

# Annual Report 2009



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### Our Vision

### Building a just society

### Our Mission

### Standing in solidarity with those in need Expressing a faith that promotes justice

### Our Values

### Welcoming

forming strong, faithful relationships

### **Discerning**

being strategic about how we can have the greatest impact

### Courageous

standing up boldly to effect change

Building relationships is the heart of our work.

In all our services our goal is to enable people to reach their potential and to connect with others so they can take an active part in the community.

Only when people form relationships can they come to trust again. When they trust, they may imagine new possibilities and pursue them.

We don't give up on people.

### Our characteristics

- 1. Respecting the value, dignity and rights of each person
- 2. Establishing robust relationships to enhance social inclusion
- 3. Developing programs that facilitate growth and change
- 4. Shaping public policy through research, advocacy and action
- 5. Advocating with and for marginalised members of society
- 6. Being committed to working in areas of unmet need
- 7. Embracing differences of race, culture and faith
- 8. Expressing Christian values and the mission of the Jesuit Order
- 9. Working collaboratively for the greater good



### Message from the Chairman of the Board

The year ending June 2009 was a year of change for the Board and the programs of Jesuit Social Services.

We farewelled our Chairman, Peter Johnstone, our Deputy Chair, Frank Costigan QC (deceased), and our Treasurer, Peter Tratt.

Together these Board members represented a combined total of 33 years of service to the Board and a link to the beginnings of formalised governance at Jesuit Social Services. Peter Johnstone and Frank Costigan were members of the inaugural Board of Jesuit Social Services when it was established in 1995. Our thanks go to those members and our sincere condolences go to Frank Costigan's family.

This year our move to working in partnership with other services, parishes and communities continued as we progressed our five strategic directions.

- Build a social research-policy-advocacy unit of national standing, by growing
  Jesuit Social Services' capacity to advocate from grounded experience of Jesuit
  Social Services and others.
- 2. Facilitate social justice leadership across Jesuit networks in the Australian Province and network with the Jesuit social ministry internationally.
- 3. Strengthen service delivery on a national basis, through the ongoing enhancement of current programs and the development of new programs in other parts of the Province, focussing in the first instance on the Holy Family Community in Western Sydney and the national Jesuit volunteer programs.
- 4. Assess and develop effective responses to service gaps and emerging needs.
- 5. Strengthen Jesuit Social Services' culture, infrastructure, and support base to sustain organisational development.

At Brosnan Youth Services we have expanded service delivery to now operate in all three Metropolitan Melbourne regions, with partnerships with other youth service organisations central to this arrangement. The successful tender that led to this under the Victorian Government's Youth Justice Service Delivery Model recognised the ongoing leadership of Brosnan Youth Services in social justice.

We have further developed our relationship with the Holy Family parish in Western Sydney and are now working with the parish to develop social support services in this important geographical area. As Jesuit Social Services continues to meet our strategic direction of expanding to deliver services on a national level, relationships such as this will form a vital part of our organisation's structure.

"In all areas we continue to evolve our services to meet the changing needs of disadvantaged and excluded people and communities."

We have moved firmly into the area of social enterprise with the assistance of Federal Government funding. As we continue to look for service gaps and emerging needs we have identified the importance of enterprise as a method of providing real and sustainable tools for economic and social inclusion for many of those whom we work with.

We have developed a fruitful relationship with the NAB which helps us to develop the concept of Just Leadership and a successful start to a next generation strategy as we look to the future of our culture, infrastructure and support base. The NAB has also played a central role in providing new opportunities to the African community with whom we continue to work.

My thanks go to Julie Edwards and the dedicated staff of Jesuit Social Services, my fellow Board members, volunteers, donors, the Victorian and Federal governments and the many dedicated organisations with whom we partner.

Patricia Faulkner AO

P.M. Faulkne

# Message from the Chief Executive Officer

The 2008/2009 financial year has been a busy and productive time at Jesuit Social Services. We continue to learn valuable lessons about the nature of injustice and the faces of poverty and disadvantage in this country – and to use these lessons to determine our direction now and into the future.

2008/2009 has seen Jesuit Social Services continue to assess our activity and implement a range of new initiatives in line with emerging need, our strategic directions and the changing policy environment. We have seen growth in some of our more established youth justice programs under the Brosnan Youth Services banner. We have seen new programs such as Holy Family Social Services in Western Sydney take on new and challenging areas of service. Other programs like Abbotsford Biscuits have shifted focus to stay at the forefront of service innovation as enterprise and sustainability become priorities.

"As we grow as an organisation we understand more deeply that our vision of 'Building a Just Society' is only possible when all people have the opportunity to flourish and reach their potential."

During the year I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to attend two international gatherings of Jesuits and their partners involved in social justice – one in Spain and one in the Philippines. It is clear that wherever we live and whatever our work, the degree to which we understand this and live it out there, directly influences our capacity to have an impact – locally, regionally and globally. Being part of the broader Jesuit network provides us with the opportunity, but also the responsibility, to join our efforts for the greater good.

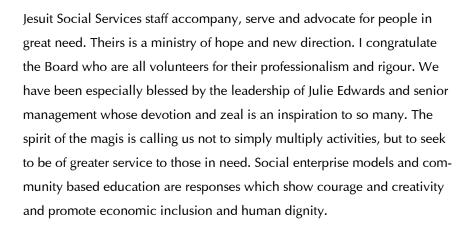
We continue to draw on our deep story and heritage to understand our current reality and to discern our future. This points us to keep strengthening our foundational values of being welcoming, discerning and courageous. Over the past year we have spent considerable time reflecting on these values and have determined that and into the future they will be operationalised by: an increased focus on fostering leadership and building communities for justice; embedding learning in all our activities; boldly innovating to create more opportunities for participation and building the kind of world we all want to live in.

I thank our donors and supporters who have caught our vision to build a just society, standing with us in solidarity with those in need. I thank the dedicated staff and volunteers of Jesuit Social Services who work with passion and resolve every day to bring this vision to life.

I am excited to be on this journey with you.

Julie Edwards

# Message from the Jesuit Provincial



In 2009 Jesuit Social Services extended its reach into Western Sydney and Alice Springs. From these communities who have welcomed us, and from those who have been working with them, we are learning much. New initiatives, such as the Just Leadership Breakfast series, offer us new relationships, opportunities for dialogue, fresh insights and possibilities to act for justice. This next generation strategy of engagement with young professionals is opening good frontiers. Our collective discernment as Jesuits at our recent General Congregation led us to a greater emphasis at this time on the unity and universality of our mission: we are one body with one mission. Although we may have different specialisations, every Jesuit organisation shares in this one mission. We collaborate across ministries for the sake of a faith that does justice.

"I am grateful for all that Jesuit Social Services is doing in the name of Jesus whose mission draws us into companionship for loving service."

In August we gathered people from various Province works who are engaged in work for justice. Internationally, Jesuit social centres have convened the Ignatian Advocacy Network. The networks being established in Australia and beyond help link people and organisations for the sake of our common endeavour. Last year we asked Jesuit Social Services to further develop our volunteer ministry program. The program is a formation program of the Australian Jesuits designed to place people with those in need. May I commend the opportunities that volunteer service offers.

Steve Curtin SJ lesuit Provincial

### Governance

Jesuit Social Services is a work of the Australian Jesuit Province, operating under an independent Board of Directors as an incorporated organisation.

All Directors have a strong commitment to social justice and to 'building a just society'.

There are currently 11 members on the Jesuit Social Services Board - the Chairman, four Jesuit Appointees and six Ordinary Directors.

The Directors receive no remuneration for their role on the Board and accept full responsibility for the governance of the organisation, in accordance with the Australian Corporations Law and community standards. The Board has adopted a formal Governance Charter and good corporate governance is a fundamental part of the culture and business practices of Jesuit Social Services. The Board sets the strategic direction and oversees the performance of the organisation with the support of the National Strategic Planning Committee, Governance Committee, Risk and Finance Committee and Fundraising Committee. An individual Director will not participate in decision making processes if any potential conflict of interest is likely to arise.

The composition of the Board of Directors and the performance of the Board is reviewed regularly to ensure that the Board has the appropriate mix of skills and experience and is operating in an effective manner.

New Directors receive an induction into the organisation and Directors participate in an ongoing development program concerning their role, responsibilities, our Ignatian heritage and the work of Jesuit Social Services. The Board supports open and transparent communication with stakeholders while regarding the confidentiality of client information as critical.

Our legal status is defined as:

- A company limited by Guarantee
- A Registered Charity holding an Endorsement for Charity Tax
- Concessions and Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) status, allowing tax deductions for donations
- · Fringe Benefit Tax (FBT) exempt.

Our Board members embody the Jesuit Social Services characteristics and share their time and expertise without financial reward.

### **Jesuit Social Services Board Members**

Patricia Faulkner (AO) is a partner with KPMG, Australia and has recently been appointed as Chairman of the Australian Social Inclusion Board. Patricia has held a diverse range of high level positions, including Secretary, Department of Human Services (Victoria) from 2000-07, Director of Consumer Affairs (Victoria) and Director of Occupational Health and Safety. Appointed 2007. Patricia Faulkner is Chair of the Jesuit Social Services Board.

**Julian Slatterie SJ** is a Jesuit priest and has had a distinguished career in Education including Deputy Headmaster of St Ignatius College Sydney, and Xavier College Melbourne. Appointed 1996.

Associate Professor Margarita Frederico is the Head of School, School of Social Work and Social Policy at LaTrobe University. She has undertaken a number of consultancies for Federal and State Government and international organisations. Appointed 2006.

**Darren Walls** is a Business Consultant with extensive experience in sales and marketing in both the commercial and not for profit sectors. His current role is Business Strategy Development with the Groset division of Grollo Australia focused in the Tourism Industry. Appointed 2006.

**Professor Jim Barber** is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, RMIT University. With a Masters of Social Work and Doctor of Philosophy, Jim has worked in the United States and Canada and held many positions in university faculties. Jim has received numerous awards and honours in the field of social and child welfare. Appointed 2007.

Frank Brennan SJ is a Jesuit priest, a Professor of Law at the Australian Catholic University and Visiting Professorial Fellow at the University of New South Wales. Frank is the Chair of the National Human Rights Consultation Committee. Appointed 2007.

**Ms Jennifer McAuley** is the Department of Human Services Representative on the Youth Parole Board. Jennifer is a qualified social worker and has had an extensive career in several state departments, particularly with the Department of Human Services, Victoria and most recently as Assistant Director Child Protection and Juvenile Justice. Appointed 2007.

Brian McCoy SJ is a Jesuit priest and NHMRC Fellow for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Research at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society (ARCSHS) at La Trobe University. Brian was a research officer with the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (Pat Dodson's Underlying Issues Unit). Appointed 2007.

**Libby Rogerson IBVM** is a Loreto sister and is the Social Justice Coordinator of the Diocese of Parramatta and Diocesan Director of Caritas. Libby has an education background and was Dean of St Mary's College, University of Melbourne. Libby worked with Caritas in East Timor in 1999 and was awarded the Humanitarian medal. Appointed 2008.

David Sutton worked at the Corpus Christi Community for men with a background of homelessness, addiction and/or acute health problems for 10 years. Prior to that David and his family lived and worked at St Francis Xavier School, Nauiyu Nambiyu, Northern Territory, an Aboriginal Community School. Currently David works in student counselling, religious education and pastoral care at St Joseph's College, Pascoe Vale. Appointed 2009.

Bernie Szentirmay is a partner in the major accounting and advisory firm KPMG. He has 20 years experience in providing audit, advisory and risk management services to public and private entities across a broad range of industries. Bernie also provides professional services to a number of not-for-profit entities operating in the medical research and philanthropic sectors. Bernie is Chairman of the Finance and Risk Committee. Appointed 2009.

Peter Johnstone was the inaugural Chair of the Board of the incorporated company of Jesuit Social Services and served in this role for over 10 years. Peter is the principal of PJ Governance Pty Ltd. He was, until recently, the Chief Executive Officer of the City of Boroondara and has over 30 years experience as a chief executive in State and Local Governments and a senior administrator in Federal Government. Appointed 1996. Resigned November 2008.

**Peter Tratt** was the Treasurer of the Board of Jesuit Social Services and operates his own financial planning business, Australian Wealth Advisers, and lectures at Melbourne University. Appointed 1999. Resigned November 2008.

David Holdcroft SJ is a Jesuit priest and was Director of Jesuit Refugee Service in Australia. David initially undertook academic study in education and the arts. David worked in the homeless persons' field for 12 years before joining the Jesuits. Appointed 2004. Resigned July 2008.

### Vale Frank Costigan

1931 - 2009

The Jesuit Social Services community is very saddened by the news of Frank Costigan's death. Frank had been involved with Jesuit Social Services since 1987 when he joined the Management Committee of the Brosnan Centre. He was appointed by the Australian Jesuit Provincial as an inaugural member of the Board when Jesuit Social Services was formed in 1995. He resigned in October 2008 due to ill health.

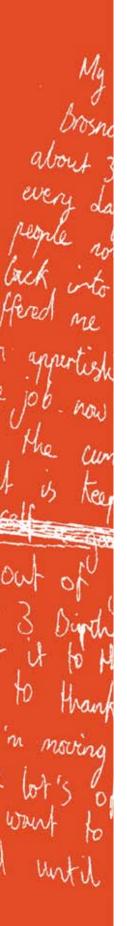


With grace and humour he shared generously his insight, intellect and wise counsel. Frank was probably most well-known for the Royal Commission he headed between 1980 and 1984 into the activities of the Federated Ship Painters and Dockers Union, following concern over mounting violence and corruption on Melbourne's waterfront. The Costigan commission exposed what became known as "bottom of the harbour" tax evasion rorts. The revelations eventually led to a raft of legislative changes.

Frank championed a range of social justice issues. A former president of the Australian Bar Association and chair of the Victorian Bar Council, Frank served as chair of the Victorian Drug Rehabilitation Fund, chair of the Victorian Government Sentencing Task Force and director and vice-chair of Jesuit Social Services. In his role as a director of Jesuit Social Services, Frank was an inaugural member of the YSAS (Youth Substance Abuse Service) Board where he served for ten years.

Frank was a true champion of social justice and a man of integrity. We were honoured to have him as part of our organisation.

We will miss him. A good man.



### **Strategic Directions**

In March 2007, the Australian Jesuit Provincial invited Jesuit Social Services to take a lead role in the Province for its social ministries in:

"a) direct service and accompaniment of the poor; b) developing awareness of the demands of justice joined to the social responsibility to achieve it; and c) participating in social mobilization for the creation of a more just social order." General Congregation 34 of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) 1995.

The implications of this invitation were explored during 2007 and integrated with the three year strategic planning process. This Strategic Plan serves as a basis for Jesuit Social Services' annual operating planning.

The following strategic directions were identified by Jesuit Social Services in collaborating with others to be a credible effective force for social justice in Australia:

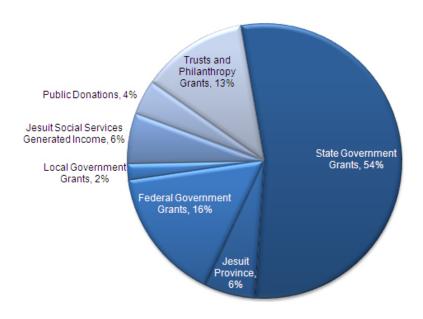
- Build a social research-policy-advocacy unit of national standing, by growing
  Jesuit Social Services' capacity to advocate from grounded experience of Jesuit Social
  Services and others.
- 2. Facilitate social justice leadership across Jesuit networks in the Australian Province and network with the Jesuit social ministry internationally.
- 3. Strengthen service delivery on a national basis, through the ongoing enhancement of current programs and the development of new programs in other parts of the Province, focusing in the first instance on the Holy Family Community in Western Sydney and the national Jesuit volunteer programs.
- 4. Assess and develop effective responses to service gaps and emerging needs.
- 5. Strengthen Jesuit Social Services' culture, infrastructure, and support base to sustain organisational development.

# **Funding**

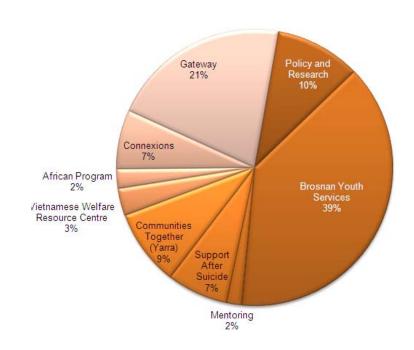
Jesuit Social Services receives its funding primarily from the state and federal governments, trusts and foundations. We also rely on the generosity of donations from the public and receive some funding from local government, our own social enterprises and the Society of Jesus.

The graph below shows the breakdown of our sources of revenue.

### Sources of Revenue



### **Allocation of Resources**



### **Program Reports And Highlights**

Jesuit Social Services works to build a just society by advocating for social change and promoting the health and wellbeing of disadvantaged young people, families and communities. Since 1977 we have been standing up for people's rights. Today we continue to work in some of the most difficult and demanding areas of human service.

Jesuit Social Services operates a diverse range of programs, and to give you an insight into this work we have outlined some highlights. We hope you enjoy this snapshot of the organisation and the people we work with.

For more information about specific programs, policy and research documents or information on how you can support Jesuit Social Services please visit our website at www.jss.org.au.

### Highlights of 2008/2009

### **Magis**

Jesuit Social Services welcomed twenty-four volunteers from India, the United States and Australia to work with us in our Community Programs in July 2008. The young people were participants in MAGiS08, an Ignatian Program leading up to World Youth Day.

### Just Leadership

The Just Leadership Breakfast Series was launched in April 2009. The series targeted young professionals and emerging leaders across corporate, community and government sectors. The thirst for justice and the desire to make a difference was demonstrated by the extraordinary interest and participation in the series. Conducted in partnership with the NAB and in collaboration with Mallesons Stephen Jaques, BP and the City of Melbourne, this breakfast series was a first step in a next generation strategy for Jesuit Social Services as we look to engage with and encourage the leaders of the future in their quest to build a just society. An external committee, made up in the main of Jesuit educated alumni who showed interest in exploring concepts of leadership in everyday life, supported this activity.

### **NAB Economic Inclusion Program**

A joint program lead by Jesuit Social Services in partnership with NAB and AMES, providing work experience to skilled African Australians who have not been able to gain work in Australia.

### Opportunity of a Lifetime

Sitting on the 34th floor of the National Australia Bank (NAB) at 500 Bourke Street Melbourne, Emebet looks out over the suburbs. She can't believe her luck. "This program is a rare opportunity for me" she says.

Emebet moved to Australia from Ethiopia four years ago and completed her degree in accounting at RMIT. For several years she tried to gain employment in her chosen field of finance. "It does not matter where you come from, you should have the same opportunities as everyone else. To find a job here it is often difficult," she says.

Emebet is one of three people taking part in an exciting collaborative initiative of Jesuit Social Services and the NAB. This project, aimed at creating job opportunities for skilled Africans living in Australia, involves three months of paid work experience with the bank.

This employment initiative was triggered when Deputy CEO of the NAB, Michael Ullmer, heard Federal MP Lindsay Tanner talk about the barriers that members of the African community face when they seek employment. This led to Jesuit Social Services creating a program with the NAB and AMES (Adult Multicultural Education Service) to provide invaluable work experience at the bank.

Mike Domann who heads up Group Finance at the NAB, is sponsoring the program for his division. He says it has been an amazing experience for everyone, including the permanent members of the team. "Our people have already changed their perspective on life," he says. "There is a genuine passion that people on the team have shown for this. I have had people saying to me that they have never been more proud of the organisation or the team for taking this project on".

Mike is keen to point out that the three participants currently in the program don't need special attention. "The three people we have here all bring skills in a different way. They will put new thoughts into the things we do, all of which will add value at the end of the day".



### **Brosnan Youth Services**

Brosnan Youth Services is a holistic, integrated support service for those young people exiting adult prisons and youth justice centres who are assessed as: high risk/need; with limited social and family networks; unstable accommodation; and experiencing multiple and complex health problems. Brosnan staff deliver quality programs in a manner that reflects the social justice principles of participation, equity, access and respect. Services include: intensive outreach support, case management, supported accommodation, drug and alcohol counselling, recreation programs, employment/training programs, 24/7 after hours emergency assistance and duty work and referral service.

### Young Adults Program

Individual young people assisted:

TAILS	60
LinkOut/WISP	98
Konnect	16
Visits to prisons/custodial facilities	419





### **Brosnan Youth Services Wins Youth Justice Tender**

Brosnan Youth Services, in partnership with other key community service organisations, successfully tendered for the Victorian Government's Youth Justice Service Delivery Model in the Eastern, North-Western and Southern metropolitan regions of Melbourne. The funding enables Brosnan Youth Services to build on its current range of programs and continue its vital work with young people in the justice system.

### **Youth Justice Community Support**

Our new Youth Justice Community Support Program is an intensive support program for young people, aged 10-21, engaged with the justice system. It recognises that interventions focusing on reducing the likelihood of young people in the justice system becoming adult offenders, will have significant benefits for the whole Australian community<sup>1</sup>. The young people we work with have multiple problems and experience high levels of need across many areas of their lives<sup>2</sup>. Our approach brings together a number of key agencies currently providing services to youth justice clients to work alongside Department of Human Services Youth Justice Case Managers to:

- Achieve a reduction in the rate, severity and frequency of reoffending
- · Enable young people to make an effective transition to adulthood
- Develop young people's capacity for economic, social and cultural participation.

#### **Brosnan Youth Services**

#### Youth Justice Program

Individual young people assisted: 120
Visits to youth justice centres: 159
Placed in supported accommodation: 20

### **Youth Justice Housing Pathways Program**

Provision of intensive housing support and outreach to six Transitional Housing properties in the outer Southern Metropolitan Region as part of the Youth Justice Housing Pathways Program.

DAY, A., HOWELLS, K. & RICKWOOD, D. (2004) Current Trends in the Rehabilitation of Juvenile Offenders. Trends and Issues in Crime and Criminal Justice. Canberra, Australian Institute of Criminology.



#### **Start Over**

Provision of case management and/or supported referral to young people, aged 10 - 18 years, in the City of Yarra and the City of Darebin who have received a police caution. This program is a crime prevention program funded by Victoria Police and has a strong community development focus.

### **Start Over**

Young people referred: 80
Individual young people engaged: 56
Referrals made to community services: 88

### **Community Justice**

A restorative justice program taking referrals through the Children's Court system. The program convenes group conferences between the victim, offender and their respective support networks. The Community Justice program is now embedded in the Child Youth and Families Act as a recognised intervention.





### Women's Integrated Support Program (WISP)

Provision of pre-release assessment and planning, intensive support and case management for females in the prison system. Support is holistic and is provided predominantly on an outreach basis. This program is delivered by a consortium of the following organisations: Melbourne City Mission, VACRO and Jesuit Social Services. The program targets all eligible females in the prison system, with Brosnan Youth Services focusing on the 18 to 25 age group.

#### **Konnect**

Provision of pre-release assessment and planning, and post release support to Aboriginal men and women aged between 18 and 30 years. Support is based on culturally competent best practice, is holistic and is provided predominantly on an outreach basis with a community focus. The program also aims to build the capacity of mainstream organisations through strong links to Aboriginal organisations to better meet the needs of Aboriginal men and women exiting prisons.

### Transitional Assistance, Information, Links Service (TAILS)

Provision of short-term supported referral for 18 – 25 year olds being released from prison or involved with Community Correctional Services.

### **Supported Housing Program**

Provision of short–term supported, staffed residential program. Targeting young people up to 25 years who lack skills to reside in independent accommodation or who exhibit behaviours which would place them at risk in independent accommodation. The program focuses on support and development of independent living skills.

### **Perry House**

Residential program for young people within the justice system who have an intellectual disability. Perry House is a long-term program which assists young people to develop living skills, access appropriate programs and/or employment and secure appropriate long-term housing.





The Chair of the Multiple and Complex Needs Panel, Professor Margaret Hamilton, wrote to CEO, Julie Edwards to commend the work of Brosnan Youth Services staff member, Ron Zarth. Ron's constant, patient work had achieved outcomes not considered possible. When Julie contacted Ron to thank him and congratulate him for his work, he wrote back giving some insight into our staff and our approach to our work.

"Thanks for the feedback. I think Margaret may have been too kind with her words. If anything, I think her words validate our everlasting commitment to the young people we support. We recognise that there are no quick fix solutions for some and that we, as an organisation, are in there for the long haul, through the highs and the lows. Through the work that we do, others are given a greater understanding that there is a strong emphasis on the relationships and rapport we build with the young people we support. We believe that by instilling hope and belief in others, great changes can be made" Ron.



### **Family and Community Programs**

### **Gateway**

Providing pathways to education, training and employment for young people with multiple and complex problems associated with their mental health, substance use and homelessness.

Gateway	
Number of referrals:	134
Unemployed at referral:	100%
Average Education:	Yr 10
History of substance use:	74%
Mental health problems:	65%
Participants with a dual diagnosis:	50%
Offending history:	37%
Participants who completed accredited training through Gateway:	52
Participants who engaged in accredited training externally:	20
Participants who engaged in employment in the Gateway kitchen:	30
Participants who engaged in employment externally:	11

Gateway's Pathways Support workers carry out a comprehensive assessment with participants. This ensures that a personalised pathway can be developed based on individual needs, strengths and aspirations. These pathways provide a range of options, enabling

participants to experience greater participation in education, training and employment in the community.

The Gateway Kitchen won a National Association for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (NAPCAN) 2008 Child Friendly Award in recognition that the Kitchen is a space that respects and values the contributions of the young people participating in the program.

### **Artful Dodgers**

The Artful Dodgers studios provide innovative and creative spaces for young people whose lives have been affected by difficult circumstances. Young people work in fully equipped art and music studios with experienced artists and musicians - exploring and developing their creative skills, meeting and connecting with other artists and musicians and getting involved in high profile projects, exhibitions and public outcome events.

Artfuldodgers.tv was launched in October 2008. The exciting new website provides a marketing and promotional portal for young artists' visual and sound based work created in the Artful Dodgers studios. The studios also produce a monthly email communication to keep supporters and fans up to date with our news.



### The Outdoor Experience

The Outdoor Experience offers a range of outdoor adventure intervention programs for young people, aged 15 - 25 years. TOE is based at the Bush Hut, a heritage listed house surrounded by native bushland in Kew, in inner eastern Melbourne.

TOE's bush adventure therapy program takes small groups of young people on extended wilderness journeys and ventures to some of the most remote places in Victoria.

The program is for young people who have substance use problems. This program provides significant opportunities for participants to develop healthy relationships with self, others and the environment.

Highlights of the year included programs with a number of new groups including African girls, indigenous groups and young people who have had someone die by suicide.



#### The Kitchen

The Kitchen offers young people the chance to gain accredited skills while producing a range of baked goods marketed as Abbotsford Biscuits.

Participants learn general employability skills plus skills relevant to employment in the hospitality sector. The Kitchen operates as a social enterprise and offers a diverse range of hospitality experiences that can also lead to further training in hospitality. Young people can be involved in all aspects of this new business venture, acquiring skills while gaining real work experience.

### **Connexions**

Delivering intensive support and counselling for young people with multiple and complex problems associated with their mental health, substance use and homelessness. Connexions was established in January 1995 as a response to young people experiencing co-existing mental health and drug use problems.

Program participants: 120 (outreach 31; counselling 89)

Average age: 21yrs

**Primary drug use:** cannabis 61%, heroin 35%, amphetamines 5%, alcohol 39% **Major mental health issues:** depression and mood disorders 95%, anxiety based issues 30%, psychotic illnesses 22%, personality disorder/traits 61%



### **Communities Together**

### Communities Together - City of Yarra

The Jesuit Social Services' Communities Together team of community development workers is helping to build stronger and safer communities in the highrise public housing estates situated in the City of Yarra. These culturally diverse communities are contending with multiple disadvantages.

Our Communities Together programs have expanded to meet the need for recreational, social, cultural and education activities and are active in fostering leadership so that residents can have a real say in the issues affecting their everyday lives.

New initiatives constantly evolve through working closely with the residents, getting to know their needs, then planning partnership projects with community members and other agencies.

During 2008/2009 the Richmond Information Centre was established. Providing resources and support to the communities who live on the Richmond estate, the centre is a hub for local activities.

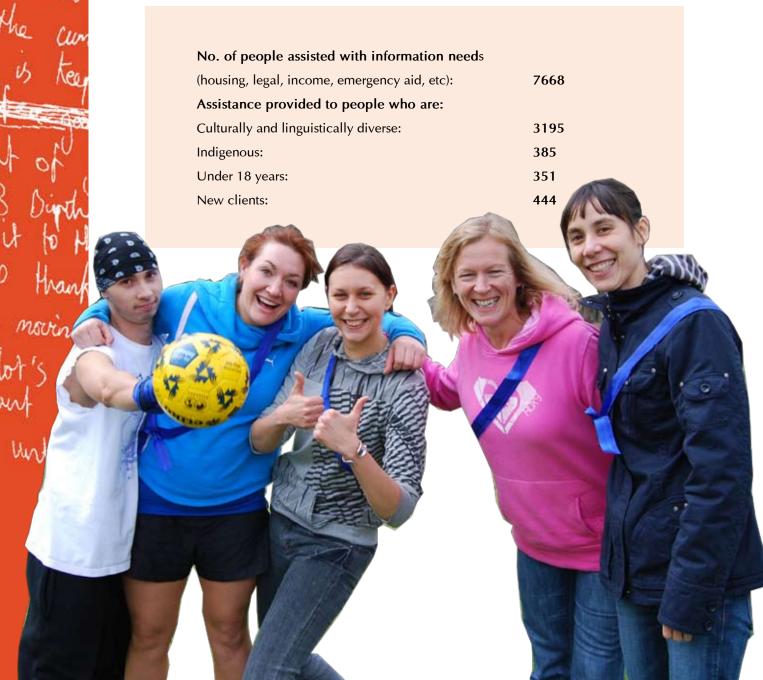


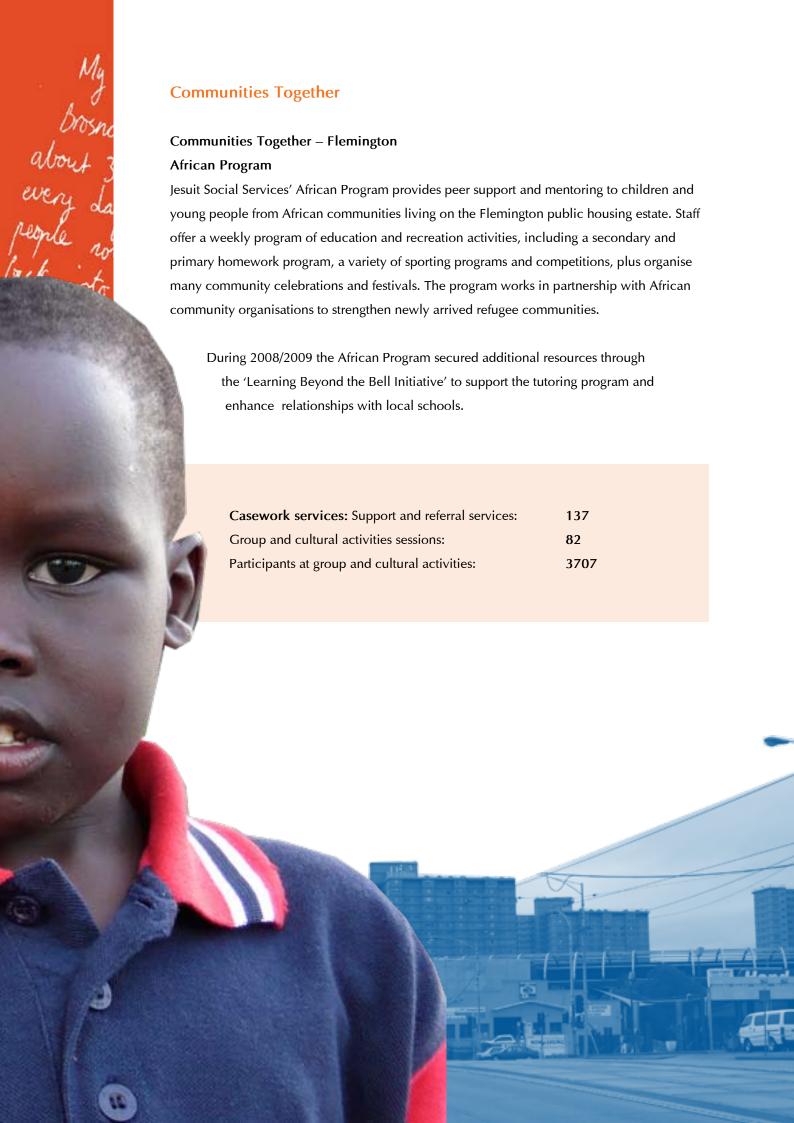
### **Communities Together**

#### **Collingwood Community Information Centre**

The Collingwood Community Information Centre provides a welcoming space and a high quality information and referral service. The centre runs accredited training courses. These have been a great success. A range of initiatives including youth sports programs, art projects and cultural groups are supported through our community development program. Collingwood is also home to the highly successful youth soccer program run in conjunction with Victoria Police.

In 2008/2009 Richard Wynne MP, State Member for Richmond, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Aboriginal Affairs, announced an additional three years funding for the Centre, securing what was an uncertain future for this popular program.





### **Communities Together**

### Vietnamese Welfare Resource Centre

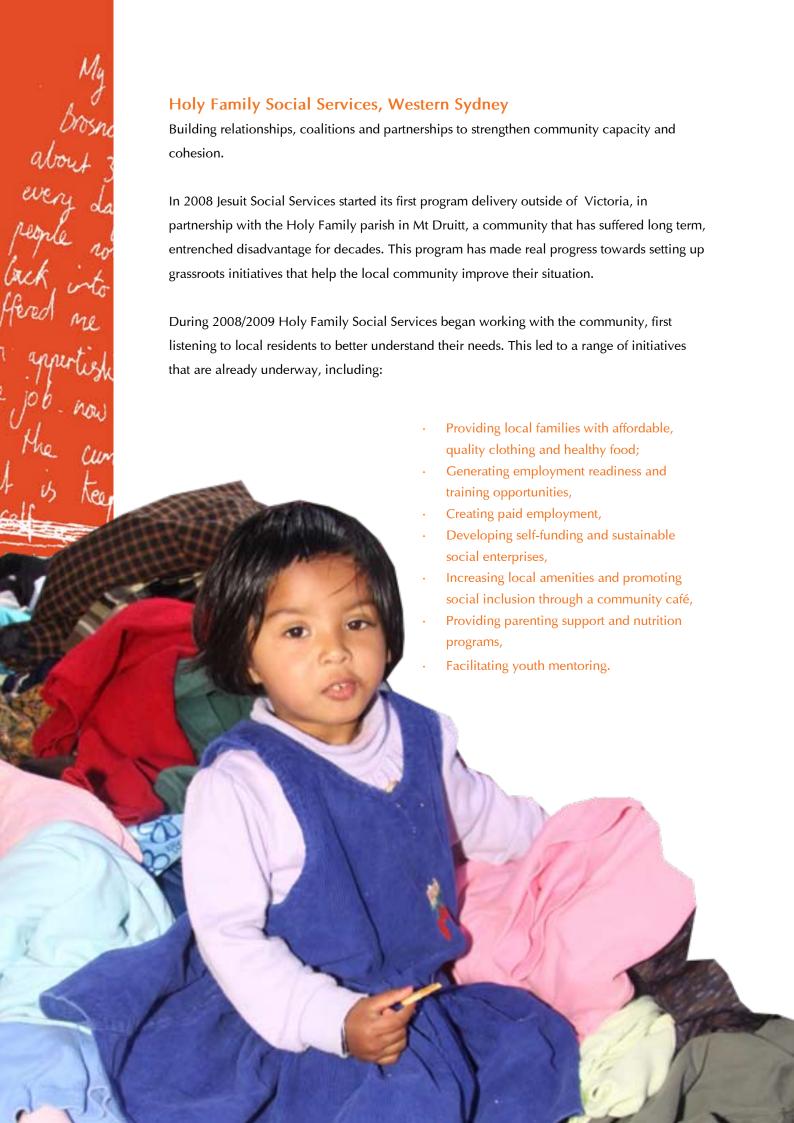
The Vietnamese Welfare Resource Centre is based in the highrise housing estate at Flemington and has been responding to the needs of the Vietnamese community in north and west Melbourne for over 18 years. Services offered by the Vietnamese Welfare Resource Centre include the provision of information and referral, counselling and crisis accommodation, community groups for young people, families and the aged, and the fostering of community and cultural activities such as forums, classes, information sessions, training programs and festivals.

Casework services: 429

Group and cultural activities sessions: 99

Participants at group and cultural activities: 1850





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### **Support After Suicide**

Providing support to individuals and families who are bereaved by suicide. This program provides the only free, professional support in Melbourne specifically for those bereaved by suicide.

Support After Suicide marked World Suicide Prevention Day on 10th September 2008 by announcing a new city location in the Victoria Hotel, plus new programs including: Climbing Through Grief (in conjunction with The Outdoor Experience) providing a weekend of activities for young people bereaved by suicide; an 8 week support group and monthly support groups. Support After Suicide also launched a new website at

www.supportaftersuicide.com.au.



# Policy, Advocacy And Research

Our program work informs our policy focus which we draw on to advocate for change.

Drawing on our experience of engaging with disadvantaged people, families and communities through our services and programs, the Jesuit Social Services Policy Unit has two key functions:

- 1. Research, policy and advocacy: identifying areas of unmet need, conducting research and using our findings to advocate for change in keeping with our vision of 'Building a Just Society'.
- Developing and promoting best practice: identifying and promoting best practice
  approaches to service delivery through evaluation, reflection and information sharing
  involving staff, participants, service providers and the broader community.

Governments continue to seek Jesuit Social Services input on policy priorities, valuing the grounded 'real-life' input we provide through our programs and services. Our policy submissions are routinely published on the Jesuit Social Services website, and hard copies can be provided upon request. Examples of recent submissions include:

- 'Building hope, skills and confidence' to the Australian Human Rights Commission Inquiry into human rights and social inclusion issues for African Australians.
- 'A bridge that leads the way
  to many other bridges' to the
  Parliament of Victoria Drugs and
  Crime Prevention Committee
  Inquiry into Strategies to Prevent
  High Volume Offending by
  Young People.



Through the Strong Bonds website, www.strongbonds.jss.org.au, Jesuit Social Services is promoting 'family aware' youth work practice, ensuring that parents and other family members are involved appropriately in working with and supporting young people. Recently the Strong Bonds website has been extended to include new material specifically designed for young people and families from culturally diverse backgrounds.

The Policy Unit advocates strongly to government and the broader community for policies and associated funding to improve the lives of disadvantaged people, families and communities. A focus of our work is ensuring that all levels of government deliver on their promises to provide improved education, training and employment opportunities for disadvantaged young people.

**Publications** Policy **Programs** parents & carers About Us JESUIT SOCIAL SERVICES about I contact us I site map Handling the Situation **Understanding the Problem** Need a Helping Hand? building-family-connections

**Your Feelings** 



"My girlfriend, Kate, moved in three years ago and it hasn't been easy for Matt. He is starting to accept her but we still have to work at it"

# hello

Are you a family member, carer or friend who is worried about a young person? Strong Bonds is here to help you help them.

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### **Jesuit Social Services Volunteers**

We build effective, professional and respectful relationships with our volunteers who are committed to the vision, mission and values of Jesuit Social Services.

During 2008/2009 Jesuit Social Services volunteers provided invaluable services which contributed to our work in the community.

#### Some highlights are:

- NAB Volunteer Program
- NAB staff volunteered on a range of projects during the year including regular excursions during school holidays to Werribee Zoo and Puffing Billy with residents from the City of Yarra and Flemington Housing Estates.
- Providing computers and assistance in setting them up for participants in the Gateway program.
- Providing resources to create hygiene packs for participants in Brosnan Youth Services programs.
- · Helping set up the new Richmond Information Centre.
- Training 22 Xavier Social Justice Network volunteers to provide tutoring to women from culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Collingwood.

### Volunteers also supported:

- · Homework Club in Flemington,
- · Information Centres in Collingwood and Richmond,
- Sports programs in Collingwood,
- · Reception and administration at the Brosnan Centre, Gateway and Central Office,
- · Policy Unit, Communications and Fundraising,
- · Abbotsford Biscuits kitchen.

### JVA (Jesuit Volunteers Australia)

Jesuit Volunteers Australia is a program of volunteers who are committed to engaging with people on the margins. JVA volunteers also commit to a process of reflection on their service with those who remain socially and economically disadvantaged.

During 2008/2009 new state coordinators were appointed in Sydney and Melbourne. An annual reflection journal was developed and is used by volunteers in Perth, Sydney and Melbourne.

### **Fundraising And Donor Programs**

We provide a number of options for individuals and organisations to support our programs and services.

### **Monthly Giving**

The monthly giving programs - Community Partner and Workplace Giving - enable us to confidently plan ahead and ensure we can continue to support those most in need.

### **Community Partners**

Community Partners commit to regular monthly donations that are directly debited from their nominated account. The guaranteed income from our Community Partner program provides Jesuit Social Services with a secure source of revenue. \$52,828 was raised through the Community Partner program in 2008-2009.

### Community Partner Profile – Chris Carr

Being a Community Partner, for me, means standing in solidarity with Jesuit Social Services.

As a barrister working in criminal law, I have seen the importance of Jesuit Social Services' work. Much crime occurs because people have lost any sense of being a part of mainstream society, with an investment in its values and future – it is a by product of the desolation of those who have 'fallen through the cracks.' Jesuit Social Services began as an effort to reconnect young ex-prisoners to society, by giving them a home and a meaningful existence. There are now more prisoners than ever, yet few government programs to help those released to build new and meaningful lives. This and related burdens still fall on organisations like Jesuit Social Services. As someone with the good fortune to be part of mainstream society, I feel a responsibility to assist Jesuit Social Services in this work. More personally, being a Community Partner is a monthly reminder of the importance of committing to the welfare of others and of our community. As a community partner, contributing some of my good fortune to others through Jesuit Social Services is a priority rather than an afterthought; it means that Jesuit Social Services doesn't get what might be left over, but receives an amount that they can count on every month.

Chris Carr, Community Partner

### WorkPlace Giving

WorkPlace Giving is a convenient form of giving, where regular salary deductions are made through the donor's payroll before tax, with the benefit of an immediate tax deduction without having to keep receipts. \$9,475.20 was raised though the WorkPlace Giving program in 2008-2009.

### National Australia Bank - Corporate Partner

The NAB has made a commitment to Jesuit Social Services to match their employees' WorkPlace Giving contribution dollar for dollar. NAB also support Jesuit Social Services through additional funding to cover costs of specific projects that we could not otherwise afford. Day trips for families engaged in the African Program to Sovereign Hill and Healesville Sanctuary were also facilitated by NAB volunteers.

### Newsletter campaigns/general donations

We greatly appreciate the contributions of our loyal and generous donors who respond to our quarterly newsletter appeals. We are dependent on these donations for our operations. Over the past year we received \$226,014.80 from our donors in connection with our newsletter distribution.

### **Bequests**

Each of us possesses an extraordinary gift – the power to help others. Leaving a bequest or legacy to Jesuit Social Services helps build a better tomorrow through the provision of practical assistance and services to those suffering extreme disadvantage. The generous gifting of bequests is a vital part of Jesuit Social Services' funding and enables us to respond more quickly and effectively to emerging needs.

Click here for more information on how you can help.



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### Financial support

Jesuit Social Services seeks the generosity of friends and supporters who can help us fulfil our mission of 'standing in solidarity with those in need.'

This year's fundraising highlights include:

- Eighteen new Community Partners. This donor program raised \$52,828 for our services and programs.
- The strengthening of our corporate partnership with the NAB, who provide skilled volunteers to contribute to Jesuit Social Services, and who matched employee donations dollar for dollar through their WorkPlace Giving program.
- On Sunday 28th June, staff from Jesuit Social Services and the NAB came together to participate in Run Melbourne and raise money for Jesuit Social Services. A fantastic effort was put in by all, with the total amount raised in excess of \$20,000. With over 100 staff involved, the NAB entered the largest corporate team and received \$1,000 towards their efforts for Jesuit Social Services.
- The Jesuit Social Services Annual Dinner took place at Melbourne Town Hall on Saturday 28th March 2009. Attended by over 460 people and featuring Waleed Aly, a young Muslim community leader, as guest speaker, approximately \$50,000 was raised to support the organisation's work.

To donate to Jesuit Social Services, click here.



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### Funder List Summary 2008 - 2009

#### **Federal Government**

Australian Council for the Arts
Department of Families, Housing,
Community Services and Indigenous
Affairs
Department of Health and Ageing
Department of Immigration and
Citizenship
Department of Education and
Training

#### **State Government**

Department of Education and Early
Childhood Development
Department of Human Services
Department of Innovation, Industry &
Regional Development
Department of Justice
Department of Planning &
Community Development
Office of the Child Safety
Commissioner

Victorian Multicultural Commission

Victorian Police

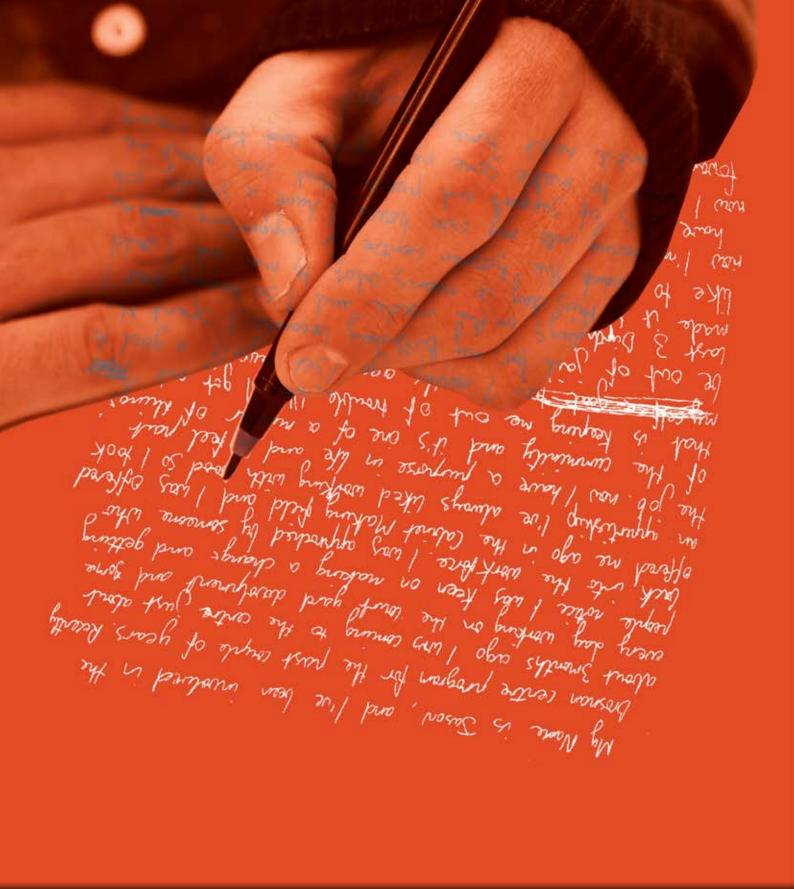
#### Local

City Of Melbourne
City Of Yarra
Broadmeadows Magistrates Court
Melbourne Magistrates Court
Heidelberg Magistrates Court
Sunshine Magistrates Court

#### **Philanthropic Trusts & Foundations**

Collier Charitable fund
Colonial Foundation
Harold Mitchell Foundation
Ian Potter Foundation
Maddocks Foundation
Reichstein Foundation
Schwartz Family Company Pty.Ltd.
Westpac Foundation
William Buckland Foundation





Jesuit Social Services 371 Church Street PO Box 271 Richmond Victoria 3121

Phone (03) 9427 7388 Fax (03) 9427 1819

Email jss@jss.org.au Web www.jss.org.au

