaped his compassion and social activism. He saw value in experimentation and testing new social approaches, which remains a hallmark of the modern day Brotherhood. 'As with our first ... little cottage in Fitzroy for single unemployed men of a few years previously, the idea caught on. We had demonstrated on a very small scale what should be done on a large scale. Before long money was forthcoming for a second bungalow and then for a third.'

Father Tucker's dedication to meet the needs of communities has been a source of enduring strength since the Brotherhood of St Laurence was founded in 1930. It is reflected in the innovative community programs, advocacy and research highlighted vividly on these pages.

While our organisation has grown in size, complexity and ambition, the spirit of innovation articulated by Father Tucker continues and is interpreted anew by each successive leader and their teams. This year has been a time of new leadership for the Brotherhood. After 13 years of outstanding work, Tony Nicholson stepped down as Executive Director at

the end of 2017. Following an extensive search, the Board determined that Conny Lenneberg had the leadership, skills and values to drive the next era of the organisation's work for an Australia free of poverty.

I congratulate Conny, and look forward to a new chapter of the Brotherhood's history, and I take this opportunity to extend my thanks to the staff, volunteers and the Board for their continued dedication to this vital work.

The Most Revd Dr Philip L. Freier
Chair of the Board

Introducing Conny Lenneberg

Conny Lenneberg brings to the Brotherhood more than 25 years' experience in the development and social justice sector. She is the first woman to lead the Brotherhood.

Conny has worked in service delivery, led large teams and held senior executive and board roles in Australia and internationally. For more than six years she led World

Vision International's organisation and programs in the Middle East and Eastern Europe. She has also held a senior role with Australian Volunteers International and served on the Board of Oxfam Australia.

While at World Vision, Conny spearheaded the response to the Syria crisis, community development in Afghanistan, and humanitarian work in Aceh,

Indonesia, in the aftermath of the 2004 tsunami. In Australia, her achievements include enabling partnerships with Indigenous communities, government and business to build program strengths in Central Australia and the Pilbara.

Conny has a Master of Arts (Research) and a Doctor of Letters (honorary) from La Trobe University.

Spotlight on the year

Driving change
for a just and
compassionate
society



Professor Chris Sarra delivered the Sambell Oration



Time for a refresh on unlocking Indigenous children's potential

Held every year since 1981, the Brotherhood's keynote Sambell Oration is an important forum for national community leaders to discuss social justice issues.

The 37th Sambell Oration held in April 2018 was delivered by Professor Chris Sarra, head of Queensland's Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and a former co-chair of the Prime Minister's Advisory Council of Indigenous Affairs. He focused on the importance of cultural identity as a means to help to close the gap in Indigenous education.

Professor Sarra spoke of the urgent need for a fresh approach to investing in Indigenous education, not one framed by low expectations and deficit thinking.

Drawing on personal and professional experience, Professor Sarra put forward a positive philosophy to deliver a stronger, smarter future for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, an approach that can also help unlock the potential of other children struggling in schools.



Heikma was a participant in Given the Chance for Asylum Seekers and now works in our Flemington office



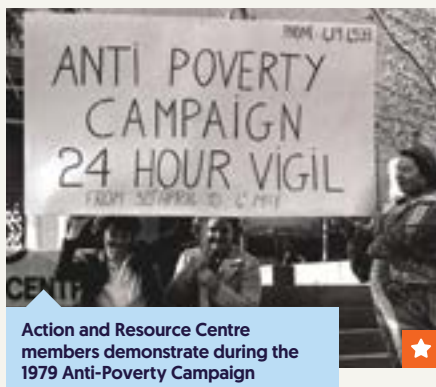
Making a difference to the work prospects of asylum seekers

People seeking asylum face barriers to finding work, including precarious visa status and difficulties understanding and negotiating the Australian labour market.

The five-year Given the Chance for Asylum Seekers program, thanks to the generosity of a private philanthropist, changed the lives of such jobseekers by supporting them to find work. Some 521 people were supported with 816 job placements.

A cost-benefit analysis by KPMG found that the benefits significantly outweighed the investment in the program. These included increased tax revenue and reduced welfare payments for government and increased incomes for participants.

The program's aims were to demonstrate an employment service for people seeking asylum, involve employers as active partners and use the results to inform policy. The evidence gathered allowed the Brotherhood to advocate for a change in state government policy. In Victoria, people seeking asylum are now eligible for subsidised training and for the government's Jobs Victoria employment programs.



Action and Resource Centre members demonstrate during the 1979 Anti-Poverty Campaign

Revisiting the Henderson inquiry into poverty, 50 years on

The 2018 Henderson Conference was held to mark 50 years after the Commission of Inquiry into Poverty led by Professor Ronald Henderson. The Conference, featuring over 20 local and international expert speakers, gave academics, policy makers and anti-poverty campaigners the chance to hear about changes that have taken place since the 1970s and to canvas current ideas for social security reform.

Professor Shelley Mallett, head of the Brotherhood's Research and Policy Centre, drew on research conducted by the Centre over the past 40 years, giving faces and voices to the experience of poverty. She highlighted similarities: how unexpected life events can thrust people into poverty, and differences: how the changing world of work exposes job seekers to new uncertainties. Speakers agreed that Australia's means-tested system of social security does not help solve poverty and often exacerbates vulnerability to it. The conference was convened by the Brotherhood and the Melbourne Institute, and papers from it will be published as a book.



Life skills taught at Kangan TAFE Foyer in Broadmeadows include gardening

Foundation partnership promotes youth foyer concept

Education First Youth Foyers accommodate, in customised student residences, young people aged 16–24 who want to study but are at risk of homelessness.

In 2017, the Brotherhood began a partnership with the Foyer Foundation, which promotes the concept nationally and operates a national community of practice for foyers in Australia to encourage fidelity to the model.

The Education First Youth Foyers first opened in 2013 and are co-located with three TAFE institutes in Broadmeadows and Glen Waverley in Melbourne and Shepparton in regional Victoria. Funded by the Victorian Government, they are managed in partnership with Launch Housing, Berry Street and the Rural Housing Network.

Young people are housed for two years and get the support they need around the clock to study while establishing adult independence and exploring work and life goals. A Brotherhood study found that 77 per cent of all Foyer residents had improved their qualifications or were working or studying by the end of their stay.



National program putting more savings in the bank

Our savings and education program, Saver Plus, improves saving habits and financial wellbeing, according to a new research report from RMIT University.

Developed by the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ in 2003, Saver Plus is available to people living on lower incomes in 60 communities nationally.

Participants set a 10-month savings goal to help with education costs for themselves or their children and attend financial education workshops. When they complete the program, ANZ matches their savings dollar-for-dollar up to \$500. The RMIT research report, *Saver Plus: Pathways to Wellbeing*, found that 87 per cent continue to save the same amount or more three to seven years later, while 73 per cent feel better able to provide for their families.

Saver Plus is funded by ANZ and the Australian Government. It is delivered in partnership with The Benevolent Society, Berry Street, The Smith Family and other community organisations.

Social exclusion and poverty: the big picture

Social exclusion occurs when multiple, overlapping problems, such as unemployment, poor health and inadequate education, stop people fully participating in society. Our Research and Policy Centre measures this through the Social Exclusion Monitor.



of Australians with disability or long-term health condition experience exclusion

How we build better lives

This is a selection of achievements from some of our 63 programs to help disadvantaged people of all ages enjoy economic security and social inclusion.



Services that enable lives of dignity

- ★ **7,581** participants with a disability have an approved NDIS plan developed with support from our Local Area Coordination service
- ★ Our Early Childhood Early Intervention service supported **686** children with disability aged under 6
- ★ **30,751** people received information about the NDIS through Brotherhood community activities
- ★ **1,143** older people received Home Care Packages



Thriving and resilient children

- ★ **1,840** children graduated from our HIPPY Australia program in 2017
- ★ **3,478** parents saved for their children's education via our Saver Plus financial education program
- ★ **170** children and parents were supported by the Refugee Outreach Program as they settle in Australia



44%

of people aged over 65 experience exclusion – more than any other age group



40%

of lone parent households experience social exclusion



3x

early school leavers are 3x more likely to experience exclusion than those with a diploma

Social Exclusion Monitor 2018, using Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey Wave 16 data.



Young people realise their aspirations

- ★ **1,245** young people were helped by Transition to Work with coaching and skills training; **252** were placed in a job
- ★ **258** young people were helped by Creating Futures for Youth into training, work or a combination of both
- ★ **199** young people from migrant and refugee backgrounds were connected to education and employment pathways by the Resource Youth program



Training and decent work

- ★ Our Registered Training Organisation achieved **834** enrolments in pre-accredited and accredited training
- ★ **436** Reconnect participants were helped to identify and achieve goals for vocational training and employment
- ★ **447** jobseekers found employment through our Work and Learning Centres in Victoria
- ★ **314** people were placed in jobs through our Given the Chance programs, with work gained through **171** different employers



Our advocacy for an Australia free of poverty

- ★ **41** research reports, submissions and contributions to external publications were published. Researchers presented at **30** conferences and public forums
- ★ **1,917** students learned about social justice and poverty through our school engagement programs in 2017
- ★ **4.6 million:** estimated audience for our youth unemployment campaign in print and broadcast media

Our stories

The people
we serve, our
volunteers, our
supporters and
our partners



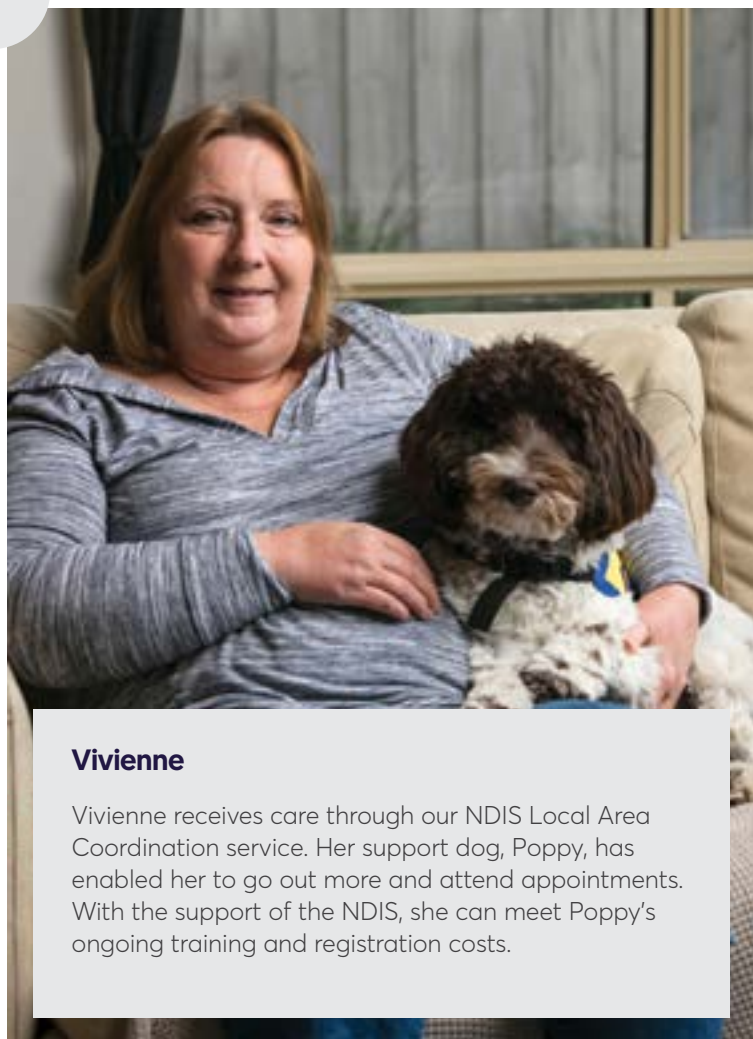
Gary

Gary is on a pension and couldn't afford a solar power system. With help from the Brotherhood's Home Energy Assist Affordable Retrofits pilot project, solar panels have been installed which he says will dramatically cut his energy bills.



Mahalet and Yamelak

Mahalet and her son Yamelak enjoy the Peep Learning Together program led by qualified staff at the Connie Benn Centre in inner Melbourne twice a week. While Yamelak is playing, Mahalet makes social connections with other families and build her parenting skills.



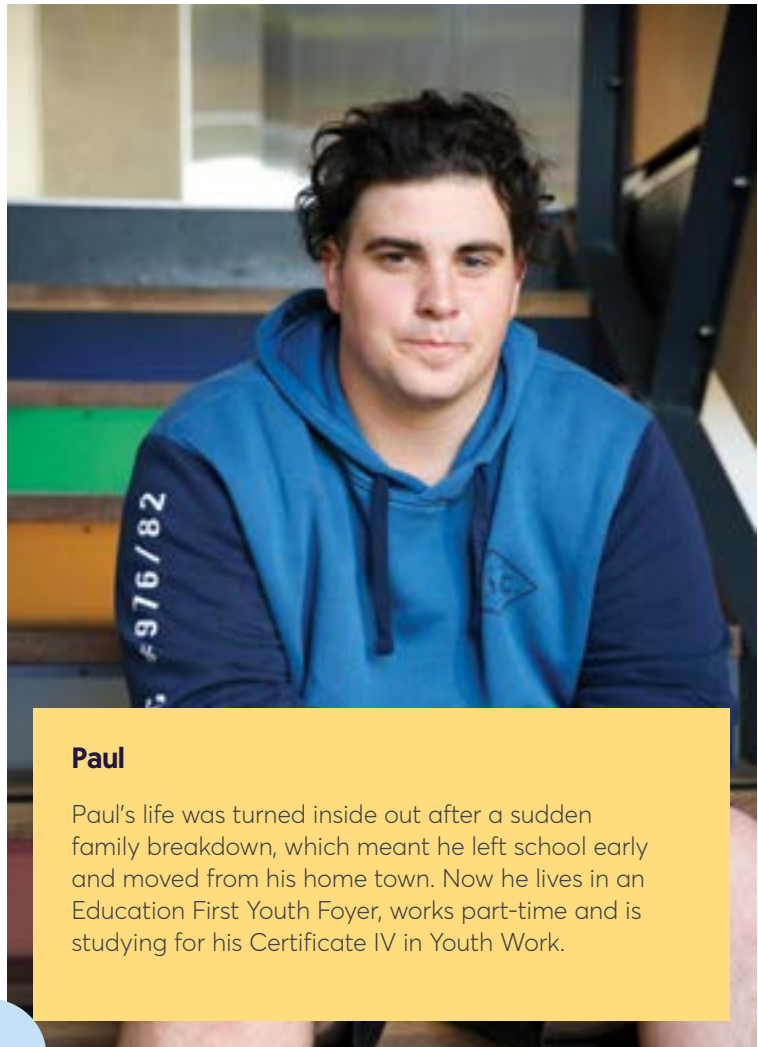
Vivienne

Vivienne receives care through our NDIS Local Area Coordination service. Her support dog, Poppy, has enabled her to go out more and attend appointments. With the support of the NDIS, she can meet Poppy's ongoing training and registration costs.



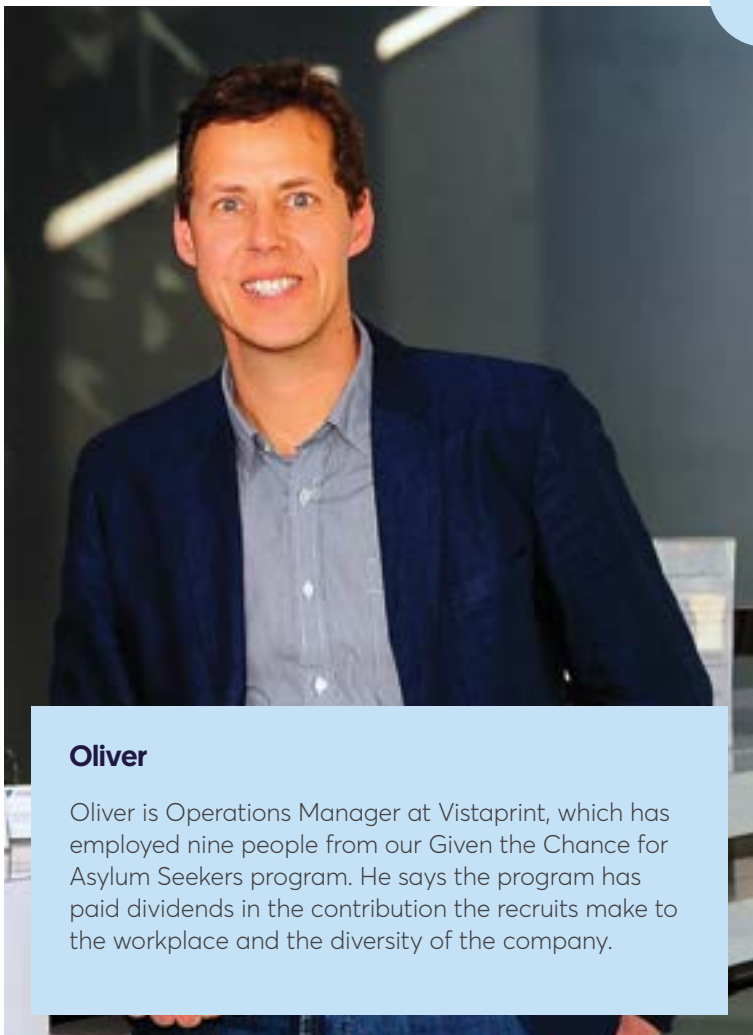
Kelly

Kelly is a home tutor for our Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters – HIPPY. She also completed HIPPY with her youngest child and finds it helps her to better tune in to her children's needs and weave learning into everyday activities.



Paul

Paul's life was turned inside out after a sudden family breakdown, which meant he left school early and moved from his home town. Now he lives in an Education First Youth Foyer, works part-time and is studying for his Certificate IV in Youth Work.



Oliver

Oliver is Operations Manager at Vistaprint, which has employed nine people from our Given the Chance for Asylum Seekers program. He says the program has paid dividends in the contribution the recruits make to the workplace and the diversity of the company.



Shukria

Shukria comes to our homework club in inner Melbourne three times a week to work with a tutor on maths, chemistry and biology. She says the help is 'amazing' and hopes to study health sciences at university in 2020.



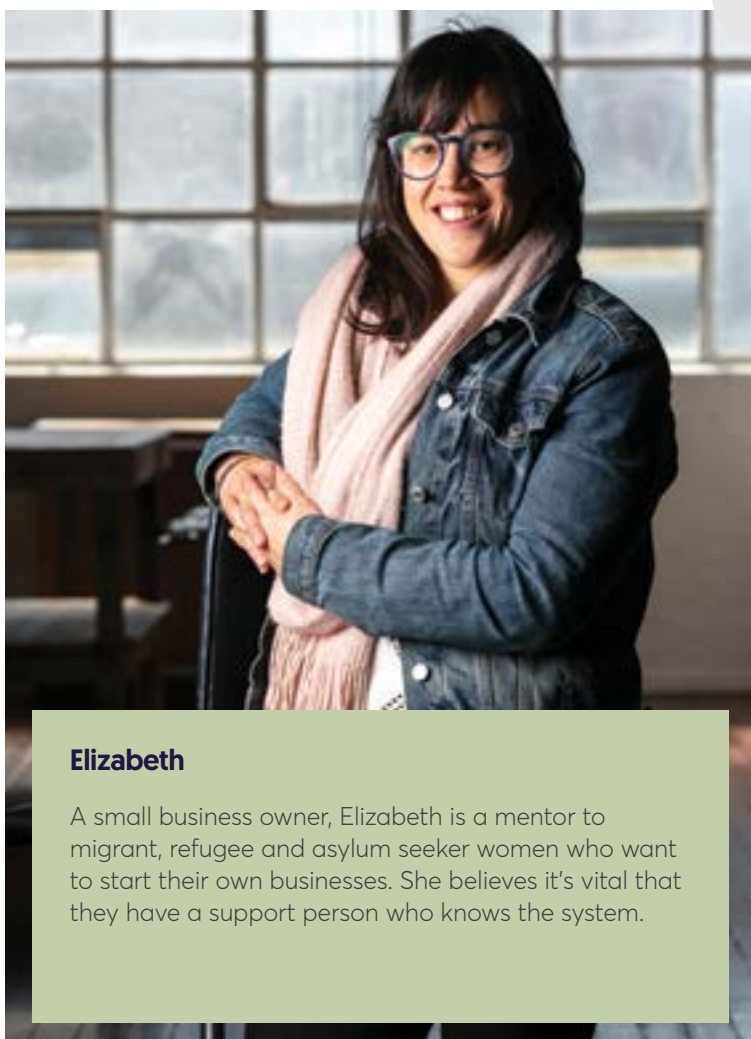
Sharon

Before joining our Saver Plus financial education program, Sharon says she wasn't great at saving money. Thanks to the skills she learned at the Saver Plus workshops, her saving habits have improved and she was able to buy a new laptop for her daughter, Sarah-Kate.



Michael

Michael has early onset dementia and helped set up a support group for others with the condition at the Frankston Social Connections Hub. He says that if it wasn't for the Hub and other Brotherhood services, he would be in a nursing home.



Elizabeth

A small business owner, Elizabeth is a mentor to migrant, refugee and asylum seeker women who want to start their own businesses. She believes it's vital that they have a support person who knows the system.



Trudy

As a young woman Trudy relied on the Brotherhood as a place to buy affordable furniture. She hasn't forgotten how we helped her and has decided to return the kindness by leaving a gift to us in her will.



Briony

Briony has gone from strength to strength since starting at our David Scott School in 2015. She finds the friendly atmosphere a welcome change, has completed vocational training in hospitality and in 2018 was elected as a student leader.



George

George lives in a youth unemployment hotspot in outer Melbourne. After joining our local youth employment program, he was supported to get a job with a dairy export company. Within six months, he was promoted to team leader.



Hong

Hong volunteers with our Coolibah day centre for older people. He joins members, particularly the many Mandarin speakers like Mei Zhi, in activities such as gardening and cooking to encourage exercise and social connections. 'They feel like they are at home,' he says.



Sumeet

Sumeet found it hard to find work after migrating to Australia from India. Then she joined the Given the Chance employment program, which gave her support and tips and boosted her confidence. Through the program Sumeet has a permanent job.

Strategic objective

Human services that build inclusive communities

Living in poverty can involve a multitude of factors – a lack of resources, networks, relationships and opportunities for advancement. Access to high quality care support and services should not depend on wealth. Our aim is to shape and influence practice and policy on how services are delivered to people with disability and older people.

We are focused on creating an environment that enables a life of dignity and choice regardless of financial circumstances. The services we set up, auspice and deliver contribute to reducing social exclusion, giving participants the choices and means to be connected to inclusive communities, to gain decent work and to achieve care and life goals.

44%

of people aged over 65 experience exclusion – more than any other age group

Social connection hubs help older people to stay healthy and active

“I LIKE IT IN THE GARDEN – WE WORK ON IDEAS TOGETHER. I THINK I WOULD BE IN A CARE HOME IF I DIDN’T COME HERE.”

80,245 hours

of care were provided by our social connection hubs to 490 members

Maintaining social connections can be a challenge for older people living at home. Keeping active and involved in hobbies and interests is essential to their wellbeing.

Our social connection hubs help people over 65 (and under that age for those with younger onset dementia) to be healthy and social in a friendly environment through activities that encourage companionship and choice as they pursue lifelong interests and take up new ones.

Activities at the centres and in the community include gardening, painting, computer training, sewing, table tennis, pool, dance classes and music.

We run three hubs – Banksia in Frankston and Carrum Downs in south-east Melbourne, and the Coolibah in the inner city.

In Frankston our custom-designed centre has extended to seven nights the respite stays it offers, coupled with activities and outings during the day. This benefits the person receiving care, while allowing the carer to take a break.



Finbarr takes Tony and Camilla out to the market to do their shopping once a fortnight.

78%

of Australians prefer to stay in their own homes following retirement

Brotherhood Care at Home keeps people in familiar surroundings

“THE CARE WORKERS HAVE DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB TO KEEP MY LIFE MORE COMFORTABLE AT HOME. I AM REALLY PLEASED WITH THE HIGH QUALITY OF THE SERVICES.”

3,250 hours

of personal care services were delivered by us to 411 clients in their homes

It's important that older people are able to live comfortably at home in familiar surroundings as long as possible.

Brotherhood Care at Home helps people eligible for Australian Government Home Care Packages to choose and arrange the services they need to remain at home. We work with other agencies and also directly through our personal care attendants to provide services such as personal care, cleaning, shopping, gardening, cooking and transport.

This year, the Brotherhood began a partnership with the Chinese Cancer and Chronic Illness Society of Victoria

to deliver Care at Home services to older Chinese people, supporting them to remain happy, healthy and safe at home. Our registered training organisation is also training Chinese-speaking personal care attendants. We are also piloting a project with the Brotherhood's Given the Chance employment program to recruit job seekers interested in home care to train and apply for roles with us as personal care attendants.



Stephen was supported by NDIS Local Area Coordinator, Amanda, to secure this accessible house that he shares with a friend.

58%

of people with disability who needed help in 2015 received assistance from formal providers

Local Area Coordination puts National Disability Insurance Scheme into action

“I FELT UNDERSTOOD AND SUPPORTED DURING MY PLANNING MEETING. THE LOCAL AREA COORDINATOR WAS RESPECTFUL AND EMPATHETIC.”

7,581 participants

with disability have an approved NDIS plan through the Brotherhood

The National Disability Insurance Scheme aims to invest in people with disability to improve their capacity to participate in community life.

This alignment with the Brotherhood's objectives is central to our partnership with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to deliver the scheme's Local Area Coordination service.

We assist people with disability in Melbourne's north, from May 2018 in the city's south-east and Mornington Peninsula and from October 2018 in western Melbourne.

We work with people and their families on a plan for accessing the right supports for them. After the NDIA approves their plan, we help each person put it into action.

Our work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people includes engaging with Aboriginal disability networks to increase understanding of the NDIS.

We also actively collaborate with local governments and community groups to ensure communities are welcoming of people with disability.



Elizabeth and her children receive guidance through NDIS's Early Childhood Early Intervention program.

In 2015, 53% of working age people with disability were in the labour force compared with 83% of people with no disability

Research into NDIS implementation starts

The success of the National Disability Insurance Scheme – said to be the biggest social policy reform in a generation – depends on how well it is implemented.

The Brotherhood is leading research into Local Area Coordination (LAC) which assists people to navigate the NDIS and other services – and builds the community capacity to be inclusive of people with disability.

In May 2018, our research findings were published in a report *How to achieve better outcomes and lives through service user inclusion in the NDIS*.

It considered the role service users could play in shaping NDIS policy and implementation of the scheme.

Some recommendations from this research, which was funded by the Churchill Trust and the Jack Brockhoff Foundation, have already been adopted by our LAC and Early Childhood Early Intervention services.

30,751 people
received information about the NDIS through Brotherhood community activities

Strategic objective

Thriving and resilient children and young people

Investing in children benefits the entire community. Creating stability and education and training opportunities puts children in the best possible position to escape disadvantage, prepare for school and work. Building this resilience early means young people are more able to withstand the future shocks that are a feature of our increasingly unpredictable world.

One of our goals is to ensure that children and families benefit from positive early childhood development experiences. We create evidence-based programs that can be scaled up and delivered by other agencies which remain in strong partnership with the Brotherhood.

22%

of children in their first year of school are developmentally vulnerable

Home-based early learning gives children a head start

“WE APPLIED THE HIPPY APPROACH TO OUR CHILD AND STRAIGHT AWAY WE NOTICED A HUGE DIFFERENCE ... AND OUR BOND HAS STRENGTHENED, TOO.”

1,840

children completed HIPPY in 2017

97%

of parents in the program reported that their child was ready for school

The Home Interaction Program for Parents and Youngsters (HIPPY) is our national home-based early-learning, parenting and employment program for families with four and five-year-olds.

Parents are empowered to prepare their children for school by creating a home learning environment. In 2017, 97 per cent reported that, thanks to HIPPY, their child was ready for school.

Working with 65 community organisations, HIPPY operates in 100 communities across Australia, with funding from the federal government.

Of the thousands of families who take part each year, nearly one-third identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Being a tutor allows parents to gain confidence, pursue qualifications and acquire transferable skills. This year we created an engaging new curriculum, which was enthusiastically embraced by HIPPY families, and a Pathways to Possibilities approach for tutors, which is a framework for exploring their career goals.



Students at the David Scott School enjoy a curriculum that is hands-on and flexible.

17,100

young people in Victoria aged 15–19 are not in education, training or employment

David Scott School students overcome barriers to achievement

“FROM THE DAY I STARTED I FELT INCLUDED BY THE STAFF AND STUDENTS. I REALLY ENJOY COMING TO SCHOOL EVERY DAY.”

72%

of 58 students graduated from the school in 2017, or went on to further study, paths to employment, or work. Previously all had been disengaged from schooling for up to three years

The David Scott School is our independent specialist school in south-east Melbourne, which provides a high-quality Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) education for young people aged 15–19 who are unable to experience educational success in mainstream schools.

VCAL is a hands-on option for Years 10, 11 and 12, giving students practical work-related experience, literacy and numeracy skills and the opportunity to build personal skills for life and work.

At the school, our team, which includes teachers, a psychologist and youth and community engagement workers, works with students to overcome barriers to educational achievement through an individualised curriculum and comprehensive support for their wellbeing. Students learn, not only in the classroom, but also in the community, in vocational training and in local workplaces.

Our pathways and transitions officer assists students to undertake work placements, and supports them on the road to further education and training or employment.



Anella, aged three, attends play centre with her mother, Laila, twice a week.

74%

of humanitarian migrants report feeling safe and 56% report children being happy as key factors in settling into Australian life

Supporting refugee children enables them to settle in a new life

“THEY WERE THE GUIDES ABOUT AUSTRALIA BECAUSE WE WERE NEWCOMERS. WE WERE NO LONGER WORRIED ABOUT OUR FEARS IN THIS NEW COUNTRY.”

Refugee Child Outreach assisted families with 96 play sessions and 287 links to services such as playgroups, English lessons, and employment programs

Settling in a new country and navigating a complex system of services for children is often challenging.

The Refugee Child Outreach program works with families in Melbourne's west and north who have recently arrived in Australia as refugees to connect them with services for their children and with the community.

It helps parents' involvement in their children's learning and increases their access to playgroups, child care, health centres and English language tuition. All this reduces social isolation and builds participants' trust in their communities.

For example, many parents have experienced dangerous situations before coming to Australia, so just feeling safe to walk their children to kinder in their local neighbourhood is a significant transition.

Most importantly, ensuring children benefit from early childhood services gives them the greatest opportunity to reduce disadvantage and have the best chance in life.



Emily is undertaking a paid retail internship with social enterprise, HoMie, through Transition to Work.

12%

is the youth unemployment rate – more than twice the overall unemployment rate

Program eases young people's tough transition to work

“I LOVE COMING TO THE BROTHERHOOD AND WORKING WITH THE COACHES AND OTHER YOUNG PEOPLE. IT REALLY HAS CHANGED MY LIFE.”

1,245

young people received individual coaching and undertook employment skills training: 252 were placed in a job

Moving from school to work can be difficult for young people experiencing disadvantage, especially when trying to get a foot in the door of employment.

The Transition to Work program assists young people to make this shift and achieve their education and employment goals. Through coaching, work placements and links with employers, we help those who are disconnected from education or employment take that crucial step.

A key Brotherhood objective is working with others to influence policy, so we coordinate and resource the National Transition

to Work Community of Practice. It brings together 11 agencies that implement the program in 13 regions around Australia to develop and refine an effective model for assisting young people into decent, sustainable employment.

We work with government, employers, community organisations and young people to share ideas and expertise, and with the University of Melbourne in evaluating the program to document 'what works' in assisting young people into work.

Strategic objective

Economic security for all

Decent work, economic security and a fair social security system are all fundamental to a just society. In the face of rising inequality, we believe it is even more important to lead campaigns for an increase in social security payments and to reduce stigma around youth and long-term unemployment.

The Brotherhood's programs and services are located in areas of high need. We know that empowering people to overcome disadvantage pays dividends. For example, participants in our long-running financial education program save money and learn valuable skills.

32%

of social housing tenants report their highest level of education is Year 10

Public housing tenants secure training and work

"THIS TRAINEESHIP HAS HELPED ME TO BE MORE CONFIDENT WHEN DEALING WITH PEOPLE. I HAVE ALSO GAINED A LOT OF KNOWLEDGE AND MY ENGLISH HAS IMPROVED."

100%

of 20 participants completed their CSIS traineeship including Certificates II and III in Security Operations

The Community Safety and Information Service (CSIS) provides paid traineeships in Security Operations for public housing tenants and other disadvantaged people in inner Melbourne.

The program is the only one of its type in Victoria and has been running successfully for 13 years. Trainees spend 12 months staffing concierge booths on local high-rise estates and gain Certificates II and III in Security Operations. All trainees in the program are local residents and work to make the local community safer while delivering customer service that promotes community engagement.

Another strength of the program, which is funded by the Victorian Government, is the employer partnerships which improve trainees' prospects for work in security industry.

The CSIS team have relationships with Wilsons Security, SECUREcorp, MSS Security and MA Security. All trainees who graduated in 2016–17 gained mainstream employment or undertook further training.



Omaid completed a Work and Learning course at Northern Futures Geelong, which has led to a bricklaying apprenticeship.

Those living in the 3% most disadvantaged postcodes in Victoria are 3 times more likely to experience long-term unemployment than people in the rest of the state

Work and Learning Centres build bridges between job seekers and employers

“I FINISHED THE COURSE ON SUCH A HIGH. IT JUST MADE ME WANT A BETTER LIFE. I REALISED MY LIFE DIDN'T HAVE TO BE LIKE IT WAS.”

447 job seekers

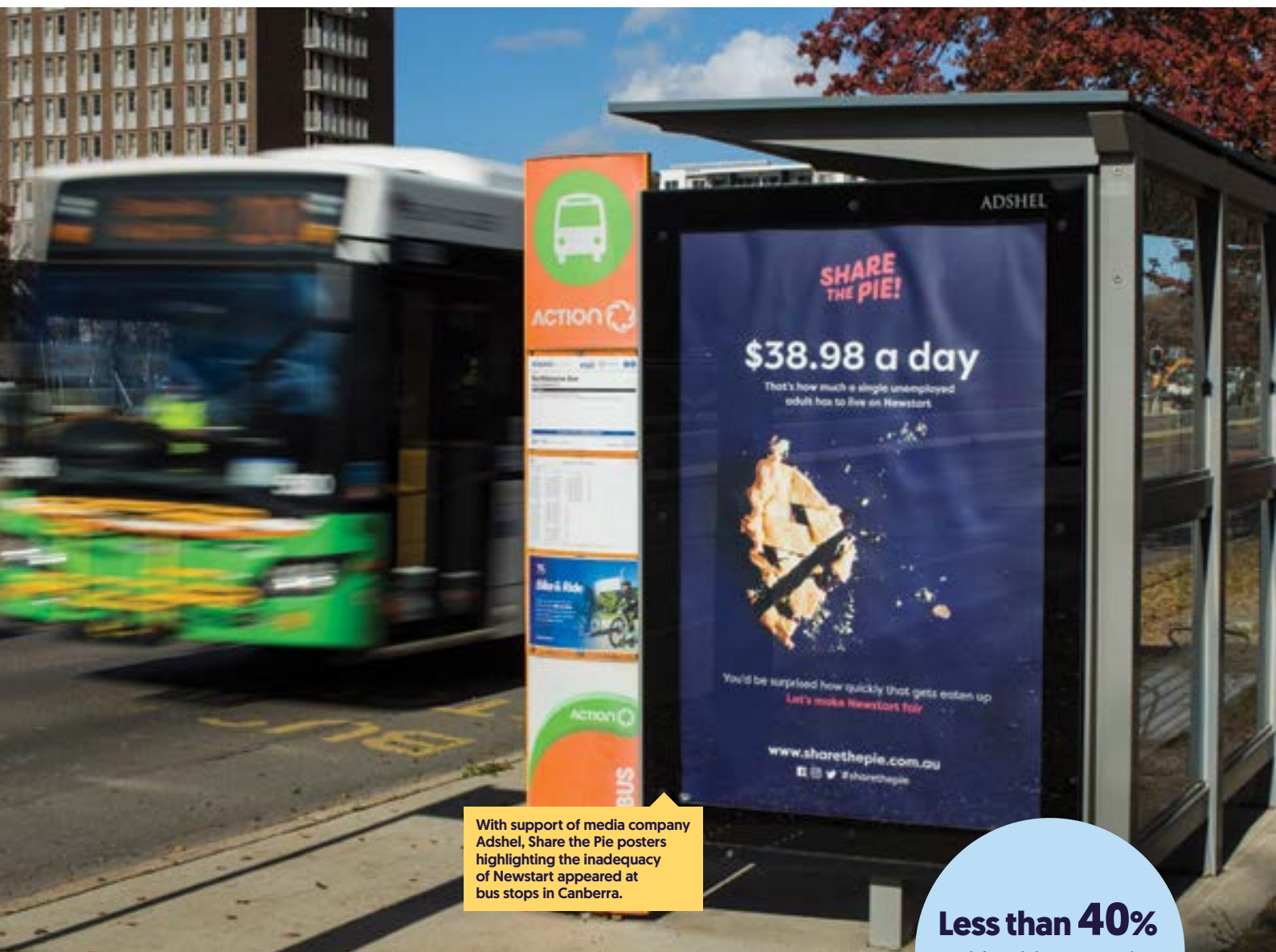
found work through our Work and Learning Centres: 139 undertook accredited training

Work and Learning Centres operate in six locations in Melbourne and regional Victoria, supporting people who live in public housing to find and keep work.

In a model developed by the Brotherhood, the Centres take a strengths-based approach to assessing and developing participants' job search and interview skills. Work and Learning staff collaborate with employers and local networks to assist people into work and connect them with other local services, such as training providers, English classes and organisations that offer volunteer placements.

Funded by the Victorian Government, the program is aimed at working with those who are most disadvantaged. It is implemented in partnership with five community organisations: the Church of All Nations in Carlton, Northern Futures in Geelong, Gippsland Employment Skills Training (GEST) in Moe, the Ballarat Neighbourhood Centre in Sebastapol and SalvoCare in Shepparton.

In 2017–18 the Centres had already achieved their four-year contract targets for 2015 to 2019, for training placements, employment positions and employment duration.



With support of media company Adshel, Share the Pie posters highlighting the inadequacy of Newstart appeared at bus stops in Canberra.

Less than 40%
of the minimum wage is what a single person on Newstart gets

Share the Pie campaigns for fairer Newstart allowance

“YOU HAVE TO THINK IN ADVANCE ALL THE TIME – YOUR BILLS, WHEN THEY ARE COMING – AND TRY TO MANIPULATE YOUR FOOD MONEY AROUND THAT.”

15,623 views

The campaign's launch video has been viewed online 15,623 times

The Brotherhood of St Laurence conceived the Share the Pie! campaign to highlight Australia's fraying social safety net – in particular the inadequacy of the very low Newstart Allowance for unemployed people.

The project received support from the Committee of Melbourne's Future Focus Group.

The pie concept is used in economic and policy circles as a metaphor to discuss inequality. The Brotherhood uses the pie motif and social media hashtag #SharethePie to spark public debate about insufficient financial support for unemployed people and capture growing concern

that the cherished value of the 'fair go for all' is diminishing. The campaign includes an informative website www.sharethepie.com.au, its own social media platforms and multi-media content where social security recipients tell their stories. In May and June 2018, Share the Pie posters appeared on bus shelters in Canberra with the support of media company Adshel.

The public awareness campaign complements a broad effort from the welfare sector, business groups and others to highlight concerns about social protection.



T-Rex is completing a horticultural traineeship with the Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust.

14%

of Australians in the labour force are unemployed or underemployed

Given the Chance opens doors to work

“THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND ADVICE HAS SEEN ME GET A FULL-TIME JOB. I AM REALLY SO INDEBTED TO THE BROTHERHOOD FOR LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR ME.”

314 people

were placed in jobs through our Given the Chance programs, with work gained through 171 different employers

Given the Chance is our long-running work placement program that operates in Melbourne and across Victoria helping marginalised job seekers to build their skills and find secure work.

For more than 15 years it has offered tailored support to long-term unemployed people, including young people, mature-age workers, asylum seekers, refugees and migrants.

Two key strengths of the program are its model of developing participants' job-ready skills, such as understanding workplace processes, and a strong partnership approach with employers in sectors that include banking, finance, local and state government,

building and construction, and health care. Employer partnerships include ANZ (from 2007), CityWide, John Holland, Energy Australia and Bank Australia.

Given the Chance is regarded by employers as a successful way to recruit highly motivated staff while creating diverse workforces that reflect the communities in which they operate their businesses.

Strategic objective

A trusted voice nationally on poverty and disadvantage

The Brotherhood has a strong reputation for its research expertise and influence, and this is underpinned by the work of our Research and Policy Centre – the largest centre of its type in Australia. The team conducts timely research on the causes, consequences and measurement of poverty, inequality and socioeconomic disadvantage. Whether it's influencing policy, evaluating programs or monitoring the rapidly changing labour market, our research is highly valued by government and the social welfare sector. The Brotherhood's research standing is strengthened through a longstanding partnership with the University of Melbourne. We also collaborate with other researchers, government agencies and community organisations.

25%

of people on Newstart and youth allowance spend at least **59%** of their disposable income on energy and housing costs and **75%** spend at least **32%**

Climate change and energy poverty demand action

“PEOPLE ON LOW INCOMES AND EXPERIENCING DISADVANTAGE SPEND DISPROPORTIONATELY MORE OF THEIR INCOMES ON ESSENTIAL SERVICES, MAKING THEM MORE VULNERABLE TO CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS.”

Energy affordability and climate change are closely interlinked problems facing Australia.

Energy poverty is an emergent and deepening problem for Australians living on low incomes, who simply go without heating or cannot afford their energy bills.

Our commitment to action to mitigate climate change, in ways that also support individuals and families on low incomes to access affordable energy, has entered its tenth year.

Working with the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS) and the Climate Institute, we developed the *Empowering disadvantaged households to access affordable clean energy* report, which makes five key recommendations.

These include improving household efficiency and strengthening consumer protection, to ensure disadvantaged households can benefit from changes in the energy market as technology develops and renewable sources increase.



Seuwandi Wickramasinghe and Dina Bowman have conducted research into mature-age employment.

The median duration of unemployment for people aged 55–64 is 26 weeks, compared to 17 weeks for all people of working age

The challenges for mature-aged workers deserve attention

“MATURE-AGE JOBSEEKERS NEED ASSISTANCE THAT IS BETTER ATTUNED TO THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES AND INTERESTS AND OPENS UP REALISTIC PATHWAYS TO SUSTAINABLE EMPLOYMENT.”

The world of work is changing rapidly: both automation and casualisation are gathering pace and transforming many industries.

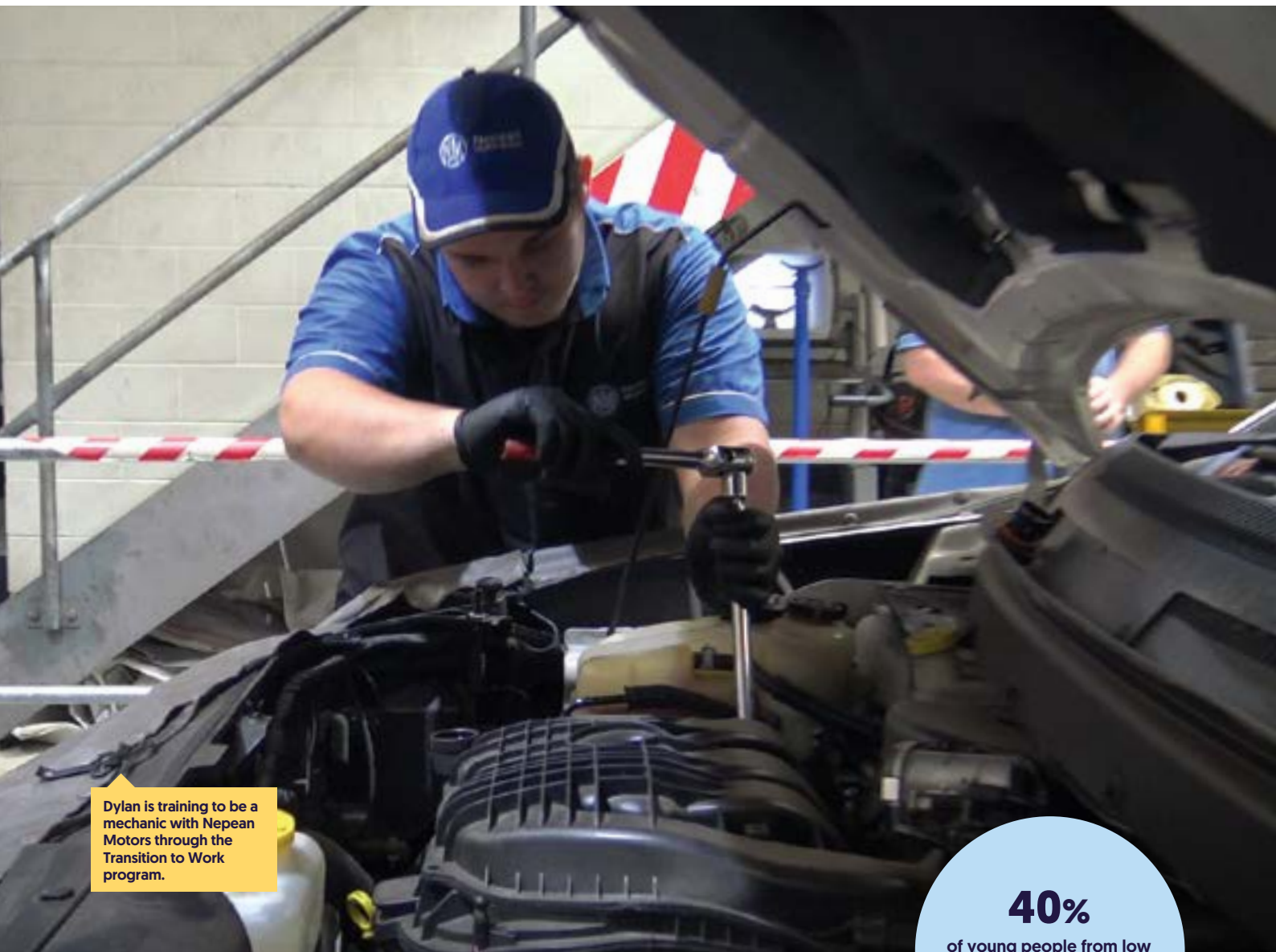
For those who left high school in the 1980s and are now losing their jobs as industries restructure, or are attempting to return to work after a career-break, finding the right job can be a challenge.

Our research into the experiences of mature-aged unemployment included interviews with job seekers, employers and staff working for jobactive providers, which are the federally funded employment services.

It found that the current system of support does not match people with training and opportunities that would advance their aspirations and lead to secure incomes.

People over 45 tend to stay unemployed for longer than their younger counterparts. Greater tailored investment is needed to build pathways to decent work. A shift in employers' attitudes to build inclusive and age-diverse workplaces with fair and secure working conditions is also required.

Our website, Working for Everyone, highlights the stories of mature aged workers and provides resources for job seekers.



Dylan is training to be a mechanic with Nepean Motors through the Transition to Work program.

40%

of young people from low socioeconomic backgrounds leave school before completing Year 12

Vocational education could better engage young school leavers

“PARENTS, ROLE MODELS, SIBLINGS AND INFLUENTIAL ADULTS PLAY VITAL ROLES IN FACILITATING ENGAGEMENT BY YOUNG EARLY SCHOOL LEAVERS WITH VOCATIONAL TRAINING.”

The National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) commissioned and published a report, *Engaging young school leavers in vocational education*, from the Brotherhood's study of the experiences of young school leavers, between 15 and 19 years of age.

Leaving school early can make it more difficult to obtain, and then sustain, work. Vocational education provides an alternative pathway to achieving the credentials required for jobs, but there are barriers.

The report explains the strategies, from before students enrol to their course completion, that will assist education providers to involve, then support, early school leavers to complete further education. These include smoothing the pathways to entry and enrolment and providing the right combination of academic, social and wellbeing support that promotes educational success and open pathways into employment.



life chances

STORIES OF GROWING UP IN AUSTRALIA

The Life Chances study has resulted in several publications. This book was published by Federation Press in 2014.

48%

of graduates in the Life Chances study with bachelor degrees did not have jobs in their chosen career

Longitudinal study shines a light on inequality

“THE LIFE CHANCES STUDY CAN CONTINUE TO MAKE A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO UNDERSTANDING THE FACTORS AFFECTING THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN AUSTRALIA AND TO THE POLICY APPROACHES NEEDED TO IMPROVE THEIR LIFE CHANCES.”

The Life Chances Study is a longitudinal research project examining the impact of unequal opportunities from childhood to adulthood.

Life Chances began in 1990 with 167 infants born in inner Melbourne – 135 young people remain in the study – shining a light on the intergenerational and uneven impacts of technological, political, demographic, social and economic change. This unique project has used qualitative and quantitative methods to collect and analyse 11 waves of data over 28 years.

Latest study findings show that the changing labour market is having a negative impact particularly on young men from disadvantaged backgrounds. Young adults from high income families are more likely to be employed and also able to rely on their parents for financial support.

The Life Chances study has generated 30 conference presentations, 25 reports, 10 journal articles, two documentary films, a book and a short video.

The next wave of Life Chances will focus on ‘approaching 30’.

Corporate governance

The Brotherhood of St Laurence is incorporated under the *Brotherhood of St Laurence (Incorporation) Act 1971*, number 8188 of the Victorian Parliament, and is domiciled in Australia. The registered office of the Brotherhood is at 67 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, Victoria 3065.

The Brotherhood is an income tax exempt charity, has deductible gift recipient status and is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

Lady Southey AC is Patron of the Brotherhood.

The President of the Brotherhood is the Most Revd Dr Philip L Freier, Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne and the Anglican Primate of Australia.

Charter and Life Members

Charter and Life Members receive and adopt the reports of the Board and of the auditors, receive and adopt the annual financial statements, elect Board Directors and fix the remuneration of the auditors, as well as transacting any other business at general meetings.

Life membership has been conferred on a number of members who have given significant service to

the Brotherhood. Life Members act as 'friends of the Brotherhood', often providing advice and ongoing support to the organisation.

The Board

The Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction and establishing the policies of the Brotherhood. It is responsible for monitoring the performance of the activities of the Brotherhood and overseeing its financial state on behalf of the Charter and Life Members. It is also responsible for ensuring that risks are adequately managed. The Board meets monthly.

Remuneration

The Brotherhood Directors volunteer their time and skills to the organisation and as such no remuneration was paid or is payable to the Directors in their capacity as Board Members.

Members of the Board during 2017–18

The Most Revd Dr Philip L. Freier
Non-executive Chair

Mr Mike James
Deputy Chair (to May 2018)

Mr Ian Paroissien
Deputy Chair (from May 2018)

Mr Tony Nicholson
Executive Director (to December 2017)

Ms Conny Lenneberg
Executive Director (from January 2018)

The Hon. Bruce Billson
Board Member (to April 2018)

A/Prof. Jane Freemantle
Board Member

Ms Dana Hlavacek
Board Member

Revd Dr Hugh J. Kempster
Board Member (to April 2018)

Dr Fiona MacDonald
Board Member

Ms Freya Marsden
Board Member

Ms Catherina Toh
Board Member

Mr Mike Tucker
Board Member

Executive team

The Executive Director is responsible for the day-to-day management of the activities of the Brotherhood as delegated by the Board. The Executive team is responsible for the implementation of organisational



Abeer found a job at the Outlook Environmental Darebin Resource Recovery Centre through our Given the Chance Jobs Victoria program.

strategies, development of policies and management of issues and of the performance of the organisation. The key members of the team were:

Mr Tony Nicholson

Executive Director (to December 2017)

Ms Conny Lenneberg

Executive Director (from January 2018)

Ms Jenny Grayling

Group General Manager
Organisational Services;
Company Secretary

Mr Rob Hudson

Group General Manager
Programs and Policy

Mr Jonathan Lee

Chief Financial Officer

Prof. Shelley Mallett

General Manager Research
and Policy

Planning and control

The Brotherhood produces a five-year strategic plan, annual plans and detailed budgets, which are approved and regularly monitored by the Board and its sub-committees.

Risk assessment

The Board, its sub-committees and the Executive Team are responsible

for identifying, measuring and assessing business, legal, financial, environmental and other risks in the activities of the Brotherhood. In particular, the Audit and Risk Management Committee and the Board consider all significant risks, their implications and strategies, and the Finance Committee oversees the financial affairs of the organisation.

Independent professional advice

The Board, its sub-committees, General Managers and senior staff have access to appropriate external professional advice. Legal, risk, investment, and tax and accounting advice is coordinated by the Chief Financial Officer and the Company Secretary through Freehills and Rigby Cooke; Pitcher Partners; Koda Capital, and JBWere; and KPMG, respectively. Some legal advice is provided by Freehills on a pro bono basis.

Audit and accounts

The Brotherhood's Constitution requires that proper books of accounts are kept, true and complete accounts are maintained and audited annually by a registered company auditor, and the financial statements and the auditors' report are laid

before the Annual General Meeting. In order that monthly management and annual accounts represent best practice and are of the highest standard, the Brotherhood complies with all applicable accounting standards and guidelines. The Brotherhood's external auditors are KPMG and internal auditors are Pitcher Partners.

Performance indicators

Management and the Board monitor the organisation's performance, from implementation of the mission statement and strategic plan through to the performance of the organisation against operating plans and financial budgets. Performance indicators are reported to the Board on a monthly basis using a Balanced Scorecard approach. This enables Directors to monitor the Brotherhood's performance in four main areas: strategic priorities, governance, organisational capacity and health, and the impact of our work.

Members of the Board



The Most Revd Dr Philip L. Freier

(Non-executive Chair)
PhD, MEdSt, BD, DipEd, B.AppS

Term of office November 2015– current
Committee memberships: Nominations,
Remuneration, Sambell Lodge
Redevelopment



Mr Mike James

(Deputy Chair to May 2018)
BCom

Term of office March 2007–August 2018
Committee memberships: Audit and Risk
Management, David Scott School Council,
Remuneration, Sambell Lodge Redevelopment



Mr Ian Paroissien

(Deputy Chair from May 2018)
BCom, CA ANZ

Term of office March 2017– current
Committee memberships: Audit and Risk
Management, David Scott School Council,
Nominations, Remuneration



Mr Tony Nicholson

(Executive Director to December 2017)
BA, BSW

Term of office October 2004–December 2017
Committee memberships: Audit and Risk
Management, Finance, Nominations,
Remuneration, Sambell Lodge
Redevelopment, Social Enterprises



Ms Conny Lenneberg

(Executive Director from January 2018)
LittD (HC), MA, BA (Hons)

Term of office January 2018– current
Committee memberships: Finance,
Nominations, Remuneration, Sambell
Lodge Redevelopment, Social Enterprises



The Hon. Bruce Billson

*BBus, Grad Dip (Mgt),
MBusLeadership, GAICD*

Term of office July 2017–April 2018
Leave of Absence, July 2017–March 2018



A/Prof. Jane Fremantle

SRN, MPH, PhD, LMPHAA

Term of office December 2017– current



Ms Dana Hlavacek

BCom (Hons), MAcc, FCA, GAICD

Term of office March 2017– current
Committee memberships: Audit and
Risk Management, Sambell Lodge
Redevelopment



Revd Dr J. Hugh Kempster

*BEng, BTheol, MTheol, PhD,
Grad Dip (Education)*

Term of office November 2012–April 2018



Dr Fiona Macdonald

*BBSc, GradDipCounselPsych,
MArts(SocPol), PhD, GAICD*

Term of office November 2012– current



Ms Freya Marsden

*BAGResEco (Hons), MCom
(Specialising in Economics), GAICD*

Term of office May 2014– current
Committee memberships: David Scott
School Council



Ms Catherina Toh

*BA (Hons), LLB (Hons),
GAICD Practising Member LIV*

Term of office December 2013– current
Committee memberships: Finance,
Sambell Lodge Redevelopment



Mr Mike Tucker

BBm, MAICD, AFAIM

Term of office February 2016– current
Committee memberships:
Social Enterprises

Financial Report Summary

Results for the year

The surplus for the year is \$4.8 million compared to \$1.7 million in 2016–17. This result is mainly due to an increase in income from investments and bequests.

Total donations, excluding bequests, were \$4.6 million in 2017–18 (2016–17: \$5.6 million), including specified funds for designated programs and unspecified discretionary funds.

Sources and uses of operating funds for the current and previous financial years are shown graphically below.

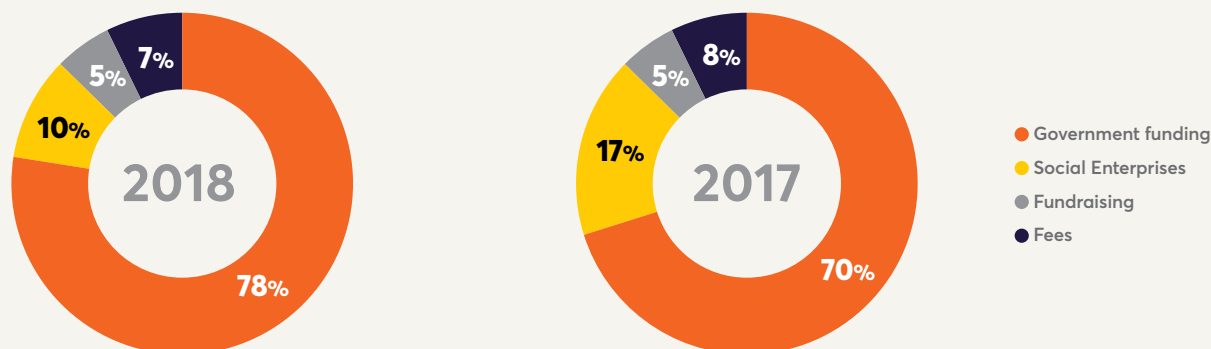
Total operating revenue has increased by 8.7% since 2016–17 which is mainly due to an increase in Government funding partly offset by a decrease in revenue generated by Social Enterprises through the Humanitarian Settlement Services contract. The increase in funding from Government is in a range of areas, most significantly in National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), but also in Work and Learning and Retirement and Ageing. The 8% increase in NDIS expenditure, as a percentage of total expenditure, is a reflection of the

growth in Brotherhood services in this area and is matched by an equivalent increase in funding.

Review of financial condition

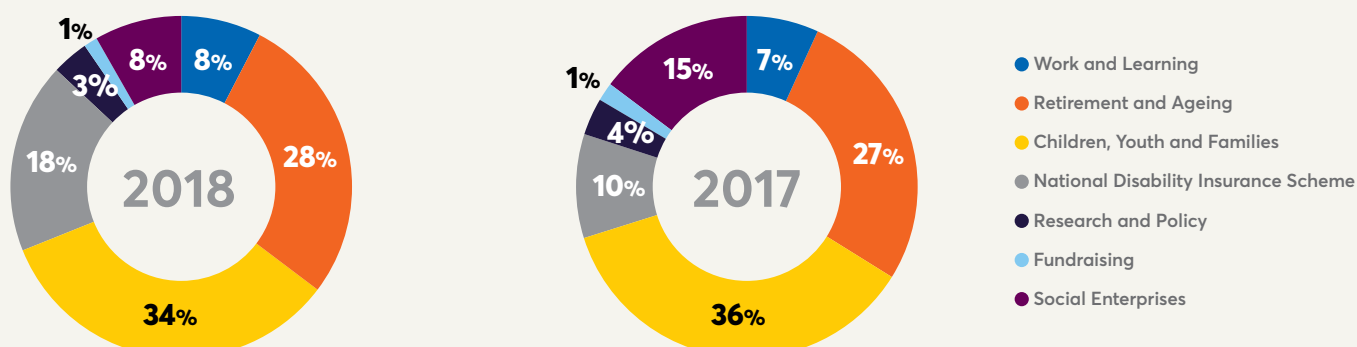
The total equity of the organisation increased by \$9.0 million from 1 July 2017, to \$120.4 million as at 30 June 2018. In addition to the \$4.7 million surplus for the year, equity has increased due to a \$2.4 million increase in the fair value of property and a \$1.9 million increase in the market value of investments.

Where our operating funds came from



The above charts classify operating funds received on the basis of the specific type of external funding source, rather than by the Brotherhood's internal service activity, the latter being the basis of revenue classification adopted in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.

Where our operating funds were spent





Sok is a member of our Coolibah Centre Social Connections Hub in Fitzroy where members enjoy a wide range of activities.



Abdi is completing a Certificate III in Security Operations through our Community Safety and Information Service course.

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2018

	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	18,038	19,220
Trade and other receivables	3,913	6,482
Inventories	794	714
Investments	75,819	56,963
Assets held for sale	6,500	-
Total Current Assets	105,064	83,379
Non-Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	57,549	59,512
Intangible assets	1,720	1,720
Trade and other receivables	3,366	3,364
Total Non-Current Assets	62,635	64,596
TOTAL ASSETS	167,699	147,975
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	6,474	4,931
Auspice and resident funds	2,280	2,332
Employee benefits	9,513	7,487
Deferred income	28,586	21,391
Total Current Liabilities	46,853	36,141
Non-Current Liabilities		
Employee benefits	450	447
Total Non-Current Liabilities	450	447
TOTAL LIABILITIES	47,303	36,588
NET ASSETS	120,396	111,387
EQUITY		
Accumulated surplus	78,007	73,238
Reserves	42,389	38,149
TOTAL EQUITY	120,396	111,387

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018 \$'000	2017 \$'000
REVENUE		
Service activities		
Work and Learning	9,317	6,604
Retirement and Ageing	31,969	29,925
Children, Youth and Families	38,067	37,884
National Disability Insurance Scheme	21,779	10,308
Research and Policy	1,988	1,944
Other activities		
Fundraising*	2,145	2,335
Social Enterprises:		
- Sales of goods	8,414	8,451
- Services	1,699	8,820
Other revenue and income	444	304
Revenue and other income from operating activities	115,822	106,575
EXPENSES		
Service activities		
Work and Learning	9,232	7,425
Retirement and Ageing	32,411	29,552
Children, Youth and Families	41,127	40,896
National Disability Insurance Scheme	21,779	10,591
Research and Policy	4,147	4,127
Other activities		
Fundraising	987	1,030
Social Enterprises:		
- Cost of goods	2,087	2,035
- Expenses	7,904	14,728
Other expenses	536	259
Expenses for operating activities	120,210	110,643
DEFICIT FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(4,388)	(4,068)
Finance income	5,724	4,626
Finance expenses	(308)	(261)
Net finance income	5,416	4,365
Bequests income	3,813	1,515
Bequests costs	(72)	(107)
Net bequests	3,741	1,408
SURPLUS	4,769	1,705
Other comprehensive income		
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Net change in fair value of property	2,371	-
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss:		
Net change in fair value of available for sale assets	1,869	2,531
Other comprehensive income	4,240	2,531
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	9,009	4,236

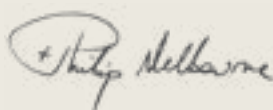
* Total fundraising income is \$4.63 million (2017 – \$5.57 million). The above income figure of \$2.14 million (2017 – \$2.33 million) represents unspecified fundraising income and excludes specified fundraising income of \$2.49 million (2017 – \$3.24 million) which is disclosed within Services Activities income.

Directors' declaration

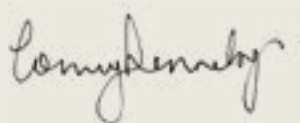
In the opinion of the Directors of the Brotherhood of St Laurence:

- (a) the Brotherhood is not publicly accountable;
- (b) the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012; including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the Brotherhood's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance, for the financial year ended on that date;
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013; and
 - (iii) complying with the Brotherhood of St Laurence (Incorporation) Act 1971 (Vic) and the Brotherhood of St Laurence's Constitution; and
- (c) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Brotherhood of St Laurence will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors:



The Most Revd Dr Philip Freier
Chair, Board of Directors



Conny Lenneberg
Executive Director

Dated at Melbourne on this
26th day of September 2018

The Annual Financial Report has been audited by KPMG. They have expressed an unqualified audit opinion. For a better understanding of the scope of their audit, please refer to their audit report in the Annual Financial Report.

For a complete set of financial statements visit www.bsl.org.au or contact the Finance Department by phone on (03) 9483 1183



Haseena attends the Fitzroy Growing Learners play group with her big sister and mother where they learn and play together.

Your support makes all the difference

Thanks to the exceptional generosity and support of those who share our values and vision, the Brotherhood is able to achieve so much and make a real impact in people's lives.

We are grateful to all who join us – financially, as volunteers, and as partners – in our mission to work for an Australia free of poverty.

Donors

Your financial contributions help us help others. It's this support that enables us to continue improving and extending our work with individuals, families and communities who face disadvantage. Money donations also allow us to undertake research and develop policy to meet the social and economic challenges that persistent poverty presents to our nation. We recognise the kindness of people who give regularly, who give in response to our appeals and who

consider us in their wills. Thank you for your commitment to our work and our vision.

Volunteers

More than 1,100 volunteers contribute to the work of the Brotherhood. Thank you for all your effort and goodwill. As participants in every part of the organisation, you share our concerns, develop public awareness and motivate others to get involved. Volunteers undertake a wide range of work. This includes customer service in our community stores, tutoring students, supporting jobseekers, connecting with older people, offering early childhood development support to parents and providing all kinds of professional advice. The invaluable contribution you make to our organisation means we can continue to provide more support, to more people.

Partner organisations

The reach and impact we have in the community would not be possible without collaboration. The partnerships we have with schools, universities, the businesses sector, large and small employers, community organisations, philanthropic bodies and government make our organisation flexible and strong.

Partnerships amplify our community impact, allowing us to drive positive social change, investigate causes of disadvantage, inform policy development, extend networks, strengthen our programs and develop models for nationwide services. As we work to overcome poverty and disadvantage, we thank you for working alongside us.

Community Stores

For more information and opening hours of our stores throughout Melbourne and Geelong, visit www.stores.bsl.org.au

Bentleigh

518 Centre Road
Ph: (03) 9557 6130

Brunswick

109 Brunswick Road
Ph: (03) 9387 9519

Deer Park

Shop 1, 112–116 Westwood Drive
Burnside
Ph: (03) 9361 2180

Eltham

Eltham Mall
10 Arthur Street
Ph: (03) 9439 3483

Fitzroy Hunter Gatherer

274 Brunswick Street
Fitzroy
Ph: (03) 9415 7371

Glenhuntly

1143 Glenhuntly Road
Glen Huntly
Ph: (03) 9571 3879

Greensborough

Rear Shop 6, 106 Main Street
Ph: (03) 9434 4221

Grovedale

192–194 Torquay Road
Ph: (03) 5241 9066

Hoppers Crossing

19 Elm Park Drive
Ph: (03) 9749 2205

Kilsyth

235 Colchester Road
Ph: (03) 9761 4387

Knox

Lower Level Shop 1113–14
Knox Westfield
425 Burwood Highway
Wantirna South
Ph: (03) 9887 1979



Brotherhood Books,
Australia's first charity
online bookstore, sells
over 40,000 books
per year.

Melbourne City Hunter Gatherer

Royal Arcade, Ground Floor
off Bourke Street Mall
Melbourne
Ph: (03) 9650 1843

Melbourne City Basement

Royal Arcade, Basement
off Bourke Street Mall
Melbourne
Ph: (03) 9650 3011

Moonee Ponds

24 Margaret Street
Moonee Ponds
Ph: (03) 9375 3551

Mount Waverley

11 Hamilton Walk
Ph: (03) 9807 6449

Noble Park

2/450 Princes Highway
Noble Park
Ph: (03) 9701 0266

Northcote

All Saints Parish Hall
12a High Street
Ph: (03) 9489 6183

Pakenham

166a Station Street
corner of Station
and Main Street
Ph: (03) 5941 4343

Ivanhoe

220 Upper Heidelberg Road
Ph: (03) 9499 1111

Seaford

Shop 1, 1-3 Station Street
Ph: (03) 9786 7015

Watsonia

Holy Spirit Church
78 Watsonia Road
Ph: (03) 9435 5964

Help us continue to change lives

Donate money

The Brotherhood is generously supported by many individuals, organisations and community groups.

You can help us to help others by making a financial contribution to us through the following channels:



(03) 9483 1301



donate@bsl.org.au



Fundraising, Trusts and Foundations
67 Brunswick Street
Fitzroy, Victoria 3065



give.bsl.org.au

Donate clothing, household items and furniture

Proceeds from all sales of donated goods at Brotherhood Community Stores support the work we do. We accept donations of good-quality clothing and saleable household items, including books for our online second-hand bookstore, Brotherhood Books. If you have good-quality furniture and small electrical appliances in working order that you no longer need, you can arrange for them to be picked up anywhere in Melbourne by calling **1300 DONATE (1300 366 283)**, or by emailing **collections@bsl.org.au**.

Volunteer

We believe the best way to a fairer, better society is to engage everyone in looking after each other. This means volunteers are central to what we do. If you would like to be part of our efforts to reduce disadvantage by offering your time and expertise to our services or events, find a volunteer opportunity by visiting **www.bsl.org.au/volunteer** or call Volunteer Services on **(03) 9483 1390**.

Leave a gift in your Will

If you admire the work of the Brotherhood and want to help us create a better future for the next generation, please consider including a gift to the Brotherhood in your Will. To discuss how to do this, please contact our Relationship Manager on **(03) 9483 1301** or at **bequest@bsl.org.au**.

Create corporate partnerships

We rely on the business community for generous financial and non-financial support. We have a dedicated team committed to managing each of our corporate relationships.

If you have an enquiry about partnering with the Brotherhood, please contact our Partnerships team on **(03) 9483 1113**.

Learn more

To understand more about our work and about important social issues:



View our website:

bsl.org.au



Join us on Facebook:

facebook.com/BrotherhoodofStLaurence



Follow us on Twitter:

@Brotherhoodinfo



Connect with us on LinkedIn:

linkedin.com/company/brotherhood-of-st-laurence



Watch us on YouTube:

youtube.com/BrotherhoodLaurence



View us on Instagram:

instagram.com/brotherhoodstlaurence



Read our blog:

bsl.org.au/blog

Unless otherwise stated, all statistics from the Brotherhood are for FY 2017–18.

References for statistics on pages 6–7 can be found at bsl.org.au/about/annual-reports/references2018

Photography: Craig Stillitoe Photography except for: page 4, Chris Sarra by Brotherhood staff; page 5, Action and Resource Centre from Brotherhood of St Laurence library collection; page 5, Kangan TAFE Foyer by

Woodrow Wilson; page 9, Oliver by Joe Mastroianni for Star Weekly; page 10, Sharon by The Photo Pitch; page 19, Emily by Martin Wurt at Working Photos; page 21, Omaid by Northern Futures Geelong staff; pages 22–23 and 25, Brotherhood staff; page 31, Bruce Billson by James Braund.

Graphic design: Journey Studio.

Cover: George, Briony and Marwordi all attend Brotherhood youth programs.

Page 30–31: Yusuf is studying towards a science qualification and receives assistance in maths from volunteer tutor, Jim, at the Homework Club in Fitzroy.



Children who attend the Fitzroy Breakfast Club enjoy play time and eat healthy food before they head off to school.



Brotherhood
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Annual Report 2018

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