

Caroline Chisholm Society



Pregnancy & Family Support Service Annual Report 2007/08

Contents

Presidents Report	1
Our Organisation	2
CEO Report	3
Programs We Offer	4
a. Where We Work	
b. Graph of Duty work, short term casework and counselling	
c. Graphs of Family Services Program presenting issues & referral sources	
Post Natal Depression/Parenting Groups	5
The People And Their Stories	6
Volunteers	6
Our Housing Service	9
Student Experience	10
The Community Supporters	11
Financial Report	12

Caroline Chisholm Society Pregnancy & Family Support Service

- **Our vision:**

A Society that supports pregnancy, children and families.

- **Our mission:**

To deliver a range of pregnancy and family support services that respond to the needs of families and supports them to achieve and maintain a safe and nurturing environment.

- **Our values:**

We will develop services that are underpinned by the principles of:

- Respect for Life
- Compassion and caring,
- Social justice
- Empowerment
- Recognition of diversity
- Accountable Best Practice

Our Services will use approaches that are characterised by the following:

- Positive Pregnancy Support
- Child focused and family centred
- Connecting families with communities
- Flexibility and responsiveness
- Promoting safety
- Acknowledging the expertise of families

“(Caroline Chisholm) sought to encourage people to have faith in their own courage, resilience, independence of spirit, and a desire to succeed.”

In many ways 2007 – 2008 has been like every other year. Another year in which demand for our services has exceeded our capacity to respond; another year in which we have given away even more material aid, and another year in which we have seen the big challenges with the small triumphs.

Yet, something is different this year. The Society turns forty in 2009 and there is a sense that we have the confidence of experience and wisdom that age offers. We know that we need to provide more to those in need in our community. Mums, Dads and babies need us to work harder and smarter, with the care, affection and dedication that they have come to expect from our staff and volunteers.

This year has seen a range of challenges for the Society, including:

- o increasing complexity of the needs of our clients
- o implementing the administrative requirements to conform with the raft of new Government expectations, and
- o providing services from our current cramped accommodation at Moonee Ponds;

We have met these challenges and the Society is in a strong position for the future.

Another challenge has been to keep the Society on track in its strategic planning. The flow chart in this Annual Report reveals some key personnel we need to employ over the next few years to support the development of the Society. We are focussed on new ways of employing these new staff. New staff means accommodation and we have decided to address this issue

as a priority. The sale of our Bacchus Marsh property early this year provides us with the basis of building a real presence in the Western region of metro Melbourne. We will free up some space in Moonee Ponds and increase our presence deeper into the Western suburbs. This will allow for flexible use of space in Moonee Ponds. We are working with property planning specialists currently.

The Strategic Plan 2007 – 2011 has provided a key document for us to measure our own progress. We have employed staff to develop policy; to identify and write funding applications and have plans for further employment initiatives once funding is available. We have improved our web presence and have successfully worked on the regeneration of our Board recruiting new and younger Directors. We have reviewed and updated our Constitution.

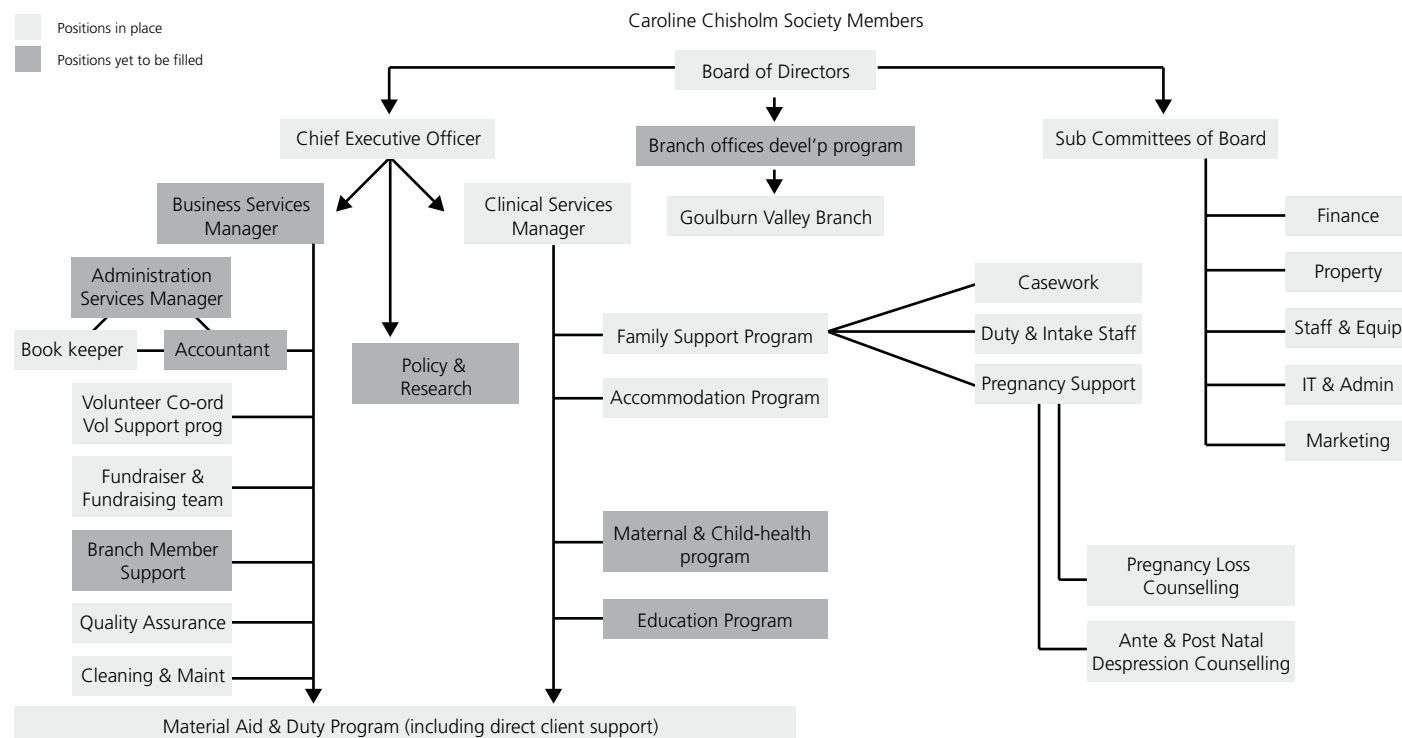
I thank all the Board members for their time and skill. Sadly work commitments have prevented James Downing from continuing on the Board, while John Kennedy has taken an extended leave of absence. We look forward to his return by year's end. Jacinta Collins has resigned too, she has been elected as a Victorian Senator. We thank her for her work and wish her well in the future.

I thank our staff for another year of service to the work of the Society, and our volunteers who have again, knitted, sorted, sewn, answered phones, mentored, driven clients to appointments, provided computer technical support and assisted with administration. Special thanks to Mary D'Elia and Denise Lee for their wonderful contribution in their all-consuming roles as Chief Executive Officer and Clinical Services Manager.



"I have been grateful for all the help you have given me, especially being with me when my baby was born. I don't know how to thank you enough" (Mum, aged 30, West Footscray)

Our Organisation



Patron: Dr Rhonda Galbally

Registered Office: 41 Park St, Moonee Ponds Vic 3039

Established: 1969

Life Members

Mr B Guinane, Mrs B Noonan, Mr F Smit, Mrs E Brennan, Mrs M Howes, Mrs H Pearson, Mrs P Coffey, Mrs L Joy, Mrs A Ronchi, Mrs L Tainton, Mrs T Fogarty, Mrs W Hunt, Mrs E Semmel, Mrs M Taverner, Mrs L Gibson, Miss M Napolitano, Sr M Sexton, Mrs P Way, Dr P Joshua

Board of Directors

The Society thanks our Board of Directors who have shown great commitment to the shared vision and mission of Caroline Chisholm Society and have given freely of their time and expertise during 2007/08. The following are Directors as at 30th June, 2008.

President: Maria McGarvie

Vice President: Paul Webster

Treasurer: Carmela Puopolo

Secretary: Frank Smit

Directors: Teresa Fogarty, Marco Carlei, Jacinta Collins, John Kennedy and Wendy Hunt

Management

Chief Executive Officer: Mary D'Elia

Clinical Services Manager: Denise Lee

Honorary Auditor: John Agostinelli, Level 2, 200 Lygon Street, Carlton 3053.

Honorary Solicitor: Marie Faraone, 14 Annesley Crt, Mt Waverley 3149

Bankers: Westpac, Puckle Street Moonee Ponds 3039
Bendigo Bank, Centre Fair Plaza Shepparton

Staff

The Society thanks our staff for their care and dedication. There are 24 staff; 8 full time, 16 part-time, across 6 sites (Moonee Ponds, Bacchus Marsh, Laverton, Sunbury, Melton and Shepparton). Staff list as at 30th June 2008.

Management: Mary D'Elia and Denise Lee.

Case Work/Social Work Team: Sharyn Cameron, Audrey Ciappara, Kerry Cross, Karan Grieve, Anne Kitchen, Litsa Kyriakou, Yvette McCormack, Marisa Multari, Grace Scaglione, Sue Smith, Marie Walker and Tamara White.

Admin/Auxiliary staff team: Marie Panzera, Pamela Haynes, Fleur Tucker, Glenda Rumble, Felicity Sands, and Gwen Scott. Maternity Leave: Sally Richter and Tania Salzano.

Goulburn Valley: Margaret Price and Peita Mastin-Lundberg.

“The tremendous support helped me to get through my pregnancy. It was great support and always full of praise and understanding to overcome any obstacles I faced.” (Mum, aged 36, Moonee Ponds)

Over the past couple of years, the debate over provision of abortion services has intensified, and as I sit down to write this report the Victorian Government is considering a Bill to decriminalize abortion services. What is interesting about this Bill is that it provides few protections for women. There are no clauses regarding informed consent, independent decision making counselling, cooling off periods or the requirement to provide pre or post abortion counselling. Forty years have elapsed since the Menheneit ruling in Victoria,and forty years have passed since the Caroline Chisholm Society was formed in response, to provide pregnancy counselling and practical and emotional support throughout pregnancy for women who choose to continue with their pregnancy.

Today, I reflect upon how little has changed.....pregnant women continue to come to the Society in need of practical and emotional support. Many women continue to face the difficult decision to keep their child, alone, without the support of their partner, family or friends.

The Society's submission to the Law Reform Commission in November 2007 acknowledged that abortion is a tragedy for all involved, and drew upon the Society's forty years of experience to urge the Commission to include recommendations for clauses that would support women at a vulnerable time in their lives, such as independent decision making pregnancy counselling, pregnancy loss counselling, informed consent, anti coercion measures, and cooling off periods. We also urged the Government to ensure that social policy is developed to ensure that women are provided with real alternatives to abortion which enable them to continue with their pregnancy and keep their child if they so choose.

More support needs to be provided to pregnant women in the areas of: financial / welfare policy; affordable & suitable housing; childcare policy, family friendly

work policies, taxation relief for families who choose to have a parent at home to care for children; and encouragement of motherhood as a positive and worthwhile role in our community.

Forty years on, the Society continues to focus strongly on compassionate care for women and families throughout pregnancy, transition to parenthood and early parenting concerns. We see these early parenting years as critical to the wellbeing, health, safety and life opportunity of all children. We are fortunate at CCS to have staff and volunteers who care about addressing not only the immediate issues, but also strive to assist our families in a holistic way, enabling them to gain better life skills and to reconnect with their family and community in a positive way.

The Society continues to advocate strongly for a service system that both embraces early intervention for families who are finding parenting challenging, and provides intensive support and care for those families who are most at risk. We welcome the Federal Government's commitment to develop a National Child Protection Framework. We hope that this will provide for stronger long term strategies in early intervention and risk management for vulnerable children.

Child abuse and neglect are often linked to other major social issues such as mental illness, alcohol and drug abuse, financial hardship, family breakdown, unemployment and housing difficulties. Our experience tells us that we must have both a strong policy framework and properly funded services on the ground to ensure that we are able to make a positive difference in children's lives.

The Society's involvement in the Department of Human Services funded Family Services Program has meant that this year we have formed Integrated Family Services Alliances in four catchment areas across North Western Melbourne. These Alliances support a centralised

intake known as ChildFIRST and provide a partnership platform with agencies and child protection to meet the needs of our most vulnerable families and children. Across the Sector, our work practices have been challenged and improved by working together to find the best ways to support families and promote the best interests of the children who need our care.

Changes in practice bring questions: Are we doing the best we can for families and children? Are we meeting their needs? When I talk to various groups and supporters about our work in pregnancy and family support, I am often asked "Are you successful?" I prefer to respond differently. I believe that we make a positive difference in the lives of mums, dads and children who come to us for assistance and support. "Success" is so difficult to measure. For some families, our support will be short term, for others we know that they will need ongoing, periodic, often very intensive, family support for many years.

Our work remains critically important to so many mothers and fathers who struggle everyday to provide their children with a safe, loving and nurturing environment. I reflect upon the importance of caring, compassionate pregnancy support and early family support so that every child is given the opportunity to receive the best start in life.

I would like to thank the President Maria McGarvie and the Board, for their strong contribution of skills, time and effort. I would also like to pay tribute to the wonderful staff we have on board at Caroline Chisholm Society. Thank you to the many volunteers, businesses and service clubs who support us. We couldn't provide our broad range of services without your support.

“She helped me to work out how to be happy about myself, which helped with my boy.... thank you so much for all your help it was worth you coming to help me” (Mum, aged 27, Melton)

Where We Work

The Society's Family Services Program is provided across the North Western Corridor of Melbourne, taking in the Local Government areas of Moonee Valley, Maribyrnong, Hobson's Bay, Wyndham, Brimbank, Melton, Moorabool and Hume. The map below describes where the Society provided services to families during 2007/08

***Figure A**



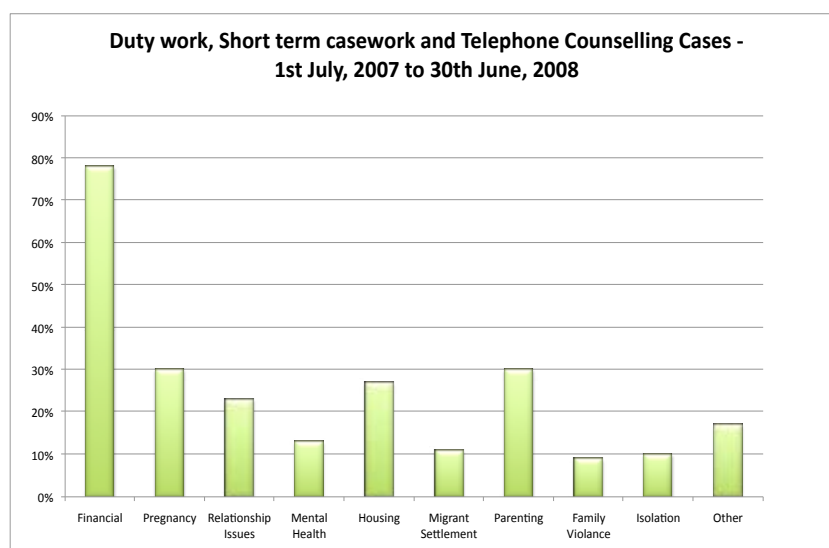
Duty Work, Short Term Casework And Counselling

The Caroline Chisholm Society's work in pregnancy counselling, pregnancy loss counselling and emotional and practical support throughout pregnancy is undertaken state-wide, through the toll free Telephone Counselling Program and the Duty and Material Aid Program. During 2007 / 08, the Society assisted 1,464 families with short term casework and counselling, pregnancy counselling and support, and material aid for their babies.

The Material Aid provided to families in 2007/08 was valued at over \$278,000

Figure 1 describes the identified issues for parents accessing this valuable service.

***Figure 1**

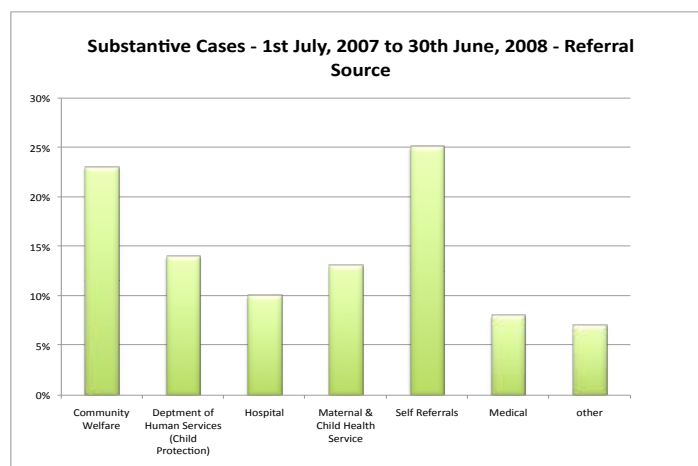


Family Services Program

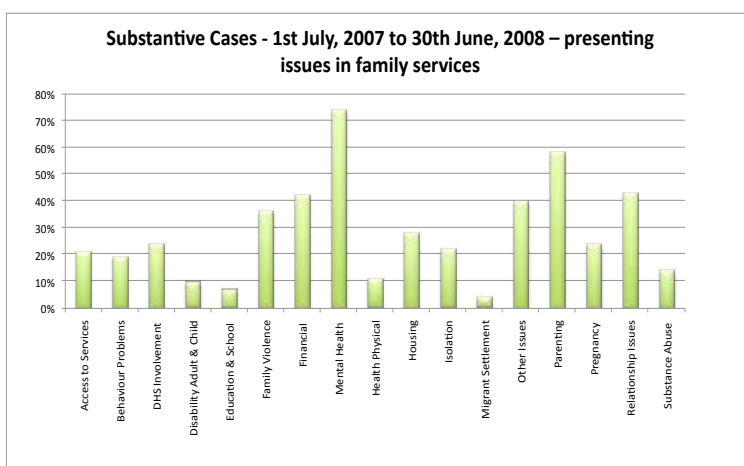
Every year the Caroline Chisholm Society Family Services Program provides compassionate support to many families with young children. They may be experiencing difficulty with a pregnancy, finding the adjustment to parenthood and early parenting challenging, or they may need support for post natal depression, financial difficulties, or relationship violence.

During 2007/08, the Society provided long term casework support to 337 families.

***Figure 2A**



***Figure 2B**



Post Natal Depression and Parenting Groups

MELTON

Post-Natal Depression support

Over the last twelve months CCS has provided a Post-Natal Depression (PND) Support Group in Melton. The PND group is facilitated by two CCS workers in the second and fourth school term. A grant obtained from Parentslink allowed CCS to pay half the cost of child care for each child who attended the onsite childcare centre. This means that mothers can attend without concern about the financial burden the cost of child care can create.

While group participants come from all over the Shire of Melton, most of the women are from the Melton East growth corridor of Caroline Springs, Burnside, Taylors Hill and Hillside. The majority of participants are referred to the group by their Maternal and Child Health Nurse.

The PND group provides women with

a safe, confidential environment with the information and support needed to explore: Symptoms and causes of PND; Strategies for dealing with PND; Their own experience and struggles with PND; Motherhood - the expectations vs the realities; Informal and formal support networks (family, friends, services); Family relationships and Self-care

The group participants have also had access to a PND playgroup in which CCS and Melton Council collaborated to support. The Playgroup runs on Wednesday mornings and gives the women an informal place to meet and to reduce social isolation.

Parenting Group

Every first and third term in the year CCS and McKillop Family Services co-facilitate a parenting group for parents with children aged 0-5. This group provides parent education in an interactive and supportive

environment where parents can learn new information as well as share their existing knowledge with other parents. Topics covered over the 8 weeks include: child development; nutrition; behaviour management; communication; the importance of play; building self-esteem; self-care for parents; toilet training; sleep; and the role of parents

"I would like to say that I have become more confident within myself as a person and a mum. I don't feel alone anymore. Knowledge is the key....Thank you"
(Mum, aged 31, Delahey)

SUNBURY

January 2008 marked Karan Grieve's 20th year working for the Society. She provides outreach support to families in the Sunbury area. This year has seen further changes to the Family Support Sector under the new legislation. The introduction of the Hume Moreland Integrated Family Services Alliance, with intake arrangements known as ChildFIRST, has been administratively challenging, but the hope is that our most vulnerable families and children will receive a service when most needed.

Karan continues to co-facilitate the Post Natal Depression Group with Terri Hollingsworth at Sunbury Community Health Centre and this Group is very well attended. This Group is a very important part in the recovery of women who are struggling with their roles as new mothers.

When asked to reflect on her work at CCS, Karan states "throughout my 20 years with Caroline Chisholm society I have seen many changes within the service sector, but the Board and Staff at CCS have

maintained the importance of providing support to the families of our youngest and most vulnerable children and this has also been an ideal that has underpinned my work and long involvement with the Caroline Chisholm Society".

"Having someone to just talk to and balance ideas off, confirm that my actions as a parent were correct....thank you, you have helped us gain a better, happier life"
(Dad, aged 30, Sunbury)

LAVERTON

The Society's co-location at the Laverton Community Children's Centre, a children's services hub in the heart of Laverton, is a successful venture. Families comment on the ease of using the services. They come with a range of complex and often multigenerational issues, including poverty and unemployment, lack of parenting skills, mental health, isolation, substance abuse, and family violence which impact upon a families ability to parent their children in a safe and nurturing manner.

Providing co-location facilities at the Laverton Community Child Care Centre hub is great for families. The model promotes service delivery and partnership of services under the one roof. Parents are quickly referred by child care workers to our service without feeling overwhelmed, they are supported through the referral process with personal introduction as we work on site together. It is a great model of service delivery to the local community.

Greg

Greg is a caring single dad who was referred to Caroline Chisholm Society by the Child Care Co-ordinator at Laverton Children's Centre for support around managing his son Ben's behaviour. Greg explained that he was concerned that his son may have ADHD and was unsure what he could do to assist his child. With Greg's

permission an assessment was arranged with a Child Psychiatrist who would assist in determining the best outcome for Ben and would be able to provide Greg with parenting strategies. The CCS caseworker was able to assist Greg and Ben by providing transport to attend the appointments.

The CCS caseworker organised a referral to the local Council's Pre-School Field Officer who were able to provide intensive assistance to the family and recommended that Ben receive Speech Therapy and Occupational Therapy which would assist him to integrate successfully into Kindergarten. Our worker also arranged funding from a local agency to provide Ben a trampoline to encourage physical activity.

The CCS worker is assisting Greg to plan for Ben's transition to primary school. Greg has been reassured by the School that Ben will receive every support necessary so that he will be welcomed and supported through school.

Throughout the time we have worked with Greg, he has welcomed learning new parenting strategies and household skills to be better able to care for his son. Recently, Greg has become the primary carer of his young daughter. The CCS caseworker has assisted Greg with new tips to manage two children, and has assisted Greg to find a suitable 3 bedroom property to provide

space for his two children. Ben is now looking forward to attending school next year, and Greg and his children plan to relocate into their new home soon.



INNER WEST

The Society works with Centacare Catholic Family Services (CCFS) supporting a family referred from the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH) for counselling and in-home support.

One family has four children aged under 6 who live with their extended family. The migrant family is of non English speaking background and one of their children is currently in the Royal Children's Hospital receiving treatment for a life-threatening illness.

The Social Worker at the RCH was concerned for the family especially with the stress of caring for their sick child. CCFS assigned an ethno-specific worker to the family, and invited CCS to co-work with them,

given our expertise in working with young children.

The Society was to take on a case work/management role, assisting with parenting and in-home support and CCFS would focus on counselling for the mother and family around grief, coping with a sick child and act as a cultural guide. This joint support has provided a service which is holistic and culturally sensitive. We continue to work with the family to achieve the family's identified needs and goals, and ensuring that during this difficult time their children's best interests are being promoted and encouraged.



"I gained new skills and confidence as a parent. Just having someone to talk to who understands what's going on in my life....thank you!"
(Mum, aged 25yrs, Melton)

BACCHUS MARSH

Over the last twelve months the Bacchus Marsh office has received numerous requests for material aid items with bassinets, nappies and formula being the most sought after items. There has been a steady stream of baby goods donated to the Bacchus Marsh office by local families over the year, demonstrating a high level of support within the local community for the Society and the services it provides.

Families presenting to the Bacchus Marsh office have requested assistance around the following issues: financial hardship; pregnancy; post-natal depression; relationship issues and parenting information and support

Most of the casework in Bacchus Marsh has been through the provision of intensive in-home support to families across the municipality, from Ballan in the west through to the new estate of Hopetoun Park on the eastern outskirts of the township.

Sharon & Jess

Sharon is a mother of eight children who was referred to CCS by Child Protective Services because of concerns ranging from sexual abuse (by a person external to the family), chronic neglect caused by ongoing financial issues and domestic violence between Sharon and her partner John.

Sharon was pregnant with her eighth child at the time of referral.

Sharon has struggled to provide emotional, physical and financial support for her children for whom she is the primary carer. The four oldest children aged from 19 to 12 are from a previous relationship and Sharon's current partner John is the father of the four youngest aged under 6 years.

Sharon and John's relationship is volatile and leaves the children and Sharon without stable and reliable support from John. Sharon has no extended family that can offer her support. The Society has supported Sharon around her own needs as well as parenting. Our support has included: material aid, food vouchers, baby clothes and Christmas presents; advocacy for housing rental arrears to avoid homelessness, and applying for electricity and gas energy relief grants, (these grants ensure that utilities are not disconnected); referral of Sharon's eldest daughter, Jess to family support to assist Jess in her care of her baby, to address her housing needs and to provide baby goods to Jess.

Sharon's children have had problems at school. With our support, the schools now provide breakfast and lunch if needed and Sharon now attends parent/teacher interviews. The Society has referred Sharon to domestic violence services so that the

children are no longer exposed to violence.

The children in this family have all responded enthusiastically to the interest the workers have taken in their lives. They draw us pictures for our office, show us the things they make at school, tell us what their goals are and even confide in us their thoughts and feelings. The reality is that for some families, caseworkers from agencies like Caroline Chisholm are the closest thing they have to extended family that others in the community are lucky to have around them. Sharon is now finding her parenting role easier with the help of the CCS worker, and is very appreciative of all the support she and her family have received.

SHEPPARTON

The Society's Goulburn Valley Branch, known locally as the Goulburn Valley Pregnancy Support Service, provides pregnancy and early parenting support for families in the Goulburn Valley region. The majority of clients who visit our service live in Shepparton and the Greater Shepparton area, i.e. Mooroopna, Kialla, Dookie. The Society's Goulburn Valley Branch has a part time staff of two, and many volunteers.

Greater Shepparton has a high birth rate compared to State average, and as such the provision of pregnancy support is vitally important. 422 client contacts have occurred in the past financial year seeking the many services provided. The age range of women is 15 to 45 years of age and where partners are involved they are of a similar age range. The past year has seen a growth in teenage pregnancies and the support service has a partnering role with The Bridge Young Mums' Service in supporting these young families. Of recent times, the settlement of migrant refugee communities in the Greater Shepparton area has also been a driver of demand for pregnancy services such as material aid provided by the agency.

Rebecca

Rebecca came to us at 28 weeks pregnant with her third child. She had fled to Shepparton after being excluded from

her parent's home in Melbourne due to her ex-partner's violent behaviour. Life had become extremely difficult for her financially and emotionally. Accommodation was scarce, she had had no medical care during this pregnancy, she had no family or social support system in Shepparton and she was estranged from her family and friends in Melbourne because of the domestic violence.

Rebecca had regular appointments with our counsellor and appointments were made with a local doctor and the G.V Base Hospital midwifery department. Other appointments were set in place for Centrelink, housing and legal aid. Staff and volunteers drove Rebecca to these appointments. Rebecca was feeling lonely and isolated so there were days when volunteers or staff would just call to have a chat and check in, or take Rebecca out for a coffee.

Our counsellor worked with Rebecca through many complex issues, in particular the isolation and hurt she was feeling from the estrangement with her family. She was missing their love and support, especially from her brother and she missed her two other children who were being cared for by her family. Rebecca slowly made contact with her family again first by phone and then physical contact. She started to feel excited about the impending birth.

G.V Pregnancy Support supplied baby goods and clothing. Life was becoming less of a struggle and more about a new beginning. Rebecca gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. Today Rebecca lives independently from her family, caring for her three children and has a close connection with her family.



***"Thank you very much for helping my family get through everything. As a young mum being judged a lot - it made me feel like there is hope out there. Thank you!"
(Mum, aged 21, St Albans)***

Volunteering has always been at the heart of the work of CCS. Many thousands of families have been helped through the work of our volunteers over the years.

Volunteers provide practical sorting and cleaning of material aid, they sew and knit goods for babies, they expand our workforce through their work in administration, the duty system, and in providing governance for the organisation. The Society now employs a Volunteer Co-ordinator through funding from the Federal Department of Health and Aging. The funding is designed to provide practical and emotional support for pregnant women and their families. One initiative of this program is to train volunteer mentors for mums and families during pregnancy and early parenting. One of our new volunteer mentors reflects on this work below:

Mentoring at Caroline Chisholm Society

My name is Jill and I am the mother of a young child, and I am lucky enough to be able to spend time with my child during the day while my partner works to provide the income to support us. I am even luckier to have extended family available to help care for my child during the week when I need a bit of help. Being able to appreciate the privilege in my situation, I can also appreciate how difficult it could be to be the mother of a young child – or children – and not have someone providing an income for my family, or not having a network of extended family and friends to call upon when I need some help caring for my child; or when I want some support and reassurance; or when I want to have a break to do something for myself; or when I just need to have a shower!

Having supportive people around me, and having worked in the field of child and family services in the past has made me quite confident in my parenting; I always have access to a lot of resources I can draw upon when there is anything I am unsure of or need help with. I have also learnt a lot through being a parent myself. So I believe that I can be a valuable resource to someone else who doesn't have all the support I do. And I certainly have the capacity to provide someone else with a

few hours of my time each week so that they have some assistance to be able to do what they need to do for themselves and their family.

Asha, the woman I mentor, has recently arrived in Australia. She has a young baby, and she is recently widowed. She has no family in Australia, but she does have a small network of friends and acquaintances she has made through a community group. She is also involved in our In Home Family Support program.

I spend a few hours with Asha, one morning a week. I am able to allow Asha some personal time by looking after her baby; playing with the baby, settling him to sleep, or watching him while he is sleeping. During this time, Asha often has a shower and catches up on housework. Sometimes she has a rest. When she has caught up on what she needs to do, Asha, her baby and I spend some time together. We have a chat. For Asha, this means I am able to provide a listening ear as she talks about anything that is on her mind. In this time, I am also able to role model parenting skills. Generally this happens in a fairly informal way – Asha might watch the way I swaddle her baby, or the position I hold the bottle in. Sometimes Asha has specific parenting issues she wants advice on or assistance with – things like ways of settling her baby to sleep, or talking about colic when her baby has been particularly unsettled.

I can see how much more confident Asha has grown in her parenting over the time I have been visiting her. She no longer requires much advice or role modelling. And when her baby is upset, Asha is now confident that she is the person who knows her baby the best, and is best able to respond to his needs. I think this is something that naturally occurs over the course of being a parent, and I certainly don't put these things down to my own influence. However, I do think that my availability for having a chat, and the chance I have given Asha to have some time to herself, or to get some things done has been helpful to her.



"Being a volunteer mentor has meant alot to me and has made a significant difference to Asha over the course of our mentoring relationship"
(Jill CCS Mentor)

During 2007/08 the Government released a Green Paper entitled "Which Way Home? A New Approach to Homelessness" The Sectors' response to the Government's Green Paper reflected that the causes of homelessness are numerous and that the complexity of the issues keeping people trapped in homelessness require intensive ongoing support and a multi faceted response from services, to learn new skills and ways of living safely with their children. Our submissions and reports will be used by the Government to create and inform the White Paper and the framework for a national response to Homelessness.

The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program at the Society supports a number of clients who have been chronically homeless, having spent most of their teens and adult life on the streets. They are often known to the Justice System, Child Protection and other statutory bodies, and present with high and complex needs which require an assertive response to the issues affecting them. Some of these issues include: poverty, debt, illiteracy, chronic health issues, trauma, family and relationship violence, legal issues, inflicting violence and abuse on others, social isolation and exclusion, stigma, and pregnancy. They often lack social skills, household skills, suitable role models for parenting and life skills. They may be experiencing discrimination for their race, gender, ethnicity, religion and sexual orientation. If they are accompanied by children then chronic child abuse and neglect is very often an issue.

Being given the key to a property is the beginning of the journey to recovery from homelessness. Being housed gives the client stability and the space in which change can occur. Intensive support, flexibility and a commitment to change are an essential part of the process. Casework based on the clients' stated goals, networking and referral to appropriate services is a standard approach. Intensive parenting skills and support are often required, with case plans developed to meet a child focused, family centered approach. To address these issues in a timely way requires assertive engagement and a holistic client centered approach based on setting short and long term goals to end homelessness.

Tatiana

Tatiana was referred to the SAAP program by Child Protection. Tatiana (26 yrs) and her four children, (all under 5 years), were being evicted from their private rental property due to rent arrears and property damage. The family had moved frequently and the children were isolated and developmentally delayed.

Tatiana had a history of childhood sexual abuse, and had left home at 14 years of age. She had lived in squats, on the street and had a long history of drug use and mental health issues. Tatiana had no formal education, was illiterate, and due to her lifestyle presented with a range of health issues. She had a general lack of household and living skills, as she had had no role models, family support or guidance during formative teenage years.

The family required intensive support and assistance. Tatiana was referred for specialist counselling, medical and dental services. She participated in the CCS parenting skills group, and was linked into a cooking and household skills course and literacy classes at the local Community Centre. We provided support with Child Protection and Children's Court attendances.

Her children have growth and developmental delays, and display age inappropriate activity. They have not attended Maternal and Child Health checkups, are not immunized, and display a total lack of social skills, and are unable to interact with others. The children have no toys or books, and lack the most basic of play skills. There were medical and dental issues, nutritional and hygiene needs, and behavioral issues.

Our staff worked with Tatiana to develop her parenting skills, including ways to play with her children. We provided toys and books. Our worker went on social outings to assist Mum in gaining skills to organize and carry out family outings, to learn social behavior and confidence. Tatiana needed to learn to identify safety issues for her children, to set boundaries and to learn to discipline her children appropriately.

After 15 months of receiving intensive support and assistance the family has

begun to live more safely. The children's speech and social interaction has improved. Tatiana's childhood experiences and her lack of parenting or household role models mean that many new skills will need to be learned, and they will continue to require intensive support for time to come. However, our support and a willingness to learn and do her best for her children, the future is looking brighter for Tatiana and her young family.



***"The workers always had options for you to try and they were always listening to you when you had problems and they care for you and your family."
(Dad, aged 26, Moonee Ponds)***

The Caroline Chisholm Society has long held a commitment to provide Social Work students with a learning opportunities through field placement programs.

This program is part of a student's core units in obtaining a degree in Social Work, and provides them with the opportunity to work with and learn from, qualified Social Workers and gain a practical understanding of the roles that Social Workers undertake in the community.

My Student Experience at Caroline Chisholm Society

My name is Dianne and I am a Distance Education Student from Monash University. This year I was required to undertake my first placement as part of my course. After looking through many different organizations I felt that Caroline Chisholm Society (CCS) might be of interest.

When I began looking into placement I did not think Family Support would be a field of practice that I would be interested in, after the initial interview with the Team Leader and my Field Teacher I knew I had made the right choice.

From day one while my work load was minimal and my literature reading was quite large I felt a passion for the journey on which I was about to embark. After a week of reading policies and protocols

I was able to start working with people on duty appointments and in week two was allocated my first client.

In my time at CCS I have learnt many things; I have learnt that the people who work within the organization go above and beyond what they need to do. I have seen that the desire to help those in need is very prominent in the organization and that every worker here does whatever they can in their power to give what they can to those who are unable.

In my time here I have not had one day in which I have not wanted to attend. Working here has taught me that I have a passion for the career path I have chosen.

"Working at CCS has opened my eyes to a whole new field of practice. Those that work here are very accommodating and are generous of their time when teaching a student like myself."



"The most important part was having someone to talk to. I don't think it can be recognized enough that being a stay at home mum with small children can be very isolated, no matter how social or educated or confident you are".
(Mum, aged 43, Ascot Vale)

The Caroline Chisholm Society enjoys the support of many volunteers, community organisations, local businesses, philanthropic trust funds and service clubs, who donate goods, services and financial support. Without this valuable support the Society simply could not provide its range of services to the many families who come to us asking for help.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT 2007-8

Altona VIEW Club	Jack Brockhoff Foundation	Rotary Ladies of Essendon
Ashburton Baptist Drop In Centre	Janneke Quilt Group	Scully's Bags and Accessories
Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne	John Sculli Fruit Centre	St Peter and Paul's Catholic Parish Drop In Centre
Citizens Advice Bureau	Keilor Evening VIEW Club	St Stephens Uniting Church
Clean Away Home and Office Cleaning	Keilor Retirement Village	St Vincent's De Paul - Ascot Vale
Croydon Legacy Widows Club	Knitters for Melbourne's Needy	- Heidelberg
CWA Victoria	Lord Mayors Fund	The Anglers Tavern
CWA – Mitchell group	Lions Club – Essendon	The Colonial Tramcar Restaurant
Doutta Galla Community Health Service	M&C Imports	The Grand Hotel
Essendon Garden Centre	Maternity on Gratton	The Northern Theresians
Essendon Nth Rotary Club	Melbourne Sport and Fitness Centre	The Patchy Girls
Federal Department of Health and Aging	Mind Alive	Tolhurst Druce and Emmerson
Federal Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs	Mobil Oil Australia – Altona Refinery	Totally Innocent
Fernwood Fitness Centre	Moonee Ponds Sewing	Victorian Department of Human Services
GJ's Materials	Moonee Valley Ladies Probus	Venus Day Spa
Glenroy VIEW Club	Moroney's Service Station	Women of the University Fund
Good Samaritan Inn	Olive's Place	Womens Health West
Hand Knitters Guild	Pennisi Real Estate	Yarn Barn
Helping Hands Mission	Ripponlea Primary School	
	Rotary Club of Brimbank Central	

"We thank you for your kindness and help to our family. You provided a pram and clothing and toys for our new premature baby. We were very grateful for that help. (Migrant family, no fixed address, via interpreter)"

Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2008 Caroline Chisholm Society ABN 42 005 066 919

Contents

Directors' Report	13
Auditor's Independence Declaration	15
Independent Audit Report	15
Directors' Declaration	16
Income Statement	16
Balance Sheet	16
Statement of Changes in Equity	17
Cash Flow Statement	17
Notes to the financial statements	18

Your directors present their report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2008.

Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during, or since the end of the year are:

- Franciscus Theodorus Maria Smit
- Maria Alicia McGarvie
- Teresa Fogarty
- Paul William Webster
- Jacinta Mary Ann Collins
- Wendy Elizabeth Hunt
- Carmela Puopolo
- Marco Salvatore Carlei
- James Brensley Downing (Resigned March 2008)
- John Ormond Kennedy (Leave of absence 2008)

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Company Secretary

The following person held the position of company secretary at the end of the financial year:

- Franciscus Theodorus Maria Smit.

Principal Activities

The principal activity of the company during the financial year was the provision of support for pregnant women and families with young children.

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the financial year.

Operating Results

The company's financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The net surplus of the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2008 amounted to \$242,664 (2007: Deficit of \$11,540). This includes the net capital gain of \$224,269 from the disposal of the Bacchus Marsh property.

Dividends Paid or Recommended

No dividends were paid or recommended for payment during the financial year.

Review of Operations

In the directors' opinion, it has been another very positive year for the Society, with our work in pregnancy support, family services, material aid and housing continuing to be in high demand. The Society has continued to grow, and is currently planning for a second site to better service the outer Western growth corridors.

Financial Position

The net assets of the company have increased by \$242,664 from 30 June 2007 to \$548,860 in 2008. This increase is due to positive operating results and the sale of the Bacchus Marsh property.

Therefore, the directors believe the company is in a stable financial position.

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

No significant changes in the company's state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

After Balance Date Events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

Future Developments, Prospects and Business Strategies

The Strategic Review and Planning process undertaken by the Board in 2007 / 2008 have resulted in the sale of the Bacchus Marsh property, and a plan to secure a second accommodation site in Melbourne's outer Western growth corridor, to provide for growth in staffing, and to meet the demand for services in the outer West. The CCS constitution has been reviewed and will be presented to the membership for approval at the 2007 / 2008 AGM in October.

Environmental Issues

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory.

Information on Directors

Maria Alicia McGarvie

Qualifications:

Experience:

Special Responsibilities:

President

BA (Hons), LLB

Lawyer, Associate of the Institute of Company Directors

Ex-officio member of all subcommittees

Directors' Report (Continued)

Paul William Webster

Qualifications:
Experience:
Special Responsibilities:

Vice President
MA, LLB
Lawyer
Property subcommittee

Carmela Puopolo

Qualifications:
Experience:
Special Responsibilities:

Treasurer
B. Bus Accounting
Over 20 years' experience in Finance & Accounting
Finance subcommittee

Franciscus Theodorus Maria Smit

Qualifications
Experience:
Special Responsibilities:

Secretary
None
30 years' experience as Managing Director of Small Business
Ex-officio member of all subcommittees

Teresa Fogarty

Qualifications
Experience:
Special Responsibilities:

Director
None
Area Representative
Fundraising, Property subcommittee, Marketing subcommittee

Jacinta Mary Ann Collins

Qualifications:
Experience:
Special Responsibilities:

Director
BA BSW
None
Property subcommittee, Marketing subcommittee

Wendy Elizabeth Hunt

Qualifications:
Experience:
Special Responsibilities:

Director
Dip Teaching
35 years' education field; over 20 years in Pregnancy Support
Goulburn Valley Branch

Marco Salvatore Carlei

Qualifications:
Experience:

Director
B.Bus. C.A, Registered Company Auditor, Registered Tax Agent
Over 20 years' experience in the accounting profession;
Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia;
Member of the Australian Society of Certified Practising Accountants
Marketing subcommittee; Property subcommittee

Special Responsibilities:

James Brensley Downing

Qualifications:
Experience:
Special Responsibilities:

Director
B.Bus, M.Bus (ACRM), FCPA
27 years in financial management & financial services
Marketing & IT subcommittees

John Ormond Kennedy

Qualifications:
Experience:
Special Responsibilities:

Director
BA (Syd), BEd (Melb), BTheol (UFT), DipTG (NSW), FACE
Principal, Loyola College since 1980
None

Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

Name	Number Eligible to Attend	Number Attended
Franciscus Theodorus Maria Smit	13	13
Maria Alicia McGarvie	13	11
Teresa Fogarty	13	11
Paul William Webster	13	9
Jacinta Mary Ann Collins	13	7
Wendy Elizabeth Hunt	13	9
Carmela Puopolo	13	10
Marco Salvatore Carlei	13	8
James Brensley Downing	8	3
John Ormond Kennedy	5	5

Indemnifying Officers or Auditor

During or since the end of the financial year the company has given an indemnity or entered into an agreement to indemnify, or paid or agreed to pay insurance premiums as follows:

The company has paid premiums to insure all of its directors and officers against liabilities for costs and expenses incurred by them in defending any legal proceedings arising out of their conduct while acting in the capacity of director or officer of the company, other than conduct involving a willful breach of duty in relation to the company.

Directors' Report

Options

No options over issued shares or interests in the company were granted during or since the end of the financial year and there were no options outstanding at the date of this report.

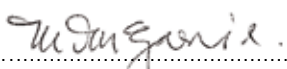
Proceedings on Behalf of the Company

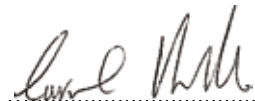
No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out on page 15.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Director 
Maria Alicia McGarvie, President
Dated this 16th Day of September 2008

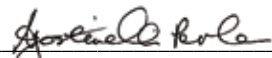
Director 
Carmela Puopolo, Treasurer

Auditor's Independence Declaration

To The Directors of Caroline Chisholm Society

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2008 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.


AGOSTINELLI PERLEN
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Dated at Carlton, Victoria. This 16th day of September 2008


JOHN AGOSTINELLI
PARTNER

Independent Audit Report To The Members

Scope

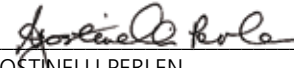
We have audited the financial report of Caroline Chisholm Society for the financial year ended 30 June 2008 as set out on pages 16 to 25. The company's directors are responsible for the financial report. We have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of the company.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the company's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows. The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Caroline Chisholm Society is in accordance with:

- (a) the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2008 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Accounting Standards in Australia and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
- (b) other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.


AGOSTINELLI PERLEN
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
Dated at Carlton, Victoria. This 16th day of September 2008


JOHN AGOSTINELLI
PARTNER

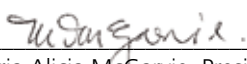
Directors' Declaration

The directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 16 to 25, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
 - (a) comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
 - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2008 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the company;
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

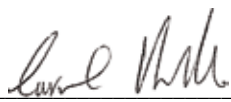
This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Director


Maria Alicia McGarvie, President

Dated this 16th day of September 2008

Director


Carmela Puopolo, Treasurer

Income Statement For The Year Ended 30 June 2008

	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
Revenue	2	936,967	937,517
Other Revenue		224,269	--
Employee benefits expenses		(739,351)	(777,323)
Motor vehicle expenses		(18,186)	(14,283)
Program expenses		(31,300)	(37,718)
Occupancy expenses		(21,176)	(15,527)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(22,472)	(20,658)
Other administration expenses		(86,087)	(83,535)
Finance costs		--	(13)
Surplus (deficit) attributable to members of the company		242,664	(11,540)

Balance Sheet As At 30 June 2008

	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	530,435	211,811
Trade and other receivables	5	6,075	7,172
Other current assets	6	11,098	2,044
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		547,608	221,027
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	7	133,087	236,485
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		133,087	236,485
TOTAL ASSETS		680,695	457,512
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	8	76,800	103,908
Short-term provisions	9	55,035	47,408
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		131,835	151,316
TOTAL LIABILITIES		131,835	151,316
NET ASSETS		548,860	306,196
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		548,860	306,196
TOTAL EQUITY		548,860	306,196

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement Of Changes In Equity For The Year Ended 30 June 2008

	2008	2007
	\$	\$
Retained Earnings		
Balance at 1 July 2007	306,196	317,736
Surplus (deficit) for the year	242,664	(11,540)
Balance at 30 June 2008	548,860	306,196
Total Equity		
Balance at 1 July 2007	306,196	317,736
Surplus (deficit) for the year	242,664	(11,540)
Balance at 30 June 2008	548,860	306,196

Cash Flow Statement For The Year Ended 30 June 2008

	Note	2008	2007
		\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from grants		799,818	867,241
Receipts from fundraising		10,912	17,497
Receipts from donations		72,632	30,942
Receipts from other		37,705	43,712
Interest received		10,078	7,831
Payments to suppliers and employees		(917,716)	(943,962)
Finance costs paid		--	(13)
Sale of asset (net)		--	--
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	14(b)	13,429	23,248
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(39,074)	(3,148)
Proceeds from sale of property		344,269	--
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		305,195	(3,148)
NET INCREASE / (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		318,624	20,100
Cash at beginning of financial year		211,811	191,711
Cash at end of financial year	14(a)	530,435	211,811

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Note 1: Statement of significant accounting policies

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, including Australian Accounting Interpretations, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial report covers Caroline Chisholm Society as an individual entity. Caroline Chisholm Society is a public company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial report of Caroline Chisholm Society complies with all Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) in their entirety.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs modified by the financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

The financial report is presented in Australian dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar.

Accounting Policies

Income Tax

The company has been endorsed as an income tax exempt charitable entity.

Property, Plant & Equipment

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

The depreciable amount of all items of property, plant and equipment, including capitalised lease assets, but excluding freehold land and buildings and leasehold improvements, are depreciated on a diminishing value basis over their useful lives to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Freehold land is not depreciated. Buildings are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their useful lives. Leasehold improvements are depreciated on a diminishing value basis over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

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

The cost of fixed assets constructed within the company includes the cost of materials, direct labour, borrowing costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

<i>Class of Fixed Asset</i>	<i>Depreciation Rate</i>
Buildings	2.5%
Plant & Equipment	20.0% - 40.0%

Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying values 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 assets fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

Impairment testing is performed annually for goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Payables

Trade payables and other accounts payable are recognised when the company becomes obliged to make future payments resulting from the purchase of goods and services.

Leases & Hire Purchases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership, are transferred to the company, are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised by recording an asset and a liability at the lower of the amounts equal to the fair value of the leased property or the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period. Leased assets are depreciated on a diminishing value basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that the company will obtain ownership of the asset, or over the term of the lease. Hire purchases are accounted for using the same method.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease incentives under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a diminishing value basis over the life of the lease term.

Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date.

Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. 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.

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.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include 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 short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

Revenue

Revenue from funding bodies is recognised when the right to receive that revenue has been established.

Rental revenue is recognised on an accruals basis or straight-line basis in accordance with leases agreement.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All other revenue is recognised at the earlier of receipt or invoice date.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of Goods and Services Tax (GST) and trade discounts.

Finance Costs

Finance costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to prepare for their intended use or sale, are added to the cost of those assets, until such time as the assets are substantially ready for their intended use or sale.

All other finance costs are recognised in income in the period in which they are incurred.

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. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the Balance Sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in 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.

Comparative Figures

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

Financial Instruments

Recognition

Financial instruments are initially measured at cost on trade date, which includes transaction costs, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below.

Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit and Loss

A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or if so designated by management within the requirements of AASB 139: Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. Derivatives are also categorised as held for trading unless they are designed as hedges. Realised and unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of these assets are included in the income statement in the period in which they arise.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Held-to-Maturity Investments

These investments have fixed maturities, and it is the company's intention to hold these investments to maturity. Any held-to-maturity investments held by the company are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Available-for-Sale Financial Assets

Available-for-sale financial assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories. Available-for-sale financial assets are reflected at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken directly to equity.

Financial Liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Derivative Instruments

Derivative instruments are measured at fair value. Gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken to the income statement unless they are designated as hedges.

Fair value

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.

Impairment

At each reporting date, the company assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to determine whether impairment has arisen. Impairment losses are recognised in the income statement.

Critical accounting estimates and judgments

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

Key estimates - Impairment

The company assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the company that may lead to impairment of assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Value-in-use calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates.

No impairment has been recognised in respect of the company's assets and liabilities for the year ended 30 June 2008. Should the projected figures be outside the budgeted figures incorporated in value-in-use calculations, an impairment loss would be recognised up to the maximum carrying value of the company's assets and liabilities at 30 June 2008.

Key judgments – Provision for impairment of receivables

The directors assessed the recoverability of all trade and other receivables at year-end as disclosed in the financial statements. The directors believe that the full amount of the receivables is recoverable, and no provision for impairment of those receivables has been made as at 30 June 2008

Note 2: Revenue

	2008	2007
	\$	\$
From operating activities:		
Grants & sponsorships received	805,640	837,535
Fundraising	10,912	17,497
Donations	72,632	30,942
Memberships	1,128	2,070
Rental income	11,989	12,586
Workcover insurance recoveries	23,968	28,970
Interest income	10,078	7,831
Other income	620	86
TOTAL REVENUE	936,967	937,517

Note 3: Surplus (Deficit)

Surplus (deficit) has been arrived at after charging the following expenses:

Depreciation of non-current assets:		
Property, plant and equipment	22,472	20,658
Finance costs:		
Paid to other external persons	--	13
Rental expense on operating leases:		
Minimum lease payments	8,874	7,853

Note 4: Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash at bank	56,159	90,790
Cash on hand	137	125
Short-term bank deposits	474,139	120,896
	530,435	211,811

Note 5: Trade and Other Receivables

Current

Trade debtors	6,075	7,172
Less: Provision for impairment of receivables	--	--
	6,075	7,172

Note 6: Other Assets

Current

Prepayments	11,098	2,044
	11,098	2,044

Note 7: Property, Plant and Equipment

	2008 \$	2007 \$
Freehold land & buildings at cost	68,797	184,897
	<u>68,797</u>	<u>184,897</u>
Plant & equipment at cost	229,072	193,997
Less: Accumulated depreciation	(164,782)	(142,409)
	<u>64,290</u>	<u>51,588</u>
Total property, plant and equipment	<u>133,087</u>	<u>236,485</u>

Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

Freehold land & buildings

Balance at 1 July 2008	184,897	184,897
Additions	4,000	--
Disposal	(120,000)	--
Depreciation expense	100	--
Carrying amount at 30 June 2008	<u>68,797</u>	<u>184,897</u>

Plant and equipment

Balance at 1 July 2007	51,588	69,098
Additions	35,074	3,148
Depreciation expense	22,372	(20,658)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2008	<u>64,290</u>	<u>51,588</u>

Total property, plant and equipment

Balance at 1 July 2007	236,485	253,995
Additions	39,074	3,148
Disposal	(120,000)	--
Depreciation expense	(22,472)	(20,658)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2008	<u>133,087</u>	<u>236,485</u>

Note 8: Trade and Other Payables

Current (all unsecured)

Trade payables	--	2,881
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	12,049	42,884
Employee benefits	54,836	41,311
Income in advance	9,915	16,832
	<u>76,800</u>	<u>103,908</u>

Note 9: Provisions

Short-term

Long service leave	55,035	47,408
	<u>55,035</u>	<u>47,408</u>

Note 10: Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

There were no contingent liabilities, nor any contingent assets as at the balance sheet date, other than the following:

Note 11: Events After the Balance Sheet Date

There have not been any material events between the balance sheet date and the date of the signing of the directors' report.

Note 12: Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year. No directors received any remuneration or compensation for their services

Note 13: Segment Reporting

The company operates predominantly in one business and geographical segment being provision of support for pregnant women and families with young children in Victoria, Australia.

Note 14: Cash Flow Information

(a) Reconciliation of cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the cash flow statement is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:

	2008	2007
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	56,159	90,790
Cash on hand	137	125
Short-term bank deposits	474,139	120,896
	<u>530,435</u>	<u>211,811</u>

(b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus (deficit) from ordinary activities

Surplus (deficit) from ordinary activities	242,664	(11,540)
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Non-cash flows in surplus (deficit) from ordinary activities:

- Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	22,472	20,658
- Add back profit from sale of property	(224,269)	--

Changes in assets and liabilities:

- (Increase) decrease in trade and other receivables	1,095	(7,172)
- (Increase) decrease in other current assets	(9,054)	2,522
- Increase (decrease) in trade and other payables	(27,108)	693
- Increase (decrease) in provisions	7,629	18,087

Cash flow from / (to) operations	<u>13,429</u>	<u>23,248</u>
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(c) Credit standby arrangement and loan facilities

The company had no credit standby arrangements or loan facilities as at 30 June 2008.

(d) Non-Cash financing and investing activities

There were no non-cash financing and investing activities during the year.

Note 15: Capital And Leasing Commitments

Operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:	2008	2007
	\$	\$
Payable – minimum lease payments		
Not later than 12 months	8,874	8,588
	<u>8,874</u>	<u>8,588</u>

The operating leases are for rental of premises with a 12 month term, with rent payable monthly in advance.

Note 16: Financial Instruments

a) Financial risk management

The company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks and accounts receivable and payable.

The main purpose of non-derivative financial instruments is to raise finance for company operations.

The company does not have any derivative instruments at 30 June 2008.

(i) Treasury risk management

Key management personnel of the company meet on a regular basis to analyse currency and interest rate exposure and to evaluate treasury management strategies in the context of the most recent economic conditions and forecasts.

(ii) Financial risks

The main risks the company is exposed to through its financial instruments are interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is managed with a mixture of different floating rate debts. At 30 June 2008, the company's total debt liabilities amounted to \$Nil. For further details on interest rate risk refer to Note 16(b).

Liquidity risk

The company manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows.

Credit risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date to recognised financial assets, is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements.

The company does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables under financial instruments entered into by the company.

Price risk

The company is not exposed to any material commodity price risk.

(b) Interest rate risk

The company's exposure to interest rate risk, which is the risk that a financial instrument's value will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates and the effective weighted average interest rates on those financial assets and financial liabilities, has been disclosed where material in the notes to the financial statements.

(c) Net fair values

The net fair values of listed investments have been valued at the quoted market bid price at balance date adjusted for transaction costs expected to be incurred. For other assets and other liabilities, the net fair value approximates their carrying value. No financial assets and financial liabilities are readily traded on organised markets in standardised form other than listed investments. Financial assets where the carrying amount exceeds net fair values have not been written down as the company intends to hold these assets to maturity.

The aggregate net fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities approximate their carrying amounts as disclosed in the Balance Sheet and in the notes to the financial statements.

Note 17: Company Details

The registered office of the company is:

Caroline Chisholm Society
41 Park Street
MOONEE PONDS VIC 3039
AUSTRALIA

The principal places of business are:

Caroline Chisholm Society
41 Park Street
MOONEE PONDS VIC 3039

Caroline Chisholm Society
30 Gell Street
BACCHUS MARSH VIC 3340

Caroline Chisholm Society
Goulburn Valley Pregnancy Support
71A Wyndham Street
SHEPPARTON VIC 3630

Caroline Chisholm Society
15 Crown Street
LAVERTON VIC 3028

How Can You Help The Caroline Chisholm Society?

- All donations \$2.00 & over are tax deductible.
- We welcome donations of babies' and toddlers' clothing, nursery equipment, toys and maternity wear.
- We rely on the work of volunteers to support the programs provided by the Society. Your time would be greatly appreciated.
- You may be interested in contributing to the Caroline Chisholm Society through full membership and participation in our fundraising and promotional events.
- You may be in a position to make provision for the Society's work in your Will. The following clause will ensure your support of the Society's work with young families:

"I bequeath the sum of \$....., free of all duties, to the Caroline Chisholm Society, 41 Park St, Moonee Ponds, to be used in accordance with the objectives of the Society at the discretion of the Committee of Management".

For further information regarding this report and/or donations or gifts please contact our head office on (03) 9370 5122
Caroline Chisholm Society thanks Polygranet for their generosity in designing this annual report. Polygranet (03) 9499 4776.

Please Note

Photos and images of children depicted in this report are not related to services and programs of the Society and are used with permission. Stories used with permission and identifying details have been changed to protect privacy.

For further information regarding the Caroline Chisholm Society please visit our website.

www.carolinechisholmsociety.com.au



“ May the spirit of love of humanity which motivated Caroline Chisholm be seen in what we do and in what we aim to do.”



Pregnancy & Family Support Service

Telephone Counselling Service Phone (03) 9370 3933 Freecall 1800 134 863

Head office

41 Park Street (PO Box 846)
Moonee Ponds 3039
Administration (03) 9370 5122
Counselling (03) 9370 3933
Facsimile (03) 9326 1045

Outreach offices

Bacchus Marsh
Caroline Chisholm Centre
30 Gell Street (PO Box 450)
Bacchus Marsh 3340
Phone (03) 5367 6262

Goulburn Valley
71A Wyndham Street
(PO Box 857)
Shepparton 3630
Phone (03) 5821082

Laverton
Laverton Children's Centre
15 Crown St
Laverton 3028
Phone (03) 9369 8360