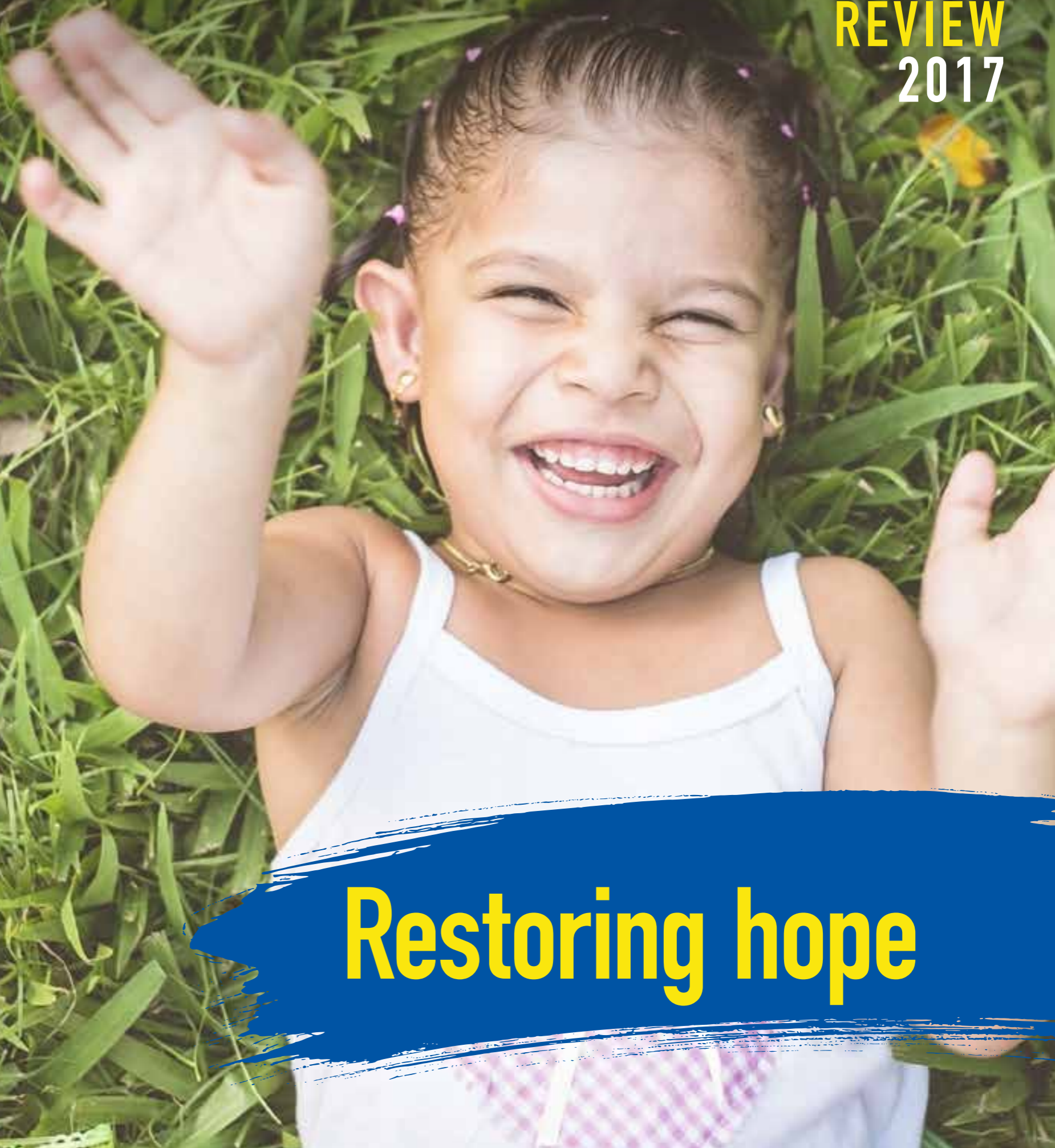




St Vincent de Paul Society
(WA) INC
good works

ANNUAL REVIEW 2017



St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc

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St Vincent de Paul Society
(WA) INC
good works

Restoring hope

Our Mission

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.

Our Vision

The St Vincent de Paul Society aspires to be recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering "a hand up" to people in need. We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing our hope, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

Values



Commitment – Loyalty in service to our mission, vision and values.



Compassion – Welcoming and serving all with understanding and without judgement.



Respect – Service to all regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender or political opinions.



Integrity – promoting, maintaining and adhering to our mission, vision and values.



Empathy – Establishing relationships based on respect, trust, friendship and perception.



Advocacy – Working to transform the causes of poverty and challenging the causes of human injustice.



Courage – Encouraging spiritual growth, welcoming innovation and giving hope for the future.

ABN: 18 332 550 061

The Annual Review of the St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc is produced by the Marketing and Engagement Department, October 2017. Design: Russell Pulford Marketing Communications.

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About Us

Blessed Frederic Ozanam - Founder

The St Vincent de Paul Society was founded in Paris in 1833 by Frederic Ozanam a 20 year old university student. France was experiencing tremendous political and social upheaval, and Frederic was deeply moved by the hardship and poverty he was witnessing.

Frederic along with other university colleagues wanted to respond in a practical way and began visiting people in their homes offering them friendship and support. This practice, known as Home Visitation, remains the core activity of the St Vincent de Paul Society members and volunteers today.

"I would like to embrace the whole world in a network of charity"
– Frederic Ozanam

St Vincent de Paul - Patron

We are named after St Vincent de Paul who was born in Southern France and ordained a priest in the year 1600 at the age of 19.

As a young man he ministered to the wealthy until he was appointed to a poor parish where his vocation to work with people most powerless and marginalised was inspired. From then on he devoted his life to helping the underprivileged. There was no form of poverty - physical, emotional or spiritual, which he did not try to alleviate.

"Charity is the cement that binds community to God and persons to one another" – St Vincent de Paul

John Gorman - Formed the St Vincent de Paul Society in Western Australia

On the inspiration of a military man John Gorman, the first conference of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Western Australia was established in 1865. John had witnessed the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society in Ireland prior to arriving in Perth. His drive and energy ensured that the conference operated successfully until his death in 1872.

Strategic Plan



Our Services

Focussing on our strengths we deliver a range of effective services in partnership with others to meet the needs of the community.



Our People

Our people are our greatest asset. We create environments in which people are engaged, developed and recognised in ways that support their spirituality, beliefs and strengths.



Our Sustainability

We create a vibrant, innovative, unified and sustainable organisation.



Our Voice

We work tirelessly to create a more just and compassionate society – one that is engaged with what we do and supportive of our Mission.

From the State President and CEO

The St Vincent de Paul Society is one of the largest and longest serving charities in WA and is recognised as a trusted and reliable quiet achiever.

As a member and volunteer based organisation our people are at the heart of all that we do. We are blessed to have incredibly dedicated people who have joined together with a common goal to provide help and support to our community's most vulnerable and marginalised.

Home Visitation is our core work,

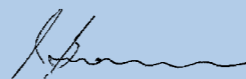
a concept developed by Founder Frederic Ozanam in 1833. It is the unique way we can truly understand the holistic needs of the people we assist. Whether through practical support, financial assistance or advocacy and friendship; our people provide hope, comfort and dignity to others in their time of need.

Beyond emergency relief support, we have many specialised support services and programs including retail and distribution centre operations that underpin much of our work; a unique three tiered recovery-focused mental health service; services to prevent or

alleviate homelessness; programs for young people; financial counselling and refugee and migrant services.

We also advocate for a more just and compassionate society, providing a voice for people who cannot be heard.

Our ability to provide services to people in need is extremely reliant on the funds that we receive from donors and corporate supporters and we are truly thankful for your generosity. We hope this Annual Review will provide you with a snapshot of what we do – the work of our remarkably generous and dedicated members, volunteers and staff, and stories of some of the people we were privileged to assist in the past year.



Robert Burns
State President



Susan Rooney
Chief Executive Officer



Archbishops Message

I wish to acknowledge and congratulate the St Vincent de Paul Society and its members, staff and volunteers, on the work undertaken over the past twelve months.

Vinnies has continued its steadfast commitment to its mission of offering love, respect, justice and hope to people most vulnerable in our community.

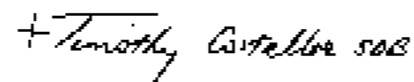
"He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker,

but whoever is kind to the needy honours God." Proverbs 14:31

Through their compassionate work Vinnies has touched the lives of many. Words of encouragement and support have enabled people in their darkest time, to feel safe, valued and comforted knowing they are not alone.

It is comforting to know that there are people working humbly and diligently to address the needs of

others and provide charity where it is needed. I offer my support and prayers for all involved with the St Vincent de Paul Society as you continue your good works.




Most Rev Timothy Costelloe SDB
Catholic Archbishop of Perth

Key Achievements



Provided a total of **\$2,391,296** in **emergency relief assistance** for people experiencing hardship.



Provided **43,952** night's safe sleep.



Vinnies Administration Office and State Distribution Centre **moved to a purpose built facility in Canning Vale**, consolidating financial counselling services, the emergency relief call centre, and a new Vinnies shop.



South Hedland and Mandurah expanded their support centres thanks to the Regional Grants Scheme administered by the Pilbara and Peel Development Commissions.



Held a Night Market in Northbridge for Perth's homeless population to come along and enjoy free food, clothing, toiletries, resources and accessories in a friendly and vibrant atmosphere.



New Vinnies shops opened in Eaton, Port Kennedy and Canning Vale, providing revenue to assist in emergency relief support.



New learning centre introduced to provide migrants and refugees access to better their English skills and job opportunities.



New training program provided individuals an opportunity to complete a Certificate III in business or warehousing, delivering skills for employment.









Our Impact










Home Visits & Emergency Relief Support

Number of Home Visits/Interviews **32,739**
 Number of People Assisted **38,062**

Assistance Provided

Bedding		3.9%
Clothing		5.9%
Food		62.6%
Furniture		5.7%
Utilities		5.9%
Other		16%

Support Expenditure

Accommodation		\$309,505
Education		\$7,795
Food		\$1,153,778
Household Goods & Bedding		\$189,418
Medical		\$22,304
Other Assistance		\$198,536
Refugee Resettlement		\$72,545
Utility Bills		\$363,699
Youth		\$73,716
Total		\$2,391,296

“Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us everyday” - Sally Koch

Fremantle Region

Number of Conferences - 7
 Number of Members - 128
 Number of Shops - 4
 Number of Home Visits - 2,416
 Number of People Assisted - 2,756
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$119,175

Perth Region

Number of Conferences - 7
 Number of Members - 97
 Number of Shops - 5
 Number of Home Visits - 1,243
 Number of People Assisted - 997
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$99,743

Joondalup/Wanneroo Region

Number of Conferences - 6
 Number of Members - 109
 Number of Shops - 4
 Number of Home Visits - 2,056
 Number of People Assisted - 2,455
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$137,600

Queens Park Region

Number of Conferences - 12
 Number of Members - 160
 Number of Shops - 5
 Number of Home Visits - 5,146
 Number of People Assisted - 6,336
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$496,144

North West Region

Number of Conferences - 3
 Number of Members - 28
 Number of Shops - 3
 Number of Home Visits - 2,413
 Number of People Assisted - 2,488
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$142,007

South West Region

Number of Conferences - 11
 Number of Members - 138
 Number of Shops - 9
 Number of Home Visits - 4,084
 Number of People Assisted - 4,715
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$206,568

Osborne Park Region

Number of Conferences - 11
 Number of Members - 142
 Number of Shops - 5
 Number of Home Visits - 3,695
 Number of People Assisted - 3,946
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$333,100

Swan Region

Number of Conferences - 12
 Number of Members - 134
 Number of Shops - 5
 Number of Home Visits - 4,396
 Number of People Assisted - 5,657
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$349,909

Peel Region

Number of Conferences - 6
 Number of Members - 99
 Number of Shops - 8
 Number of Home Visits - 7,290
 Number of People Assisted - 8,712
 Amount of Welfare Distributed - \$433,334

Number of Conferences - 75

Number of Members - 1,035

Financial Welfare - \$2,317,580
 (excludes youth support program)



Local heroes provide a hand up

Snapshot

- 
 Undertook 32,739 home visitations assisting a total of **38,062 people**
- 
 Financial Counsellors assisted **937 people**
- 
 Emergency Relief Call Centre received **31,268 calls** for assistance
- 
 Created and distributed **1,237 Christmas Hampers**

Our incredible members and volunteers are at the core of everything we do. A large part of the assistance provided by the St Vincent de Paul Society is through local groups known as 'conferences'. Conference members undertake Home Visitations, providing practical support including food, clothing, bedding, furniture, utility bills and rents as well as advocacy and friendship to the most vulnerable within our community.

Our Emergency Relief Call Centre is generally the first point of contact for people seeking assistance. In the last financial year, volunteers answered 31,268 calls from individuals requesting either material or financial support for themselves and/or their families.

That equates to around 130 calls a day between the hours of 9am and 1pm.

The St Vincent de Paul Society's four Financial Counsellors provide free, independent financial support and advocacy for people struggling financially. The Financial Counsellors help many people work their way out of debt, often preventing them from ending up in a situation of homelessness. This year the St Vincent de Paul Society was the only WA based organisation to be recognised in the top 10 by the Financial Ombudsman Service of Australia. This represents the number of client referrals made to them for assistance, resulting in more people achieving a positive financial outcome.



Letter from a Vinnies volunteer to a Mini-Vinnies (Primary school group)



As volunteers for St Vincent de Paul we get to meet lots of people in need. Every home visit is different, because everyone is different. The other night, we visited a chap – let's call him Paul. Paul and his family had just been hit with some unexpected bills and could not afford to buy food for the coming week. He called Vinnies and I was asked to go and see him.

On the way to Paul's house we picked up some groceries. We also picked up some toiletries, courtesy of Mini-Vinnies - that's you! We knew that the family would be battling for a while and it would be even longer before they could afford shampoo, soap, toothpaste, etc.

When we arrived Paul came outside to help unload the car. "We" gave him five bags of groceries plus a bag with some flannels, soap, shampoo, etc. He wasn't expecting the toiletries, and so we told him about you – Mini-Vinnies; how you cared about people, had thought about how to help them, and then put it into action by organising and collecting these things.

This made Paul realise that the things he was holding weren't just groceries but gifts from real people who cared. It's funny, but a gift is so much more valuable than the material thing itself, probably because it is so personal. Paul was deeply touched when he understood the significance of what he'd received. He knew that lots of people had been involved in helping his family that day. At a material level, his family would be looked after. But, more importantly, he understood that he and his family were not alone. "This just goes to show there are good people in the world", he said. He was talking about you.

The food that we gave Paul's family will be eaten, and the toiletries will run out. But the way Paul felt when he understood your story will stay with him forever. Perhaps you didn't realise it but you - you clever Mini-Vinnies - when we visited Paul, you smuggled away a bit of love amongst the toiletries!

Inspiring young people



Vinnies Youth Support Program aims to inspire young volunteers to facilitate a range of social activities for the development of children and teens experiencing difficulties. Activities such as regular camps are tailored to provide a safe and fun experience for young people to engage with others and develop confidence and life skills. It also provides welcome respite for the parents and guardians who are experiencing their own difficulties. Six camps are run per year across January and July. Kids camps are run for children in years 3 to 6 with teen camps organised for young people in years 7 and 8. The pathways camp program aims to support young people in years 9 to 11.

Vinnies works closely with schools and teachers to nurture the next generation of leaders and educate students on the importance of engaging with and helping others. They undertake fundraising activities to support Vinnies and learn the value of working together as a community and the importance of social justice.

“I’ve taken away the ability to be calm in tough situations and when faced with challenges I will think of all the options” -Kit
“I can learn to open up more and be more confident in social situations” -Jemima
“I can do more things that I didn’t know I can do, I also have the ability to make great friends” -Avalon
“I can cook and do anything I put my mind to. In challenging situations I will listen to what others have to say” - Jon

Jack attended his first Kids Camp in July 2016.

He had heard about how fun the camps were from his older brother who had previously attended. It was Jack’s first time away from home and he was terribly homesick on the first night and second day. The volunteers worked to support him with his separation anxiety, however by the second night it became too much for him and his mum made the decision to take him home.

Although it was sad to see Jack leave camp early, he voiced his determination to come back next camp and make it the whole way through. He attended the next camp and was confident he could stay at least two nights this time. The volunteers supported him to engage in the camp activities and he was able to call home each night.

Before long he stopped talking about missing home and managed to stay for the duration of the camp. On the final night’s disco Jack surprised everyone by joining everyone on the dance floor.

Jack’s mother was so grateful that the volunteers had persevered with Jack. He had pushed himself out of his comfort zone and left with new found confidence and a feeling of belonging.

“Youth is the hope of our future” - Jose Rizal



16 High School Conferences - **700 students** (Conference Members)



32 Primary School Conferences - **640 students** (Mini Vinnies)



75 Youth Support Program volunteers (Camps)



79 Youth Support Program attendees



Total number of volunteers - **1,415**



Building better futures

The St Vincent de Paul Society provides accommodation support and many other specialised services for people experiencing homelessness. On any given night, one in 200 Australians are homeless. In WA around 10,000 people are experiencing homelessness, with 39% under 25

years of age. Sadly the situation is only getting worse with more and more people experiencing hardship. Formed through a partnership with Rotary our Passages Resource Centres in Northbridge and Mandurah provide a welcoming place for street-present young

people aged 12-25. By creating a space of trust and belonging, Passages successfully engaged with over 2,000 young people in the past year to address the cause of their homelessness and create positive outcomes.

*ABS, Census 2012

It provides:



Basic needs – showers, laundry, food, clothing, mail, computers



Youth workers – providing information and support, referrals and advocacy, workshops and activities



Visiting agencies – weekly or fortnightly sessions on-site with a range of specialist services including medical advice, legal aid, financial assistance, substance abuse and mental health support



Outreach support – capacity for mobile worker to attend appointments and assist young people with active referrals



Accommodation – transitional accommodation in share houses for up to a year for young people wanting to prepare for private rental and independent housing options

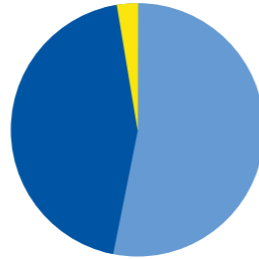


Passages Northbridge

- A total of **1,154 young people** visited the service **3,962 times**
- **103 visited** for the first time
- Successfully referred **961 young people** to other support services

Gender

- Male - **614**
- Female - **506**
- Transgender - **34**



Homeless status

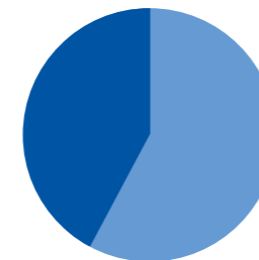
- Primary Homeless - **52%**
- Secondary Homeless - **15%**
- Tertiary Homeless - **33%**

Passages Mandurah

- A total of **824 young people** visited the service **2,643 times**
- **204 visited** for the first time
- Successfully referred **683 young people** to other support services

Gender

- Male - **475**
- Female - **349**



Homeless status

- Primary Homeless - **42%**
- Secondary Homeless - **49%**
- Tertiary Homeless - **9%**



• **Primary homelessness** is experienced by people without conventional accommodation (e.g. sleeping rough or in improvised dwellings);

• **Secondary homelessness** is experienced by people who frequently move from one temporary shelter to another (e.g. emergency accommodation, youth refuges, "couch surfing");

• **Tertiary homelessness** is experienced by people staying in accommodation that falls below minimum community standards (e.g. boarding housing, caravan parks).

Snapshot:

• Northbridge and Mandurah introduced the role of Active Referral Officer (ARO) with the view to increase capacity for staff to mentor and engage with young people and help them follow through with referrals to other agencies. AROs visit clients outside of the service, breaking down barriers and achieving more positive outcomes. **In its first year AROs engaged with 139 individual clients over 367 times.** The ARO role has meant that four out of five referrals have been successful.

Tom Fisher House

Tom Fisher House was developed to support Perth's chronic long term homeless who are unable to access other services due to their complex issues. In 2016 Tom Fisher House celebrated the opening of its new purpose-built facility in Perth. This created the opportunity to increase the number of beds available to 12 and provided the ability to accommodate couples. It also has facilities for pets to accompany their owners. Unfortunately demand for the service is so great that 929 people had to be turned away in the last year.

Tom Fisher House provides a place of respite in which life impacting issues can be identified, treated and supported in collaboration with other agencies, which can often mean the difference between making it another day on the streets or not.

Snapshot

- Assisted **346** people with seven nights of respite
 - **75.7%** Male
 - **24.3%** Female
 - **29.8%** Aboriginal origin
 - **15.3%** Couples

Referrals

- **9.1%** to medium/transitional housing
- **2.8%** to long term housing
- **3.9%** to assertive outreach for rough sleepers (i.e. Street to Home and after hours Support)
- **13.4%** to mental health services
- **24%** to health/medical services
- **4.7%** to drug/alcohol counselling
- **0.4%** to assist for incest/sexual assault
- **0.8%** to assist for trauma



→ <http://bit.ly/Passages-WhatYouDoMatters>



Positive pathways to transform lives

Maddie (45 years old) had been doing fly in/fly out work but when her mother became critically ill she left work to care for her. Her mother passed away and Maddie, struggling with grief, loneliness, and the reality of nowhere to go, turned to alcohol. Due to her alcohol dependency Maddie became estranged from her children.

After miscommunication with the Department of Housing, Maddie found herself in a place she never thought she would be – homeless

and sleeping rough. Whilst on the street Maddie experienced physical and sexual abuse.

The trauma of losing her mother, her children, the abuse, together with not being able to return to work, further impacted her alcohol dependency and mental health stability.

Tom Fisher House provided a safe place for Maddie to sleep and enjoy nourishing meals. Staff worked with other support services to provide a strategy to further assist her going forward. Upon leaving

Tom Fisher House Maddie went to Palmerston Farm for rehabilitation and continues to participate in the residential rehabilitation program. Tom Fisher House was the catalyst for Maddie to start addressing the trauma she was experiencing and begin her journey of change.

Maddie is now getting counselling to deal with her trauma, has a safe place to sleep and has reunited with her children.

→ <http://bit.ly/HomelessnessCanHappenToAnyone>

Journey to recovery

The St Vincent de Paul Society's mental health service (Vincentcare) is a community based program that offers accommodation and support for up to 53 people experiencing mental health challenges. Our work is unique and is the only three tiered integrated mental health service in WA. This means we work with the men and women accessing the service to transition from supported care at the village, to shared accommodation, and then eventually to independent living.

St Vincent de Paul Society's mental health service is a recovery focused model – led by the belief that everyone should have the opportunity for recovery. Staff are led by the 'clients' need and what their goals are. Support workers tailor

care to the individual and work to build life skills and reconnect people with family and the broader community.

The 3 tiers of accommodation are:

- **Vincentian Village** – 28 beds for men and women with 24 hour support
- **Community based shared houses** for 3-6 people with part-time and visiting support
- **Independent living** with three months transitional support



→ www.abc.net.au/news/2017-07-07/st-vincents-mental-health-service/8688198



Overcoming limitations

Bruce (69 years) first came to Vincentian Village over five years ago. He stated he was in “a pretty bad space” living in his own unit. Someone recommended Vincentcare and Bruce attended an initial meeting. Bruce was impressed from the start. “Staff made me feel so welcome and were so relaxed with me.”

Bruce describes his time at Vincentcare as “healing”. Sadly, Bruce was diagnosed with cancer while living at the Village so had significant health issues to contend with as well as his mental health recovery.

Following this challenging period, Bruce had an opportunity to travel to Switzerland with a friend but was

unsure whether he would cope. He spoke to a support worker who assisted him to explore pros and cons of the trip, and identify strategies to improve his wellness so he could go. “I would not have been in a place to do this without this support,” Bruce said.

Bruce travelled to Switzerland and upon his return, took the next big

step in his journey and moved into a Community House with a plan to transition back to his own unit.

Staff have worked closely with Bruce and he is now in the process of returning to his own home. “I went in (to Vincentcare) upset and tense and came out healed.”

Snapshot



Assisted **10 people** to transition back into the community



Provided over **20,000 nights** of safe sleep



Provided over **30,000 meals**



Without this service, most clients **would likely be living on the streets**



Supported **53 individuals** with a lived experience of mental illness



95% of all referrals to the service come **from acute hospital admissions**



Styled by Vinnies

Vinnies shops continue to be supported by the Western Australian community through their generous donations and are run by dedicated volunteers and a small number of employees.

Vinnies shops provide an affordable shopping experience in a bright, dignified, and welcoming setting. Our shops have a wide range of pre-loved clothing, books, manchester, bric-a-brac and, in some places, furniture.

Our shops provide more than a retail opportunity, they are pivotal in providing support to people who are doing it tough. Profits from the sale of all goods help fund important support services for the local community.

Vinnies works with other agencies to provide opportunities in their shops for people with special needs or conditions, disabilities or mental illness to help them live independently, find employment and to be a part of their local community.

→ www.vinnies.org.au/shops



Volunteering makes Judy happy

Judy worked in retail most of her life and on retirement had been a manager for 17 years. After retiring, Judy soon found that she missed the retail environment and the interaction with customers and became a volunteer at Vinnies. Judy's knowledge of retail is a great asset and she is a great mentor for other volunteers.

"I like working with shop manager Carolyn because she makes us always feel welcome and everyone is treated as a VIP," Judy said. "Volunteering helps everyone grow, regardless of your character and personality. It's enjoyable, fun and enhances your sense of empathy."

Snapshot

- 48 Vinnies shops across Western Australia 
- Generated \$11,216,362 in retail sales 
- South Hedland moved to custom built premises 
- Opened three new shops - Eaton, Port Kennedy and Canning Vale 
- 1,654 volunteers provided 448,322 hours of service 
- Shops provided \$285,480 worth of emergency relief items to 42,077 people in need

Providing Dignity, Distributing Hope

After being located in Osborne Park for over 25 years, Vinnies clothing and furniture depot relocated to a purpose built facility in Canning Vale. It is the main warehouse and distribution centre for material donations. Good quality items such as clothing, furniture, bric-a-brac and various items that are clean and undamaged are all accepted. The stock is sorted, packaged and distributed to shops. Anything not able to be used for emergency relief or sold in the shops is recycled. There are 91 Vinnies donation

bins across WA that are regularly collected.

The State Distribution Centre is critical to;

- Supporting our emergency relief efforts
- Facilitating stock for Vinnies shops
- Undertaking donation collections from the community (with 7 trucks)
- Recycling goods, reducing waste and landfill

Snapshot

- Undertook 2,230 emergency relief deliveries, delivering a total of 32,327 items 
- Provided \$649,724 worth of household items to people in need 
- Undertook 4,391 household and office collections 
- Collected 319,158kg of clothing from 4,364 collections 
- Sorted 624,918kg of clothing
- 14 volunteers providing 6,840 hours on 195 occasions



Supporting our new Australians

Over 34,000 refugees in Australia have uprooted their family and escaped a homeland that has often been decimated.

The Refugee and Migrant program welcomes and assists new Australians to create a life in WA. Support includes the provision of household goods, clothing, food and advocacy. The Refugee and Migrant Committee undertake activities to help make their transition a happy and comfortable one. Activities include a bi-annual 'Welcome to Australia Picnic' which gives newly arrived families a chance to come together, build networks and support each other in their new surroundings. A new Learning Centre was started in January 2017 providing migrants and refugees with an opportunity to improve their English speaking skills. The volunteer run classes will give new Australians the skills needed, including computer classes, to help them integrate into the community and give them a better chance at finding work.

Snapshot

- 33 people assisted through the Learning Centre
- 16 volunteers providing 45 hours a week in the Learning Centre
- Provided 435 Christmas hampers to migrants and refugees
- Undertook activities such as picnics to develop a network of support



“To be called a refugee is the opposite of an insult; it is a badge of strength, courage and victory...”
– Tennessee Office for Refugees

Alam arrived in Perth six years ago after fleeing the Taliban in Afghanistan. He was part of an ethnic group (Hazara) targeted by the regime. His application for permanent residency was eventually accepted and processed, and a year ago he was finally able to bring his wife and three sons to live with him in Australia.

While trying to create a life for themselves, they initially found themselves struggling financially. They were referred to the St Vincent de Paul Society and were provided with emergency relief, some furniture and a fridge. They were then referred to the Migrant and Refugee committee who have provided ongoing support particularly with social integration.

The three boys had all been involved in Tae Kwan Do whilst living in Afghanistan, two of them had attained black belts. The boys have enjoyed getting back into the martial arts scene and all of them are doing well with their education. One boy has excelled in English and has been accepted into university. Alam has work as a contract truck driver which is sufficient to cover basic costs but Vinnies is providing some initial assistance with the university fees.

All the boys are high achievers and determined to make a successful life for themselves and a year in the family have thrived.

Creating opportunities for friends overseas

- 1 billion children worldwide are living in poverty. According to UNICEF, 22,000 children die each day due to poverty.
- 805 million people worldwide do not have enough food to eat.
- More than 750 million people lack adequate access to clean drinking water.
- 80% of the world population lives on less than \$10 a day

The St Vincent de Paul Society is committed to alleviating hardship and poverty, not just on a local level, but also on a global scale. Through a Twinning program the Overseas Development Committee resources projects and financial

assistance is given to developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region. These projects increase their ability to gain an income and support their families and the wider community.

The Assist a Student Program is an education scholarship initiative aimed at providing primary and secondary students throughout Asia and the Pacific an opportunity to achieve an education improving their future opportunities.

“One child, one teacher, one book, one pen, can change the world”
– Malala Yousafzai

Snapshot

- Provided **\$69,749** in support to twinned countries - India, Cambodia, Indonesia, Philippines, Bangladesh
- **114** twinning relationships
- A total of **\$17,080** provided an education for **244 students**
- **8 projects delivered:**
 - 2 Goat banks in India
 - 1 Literacy Project in Pakistan
 - 1 Child Care Centre in Cambodia
 - 1 Bicycle Transport Project in India
 - 1 Computer Project in India
 - 1 Latrine Project in India
 - 1 HIV Children Project in India
 - 7 Sewing Machines to India



A Voice for the Voiceless

Vinnies continues to work towards creating a fair, just and compassionate society for all. Key platforms of our social justice and advocacy efforts include:



Homelessness



Inadequate income



Mental Health support



Lack of affordable housing



Cost of living pressures



Refugees and Migrants

“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good people to do nothing”
– Edmund Burke



Advocacy in Action

Davina’s story is a prime example of where the St Vincent de Paul Society’s advocacy work can help to change lives, with proactive assistance and sound advice.

After suffering years of domestic and emotional abuse at the hands of her husband, Davina finally sought support with severe depression and anxiety. Davina’s husband had put her in a very challenging financial situation, making it difficult for her. Her husband had gone to the bank and taken out a loan in Davina’s name stating he was purchasing a new car. Instead her husband spent it on other things and did not allow her to get a car.

Davina and her two children eventually moved to a place of their own but she was struggling financially and had no way of paying back the massive debt she had been left with. Davina’s support worker suggested she contact the St Vincent de Paul Society for assistance through its financial counselling program.

The financial counsellor assessed Davina’s situation and was able to help her secure parenting payments from Centrelink. They then negotiated with the bank on her behalf requesting a full debt waiver due to severe financial hardship and domestic violence. The bank agreed to a full waiver of her debt.

Davina is now able to focus on getting back on her feet financially and is looking for part time work. She participated in a budgeting session and was assisted in creating a spending plan to help her with her finances going forward.

Davina said “I feel like a huge weight has been lifted off my shoulders. I can now concentrate on getting my life back on track for me and my kids.”



Our People

State Council

Robert (Bob) Burns – State President

Terry Power – State Vice President

Gladys Demissie – State Treasurer

Rev Fr Nino Vinciguerra – State Chaplain

Bernard (Ben) Ziegelaar – President, Fremantle Region

Peter Ryan – President, Joondalup/Wanneroo Region

Barbara Brucciani – President, Osborne Park Region

Winston Rennick – President, Peel Region

Ray Ryan – President, Perth Region

Barbara Boggon – President, Queens Park Region

Lou Daily – President, Swan Region

Patrick Wallis – State Youth Representative

Rowan Pearce – State Youth Representative

Susan Rooney – Chief Executive Officer

Note: At the time of printing the positions of President North West Region and President South West Region were vacant.

We acknowledge the following State Council members whose terms ended during the 2016/17 year:
Ian Digney, Jim Mather, Stephanie Tenger

Chairs Advisory Committees & Boards

Finance Committee

Governance Committee

Membership & Conference Committee

Mental Health & Homelessness Advisory Board

Operations Board

Occupational Safety & Health Committee

Overseas Partnerships & Development Committee

Passages Resource Centres Board

Refugee & Migrant Committee

Social Justice Committee

Spirituality Committee

State Retail Operations Board

State Youth & Young Adult Advisory Committee

Gladys Demissie

Tim Kavenagh

Lou Daily

Karen Vernon

Terry Power

Andrew Milne

Bruce Phillips

David Reed

Clément Astruc

Vacant

John Orzanski

David Reed

Rowan Pearce/

Patrick Wallis

Total Employees – 175

Total Volunteers – 1,783

Governance

The governing body for the St Vincent de Paul Society in Western Australia is its State Council. A number of the members of State Council are elected by their peers in each of the Regional Councils in WA. State Council members are elected for a four year term with elections held when current terms expire or a vacancy occurs. The State President appoints Vice Presidents and Appointed Officers to compliment the skills and experience of the elected State Council members. Supporting our activities, we have a number of Advisory Committees to assist the State Council in carrying out their functions and to provide advice and recommendations for effective and informed decision-making.

* Mark Fitzpatrick finished as CEO in February 2017. Susan Rooney took on the role in May 2017.



Working together to make a difference

Fundraising Appeals

The 2016 Christmas Appeal focused on the strength to overcome disadvantage shown by the thousands of Western Australians the St Vincent de Paul Society assists. A total of \$679,000 was raised thanks to our generous supporters. This trust of Vinnies and commitment to our work allows our volunteers and support services to deliver unique and vital assistance to members of our community who have nowhere else to turn in their time of despair.

Together we can do heroic things was the theme for the 2017 Winter Appeal. The people who find the courage to rebuild their lives, our

volunteers who donate their time and talents to help others and our kind donors who find it in their hearts to contribute financially allowing us to continue to provide hope – all demonstrate heroic qualities. This appeal raised \$1,852,000 and remains our most important fundraising appeal.

Additionally our Spring and Autumn Appeals generated \$480,000, an incredible result in an ever challenging environment. Fundraising income ensures the delivery of services which have a positive impact on the lives of Western Australians.

Major Donors

As more and more people find themselves in financial hardship and the need for our support services rise, our major donors have not only continued to support our work but have increased their generous financial contributions in the past year. We express our most heartfelt thanks for their generosity.

Bequests

Thank you to our friends forever supporters who remembered Vinnies in their Wills. We received 11 bequests in the past year. Their legacy of care helps to ensure support can continue well into the future.

Regular Giving

Our 227 regular givers make it possible to provide essential services but also plan ahead to address community need in meaningful and sustainable ways. Our sincere thanks to those who provide regular gifts.

Vinnies CEO Sleepout

Now in its eighth year, the Vinnies CEO Sleepout continues to be a successful fundraising event turning the light on homelessness in Australia. Held on Thursday June 22 at the WACA, \$600,000 was raised as a result of the efforts of 104 business leaders and their supporters.

Events

Our events calendar continued to be busy throughout the year. The Race Day was a phenomenal success as people committed to

further donation support for young people who call on our Passages services. Over \$85,000 was raised. The annual Street Appeal in September not only proved to be a valuable opportunity to engage with the but also generated \$60,000 for our emergency relief program. In addition to our fundraising events, the team continued to work on events that focus on our advocacy and social justice efforts. The inaugural Night Markets in Russell Square, Northbridge for people experiencing homelessness was held during Anti-Poverty Week. Food, toiletries, clothing and shoes as well as entertainment were provided free to people sleeping rough.

Marketing

We continue to work closely with our state retail team to bring more

people into our Vinnies shops and grow sales revenue which helps fund life changing support services in Western Australia. Our campaigns aim to raise awareness of recycling and Vinnies as an affordable quality shopping alternative as well as promote Vinnies as an option for material donations and volunteering.

Public Relations

WA media recognise Vinnies as a reliable and valuable contributor and featured across local, state and national channels on radio, tv, print and on-line.

- Over **414 media hits** (excludes on-line).
- **Featured on Today Tonight.**

Thank You



- Australian Red Cross
- Bunnings
- City of Joondalup
- City of Wanneroo
- Comestibles
- CYM
- EY
- Foodbank
- Harrier Human Capital
- HBF
- Leaf Bean Machine
- Rapid Relief Team
- Town of Cambridge
- Visy
- WACA



How you can help

MAKE A FINANCIAL DONATION

Credit card donations can be made by visiting vinnies.org.au or calling 13 18 12. All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

If you are interested in sharing your skills and time to help people through any of the St Vincent de Paul Society's services, great volunteering opportunities exist. For further information on volunteering please phone (08) 6323 7500.

LEAVE A BEQUEST

Consider remembering the St Vincent de Paul Society in your Will. Vinnies is able to provide long-lasting support to many because of the generosity of

people who have remembered Vinnies in their Will. To receive an information booklet or speak to someone about leaving a bequest please phone (08) 6323 7500.

BECOME A REGULAR GIVER

The regular giving program allows donors to make a periodical commitment to the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society and receive only one tax-deductible receipt each year. For more information on the regular giving program please phone (08) 6323 7500.

DONATE MATERIAL GOODS

Donations of pre-loved clothing, household goods and furniture can be made at our State Distribution Centre in Canning Vale or by calling (08) 6323 7520 to arrange a free

pick up of larger items. For the location of your nearest Vinnies Shops visit vinnies.org.au.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

The St Vincent de Paul Society recognises the importance of developing and nurturing strong links with the corporate and philanthropic sectors to allow us to continue to help make positive changes in the lives of the people we help. Vinnies seeks to engage all partners in long-term, strategic and mutually beneficial relationships. To find out more please phone (08) 6323 7500.

Follow us on Social Media - VinniesWA



Financial Summary

The St Vincent de Paul Society (WA) Inc was not immune to the difficult and challenging economic environment currently being experienced in Western Australia. The 2016/17 financial results from normal operations resulted in a deficit of \$3.026 million inclusive of depreciation, with a cash deficit of \$2.113 million. A range of strategies to bring Vinnies back to a cash neutral operating position will be implemented over the next 18 months.

There were two non-operational items amounting to \$6.52 million in the form of profit on the sale of property and a capital grant that was used towards the building of our new facility in Canning Vale, which when taken into account resulted in a reported surplus of \$3.494 million

Overall Financial Position:

- 2016/ 17 overall position was a surplus of \$3.49 million an increase of 68.75% on the previous year.

Revenue:

- Total revenue was \$27.6 million, an increase of 10.33% on the previous year.
- Operational income was \$20.9 million, a slight decrease of 1.28% on the previous year.
- Non-operational income amounted to \$6.7 million, an increase of 74.33% on the previous year.

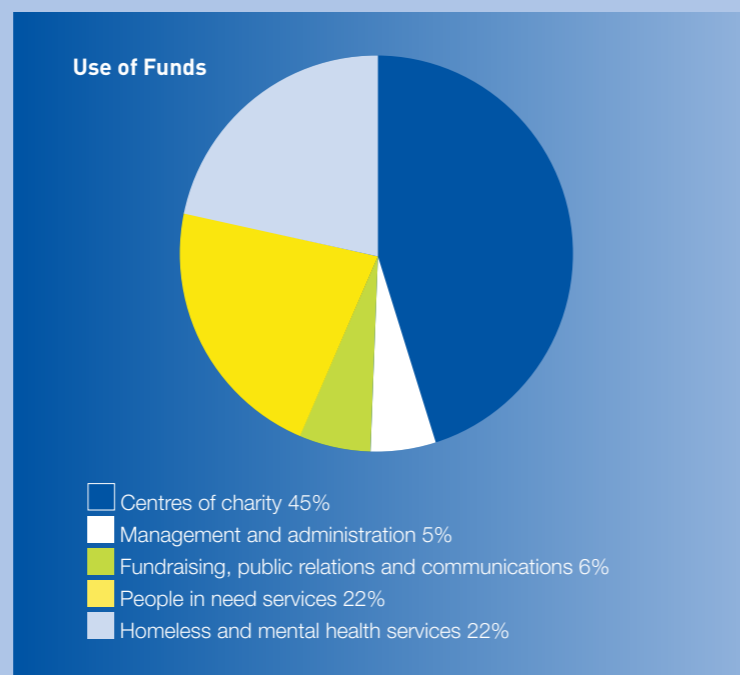
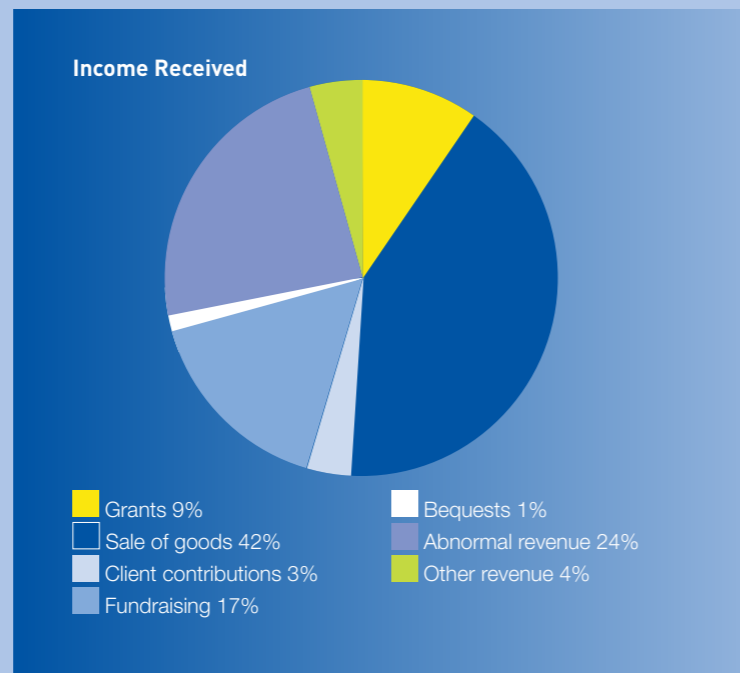
Expenditure:

- Total expenditure was \$24.12 million, an increase of 5.65% on the previous year.

Assets:

- Net assets grew to \$25.9 million, an increase of 15.59% on the previous year.

Analysis of 2017 Income and Use of Funds



Brian Niedzwiecki

Executive Manager, Business Services

“It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no one can sincerely try to help another without helping themselves.”

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

