

SAFETY, JUSTICE, DIGNITY

ACT FOR PEACE

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



ACT FOR PEACE
CONFRONTING INJUSTICE TOGETHER
THROUGH THE *actalliance*

The international aid agency of the National Council
of Churches in Australia

ABN 64 493 941 795

CONTENTS

- 04 STATEMENTS FROM
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHAIRPERSON
- 05 ABOUT ACT FOR PEACE
- 06 CONFRONTING INJUSTICE AROUND THE WORLD
- 08-15 EMERGENCY RESPONSE
AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE
- 16-21 LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT
- 22-25 EDUCATION, ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS
- 26-31 TAKING ACTION
- 34-37 2016 FINANCIAL REPORT
- 38 AUDITOR'S REPORT
- 39 OUR GOVERNING BODY

Cover: Since joining our Conservation Farming program, Aaron, a farmer in Zimbabwe, has been able to grow enough food to feed his family, as well as produce extra crops to sell, helping to send his children to school.

Opposite: Kama is a young mother from South Sudan who was forced to flee from violence to Ethiopia in search of safety. When she first arrived, the conditions in the camp were desperate and people were dying from Hepatitis E, an easily preventable disease. You helped to bring clean water, soap and toilets to refugees in the camp. Thanks to you, the camp is officially clear of Hepatitis E and mothers like Kama can now keep her children healthy and safe.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHAIRPERSON

Dear Friends,

We would like to convey, more than anything, how inspired we have been to work alongside such passionate, dedicated and generous people over the past year.

From supporters in Australia to field workers in Zimbabwe, we are each connected by our determination to build a world where everyone can share a safe, just and dignified life, and it has been a privilege to be part of this community creating real change.

You won't have been able to miss the shattering impact of last year's events. The five year anniversary of the Syrian conflict, the deepening refugee crisis, the devastation caused by Cyclone Winston in Fiji.

These events have brought untold suffering to the children, women and men they have affected. But they have also brought out the best in people around the world, who have responded with solidarity and kindness. And we have been especially humbled by the response of Act for Peace supporters here in Australia.

In 2015-16, more people took action through Act for Peace than ever before. You gave a record \$7.3 million to support people affected by conflict and disaster – 40% more than the year before. And this generosity is having an enormous impact on the ground.

Your gifts provided life-saving assistance to Syrian families living in refugee camps in Jordan, including food rations for families who were going hungry, counselling services for people traumatised by the war and child forums for Syrian refugee children, giving them a safe space to learn and play.

Your response to the unfolding drought in southern Africa helped smallholder farmers in Zimbabwe learn innovative new techniques to grow food, even when the rains fail. For poor farming families, these simple but revolutionary methods have meant the difference between having enough to eat, and going hungry.

In Ethiopia, you helped critically ill and injured refugees fleeing the violence in South Sudan receive the medical treatment they needed to survive. In Afghanistan, you gave rural girls the opportunity to go to school and a chance to break free from the cycle of violence and oppression. And in Australia, you campaigned for more just and humane policies towards refugees and asylum seekers and raised funds and awareness by taking on the transformational Act for Peace Ration Challenge.

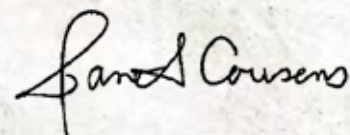
This work would simply not have been possible without your support. Thank you.

We know that big challenges lie ahead. There are currently more than 130 million people in need of humanitarian aid around the world. Which is why we have an ambitious strategy to increase our impact on the ground.

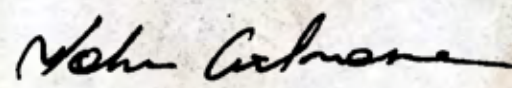
This strategy is guided by our protection framework, which recognises how resilient local communities already are. We believe local people are best placed to lead change within their own communities. We assist them to identify and respond to risks and strengthen their ability to cope through a range of activities – from local community interventions to government, regional and global advocacy.

Over the next five years we will be continuing to work together with passionate people like you to find solutions to these problems and make a big and growing difference to communities threatened by conflict and natural disaster. We don't think there's any task more important.

Thank you for joining us.



Janet Cousens
Interim Executive Director



John Gilmore
Chair of Act for Peace Commission

ABOUT ACT FOR PEACE

Today, there are more refugees, asylum seekers and displaced people worldwide than at any time since World War II. That's more than 65 million people forced to flee their homes to escape conflict and disaster.

It's a terrible injustice. And one that we can, and must, overcome.

We believe that when people all over the world work together, big changes really are possible. That's why we've made it our mission to act in partnership with other passionate people, like you, across the globe to achieve safety, justice and dignity in communities threatened by conflict and natural disaster. We don't think there's any task more important.

Act for Peace is the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. Over the past 67 years your support has provided food, shelter, education, healthcare and training to help the world's most vulnerable prepare for, cope with and recover from conflict and disaster.

Together we're tackling the root causes of injustice, and are building a brighter future for everyone.



Fatima, a nurse in Gaza, takes a blood sample during a house call to screen children for anaemia and malnutrition.

OUR VISION

A peaceful world where all people share a safe, just and dignified life.

OUR PURPOSE

We empower passionate people to work together to achieve safety, justice and dignity in communities threatened by conflict and disaster.

OUR GOAL

(from our 2016-2021 Strategic Plan)

Increase our impact in achieving safety, justice and dignity in communities threatened by conflict and disaster.

HOW WE WORK

EMERGENCY RESPONSE



When an emergency occurs, we respond fast to give people what they need most to survive.

We're in for the long-haul too, supporting communities in protracted crises until they're able to get back on their feet. We also work with communities at risk to prepare in advance, which saves lives when disaster strikes.

LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT



Lasting change takes time. Your support enables long-term development projects that help communities to tackle their own problems – whether that's giving girls a brighter future through education, helping farmers grow enough to eat, or supporting refugees to return home safely after a conflict has ended.

ADVOCACY & CAMPAIGNS



Together, we lobby governments and decisionmakers to tackle the root causes of poverty and injustice, not just treat the symptoms. When we come together and speak with one voice, it sends a clear message that people in power can't ignore.

WORKING WITH PARTNERS



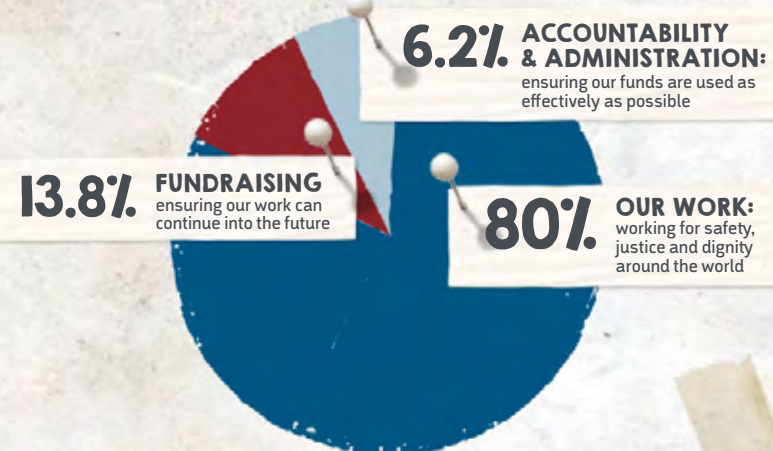
We believe local people are best placed to identify the problems faced by their communities and create solutions that work. So we partner with local organisations on the ground to achieve change. We're also part of the ACT Alliance, a global network of 140 likeminded organisations across 130 countries working together to share knowledge and resources, speak with a louder voice, and ultimately, achieve more impact.

CONFRONTING INJUSTICE AROUND THE WORLD

In 2015-16, your gifts helped achieve safety, justice and dignity in 265,000 people's lives through 30 programs in 18 countries across the globe.

Thank you!

WHERE THE MONEY GOES:



Our programs and advocacy work

80% of our funds were spent on our programs, advocacy and community education work. This includes:

- + 59.6% International programs
- + 9.5% Program support costs
- + 7.4% Community education
- + 3.5% Domestic programs

Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct (www.acfid.asn.au).

YOUR SUPPORT

80,000 donations from 52,200 people totalling \$7.3 million, an increase of 40% from 2014-15

\$4.1 million in grants from institutional donors including the Australian Government's Department for Foreign Affairs and Trade and USAID.

25,150 campaign actions calling on policy makers to better support refugees.

JORDAN:

Vital humanitarian assistance to Syrian and Iraqi refugees, including food rations, medicine, education and psychosocial support.

AFGHANISTAN:

Giving girls a brighter future through improved access to quality education.

PAKISTAN:

Preventative and curative health services, in particular child and maternal medical care for rural families.

MYANMAR:

Capacity building and training programs for communities to help prevent human rights violations.

PHILIPPINES:

Disaster risk reduction and preparedness. Human rights responses and advocacy to support vulnerable and disadvantaged communities including Muslim and Indigenous peoples.

GAZA:

Healthcare services for vulnerable families, in particular women and children. Vocational training courses to help young people earn a living.

WEST BANK:

Providing a protective presence to vulnerable communities and supporting nonviolent action for peace.

INDIA:

Essential healthcare services for Sri Lankan refugees, as well as support services to empower safe returns to Sri Lanka.

THAILAND:

Providing food, shelter and livelihoods training to Burmese refugees living in camps on the Thai-Myanmar border.

ETHIOPIA:

Emergency health care for critically ill or injured refugees, as well as ongoing support for vulnerable women through counselling and vocational training. Emergency health, sanitation and hygiene response for South Sudanese refugees living in refugee camps.

SRI LANKA:

Protection and other services to support newly returned refugees through the difficult reintegration process.

INDONESIA:

Disaster preparedness and risk reduction activities helping school students, teachers and the wider community stay safe during disasters.

PACIFIC ISLANDS:

Climate change adaptation and resilience in Tonga and Vanuatu, helping people stay safe and access food and water during and after cyclones. Emergency response helping communities recover after Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu and Cyclone Winston in Fiji.

ZIMBABWE:

Helping farmers grow enough food for their families even when the rains fail through Conservation Farming, as well as peace building initiatives to help prevent violence.

AUSTRALIA:

Advocacy and campaigning for refugee rights, as well as support for refugees recently arrived in Australia.

Act for Peace works for safety, justice and dignity for all people and does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, colour, gender, sexual orientation or national origin.



EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

In 2015-16 you responded quickly to the emergencies in Syria and Fiji. Through our partner, ADRA, your gifts provided life-saving essentials including water, soap and food to families devastated by Cyclone Winston. And your generosity provided food rations, medicine and infant hygiene packs to Syrian refugees in urgent need in Jordan.

You also continued to provide ongoing support to families affected by more protracted crises. You gave rations, shelter and livelihoods training to Burmese refugees living in camps on the Thai-Myanmar border. You saved lives in Ethiopia by helping critically ill and injured refugees to receive lifesaving medical treatment, and helped to give them supplementary food and temporary accommodation when it was needed most. And you

provided critically needed healthcare and nutrition to Sri Lankan refugees living in India, with a special focus on the most vulnerable groups including women, children and those with disabilities.

In 2015, your generous response to the Vanuatu emergency appeal enabled us to reach people with immediate, life-saving relief including food, water and shelter, and helped communities with the long process of rebuilding and recovery in the months following the disaster. An independent evaluation into the TC Pam Response and Recovery program found that it was extremely successful in ensuring the safety, wellbeing and resilience of more than 53,000 people affected by the cyclone, and had an immensely positive impact on disaster response and recovery in Vanuatu.

PREPARING BEFORE DISASTER STRIKES

After a disaster occurs, a fast response can save lives. But being well-prepared before the disaster strikes can be just as important.

Pacific Island communities are among the most vulnerable to natural disasters in the world. And the frequency and intensity of these extreme weather events is increasing all the time as a result of climate change.

Climate change represents a massive global injustice: those who have contributed the least to climate change - the world's poorest and most vulnerable people - are the worst impacted by its effects.

In 2015-16 you continued to confront this injustice by helping communities prepare for disasters and reduce their impact, meaning less lives lost and a faster recovery for those affected.

In Indonesia, Vanuatu and Tonga, you supported disaster training sessions and emergency simulation drills. You helped restore evacuation buildings, reinforcing them against future damage, and you helped to teach people how to recognise the early warning signs of a disaster, pack emergency survival kits and keep their families safe.



Thanks to you, school children in Indonesia received training to help them identify the risks and warning signs of landslides, and how to keep safe if one happens.

An independent evaluation into Act for Peace's Community Disaster Risk Program in Tonga offered strong support for the overall approach and implementation of the program and found it to be extremely effective in strengthening the capacity of communities to prepare for disaster, helping to reduce risk and save lives in an emergency.



Your gifts provided emergency food rations (we call them 'parcels of hope'), distributed here to Syrian refugees by volunteers at a refugee camp near Jerash, Jordan.

SYRIAN CRISIS

YOU GAVE HOPE TO PEOPLE BROKEN BY WAR

Your gifts provided Syrian and Iraqi families with food, medicine, clothing, access to education and psychosocial support. Most importantly, you helped them find the physical and emotional strength they need to cope with the horrors they have suffered, and the hardships of life as a refugee.

More than five years after the beginning of the Syrian conflict, we're facing the worst humanitarian crisis of our time. 11 million people - nearly half the country's population - have been forced to leave their homes.

Many of the people who were forced to flee the fighting in Syria are now living in neighbouring countries like Jordan and Turkey, where they are struggling to survive, unable to work or send their children to school.



Members of the community lend a helping hand at a recent food and hygiene parcel distribution in Souf refugee camp, Jordan.



A Syrian mother holds her newborn baby girl whilst waiting for the distribution of vital food and hygiene parcels.

As more and more people arrive, already overstretched resources are fast running out, and refugees are in desperate need of food and basic household items.

Your support is helping to address the ongoing challenges refugees face in finding meaningful employment and getting their children into formal education. Through the ACT Alliance - the global network of local aid organisations of which Act for Peace is a part - you provided life-saving help to Syrian refugees, in Jordan and in neighbouring countries.

WOMEN AND GIRLS IN EMERGENCIES

As with all humanitarian emergencies, women and girls have different needs and are often among the most vulnerable in conflict situations.

You helped to provide special programs for women focused on economic and social empowerment, helping them to meet their family's needs and improving their independence.

Your support also helped to ensure that refugee girls had the opportunity to continue their education by training more female teachers and providing female focused education forums for girls and youth.



Your support provided training courses teaching vulnerable refugee women how to make handicrafts to sell, giving them an opportunity to earn an income.

All images on this page: Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace



YOUR IMPACT ON THE GROUND



EMERGENCY RATIONS

Emergency food rations for 3,515 people going hungry



HYGIENE KITS

1,150 hygiene kits to Syrian refugees and vulnerable Jordanian families



PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

32 psychosocial support sessions provided for women to improve their mental health and wellbeing



HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Essential healthcare services for 475 women, to help keep them healthy and safe

IRAQ CONFLICT

IN SOLIDARITY WITH PERSECUTED PEOPLE

Thanks to you, and the generosity of local doctors, refugees from Iraq received essential medical care and much needed comfort in Jordan.

It's a Saturday, and Dr Haytham Aljbour, a paediatrician at the University Hospital in Amman, could be at home relaxing. Instead, he's busy treating a clinic full of children who are attending a free medical day organised by Act for Peace's local partner in Jordan.

The temporary clinic, hosted in a church on the outskirts of Amman, is crowded with refugees from Iraq - all Christians persecuted for their faith - now seeking safety in Jordan and in need of medical help. Dr Aljbour tells us he's seeing ten patients an hour, many with acute or chronic health problems. In total, he and his clinical colleagues will help over 800 people to get the care they need today.

Thanks to supporters like you, the free medical days provided refugees with access to essential health care.

Dr Aljbour is proud to be volunteering his time to help. "I see it as a humanitarian action. These people are suffering all the time. They are transferred from place to place, and they don't have easy access to medical services, so I came to them!" he says.



Dr Aljbour treats a young Iraqi boy during the free medical day for refugees in Amman.



Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace

As well as medical treatment, the free medical days gave doctors the chance to educate refugees about health and disease prevention, and taught parents how to manage more basic health issues like first aid in emergencies. Moving from place to place is hard, and worrying about their children's health only adds to the stress they are under.

"I think everyone should think for a moment - what if you suddenly lost everything? Your house, your parents, your kids, your financial means?" says Dr Aljbour. "If you can't feel safe, you are not really living. We are all humans and we must help each other."



Two young Iraqi boys play together outside the community centre in Amman.

Karen McGrath/Act for Peace

SOUTH SUDANESE CONFLICT

SAVING LIVES IN ETHIOPIA

How your support helped to fight deadly diseases.

When Act for Peace first travelled to a refugee camp in Ethiopia's Gambella Region, the conditions people were forced to live in were desperate. There were no toilets, so people were forced to go to the toilet in the open. The main water pump was broken and there were flies everywhere.

For refugees who survived South Sudan's terrible war and braved the trek to Ethiopia in search of safety, the camp should not only be a place they can live without fear from violence, but somewhere they can live in dignity.

Tragically, it wasn't. Parents in the camp tried everything to keep their children clean and healthy, however they had no way to get soap and the water in the local pond was contaminated. Because of these terrible conditions, people were dying from Hepatitis E, an easily preventable disease.

The solution was simple - clean water, soap and toilets - but making sure refugees had access to these things would not have been possible without the kind support of passionate people just like you. You came together to help bring these life-saving items to refugees in great need.

Thanks to your support, the camp is now officially clear of Hepatitis E.

Here's how you helped to stop deadly diseases...



Pump

Clean water can mean life or death for refugees living in a desert region like Gambella. You helped to clean the well and fix the main water pump in the camp, so people no longer have to queue for hours under the hot sun to get fresh water.



Soap

Each family received soap to keep their hands clean and prevent disease.



Emergency latrines

You helped build 84 emergency toilets with handwashing facilities, making the camp safer and cleaner for refugees.



Training hygiene promoters

Your gifts trained local refugees as community leaders in hygiene and sanitation, who in turn will train hundreds of other refugees in how best to keep their families safe from deadly diseases like Hepatitis E.

THE TRANSFORMATION IN THE CAMP WAS REMARKABLE

Early this year, Act for Peace returned to the camp to see first-hand the impact your support has made to the lives of refugees. You helped to fix the broken water pump, and families now have better access to clean, safe drinking water. 84 emergency latrines with handwashing facilities have been built. Thankfully, no one is forced to go to the toilet outside anymore. And families have been given soap so they can wash their hands properly after using the bathroom. Importantly, your gifts helped to train local hygiene promoters, who are refugees themselves. They will continue to teach others in their community how best to keep their families clean and healthy for years to come.

Many of the refugee families living in the camp fled from terrible conflict and violence, and sought safety so their children can grow up happy, healthy and strong. Thanks to you, and these simple but life-saving solutions, the camp is a cleaner, safer place to live. Now that Hepatitis E is no longer a threat, families in the camp can focus on other things, like sending their kids to school. You've helped these vulnerable families regain their health and dignity, and keep the smiles on their children's faces as they begin the process of rebuilding their lives. Thank you!



Sharon Edington, Act for Peace's Africa Programs Coordinator, visited Ethiopia in February to see the difference in the camps. Thanks to your support, there have no been more reported deaths from Hepatitis E.



You helped to bring clean water, soap and toilets to the camp. For refugees who have fled from terrible conflict and violence, this means a cleaner, safer place to live in dignity.



Since conditions have improved in the camp, John (left) is no longer sick with Hepatitis E.

When we first met John, he was sick with Hepatitis E, and his mother Tuksur didn't know if he would make it. John's family had already been through so much. They were forced out of their home in South Sudan by a terrible civil war and risked incredible hardship and danger to bring John over the border to Ethiopia, where he soon fell ill. We're thrilled to be able to share with you the news that since conditions have improved in the camp, John is now healthy, and even enjoying playing football again!



RECOVERING AFTER DISASTER

You delivered life-saving essentials to families affected by Fiji's strongest cyclone on record.

When Cyclone Winston swept through Fiji earlier this year, John and his family sheltered in a nearby hall as wild winds blew the roof off his house, tore through his neighbourhood and left hundreds of communities across the small island nation in ruins.

IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

"It was terrible, one of a kind. I could say I've never experienced something so devastating. Broken glass [flying] and the sound of rushing wind, all this corrugated iron... it was just a mixture of feelings going through [my head]. It was like in a movie, in a horror movie."

Fijian communities torn apart by Cyclone Winston will never forget the few hours it took for them to lose everything. The devastating storm that left 42 people dead and tens of thousands homeless was the strongest ever recorded in the Southern Hemisphere.

"When the hurricane hit we just saved what we could – clothes on our backs, and a little bit of food here and there and just ran off for safety". Though his house was completely destroyed, John thanks God that he and his family escaped unharmed, and prays for those who weren't as fortunate.

ACTING FAST TO DELIVER FOOD, WATER AND SHELTER TO FAMILIES IN NEED

In the hours after the cyclone struck, John and other families like his were in desperate need of emergency assistance. You responded fast and gave over \$100,000 to provide relief to families living in some of the worst affected areas. Thanks to your generous gifts, Act for Peace's partner on the ground, ADRA, was able to quickly deliver urgently need food, water



On Vanua Balavu, Fiji's third largest island, more than 70% of houses were partially or completely destroyed. Roofs were blown off, kitchens and bathrooms damaged, and walls disappeared completely.

and shelter, reaching over 1,000 vulnerable families in the weeks immediately following the disaster. The cyclone devastated crops and gardens, wiping out important food supplies for rural families; it also destroyed or damaged more than 30,000 houses. You helped emergency food rations reach those in most need, and deliver sanitation and hygiene kits to families who'd lost their home, enabling them to retain their health and dignity while they recovered from this horrific event.

For John, your support meant his family was able to stay safe and healthy after the storm. John knows that his community is strong and resilient, and though his house was completely destroyed, he's optimistic that with the right materials and manpower, they can begin work on rebuilding what was lost.

YOU HELPED PROVIDE URGENT LIFE-SAVING ASSISTANCE

INCLUDING:



3,945 BARS OF SOAP to keep people safe and healthy.



1,578 10L WATER CONTAINERS for families to store clean, safe drinking water.



789 HEALTH AND HYGIENE KITS to help prevent the spread of diseases common after a disaster.



501 FOOD PACKS to families containing rice, split peas, tuna, sugar and biscuits.



You helped deliver emergency assistance, including food packs, soap and hygiene kits, to thousands of people in Fiji in the weeks following the disaster.

KEEPING OPTIMISTIC

John said life after the cyclone was challenging but he's optimistic that his community will recover from the disaster. Though his home was destroyed, he is thankful that his family stayed safe and his mood remains upbeat, "At least I have free air conditioning now", he said.



Due to the ongoing blockade in Gaza, jobs and opportunities for vocational training are scarce.

Your support helped to ensure young people like Ragab had access to vocational training, to learn the skills they need to support themselves and their families in the future.

LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT

Your support over the past year enabled long-term development projects that are helping vulnerable people to tackle their own problems. Through livelihoods and vocational training, health and hygiene programs, and psychosocial and educational support, you stood in solidarity with passionate people across the globe as they worked to bring safety, justice and dignity to their own communities.

In war-torn Afghanistan, you gave young girls living in rural areas a brighter future by improving their access to quality education. On the Thai-Myanmar border, you equipped Burmese refugees with small business and farming skills to support themselves until it is safe to return home. And in drought-stricken Zimbabwe, your gifts reached vulnerable farmers with innovative new techniques so they can grow enough food to feed their families, even when the rains fail.

Your gifts also meant families living through the blockade of Gaza had access to vital healthcare services, psychosocial support, and vocational training programs including dress-making and carpentry. You helped Sri Lankan refugees in India gain knowledge and skills that will empower them through the difficult repatriation process. And you helped mothers and children in rural Pakistan to stay safe through better access to maternal healthcare. Thank you!



HEALTHCARE

Your support helped to improve the health status of 113,000 people living in poverty.



LIVELIHOODS

You helped to equip 2,845 people with the skills they need to earn a livelihood.



EDUCATION

3,219 girls in Afghanistan now have the chance to achieve a better life through improved access to education.

GROWING ENOUGH FOOD IN ZIMBABWE

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF CHANGE



Thanks to you, Joyce has been able to grow enough corn to eat and now earns an income selling her surplus crop at markets.

Joyce is a pioneering farmer from Zimbabwe. Along with many others in her community, she has felt the terrible effects of climate change, drought, rising food prices and political instability. Joyce was one of the first people in her district to learn an innovative new way of farming called Conservation Farming. She can now harvest enough crops to feed her family and earn a living, even when the rains fail.

With your support, this strong and independent woman has learned to overcome huge obstacles and provide a secure supply of food for her family.

Farmers from Joyce's district have been working their land for generations. They're rightly proud of their knowledge of rainfall patterns and cycles of planting and harvesting. But in the last few years, everything has changed.

Climate change has wreaked havoc on the weather, making it harder for farmers like Joyce to plant crops at the right time and to have enough water for them to grow properly.

When the rains fail in the district, the consequences for farming families are disastrous. They rely

on the crops they grow to feed their families and they need to sell their surplus at market to pay for necessities like school books, or medicine when someone in their family falls sick. Devastating food shortages and extreme hunger are what follow most failed crop harvests.

Without enough food to get them to the next harvest, desperate farmers are forced to sell their precious cows and goats for low prices. Some even resort to borrowing from unscrupulous moneylenders, leaving the family struggling with debt for years to come. Children have to give up going to school, instead walking miles each day in the baking sun to search for tufts of grass for their starving animals.

Joyce remembers the bad times only too well.

"When we were farming the usual way, we'd plant our seeds and they wouldn't do well. We had to repeat the process over and over, and still they wouldn't germinate. We used to overwork our livestock as well. There wasn't enough food for the cattle but we still had to use them to plough."

Thanks to supporters like you, our local partner Christian Care

has taught Joyce a new way of growing crops, much better suited to the cycle of drought and low rainfall that Zimbabwe is now experiencing. These techniques, called Conservation Farming are simple but revolutionary. By digging individual pits for each corn plant, for example, Joyce can make the most of the little rain that falls. She's also learned how to cover the ground with mulch made from old stalks of corn to keep the water from evaporating.

These days, Joyce is proud of how self-sufficient she is, and how much she's achieved through her own hard work and use of the new techniques she's been taught. Thanks to your gifts, the yields she gets from her fields have gone up, and she can now send her children to school. She's even able to sell some extra crops and put money aside for the future.

"Before, I never managed to buy anything. But now with Conservation Farming I have managed to buy a security fence for my plot" she says.

All Images: Richard Wainwright/Act for Peace

"I feel like a well-established farmer" says Joyce, beaming. "Thank you to the people in Australia for helping teach us this method of farming. Since it's come to our area, it's reduced poverty and suffering."

Your gifts changed the lives of farmers in their very first year of Conservation Farming.

Since being trained in these new techniques, famers doubled the average amount of crops they were able to grow, ensuring their families have enough to eat until the next season, and in most cases, giving them excess produce to sell.

Thank you so much for your support!

CONSERVATION FARMING

Innovative but simple techniques ensured farmers can feed their families.

01 DIG INDIVIDUAL HOLES FOR SEEDS AND WAIT FOR RAIN.



02 WHEN RAIN COMES, FILL IN SEED HOLES, FERTILIZE AND MULCH.



03 CROPS GROW. INCREASING CROP YIELDS AND FOOD SECURITY.



- ↑ Organic soil matter
- ↓ Erosion
- ↓ Water evaporation
- ↑ Water infiltration

04 CROPS GROW. INCREASING CROP YIELDS AND FOOD SECURITY.



Store grains for future years.

Sell excess to pay for healthcare and education for your family.



Farming Project Assistant, Desmond teaches conservation farming techniques to new farmers.



New farmers hoeing the soil in preparation for seed planting.

RETURN AND REINTEGRATION
FOR SRI LANKAN REFUGEES

ON THE RIGHT TRACK

In its first year, the program has already successfully empowered hundreds of refugees to break down the barriers to return. Your ongoing support will continue to assist vulnerable refugees with the difficult process of returning home in the years ahead.

You supported Sri Lankan refugees to return home after 26 years of civil war.

Tens of thousands of Sri Lankan refugees living in temporary refugee camps in India face an uncertain future. Though the Sri Lankan civil war ended seven years ago, most have not returned home.

While the Indian government provides basic services, such as shelter and access to schools and hospitals, refugees still struggle to survive. Many feel their lives were stolen and have lost hope. Thousands long to go back home, but have real concerns about their ability to survive once there. After more than 20 years in exile, Sri Lanka is like a foreign land.

Act for Peace staff member James Thomson has been working on a long-term solution to help refugees in India find answers to questions they have about what life will be like back in Sri Lanka, and how to overcome the obstacles they will face on their journey home.

BARRIERS TO RETURN

Sri Lankan Tamils began fleeing to India in 1983 when civil war erupted between the Sri Lankan government and the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam. The conflict has now ended, but ethnic tensions still simmer in the background and refugees worry about their safety and security back home. On top of that, people can't be sure whether their house is still standing and what opportunities exist for them to make a living and support their family. Some aren't in possession of the documentation needed to return; and others have children, many adults themselves, who know little of life back in Sri Lanka.

Without support, these barriers can feel overwhelming and impossible to overcome. A simple thing like obtaining citizenship documents isn't easy when you're stuck in a camp, unable to prove your identity. That's why James has been working tirelessly with our local partner – a refugee-run organisation – to help refugees

help themselves. One innovative solution is the Reintegration Railway. It supports refugees to find answers to the questions they have about access to housing, jobs and education back in Sri Lanka.

In a workshop run by refugees themselves, people map out the obstacles on a 'railway track', with each sleeper representing an action they'll need to take to get home. Together, refugees discuss each step they'll need to take, such as arranging temporary shelter, finding work and applying for a loan, as well as the opportunities that lie ahead if they go back.

ON THE RIGHT TRACK

By collectively mapping out each step of the way, their journey home seems far less daunting. The railway exercise is not only a way for refugees to leave the limitations of life in the camps behind, but is designed to help people take control of their future. James is proud of the results, "The most rewarding thing to see is that people suddenly see they have a future and start spontaneously helping each other to properly prepare. It's hope in action and that's a powerful motivator!"



Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace

James Thomson worked closely with Sri Lankan refugees in India to help them overcome the uncertainties that stop many from returning home.



Janet Cousens/Act for Peace

By taking part in the workshop and mapping out each stage of their journey home, refugees feel far less overwhelmed by obstacles in their way and return no longer seems impossible.



THE TRAINING HELPED REFUGEES WEIGH-UP THE RISKS AND MAKE MORE INFORMED DECISIONS



PEOPLE LIVING IN THE CAMPS ARE:

- ✓ Restricted in their movements
- ✓ Limited in their work and ways to earn a living
- ✓ Unable to own property
- ✓ Cramped together in poor conditions with little privacy



IN SRI LANKA PEOPLE CAN:

- ✓ Move freely
- ✓ Open bank accounts and businesses
- ✓ Buy housing, land and property
- ✓ Send their children to school
- ✓ Vote for their leaders

EDUCATION, ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS

Last year, we continued to persuade governments and decision makers to live up to their responsibility to protect the world's most vulnerable people – especially refugees – and to create the conditions for just and peaceful societies.

Behind the scenes, your gifts enabled strong advocacy with governments and regional organisations to strengthen refugee protection. This included working towards better protection in refugee camps, provision of services so refugees can return home and durable solutions such as local integration and resettlement.

Publicly, thousands of you campaigned for more just and humane policies towards refugees and asylum seekers in Australia, and petitioned our Government to resettle the Syrian refugees it had promised to. Through the Australian Churches

Refugee Taskforce, an Act for Peace program, you also supported a number of initiatives including No Business in Abuse, a campaign that aims to end human rights abuses in detention centres, and Sanctuary for Asylum Seekers (see page 25).

Education is a vital part of our work, and last year we significantly increased awareness amongst the Australian public of conflict and global justice issues. We engaged millions of people through publications (such as *The Link* magazine), resources (like those distributed with the Christmas Bowl appeal), talks (through our volunteer speakers network), print and online media coverage (which reached over five million people), and social media content (our Facebook videos were viewed over 275,000 times). The Act for Peace Ration Challenge (see page 29) was also a transformative educational experience for the 8,000 people who signed-up, and the hundreds of thousands with whom they shared their experience.

HOLDING OUR GOVERNMENT TO ACCOUNT

More than 5,000 Act for Peace supporters wrote to Prime Minister Turnbull in June 2016 to tell him to hurry up and resettle the missing 11,700 refugees.

In November 2015, the Federal Government promised to resettle 12,000 Syrian refugees in addition to our existing humanitarian intake. Yet by July 2016, Australia had given a home to just 300 of these people. By comparison, in Canada the new Prime Minister made good on an election promise and resettled 25,000 Syrian refugees within months.

You signed an Act for Peace petition telling our government to stop turning our backs on the innocent families who are suffering from the crisis. You demanded that Prime Minister Turnbull hurry up and resettle the missing 11,700 refugees.



WHY WE SPEAK OUT...

"It is our duty to hold our politicians to account and to ensure the safety of all people"

- Karlee Yeates

"This is unconscionable. We must act on this. I'm ashamed of our government's stubborn inhumanity."

- Emmanuel Gasparinatos, Sydney



Signing our petition demanding Prime Minister Turnbull resettle the 11,700 missing refugees at an Act for Peace event in Sydney.

Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace

SANCTUARY FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

The power of people in the fight for refugee rights.

In 2016, you joined individuals, churches and campaign organisations in a nation-wide campaign to protest the return of 267 asylum seekers, including 37 babies, to offshore detention. We called for compassion and decency and demanded that the Turnbull Government Let Them Stay. The movement, which began in February, grew into a ubiquitous force for change and at the time of writing, thanks to your passionate actions, none of the 267 asylum seekers had yet been sent back to the harsh conditions on Nauru and Manus Island.

A VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The wave of collective action taken under the Let Them Stay banner reflected the growing indignation people in Australia felt about successive governments' hard-line refugee policies. We were angry about the repeated reports of human rights violations in the two offshore

processing centres, including the sexual assault of children and the rape of women and men. The United Nations said Australia's immigration policy "contravenes the letter and spirit of international human rights law". And in April 2016, the Papua New Guinea Supreme Court ruled Australia's detention of asylum seekers on Manus illegal. The Court ordered the PNG and Australian governments to immediately cease the illegal and unconstitutional detention of asylum seekers on Manus. Despite this, steps were taken to circumvent the decision, and the fate of the 900 men held there remained uncertain.

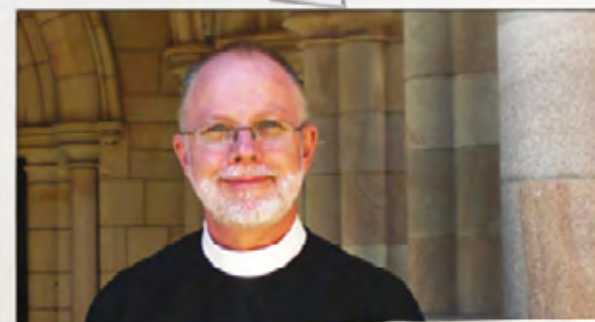
The planned deportation of 267 asylum seekers back to Nauru in February 2016 became a catalyst for national action. Thousands of people across the country added their voices to the Let them Stay campaign in the form of rallies, vigils, demonstrations and social media sharing.

Thousands took to the streets to demand the government Let Them Stay. The success of the campaign showed the power of collective action on government decision-making.



DOCTORS SILENCED BY BORDER FORCE ACT

Under new legislation introduced in 2015, doctors, nurses, councillors and teachers could face criminal charges of UP TO TWO YEARS IN PRISON for speaking out about conditions in Australia's onshore or offshore processing centres, including for reporting human rights abuses such as rape.



The Anglican Dean of Brisbane, Dr Peter Catt risked possible charges by opening the doors to asylum seekers. "We feel so desperate that we need to do something desperate. This fundamentally goes against our faith, so our church community is compelled to act, despite the possibility of individual penalty against us."

CHURCHES OFFER SANCTUARY TO ASYLUM SEEKERS

Putting their faith into action, 120 churches from nine denominations courageously stood in solidarity with asylum seekers by invoking the ancient principle of sanctuary. Organised by the Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce (ACRT), an Act for Peace initiative, hundreds of people underwent training to learn how to offer protection from civil authorities to any asylum seeker who could make it onto church grounds. The training focused on non-violent anti-deportation measures. Misha Coleman from the ACRT said, "We are not here to get arrested. We're here today to demonstrate what respect looks like. This is about a respectful way to challenge the current policy framework".

The concept of sanctuary dates back to the Old Testament. Historically, churches could give sanctuary to people seeking refuge from brutal and oppressive forces, although the legality of sanctuary has never been tested under Australian law. Church leaders and representatives, who formed the backbone of the movement, knowingly risked jail time to prevent refugees from being deported. Their defiant act showed the strength of their resolve to uphold the Christian commitment to love one's neighbour, and offer refuge and care to those who are marginalised and in exile.

The recent sanctuary movement was founded by the Australian Churches Refugee Taskforce, which has also been heavily involved in lobbying politicians to allow these asylum seekers to stay in Australia.

Offering sanctuary has been a hugely significant action for Australian churches to take, and the Christian community demonstrated strength and leadership throughout this remarkable campaign. Together we made our voices heard, and the government was forced to listen.



Many were outraged at the planned deportation of 91 babies and children to Nauru. Even short term detention has been shown to have a negative impact on children.



An impassioned crowd of more than 4,000 gathered outside Sydney Town Hall. Speakers included Reverend Elenie Poulos, National Director of Uniting Justice and Clover Moore, Mayor of Sydney.



Misha Coleman from the ACRT addressed a crowd at a sanctuary training event at Wesley Uniting Church.



TAKING ACTION

We believe that we all have a responsibility to take action for a better world. And each year, more and more people are choosing to take action through Act for Peace. Thank you for the trust you have placed in us.

A key goal of our strategic plan is to double the contribution our supporters make to safety, justice and dignity by 2021. This requires us to inspire more people to support this work, and also to engage more deeply with the people already supporting it.

One year in to our six-year plan we had made very positive progress. In 2015-16, 85,350 passionate people took action through Act for Peace by making a financial donation, with tens of thousands more campaigning or volunteering.

You took 33,155 campaign actions and you gave a total of \$7.3 million to support this work, an annual financial increase of 40%.

Once again, you gave generously to our longest running appeal, the Christmas Bowl, as well as our other important appeals – supporting people

from Syria, Zimbabwe, Indonesia and survivors of Cyclone Winston. Last year, hundreds of you decided to make the commitment to give a monthly gift, and we're incredibly grateful for the enormous contribution all our Act for Peace partners made.

And we were truly inspired by the thousands of you who put your money where your mouth is and raised funds by taking the Act for Peace Ration Challenge. The challenge has grown from raising \$60,000 to over \$2 million in just two years, and we hope to see its contribution grow even further in future years.

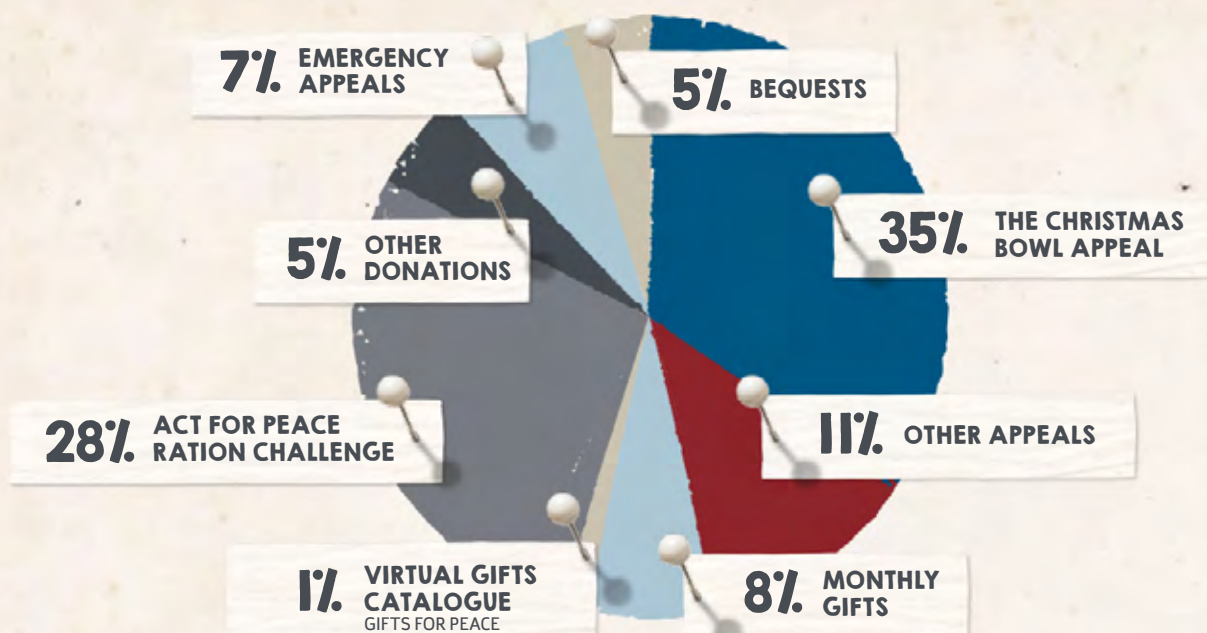
Thank you!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to remember the special supporters who gave a gift to the Christmas Bowl through their Will last year.

Their bequest will continue to leave a lasting legacy - building a world where all people can share safe, just and dignified lives.

HOW YOU GAVE TO ACT FOR PEACE IN 2015-16:



An Act for Peace supporter shows refugees we're with them, not against them, at an event in Sydney.

WE ARE A NETWORK OF PEOPLE PASSIONATE ABOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE

Last year, you gave your time to help move people to action as part of the volunteer speakers network; lent your support through local fundraising groups; and helped confront injustice by working side by side with Act for Peace staff as office based volunteers and interns. You helped make a huge difference to the lives of communities in need. Thank you!



Passionate Act for Peace supporters joined tens of thousands of other Sydney-siders at the Sydney Climate Action March last year.

RATION CHALLENGE



THE INGREDIENTS OF CHANGE

- 8,000 passionate people sign up to take part
- Over \$2 million raised
- Enough to feed over 7,000 refugees for a year
- 36,000 friends, family members and colleagues sponsored those taking part

SHOWING REFUGEES
WE'RE WITH THEM,
NOT AGAINST THEM

Rations for a family of six for an entire month.



By eating the same food rations as those distributed in the camps in Jordan, people back home gain a glimpse into one of the daily struggles faced by refugees.

During Refugee Week, June 19-25, over 8,000 courageous people signed up to eat the exact same food rations that Syrian refugees living in camps in Jordan receive.

By surviving on just a small amount of rice, beans, lentils, fish, oil and flour for an entire week, these courageous people raised over \$2 million to provide Syrian refugees with urgently needed food, medicine and other kinds of support they need to survive.

All images on this page: Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace

YOUR ACTION, YOUR IMPACT

MEET THE FUNDRAISERS THAT HELPED MAKE IT ALL HAPPEN

A prep school teacher from Adelaide, Beau-Daniel Robertson saw the Ration Challenge as an opportunity to "bring an important issue directly to the minds and experiences of my students".

For Beau, bringing the Ration Challenge into the classroom was an opportunity to talk to his students about the issues facing refugees. He hopes that it's an experience "...they remember for years to come and, hopefully, helps shape empathetic minds to know they can take action to make a difference."

Thank you for sharing the Ration Challenge with your students and your community Beau!



Beau at home with his ration pack.

"Too often we talk about the differences between people in these situations. I'm of the school that believes we need to underscore the similarities and humanity in all of us."

IDENTITY



Reverend Avril Hannah-Jones, who hosted a refugee meal at her church.

Churches across Australia also took part in the Ration Challenge by coming together to share a meal of refugee rations. Avril, a minister at the Williamstown Uniting Church, fundraised by organising a refugee dinner for her congregation, so that others might gain a glimpse into the difficult situation facing refugees.

"I feel extremely grateful that I have the chance to hold a refugee dinner at Williamstown Uniting Church and to participate in the Ration Challenge. This reminds me and my community of how incredibly lucky we are to live in a country with an abundance of food and clean drinking water."

I TOOK THE RATION CHALLENGE...

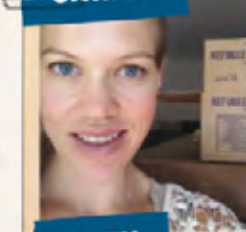
MICHELLE



"To share an experience with other humans, humans that through war have no choices. No choice for food, safety, where they can live. For me it's about raising awareness for my family and friends. That every day, we are so incredibly lucky."

Michelle, Whitfield QLD

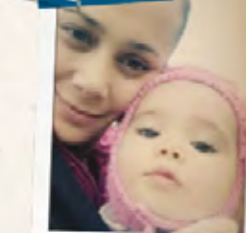
SARITA



"For me, I'm so stunned and appalled at the actions of the policy makers of this country that no matter what happens in the world, we must remember that each human is one of us."

Sarita, Alkimos WA

ALEX



"As an opportunity to help, to show compassion, to ignite change. This crisis is horrific. Sadly Syrian refugees are not the first - but with awareness - maybe we can drive a positive change for those affected by circumstances beyond their control."

Alex, Waverly NSW

CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL

Sharing Christmas



Carol services and cookie sales; private prayer and public collections; bustling fundraisers and humble giving. Last Christmas you came together as churches, communities and individuals to form a bridge of love and compassion between those who have enough and those who have too little.

Last year, you came together through the Christmas Bowl appeal and gave a record-breaking \$2.5 million to help bring hope and comfort to people in great need. It was a true outpouring of love and compassion that made a real difference to the lives of so many people. Your gifts meant that refugee mothers in Ethiopia were able to get the clean water they need to save their children from deadly diseases, and supported Act for Peace's other life changing projects around the world.

Here's a small selection of the wonderful Christmas Bowl events that were organised around the nation by Act for Peace supporters like you. To see more pictures, and find out more about the upcoming Christmas Bowl, go to

www.actforpeace.org.au/christmasbowl



Peter Berzanskis/Act for Peace

In Victoria, over 2,000 people from the local community came together for the 35th annual Carols by Candlelight organised by the combined churches of Mount Martha to raise funds for the Christmas Bowl.



Peter Berzanskis/Act for Peace



Peter Berzanskis/Act Alliance

Leongatha Combined Churches held a community Christmas carols in support of the Christmas Bowl, accompanied by a band, musical performances, fireworks and choirs from around the region.



At Cherrybrook Uniting Church, NSW, speakers gave talks and showed videos about Act for Peace's programs around the world, and a collection was taken in aid of the Christmas Bowl.



In Coffs Harbour, the ecumenical council of churches yet again raised vital funds for the Christmas Bowl at their annual carol service - a proud tradition spanning decades.



Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace

All over Australia, supporters like you put their creative baking skills to good use, selling cookies in their schools, workplaces and communities to raise money for refugees and displaced people worldwide.

How your gifts helped refugees in Ethiopia

You can read about the emergency water, sanitation and hygiene support provided to South Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia on page 12, one of the vital programs your gifts to the Christmas Bowl helped make possible.



Richard Wainwright / Act for Peace

Thank you!



This annual report summarises Act for Peace's activities and performance over the period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016. It gives an overview of what your support has accomplished as we work towards our goal of achieving safety, justice and dignity in communities threatened by conflict and disaster.

At all times we strive to be accountable to the supporters, partners and funding bodies around the world that help make our work possible. Through this annual report, as well as our other publications, we hope to demonstrate that Act for Peace is committed to working effectively and transparently and is worthy of the trust you place in us.

THANK YOU TO OUR INSTITUTIONAL DONORS:

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia)
- Department of Immigration and Border Protection (Australia)
- United States Agency for International Development / Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USA)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
- UNSCAR: United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation
- Global Action Control Arms
- Anglican Board of Mission (Australia)
- Church of Sweden (Sweden)
- Global Mission Partners (Australia)

FEEDBACK & COMPLAINTS

Act for Peace is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. We are committed to providing high-quality humanitarian, development and advocacy programmes and to work in an open and accountable way. Act for Peace takes its duty of care seriously and aims at all times to provide the safest possible environment for children. If for any reason you would like to lodge a complaint, you may do so by contacting the NCCA Director responsible for human resources, on complaints@ncca.org.au or + 612 8259 0800. Please visit the Policies section of Act for Peace's website for more information.

For donor support please call 1800 025 101.



Karen McGrath/Act for Peace

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2016

REVENUE

	Note	12 months to 30 Jun 2016 \$	12 months to 30 Jun 2015 \$
Donations and gifts			
Monetary		6,869,937	4,864,441
Non-monetary		47,035	138,000
Bequests and Legacies		365,045	348,537
Grants			
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade		1,984,349	2,214,228
Other Australian		809,673	180,000
Other overseas		1,344,168	997,743
Investment income		179,911	173,387
Other income		3,193,436	2,518,482
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs		0	0
TOTAL REVENUE		14,793,554	11,434,818

EXPENDITURE

International Aid and
Development Programs Expenditure

International programs			
Funds to international programs	9	8,181,411	6,436,848
Program support costs		1,307,064	1,116,681
		9,488,475	7,553,529
Community education		1,022,747	827,993
Fundraising costs			
Public		1,860,180	1,568,446
Government, multilateral and private		51,627	53,424
		1,911,807	1,621,870
Accountability and Administration		851,012	943,170
Non-Monetary Expenditure		47,035	138,000
Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		13,321,076	11,084,562
International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure		0	0
Domestic Projects Expenditure		484,038	303,173
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		13,805,114	11,387,735
EXCESS/(SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE		988,440	47,083

In the 12 months to 30 June 2016 (FY15-16), Act for Peace raised \$14.8m and expended \$13.8m (93%) in acting for peace. Our acting for peace expenditure is made up of \$9.49m on international programs, \$47k in nonmonetary expenditure, \$484k on domestic programs and \$1.02m on community education. The remainder was expended on accountability and administration (\$851k: 6.2%) and fundraising (\$1.9m: 13.8%). Direct fundraising generated \$7.3m and \$4.1m was received in grants.

In the 12 months to 30 June 2016, our aid and development expenditure (international programs, domestic programs and community education) was 20% higher than in FY 2014-15. This had an enormous impact on the ground providing food, shelter, education, healthcare and training to help the world's most vulnerable prepare for, cope with and recover from conflict and disaster. We are very grateful for the support we received last year from all supporters and all our institutional donors, without whom this work would simply not have been possible.

The Financial Statement in this Annual Report shows that Act for Peace is in a sound financial position, with balanced revenues and expenditure and a healthy net asset base. This strength will enable us to manage any shocks from the changes in the Australian economy and to provide additional assistance for unprecedented crises, such as the current Syrian refugee crisis.

During the financial year, Act for Peace had no transactions in the Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs category.

The Statement of Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the Notes to and forming parts of the accounts.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

		30 June 2016	30 June 2015
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		11,725	10,602
Trade and other receivables	2	369,142	359,103
Inventories		0	0
Assets held for sale		0	0
Other financial assets	3	9,390,314	7,692,390
Total Current Assets		9,771,181	8,062,095
Non Current Assets			
Trade and other receivables		0	0
Other financial assets		0	0
Property, plant and equipment	4	2,295,448	2,295,448
Investment property		0	0
Intangibles		0	0
Other non-current assets		0	0
Total Non Current Assets		2,295,448	2,295,448
TOTAL ASSETS		12,066,629	10,357,543
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	5	3,855,519	3,158,364
Borrowings		0	0
Current tax liabilities		0	0
Other financial liabilities		0	0
Provisions	6	302,218	272,869
Other		58,516	1,632
Total Current Liabilities		4,216,253	3,432,865
Non Current Liabilities			
Borrowings		0	0
Other Financial Liabilities		0	0
Provisions	6	106,981	112,839
Other		0	0
Total Non Current Liabilities		106,981	112,839
TOTAL LIABILITIES		4,323,234	3,545,704
NET ASSETS		7,743,395	6,811,839
EQUITY			
Reserves	7	5,330,896	5,479,696
Retained Earnings		2,412,499	1,332,143
TOTAL EQUITY		7,743,395	6,811,839

The Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the Notes to and forming part of the accounts.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2016

	Retained Earnings	Reserves	Others	Total
Balance at 30 June 2014	1,322,313	5,381,738	0	6,704,051
Adjustments or changes in equity due to	0	0	0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	0	0	0	0
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over expenses	47,083	0	0	47,083
Managed Funds	45,621	0	0	45,621
Property Revaluation	0	75,553	0	75,553
Amount transferred to (from) reserves	(82,874)	22,405	0	(60,469)
Balance at 30 June 2015	1,332,143	5,479,696	-	6,811,839
Adjustments or changes in equity due to	0	0	0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	0	0	0	0
Excess/(Shortfall) of Revenue over expenses	988,440	0	0	988,440
Managed Funds	(56,884)	0	0	(56,884)
Amount transferred to (from) reserves	148,800	(148,800)	0	0
Balance as at 30 June 2016	2,412,499	5,330,896	-	7,743,395

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS AS AT 30 JUNE 2016

1. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Financial Reporting Framework

This financial report is a special purpose financial report which has been prepared for use by the Council's Executive and member churches. The Executive has determined that the National Council of Churches Act for Peace is not a reporting entity and hence this report has been prepared in accordance with the following applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

AASB1031 : Materiality

AASB110 : Events after the Reporting Period

No other applicable Accounting Standards or other mandatory professional reporting requirements have been applied.

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis (except as provided for in the statement below on income) in accordance with historical cost convention. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The Summary Financial Reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and the NCCA Constitution. For further information on the Code please refer to the ACFID Code of Conduct Implementation Guidance available at www.acfid.asn.au

Significant Accounting Policies

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report :

1. Recognition of Income

The timing of the recognition of donations, grants, fundraising, legacies and bequests depends on when control of these monies is obtained, usually receipt of the monies.

2. Investment Income

Investment interest is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income when received.

3. Donations and Fundraising

In common with many charitable organisations, it is not practicable for the NCCA/Act for Peace to establish accounting controls over all sources of donations and fundraising income prior to it being recorded in the accounting records.

4. Value of Volunteers

The value of services provided by volunteers is not included in revenue or expenses because of the practical difficulties involved. In relation to volunteers used directly for the support of international projects, this amounted to \$nil in 2016 (2015 \$nil).

5. Accounts Payable

Accruals and other creditors are recognised when the Council becomes obligated to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services. Accruals have also been made in the accounts in the case of unspent budgeted project funds.

6. Acquisition of Assets

Assets acquired are recorded at the cost of acquisition, being the purchase consideration determined as at the date of acquisition plus costs incidental to the acquisition.

7. Employee Benefits

Provision is made for benefits accruing to employees in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave when it is probable that settlement will be required and they are capable of being measured reliably.

8. Goods and Services Tax

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amounts of goods and services tax (GST). The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of the statement of financial position.

9. Recoverable amount of non-current assets

Non-current assets are written down to recoverable amount where the carrying value of any non-current asset exceeds the recoverable amount.

10. Revaluation of non-current assets

Equity in property is measured on the fair value basis. Fair value basis is determined on the basis of an independent valuation prepared by external valuation experts based on capitalisation of net income.

11. Managed Funds

Funds apportioned through Act for Peace on behalf of other Australian individuals or entities are classified as Managed Funds. These funds are earmarked for specific purposes.

12. Financial Year

The Financial Year for the NCCA/Act for Peace starts 1st July and ends 30th June.

13. Comparative amounts

Some comparative information has been re-classified to ensure comparability with the current reporting period.

NOTES

	30 June 2016	30 June 2015
2. Trade and Other Receivables		
Advances	9,390	5,269
GST Paid	30,440	21,312
Trade receivables	329,312	332,522
	369,142	359,103
3. Other Financial Assets		
Investments with NCCA Ltd	5,855,117	4,008,393
- Project Funds		
Investments with NCCA Ltd	2,836,438	3,007,832
- Refugee Reserves		
Investments with NCCA Ltd	698,759	676,165
- Property Reserves		
	9,390,314	7,692,390
4. Property, Plant and Equipment		
Level 7 Kent St (Sydney)	945,448	945,448
Level 4 Causeway House (Melbourne)	1,350,000	1,350,000
	2,295,448	2,295,448
5. Trade and Other Payables		
Trade Creditors	90,007	86,315
Accruals on Project Funds	2,841,841	2,419,264
Income in Advance	923,671	652,719
GST Collected	0	66
	3,855,519	3,158,364
6. Employee Entitlements		
Provision for Annual Leave	302,218	272,869
	302,218	272,869
Provision for Long Service Leave	106,981	112,839
	106,981	112,839

	30 June 2016	30 June 2015
7. Reserves		
Refugee Reserves	2,336,689	2,508,083
Property Reserves	698,759	676,165
Level 7 Kent St (Sydney)	945,448	945,448
Level 4 Causeway House (Melbourne)	1,350,000	1,350,000
Melbourne Maintenance Reserve	0	0
	5,330,896	5,479,696
8. Retained Earnings		
Retained Earnings - Bequests	7 13,582	348,537
Property Reserves	1,698,917	983,606
	2,412,499	1,332,143
9. Programs		
Africa	448,719	804,042
Asia	2,072,004	1,399,936
Pacific	1,049,090	948,689
Middle East	408,868	342,569
Global Programs	88,187	(4,051)
Managed Funds - Overseas	2,823,141	2,032,297
Emergencies	1,291,402	913,365
	8,181,411	6,436,848
10. Table of Cash Movements for Designated Purposes		
Cash	11,725	10,602
Investment with NCCA Ltd	9,390,314	7,692,390
	9,402,039	7,702,992

	Cash available at beginning of the financial year	Cash raised during financial year	Cash disbursed during financial year	Cash available at end of financial year
Thailand TBBC	141,741	9,774	50,000	101,515
Sri Lanka Refugee Return & Reintegration	0	1,468,201	748,981	719,220
ANCP	177,827	2,252,333	2,367,261	62,899
Tonga CBDRM	126,817	590,146	761,952	(44,989)
Emergencies - Cyclone Pam	597,643	235,552	833,195	0
Emergencies - Nepal Earthquake	35,367	11,905	47,272	0
Emergencies - Syria	141	284,159	282,095	2,205
Emergencies - Gaza	99	138	0	237
Emergencies - Iraq	13,990	79,029	92,863	156
Emergencies - Fiji	0	104,214	50,000	54,214
Managed Funds - Egypt	2,224,064	2,720,326	2,224,064	2,720,326
Total for other non-designated purposes	4,385,303	7,251,655	5,850,702	5,786,256
TOTAL	7,702,992	15,007,432	13,308,385	9,402,039

Declaration

The Commission governing Act for Peace declare that:

- The financial statements and notes as set out on pages 2 to 8 are in accordance with the NCCA constitution, ACFID Code of Conduct and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act); and
- Comply with relevant Australian Accounting standards to the extent in note 1; and
- Give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2016 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the association;
- In the Commission's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that Act for Peace will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Act for Peace NCCA Commission and is signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Dated this 24th day of August, 2016.

John Gilmore
JOHN GILMORE (Chair of Commission)

Philip Higgins
BISHOP PHILIP HUGGINS (Chairman, Board of Directors)

Janet Cousens
JANET COUSENS (Interim Executive Director)

AUDITOR'S REPORT 2016

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of National Council of Churches - Act for Peace, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Commission members' declaration.

Commission Members' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The entity's Commission Members are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the NCCA Constitution, ACFID Code of Conduct and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act), and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Commission Members' responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining such internal controls as it determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Executive, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the ACNC Act and any other applicable code of professional conduct.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of National Council of Churches - Act for Peace is in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, ACFID Code of Conduct and the NCCA Constitution, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2016 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- complying with applicable Australian Accounting Standards set out in Note 1 to the financial report, and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to Note 1(3) to the financial report which describes the revenue recognition policy of National Council of Churches - Act for Peace including the limitations that exist in relation to recording of cash receipts from Donations and Fundraising. Revenue from this source represents a significant proportion of revenue of National Council of Churches - Act for Peace. Our opinion is unmodified in respect of this matter.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Commission Members' financial reporting obligations and to satisfy the requirements of the ACNC Act and ACFID Code of Conduct. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

SYDNEY,
24th August, 2016.

THOMAS DAVIS & CO
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
ESTABLISHED 1974

20/68 Pitt St, Sydney NSW 2000
Ph. (02) 9232 1188
Fax. (02) 9231 6792
E. mail@thomasdavis.com.au

Thomas Davis & Co.
THOMAS DAVIS & CO.

J.G. Ryan
J.G. RYAN PARTNER
Chartered Accountants

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

ACT FOR PEACE COMMISSIONERS 2016

Members of the Act for Peace Commission, the governing body of Act for Peace, are appointed by the National Council of Churches in Australia during its forum. The 2016 Act for Peace General Meeting was held on 3 November 2016. As at the end of the 2015-2016 year, the Commission members were as follows:


- **Sieneke (G.H.A.) Martin**, Chair, Religious Society of Friends.
- **The Reverend John Gilmore**, Commission Treasurer, Churches of Christ, BTheol, MTheol, DipMin
- **Bishop Philip Huggins**, Standing Committee member, Anglican Church of Australia
- **Elizabeth Stone**, Standing Committee member, Catholic Church, BA (ANU), MintS (Syd), GIA (Cert), NCCA Associate General Secretary
- **The Reverend Elenie Poulos**, Uniting Church in Australia, MA, BTh.
- **Lieutenant Colonel Ray Wilson**, The Salvation Army
- **Alison Preston**, Anglican Church of Australia
- **Patricia Ryan**, Catholic Church, MA (Religion) ACU, B.Ed Studies
- **Dr William Bactor**, Coptic Orthodox Church of Australia, PhD
- **Rev'd Fr Constantine Varipatis**, Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia
- **Carmen Lazar OAM**, Holy Apostolic Catholic Assyrian Church of the East
- **Chey Mattner**, Lutheran Church of Australia, BA (Hons), GradDipEd, M Intl Dev
- **Juliana Nkrumah AM**, Uniting Church in Australia
- **Sister Elizabeth Delaney**, General Secretary of the NCCA
- **Alistair Gee**, Executive Director, BA, LLB, MAICD, ex-officio, Executive Director of Act for Peace

Act for Peace is the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia. Member churches include:

- Anglican Church of Australia
- Antiochian Orthodox Church
- Armenian Apostolic Church
- Assyrian Church of the East
- Chinese Methodist Church in Australia
- Churches of Christ in Australia
- Congregational Federation of Australia
- Coptic Orthodox Church Diocese of Sydney and affiliated Regions and Diocese of Melbourne
- Greek Orthodox Church
- Indian Orthodox Church
- Lutheran Church of Australia
- Mar Thoma Church
- Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
- Roman Catholic Church
- Romanian Orthodox Church Romanian Patriarchate Australian Churches
- The Salvation Army
- Serbian Orthodox Church
- Syrian Orthodox Church
- Uniting Church in Australia

ACT FOR PEACE
CONFRONTING INJUSTICE TOGETHER
THROUGH THE **actalliance**

actalliance
ACFID
MEMBER

 **Australian Government**
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Act for Peace, Locked Bag Q199,
QUEEN VICTORIA BUILDING, NSW 1230
FREECALL. 1800 025 101
EMAIL. info@actforpeace.org.au
WEB. www.actforpeace.org.au
ABN. 64 493 941 795

Act for Peace is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. The code is a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice. It aims to improve international development outcomes and increase stakeholder trust by improving the transparency and accountability of signatory organisations. Act for Peace is committed to full adherence to this Code. The ACFID Code of Conduct offers a mechanism to address concerns relating to signatories' conduct. Complaints against a signatory agency may be initiated by any member of the public and lodged with the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee. More information about the ACFID Code of Conduct can be obtained from Act for Peace and from ACFID at: Website: www.acfid.asn.au/content/complaints Email: acfid@acfid.asn.au Ph: +61 2 6285 1816

Act for Peace gratefully acknowledges the support of the Australian Government.

**“We can change the world
and make it a better place.
It is in your hands to make
a difference.”**

Nelson Mandela



Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace

Produced by Act for Peace, Locked Bag Q199, QUEEN VICTORIA BUILDING, NSW 1230

FREECALL 1800 025 101 **EMAIL** info@actforpeace.org.au **WEB** actforpeace.org.au

f [Facebook.com/actforpeace](https://www.facebook.com/actforpeace) **t** [@actforpeace](https://twitter.com/actforpeace)

ACT FOR PEACE
CONFRONTING INJUSTICE TOGETHER
THROUGH THE **actalliance**