



SOUTH WEST  
REFUGE INC

2020/2021

# Annual Report







## Acknowledgement of Country

South West Refuge Inc acknowledges the First Nation Noongar Wardandi people of these lands.

We pay our respects to the lore, language, culture and relationship with this land and the Elders, past , present and emerging.



# Contents

---

Acknowledgement of Country

About Us

A Message From Board Chair

The Board

Message From the CEO

Our Year: Strategic Plan Progress Report

Our Year: Service Delivery

Our People

Our Partners

Treasurer's Report

# About Us

## Our Vision

That women and children are safe from domestic and family violence, and empowered to fulfil their potential within the community.

## Our Mission

To provide effective local responses to domestic and family violence.



## The Board's Role

The Board of South West Refuge Inc fulfil our legal, ethical and functional responsibilities through policy development, maintaining a diversely skilled mix of Board Members, training and development opportunities, and self evaluation of the Board and Board Member performance.

The Board set the strategic direction and appoint a suitably qualified Chief Executive Officer who accepts stewardship of the Board's strategies, and manages the organisation in accordance with South West Refuge Inc's Constitutional Objects.

## Our Board

---

**Chair** - Mrs Marg Garrett

**Deputy Chair** - Mrs Nicole Frayne

**Secretary** - Ms Kerry Smith

**Treasurer** - Mrs Carina Roney

**Director** - Dr Amanda Sabel

**Director** - Ms Nerida Pickup

**Director** - Dr Alex Hugman

**Director** - Kate Ausden



## **The Finance Committee**

The Finance committee is a subcommittee with finance and financial risk expertise who review the financial reporting, financial transparency and accountability including the audit and all asset and financial planning activities related to our service.

## **The Risk Committee**

The Risk committee assists the Board to exercise due care and diligence in its governance role and who assess the risk context(s) of the organisation across its services and ensure the effectiveness of the risk management framework.

## **The Fundraising Events Committee**

South West Refuge Inc (“SWR”) has established a Fundraising Events Committee to assist the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to financial viability of the organisation and maintenance of its positive public image.

# A Message From Board Chair



**Mrs Marg Garrett**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON**

Board Member since 2011

## Change is the one constant in our world it seems.

In the midst of this, it has been good for the SW Refuge Inc that we have had no changes in the membership of the Board during the year and that Ali White is still with us as CEO.

That said, there have been many changes of other staff in the Refuge. Two of our long-term employees left during the year to pursue other opportunities and, subsequently, there have been changes made to the structure and roles of several positions. As well, Ali has been successful in getting short-term grants for two additional positions of an Outreach worker and a Financial Counsellor. These, together with other partnerships that have been developed to provide Legal Advice and Cultural Support with visiting specialists greatly increased the range of services we are able to provide to our clients.

I pay tribute to the contributions of all of our staff members and the quality of their work which continues to build a positive reputation of SW Refuge Inc.

We continue to be blessed by the amazing generosity of so many individuals, organisations and companies through regular giving programs, significant donations and the provision of services to women and children involved with SW Refuge. Thank you one and all.

SW Refuge Inc continues to take a leading role in the organization of White Ribbon Day in November each year, with its community march and gathering to raise awareness about Family and Domestic Violence.

My sincere thanks to each of the Board members.

We have just accepted, with regret, the resignation of Kerry Smith from the Board after many years of service. This year Kerry has taken on the role of Secretary and for that we are very grateful.

Carina Roney and Nerida Pickup have continued to play a most important role in the Finance Sub-Committee.

Kate Ausden has become Chair of the Risk Sub-Committee which has been re-activated.

Nicole Frayne is both part of this committee and capably acts as Vice Chairperson. We appreciate the contribution of Dr Amanda Sabel and the community connections she brings with her.

Dr Alex Hugman has become part of the new Fundraising Events Sub-Committee.

Each of these Board members plays a valuable part in the governance of SW Refuge Inc. Thank you all.

**Mrs Marg Garrett**

**BOARD CHAIRPERSON**

# The Board



## Mrs Marg Garrett

### BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Board Member since 2011

Margaret (Marg) has been a trusted Board member since 2011, offering her community skills in leadership, governance, education, learning and development, human services, and management.

Her roles in teaching, support services, behaviour management, counselling and protective training have made her the ideal Chairperson for the South West Refuge. Marg is constantly giving back to her community, through the Rotary Club of Bunbury, the Uniting Church, Lifeline and the Whyalla Aboriginal Reconciliation Network.

As well as her wealth of experience in human behaviour roles, Marg has also completed a Grad Diploma in Educational Counselling, a Diploma of Teaching (Secondary), and a Cert IV Workplace Training and Assessment qualification.



## Ms Kerry Smith

### BOARD SECRETARY

Board Member since 2013

Kerry joined the Board of the South West Refuge in June 2013, and has been of monumental value to the SWR community. Kerry is a Registered Nurse, with experience as part of the Governance Committee of St John of God (Bunbury), as well as being on the Risk Committee. Kerry was also Deputy Chairperson for the South West Refuge from 2015 - 2017.

Kerry's 50+ years in nursing and management, combined with her risk and clinical governance skills have seen her contribute towards the bettering of lives in the South West for several years.





## Mrs Carina Roney

### BOARD TREASURER

Board Member since 2019

Carina brings with her 30 years worth of knowledge in tax law, accounting and finance, and has been a member of CAANZ for over 20 years. She is a Chartered Accountant, and carries a Bachelor of Commerce degree and a Masters in Applied Finance.

As if that isn't impressive enough, Carina is currently employed by Virgin Airlines, focussing on financing and leasing of the aircrafts. Her previous experience working in senior management at QANTAS, combined with her legal learnings has lead to her mastering contract review, negotiation, research, financial risk assessment, government submissions and advisory functions.

Carina has been on the Board of St. Brigid's School, Collie, and has been the Vice Chair of Management Committee for Collie Early Education Inc. When residing in Sydney, she volunteered for St Vincent de Paul, offering services in bookkeeping and home visit assistance, and was also on the Management Committee for the SVDP 'Youthreach' Initiative.



## Ms Nerida Pickup

### BOARD DIRECTOR

Board Member since 2015

Nerida has been offering her skills and experience to the South West Refuge for five years, being on both the Board, and the Finance Sub-Committee.

With over 31 years in finance and business banking, Nerida is the perfect fit for the Refuge's financial management and reporting systems and plans.

Nerida is also constantly giving value back to her community, be it through community fundraising, volunteering for Riding for the Disabled, or running Governance Workshops.



## Dr Amanda Sabel

### BOARD DIRECTOR

Board Member since 2019

Amanda boasts 20 years of medical experience, bringing invaluable knowledge and skills to the women at the South West Refuge. Amanda's qualifications include General Practitioner-Obstetrician, MBBS, FRACGP, DRANZCOG, completing Advanced Mental Health Training, and having been a GP Trainer and an Advanced Life Support Instructor.

Her studies and work have taken her from Australia to the UK, South Africa and Malaysia, where she worked as a medical officer for a marine conservation project. As well as that, Dr Sabel also volunteered four months of her time in a Romanian orphanage.



## Mrs Nicole Frayne

### BOARD DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

Board Member since 2019

Nicole is a health professional with a Bachelor of Pharmacy, and also an accreditation with the Australian Association of Consultant Pharmacy. Nicole is also a credentialed Diabetes Educator, having worked as a Diabetes Management Specialist and a consultant Pharmacist.

Her experience also includes being on the Australian Institute of Company Directors and completing the Not for Profit Governance Training. Nicole's role as the Vice President of the Australian Diabetes Educator Association put her in great stead for the Deputy Chairperson at the South West Refuge.



## Dr Alexandra Hugman

### BOARD DIRECTOR

Board Member since 2020

Alexandra joined the Board of Directors in May 2020, after being a Board Member of NSW Uniting Church Board of Education, the Bunbury Waratah Board, and the Secretary Member of the Roseville Uniting Church.

Alexandra (Alex) has also used her skills in ESL to educate teams for Relationships Australia and Chatswood Multicultural Centre.

We're very fortunate that Alex made the move to Western Australia - she previously worked in the Eastern states, both as an Accessibility Coach at Macquarie University, and a Director of UniServe Science at Sydney University. She also worked as Assistant Principal at Armadale Christian College.

Alex's qualifications include being a Doctor of Science Education, an MSc in Education Management, NVQ in Training Trainers, and a Cert IV in ESL Education.



## Kate Ausden

### BOARD DIRECTOR

Board Member since 2020

Kate has been with our Board since September 2020, and has used her skills in Human Resources, Litigation and Dispute Management, and Legal and Regulatory to ensure that the Refuge is performing to its maximum potential.

Kate brings a multitude of qualifications to her role, including a Bachelor of Laws, a Bachelor of Arts, and a Graduate Diploma of Legal Practice.

Her strong background in the field of law and legal make her both the perfect sounding board for business decisions, and extremely busy! Kate is currently not only a Board Director for the South West Refuge, but also an Employed Solicitor at Gilbert & Tobin and Kemp Strong, and an Executive Director of Kate Ausden Lawyer.

We are extremely grateful to have Kate onboard.



# A Message From the CEO



**Ms Alison White**

CEO

Non-Director Role

## Domestic violence is everyone's business and we are all ambassadors and change agents.

Whilst the incidence of property and theft crimes during the pandemic in 2020 in Australia were the lowest in twenty five years, the data on domestic violence incidents within the same period rose by 10% for assault, 10% sexual assault and an increase of 15 homicide victims.

In line with the National statistics, the demand on South West Refuge Inc crisis accommodation and outreach services doubled as the incidents of domestic violence within the south west region caused Mothers and children to flee the family home and seek help to stay safe and alive.

The impacts of the pandemic on available and affordable housing within the region also saw our crisis accommodation stays extend far beyond their usual short term offering.

It was a busy time and remains so as we increase our service capacity with our new Outreach and Financial Counselling service to meet the additional service demand.

The National Plan to reduce Violence against Women and their children 2010-2022 set the groundwork for prevention, education and behaviour change. The new National Plan is being drafted to address prevention strategies including gendered drivers which reinforce gender inequality and a greater emphasis on perpetrator accountability with strategies to remove the overwhelming burden on victim-survivors and support services to address domestic violence. Domestic violence is everyone's business and we are all ambassadors and change agents to stand up and demand a safer world for women and children.

Despite the cancellation of our major fundraising event, the donations from the community were overwhelming and we were able to provide clients with the basic essentials in addition to providing households of furniture for our clients

as they moved into new homes. To our donors I express our enduring gratitude for your kind acts of generosity which act as a soft cushion for women and children to fall in during the most terrifying times of their lives.

I would like to express my thanks to the team at South West Refuge Inc. We have worked together as one during a really tough year and your unique abilities as you provide support to our clients and each other is a credit to you. I am looking forward to another year of comradeship, kindness and solidarity.

Finally I express my appreciation to the Board who make themselves available to the service and myself and generously share their time, support, expertise and knowledge. We couldn't have achieved an incredible year without you.

**Ms Ali White**

CEO

# Be a Change Maker

---

## Know the signs.

Domestic and family violence can happen to anyone. There is a strong chance you know someone who can't tell you what is happening because of fear and shame.

## Don't ignore it.

If you hear noises or sounds which indicate someone is being hurt or threatened, call Police. It might save a life.

## Find out what supports are available.

This can be incredibly valuable if you can seek advice on what is available and how to access it.

## Lend an ear.

If someone does confide in you, listen without judgement.

## Call it out.

Call out attitudes or behaviours which condone violence towards others.

**“...the data on domestic violence incidents within the same [2020] period rose by 10% for assault, 10% sexual assault and an increase of 15 homicide victims.”**





# Our Year: Strategic Plan Progress Report: 2018–2023

## Strategic Asset Improvement Stages 1-4 Rating: Met

The Value Add project which incorporated an extensive refurbishment of the refuge and administration buildings was completed in December 2019.

The Board approved additional capital improvements and the courtyard patio was replaced to provide an undercover area that can be used all year round. Weathersafe outdoor blinds were also installed and the pillars were painted in a colourful design to represent the six aboriginal seasons. Roller shutters were added to the front windows of the refuge to improve security.

## Safety and Staff Wellbeing Rating: Met

All staff continue to receive regular clinical supervision to maintain wellbeing, safety and reflective practice. We also purchased additional safety cards for staff when in the community and a new community based office space for staff to meet clients in a safe space.

We enrolled a staff member in the OSH Representatives course which has been invaluable in assisting us to review our incidents and hazards in addition to completing our safety audits of our buildings and vehicles.

### The Board are reviewing additional wellbeing and safety measures:

- Seeking out a local gym for discount memberships or a donated corporate membership for staff.

- Wellbeing days where staff can take two days a year to undertake medical, dental or health checks.
- A wellbeing survey to seek views on whether staff wish to have support to quit an addiction e.g smoking then if this is something staff want we can seek out various programs to support them.

## Business Structure Review: Met

Our aim in this pillar was to implement a seamless and efficient organisational structure that improves the sustainability and flexibility of our service in order to respond to client needs more flexibly and ensure we have the right human resources that assist us to provide effective trauma response service and deliver on our corporate and administrative.



## Service Outcome Development and Measurement: Met

New KPI's were developed to align with contractual outcomes and a skills review of the staff was undertaken to draft a professional development matrix. Our aim in this pillar is to develop our people and improve our ability to respond to our clients complex needs within a holistic framework.

The reorganisation of our structure provides opportunities for Advocates to develop and use new leadership skills and other staff to hold managerial responsibilities across programs with direct reports.

## Social Innovation- Hackathon Partnerships: Unmet

# Plan for Changing the Local Culture

---

This year we have continued to join in the White Ribbon March and speak at various local events, radio and be in print raising awareness and promoting change. We have collaborated and entered into partnerships with other agencies to participate in projects which raise awareness of domestic violence. Seven of our staff have completed the Safe and Together training and as the training places are advertised we will enrol all our staff.

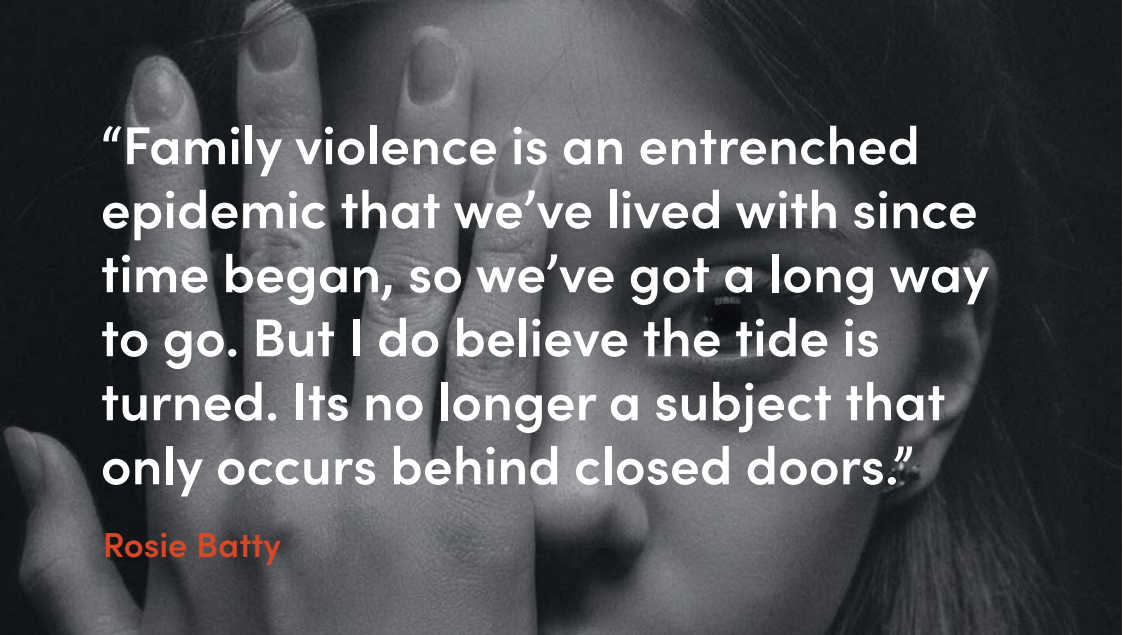
Attendance at a local forum to build upon our ideas for a local FDV Hub.

## Plan for intervening for first occurrence. Prevention

We have made great progress in our Membership base and Corporate Giving activities to develop an Ambassador program for the prevention of domestic violence. In the next two years SWR will focus on the strategies to meet this objective.

## How do we break the cycle of violence? Prevention

In the next two years SWR will focus on the strategies to meet this objective.



“Family violence is an entrenched epidemic that we’ve lived with since time began, so we’ve got a long way to go. But I do believe the tide is turned. Its no longer a subject that only occurs behind closed doors.”

Rosie Batty

## Our Year: Service Delivery

**Our Transitional Housing provided crisis accommodation for 10 women and 15 children.**

The number of tenants utilising our transitional housing was less than last year due to lack of affordable, available local rental accommodation. A new Domestic Violence Outreach Service provided support to our Transitional Housing clients to rebuild their lives and self resilience.

**The Safe at Home program received 252 referrals this year:**

- 125 clients were supported to remain safe in their own homes.
- 62 clients were referred to other services due to the service criteria of the SAH program.

The brokerage provided to South West Refuge was primarily used in providing critical upgrades of security to their property.

**A new Financial Counselling service commenced in February this year.**

16 referrals were received across the service programs. The Financial Counselling service assists clients with debt management and short term money planning in addition to creditor negotiation and referrals and information on services available to clients to assist with budgeting such as converting fines to community service or utilities vouchers. The Financial Counsellor also provides Emergency Relief to clients based on need.

## Refuge – Crisis Accommodation

Due to the Moratorium on evictions during COVID 19, our average length of stay went from 47 days to 153 days as the availability of local housing reduced. Additionally, rental fees increased in line with increased demand as the economic fallout from unemployment (due to COVID 19) affected Landlords who needed to sell their rental home due to hardship. The flow on effect of higher rental fees placed the local market of affordable rentals out of reach of refuge clients single income households.

Alternative accommodation options also became scarce as Caravan Park operators experienced a surge in local tourism due to state border lockdowns.

We purchased a sofa bed to increase the comfort of our overnight staff and placed a bed & trundle in the intake room for emergency night accommodation.

# 194

women and women with children were **referred to other services** due to the program being at full capacity.

This represented a two fold increase in demand in refuge accommodation.

# 132

families were accommodated in the refuge during the year.

## Our Child Advocate service continues to provide support to our Mums with education, school and childcare liaison and children's activities.

All children in the refuge see the Child Advocate to ensure they have the assistance they need and to identify any resources, strategies or support to assist them overcome the impact of family and domestic violence.



## **30 women and 32 children were supported during the year in our new Domestic Violence Outreach program.**

The program commenced in January 2020 and provides information, advocacy and practical support to women and children across the south west region of WA experiencing family and domestic violence. This has been a welcome service to the region which provides support to women and children exiting the refuge, many of who could not access the Safe at Home program due to specific criteria. A weekly peer group workshop was held where women could learn about the impacts of domestic violence, obtain support and enjoy activities in a friendly and safe environment.

## **South West Women's Health & Information Services:**

A collaboration with South West Womens Health Service has provided an opportunity for our Financial Counselling Service to operate from the centre to greater numbers of women in the local community who wish to see a Financial Counsellor. A very exciting new joint project will be operational later in the year.

## **Our Legal Assistance service helped 47 women.**

South West Refuge have partnered with the South West Community Legal Centre and the Southern Aboriginal Corporation to provide on site free legal consultation sessions. During the year 47 women sought the assistance of the on site legal assistance to submit Family Violence Restraining Orders, criminal compensation and tenancy advocacy.

## **A new place to store our donations:**

A new storage facility has been secured for the large amount of donations we receive from our generous community. Donations of clothing and household goods are essential to provide clients with items they need in the refuge or when they leave us to move into a new home. Our new Business Support Officer role has transformed our cluttered and overflowing storage rooms to easily identifiable goods in racks and shelving. The bulk of donations being stored nearby has freed up so much space.







## Our People

South West Refuge has 21 staff which remains consistent with last year. Our Team consists of 13 Advocates, 1 Child Advocate, 2 corporate staff, two Safe at Home Coordinators, an Outreach worker, Financial Counsellor and CEO.

We said goodbye to two long serving staff and two casual staff. A new roster was introduced to provide increased day time coverage so we may provide more flexible coordinated support in response to our client needs.

Our turnover last year was 20% which is relatively low within our industry and provides an indication of stability in our practice and a healthy staff morale. Our organisational structure has changed to reflect the increased opportunity for developing our staff leadership skills. In addition Key Performance activities were reviewed in line with the structural changes.

# 21 Staff and 8 Volunteers

Our volunteers include our Board Members who come from diverse industry backgrounds bringing skills and experiences that enable us to develop policy and practice that is inclusive and contemporary.

### **Board Member training included;**

- The role and duties of the Board Secretary
- The role of the Board

Professional Development is critical for staff to obtain and maintain skills to perform their role.

### **Professional Development included the following;**

- Safe and Together training
- Grant writing
- The Childhood Trauma puzzle
- Occupational Health & Safety Representative Course
- Bullying and harassment
- Mental Health First Aid
- Fitting a Child Safety Seat

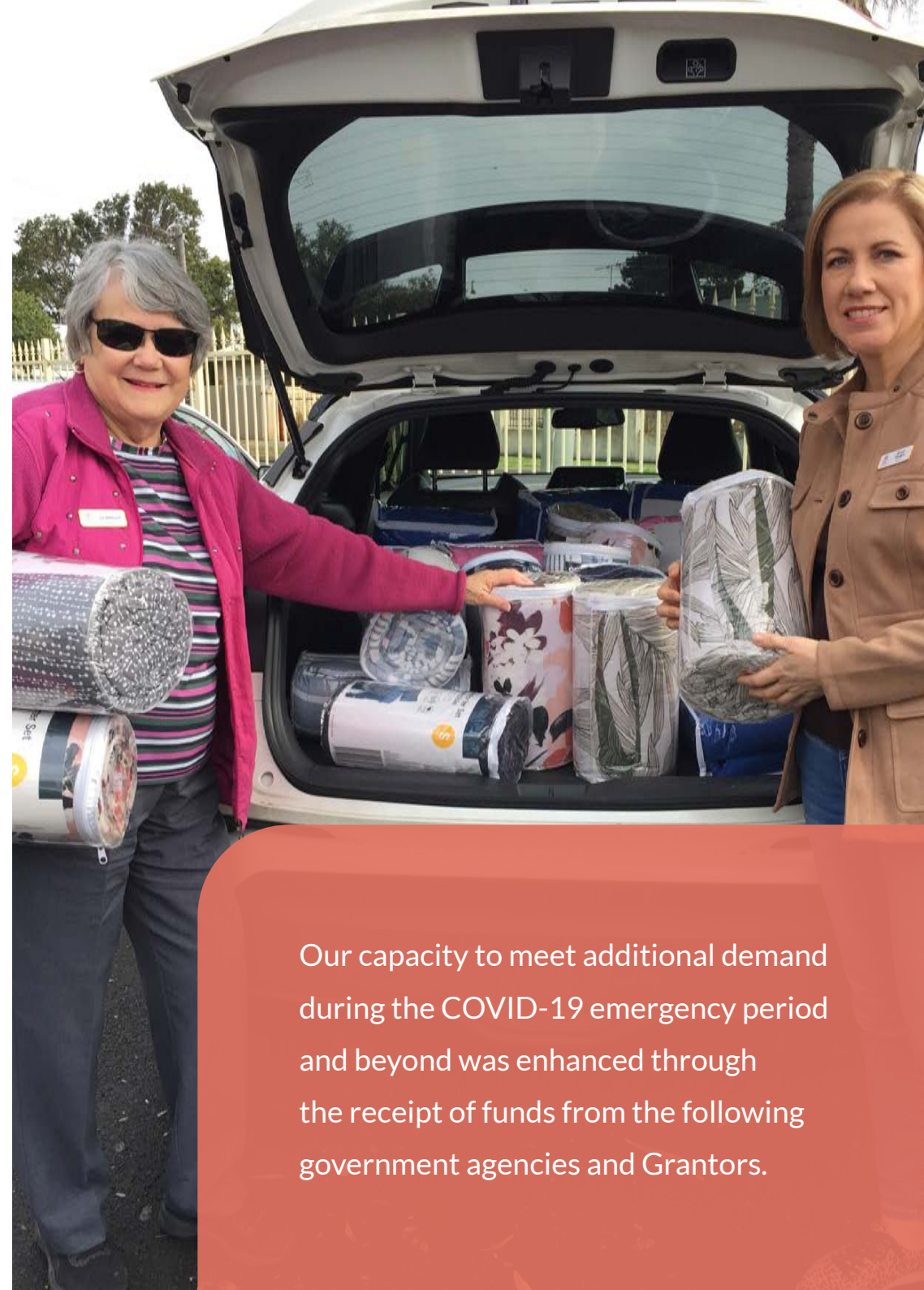
Our staff are supported to maintain their wellbeing and safety by accessing regular Clinical Supervision. Staff are also able to access Employee Assistance as required.



## Our Partners

**We wish to acknowledge and thank our Funders and Grantors for supporting the ongoing operation of South West Refuge Inc.**

Thank you, your continued support will help us to join with other family and domestic violence services and agencies to meet the strategic objectives of the “Path To Safety” Western Australia’s strategy to reduce family and domestic violence 2020-2030 and the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children 2010-2022.



Our capacity to meet additional demand during the COVID-19 emergency period and beyond was enhanced through the receipt of funds from the following government agencies and Grantors.

## Funding Bodies

- Australian Government: Department of Social Services
- Government of Western Australia: Department for Communities:
  - Child Protection and Family Support
  - Housing
- Lotterywest
  - Emergency Relief
- WACOSS-Western Australian Council of Social Services
- South West Development Commission-Regional Grants Scheme

## Members

We value our Members who support the purpose, vision and values of our organisation and as Ambassadors of South West Refuge Inc spread the message of awareness, hope and support within our communities.

# Community Organisation Partners

---

We wish to acknowledge our organisational partners who we work with to provide wrap around services for our clients.

- South West Community Legal Centre
- Southern Aboriginal Corporation
- South West Womens Health and Information Service
- Department of Communities- Bunbury and Busselton
- Waratah Support Centre
- WA Police
- Relationships Australia
- Anglicare Financial Counselling
- Circle Green Community Legal
- Centre for Womens Safety & Wellbeing
- St Vincent De Paul
- Good Samaritans
- St Boniface Cathedral
- Intown Centre
- Doors Wide Open
- Pregnancy Assist
- South West Aboriginal Medical Service
- Accordwest
- Richmond Wellbeing
- South West Drug and Alcohol Service
- Centrecare

# Organisational Donors

Bunbury Forum  
Dreambuilders Church  
Nations Church  
Anglican Parish Mothers Union  
Bunbury City Glass  
Bunbury Runners Club  
Synergy Spirit  
Specsavers-Eaton  
Don Punch MLA  
Specsavers-Bunbury  
Crocs-Bunbury  
Simcoa Operations  
Dolphin Discovery  
Highway Hotel  
Paradise Day Spa  
Harwood & Co  
Iluka Resources  
Maker & Co  
MGM Bulk  
Bunbury Meditation  
Southern Ports Authority  
Bookworm 2000  
Tronox Pigment Bunbury  
Big Ethel Pty Ltd  
Newmont Boddington  
Seaview Social  
Alice Enterprises  
Gravity Dalyellup  
Nola Marino MP  
Woolworths Plaza-Bunbury  
MGIB  
Minderoo  
Southern Seawater Joint  
Streetsmart  
Zonta Club-Bunbury  
Bunbury Self Storage  
Lions Club Eaton  
Our Lady of Lourdes  
Bunbury Regional Hospital  
Moshi Moshi  
Regis Aged Care  
Advanced Auto Solutions

## A huge thank-you!

A massive thank you to our donors and sponsors and to all our individual donors who generously contributed time, goods and money to support us in our work over the year.

Caf-fez Bunbury  
WA Police  
MugnBrush  
YaYas Book Club  
Terry White Chemist  
Blush Beauty Bar  
Backstop Foundation  
Global Diagnostics  
Harmonic IT  
One Direction Church  
St Boniface Cathedral  
Strong Angel Charity  
Dardenup Senior Citizens  
CWA Southern Belles  
Belcanto Knitting Group  
Share the Dignity  
Bunbury Seventh Day Adventist Church  
Woodstock West Retirement Village  
Ride Against Domestic Violence  
Buckingham Family Butchers Post  
Main Roads Bunbury Department  
Carey Park Anglican Church  
Bunbury Appliance Centre  
Waratah Support Centre  
Preventing Violence Against Women  
Australind Art Club  
Commonwealth Bank-Bunbury  
Masonic Village Social Club  
Womens Interest Group  
True Brothers Social Club  
Minx Hairdressing

## Individual Donors

Tracey Jackson

Dayna Garnie

Michelle Meyer

Lucinda Putland

Annabelle Gurney

Janelle Norrish

Trish Howe

Alison Comparti

Rehanna Arthur

Kirsty Pound

Diane Evers

Carol McKenzie

Rob Namestrik

Pauline Kelly

Nicole Obrien

Jenny Kieyser

Amber Fabry

Rosemary Piltaid

Cheryl Quintal

Marg Robertson

Hiltje Stenecker

Dortea Hayes

Marise Baldwin

Mrs Amos

Zoella Emerson

Jenny Creasey

Lorraine Shiners

Danielle Rideen

Caroline Glass

Tia Read

Karen Depiazzi

Cassie Law

Robin Lonsdale

Betty Waters

Rob Graham

Carol Maclean

Annabel Kannakis

Mandy Walker

Gary Hallsworth

Tracey Hastings

Judith Chapman

Kristy Hadcroft

Meaghan Allen-Kingdon

Armani Harvey

Jodie Giraud

Craig McDonald

Lisa Reilly

Margaret Doyle

Sandra Limon

Jenni Hamson

Lisa Devine

Alex Pittard

Natalie Griffin

Mimi Teasdale

Jill Reading

Amy Buswell

Tod Poutsma

Jenny McDonnell

James Runka

Craig Bovell

Aoife McGreal

Bronwyn Mumme

Victoria Beresford

Heidi Hall

Rhiannon Godber

Joan Mortan

Lauren Baxter

Anthea Openshaw

Julie and Natasha Taylor

Fiona Hinas & Karen Collins

Margaret Tidy

Cheryl Smith

## A huge thank-you!

Thank you to all our individual donors who generously contributed time, goods and money to support us in our work over the year.

Your donations directly support the women and children who use our services and we could not help them without your support.



Faye Cooper

Clare Flynne

Mary Joy Fagan

Thelma Richards

Kerryn Chambers

L. Foster

Lee family

Margaret Davies

Lisa Hemmings

Joan Puzey

Amy Gumbrell

B Fretz

Rose Noble

Jo Pitts

Anthea Marta

Wade Pickering

Kaysha Roe

T. Schoerman

Bruce Plakett

Nicola O'Brien

Helen Edwards

Sharon Bissaker

Lorrie McKenzie

C DiBona

Jenelle Dunn

Cheryl Quintal

Rae DeRussell

Lisa Campbell

L Russe

Laura Maslin

Zoella Emerson

Claire Gudjin

Homsley

Lisa Bodley

Denice Dunn

July Talbot

Renee Milbank

Anthea Marta

Anita Watten

Pat Warren



# Treasurer's Report



**Mrs Carina Roney**

BComm, MAppFin, CA, CNZ

Treasurer

The audited financial statements show that South West Refuge Inc. had a net surplus of \$178,956 for the 2020/21 financial year compared to a surplus of \$81,104 last financial year. The total income this year was \$1,890,372 and the expenses were \$1,711,416 to give the net surplus of \$178,956.

The income this year is \$14,795 more than last year. This increase reflects an upswing in donations, increased Government Funding (including the Federal Government's Jobkeeper support package), increased utilisation of the Refuge's short term safe house rental accommodation and the receipt of solar tax credits following the installation of solar panels on all seven of those safe houses.

We are very appreciative of the continued community support in these economically and socially challenging times.

The expenses this year are \$83,057 less than last year. The comparative decrease is due to the finalisation of the Value Add Project (the Refuge refurbishment) with the majority of expenditure having already been made by the end of last year. There was however increased expenditure on other capital items out of scope of the Value Add Project including the solar panels and the weather-safe blinds in the courtyard area to make that area much more appealing and functional all year round.

The Government funded Main Grant for the Refuge increased by \$41,188 this year.

With mandated wage rises and other costs increasing we continue to rely on non Government funding such as grants, donations and fundraising initiatives to maintain our service standards. Continued gratitude goes to all our generous supporters.

The individual Job Profit & Loss Statements for government funded Main Grant and Safe at Home programs are as follows: Main Grant, net deficit of \$20,857 for 2020/21 (net nil position for 2019/20), and Safe at Home program net deficit of \$28,113 for 2020/21 (deficit \$12,456 for 2019/20).

The individual Job Profit and Loss Statements for the offsite rental accommodation programs are as follows:

Housing commission provided Rental Units net deficit of \$18,433 for 2020/21 (deficit \$26,878 for 2019/20), and owned Backstop Units net deficit of \$65,993 for 2020/21 (net deficit of \$10,133 for 2019/20).

It is also noted that this deficit this year reflects that the Refuge was required to recognise an expense of \$54,073 associated with the revaluation to fair market value of the Busselton freehold Backstop Units as required under accounting standards.

The Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2021 continues to show a sound position with the ability to pay liabilities when they fall due. Our Total Equity as at 30 June 2021 was \$1,368,441. Our liquidity is in a healthy position because Current Assets exceed Current liabilities by \$795,560 and the assets include \$1,067,676 in Cash.

Our main Government funding continues to be from the Department of Communities (Child Protection & Family Support) funded by both the State and Federal Government. This funding has been secured to 30 June 2022. As per AMD Chartered Accountants Auditor's Report the ongoing operations of the Refuge and ability to continue as a going concern is dependent on the continued receipt of this funding.

This has been my second year as the appointed Treasurer of the board and I would like to thank in particular the CEO Ali, administration support staff and fellow finance committee members, Nerida and Margaret, for your invaluable assistance and continued support. Thank you also to my other fellow board members.

**Mrs Carina Roney**  
TREASURER