



**ACT FOR PEACE**

**ANNUAL  
IMPACT  
REPORT**

**PARTNERING  
FOR JUSTICE**

**2020**

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

The international aid agency of the National Council  
of Churches in Australia  
ABN 86 619 970 188



## OUR VISION

Act for Peace envisages a peaceful world where all people share a safe, just and dignified life.

Our faith confirms the inherent worth of all people inclusive of gender, age, ability, nationality, ethnicity, sexual orientation or socio-economic status.

Through your support, we're working with communities across the globe threatened by conflict and natural disaster.

By empowering local people, who are representatives of their communities, to design and implement programs that can bring about lasting, positive change, we're helping some of the world's most vulnerable people to build resilience and take control of their lives.

Act for Peace is the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches. Act for Peace is a member of the ACT Alliance, a coalition of churches and faith-based organisations working together in more than 120 countries. Act for Peace is a member of the Church Agency Network in Australia.

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 programs while working 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 vulnerable people, especially children. We welcome feedback, both on this report and in relation to our operations and conduct. Please direct any feedback or complaint to the Officer responsible for human resources, via [complaints@actforpeace.org.au](mailto:complaints@actforpeace.org.au) or +61 2 8259 0800. Please see our complaints policy on the Act for Peace website for more information. For supporter enquiries please call 1800 025 101.

Front cover: A child wears a mask as a preventative measure against coronavirus as local charities carry out disinfection works at schools and tent cities in Idlib, Syria.

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Without the safety nets we have in Australia; and already weakened by drought, cyclones, HIV and economic collapse; COVID-19 has hit communities in Zimbabwe hard. Lockdown restrictions closed local markets and disrupted the distribution of food aid, leaving families unable to feed their children. To help families struggling to put food on the table, Act for Peace partners on the ground supplied families with food rations to help them get through this crisis.



# FROM THE CEO

This past year has tested the resilience of our partners, the communities we serve, and our own organisation, Act for Peace. Our vision for a peaceful world where all people share a safe, just and dignified life, has at times felt out of reach. As Australians battled drought, bushfires, and floods, a pandemic swept around the world, threatening lives, livelihoods and futures. This pandemic created a shared experience which linked us more closely than ever to our overseas partners. In addition, the #BlackLivesMatter movement brought into focus the horrific ongoing abuse perpetrated against individual human beings and their communities because of the colour of a person's skin. Here in Australia, and overseas.

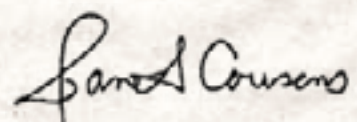
This past year caused us to stop and to reflect on our vision, and to recognise that it is as valid now as ever. Our response has reminded us that the world we seek can be achieved when we work together. #weareinittogether is a catch cry for the truth of our age.

Act for Peace's partnership model values the leadership of local partners; our focus is on listening, sharing our expertise, and agreeing a plan to work together. This requires valuing diversity, recognising difference, building trust, committing to a joint goal, and sharing resources. Simply, it means prioritising the value of the other and working together. The quality of leadership demonstrated by our partners and the strength of our relationships has enabled our work to continue, even when travel and other norms have been disrupted.

Act for Peace continued with our strategic approach of assisting communities to build resilience, and to put into place protection mechanisms which reduce the likelihood of harm from both conflict and disaster. This approach helped our partners working in Jordan, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, and other countries, to be on the front foot when preparing for the pandemic. It also helped our partners in Vanuatu and Tonga to reduce the likely devastation caused by Tropical Cyclone Harold. Having already acknowledged their strengths and the local environmental threats, our partners were equipped to support their communities through what became a very pressured period of change. We are inspired by our partners and privileged to be working with them.

As an ecumenical agency we prioritise collaboration, working to bring together the skills, experience and opportunities of diverse organisations to achieve outcomes that benefit the communities we serve. To enhance outcomes for partners and their communities Act for Peace remained an active member of the international ACT Alliance, the Australian Church Agency Network and their Disaster Operations, our industry body the Australian Council for International Development, the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network and in this year we renewed our membership with the Micah coalition and engaged formally with the new Emergency Action Alliance. Collaboration with these bodies enables us to leverage our resourcing, strengthen our professional development, share our skills and engage with others to raise our voice on issues that matter, including the focus of Australia's international aid program.

Thank you for joining with us. By working together, and through an approach which promotes the strengths and agency of our local partners, we have continued to pursue our vision: a world where all people share a safe, just and dignified life.



Janet Cousens, CEO



*"#weareinittogether is a catch cry for the truth of our age."*

**Janet Cousens, Chief Executive Officer**

# FROM THE CHAIR

The Financial Year 2019/20 showed the strength of Act for Peace and our partners in the face of an unanticipated significant challenge. The domestic and global impact of the novel coronavirus placed new pressure on our work. This pressure came as much from what we knew about the virus as from what we did not know – the predictions of illness, death, devastation to livelihoods and economies, domestically and globally.

Whilst our staff focused on supporting partners grappling to respond to the pandemic in their own communities, the Act for Peace Board and Staff Leadership Team made the significant decision to delay the Ration Challenge, one of our main events of the year. This decision was made in recognition that our supporters were facing uncertainty. As a result, Act for Peace ended the year with a financial deficit which was covered by reserves and ensured that the communities we serve were not disadvantaged. Thankfully, due to a history of good management Act for Peace's financial position remained strong at the end of the financial year.

While the novel coronavirus took centre stage for the last four months of the year, Act for Peace continued to retain a focus on safeguarding; prioritising the safety and protection of vulnerable people through each stage of our work.

Strategically we chose to support partners to respond to the pandemic while retaining a commitment to pre-agreed programming and advocacy initiatives. We did this recognising that long-term needs, including primary health, job security, and recognition of the rights of people displaced, will remain for the longer term.

Act for Peace paused progress towards our next strategic plan in light of the pandemic and so created space for staff to respond to the changing situation facing our partners. Future planning also now responds to the long-term global disruption caused by the pandemic.

This year highlighted the strength of engagement Act for Peace has with our several institutional donors. This included the Australian Government's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Department of Home Affairs, who immediately recognised the need to alter some programming agreements to enable partners to respond to the pandemic. We appreciate their willingness to work with us quickly and flexibly to prioritise the needs of the communities supported by their grants.

This year more than ever we are grateful for our dedicated supporters who share our passion for justice, and the goal of seeing communities threatened by conflict and disaster increase their safety, with dignity. In a year where the lives of many Australians were disrupted immeasurably, the solidarity shown by our supporters through giving and through prayer was immense, encouraging and invaluable.

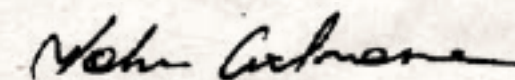
I would also like to thank our Board for their dedicated engagement throughout this year, and to our staff who have proven their skill, expertise, and passion for our work. We appreciate the partnership we have with the NCCA and the strength of our common ecumenical commitment.

We look forward to continuing the opportunities we have to work together for safety, dignity and justice.



*"This year more than ever we are grateful for our dedicated supporters who share our passion for justice, and the goal of seeing communities threatened by conflict and disaster increase their safety, with dignity."*

**Rev. John Gilmore, Chairman**



Rev. John Gilmore, Act for Peace Chair





In Afghanistan, the pandemic plunged struggling families deeper into poverty and put many girls at risk of being forced into child marriage. Act for Peace has supported locally led efforts to work with community elders to encourage parents to keep their daughters in school.

# HOW WE WORK

## HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

When disasters strike, we respond fast, supporting partners to reach the most vulnerable people with food, shelter, medical care and other essential items and services. We work together with communities to build resilience and alleviate suffering; supporting them to prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters; and to prevent the violence and abuse which can often occur in a humanitarian crisis.

## LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT

Conflict and disaster may threaten the safety and dignity of local communities for decades. Our partners know their communities; they are there before, during and after conflict or disaster strike. We work with them to find practical, sustainable ways for people to thrive - whether that is supporting girls' education, providing small business training to refugees starting over, or making health clinics and hygiene programs available to families living in poverty.

## ADVOCACY AND CAMPAIGNS

We engage with passionate Australians, like you, and amplify the voices of people who are affected by conflict and disaster, influencing decision-makers to live up to their responsibility to protect and serve the world's most vulnerable people. When we come together and speak with one voice, it sends a clear message that can't be ignored by people in power.

## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

We believe that local leaders are the best people to create change in their own environments. Our role is to listen and to provide the support our partners require. We promote unity through the diversity of the work of the Christian church by engaging with partners representing different denominations, by working with Consortia such as the Australian Church Agency Network and the international ACT Alliance, and with secular agencies. All partners share our commitment to prioritise the most vulnerable, no matter their religion, ethnicity, gender, social status, age or ability.



# PARTNERING FOR JUSTICE AROUND THE WORLD

## GAZA:

Healthcare for vulnerable women and children and vocational training for young people.

## WEST BANK:

Non-violent protective presence to vulnerable communities living under occupation.

## JORDAN:

Providing urgently needed support for Syrian refugees including food rations, healthcare, education, livelihoods and counselling.

## SOUTH SUDAN:

Helping families affected by flooding to access shelter, sanitation and safe drinking water.

## ETHIOPIA:

Emergency healthcare for critically ill or injured refugees, as well as counselling and vocational training.

## KENYA:

Helping vulnerable urban refugees in Nairobi with food, case work, and other support.

## ZIMBABWE:

Supporting farmers to be more resilient to climate change through conservation farming, responding to food insecurity with urgently needed food rations, and supporting peace building initiatives through national dialogues.

## AFGHANISTAN:

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

## PAKISTAN:

Preventative and curative healthcare for rural families, especially mothers and children. Improving access to quality education.

## INDIA:

Healthcare, livelihoods and empowerment programs for Sri Lankan refugees.

## SRI LANKA:

Livelihoods and support services to help newly returned refugees reintegrate.

## INDONESIA:

Disaster preparedness and risk reduction activities to help communities stay safe during disasters.

## MYANMAR:

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

## THAILAND:

Support for encamped Karenni refugees including those refugees looking to return home.

## THE PHILIPPINES:

Disaster risk reduction and preparedness. Action and advocacy to support vulnerable and disadvantaged communities, including indigenous people, to access their human rights.

## VANUATU:

Support for vulnerable communities to prepare, respond and recover from the impacts of natural disasters.

## TONGA:

Improving safety and inclusion for people living with disability in Disaster Risk Management.

## AUSTRALIA:

Advocacy and campaigning for refugee rights.

This year, you helped to fund 39 projects in 16 countries. By supporting emergency response, sustainable development and advocacy programs around the world, your generosity brought increased safety, justice and dignity to the lives of more than 282,000 people. Thank you.



# EMERGENCY RESPONSE & HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

The number of people displaced worldwide by conflict and persecution has reached over 80 million – more than any time since records began.

At the same time, around the world natural disasters are becoming more frequent and severe.

Through your support, our overseas partners are delivering life-saving emergency assistance – like food, shelter, water and medical care – to the people with the most urgent needs.

In partnership with other church agencies, including members of Church Agency Network and the ACT Alliance, we work with disaster affected communities before, during and after crises, so that families can recover and rebuild their lives.



Together we responded to  
**7 EMERGENCIES**



Together we supported  
**59,038 REFUGEES**



Our partner in Jordan has been providing Syrian refugees with food, hygiene kits, and psycho-social support.

Omar Aqraa/Act for Peace



# EXTRAORDINARY GIFTS IN AN EXTRAORDINARY TIME



As the coronavirus was changing life for everyone around the world, Australians showed kindness and generosity by helping refugees and other vulnerable communities access vital assistance.

Many of the refugees we work with around the world – such as those who have fled war in Syria, Myanmar, and South Sudan – live in cramped, unsanitary conditions with limited access to food, clean water, and medical care.

In refugee camps, the coronavirus can spread rapidly, and kill indiscriminately.

One of the people at risk is Joury, who lives with her six children in a tent in a refugee camp in Jordan after fleeing the war in Syria. Joury is an extraordinary woman, doing everything she can to protect and raise her children in

dire circumstances. Her youngest daughter, five year-old Miriam can't walk properly and needs surgery for her leg. Winter was especially difficult as the family doesn't have access to proper heating and their tent is very cold.

With limited access to essentials and basic health and hygiene, Joury's family are not only at much greater risk of infection, but also don't have access to medical care – care that could mean the difference between life and death if they got sick.

In April, at a time when the impacts of the pandemic were being felt around the world, Act for Peace supporters stood in solidarity with the communities most at risk, giving generously to ensure that people like Joury could access emergency food, hygiene kits and life-saving support for the people hardest hit by this crisis.

Joury is a mother of three boys and three girls. She and her family are from a village in the Hama region, Syria. When the war started, she was very afraid for the safety of her children. When the fear became too much to handle, they escaped to Jordan. Life in Jordan is hard and Joury can't afford to buy basic things for her children. Act for Peace has been working with our local partner, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR), to provide Syrian refugees like her in Jordan with urgently needed food rations, household items and medical care.

Syrian refugees in Jordan are living in cramped, unhygienic conditions that put them at heightened risk of infection.





Health workers in the DSPR's clinics check for signs of coronavirus in Gaza; hoping to prevent the spread of coronavirus among some of the poorest communities in Palestine.



Mohammed Mefrej/Act for Peace

## RAISING AWARENESS AND TREATING MALNUTRITION IN GAZA

"My name is Lubna. As the Health Program Coordinator working for Act for Peace's partner in Palestine, the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR), I help to ensure that families living in poverty in Gaza have access to clinics for dental, medical and psycho-social care.

The emergency lockdown at the beginning of the year made it impossible for most people to work, worsening an existing financial crisis due to the Israeli government's blockade of Gaza since 2007. People in Gaza were already in a very tough situation, but when COVID-19 hit the economy the situation became impossible. At first, we thought that the blockade would keep us safe because hardly anyone can come in and out of Gaza. But our infrastructure and health systems are not strong after so many years of blockade, and some cases snuck in.

Our clinics have seen an increased number of children suffering from anaemia and malnutrition, as parents cannot afford to feed their families.



Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace

Lubna, the DSPR's Health Program Coordinator, has been working hard to keep families safe during the pandemic. Her clinics have seen a sharp rise in anaemia and malnutrition as parents have struggled to feed their children.

**It's hard to see so many distressed parents faced with joblessness, the fear of coronavirus, and the psychological impacts of Israel's ongoing occupation.**

But our staff work hard to help them stay safe. We've been helping to prevent the spread of the virus by raising awareness in the community through brochures, posters, online lectures, and via SMS messages.

Though medical supplies on the ground were limited by the blockade, our health workers continued to wear face masks, gloves and disposable gowns, and to practice hand washing. We also made house visits to check in on sick and injured people.

Thank you for supporting a program that makes a huge difference in the lives of families here. We hope that you can continue to help us deliver urgently needed health care."

## HEALTH SERVICES AND INFORMATION FOR REFUGEES IN ETHIOPIA

As the coronavirus took hold around the world, our partner organisation on the ground, The Ethiopian Orthodox Church Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission (DICAC), provided vital psycho-social support and medical services to refugees in Addis Ababa.

Ethiopia provides asylum to people from the war-ravaged countries of South Sudan, Congo, Somalia and Eritrea. People like Soraya, a mother with HIV/AIDs, who has been living in poverty and cannot easily afford the medical attention she desperately needs.

DICAC has given Soraya – and thousands of refugees like her – life-changing care:

**"Now DICAC is my family, brother, sister, parents, everything now."**

In addition to the normal medical care, counselling and livelihood support to refugees, DICAC responded to the pandemic distributing information to refugees in their own languages to make them aware of the danger and what can be done to prevent infection.

Soraya and her children fled to Ethiopia in 2009, after tribal conflict erupted in her village. She is living with HIV but now receives HIV antivirals through DICAC.



Ben Littlejohn/Act for Peace





Cyclone Harold (pictured) was as powerful as Cyclone Pam (2015); one of the worst natural disasters in the history of Vanuatu.

Betty Toa/UN Women

Cyclone Pam left a trail of destruction when it smashed into Vanuatu in 2015.



Dan McGarry/The Guardian

## RESPONDING TO CYCLONE HAROLD

Cyclone Harold made landfall as a category 5 storm in Vanuatu in March this year; flattening houses, destroying crops and taking lives. Our local partner, the Vanuatu Christian Council (VCC), ensured that communities in the path of the storm were ready and equipped to respond.

Every year, communities in Vanuatu face the threat of tsunamis, cyclones, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

As a community with a strong Christian faith, the people of Vanuatu often turn to church leaders for help to stay safe when catastrophes strike. So our partner, the VCC, is ensuring that these leaders have the skills they need to help their communities.

Ray Tonny lives with his family in the capital city, Port Vila, where he works with the VCC as the Project Manager of Community Based Protection and Disaster Risk Reduction.

In this role, Ray provides extensive training to church and community leaders who form part of each community's disaster committee.

Leaders are taught how to run an emergency drill, how to help the most vulnerable people in their village, and how to evacuate their community safely. He says:

**“We can no longer just sit and wait for disasters to happen. We must take action to minimise our risks.”**

The training that Ray provided meant that families in the path of the disaster understood the disaster warning systems, knew how to prepare a ‘72-hour bag’, and could do basic first aid.

Better preparedness like this saves lives and livelihoods, and is more cost-effective as it prevents expensive recovery programs.

When Cyclone Harold made landfall, local communities were ready and prepared. Equipped with disaster plans; clear on how to reach evacuation centres thanks to cyclone simulation exercises; and with access to first aid and essential supplies, they had lifesaving knowledge and a feeling of control in a time of crisis.

### AFTER THE STORM

After the storm had passed, Ray travelled to Pentecost Island and witnessed first-hand the cyclone's trail of destruction. It was the worst disaster to hit Vanuatu since Cyclone Pam in 2015.

Many families had lost their crops, their houses, and were unable access fresh, clean drinking water.

Unfortunately, the cyclone struck at a time when coronavirus was forcing governments around the world to close ports, airports and borders. So urgently needed resources were not quick to reach communities devastated by the disaster.

Through its training, the VCC had ensured that church leaders knew how to assess and identify the most vulnerable people in their communities. They were able to play an active role when humanitarian aid began to arrive, helping to distribute food rations to hungry families. People with urgent needs were delivered hygiene kits containing soap, a towel, a bucket, toothpaste and a toothbrush. And homeless families taking cover in churches were provided with ‘shelter kits’ containing tarpaulins.

Ray is thankful for the assistance Act for Peace's supporters provided to the communities affected by Cyclone Harold.

At a time when Australia was still recovering from summer's bushfire crisis, the generous gifts from our supporters made a huge difference. We are also grateful for the support of a number of institutional donors, including the Australian Government through their Australian Humanitarian Partnership program.



VCC/Act for Peace

Raynold Tonny has been working with the VCC since 2015. He has been training church leaders how to keep their communities safe.

Through your support, the VCC supplied survival kits containing essentials that a community needs during a disaster.

Alexandra Longstaff/Act for Peace

VCC/Act for Peace

Homeless families had to sleep in damaged buildings after the cyclone struck the island in early April.



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR LOCAL PARTNER: BUILDING RESILIENCE IN THE FACE OF DISASTER

“My name is Patricia and I am the Program Assistant in Disaster Risk Reduction for the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP).

We experience 20 to 25 typhoons every year here in the Philippines, so about two or three typhoons every single month. These typhoons can be very strong and damaging. And we are still recovering from the effects of super Typhoon Haiyan, which occurred in 2013 killing 6,200 people and displacing 4 million people. After this we realised we needed to better train the people in the most disaster-prone communities in order to protect lives and livelihoods.

In many of the communities where we work, people can't afford sturdy houses and don't have the resources to keep their farms from being flooded. So, they are vulnerable during typhoons and heavy rains. We help them to identify these problems and come up with the solutions.

One example of what we do to better prepare communities against these typhoons was when we worked with local farming communities to identify and map their flood zones. We did this to help them design an irrigation system that diverts flood water away from homes and fields. About a month after we finished this particular project, a typhoon and monsoon rain hit the country. If it wasn't for our work there, the farms would have flooded and because there was a proper irrigation canal, it saved their farms. This is life-changing.

These farmers in this area often rely on loans for their seeds, fertilisers and pesticides. If their farms get flooded, it means no income and no food for their families. They would also be in a deep cycle of debt. The fact that we helped them prevent the flood, it meant so much to them.

After responding to Super Typhoon Haiyan in 2013, one of the lessons that we learned was that the churches were doing their own humanitarian responses but they weren't working together. So, for the past few years we've been working to unite the churches and equip them to help communities become better prepared for disasters, as well as improve their capacity to assist in coordinated disaster response.

In times of disaster, the church plays an active role in helping their communities. People trust the church and the church will always be there, even when we can't be. The COVID-19 pandemic meant we couldn't visit the rural areas, even when Typhoon Vongfong hit the Philippines in May.

Unfortunately it is a reality that the typhoons won't stop coming here just because we have a pandemic. So, to ensure assistance was available to families affected by storms we mobilised the churches and they prepared the food packs, delivered sanitation kits and coordinated the emergency response with the local governments. With our training, pastors, priests and bishops are now able to respond to their own community's needs during times of disaster – even during COVID-19.

This is humbling for me as it reminds me to trust in the local indigenous knowledge and experience that they have. I know that if we continue to invest in the people themselves, support them with disaster management training and in community projects that better protect them and prepare them for disasters, then this investment will continue to save lives.”



The Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. Many communities are still recovering from the devastating consequences of Typhoon Haiyan, which killed over 6,000 people in 2013. With your help, our partner on the ground, the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), has been working with disaster-prone communities to prepare for and mitigate the impact of future disasters.



# LONG TERM DEVELOPMENT: SUPPORTING POSITIVE CHANGE THAT LASTS

Thanks to your support, passionate people around the world brought positive change to their communities through sustainable development projects.

By equipping people with the tools, skills and knowledge they need to take control of their own lives, you're helping create positive change that lasts.



88,891

people in India, Gaza, Ethiopia and Pakistan benefitted from integrated community approaches to health and wellbeing



3,293

people were given the skills they need to earn a livelihood



9,220

children and youth have improved access to education



Three decades of conflict and instability have had a dramatic impact on children's education and wellbeing in Afghanistan, and girls are still fighting for equal access to education. Your support has been helping girls in Afghanistan overcome the barriers they face going to school and giving them a brighter future through improved access to quality education.





Alina lives in rural Pakistan with her parents and seven siblings. She dreams of one day becoming a teacher. When schools reopened after lockdown, students like her were safe and free to get the education they deserve.

## PREPARING FOR A SAFE RETURN TO SCHOOL IN PAKISTAN

In rural Pakistan, some of the country's poorest children struggle to get an education. Many are forced to work to support their families. Those that do make it to school often don't receive an appropriate standard of teaching.

So, when the country went into lockdown in response to the coronavirus, many of the poorest students found it even harder to get a quality education. They missed out on the government's televised and online classes, as their parents can't afford a television, a computer or access to the internet.

Thanks to your support, Act for Peace supported locally led efforts to ensure that

children will have access to the best possible classes when schools open again.

During the lockdown, staff revisited and strengthened teacher training courses, which show teachers how to deliver the best possible classes for their disadvantaged students.

Act for Peace has been supporting locally led efforts to use 'WhatsApp' groups to keep teachers in rural Pakistan informed about coronavirus symptoms, how the disease spreads, and the hygiene measures required to keep students safe from infection.

Students who otherwise would not be able to access education were safe and free to return to school when schools reopened September 15.

## ENSURING SCHOOLS ARE SAFE AND AVAILABLE TO AFGHANI GIRLS

"I live in Afghanistan, and I have been working as a primary school teacher for 18 years.

Traditional ideas here have prevented many Afghani girls who are living in poverty from going to school.

Act for Peace has supported locally led efforts with teachers and communities to ensure that girls can get the quality education they need and deserve.

They trained teachers like me in how to prepare classes tailored to the needs of girls; they equipped disadvantaged students with school kits containing bags, books and pens; and they used volunteers in local communities to encourage parents to allow their daughters to attend school.

But, this year the coronavirus forced Afghanistan's government to close schools and markets across the country; leaving already disadvantaged parents jobless and without a way to provide for their families.

Many people are now worried that more girls will be dropping out of school, or be forced into child marriage.

So, community elders have been speaking with parents about the dangers of begging, child labour and child exploitation, as well as encouraging parents to keep their daughters in school. And teachers like me were busy preparing classes for when school resumed.

Your kind support allows us to continue doing this work and we are thankful."



"The girls should study so we can have women engineers, doctors, professors, and teachers"  
- a primary school teacher working in North Afghanistan.

In Afghanistan, many school-aged children do not have access to schools. This is especially true for girls, as they face cultural and economic barriers to getting the education they deserve. Act For Peace has been supporting locally driven efforts to improve the education opportunities for girls, increasing their access to education and improving the education quality at targeted schools.





# NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Living in a refugee camp can feel like a life sentence; not knowing when, or even if, you will ever leave. After brutal civil war erupted in Sri Lanka in 1983, hundreds of thousands of Sri Lankan people escaped to India to seek safety. Though the conflict ended over a decade ago, nearly 60,000 Sri Lankan refugees still remain in 107 camps in India.

Our partner in these camps, the Organisation for Eelam Refugees' Rehabilitation (OfERR), told us that many refugees long to return home and rebuild their lives. Yet, a lack of information means refugees have real concerns about what life holds for them in Sri Lanka, and complicated administrative procedures for obtaining travel documents can put returning home out of reach for many.



Richard Wainwright

OfERR runs workshops, like this one, for Sri Lankan refugees that provide vocational training and inform them about every step they need to take to return home safely.

Through collaboration with OfERR, with your support and funding from the Australian Government, Act for Peace has developed an innovative program that assists refugees to take leadership over their future by providing information which enhances decision making, and access to documentation which addresses many of the barriers that stop safe and successful repatriation.

## PASSPORTS PLEASE

"One of the challenges returnees from India have is documentation," says Florina, Act for Peace's Regional Return and Reintegration Advisor in Sri Lanka. "They don't have any legal documents to say that they are Sri Lankan citizens, which starts from their birth certificates."

Obtaining these essential citizenship documents isn't always easy when you live in a camp.

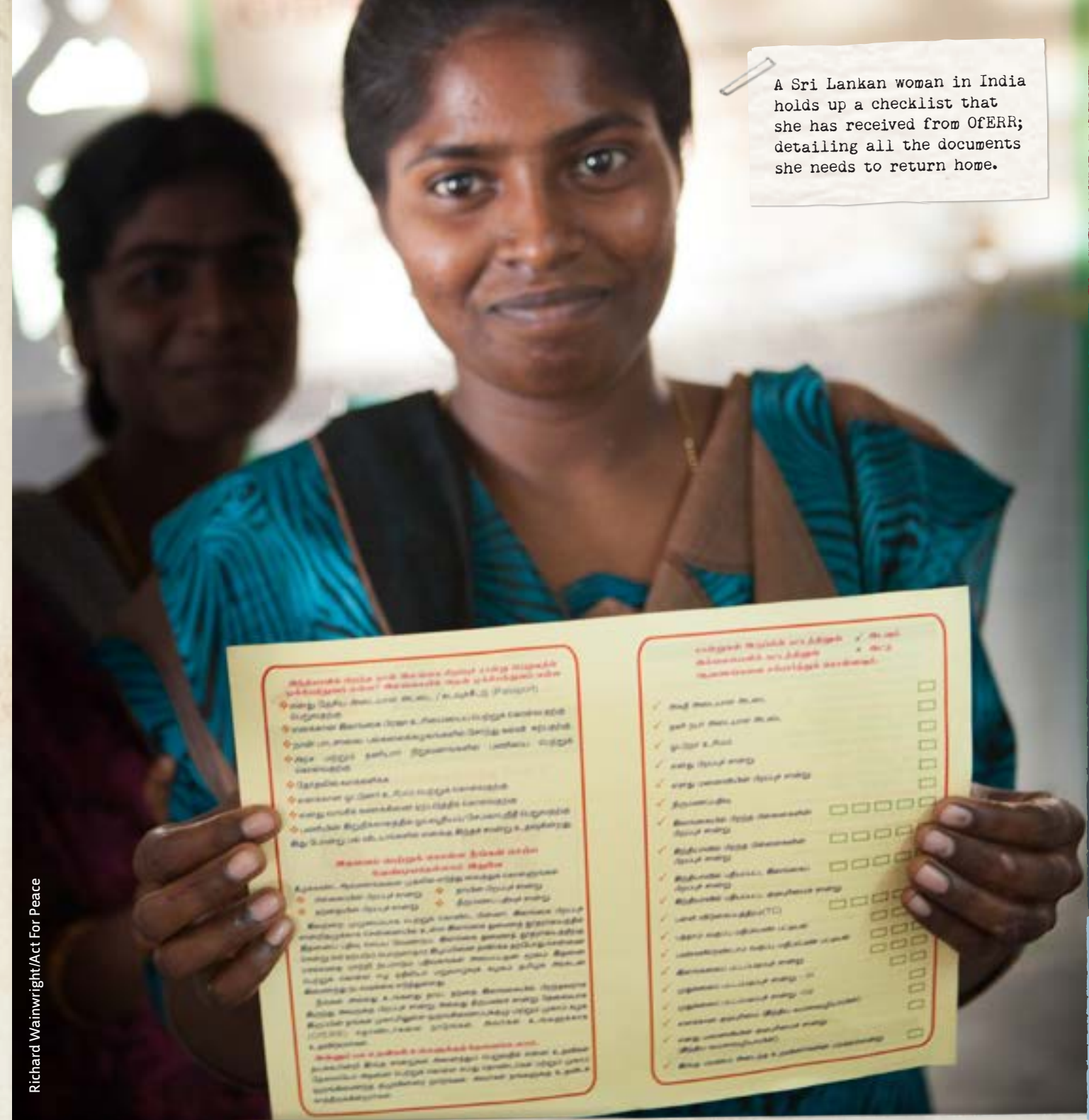
So throughout this past year, OfERR has worked closely with Sri Lankan families in India, arranging documentation and equipping them with 'preparedness passports' - documents that outline every step a returnee needs to take to be fully prepared to return home. Thanks to your support of OfERR's work, these refugees received practical help that strengthened their confidence and their ability to return home.

"They are resilient," says Florina. "They keep hopeful, they keep coming back with energy."



OfERR/Act for Peace

OfERR assisted Sri Lankan refugees who returned home before the lockdown with food rations, psycho-social support, livelihoods training and financial grants



A Sri Lankan woman in India holds up a checklist that she has received from OfERR; detailing all the documents she needs to return home.

Richard Wainwright/Act For Peace

## WELCOMED HOME

Starting a new life in Sri Lanka after decades in exile poses many challenges. Through OfERR Ceylon, this year's returnees were supported from the moment they arrived.

'Welcome Groups' linked returnees with people in the community who could support them, ensuring they felt connected and valued after years of living in limbo as outsiders in a foreign land.

Rebuilding their lives can be hard for returning families when they finally arrive in Sri Lanka. With our support, OfERR Ceylon has been able to help the most vulnerable returnees to find shelter or reclaim land that they own; get job training so that they can provide for their families; and access education for their children, so that the next generation have the foundations for a fulfilling, peaceful life.





# ADVOCACY, CAMPAIGNS AND AWARENESS

Act for Peace works to influence those in power; to change the policies that cause injustice and inequality, and to ensure governments take due responsibility to care for and protect people.

Together with our supporters, we amplify and strengthen the voices of local people, so that underrepresented voices can be heard. Through informative campaigns and awareness-raising about global issues, we help to create conditions for reform by shifting public attitudes and by engaging Australians to take action that makes a positive difference for the world's most vulnerable people – especially refugees.



Voices for Justice

In November 2019, Act for Peace joined with representatives from churches, charities, and communities throughout the South Pacific at Micah's Voices for Justice event; asking politicians to listen to the needs of Pacific people as they confront climate change.



# THE GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM: ENSURING REFUGEES ARE PART OF THE SOLUTION



Tamara Domicelj,  
Act for Peace's  
Regional Refugee  
Protection  
Advocacy Lead.

To help create solutions for refugees and for the communities and countries hosting them, Act for Peace took part in the inaugural Global Refugee Forum in Geneva in December 2019.

We spoke with Tamara Domicelj, Act for Peace's Regional Refugee Protection Advocacy Lead, about the life-changing solutions this historical event could help deliver.

## TAMARA, WHAT WAS THE GLOBAL REFUGEE FORUM?

It was the largest-ever gathering on refugee issues. And it was the first occasion when refugees, host community leaders, UN

representatives (including the Secretary General), governments (including Heads of State), faith-based actors, other civil society leaders, lawyers, academics, the private sector and donors, all came together, at scale, to demonstrate solidarity with refugees and their hosts and to take concrete steps to deliver on the commitments of the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), which was affirmed by the UN General Assembly twelve months prior.

## WHAT WAS EVENT LIKE?

It was truly historical, with over 3,000 delegates and over 1,400 pledges made, including by refugees themselves, in support of refugees and the communities and countries which host them. The value of pledges made totals around 10 billion Australian dollars, in financial, material and technical support. Refugees, including women and youth, had a very prominent role at the event, and were recognised for their leadership in driving solutions and advocating for change in diverse contexts world-wide.

At a time of unprecedented global displacement, this event was hugely important. And it was not a one-off; there will now be Global Refugee Forums every four years.

## WHAT WAS THE AIM OF THE EVENT?

Everyone there was united in a common purpose: to put in place more fair and

An Act for Peace staff member worked on the legal pledge that was announced by Julia Mayerhofer (pictured), Director of the Hong Kong office for the Public Interest Law Network, at the Opening Plenary to the Global Refugee Forum in December 2019.

predictable ways of providing refugees with sustainable solutions. The focus was on soliciting pledges of support, sharing promising practices and launching support platforms for major protracted displacement crises.

In practical terms this includes strengthening support for poorer host countries and communities, and ensuring that refugees have more opportunities to become self-reliant, to have their needs met and to access safe futures.

## HOW DID ACT FOR PEACE TAKE PART?

We are proud and privileged to be deeply involved. In the years leading up to the event, Act for Peace was the focal point for more than 400 civil society organisations from 30 countries in Asia Pacific. We worked closely with refugee and other civil society colleagues, as well UN agencies, governments, donors and others to nurture fresh ways of thinking about old problems, so that real progress could be made when it all came together in Geneva.

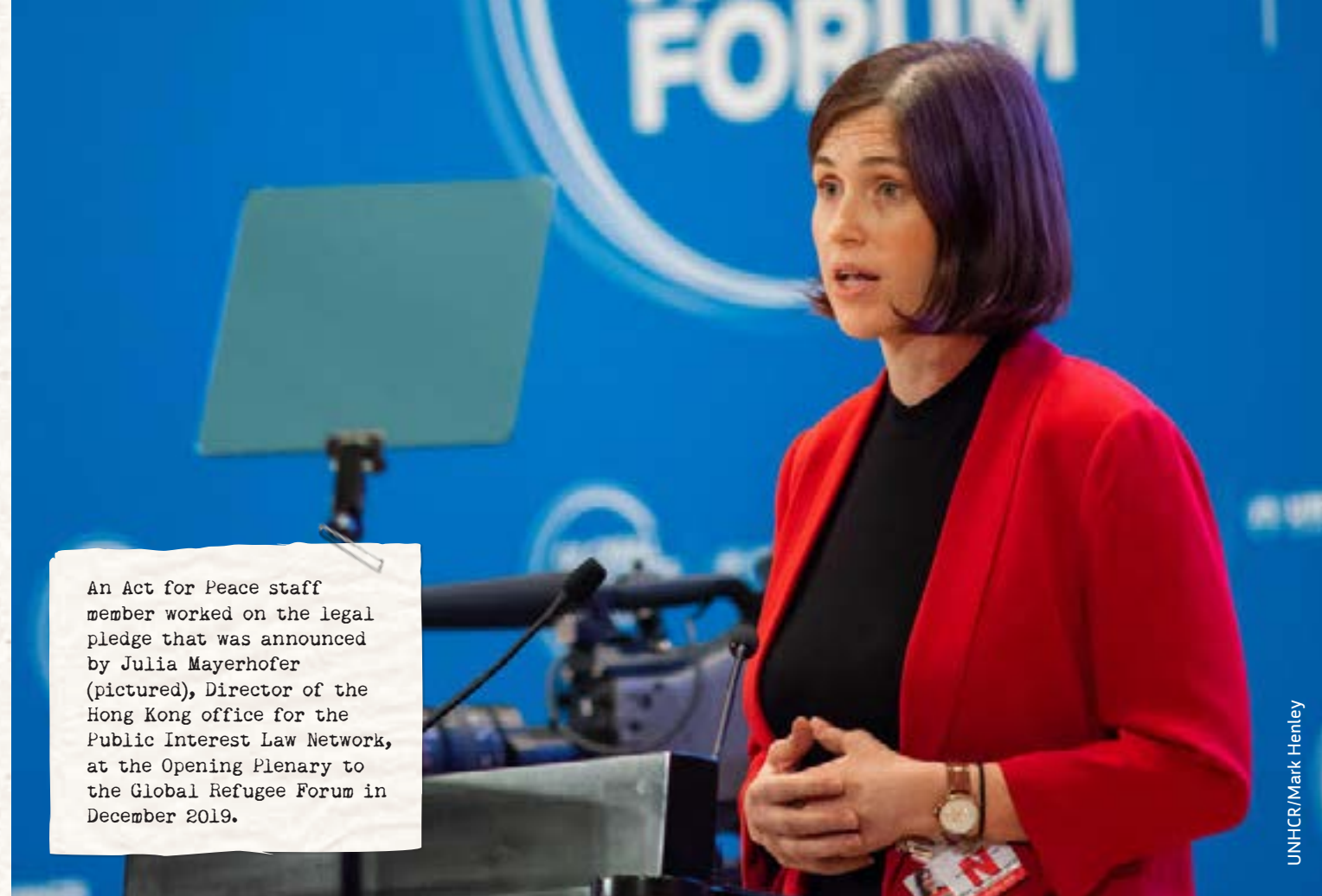
All of this groundwork generated tremendous results. And Act for Peace led and joined five substantial pledges which will be implemented

over the coming years. These are focussed on providing more legal assistance for refugees, securing refugee futures, and ensuring that refugees are able to participate meaningfully in all decisions affecting their lives.

## HOW DOES A PLEDGE WORK?

A pledge is a promise made by anyone, individually or jointly with others, to support refugees and their hosts. Pledges will be reported on in 2021 and 2023.

One of the pledges we've led and joined is the legal communities' pledge, in which law firms, corporations, law schools, and not for profits together committed over 125,000 hours of free legal aid (worth approximately 42 million Australian dollars) for refugees around the world. Act for Peace's Brian Barbour is a lawyer who worked on achieving that remarkable pledge and will co-lead its implementation. Many refugees live in countries where they have no recognised legal status or representation and are highly vulnerable to arrest, detention, deportation, and exploitation, and may not be aware of their rights. For them, this pledge could be life-saving.



UNHCR/Mark Henley



# #NOTOANNEXATION CAMPAIGN: DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS IN PALESTINE

In June, Act for Peace supporters and other concerned Australians stood in solidarity with Palestinian families. Together, we asked the Australian government to take a firm and principled stand against any annexation of the occupied Palestinian territory in the West Bank.

Annexation is when a country declares that a piece of land outside its borders is now part of their state.

On 1 July, 2020, the Israeli government were set to vote on whether to permanently annex the Jordan Valley, a stretch of land in the West Bank where 65,000 Palestinian people live. And, had the government of Israel voted in favour of this move, it would have had a devastating impact on communities that have inhabited this land for centuries.

Palestinian people living under military occupation in the West Bank face harmful human rights violations every day. Many experience home demolitions, restricted freedom of movement and limited access to education and health services.

The proposed annexation would not only have been illegal under international law, it would also likely continue – or worsen – the human rights violations Palestinians are already experiencing.

As the Israeli government had indicated that the Palestinian people living in the annexed Jordan Valley would not be given citizenship, Palestinians living there would have been relegated to a ‘second class’ status.

In the critical weeks leading up to the vote, 1,052 Act for Peace supporters and other concerned Australians contacted the Australian Government to raise their voice against the annexation.

**We were not alone. Citizens around the world participated in the #NoToAnnexation campaign and it had a real impact.**

Thousands sent emails to politicians, wrote letters to newspapers and tagged leaders in social media posts to raise their concerns about the vote.

Our collective voice contributed to the indefinite delay of the annexation vote. Your steadfast support helped to defend human rights violations wherever these occur.



In June, thousands of people sent emails to politicians, wrote letters to newspapers and tagged leaders in social media posts (pictured) to raise their concerns about Israel's vote to annex the Jordan Valley.



Ben Littlejohn, Act for Peace

Graffiti on a wall in the West Bank, where Palestinian people living under military occupation face human rights violations every day.





Act for Peace

## OUR SUPPORTERS: YOU MAKE THIS WORK POSSIBLE

This year, the coronavirus pandemic has affected all of us. It has changed the way we work, and increased vulnerability for many around the world. In Australia, the pandemic followed closely after the summer's devastating bushfires, further impacting lives and livelihoods.

And yet, thousands of Australians still contributed to Act for Peace's campaigns,

appeals and events. They shared stories, spoke out against injustice, raised awareness, and gave generously to assist vulnerable communities around the world.

We thank you for joining us in this troubling time to ensure that safety, justice and dignity continues to be realised by people facing conflict and persecution.



**15,086**  
supporters, churches  
and schools



**\$4.16 MILLION**  
raised for communities  
around the world



**28,255**  
generous  
gifts

## LEADING WITH HEART



Ross Culey shows the importance of supporting vulnerable communities around the world to his family, other Australians and our leaders.

Ross, a married father of five, lives on the south coast of New South Wales. At the last Voices for Justice event in Canberra in December 2019, Ross joined with other caring Christians, humanitarian organisations, and inspirational leaders from the Pacific to raise a voice for a world free from poverty.

Voices for Justice was an inspiring four day event coordinated by Micah Australia, a coalition of churches and humanitarian agencies. As a Micah member, Act for Peace joined with other Christian aid agencies to bring together people from across Australia passionate about faith and justice, to lobby our MPs and state Senators on global poverty issues.

In Canberra, Ross met with his local representative, Fiona Phillips, and hand-delivered an Act for Peace Gift for Peace that provides food for refugee families in Jordan. Through receiving this Gift for Peace, Fiona is now aware of the needs of vulnerable communities around the world.

*"My family is saying to our politicians: we want to be engaged with the world and we want to be working together with people and not just closing in and shutting everything out."*

Ross feels joy when helping those with less and understands that sharing is especially important in a society that celebrates self-interest.

*"The temptation to huddle inwards and look after ourselves just keeps getting stronger, and that just feels like a recipe for, in the end, a miserable way to live for everyone."*

Growing up, Ross' parents encouraged him to share his good fortune with others around the world in urgent need.

*"The Christmas Bowl has been around since as long as I can remember. When I was in Sunday school, I can remember mum and dad would give us a couple of coins, and we would put them into a Christmas Bowl Envelope, which would get collected at Christmas time."*

Now Ross' children follow his example. Ross encourages his children to send Gifts for Peace to our nation's leaders and, in 2019, two of his daughters also attended Voices for Justice in Canberra.

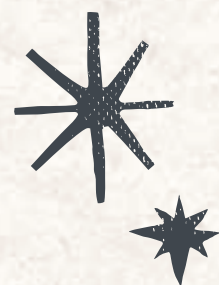
Ross gives MP Fiona Phillips a Gift for Peace that feeds a refugee family in Jordan. When refugees flee from conflict, they are often forced to leave everything behind. Through this Gift For Peace, a Syrian refugee family receives a week's worth of emergency rations.

Guy Threlfo/Act For Peace





# CHRISTMAS BOWL 2019



Christmas 2019 marked the 70th anniversary of the Christmas Bowl. Our focus in this special year was on the needs of families in South Sudan. Norwegian Church Aid, our local partner working on the ground, worked with communities that, due to conflict and harsh weather, were only able to access dirty and polluted water.

Your gifts to the Christmas Bowl helped to provide families in South Sudan with clean water - one of life's most basic needs.

We also supported people to receive the training, supplies and tools needed to keep clean water flowing to the community long into the future. Here are just some of the transformative changes that access to clean water is bringing to families in South Sudan, thanks to your support:



## EDUCATION

With easily accessible water, girls spend less time collecting it and now have the time to go to school.



## HEALTH

With access to free water, families that can barely afford to buy water can dedicate the money saved to other life-saving resources, like medicine.



## HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Being able to bathe helps to protect families against preventable, life-threatening diseases like cholera and dysentery.



In drought-stricken South Sudan, a community finally has easy access to safe, drinkable water.

# 70 YEARS OF SHARING GOD'S LOVE



Rev. Frank Byatt, the Christmas Bowl founder, reminded us to remember those less fortunate than ourselves.



It was 1949. Millions of refugees were starving in war ravaged Europe. And as Reverend Frank Byatt looked at his family's heavily laden Christmas dinner table, the contrast between our abundance in Australia and the needs of others around the world could not have been more stark.

So he called his congregation to "get a bowl to put on your Christmas dinner table and see if you can get everyone round the table to make a generous gift so that you can share your good dinner with hungry children in other lands."

The first Christmas Bowl appeal back in 1949 raised £1808 to support starving refugees in war-ravaged Europe. This was no small sum for a congregation at that time.

But Frank did not stop there. His mission was to unify Australian Christians of all traditions to work together to put the word of the Gospel into action.

Frank's vision and action over many years has done just that.

In 1977, Australian Christians came together to provide food, clothing and medical care to ease the suffering of families shattered by the Andhra Pradesh cyclone. In 1984-85, we were there, standing alongside people fighting famine in Ethiopia. And in 2005, we provided life-saving aid to communities devastated by the Boxing Day tsunami.

Since its humble beginnings, the Christmas Bowl has raised more than \$100 million for people affected by conflict and disaster. And each year, tens of thousands of Australian Christians, from more than 15 denominations, come together to share God's love through the Christmas Bowl appeal.

Frank's legacy lives on today. Funds raised by the Christmas Bowl enable Act for Peace to work in partnership with communities in more than 16 countries around the world, equipping them with the skills they need to solve their own problems and get back on their feet.

## 1984 Christmas Bowl



Intermission at the Marian Street Theatre's production of Blythe Spirit where the Tunnamurra Uniting Church organised a theatre party for The Christmas Bowl which raised over \$1,000. Pictured left to right are Rev. Don Erickson, Val Pitman, Margaret Ford, Jan Martin, Noella Allering. Perhaps other parishes could arrange similar fund-raising events!

## 31st CHRISTMAS BOWL APPEAL

Sharing and the story of the feeding of the five thousand with 5 small barley loaves and two fishes was the theme of the 1980 Christmas Bowl Appeal. On November 26, the appeal was launched nationally with events in public places in all capital cities. Leaders from the 12 ACC member churches joined in launching this unique ecumenical appeal.



Frank's legacy has lived on through the years, as Christians from more than 15 denominations come together each year to share God's love through the Christmas Bowl.



# WORKING WITH PARTNERS

We believe local people are best placed to identify solutions to the problems faced by their communities and how these can be best delivered. In partnering, we aim to build and promote local leadership and ultimately achieve more effective humanitarian outcomes. By working with representatives of many denominations in the Christian church, with secular agencies and those of other faiths, we aim to harness the strength that comes from the diversity of building unity through understanding and cooperation.

Our partnership model is not only a way of working but is fundamental to our values and identity. We always strive to build genuine two-way relationships with local organisations, and deliver programs with greater sustainability, local ownership and cultural sensitivity.

## THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PARTNERS



ACT Alliance • Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network • Community World Service Asia • Church World Service Indonesia • Ethiopian Orthodox Church - Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission • Further Arts/Pasifika • Jordan - Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees • Myanmar Council of Churches • Near East Council of Churches - Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees • Middle East Council of Churches - Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees - International Christian Committee • National Council of Churches in the Philippines • Organisation for Eelam Refugees' Rehabilitation India/ Ceylon • The Border Consortium • The Charitable Foundation / Refuge Point (Auspice Fund) • Tongan National Council of Churches • Vanuatu Christian Council • World Council of Churches • Zimbabwe Council of Churches



Two children carry water home in a camp for internally displaced people that formed around the Our Lady of Assumption Catholic Church in Riimenze, South Sudan. Through funds raised by the Christmas Bowl, Norwegian Church Aid, our local partner, brought clean water, hygiene and sanitation to families fleeing conflict and persecution.

Paul Jeffrey/Act for Peace

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

ADVOCACY, CAMPAIGNS AND AWARENESS

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

LEARNING AND EVALUATION



# RESPONDING TO CRISES BY WORKING TOGETHER

The world we live in contains a rich array of cultures, languages, and religions. And the people in it experience diverse challenges created by division, poverty, conflict, injustice and inequality.

In the face of these very real challenges, Act for Peace embraces collaboration to create a more peaceful world where all people share a safe, just and dignified life.

## CULTURE OF COLLABORATION

We believe that collaboration works best when it's embedded in culture. This is reflected in the approach we take to partnerships.

Our partner organisations want to see their local community thrive. They have their own skills, knowledge and resources. They also have established leadership, understand their culture, and are there for the long haul, so we believe they're best-placed to lead change within their own communities.

Our role is to work with them, offer support where required, and provide avenues for change that might be outside of our partners' reach.

This means that, while our partners mainly represent the church, we are both working with, and to respectfully serve, people of diverse faiths, ethnicities, genders, age, social economic status and ability.

## BEING OPEN TO CHANGE

We're continually open to change. So, we listen and learn from our partners – informally through dialogue, and more formally through processes such as preparing our 'partner plans'.

As each of our partners has unique needs, we tailor our 'partner plans' to give them the best possible support. These plans may include a mix of capacity building goals, funding, skills

building, addressing compliance requirements, and joint advocacy or our conducting advocacy on behalf of the partner.

## FORMING NETWORKS TO ELEVATE VOICES

Act for Peace also collaborates with a wide number of consortia and networks. It's not always easy - it often takes time. And sometimes it means changing our plans. But the outcome is more likely to achieve sustainable change than if we act alone.

A great example of this collaboration is with the Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN). Through this collaboration, over 200 members - local agencies working on rights issues for refugees - now have their own direct communication channel with the UN.

Last year, APRRN was represented in the UN's Global Compact for Refugees dialogue, and during the COVID-19 pandemic, UN agencies reached out to APRRN to disseminate health information to communities.



Karen MacGrath/Act for Peace

Through the ACT Alliance, Act for Peace played a part in submitting an appeal to ensure that Syrian refugees in Jordan, like Malak (pictured), can feed their families.

## STREAMLINING THROUGH ALLIANCES

Alliances are another way of streamlining processes and getting help to those who need it much faster.

A great example of this is the Action by Churches Together (ACT) Alliance - the largest coalition of protestant and orthodox agencies in the world. Each year, it mobilises USD\$3B for humanitarian and development initiatives.

Through the Alliance, we activate funding and technical resources for disaster response through a coordinated appeal system. This way, our partners only need to write one proposal and one set of reports for all Alliance members, which saves them crucial time and resources.

In FY20, the ACT Alliance launched an appeal to raise funds for Syrian refugees in Jordan. To launch this appeal, Act for Peace was part of a proposal with multiple agencies from multiple countries; one that could raise the money needed to help displaced Syrians access food rations, better opportunities to earn a livelihood, and critical health, education and protection services.

## SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND RESOURCES WITH OUR PEERS

The Church Agency Network Disaster Operations (CAN DO) is a local consortia made up of eight of the 12 Australian Church Agency Network members. Through this network, we can collaborate and coordinate in disaster management to enhance community resilience to disasters and conflict.

Importantly, the Network has jointly owned policies, principles that guide our collaboration, risk management procedures, a governance structure, and a future roadmap.

By working as consortia, we're able to jointly access funds, share professional development opportunities, and combine resources so that our partners and their communities benefit.



Julia Loersich/Act for Peace

When disasters strike communities in the Pacific (pictured), Act for Peace can join with other humanitarian organisations through the CAN DO consortia to provide support like temporary housing to families.

When Tropical Cyclone Harold struck Vanuatu early this year, CAN DO member organisations worked together, with each drawing on unique areas of expertise, to deliver urgently needed relief to victims of the disaster more efficiently.

Through CAN DO, Act for Peace's partners may also work with the Network's other members to help: reflecting on the best ways to respond to an emergency; finding solutions to the local problems; and gaining a better understanding of how to interpret compliance and grant requirements.

All of this means our partners have more access to the resources and support needed to make a positive difference for some of the world's most vulnerable communities.

## COMMITTING TO SOMETHING BIGGER THAN OURSELVES

Act for Peace is committed to the joys and struggles of building something greater than ourselves.

And by working together with partners, alliances, and networks, we believe that we can create better outcomes for people confronted by conflict, disaster and persecution.



# PARTNER SURVEY 2020:

## WORKING TOGETHER TO PROVIDE BETTER SUPPORT TO VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

Across the globe, our partners are working on the ground to reach some of the world's most vulnerable people with what they need to both meet urgent needs and to create change that lasts. Together we respond fast in an emergency to deliver lifesaving aid – including food, shelter and water – to where it's needed most. We support partners and communities to increase their resilience by preparing for disaster, and addressing violence, depravation and abuse that comes with conflict and disaster. We support 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. We provide a voice for our partners, to influence change.

By regularly reviewing our partnerships we aim to improve the way we work and strengthen the support we can offer to communities facing conflict and disaster.

Between November 2019 and April 2020 we ran an online Partnership Satisfaction Survey and received responses from 12 partner organisations. Each spoke positively about their partnership with us:

*"Partnership is very participatory and not top bottom," as one partner reported. "[The organisation shows] also concern, compassion and timely help."*

Another partner added: *"Very few are called partners and Act for Peace is one of them. Others are donors with a donor recipient type of relationship governed by quantitative indicators."*

All our partners agreed that contractual obligations, requirements and guidelines are acceptable.

When asked for feedback on the quality of support these partners receive from Act for Peace, many highlighted the value of training on community based protection, capacity building regarding child safeguarding, and general monitoring and feedback from the Act for Peace team.

Our partners also expressed a keen desire to receive more online training from Act for Peace, as well as for more opportunities to exchange lessons learnt through joint meetings with Act for Peace staff.

This partner satisfaction survey is only one part of our overall interaction with our partners. Other opportunities for mutual sharing and learning include partnership dialogue around partnership agreements and grant agreements, partner capacity building, collaboration on program design and proposal writing, and ongoing dialogue around progress and monitoring and evaluation.

During the years ahead, the findings from this year's survey and these ongoing discussions with our partners will contribute to the development of our annual 'partner plans', supporting our partners with the resources, skills, tools, and knowledge they need to support the vulnerable communities we serve together.



Fares (right), the Executive Director of the Department of Service to Palestinian Refugees (DSPR), with a volunteer during a food ration distribution on the outskirts of Amman, Jordan. Most of DSPR's work on the ground is done by caring volunteers, who are often refugees themselves.



# LEARNING FROM OUR WORK

We are continually learning from what we do; regularly monitoring and evaluating all of our programs to measure progress, track efficacy, be transparent, and demonstrate results. This allows us to be accountable to our supporters, partners and the communities we serve, as well as ensure our work is making a positive impact on the lives of vulnerable people.

In addition to our ongoing monitoring of all programs, five of our projects were evaluated this financial year:

- Community World Service Asia, Maternal and Newborn Health Project
- Zimbabwe Council of Churches Conservation Farming Project
- The Organisation for Eelam Refugees' Rehabilitation Sri Lankan Refugee Return and Reintegration Phase II
- Vanuatu Church Partnership Program
- Ecumenical Accompaniment Programme in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI)\*

*\*this evaluation was funded by another partner.*

This year, Act for Peace reviewed the work we do with our partner in Sri Lanka, where Tamil refugees (pictured) are supported with access to health, education, nutrition, livelihoods, personal development and documentation services.

Ben Littlejohn/Act For Peace





# EMPOWERING FARMERS IN DROUGHT-STRICKEN ZIMBABWE

Act for Peace partners with Christian Care, an organisation that has supported Conservation Farming in Zimbabwe since 2004. The Conservation Farming program aims to help small scale farmers through training and mentoring in farming techniques that improve yields by up to 1,200% (in comparison to a baseline measurement taken at the start of each farming season).

Trainees are encouraged to share their new knowledge of conservation farming principles with other farmers. And the communities where they live are empowered to develop

and manage their own projects, propose community action plans and provide links to income generation opportunities and new farming technologies.

This year's evaluation of the program found that trainees, like Priscilla, witnessed improved yields in comparison to traditional counterparts. The program also resulted in more people living with disability being able to earn a livelihood, and sponsored an increase in the number of women assuming leadership roles or engaging collectively at local level.

*"Now I eat almost all the foods I like" said Priscilla. "I can send my children to school and I am sure they are going to lead a better life."*



In Zimbabwe, Act for Peace's partner, Christian Care, provides farmers like Priscilla (pictured) with the seeds, training and tools required to survive and thrive in drought-prone areas.

Joel Pratley/Act for Peace

OfERR helped Rashan and Pamodi buy a water pump, to grow garden fresh vegetables on their farm that they can eat and sell.



Richard Wainwright/Act for Peace

## SUPPORT FOR SRI LANKANS RETURNING HOME

Between September 2017 and August 2019, the Australian Department of Home Affairs funded the second phase of a two-year cross-country program that helped Sri Lankans, like Rashan (pictured), living as refugees in India to return to their homeland. Positive outcomes led the Department of Home Affairs to fund a third phase of the project – 1 September 2019 – 31 August 2021.

During that time, our evaluation found that OfERR Ceylon was able to arrange 643

consular birth certificates for Sri Lankan children born in India, 476 citizenship documents, 126 educational certificates, and 132 national identity cards. Through this life-changing program, a total of 209 people have received government or private sector jobs, 296 people received livelihood support from the government, 223 people were able to access land, and 1295 families got permanent government houses during this two year period.

These positive outcomes lead the Department of Home Affairs to fund a third phase of the project, which is due to run until FY22.



# WORKING WITH INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

Act for Peace works with resourcing provided by a range of institutional donors, where we share goals towards building the resilience and protection capacity of local communities.

Each year the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provides registered agencies, including Act for Peace, with a 'matched grant' under the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP). This grant leverages the gifts provided by our generous supporters and represents strong linkages between the Australian government, our supporters and the work of our partners overseas. Through this grant, and our supporters' gifts, in 2019/20, we were able to strengthen outcomes for communities in Zimbabwe, Ethiopia, Gaza, Pakistan, India, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vanuatu.

Once again, in 2019/20 Act for Peace hosted the secretariat of the Vanuatu Church Partnerships Program, a collaboration of Australian church based agencies and Vanuatu churches working together to strengthen the

capacity of the church in Vanuatu to respond to humanitarian and development needs. We acknowledge financial contributions from the Anglican Board of Mission, ADRA, Global Mission Partners and Uniting World.

The Australian Department of Home Affairs continued to fund our program with partner OfERR, supporting return and reintegration initiatives for Tamil refugees considering or preparing to return to Sri Lanka after the war.

Through our collaboration with CAN DO we accessed funds from the Australian Humanitarian Partnership to enhance responses to a number of disasters.

Anglican Overseas Aid also partnered with us, providing funds to assist communities in Ambae to recover from the volcanic eruption in Vanuatu.

We also acknowledge the support of USAID in our work with the Tonga National Council of Churches as we continue to work together to build the resilience of communities in Tonga to natural disasters.

## INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- Department of Home Affairs (DHA)
- Australian Humanitarian Partnership Funding through CAN DO
- Anglican Overseas AID (AOA)
- Adventist Development and Relief Agency Australia (ADRA)
- Global Mission Partners (GMP)
- Anglican Board of Mission (ABM)
- The Charitable Foundation (TCF)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Uniting World



Joel Pratley/Act for Peace

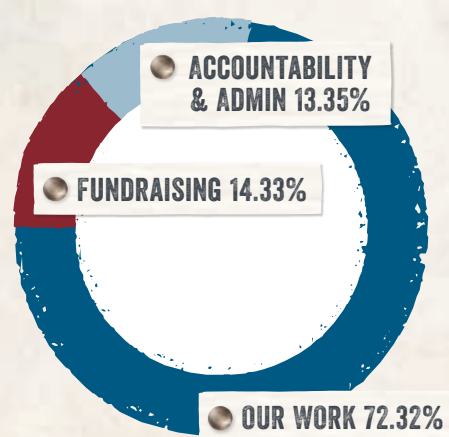
Through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) and our supporters' gifts, farmers in Zimbabwe received training, skills and resources to improve their harvests in a time of drought; helping them feed their families and earn an income.



## STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30 2020

REVENUE	Note	12 months to 30 Jun 2020 \$	12 months to 30 Jun 2019 \$
Donations and gifts			
Monetary		4,162,315	7,467,747
Non-monetary		52,718	106,894
Bequests and Legacies		55,118	77,880
Grants			
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade		2,243,945	2,094,722
Other Australian		1,544,725	1,137,396
Other Overseas		38,128	398,789
Investment Income (Loss)	2	178,856	124,254
Commercial Activities Income		0	0
Other Income		732,676	892,177
Gain on Sale of Melbourne Property		0	1,198,184
Revenue for International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs		0	0
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>		<b>9,008,481</b>	<b>13,498,042</b>

### TOTAL EXPENDITURE

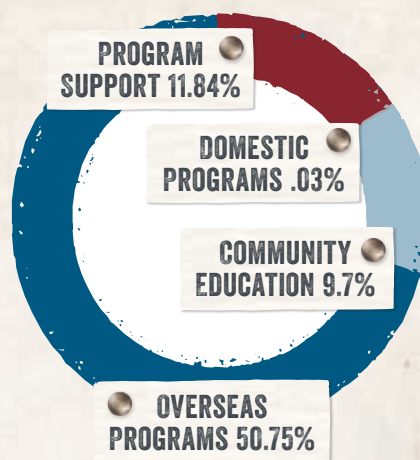


### EXPENDITURE

#### International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure

International programs			
Funds to International Programs	11	5,187,024	5,585,729
Program Support Costs		1,222,030	1,370,599
		6,409,054	6,956,328
Community Education		1,001,821	1,452,665
Fundraising Costs			
Public		1,428,463	2,310,827
Government, Multilateral And Private		51,289	57,405
		1,479,752	2,368,233
Accountability and Administration		1,377,551	1,461,547
Non-Monetary Expenditure		52,718	106,894
<b>Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>		<b>10,320,896</b>	<b>12,345,667</b>
International Political or Religious Adherence Promotion Programs Expenditure		0	0
Domestic Projects Expenditure		3,013	129,644
Commercial Activities Expenditure		0	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>10,323,909</b>	<b>12,475,311</b>
<b>EXCESS/(SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>(1,315,428)</b>	<b>1,022,731</b>
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		<b>(185,491)</b>	<b>108,100</b>
Fair value unrealised gains/(losses) on financial assets		(185,491)	108,100
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)</b>		<b>(1,500,919)</b>	<b>1,130,832</b>

### EXPENDITURE ON PROGRAMS



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT JUNE 30 2020

### ASSETS

		30 June 2020	30 June 2019
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash And Cash Equivalents	3	2,023,256	844,984
Trade And Other Receivables	4	595,432	913,647
Inventories		0	0
Other Financial Assets		0	0
Other Assets	5	95,509	660,090
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>2,714,197</b>	<b>2,418,721</b>
<b>Non Current Assets</b>			
Trade And Other Receivables		0	0
Other Financial Assets	6	4,573,555	6,108,100
Property, Plant and Equipment	7	3,511,024	3,518,141
Investment Property		0	0
Intangibles		0	0
Other Non-Current Assets		0	0
<b>Total Non Current Assets</b>		<b>8,084,579</b>	<b>9,626,241</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>10,798,776</b>	<b>12,044,962</b>

### LIABILITIES

<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade And Other Payables	8	1,695,036	1,525,745
Current Tax Liabilities		0	0
Other Financial Liabilities		0	0
Provisions	9	458,912	407,269
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,153,948</b>	<b>1,933,014</b>
<b>Non Current Liabilities</b>			
Borrowings		0	0
Other Financial Liabilities		0	0
Provisions	9	156,606	122,806
<b>Total Non Current Liabilities</b>		<b>156,606</b>	<b>122,806</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>2,310,554</b>	<b>2,055,820</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>8,488,222</b>	<b>9,989,141</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	10	7,588,369	7,508,209
Retained Earnings	11	899,853	2,480,932
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>8,488,222</b>	<b>9,989,141</b>

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 ENDED JUNE 30 2020

	Retained Earnings	Reserves	Others	Total
<b>Balance at 30 June 2018</b>	<b>1,834,423</b>	<b>6,964,012</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,798,435</b>
Adjustments or changes in equity due to	0	0	0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	108,100	0	0	0
Excess (Shortfall) of Revenue over expenses	1,022,731	0	0	1,130,831
Managed Funds	59,875	0	0	59,875
Amount transferred to (from) reserves	(544,197)	544,197	0	0
<b>Balance at 30 June 2019</b>	<b>2,480,932</b>	<b>7,508,209</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,989,141</b>
Adjustments or changes in equity due to	0	0	0	0
Items of other comprehensive income	(185,491)	0	0	(185,491)
Excess (Shortfall) of Revenue over expenses	(1,315,428)	0	0	(1,315,428)
Managed Funds	0	0	0	0
Amount transferred to (from) reserves	(80,160)	80,160	0	0
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2020</b>	<b>899,854</b>	<b>7,588,369</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,488,222</b>

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

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 CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2020

	12 months to 30 Jun 2020	12 months to 30 Jun 2019		12 months to 30 Jun 2020	12 months to 30 Jun 2019
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Cash receipts from customers	9,630,344	11,109,171	Proceeds from long-term borrowings	0	0
Cash paid to supplier and employees	(9,754,570)	(11,673,308)	Dividends paid	0	0
Cash generated from operations	(124,226)	(564,137)	<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>	0	0
Interest paid	0	0			
Income taxes paid	0	0			
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	(124,226)	(564,137)	<b>Net increase(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	1,363,763	648,795
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period</b>	844,984	88,089
Sale of Melbourne Property		2,548,184			
Purchase of property and equipment	(225,412)	(1,614,351)			
Transfer of fixed assets from NCCA		(196,781)	<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>2,208,747</b>	<b>736,884</b>
Decrease (Increase) in investments / investment income	1,713,401	475,880			
Dividends received					
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	1,487,989	1,212,932			

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

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2020

### NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Basis of Preparation

Act for Peace Ltd applies Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements as set out in AASB 1053: Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), the ACFID Code of Conduct and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act). The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards. For further information on the Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements, except for cash flow information have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the directors on 29th September 2020.

#### (a) Revenue recognition

The company has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15) and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 1058) using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 July 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: Revenue and AASB 1004: Contributions.

On the application of these standards there were no adjustments required to be made to the opening balance of equity.

#### Grants and donations

##### Contributed assets

If the company receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives, these assets would be recognised in accordance with the recognition requirement of other applicable standards (AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

On initial recognition of an asset, the company recognises related amounts (being contribution from owners, lease liabilities, financial instruments, revenue or contract liabilities arising from a contract with a customer).

The company recognises income immediately in profit and loss and the difference between the initial carrying amount and the asset and the related amount.

##### Operating grants and donations

When the company receives operating grant revenue or donations, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficient specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15. When both these conditions are satisfied the company identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant, recognises a contract liability for these obligations and recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations the company either recognises the asset received in accordance with the requirements of other applicable accounting standards, recognises related amounts or recognises income immediately in profit and loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the company recognises income in profit and loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of taxes paid. Revenue is recognised for there items as follows:

##### Investment income

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend and distribution income is recognised when the right to receive the distribution has been established. Realised and Unrealised gains/(losses) are recognised through the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

##### Other income

Other revenue is recognised when the right to receive the revenue has been established. During the year the company received certain Government COVID-19 subsidies amounting to \$321,350 which have been included in other income in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax.

#### (b) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

##### Land and buildings

Freehold land and buildings are measured on the fair value basis. Fair value is determined on the basis of an independent valuation prepared by external valuers on a periodic basis based on capitalisation of net income. There are 3 equity holders in the Kent Street property, and each stake-holder recognises its interest in the property as an asset and a reserve.

##### Plant and equipment

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

##### Depreciation

Depreciation on assets is calculated to allocate their cost, net of their residual values, over their estimated useful lives.

Residual values and useful lives of the assets are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

The carrying amount of an asset is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if its carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. These are included in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

#### (c) Income tax

No provision for income tax has been made as the company is exempt form income tax under Division 50 of the Income tax Assessment Act 1997.

#### (d) Value of Volunteers

The value of services provided by volunteers is not brought to account in revenue or expenses because of the practical difficulties involved in recording and valuing those services.

In relation to volunteers used directly for the support of international projects, this amounted to \$52,718 in 2020 (2019: \$106,894)

#### (e) Leases

Leases are recognised under Accounting Standard AASB 16: Leases. Applicable leases whether finance or operating in nature are to be recognised on the statement of financial position as liabilities with corresponding right-of-use assets. These leases are measured at their net present values and include future lease payments under an option where that option is reasonably expected to be taken up. The leases are amortised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. For operating leases that do not need to meet the requirements under this standard being leases that are less than 12 months or of minor values, and where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, these are recognised as expenses over the term of the lease.

The company has adopted AASB 16: Leases retrospectively with the cumulative effect of initially applying the standard recognised at 1 July 2019. In accordance with AASB 16 the comparatives for the 2019 period have not been restated.

There were no adjustments required on the application of this standard.

#### (f) Financial instruments

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the company commits itself either purchase or sell the asset (trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs except where the instrument is classified "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

Trade receivables are initially measured at transaction price if the trade receivables do not contain significant financing components.

Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value or amortised cost using the effective interest method. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Amortised cost is calculated as the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition less principal repayments and any reduction for impairment, and adjusted for any cumulative amortisation of the difference between the initial amount and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying amount with a consequential recognition of an income or expense item in profit or loss.

Fair value is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

Equity investments are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

As per AASB 9 an expected credit loss model is applied, and not an incurred credit loss model as per the previous applicable standard (AASB 139). To reflect changes in credit risk, this expected credit loss model requires the company to account for expected credit losses since initial recognition.

AASB 9 also determines that a loss allowance for expected credit loss be recognised on debt investments subsequently measured at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income, lease receivables, contract assets, loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts as the impairment provision would apply to them.

In the case of financial assets carried at amortised cost, loss events may include: indications that the debtors or a group of debtors are experiencing financial difficulty default or delinquency in interest or principal payments; indications that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; and changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with

If the credit risk on a financial instrument did not show significant change since initial recognition, an expected credit loss amount equal to the 12 month expected credit loss is used. However, a loss allowance is recognised at an amount equal to the lifetime expected credit loss if the credit risk on that financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition, or if the instrument is an acquired credit-impaired financial asset.

The company has adopted the simple approach under AASB 9 in relation to trade receivables, as the loss allowance is measured at the lifetime expected credit loss.

The company reviewed and assessed the existing financial assets on 1 July 2019. It was determined that there was no significant change in credit risk from the date they were initially recognised and no adjustment was required.

##### Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expire or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability, which is extinguished or transferred to another party, and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

#### (g) Impairment of assets

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon the asset's ability to generate net cash flows and when the entity would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of a class of asset, the entity estimates the recoverable amount of the cash generating unit to which the asset belongs.



Where an impairment loss on a revalued asset is identified, this is debited against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

**(h) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within shortterm borrowings in current liabilities \_on the statement of financial position.

**(i) Employee benefits**

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees up to the end of the reporting date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within 12 months have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements.

**(j) Trade and other receivables**

Trade receivables and other debtors are recognised at fair value less provision for impairment. Trade receivables are due for settlement based on normal terms of credit from the date of invoice.

Collectability of trade receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for doubtful receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the company will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the carrying amount of the asset and the total of estimated future cash flows. The amount of the provision is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

**(k) Managed Funds**

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

**(l) Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

**(m) Trade and other payables**

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services received by the company during the reporting period that remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

**(n) Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

**(o) Comparative figures**

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation of the current financial year.

**(p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements**

The directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and internally within the company.

The judgements and assumptions include assessing the recoverable amount of assets, useful lives of those assets, performance obligations of contracts and employee provision estimates.

**(q) New and Amended Accounting Policies**

The company has considered all new and amended accounting standards effective from 1 July, 2019 which have been disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

**NOTES**

	30 June 2020	30 June 2019
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**2. INVESTMENT INCOME**

Interest, Dividends and Trust Distributions	141,827	124,254
Realised Gains/ (Losses)	37,029	0
	<b>178,856</b>	<b>124,254</b>

**3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

Cash on hand	3,763	4,892
Cash in bank	1,943,661	265,091
Term Deposits	75,832	575,000
	<b>2,023,256</b>	<b>844,984</b>

**4. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

Other Debtors	218,378	12,688
GST Paid	24,989	45,302
Prepayments	172,638	22,856
Trade receivables	179,428	832,800
	<b>595,432</b>	<b>913,647</b>

**5. OTHER ASSETS**

Receivable from NCCA Ltd	95,509	660,090
	<b>95,509</b>	<b>660,090</b>

**6. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS**

Investments with Australian Ethical	4,268,382	6,108,100
Investments with JBWere	305,173	0
	<b>4,573,555</b>	<b>6,108,100</b>

**7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Level 7 Kent St (Sydney) at valuation	1,405,396	1,405,396
Level 6 West Tower (Melbourne) at cost	1,310,399	1,310,399
Bldg Improv, Computer & Office Furnitures at cost	1,644,512	1,419,100
Accumulated Depreciation	(849,283)	(616,754)
	<b>795,229</b>	<b>802,346</b>
<b>Total Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>3,511,024</b>	<b>3,518,141</b>

**8. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

Trade Creditors	404,830	545,358
Accruals on Project Funds	411,282	247,673
Income in Advance	833,341	685,994
Payroll Liabilities	43,976	46,537
GST Collected	1,607	183
	<b>1,695,036</b>	<b>1,525,745</b>

**9. EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS**

Provision for Annual Leave	458,912	407,269
	<b>458,912</b>	<b>407,269</b>
Provision for Long Service Leave	156,606	122,806
	<b>156,606</b>	<b>122,806</b>

**NOTES**

	30 June 2020	30 June 2019
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**10. RESERVES**

Refugee Reserves	1,831,856	1,868,294
Property Reserves	1,821,172	1,835,396
Bequests	1,219,546	1,088,724
Level 7 Kent St (Sydney)	1,405,396	1,405,396
Level 6 West Tower(Melbourne)	1,310,399	1,310,399
	<b>7,588,369</b>	<b>7,508,209</b>

The above funds form part of total retained earnings which are designated to specific reserves

**11. RETAINED EARNINGS**

Retained Earnings	899,853	2,480,932
	<b>899,853</b>	<b>2,480,932</b>

**12. PROGRAMS**

Africa	611,000	603,169
Asia	2,805,618	2,738,956
Pacific	778,181	799,456
Middle East	366,214	414,391
Managed Funds - Overseas	215,206	198,283
Emergencies	410,805	831,474
	<b>5,187,024</b>	<b>5,585,729</b>

**13. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION**

Any person or persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or non-executive) of that entity, is considered key management personnel (KMP).

The total of remuneration paid to KMP of the company during the year is as follows.

	<b>705,871</b>	<b>621,900</b>
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**14. CONTINGENCIES**

Contingent liabilities	0	0
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**15. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

Grant from Global Mission Partners whose Executive Officer (John Gilmore) is the Chairman ofthe Board ofAfP Ltd	20,000	20,000
Grant from Australian Lutheran World Service whose Executive Director (Jamieson Davies) is a Director of AfP Ltd	-	23,000
Grant from Glenburnie Program which is managed by NCCA Ltd to AfP Ltd - EAPPI program. Alison Preston is a director of AfP Ltd and a committee member of Glenburnie	-	31,725
Business Service Fees charge to NCCA Ltd	39,699	64,675
Office Rental paid to NCCA Ltd	37,270	37,270
The value of related party transactions in the year amounted to.	<b>96,969</b>	<b>176,670</b>

**16. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING DATE**

The directors are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

**17. COVID-19**

Adjusting to COVID-19 public fundraising environment, Act for Peace delays a major fundraising event planned for June 2020 to September 2020, which results in a significant shortfall of income in FY20. A certain level of overseas partners activities planned in FY20 are also postponed to to FY21 which is reflected in increased deferred income.

**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

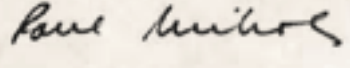
In accordance with a resolution of the Directors, the Directors of Act for Peace Ltd declare that:

- The financial statements and notes as set out on pages 4 to 14 are in accordance with the Act for Peace Ltd 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 - Reduced Disclosure Requirements applicable to the entity; and
  - Give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2020 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the company;
- 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 directors and is signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

For and on behalf of the Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN GILMORE (Chairman, Board of Directors)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PAUL NICHOLS (Treasurer)

Dated this 29th day of September, 2020.



# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ACT FOR PEACE LIMITED



## OPINION

We have audited the financial report of Act for Peace Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Act for Peace Limited has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June, 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1 and the Australian Charities and Not-forprofits Commission Regulation 2013.

## BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

## INFORMATION OTHER THAN THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND AUDITOR'S REPORT THEREON

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the company annual report for the year ended 30 June 2020, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE FINANCIAL REPORT

The Directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

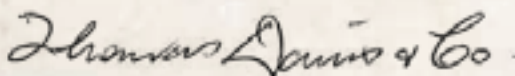
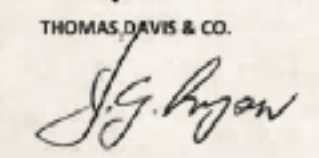
## AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL REPORT

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to audit 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 company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

  
THOMAS DAVIS & CO.  
  
J.G. RYAN PARTNER  
Chartered Accountants

SYDNEY,  
Date: 29th September, 2020

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation



# ACT FOR PEACE BOARD

Directors of the Act for Peace Board are appointed by the Member, the National Council of Churches in Australia. At the end of the 2019-2020 year, Act for Peace's Directors were as follows:

## The Reverend John Gilmore

BTHEOL, MTHEOL, DIPMIN

Chairman

## Alison Preston

BA JOURNALISM

Policy Committee

## Elizabeth Stone

BA, MINTS, AGIA

Policy Committee Chair

## Paul Nichols

BA, BSW, MBA

Treasurer and Chair of our Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

## Ginie Udy

BED, MA (HONS), MBA, GAICD

Policy Committee and our Deputy Chair

## Jamieson Davies

BA, MA

Leads our Board's professional development initiative

## Leigh Cleave

BMUS, GRAD DIP TEACHING, MBA, CFRE, FFIA

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

## Marcus Sandmann

B BUS, MAICD

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

# MEMBER CHURCHES OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN AUSTRALIA

- 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 & affiliated Regions
- Coptic Orthodox Church, Diocese of Melbourne & affiliated Regions
- Greek Orthodox Church
- Indian Orthodox Church
- Lutheran Church of Australia
- Mar Thoma Church
- Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
- Roman Catholic Church
- Romanian Orthodox Church
- The Salvation Army
- Syrian Orthodox Church
- Uniting Church in Australia



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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](http://www.acfid.asn.au/content/complaints) Email: [acfid@acfid.asn.au](mailto:acfid@acfid.asn.au) Ph: +61 2 6285 1816

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