

PERMANENT CARE AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES



**Permanent
Care and
Adoptive
Families**



Annual Report
2017

THANKS AND GRATITUDE

To the many individuals and organisations who have contributed and supported Permanent Care and Adoptive Families this year, thank you for giving, sharing and caring:

Alan James – Mindfulness
in Motion
Anglicare Victoria
Bendigo Bank
Berry Street Victoria
Berry Street Shepparton
Bethany Family Service
(Geelong)
Brophy Youth and Family
Services (Warrnambool)
Cas O'Neill
CentaCare
Centre for Excellence in Child
and Family Welfare Inc.
Child & Family Services
(Ballarat)
Chris Cook
Connections Uniting
CREATE Foundation
Department of Education and
Training
Diana Casey
Foster Care Association
Victoria
Grandparents Australia
Guy Rhynsburger –
Mindfulness in Motion

Hana Crisp
International Social Service
Australia
Jack Brockhoff Foundation
Jai Wambeek
Jasper Coghlan
Kaisey Hayes
Kildonnan Family Services
Kirsty Allan
Kinship Carers Victoria
Leadership Victoria – Great
Connections
Lynne Clarkson
MacKillop Family Services
Mary Natoli
Meredith Carter and
Associates
Mirabel Foundation
Matthew Reader
Natalie Elliot
OzChild
Prue Walker
Regina Hill
Ra Chapman
Ray Carroll
Sam Everton

Sidney Myer Fund
St Luke's Anglicare (Bendigo)
South West Barwon Foster
Care Network
Stefania Cagnin
Tara Gooding
Vanish
Victoria Council of Social
Services
Victorian Aboriginal Child
Care Agency Co-operative
Limited
William Jackson
William Buckland Foundation
Wiremu Hewitt
The Department of Health
and Human Services, in
particular: Beth Allen, Helen
Brain, Emma Gilbert, Amy
Herbert, Amanda Mason, and
Vanessa Thompson
Family Information Networks
& Discovery (FIND)
Intercountry Adoption
Victoria

PERMANENT CARE AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES STAFF

Brenda Carmen
Chief Executive Officer

Deborah Hunt
Member Support and
Development Officer

Pennelopy Tan
Team Leader Flexible Funding

Alannah Andrews
Advocacy and Support Advisor

Liz Powell
Advocacy and Support Advisor

Anne Flynn
Volunteer Support Officer

Danielle Lucas
Advocacy and Support Advisor

Vicki Coverdale
Advocacy and Support Advisor

Sheradon Carroll
Philanthropy Manager

Anne Flynn
Volunteer Support Officer

Lyn Haliday
Administrative Assistance (casual)



ABOUT OUR PATRON

Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM became our Patron in April 2013 and was the foundation Chair of Child Protection and the inaugural Director of the Australian Centre for Child Protection at the University of South Australia from 2005 to 2010. Prior to this she taught in the School of Social Work at the University of Melbourne and was CEO of The Ian Potter Foundation. Professor Scott's practice background is in child welfare and mental health. Professor Scott has conducted a number of major reviews and inquiries, supporting better outcomes for children in Out of Home Care.

EMERITUS PROFESSOR DOROTHY SCOTT AM

“What a wonderful year it has been for PCA Families. Achieving increased funding from the Victorian Government and philanthropic trusts has enabled it to do so much – such as providing the helpline, flexifunds, and peer support to so many families. It is extraordinary to witness how PCA Families has gone from strength to strength in recent years, always maintaining its strong advocacy for children and their carers, and never forgetting those children who are still denied the stability and security of family life.”

Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM
Patron, Permanent Care and Adoptive Families



CHRIS LOCKWOOD

The Permanent Care and Adoptive Families (PCA Families) Board have successfully worked with the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and staff to oversee and guide the organisation through a productive and successful 2016/17.

The Board and management have been working for some years to secure ongoing funding for our organisation so that we can continue to provide high quality support services to our members and families post placement.

I am pleased to say that we have seen the establishment of a strengthened funding base for PCA Families that has enabled the expansion of our service offering with increased staffing to support delivery of services, on the phone, online and face to face across the state.

Particular thanks for the leadership in addressing real issues in our sector through the essential support for our work shown by the Minister for Families and Children, Jenny Mikakos, DHHS, William Buckland Foundation, Sydney Myer Fund and the Helen MacPherson Smith Trust.

This year has also seen the Board work through the development of a new strategic plan to guide the organisation for the coming three years, developed with the assistance of Regina Hill from Effective Consulting. The plan recognises our existing strengths in service delivery and advocacy, and looks to position us on a sustainable footing that continues a strategy of ensuring our services are differentiated in the market and focussed on serving the needs of our members.

We have continued our productive partnership with Leadership Victoria through their Great Connections program. Through the program we have been fortunate enough to welcome two new Board members this year who bring with them strong governance, financial, business strategy and marketing skills to the PCA Families Board.

The Board is ably supported in its work by three sub-committees that form a key part of the governance and risk management frameworks underpinning our work.

The Executive committee has provided strategic oversight and guidance for the CEO between Board meetings. The Finance, Audit and Risk (FAR) Committee delivered assurance and expert assistance to the CEO and to the Board with financial reporting, risk, control and audit functions. Our newly established Fundraising Committee is working to broaden the funding base of the organisation and deliver a sustainable footing for our ongoing work.

2016/17 has been a strong year that has seen PCA Families grow and succeed. I am honoured by the conscientious Board members and staff of PCA Families who have worked assiduously to deliver genuine outcomes for families, carers and children – our members, our community.

Chris Lockwood
President



BRENDA CARMEN

PCA Families had huge success this year, both with funding of services, and with our work with families and their children.

In September 2016, Minister Jenny Mikakos, Minister for Families and Children, announced \$7.18 million for flexible funding support for new and existing permanent carers, including funding for a new Permanent Carer Helpline which started in April, 2017 with additional professional staff employed.

Funding of \$600K over two years has been allocated to PCA Families to deliver the Helpline and to oversee delivery on additional \$4.48 million in flexible funding for permanent carers.

At the centre of this funding is a partnership between PCA Families and OzChild, working with the Permanent Care Alliance – a sector-wide collaboration between PCA Families, OzChild, Foster Care Association Victoria (FCAV), Kinship Care Victoria (KCV), Grandparents Victoria, Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA), Mirabel Foundation, and CREATE Foundation. We thank them all for their dedication in ensuring the success of this program.

New funding has also been received from the Helen MacPherson Smith Trust, Mantana Foundation, and R.E.Ross Trust to run Life Story Work training for carers, and youth orientated programs in country and regional Victoria. These grants, together with the three year grant from the William Buckland Foundation, have enabled us to expand our service reach to the wider state of Victoria.

It is thanks to these funders that we have been:

- Increasing access to education, resources and support to parents and carers with permanent care and adopted children in Victoria.
- Engaging children and young people through permanent care, adoption, and kinship care in identity development, life story work, and connection to family and community.
- Building greater collaborative partnership opportunities with Adoption and Permanent Care Agencies, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, and other services across Victoria.
- Implementing a sustainable model of support for families created through permanent care and adoption in regional areas.

On a broader front, we have submitted responses to the Review on the Permanent Care Amendments introduced in early 2016, and the Review into the Adoption Act by the Law Reform Commission. Consultations and carer/parent forums on legal issues undertaken by PCA Families in the past, and our advocacy work, have informed our responses.

I would like to finally thank all the Board, staff, and volunteers who contribute to the work of PCA Families, and the dedicated families producing positive outcomes for their children and young people.

Brenda Carmen
Chief Executive Officer

INFORMATION, ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT SERVICES

PERMANENT CARER HELPLINE

The dedicated Permanent Carer Helpline commenced April 1st 2017 and has now been operating for three months. Data collection during this period indicates a continued increase in callers accessing the service and being linked to advocacy and support, together with flexible funding for services.

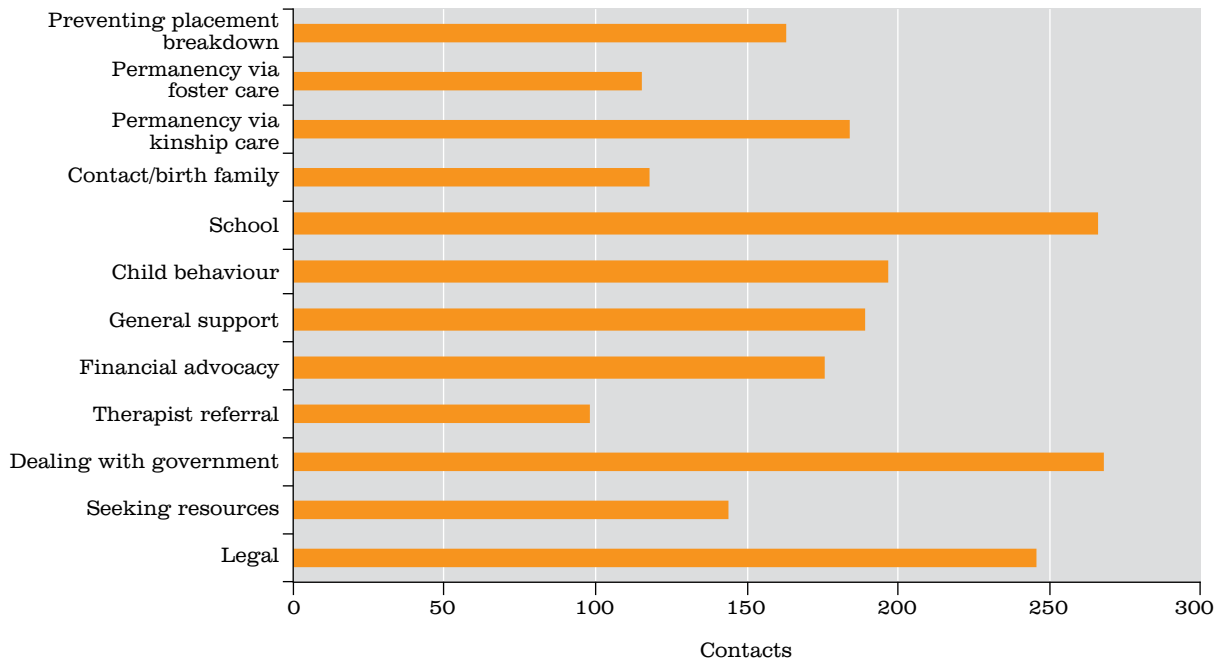
PCA Families had over 1,100 contacts during 2016/2017; there was a sharp increase in the last quarter coinciding with the commencement of the dedicated Permanent Carer Helpline service. These contacts included telephone and email together with face to face meetings.

We have received 2,164 discrete queries over the 2016/17 financial year. What was visible was a great need for assistance and support in dealing with government departments, legal issues, education and supporting child health.

We are pleased that calls to the service have been to receive support and prevent placement breakdown.

With the funding PCA Families have received, we were able to provide supports for these families and their children much earlier; strengthening their relationships and ensuring success for children and young people raised in permanent care.

Discrete queries – call categories for 2016/17 financial year



FLEXIBLE FUNDING PROGRAM

In March 2017, additional funding was received by PCA Families to support carers and children on Permanent Care Orders (PCOs). The Flexible Funding for existing permanent care placements program provides funds to support carers and children on PCOs as well as children subject to a Family Court order, or a Special Needs Adoption.

The service is led by PCA Families and OzChild with oversight from the Permanent Care Alliance made up of OzChild, PCA Families, Foster Care Association Victoria (FCAV), Kinship Care Victoria (KCV), Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA), Mirabel Foundation and CREATE Foundation.

The service is also supported by 'Consult8', a consumer group made up of permanent carers from around Victoria. Together, this group and the Permanent Care Alliance have input into the Flexible Funding service.

VACCA have also been a strong partner helping to develop targeted communications for Indigenous communities; original artwork by Amunda Gorey from the Northern Territory and the wonderful skills of VACCA staff. These were distributed to community agencies and all Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations in Victoria.

Snapshot of families' feedback as a result of Flexible Funding

Ways in which the Flexible Funding has benefited their child

Value	Responses
Helped my child build confidence and self-esteem	56
Helped make things easier and more doable at home	52
Help my child engage more effectively at school and learn	49
Helped my child build personal and interpersonal skills	41
Allowed my child to connect with peers and make new or strengthen existing friendships	40
Helped improve my child's ability to manage what comes his/her way and be resilient	36
Allowed my child to try new things and pursue their goals	34
Helped my child access support services so he/she can be happy and healthy	30
Helped my child to prepare for life after school	23
Helped my child relate to other family members	16
Improved my child's living environment and wellbeing	13
Helped my child manage and maintain contact with biological family	9

Ways the funding in this case supported your ability as a parent to care for your child

Value	Responses
Reduced financial stress	67
Reduced family stress	61
Helped make things easier and more doable at home	48
Allowed me to provide my child/children with opportunities to have fun, develop and learn	43
Allowed me to better support my child/children to access the services they need so they can be happy and healthy	40
Helped me to better deal with and manage some of my child/children's behaviour	31
Helped improve interpersonal dynamics within our family	24
Helped me to manage what comes my way and stay resilient	22
Helped improve my understanding of the impact of trauma on children	21
Helped me to build my relationship with my permanent care or adoptive child/children	25
Helped me to manage and maintain contact with my child/children's biological family	7

We received some great feedback from a District Aboriginal Case Worker:

“Hello, I just wanted to say thank you so much, my carer was over the moon with the generosity. When she called me to say everything had been approved, the tone in her voice was pure relief. I know she would never have asked for the funds if it had been up to her, she is so humble. Once again Thank you, the knowledge of this placement continually pleases me.”

... and from a PCA Families member:

“Thank you for enriching Michael's life experience, as he transitions into the next stage of maturity.”

(Michael was commencing TAFE)

PEER SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY BUILDING

The first year of funding provided by the William Buckland Foundation has enabled PCA Families to develop a presence in Morwell, Shepparton, and Horsham. It has also assisted in continuing our community development in Ballarat, Bendigo, Warrnambool, Colac, Echuca and surrounding areas.

Peer Support has enabled many parents and carers to develop networks of support through our groups and visits, seeing many through tough times. The funding provided by the William Buckland Foundation has enabled us to undertake this much needed essential work in country and regional Victoria. Having a presence in these communities has enabled us to support the families and keep them together, achieving great results.

This year, Journal Club (Collingwood) introduced a guest speaker program. This program provides parents and carers with opportunities to advocate for the needs of their children, while learning more about the speakers' area of expertise. George Habib, Senior Clinical Psychologist and Deputy Director of Psychology Monash Health, and Dr Jeff Young, Director of Bouverie Clinic provided valuable sessions.

Many thanks to our volunteer facilitators for their wonderful work with Journal Club, Mary Natoli, Cas O'Neill and Chris Cooke. Through your lived experience and profound understanding of issues affecting our members, you have brought comfort to those in distress and helped our parents and carers celebrate their children's achievements.

We have continued to sponsor playgroups, and provide advice and resourcing to those wishing to start one.

2016/17 PEER SUPPORT – CHILD BASED SESSIONS

Location	Venue
Northcote – All Ways	Jika Jika Community Room, Oldis Gardens
All suburbs	Various venues
Bacchus Marsh	Holts Lane, Bacchus Marsh
Morwell	Providing resources to community for playgroup

2016/17 PEER SUPPORT SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Location	Venue
Collingwood	Collingwood library
Bendigo	Beechworth Bakery
Ballarat	Ballarat Library
Mornington	Brass Razu
Horsham	Wimmera Regional Library Corporation
Thornbury	Community Room, Thornbury Neighbourhood House
Shepparton	Shepparton Library
Morwell	La Trobe Community Health Centre

Issues raised during country and regional community outreach and peer support

- Assessment process for permanent care
- Homophobia in assessments
- Reportable issues around care
- Pre-order Care Planning
- Sibling placements
- Kinship care support
- Family Law Court orders and financial support
- Disparity in practices between DHHS offices

- Investigations and appeals of DHHS decisions
- DHHS funding pool and PCA Families Flexible Funding
- Lack of support to carers and parents pre PCO
- Access to financial support
- Lack of choice on essential therapeutic services
- Long term funding of state carer payment at higher rate
- Access to respite via NDIS
- Problems in dealing with government departments and NDIS
- School exclusion

A MESSAGE FROM JOURNAL CLUB

PCA Families' monthly Journal Club continues to attract parents and carers of children who have joined their families through local and intercountry adoption, permanent care, foster care and kinship care, as well as interested applicants awaiting placement. Both mothers and fathers participate.

Some have children who have just recently been placed with their new families, while others with teenage or adult children, attend and share their many years of lived parenting experience.

Journal Club continues to offer a safe space where the challenges of raising non-biological children can be shared honestly without judgement, and where practical ideas are often exchanged regarding how to care for children whose behaviour can be very disturbed as a result of early trauma.

Our conversations are usually based around a short article relevant to our parenting which is circulated by email before each month's meeting.

While Journal Club is a much valued opportunity for parents to experience mutual support and a real chance to "offload" and celebrate with others who understand the stress and joy of our caring roles, our monthly gatherings are also an important opportunity to have a good laugh together.

In fact it is the profound appreciation of each family's unique journey, together with a shared sense of good humour that is the essence of our Journal Club gatherings each month.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS

Mindfulness in Motion kids program

The Mindfulness in Motion kids program is designed specifically to assist young peoples' personal growth. Classes blend skill development, personal observation and experiential learning in an environment that is fun, supportive and engaging for young people.

Guy Rhynsburger is the senior instructor with over 20 year's martial arts experience. Guy has been working with young people from a variety of backgrounds teaching life skills for well over 15 years. Alan James is a Kung Fu black belt and an experienced Youth Worker with more than 10 years' experience.

The program has a motto of "Be strong, be calm, be kind, try hard!" and focuses on children and young people acquiring:

- Resilience
- Focus
- Self-reflection teamwork
- Emotional regulation
- Assertiveness
- Body awareness

This has been one of the most successful programs for young people and their families!

Young people have reported:

"It made me focus at school by thinking about the motto ... I am stronger."

"The rock was really fun because it made me laugh and that relaxed me."

Acting 101

Acting 101 commenced as an urban based volunteer program for adopted children and teens, including young people in permanent care. Through the kind generosity of Ra Chapman, an adult intercountry adoptee and actor (Neighbours and Wentworth), this program provides a safe space for participants to explore empathy and emotions through drama lessons. Due to the high success of our urban program, PCA Families secured funding via the R.E.Ross Trust and the Montana Foundation to deliver this program in regional Victoria in 2017.

Tree of Life

Our adaptation of the Tree of Life program aims to build connections and confidence in children and teenagers who have formed families through permanent care and adoption. Facilitators and volunteer mentors of this program include adult adoptees and intercountry adoptees. Due to the success of this program and the commitment and generosity of our volunteers, PCA Families has secured additional funding from the R.E.Ross Trust and the Montana Foundation to deliver the Tree of Life program in regional Victoria in 2017.



Drama class: Act 101 in Bendigo

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Professional Register – Little Light Project

The Little Light Project is a volunteer initiative aimed at building our data base of support services for families formed through permanent care and adoption, as well as adult adoptees and young people raised in permanent care. Sources include feedback from members, volunteers and employees, as well as internet research followed by direct contact with agencies and service providers.

Our current database is increasing with 56 professionals listed. Play therapists, Art therapists and Equine therapists have been added to our database in recognition of the contribution creative therapies offer when dealing with children who have experienced trauma and attachment disruption.

Newsletters

This year we changed the name of our newsletter to “Thrive”. These quarterly newsletters have provided some great reading and up to date news about opportunities and up and coming events.

Facebook

Our Facebook page came into action in the New Year and is being utilised by members interested in digital media. Event updates are provided on a regular basis.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

PCA Families was founded by volunteers and has a strong history of developing, delivering and supporting volunteer based programs. This year, our Board, volunteers, staff and members joined to celebrate the journey of PCA Families (previously Post Placement Support Service) from its inception in 2002 to present day. The remarkable stories of empowerment, mutual support and compassion from our founding members were inspirational.

Our volunteers play key roles in a number of important programs, including peer support groups, phone support, training and youth programs. They are dedicated to the safety and wellbeing of children, young people and their families.

Our Volunteer Program invites initiatives from members and this year PCA Families were invited to explore the potential to hold a Family Day in Ballarat for families formed through adoption and permanent care. This project is currently working toward building a local working group to facilitate a Family Day in this region within two years. Many thanks to Kaisey Hayes for her significant contribution towards this project.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all our 26 volunteers for the magnificent contribution they have made to our organisation. In particular; Cas O’Neil, Chris Cook, and Mary Natoli for their excellent facilitation of Journal Club. Also, Diana Casey for volunteering her professional services two days a week and Stefania Cagnin for her wonderful administrative assistance.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION

This year PCA Families has delivered a range of sessions to permanent care and adoptive parents, kinship carers, foster carers and professionals.

Life Story Work provides parents and carers with a unique approach to utilising therapeutic tools to guide exploration of their children’s lives with them.

Training for carers and parents has been provided in Melbourne, Hampton Park, and Shepparton. Life Story Work for Professionals has also been provided in Melbourne and Shepparton. A grant from Helen MacPherson Smith Trust made the training possible in Shepparton, and plans are underway to deliver Life Story Work in Bendigo, Morwell and Mildura.

Feedback from carers was highly positive:

“Thought provoking and useful practical ideas.”

“Some really good suggestions on ways to engage children in the creation of their life story.”

“Very well delivered, I now have new ways of dealing with how to go through my children's life story.”

“Awesome facilitator – come to Echuca.”

“The how to put learning into practice.”

“Actual activities I can involve the children in.”

“An understanding that kids will have a different life story.”

“Understanding that it's not just about the creation of a 'book.’”

And from professionals:

“Loved the information, practical aspects and delivery.”

“Today's sessions covered more than I expected and exceeded my expectation.”



BOARD MEMBERS

Our Board is responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and ensuring it continues to deliver services of a high standard and in a sustainable manner.

Chris Lockwood, President

Chris Lockwood has over 20 years experience working across the Mental Health, Construction and Finance sectors. With specific knowledge of mental health, safety and suicide prevention in the construction industry, and expertise in managing strategic growth, sustainable funding and partnership development. Chris is the father of two children adopted from China and Korea.

Amanda Stone, Vice President

Amanda Stone has over 30 years experience in the education and counselling of secondary aged students and their families. Much of her counselling work has been with children in out of home care. She is currently working as an education and training consultant and is also a mayor in local government. Amanda is chair of Collingwood Headspace Consortium.

Charlie Salloum, Treasurer

Charlie Salloum is an adoptive father of two Korean born children whose journey in the adoption world started in 2001. Charlie also has sat on the Committee of Korean Adoptive Families (KAF) for six years where he assumed the roles of President and Treasurer. He has a varied professional background including a short stint as a primary school teacher, a corporate trainer, a HR professional and currently owns and operates a catering company.

Dan Barron, Director

Dan Barron is a father of three children. For several years he was a full time 'stay home dad' with two of his children, who both joined the family via permanent care. His work experience includes many support and care work positions in the fields of physical disability, intellectual disability, mental illness and young care-leavers, in Australia and in the UK. He came to Australia in 1995, and currently works

both as a case manager in a homelessness support service, and as a cook, quizmaster and 'fitness instructor' in an over-55s social support group.

Donna Coelho, Director

Donna Coelho is an adult adoptee and mother to a permanent care daughter. Donna has been a stay at home mother since 2010 and is on the Parish Education Board. She has a background in Administration, Customer Service and Supervisory roles across a number of sectors. Donna brings her lived experience and knowledge as an adoptee and permanent care parent to the PCA Families Board which she joined in 2016.

John Loke, Director

John Loke has over 30 years' experience across the construction, engineering, retail and manufacturing sectors. With his comprehensive finance and commercial acumen, John contributes to the business strategy and operational performance. He does this by optimising the synergies across different working groups. Since graduating (2001) as a Williamson Community Leader, he has been making time to give back to the community.

Meredith Carter, Director

Meredith Carter's background in public policy, law reform and governance, along with her commitment to community participation, has underpinned her career. Currently managing several national health policy initiatives for the Department of Health and Human Services, her many other leadership roles have included serving on statutory tribunals and boards, including as Chair.

Felicity Kotsiaris, Director

Felicity Kotsiaris brings 20 years of experience in marketing and communications, fundraising events and innovation strategy to the PCA Families Board. She is currently building an entrepreneurial venture that will change the way we think about safety apparel, serves on the Solve Disability Solutions Board and has art practices in metal and abstract painting. Felicity is married with three step-children.

FROM THE TREASURER – CHARLIE SALLOUM

TREASURER'S REPORT 2017

It's not an exaggeration to say that the tables have definitely turned in terms of the future prospects of PCA Families in terms of being recognised now as the peak body in the adoption and permanent care sector and receiving funding accordingly.

Towards the end of 2015/16, PCA Families was literally looking down the barrel in terms of our financial future. The tenacious lobbying by the CEO and President over the last few years finally paid off in late 2016 when we received significant boosts from DHHS by being awarded the Permanent Care Flexi-Funding Project as well as the tender to run their Helpline Project. This was in addition to the previously awarded and very generous 3-year grant from Buckland Foundation which built on their previous funding. Other smaller grants have also been awarded which have also helped deliver other smaller projects.

Receiving these new funds has meant that as an organisation we have been undergoing significant change and growth in meeting the funding requirements and client needs. This has been managed successfully as we have implemented the new programs in a controlled and staggered fashion.

Work on the next challenge is already underway in respect of securing the next batch of government funding to continue providing these much needed services beyond 17/18 and subsequently aim to bed down ongoing funding thereafter.

The last 12 months have been very challenging and rewarding and everyone involved from staff and volunteers, to management and the Board should feel proud of the achievements to date and the positive prospects going forward.

Needless to say, PCA Families has ended the 2016/17 financial year in a very strong financial position and has created a firm base to build upon for future years.

The following financial statements overview has been extracted from the PCA Families' Financial Statements for the year ended, 30 June, 2017. The financial statements have been prepared as Specific Purpose Financial Statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act, 2012. For more detailed information, full financial details are available on our website www.pcafamilies.org.au.

Charlie Salloum
Treasurer

Permanent Care & Adoptive Families

Independent audit report to the members of association, Permanent Care & Adoptive Families



Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Permanent Care & Adoptive Families (the association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2017, the income statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and management's assertion statement.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of the association for the year ended 30 June 2017 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report section of my report. I am independent of the association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of 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 my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of matter - basis of accounting

I draw attention to note 1 of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report is prepared to assist the association in to meet the requirements of the Association Incorporation Reform Act 2012 of Victoria. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My report is intended solely for the association and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the association. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibility of management and those charged with governance

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the association's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My 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 my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the 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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Paul Vassiliadis', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Paul Vassiliadis
KEILOR EAST
11 October 2017

Accountants & Business Advisors

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Permanent Care & Adoptive Families

Statement by members of committee - Declaration by Directors


The directors have determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the directors the financial report:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Permanent Care & Adoptive Families as at 30 June 2017 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Permanent Care & Adoptive Families will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors and is signed for and on behalf of the committee by:

Director:  _____

Director  _____

Dated 25-10-2017

TREASURER'S REPORT

Income statement for the year ended 30 June 2017		
	30 June 2017	30 June 2016
	\$	\$
Income		
Interest received	6,169.74	9,630.74
Grant and funding	403,352.05	166,248.73
Trading/operating activities	7,180.82	1,227.75
Miscellaneous income	-	13,047.34
Gifts and donations	212.00	85.00
Total income	416,914.61	190,239.56
Less cost of sales		
Purchases	4,824.29	5,716.70
Gross profit from trading	412,090.32	184,522.86
Expenses		
Depreciation	1,725.02	712.63
Employment expenses and consulting	329,744.08	217,717.59
Fees and permits	1,384.08	2,996.69
ICT	1,602.91	1,274.08
Insurance	5,300.39	4,829.55
Operating costs	19,608.84	40,219.10
PR, media, Professional Development and meetings	8,022.66	8,028.97
Rent and utilities	45,000.00	40,000.00
Total expenses	412,387.98	315,778.61
Net loss	(297.66)	(131,255.75)
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	120,783.01	252,038.76
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	120,485.35	120,783.01
Balance sheet for the year ended 30 June 2017		
	30 June 2017	30 June 2016
	\$	\$
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	401,161.39	281,632.77
Total current assets	401,161.39	281,632.77
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	7,049.95	825.88
Total non-current assets	7,049.95	825.88
Total assets	408,211.34	282,458.65
Current liabilities		
Trade and Other Payables	45,000.00	145,000.00
Provisions	11,541.40	5,757.83
Other Current Liabilities	24,184.59	10,917.81
Total current liabilities	80,725.99	161,675.64
Total liabilities	80,725.99	161,675.64
Net assets	327,485.35	120,783.01
Members' funds		
General Reserve	207,000.00	-
Retained earnings	120,485.35	120,783.01
Total members' funds	327,485.35	120,783.01

