

# PERMANENT CARE AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES



**Permanent  
Care and  
Adoptive  
Families**



Annual Report  
**2018**

# 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  
Amy Coe  
Anglicare Victoria  
Bendigo Bank  
Bernadette O'Brien  
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 Service (Ballarat)  
Chris Cook  
Chris Laxton  
CREATE Foundation  
Department of Education and Training  
Diana Casey  
Foster Care Association Victoria  
Fostering Connections

Grandparents Victoria  
Guy Rhynsburger – Mindfulness in Motion  
Helen MacPherson Smith Trust  
International Social Service Australia  
Jai Wambeek  
Jasper Coghlan  
Joanne Humphries  
Karen Szydluk  
Kate Vanderstadt  
Kaisey Hayes  
Kildonnan Family Services  
Kirsty Allan  
Kinship Carers Victoria  
Leadership Victoria - Great Connections  
Lianna Buchanan  
Lynne Clarkson  
MacKillop Family Services  
Mary Natoli  
Matana Foundation  
Mirabel Foundation  
Matthew Reader  
Natalie Elliot

Ozchild  
Prue Walker  
R. E. Ross Trust  
Regina Hill  
Ra Chapman  
Sheradon Carrol  
Sidney Myer Fund  
St Luke's Anglicare (Bendigo)  
Tara Gooding  
Uniting Connections  
Vanish  
Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency Co-operative Limited  
Vin  
William Jackson  
William Buckland Foundation  
Wiremu Hewitt  
The Department of Health and Human Services, in particular:  
Beth Allen, Helen Brain, Emma Gilbert, Nicola Young  
Family Information Networks & Discovery (FIND)  
Inter-Country Adoption Victoria

# PERMANENT CARE AND ADOPTIVE FAMILIES STAFF

**Brenda Carmen**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Deborah Hunt**  
Member Support and Development Officer

**Alannah Andrews**  
Team Leader Flexible Funding

**Liz Powell**  
Advocacy and Support Advisor

**Danielle Lucas**  
Advocacy and Support Advisor

**Vicki Coverdale**  
Advocacy and Support Advisor

**Anne Flynn**  
Volunteer Support Officer

**Gina Signorello**  
Flexi-funding Administration (from August, 2017)

**Lyn Halliday**  
Administrative Assistance (casual)

**Pennelopy Tan**  
Team Leader Flexible Funding (until April 2018)



## **EMERITUS PROFESSOR DOROTHY SCOTT AM**

It must be 15 years since I first encountered the then embryonic PCA Families. I was inspired by the vision and commitment of your pioneering people such as Cas O'Neil. While lacking financial support, the founding mothers and fathers of PCA Families had an abundance of dogged determination and hard won experience on which to draw. Just as fifteen years is a long time in a child's life, it is an equally long time in a new organisation's life. I remember witnessing some very tough years when PCA Families weathered financial storms, and yet it survived. And my goodness, how it has thrived!

In recent years PCA Families has gone from strength to strength in its membership, advocacy and services, and in securing the support of the Victorian government and the philanthropic sector. The past year has been one of stunning success on all these fronts. How could one ever know the number of children and families whose lives have been enhanced by the support of PCA Families over all of its years. Congratulations to all who have made this happen.

**Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott AM**

Patron, Permanent Care and Adoptive Families



## MEREDITH CARTER

It is always exciting when the fruit of hard work is realised. And this year the board of Permanent Care and Adoptive Families (PCA Families) has been delighted by the outcomes of many years hard work undertaken in collaboration with our very dedicated Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and her great staff team.

Just two of the ways we see these outcomes reflected are in our increasing profile and in the respect for our evidence based advocacy on behalf of our expanding membership. For example, in addition to our own submission, we ensured opportunities for input by our members to the review of the initial operation of the permanency amendments to Victoria's child protection laws undertaken by the Commissioner for Children and Young People.

We have also been gratified to see growing recognition in Government responses that whether they be permanent care or adoptive families, the need for assistance often continues beyond a successful placement. Special thanks to the Minister for Families and Children, Jenny Mikakos and to the staff of the Department of Health and Human Services in this regard.

Positive outcomes are also reflected in the fast growing membership of PCA Families and our increased ability to provide high quality options to meet the diverse needs of the PCA Families community. These options range from the delivery of flexible funding packages in addition to our existing Permanent Care Help Line and programs for children and families such as The Tree of Life and Mindfulness in Motion.

We are also pleased to see positive outcomes reflected in the strengthened financial position of the organisation. This derives not only from very welcome support from the state government but our partnerships with the Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare, with OzChild. It also comes from



the philanthropic sector to which we are very grateful. Of particular note the William Buckland Foundation funds all our peer support in country and regional Victoria. Without the collaboration of these partners we would simply not be able to provide our community with the support that we know our families need.

This year has also seen the Board itself undertake work towards a transition of its own. I have been mentored into the role of Chair in 2018 by the outgoing Chair Chris Lockwood and the broader executive Charlie Salloum and Amanda Stone. All three have been absolutely dedicated in their service to PCA Families, guiding it through some very lean years. Their commitment has been pivotal to the solid position the organisation is in currently. Not that we can afford to be complacent. So I am also pleased to report that we have continued to recruit talented new board members who have already made a significant difference to the organisation. Special mention to Donna Coelho who now chairs our Fundraising Committee and Jennifer Botha who has completed an internal audit for the Finance Audit and Risk Committee.

It is a privilege to work alongside my fellow Board members, the CEO and staff to deliver these results for the families, carers and children who make up our members and our community. I hope you will enjoy learning more about these outcomes in the following pages of this year's Annual Report.

## BRENDA CARMEN

This has been an exciting year for Permanent Care and Adoptive Families with the implementation of our new Strategic Plan for 2017 to 2020 and marked growth in engagement, support and advocacy for members and clients. I am pleased to report ongoing support for our programs to assist families formed through adoption and permanent care, and further funding from the Department of Health and Human Services to help permanent care families.

Our new Strategic Plan recognises that every child deserves a family that loves and supports them. Trauma, grief, loss and attachment are issues faced by all permanent care and adoptive families, and we are happy to announce additional funding for our Helpline and Flexi Fund to support them.

In addition to providing support for children and their families, PCA Families actively support the role of schools at the centre of a child's community life. We welcomed the opportunity to provide feedback to the Victorian Department of Education with revisions to the Out of Home Care Partnering Agreement (OHCPA) for children attending Government, Catholic and Independent Schools. This feedback stressed the need to extend support to all children from Out of Home Care including permanent care children (past the first 12 months of a Permanent Care Order), adopted children and children in family reunification programs.

We were grateful for the opportunity to highlight the need for appropriate resources for children and young people in adoption and permanent care in our submission to the House of Representatives Standing Commission on Social Policy and Legal Affairs "Inquiry into local adoption as a viable option for children in Out of Home Care".

The Helpline and Flexi Fund have had a significant impact on the efficacy of service delivery and school retention for our young people and their families. This funding has enabled families to identify and utilise



a number of key services to support their children's engagement at home and in school.

PCA Families continues to provide intensive support for families and young people facing challenges at key junctures of their lives including the transition to permanent care or adoption, teen years and in adulthood. The Helpline and Journal Club provide professional and peer support for carers and parents respectively, and our adult adoptees are working with PCA Families to inform our practice based on their lived experience and to integrate social programs and platforms for peer support.

Philanthropic funding and our wonderful volunteers have enabled PCA Families to extend our services and programs to regional Victoria. Life Story Work training for carers and parents, and youth orientated programs in regional Victoria, such as the Tree of Life, have been made possible thanks to the generous funding received through the Helen MacPherson Smith Trust, Matana Foundation, R E Ross Trust and the William Buckland Foundation.

Congratulations to our dedicated families, Board, staff, and volunteers for all your wonderful work this year and a big thank you to our children and families for sharing their journey with us.

**Brenda Carmen**  
Chief Executive Officer

## INFORMATION, ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT SERVICES

### PERMANENT CARER HELPLINE

The Permanent Carer Helpline started in April 2017 and has continued to meet the needs of carers requiring assistance with a range of issues. This year we had 3,082 contacts to the Helpline as compared to the previous year of 1,100. Our Facebook and website pages also received 1,432 and 4,824 contacts respectively.

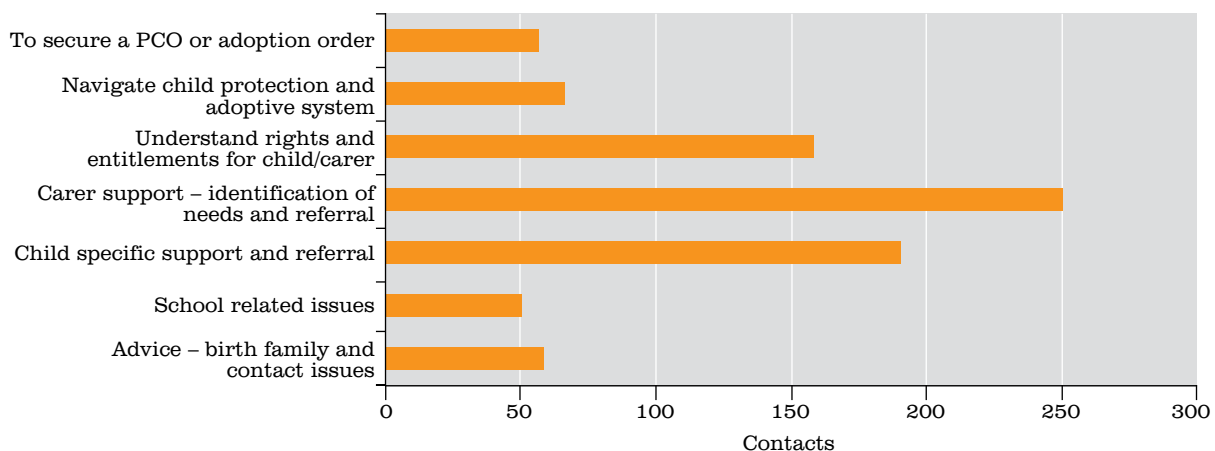
Helpline callers have required personal support as they struggle with life events and ongoing adjustments to changed circumstances. The Helpline team have considerable previous experience within the education sector, grief and bereavement, mental health systems and child protection. This expertise enables the Helpline to provide immediate support while also connecting families with appropriate agencies supports. The Helpline also provides ongoing support to carers who are struggling to find therapeutic relationships within their own community. PCA Families acts as a bridge to help these families through those difficult times.

Carers have required general parenting assistance or more specific guidance around a child's development. PCA Families advocacy workers often assist carers to take time to reflect and prioritise a child's needs. Helpline calls have increased around issues arising from contact visits and carers have required clarity around their rights and responsibilities, as they meet the child's needs.

Apart from personal support, carers have mainly called for assistance with education, therapeutic services, passports, and the health issues of their children. Preventing placement breakdown has also required major attention and resources.

PCA Families have met with service providers through professional consultation/recovery planning; to better provide an integrated, informed response. This collaborative approach has not only benefitted the families calling the helpline, but also resulted with a shared understanding of available resources.

### Discrete queries – call categories for 2017/18 financial year



## FLEXIBLE FUNDING PROGRAM

PCA Families provides a flexible funding program to support carers and children on Permanent Care Orders as well as certain children subject to a Family Court order, or a Special Needs Adoption.

This program is led by PCA Families and OzChild with oversight from the Permanent Care Alliance made up of OzChild, PCA Families, Foster Care Association Victoria, Kinship Care Victoria, Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency, The Mirabel Foundation, and CREATE Foundation. It is also supported by 'Consult 8', a consumer group made up of permanent carers from around Victoria.

This financial year we have received 1,134 applications for funding and released funds of \$2,405,203 to support carers raising their children. The majority of funding requested related to educational support, therapeutic needs, and health and medical expenses.

Families are sent a survey three months post receiving flexible funds. The table on page 6 show a snapshot of feedback from 183 families as a result of the Flexible Funding.

Category	Percentage of spend
Therapeutic needs	<b>24.90</b>
Educational support	<b>29.40</b>
Vehicle Requirements	<b>7.64</b>
Health and medical needs	<b>11.87</b>
Other essential services	<b>8.04</b>
Respite care	<b>6.44</b>
Child care costs	<b>3.13</b>
Home renovation requirements	<b>6.31</b>
Attachment and continuity of care	<b>1.30</b>
Cultural identity needs	<b>0.25</b>
Birth parent, sibling and family contact	<b>0.74</b>

This young person has described this year as 'life changing' and the 'best year ever'.

“ I am so blown away with the support that is there for not just my family but for other families that are permanent carers or adoptive parents. The staff have been amazing and it is so good to know that there is not only financial support but support for the carers, someone to talk to and someone to let you know what you can do for our beautiful grandchildren.”

“ ... the painting for the walls (she did the painting herself), the furniture, bedspreads, curtains and her braces have all been funded by the post perm care funding. Her PC is not pictured here as it is in another room, but that was certainly another highlight for ... Thank you so much for all your hard work. Being able to access this funding has meant a great deal to this family and particularly the dental work has been much needed for over seven years.”

**Ways in which the Flexible Funding has benefited your child**

Value	Responses
Helped my child build confidence and self-esteem	145
Helped make things easier and more doable at home	130
Help my child engage more effectively at school and learn	120
Helped my child build personal and inter-personal skills	106
Allowed my child to try new things and pursue their goals	99
Allowed my child to connect with peers and make new or strengthen existing friendships	96
Helped improve my child's ability to manage what comes his/her way and be resilient	93
Helped my child access support services so he/she can be happy and healthy	74
Helped my child to prepare for life after school	50
Helped my child relate to other family members	46
Helped my child manage and maintain contact with biological family	22
Other	42

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

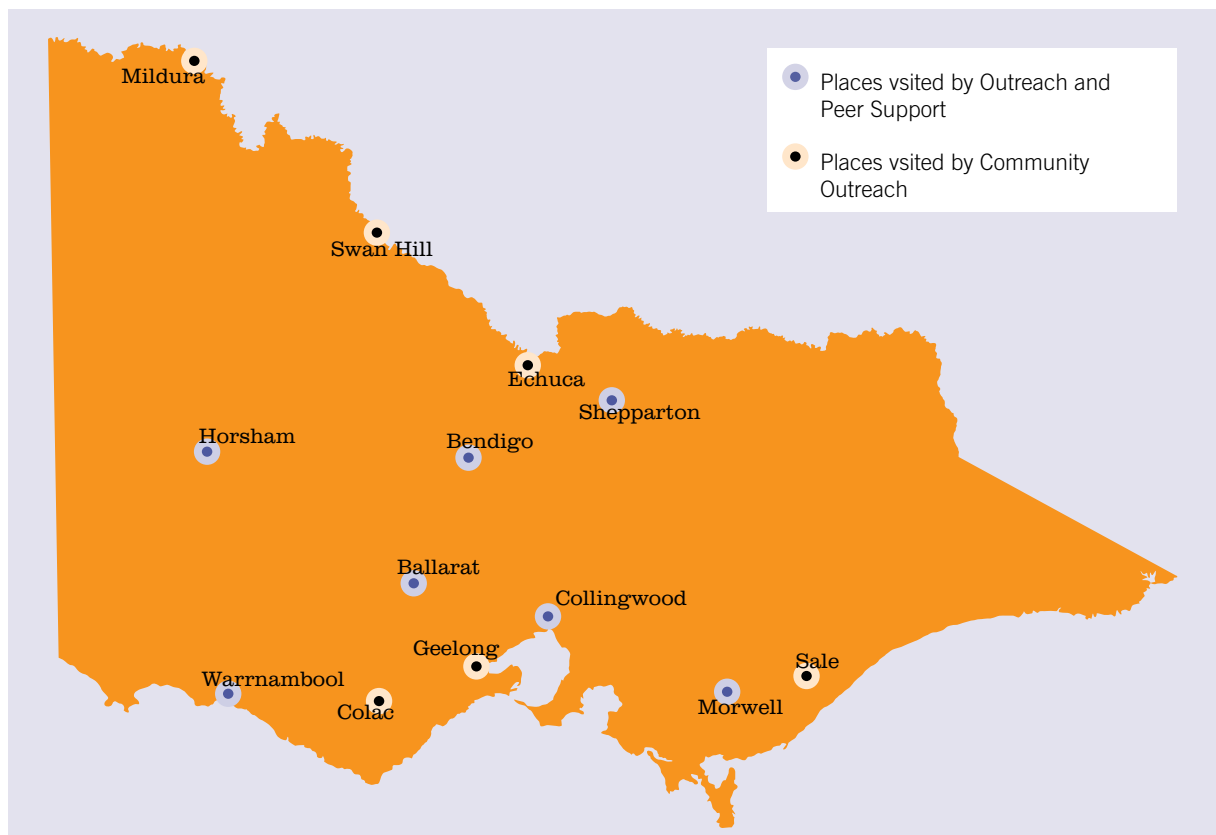
Value	Responses
Reduced financial stress	183
Reduced family stress	148
Helped make things easier and more doable at home	134
Allowed me to provide my children with opportunities to have fun, develop and learn	116
Allowed me to better support my children to access the services they need so they can be happy and healthy	111
Helped me to better deal with and manage some of my children's behaviour	81
Helped me to build my relationship with my child	63
Helped me to manage what comes my way and stay resilient	62
Helped improve interpersonal dynamics within our family	58
Helped improve my understanding of the impact of trauma on children	55
Helped me to manage and maintain contact with my children's biological family	21
Other	24



## OUTREACH AND PEER SUPPORT

The second year of funding provided by the William Buckland Foundation has enabled PCA Families to continue to build its presence in Morwell, Shepparton, Ballarat, Bendigo and Horsham. We have also continued to grow our community development in Warrnambool, Mildura, Echuca and Swan Hill. Twenty four peer support group sessions were held this year with 237 participants attending.

Peer Support Groups have increased in their numbers as carers have linked in with PCA Families and their community. The discussions around parenting have often continued long after the library meet-up. Carers have shared contact details and provided to each other ongoing support and confidence about their own capacity to make positive change. The William Buckland Foundation has enabled this vital work to occur through their funding and appreciation of the importance of these significant connections.



## A MESSAGE FROM JOURNAL CLUB

PCA Families' Journal Club has been held monthly since 2009 with the same facilitators with many years of parenting experience.

Our conversations this past year have continued to be based loosely around short journal articles or else have been facilitated by guest speakers focusing on topics relevant to parenting of non-biological children.

The essence of our meetings this past year has once again been the deep respect and mutual support offered to each other by participants and the deep appreciation of each family's unique journey with our children without judgement ... together with a shared sense of good humour.

Practical ideas have often been exchanged regarding how to care for children whose behaviour can be very disturbed as a result of early trauma, as well as how to navigate departmental and legal requirements, such as contact orders with birth families and school matters.

Journal Club over the last year has attracted fathers as well as mothers and grandparents of children whose backgrounds span permanent care, foster care, kinship care, intercountry and local adoption. Some have had children just newly placed with them, while others' children have been teenagers and adult children.

Applicants awaiting placement have also been most warmly welcomed and have not only gained early insight into the challenges as well as the joys of raising non-biological children but have also received great support in understanding the application process further.

Our monthly Journal Club gatherings have once again over the last year been a much valued opportunity for many parents to experience mutual support in a safe space to offload and/or celebrate with others who understand the stresses and joys of our caring role. They have also continued to be an important opportunity to have a good laugh together ... and to head home at the end of each month richly appreciating our individual families.



Drama class: Act 101 in Bendigo

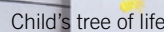
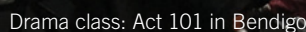
## Acting 101

Ra Chapman, an adult intercountry adoptee and actor (Neighbours and Wentworth), provided a safe space for young people to explore empathy and emotions through drama lessons provided over a five week program. Young people all reported having a great time.

*"My favourite part of the workshop was seeing my friends each Sunday night. I loved acting and improvising games and acting. And role playing, and reading of scripts."*

The 'Tree of Life' continues to enrich the environment around the young saplings that attend this program. The R E Ross Trust and Matana Foundation, together with volunteers and facilitators have strengthened the ground for families with often complicated histories.

Insights arise across the ages in a safe space provided to explore one's self. These conversations invariably spill over into the last celebratory session that family members attend. Children and adults alike are fortified as their individuality is acknowledged along with the inter-connectedness. Each participant takes their own symbolically represented tree home with pride ... and so a mighty forest rises.



## Mindfulness in Motion Kids Program

The Mindfulness in Motion Kids (MiM) program for PCA Families has been developed to assist young people's personal growth in a fun and caring environment. Classes blend skill development, personal observation and experiential learning through the paradigm of martial arts training.

The Program follows the motto borrowed from the Martial Arts Therapy Program of:

- **Be Strong:** linking back to physical and emotional strength
- **Be Calm:** noticing the physical and mental tension and working to dissolve this
- **Be Kind:** not only to others, but above all to ourselves
- **Try Hard:** in everything we do pay attention to giving it your best effort

This group works to assist young people to develop resilience, emotional regulation, focus, teamwork, self-reflection, and body awareness. The success of this program is around the seamless linking of martial arts training with self-awareness in a fun and respectful environment. We build trust and rapport with our participants to better allow them to learn and grow in themselves.

## LIFE STORY WORK

A grant from the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust has assisted PCA Families to deliver Life Story Work training to carers, parents, and professionals in Morwell, Mildura, Bairnsdale, Broadmeadows and Melbourne CBD. Life Story Work provides parents and carers with a unique approach to guiding exploration of their children's lives with them. Feedback received was highly positive.

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*"Understanding that it's not just about the creation of a 'book'"*

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*"I enjoyed this training and learning the importance of children having their life story"*

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*"An understanding that kids will have a different life story"*

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## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

PCA Families was founded by volunteers and has a strong history of developing, delivering and supporting volunteer based programs. In addition to members and staff who kindly give of their time to assist with events and programs, our regular volunteers include adoptive and permanent care parents and adoptees.

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

Our Volunteer Program continues to invite initiatives from members and this year PCA Families welcomed Vin to our volunteer support program. Vin is an intercountry adoptee who has been working to provide a number of social platforms for adult adoptees to connect with each other. He has also been working with the support team to identify services and safe spaces for young people.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all our 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, Tara and Jai for their wonderful work with the Tree of Life Program.



## 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.

### **Meredith Carter, President**

In addition to the lived experience of fostering and permanent care she brings to PCA Families, Meredith Carter is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and has held many leadership roles, serving on a number of statutory tribunals and boards, including as Chair. Her background in public policy, law reform and governance, along with her commitment to community participation, has underpinned her career. Her current work brings many of these interests together, managing the implementation of workplace reforms that will promote gender equality and help prevent family violence with the Victorian Government Office of Prevention and Women's Equality.

### **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 councillor in local government. She is Consortium Chair of the not-for-profit organisation, Collingwood Headspace.

### **Chris Lockwood, Secretary**

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 currently the National CEO of MATES in Construction, the leader in suicide prevention in workplaces and across industry in Australia, as well as being the proud father of two children adopted from China and Korea.



Our aspiring leaders (Mindfulness in Motion Kids Program)



### **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, Human Resources 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.

### **Felicity Isaac, Director**

Felicity brings 20 years of experience in marketing and communications, fundraising events and innovation strategy to the PCAF 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.

### **Jennifer Botha – Director**

Jennifer brings 13 years of global finance, accounting, and operational experiences to PCA Families and is currently leading a global financial management entity, ensuring strong financial stewardship and corporate governance. Jennifer developed financial and operational reporting systems, unified regionally dispersed finance teams, and drove agility through effective financial strategies, optimization of resources and operational excellence.

## FROM THE TREASURER – CHARLIE SALLOUM

### TREASURER'S REPORT 2018

PCA Families has enjoyed a very rewarding year in terms of consolidating the Helpline and Flexi-Funding Services as well as delivering on the other significant funded work in the regional peer support programs. We are very grateful to DHHS as well as the William Buckland Trust in their ongoing support to allow us to deliver these much needed programs.

These successes have bolstered our reputational standing in the sector which has led to the organisation receiving a further tranche of funding from DHHS to run the Helpline, in the form of \$300K per year for two years, as well as a substantial increase (\$2m) in the funds available to be distributed to families under the Permanent Care Flexi-Funding program.

It is with much pleasure that, as Treasurer, I can say that PCA Families is in a healthy financial position for at least the next two years giving us the financial basis to deliver on the remaining two years of our current Strategic Plan. Part of delivering on this Strategic Plan is the development and implementation of our fundraising objectives to allow us to fully develop other programs to further enhance the lives of our families.

It is an exciting time for the organisation and the families we support knowing that we have the support of the government in the work that we do, something that the Board and CEO have been working on since the inception of the organisation over ten years ago. Brenda deserves full recognition for the tireless and passionate work she has put in to get us into this position.

The following financial statements overview has been extracted from the PCA Families' Financial Statements for the year ended, 30 June, 2018. 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](http://www.pcafamilies.org.au).

### **Charlie Salloum**

Treasurer



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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

We have audited the financial report of Permanent Care Adoptive Families, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity, the statement of cash flows, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible entity's declaration.

In our opinion the financial report of Permanent Care Adoptive Families has been prepared in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the registered entity's financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### Responsibility of the Responsible Entity for the Financial Report

The responsible entity of the registered entity is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and the needs of the members. The responsible entity's responsibility also includes such internal control as the responsible entity determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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 the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**George Georgiou FCA**  
Registered Company Auditor  
ASIC Registration: 10310  
Melbourne, Victoria  
Date: 11 October 2018

**Permanent Care & Adoptive Families  
Directors' declaration  
30 June 2018**

In the directors' opinion:

- the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards as described in note 1 to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the incorporated association's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the incorporated association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the committee:

CHARLIE SARRAM  
Name

TREASURER  
Title

  
Signature

11 October 2018

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Income statement for the year ended 30 June 2018		
	30 June 2018	30 June 2017
	\$	\$
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>572,975</b>	<b>416,915</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Administration expenses	(42,169)	(13,315)
Rent expenses	(60,000)	(45,000)
Employee benefits and consulting	(158,234)	(129,636)
Project expenses	(57,982)	(57,479)
Depreciation expense	(2,915)	(1,725)
Advocacy and support expenses	(143,623)	(16,525)
Other expenses	(89,846)	(153,532)
<b>Surplus/(deficit) before income tax expense</b>	<b>18,206</b>	<b>(297)</b>
Income tax expense	-	-
<b>Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year attributable to the members of Permanent Care &amp; Adoptive Families</b>	<b>18,206</b>	<b>(297)</b>

Balance sheet for the year ended 30 June 2018		
	30 June 2018	30 June 2017
	\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	388,823	397,729
Trade and other receivables	130,617	120
Other	-	3,313
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>519,440</b>	<b>401,162</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	6,212	7,050
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>6,212</b>	<b>7,050</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>525,652</b>	<b>408,212</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Trade and other payables	12,931	19,036
Employee benefits	27,029	16,690
Other	140,000	45,000
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>179,960</b>	<b>80,726</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>179,960</b>	<b>80,726</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>345,692</b>	<b>327,486</b>
<b>Equity – members' funds</b>		
Reserves	207,000	207,000
Retained surpluses	138,692	120,486
<b>Total equity members' funds</b>	<b>345,692</b>	<b>327,486</b>



We acknowledge this land as the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation and pay respect to their elders, past and present.

PCA Families has zero tolerance to child abuse and is committed to establishing and maintaining child safe environments.

“ In a critical time of need, I can speak to a worker about the extreme difficulties I was experiencing with my child whose mental health and behaviour was deteriorating at a rapid pace from the beginning of this year. The helpline worker listened to my concerns and validated how it made me feel. I was feeling devastated and hopeless about the situation I was in with the behaviour I was constantly exposed to and still continue to be exposed to on a daily basis ... I rely on this for my emotional support and it is a safe space that I can express how all this intense pressure makes me feel.”

We would like to thank and acknowledge the support of:



Permanent Care and Adoptive Families  
Level 5, 50 Market Street, Melbourne, VIC 3000  
Telephone: (03) 9020 1833  
Email: [info@pcafamilies.org.au](mailto:info@pcafamilies.org.au)  
[www.pcafamilies.org.au](http://www.pcafamilies.org.au)



**Permanent  
Care and  
Adoptive  
Families**

