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▲ Ramsaran, who received treatment for his clubfoot through a CBM partner, stands with his father and a CBM fieldworker in the hills of Nepal near their home.

◀ Cover: A woman enjoys taking part in a disaster management committee meeting in Bangladesh. © 2018 Fahad Kaizer/CBM Australia

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MESSAGES FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR AND CEO

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

Since May 2017 I have been privileged to lead the CBM Australia Board. As Board Chair, I am pleased by the steps we've taken to strengthen our governance structures ensuring we can continuously improve and see even greater impact in the empowering of people with disabilities.

I pay tribute to the CEO, Senior Management Team and the combined effort of our entire staff and volunteer cohort – we are all working towards preventing disability, eradicating poverty and transforming the lives of people with disabilities through services and advocacy.

This past year has seen a very positive financial result, including reducing overall costs. It was also significant as we evaluated our progress within our 2014–2018 Strategic Plan, and began to shape the direction of CBM Australia for 2019 and beyond.

In the Bible, the book of Proverbs encourages us to “speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves”. Every single donation, each prayer, every act of solidarity with people living with disabilities in poverty: each one creates a “speaking up” and a ripple effect of change. I am exceptionally proud to be part of this change that we all want to see in the world.

I am delighted to present to you our 2017 Annual Report and encourage any feedback.



Mick Turnbull
Board Chair
CBM Australia

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

It is humbling to reflect throughout this Annual Report on the power and impact of CBM Australia's work empowering people with disabilities in 2017.

This impact is only made possible by the dedicated Australians who stand with us and enable positive global change. This includes our dedicated supporters, our program partners, and the Australian Government's aid program. Thank you for the part you played in 2017.

We've been encouraged by the expansion of our inclusive eye-health work, the strengthening of our community-based rehabilitation services, and improving livelihood and education opportunities for people with disabilities. You can discover more about these programs on pages 12–17.

Additionally, our work mainstreaming disability inclusion into development efforts made great strides. CBM Australia is now part of key partnerships that will bring disability inclusion into humanitarian response and the Australian Government's development program. You'll find information about these positive partnerships on pages 20–25.

CBM Australia was incredibly blessed by our loyal supporters who gave more than \$24 million in 2017. This means our work can continue empowering people with disabilities. Read about our fundraising efforts on pages 28–33.



Jane Edge
Chief Executive Officer
CBM Australia



▲ Jane meeting families supported by CBM's work in Indonesia.

A SNAPSHOT OF ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2017



WE RECEIVED

>\$24.2 million

FROM GENEROUS AUSTRALIANS who make our work empowering people with disabilities possible

>82,000

LOYAL SUPPORTERS stood with CBM Australia

WE WORKED WITH **65** PARTNERS around the world including the Australian Government, disability representative bodies, disabled people's organisations and local field partners

WE SUPPORTED **38** CBM AUSTRALIA FIELD PROGRAMS and nine global CBM programs

^ Young girls in Bangladesh benefit from seeing women and people with disabilities as role models.

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR BOARD

CBM is an international Christian development organisation committed to improving the quality of life of people with disabilities in the poorest places of the world.

CBM Australia smoothly transitioned our Board leadership in 2017 with Mick Turnbull becoming Chair in May. Outgoing Chair Bill Austin concluded his nine-year service to the Board, six years as Chair, with warm acknowledgment at that time. The Board has well-developed succession planning in place.

CBM Australia has been guided by the Board to leverage financial performance for the best program impact, which resulted in a strong

financial outlook. For the past three years, 2015 to 2017, CBM Australia has transferred over \$75 million to field projects which is the highest level ever reached. The impact achieved is amplified by continuing to grow our technical advisory work, providing expertise to the Australian Government and other organisations to implement disability-inclusive development in their programs.

“I thank the Board for the many volunteer hours given in 2017 to preparation, sharing insight, and deliberation. We are grateful for the Board’s significant investment in ensuring that our Board and Senior Management Team are building a strong future for CBM Australia’s operations, and most importantly seeking sustainable and positive solutions for the people and partners we work alongside.”

– Mick Turnbull, Chair



▲ CBM Australia Board as at June 2017. Back left to right: Tim Budge, Karen Streckfuss, Benjamin Smith, Helen Green. Front left to right: Elizabeth Lucas, Eliane Miles, Mick Turnbull, Shawn Choong.

MICK TURNBULL, CHAIR

Appointed to the Board as Chair Elect in September 2016, Mick is a professional company director in both the profit and not-for-profit sectors and holds qualifications in management. During 2017, Mick was appointed as Board Chair at the May Annual General Meeting and he was a Member of all Committees.

KAREN STRECKFUSS, DEPUTY CHAIR

Karen joined the Board in 2014. She holds Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws degrees and is a barrister at the Victorian Bar. During 2017, Karen was appointed Board Deputy Chair and was a Member of the Board Development & Human Resources and Community Engagement & Fundraising Committees.

TIM BUDGE

Appointed to the Board in 2015, Tim holds Bachelor degrees in Science and Theology and a Masters of Entrepreneurship and Innovation. In 2017, Tim was a Member of the Programs and Community Engagement & Fundraising Committees and a Member of the CBM International Supervisory Assembly.

ELIZABETH LUCAS

Elizabeth joined the Board in November 2016. She is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and a Partner with Grant Thornton. In 2017, Elizabeth was Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee.

ELIANE MILES

Eliane joined the Board in November 2016. Research Director at McCrindle, Eliane is a social researcher, consultant and strategist. During 2017, she became Chair of the Community Engagement & Fundraising Committee and was a Member of the Board Development Committee (part year).

BENJAMIN SMITH

Ben was appointed to the Board in 2011. Ben holds a Doctor of Philosophy alongside qualifications in social work and public health. In 2017, Ben was Chair of the Programs Committee and a Member of the Community Engagement & Fundraising Committee.

HELEN GREEN

Appointed to the Board in 2010, Helen has qualifications in development and management. In 2017, Helen was a Member of the Finance & Audit and Programs Committees.

SHAWN CHOONG

Shawn joined the Board in 2012. He is an obstetrician gynaecologist specialising in ultrasound. In 2017, Shawn was Chair of the Board Development & Human Resources Committee and a Member of the Finance & Audit Committee.

OUR CBM VALUES



International

Professional

Christian

Inclusive

Integrity

Communication

^ Raul, from the Philippines, was able to access sight-saving surgery through a CBM partner.

WHERE WE WORK

3

ETHIOPIA

Learn how we're working with local partners to eliminate trachoma through providing antibiotics and improving water systems and sanitation. Read more on page 28.

NIGER

Discover how our work with self-help groups is encouraging people with disabilities to be included in their communities and giving them a voice to advocate for change. Read more on page 14.

INDONESIA

Learn how our work creating inclusive eye health services is ensuring all people can access the vital medical care they need. Discover more on page 13.

BANGLADESH

Read about the impact of our advocacy and inclusion programs, which are seeing women and girls with disabilities protected and included in their communities. Find out more on page 16.

PHILIPPINES

Read about our record-breaking Miracles Day which featured our eye health work and stories from the Philippines. Find out more on page 30.

IN 2017, OUR PROGRAMS AND ADVOCACY PARTNERS WORKED IN:

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Ethiopia F | 8 Cambodia F | 15 Sri Lanka A | 22 Tonga A |
| 2 South Sudan F | 9 Vietnam FA | 16 Mongolia A | 23 Samoa A |
| 3 Tanzania F | 10 Philippines FA | 17 Zimbabwe A | 24 Fiji A |
| 4 Cameroon F | 11 Indonesia F | 18 South Africa A | 25 Paraguay A |
| 5 Niger F | 12 Bangladesh F | 19 Timor-Leste A | 26 Nicaragua A |
| 6 Nigeria F | 13 India FA | 20 Papua New Guinea A | |
| 7 Togo F | 14 Pakistan A | 21 Vanuatu A | |

F Field Partners

A Advocacy and Advisory Partners

CBM MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Australia | 6 Italy |
| 2 Germany | 7 Switzerland |
| 3 Canada | 8 Ireland |
| 4 New Zealand | 9 Kenya |
| 5 United Kingdom | 10 South Africa |

OUR FIELD PROGRAMS



My name is Edwina Faithfull-Farmer, and I am the Director of International Programs. I work with our committed field program team based in Melbourne bringing change in the lives of people with disabilities and those at risk in poor communities.

This past year has seen the expansion of our inclusive eye-health program including new work in India and increased prevention of blinding trachoma in Ethiopia. Another highlight has been our teams learning from partners and from people with disabilities about the difference community self-help groups make in our programs.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Our field programs have continued to prevent blindness, eradicate poverty and transform the lives of people with disability. In 2017, we supported 38 CBM Australia field programs and nine global CBM programs, through 47 partners, to ensure greater opportunities for people with disabilities to improve their lives and engage in their communities.

In one of our priority areas, we have strengthened our prevention of blindness work at field level, for example, by training staff and strengthening hospital systems, increasing eye screening and treatment in poor communities and providing assistive devices such as glasses. In Bangladesh, we strengthened disability inclusion in eye-health services. In Ethiopia, we continued to eliminate blinding trachoma and in India, we funded three new projects to improve inclusive eye-health and rehabilitation services.

In 2017, tens of thousands of men, women, boys and girls with disabilities and their families were

supported through CBM Australia's community-based approach to disability inclusion, bringing income and livelihood opportunities. Building on our strong partnerships and using learning, we strengthened new phases of work in India, Vietnam and Nigeria. People with disabilities were supported in setting up businesses, gaining employment and producing their own food to sell, all contributing to the eradication of poverty.

CBM Australia's work through the creation of community self-help groups and disabled people's organisations (DPOs) helped reduce isolation and fostered community. During 2017, hundreds of community groups were established and supported within CBM Australia's projects. They reduce the isolation of people with disabilities in their own communities and help them to access livelihood opportunities and services. CBM Australia also supported this by working with governments to ensure people with disabilities were included in local services.

47
PARTNERS IN CBM AUSTRALIA SUPPORTED PROGRAMS

14
COUNTRIES

5
NEW PROJECTS



MAKING AN IMPACT IN EYE HEALTH

▲ DPO members stand outside the National Eye Hospital in Indonesia.

Now in its third year of implementation, CBM Australia's Inclusive System for Effective Eye Care Project (ISEE) aims to address two of CBM Australia's core themes – preventing blindness and empowering people with disabilities to access health services.

This project is supported by the Australian Government and CBM Australia supporters and works with a regional health office in Indonesia, partnering with four public hospitals to provide better quality health and inclusion services for all people.

The region of Bandung District has one of Indonesia's highest rates of blindness prevalence (1.9% of the district population), and a large backlog exists for cataract surgery.

In 2017, through ISEE, 143,375 people were screened for eye-health conditions, and if needed, referred to

the appropriate health services. And more than 900 cataract surgeries were performed in the district.

This project has trained over 30 community nurses in eye health so they can work with primary health centres across the Bandung District. This means more people available to help address eye-health needs in communities.

More than 520 government health workers were trained in disability inclusion, ensuring all people can access medical and health care, including people with disabilities.

The district hospital in Bandung was upgraded to be more accessible for people with disabilities, with the addition of ramps, an elevator, modification of service desks and annual disability awareness training. Because of the improvements, the hospital received a five-star accreditation status from the national health authority.

Another project achievement was building the capacity of DPOs, improving their confidence and knowledge to allow them to further their call for inclusion of people with disabilities.

“In the beginning I was not brave to interact with others, now I am brave in speaking at forums,” says Yana, DPO Field Coordinator.

LESSONS LEARNED

People with disabilities can be difficult to locate in communities, often being the most excluded. The relationship of a disabled people’s organisation with their members can be a big advantage – linking individuals to others working in the community, providing advice on strong, genuine participation opportunities for people with disabilities.

Trying to influence a government hospital to improve its systems to be more 'disability friendly' is a slow process. However, it is better to focus on getting improved systems embedded and embraced, rather than setting up parallel systems, as this will have ongoing benefits for people with disability.

HALASEY: SECURITY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

The idea of *Halasey* (meaning ‘security’ in the local language) is incredibly important for people with disabilities living in Niger. *Halasey* means a more hopeful future for people with disabilities.

Our work in Niger focuses on community-based inclusive development (CBID) programs, encouraging community awareness and inclusion of people with disabilities. This project is supported by the Australian Government and CBM Australia supporters.

One example of our work is the creation of local self-help groups, including one that has been named *Halasey* by its members.

These groups help to break down stigma associated with disability, raise awareness about health services for children and adults with disabilities, and ensure people with disabilities are included in activities and events within their community. CBM Australia’s partner also provides training on

disability and human rights and follow-up support to *Halasey*. The president of *Halasey* shares:

“Before, people with disability were out of the community but now they are involved in many activities and are even getting married.”

During 2017, through our program evaluations, we found that people with psychosocial disabilities are now invited to community events, weddings, and traditional naming ceremonies. Committee members have also noticed women are going to health centres for consultations and immunisations. People with disabilities, or their family members, are now approaching the committee and health centres to ask for help, and people with disabilities are becoming involved in vocational training.



CBID AND CLUBFOOT

Our program also raises awareness about clubfoot and facilitates access to treatment.

Our partner works to build community understanding of clubfoot and connects people to available treatment through radio, speaking to village chiefs and religious leaders. We provide information at health centres and work with midwives and traditional nurses who identify infants with clubfoot. A small team of medical staff at the regional hospital operates and offers treatment for children.

Iliya, whose son Alio was born with clubfoot, had a motorbike accident while pregnant, and her community believed that her accident caused her son to develop clubfoot. However, after receiving a pamphlet explaining clubfoot, Alio is now being treated at a health care centre. Iliya is very happy about the treatment and can see the difference that’s been made to Alio’s life. She believes Alio has a more secure future!

◀ Iliya and her son Alio, who received treatment for clubfoot.

LESSONS LEARNED

Awareness-raising about health conditions, impairment and disability is more effective when community leaders and existing service providers share the same message. Village chiefs and religious leaders are a very strong influence, informing their community and changing attitudes towards people with clubfoot.

Seeing is believing. We know attitude change is a slow process; however, attitudes do change when community members see for themselves the achievements of people with disabilities and the outcome of accessing a service. This reinforces messages of inclusion.

Involving community members from a range of backgrounds means the influence of key messages goes into many different parts of the community. Health services, media, different villages, men, women and various other groups are informed by this approach.

The ongoing and sustained effect of the work is strengthened by this breadth of community involvement and by strong encouragement from CBM partners.



“WE ARE NOW RECOGNISED AND RESPECTED”

In Bangladesh, a woman with disability shares the impact of CBM's project: “We are now recognised and respected. People do not call us names anymore. Society is aware of our strength. They think we have access to the law.”

Our Promotion of Human Rights of People with Disabilities in Bangladesh project works to improve the inclusion of people with disabilities, particularly women and children, in their communities, empowering them to access livelihood opportunities.

This multi-faceted project, supported by the Australian Government and CBM Australia supporters, is achieving inclusion by working closely with and building the capacity of self-help groups and other representative bodies.

This ensures they have the tools to provide advice and support to local non-governmental organisations and government partners, which means they can deliver more effective and sustainable services for people with disabilities.

We also work closely with four legal aid agencies to strengthen the knowledge of self-help groups and legal departments to improve access to justice for women, children and people with disabilities.

Additionally, we have piloted inclusive education opportunities as a strategic avenue to empower

girls with disabilities, which helps them gain an education.

OUTCOME OF 2017 REVIEW

Our 2017 review found some strong outcomes. The project has increased people with disabilities' awareness of their rights. They have gained confidence and voice, and can talk to government officials about receiving their entitlements.

We also discovered that people with disabilities have found livelihood opportunities through their self-help groups, to start poultry businesses, establish sewing and tailoring services, operate grocery shops and open book stores. With the help of local partner organisations, and through vocational training, at least 25 people with disabilities are now employed in local garment factories.

▲ These women belong to self-help groups that provide leadership training and education about their rights. This empowers them to approach local authorities to lobby for and access services like social protection government allowances for people with disability.

Our advocacy efforts at a government level are also having an impact. As of June 2017, 44 people with disabilities (41% women) have become members of local council Standing Committees, which give

advice on the delivery of community programs and how council budgets are spent. Another significant achievement is that more children with disabilities are enrolled in mainstream schools.

LESSONS LEARNED

Mentoring key leaders in local councils on community budgeting has led to councils becoming more inclusive. This has meant considering relevant legislation and applying disability inclusion in government safety net schemes. This has resulted in increased representation of people with disability in local council standing committees, as well as ensuring people with disabilities benefit from ongoing social and economic programs.

Local councils are best at supporting parents to enrol children with disabilities in school and funding small-scale infrastructure such as accessible water and sanitation facilities. These contributions have been significant in increasing the number of children with disabilities enrolled in government primary schools.



“The philosophy of our mission is the witness of that faith which is active through love.”

ERNST CHRISTOFFEL,
FOUNDER OF CBM

← Pauline, from Uganda, sits outside her home. She was able to access surgery for her knock knees through a CBM partner.

© 2017 CBM

PARTNERING WITH OTHERS



My name is Raine Dixon and I am the Director of the Inclusive Development Department. My team includes advisors and advocates who work with other international aid agencies to raise their awareness of disability inclusion and who then support these agencies to include people with disabilities in their programs. Highlights in 2017 included involving people with disabilities in plans for disaster response under the new Australian Humanitarian Partnerships program and bringing a representative from the Fijian Deaf community to Australia to share her experience with the Australian Government and aid agencies.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

This year has seen the Inclusive Development Department continue to reach and include more people with disabilities in Australia's international development efforts.

We have deepened our relationship with current advocacy and advisory partners, established new long-term relationships with both national and government bodies, and seen our advocacy and awareness-raising efforts go further than ever before.

In 2017, CBM Australia worked with 18 partners, from international non-government organisations (NGOs) to international government ministries and peak disability representative bodies. Our partners included World Vision Australia, WaterAid Australia, Oxfam Australia, Plan International Australia, RedR, UNICEF Australia, World Federation of the Deaf, Tongan Ministry of Health, Partnership for Human Development in Timor-Leste, Scope Global, AVI (Australian Volunteers International), the Nossal Institute for Global Health, CARE Australia, CANDO (Church Action Network Development Organisations), Pacific Disability Forum, the

Whitelum Group, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and Palladium.

An exciting opportunity was seeing CBM Australia included as part of the new Australian Humanitarian Partnerships (AHP), which brings together groups of Australian NGOs to improve how we rapidly respond to global crises. CBM Australia is a partner in three separate groups (led by World Vision Australia, Plan International Australia and Oxfam Australia). CBM Australia will provide disability inclusion advice to these groups while also offering broader advice to all AHP partners.

A significant 2017 achievement was signing the DFAT-CBM Partnership for Provision of Disability Technical Advice and Services. This three-year agreement will see CBM Australia, along with our long-term partner, the Nossal Institute of Global Health, work closely with DFAT to improve awareness, capacity, policy and practice of disability inclusion throughout the Australian aid program. The DFAT-CBM Partnership will ensure more people with disabilities can contribute to and benefit from the development efforts of Australia's aid program.

3
NEW
PARTNERSHIPS

30
DISABILITY-INCLUSIVE
DEVELOPMENT
TRAININGS

18
ORGANISATIONS
PARTNERED WITH

21
COUNTRIES
VISITED

LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND



© 2017 Erin Johnson/CBM Australia

▲ Harriette, from Vanuatu, lives with acquired deafness; here she holds a bag she wove.

In 2017, a major achievement was the publication of our *Leave No One Behind* paper. This paper highlights groups within the disability community who are at heightened risk of being left behind in development efforts, specifically Deaf people, people with intellectual disabilities, people with psychosocial disabilities and people with multiple impairments.

Accompanying the *Leave No One Behind* paper, CBM Australia worked with key Deaf and disability stakeholders in the Pacific to call for the Australian Government to better understand the needs of the Deaf community in the Pacific and commit to supporting those needs.

Women in the Pacific shared their experiences of being part of the Deaf community, including Harriette from Vanuatu. In Vanuatu, like many Pacific countries, there is no formal sign language. Harriette, who is 48 years old and lives with acquired deafness, stopped her education at primary school as no sign language interpreter or extra teaching assistance was available to her. Without education and a recognised sign language, Harriette's access to formal employment has been challenging, while full inclusion in her community is limited.

The *Leave No One Behind* paper highlights the declaration in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that sign languages are equal in status to spoken languages, and are essential to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development so no one is left behind.

Importantly, this work brings the lived experiences of Deaf people to the attention of DFAT and the wider international development sector.

Underpinning the disability movement is the motto: *Nothing about us, without us*. Living out this principle, CBM Australia invited Cathy Nasarua, along with her interpreter Gael Seru, from the Fiji Association of the Deaf to meet with Australian politicians and raise awareness of the specific issues that Deaf people in the Pacific face.

During her visit, Cathy also presented at the Australian Council for International Development's (ACFID) 2017 Conference. Cathy was the first person with a disability to present during the closing session. Her message had a deep impact on attendees, which was evident as the whole audience applauded in sign language at the conclusion of the session.

This example shows the importance and impact of providing a platform for people with disabilities to share their own experiences in order to bring about lasting change in their lives and their communities.

OUR WORK WITH AUSTRALIAN EMBASSIES AND HIGH COMMISSIONS

An integral part of the Inclusive Development department's work is the long-term partnership with the DFAT, providing advice and supporting DFAT's implementation of disability-inclusive development (DID) practice.

A component of this partnership is providing technical DID training to DFAT's diplomatic staff who work at overseas Australian embassies and high commissions.

CBM Australia tailors advice to help DFAT staff understand how the Australian Government's disability strategy applies to diplomatic and aid work; develops the capacity of staff and organisations who are implementing parts of the Australian aid program; and establishes and deepens linkages with DPOs and civil society.

A key part of the success of CBM Australia's engagement with DFAT is the involvement of local DPOs as this highlights the lived experience of people with disabilities within the local context. All DFAT visits involve DPOs who, depending on their interest and capacity, will be co-facilitators, panellists or stakeholders in advisory meetings.

During 2017, CBM Australia completed visits to embassies and high commissions in Mongolia, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

The most recent visit to the Australian Embassy in Mongolia was undertaken by two CBM Australia Disability Inclusion Advisors. One significant outcome of this visit was disability inclusion training for all staff at the Ulaanbaatar embassy, building awareness and capacity to incorporate disability inclusion within the embassy's development, foreign policy, corporate and trade functions.



© 2017 Briana Wilson/CBM Australia

▲ CBM Australia Disability Inclusive Advisors, Emily (far left), and Briana (far right) with DPO panel members at the Australian Embassy in Mongolia.

At the conclusion of the training, one embassy staff member commented, "I will always think about what the possible solution can be for disability limitations in my work area, as well as in my daily life."

One highlight during the training was a panel session that included DPO representatives, with Deaf people and people with vision, mobility and intellectual impairments.

Panel members shared their stories to highlight the barriers faced by people with disabilities in Mongolia, and offered suggestions on how the Australian Embassy can help reduce these barriers by ensuring that disability inclusion is part of all its activities.

One of the presenters was Dulguun, a man from the Down's Syndrome Association, who shared part of his story with the Australian Embassy and development partners.

"Hello, everyone! My name is Dulguun. I'm from Mongolia. I have a loving family and many friends. I'm happy! I like reading, dancing, listening to music and have fun time with my cousins. I have Down Syndrome. My extra chromosome gives me more happiness, more love, more friends. I dream to have a nice job and study English. I'm not disabled, I'm differently abled. Able to make the world better and happier. I'm a happy Mongolian. 'Mongolian' means educated, smart, open and friendly. Please pass my message to everyone. Thank you!"

Since this visit, there is commitment from the embassy that staff will seek to strengthen disability inclusion within all its work, including programs, advocacy, public diplomacy and policy dialogue.



AUSTRALIAN HUMANITARIAN PARTNERSHIP

CBM Australia is proud to be working with partners under the Australian Government-funded Australian Humanitarian Partnership (AHP) and connecting them with DPOs to better prepare for disasters.

The AHP is a five-year agreement, bringing together Australian non-government organisations and other partners to help build preparedness and resilience with local organisations across the Pacific region so disasters can be managed more effectively.

In 2017, CBM Australia advisors consulted with DPOs – in particular the Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) – to hear the experiences of people with disabilities during Cyclones Winston and Pam and to identify ways disaster response systems could be strengthened to ensure people with disabilities are fully included in future response efforts.

Building on this consultation, CBM Australia brought several PDF representatives to Australia to draft a strategy that sets out how humanitarian

organisations, governments, the United Nations and other international development agencies need to work with them in preparing for and responding to a disaster.

As the AHP program gets underway, CBM Australia ensures that DPOs – and the voices of people with disabilities – are heard as part of the consultations, planning and design of response activities.

Some of these include ensuring people with disabilities receive cyclone warnings, are part of community evacuation efforts, have accessible facilities and access to required assistive devices, like wheelchairs during disaster recovery, and that they are part of the coordination and decision-making processes before, during and after disasters.

◀ With no nearby accessible evacuation centres, Naswaki evacuated to her brother's home when Cyclone Pam destroyed her own. It took several months for her home to be rebuilt and for Naswaki to earn an income again through weaving.

LESSONS LEARNED

- **Ensure diverse representation.** People with certain impairments are often more marginalised or excluded than others, particularly people with psychosocial, multiple or intellectual disabilities and Deaf people. It is important to always clarify who is represented by specific DPOs and seek to hear from people with impairment types who may not be well represented so development agencies can assist people with disabilities who are most marginalised.
- **Promote** DPO leadership and engagement as a vehicle for strengthening disability inclusion within programs, policies and guidance, and promote the role and capacity of DPOs more broadly by actively supporting the capacity of young and emerging leaders. It is essential to make time and support available to mentor young people with disabilities to help ensure a future generation of disability advocates.
- **Learn** to work together and know that learning should occur on both sides. CBM is committed to promote partnership that facilitates mutual benefits for both organisations involved by promoting equal working relationships with DPOs, where both organisations trust and respect each other.
- **Invest** in funding DPOs and their capacity, and encourage implementing partners to do so within programs also. It is important particularly to support DPO capacity development initiatives.



David also said to Solomon his son, “Be strong and courageous, and do the work. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord God, my God, is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you until all the work for the service of the temple of the Lord is finished.”

1 CHRONICLES 28:20

< Ahmed, from Ethiopia, is now the proud Chairperson of his community's water committee. Through CBM Australia and our partners, Ahmed's water source was improved and is now protected from contamination, meaning families are protected from the spread of trachoma and other waterborne diseases.

© 2017 Lucy Aulich/CBM Australia

CELEBRATING GENEROSITY



My name is Sophie Plumridge and I am the Director of Fundraising and Communications. I have the honour of witnessing the generosity of Australians transforming lives. I am proud to work with an enthusiastic team who enjoy sharing the impact of our work. We had an incredible year; our loyal supporters generously gave to our life-changing work through our appeals, supporting through their regular donations, being part of a record-breaking Miracles Day and leaving a gift in their Will.

THE IMPACT OF GENEROSITY

Our work combating River Blindness formed our end-of-financial-year campaign, and our loyal supporters generously gave to stop the spread of this blinding disease. Because of this generosity, CBM, with the support of the Australian Government and through our partners, has had a huge impact and the occurrence of River Blindness in targeted communities has greatly reduced. In fact, thanks to our supporters, entire villages in Nigeria no longer have any cases of River Blindness.

A recent review of our work on Neglected Tropical Diseases – including River Blindness – found that community awareness has increased and this has contributed to the reduced occurrence of the disease. Our work in training teachers is particularly effective in helping prevent River Blindness, especially among children.

In 2017, Australians also generously supported our efforts to eliminate blinding trachoma, a devastating disease that starts as an infection, develops into irreversible scarring of the eye and can result in blindness.

Because of this, the majority of community members in prevalent trachoma regions in Nigeria and Ethiopia have received Zithromax medication

and are guarded against trachoma infection for a whole year. Those identified with active trachoma have also been treated with antibiotics that stop the infection from causing lasting damage or blindness.

Community education on sanitation and hygiene is key to tackling trachoma. To assist with this we provided training that led to many households building their own pit latrines, which is a critical part of our trachoma work as this reduces the number of flies and the infection rate goes down.

In Ethiopia, our partners have also helped provide access to clean water, and helped communities build improved and protected springs and shallow wells. These ensure that people are able to wash their faces and hands with clean water, which is the first step in preventing trachoma.

Our regular givers, who continually and loyally support us, are the backbone of our work. They give us the sustainability to go further and reach more people with disabilities and their families. We deeply appreciate their commitment and resolve to see people with disabilities included in their communities and given the opportunity for an empowered future.

Thea, from the Philippines, was able to undergo sight-saving cataract surgery. Here, she hugs her grandmother. ➤



© 2016 CBM



© 2017 Erin Johnson for Room 3/CBM Australia

MIRACLES DAY

▲ Aljon (left) and Margil (right), from the Philippines, underwent sight-saving surgery through a CBM partner.

We couldn't talk about 2017 highlights without emphasising the generosity of Australians who made last year's Miracles Day our most successful ever.

Miracles Day was an extraordinary event on 17 August, when a partnership between CBM Australia and 26 Christian radio stations across Australia led to an outpouring of generosity. More than 10,400 radio listeners donated over \$1 million in just 16 hours.

Breakfast show hosts from the five biggest radio stations donated a week of their time to travel to a remote island in the Philippines, where they broadcast live for four days while witnessing the sight-saving work of CBM Australia and our partner.

"Travelling with the radio hosts to a village without a hospital nearby and seeing an operating theatre set up in the local town hall was something I won't forget," says Mariska Meldrum, Miracles Day Campaign Manager.

The goal was to see 30,000 "Miracles" given (a Miracle is a \$32 donation for a 12-minute surgery that restores someone's sight). Christian radio listeners stepped up to the challenge, donating 33,785 Miracles. There were so many calls to donate that CBM Australia's staff, volunteers and their friends and family rallied together to answer the phones at our Melbourne office.

Miracles Day is a wonderful way of not only giving sight-saving surgeries to more people in need but also introducing new people to the life-changing work of CBM and our partners.

10,478
AUSTRALIANS
GAVE A MIRACLE

33,785
\$32
MIRACLES

57%
DONORS ARE NEW
CBM AUSTRALIA SUPPORTERS

SUPPORTER MEETINGS

In 2017, we promoted our *Beneath the Baobab Tree* book for the final time, and travelled with three of the authors, Glenys Sigley, Lyn Wake, and Linda Mwanja, who shared their personal experiences witnessing CBM Australia's life-changing work in Africa.

Almost 500 people attended 16 Supporter Events, which were held right around Australia – from Parramatta to Toowoomba and Warrnambool.

Our CEO, Jane, attended meetings in South Australia and Queensland and remarked, "It is truly wonderful to meet our supporters who are deeply passionate about our work and to see their passion for change."

One lady who attended a supporter event in Queensland remarked, "Thank you so much for sharing the stories from the field. I'm so glad I came. I was so uplifted and inspired about your work that I will bring a friend next time. I appreciated that there was no pressure at the meeting to donate. It was a privilege to attend."

▼ Jane, CBM Australia CEO, meets dedicated CBM supporters at an event held in Adelaide.



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"One of the most humbling moments of my job is to meet the Australians, right around our country, who are passionate supporters of CBM Australia, or who are deeply interested in our work empowering people with disabilities. Our Supporter Events provide a unique platform to talk with people about the impact of their support."

LYNELLE, CBM AUSTRALIA'S SUPPORTER EVENTS MANAGER.



CHURCH ENGAGEMENT

▲ On the final day of a trachoma outreach camp in Uganda, partner staff and CBM team members gather together to pray for patients and CBM supporters around the world.

Every year, we are extended generous hospitality by churches across Australia who support our work.

In total, CBM Australia spoke at 31 churches, including in two new locations in Western Australia. One new location was Kalgoorlie, where we had the opportunity to conduct two Luke14 workshops at Kalgoorlie Baptist Church. The second new location was at Oasis Christian Church, where we collaborated with Pathway to Life Church to run two workshops and present during the Sunday service. These partnerships are invaluable as we seek to let Christians know about our work and help churches become more welcoming of people with disabilities and their families.

Other important partnerships are those we have with organisations such as Surrender, the Justice Conference and Christian Ministry Advancement. Our partnership with these organisations enables us to promote our work through speaking, displaying our videos and resources, and talking with event attendees. Altogether, we were present at 49 events

as sponsors. At the Justice Conference, Stevie Wills performed and presented a new poem, *Speak*, to over 1,000 people. We also conducted an interactive workshop on disability inclusion where participants worked together to solve a puzzle challenging them to recognise the barriers facing people with disabilities, and highlighting the importance of inclusion.

Our Luke14 program helps churches be inclusive of people living with disabilities. It is supported by an outstanding group of CBM Regional Coordinators who volunteer their time and find opportunities for CBM to present at local churches. Some of these opportunities include sharing with churches about CBM Australia's work, or running workshops to help churches become more inclusive of people with disabilities. Together, we ran 30 Luke14 events in 2017.

Many of our volunteers have a personal experience of disability and have developed a deep theology emanating from that experience and their faith.

RECOGNISING GIFT IN WILL

In 2017, we were honoured to receive more than \$5 million through our Gift in Will program.

These legacies allow our work to be sustained and see more people with disabilities given the opportunity to thrive. We are so blessed to receive legacies from people who desire their impact and compassion to continue to transform lives.

In December, CBM Australia recognised our Gift in Will supporters by hosting our inaugural Christmas Morning Tea at our office in Melbourne, where we had the opportunity to say thank you to some of our faithful supporters who have made the decision to leave a legacy to CBM Australia. It was a beautiful time where our staff and supporters fellowshiped together and heard a special message from Jane, our CEO, who shared how their support is transforming the lives of people with disabilities around the world.

This is one unique way our Relationship Managers honour those who have left a Gift in their Will to CBM Australia.



▲ David Lewis (right), CBM Focal Point for Inclusion in Eye Health and Environmental Sustainability, meets generous CBM supporters.

I am grateful to be a CBM supporter. When first introduced to CBM in June 1992 through my local church, I felt this was an organisation I wanted to support. I wanted to support people with disabilities who live in some of the poorest places and in desperate need, especially with cataract operations, where a relatively simple medical procedure can change a life forever.

My commitment to empower people with disabilities and partner with CBM comes from two verses: "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will reward them for what they have done." (Proverbs 19:17) and "What does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8).

These scriptures are a reminder of our personal responsibility and commitment in making a difference in the lives of people in need and with disability. For as long as the Lord enables me and gives me strength, I will seek to meet this commitment.

Leaving a Gift in my Will to CBM is an extension of this commitment, making a difference now and in eternity.

GEORGE, CBM SUPPORTER

INVESTING IN OUR STAFF



I'm Janelle Richards, Director of People and Culture. I have the pleasure of working with all organisational staff, implementing best-practice resources and procedures that ensure CBM Australia operates to the highest standards. This past year I've been excited to see the cultivating and sustaining of a continuous learning culture that can adapt to changing environments. I've also been encouraged by the feedback mechanisms that have been tested and used by our staff.

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS

Our international CBM values – inclusive, integrity, international, professional, Christian, communication – were at the forefront of all our People and Culture activities this year. These statements shape our accountability, both personally and organisationally, while also creating alignment with our strategy for each role.

We placed significant investment into our people through coaching tools and approaches, individual and team performance management, and a managers' community of practice.

We also revised all of our Policies and Standards of practice in line with the new ACFID Code of Conduct, which has been active since June 2017. Additionally, we conducted compliance training, including safety and security and child safeguarding training. The safety of our staff and the safety and dignity of all children who connect with our programs is paramount.

These three values were the most prominent in our People and Culture conversations and throughout our staff interactions:

*I am **professional**. I strive for improvement personally and organisationally.*

*I have **integrity**. I integrate my role with our strategy; I persevere despite challenges.*

*I am **inclusive**. I embrace diversity. I commit to grow my practice of inclusion.*

The CBM Australia family employee survey in 2017 provided valuable feedback. An area perceived as strong for CBM Australia employees was the organisational strategy. An area perceived as one for priority action was organisational adaptability and this challenge will be central to our 2019–2022 Strategy development.



104

EMPLOYEES INCLUDING
23 PART-TIMERS

74%

ARE FEMALE

26%

ARE MALE

17%

IDENTIFY AS A PERSON
WITH A DISABILITY*

* Includes those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments, which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others.

CBM AUSTRALIA'S OPERATIONS



My name is David Jones, and in my role as Chief Operating Officer I develop CBM Australia's strategic outlook, care for our financial management and sustainability, and manage our Board engagement. It is a joy to lead a professional cross-functional team who are driving CBM Australia to operate at its best, while also achieving our overarching organisational strategic objectives.

IMPROVING OUR SYSTEMS

In 2017, we took deliberate, considered steps to improve our organisational systems, and this resulted in implementing two new business critical enhancements.

The introduction of a new financial management system gives our organisation much better reporting and analysis, enabling more accurate tracking of income and expenses against financial budgets and operational targets.

We also finalised a comprehensive new relationship management system, which will underpin engagement and enable us to respond to our supporters in ways that are more meaningful.

These systems will take every part of our administration to a higher level of efficiency, which then drives each supporter's dollar further.

SUPPORTER SERVICES TEAM

Our Supporter Services Team (SST) continues to meaningfully and thoughtfully engage with our supporters who call to ask questions, pray or make a donation. Our SST responds to all enquiries, whether through feedback forms, letters or social media, and considers it an honour to speak with our supporters.

In 2017, our SST answered more than 20,700 calls, made more than 19,700 calls to supporters, responded to more than 8,300 emails and social media posts, and processed more than 56,800 pieces of mail.



▲ Karin (bottom row, centre) sits with some of our amazing volunteers and our CBM Volunteer Coordinator.

**DAYS OF WORK
WE'RE SO THANKFUL!**

"I relish the opportunity to engage positively with supporters. As a person with vision impairment I am keen to advocate and raise awareness of those with disabilities. I am privileged to be encouraged and supported in a workplace with such worthwhile values. It offers me satisfaction to know that I can make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities in some of the poorest regions of the world. I enjoy fruitful conversations that encourage and nurture supporters in this journey of helping people with disabilities to lead fruitful lives and to realise their full potential."

GRAEME, SUPPORTER SERVICES TEAM

VOLUNTEERS

In 2017, CBM was blessed to receive the help and assistance of more than 74 volunteers who graciously gave their time and talent to support CBM's work.

Our treasured volunteers undertake varied tasks from transcribing, translation, assembling mail packs, organising Christmas cards, cooking and serving delicious food for Miracles Day, and even helping with the gardening around our building!

We love our volunteers and feel so privileged that they choose to dedicate their time to support our work.

Karin, a long-time CBM volunteer shares, "This is my best job ever! They greet me with a smile every Friday. I love the company of staff and workmates, and I love what CBM does."

Louis shares, "I volunteer to help someone in need, because I know in developing countries people with disabilities do not have the same opportunities. I would like to use my skills to help them. I love the people here at CBM. Everyone is friendly, and makes me feel part of the family."

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In 2017, for **every dollar** given to CBM Australia, 72 cents was provided to our **field programs**, 19 cents generated the funds to **support future programs**, and 9 cents supported our **administration**.

\$32.9M

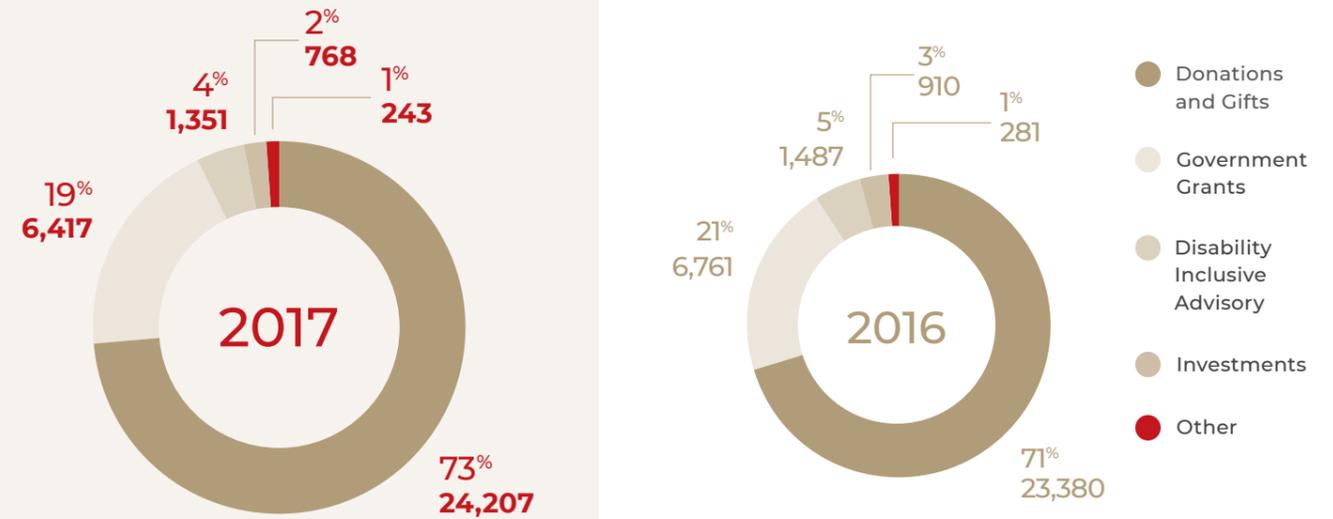
TOTAL INCOME IN 2017

The **increase** in donations and gifts from our supporters in 2017 – totalling **\$24.2M** – reflects the **largest** public **fundraising** revenue CBM Australia has **received**. This is a wonderful reflection of the **generosity** of our **supporters**.

^ Five year old Ambrose from Uganda is happy after a cataract operation.

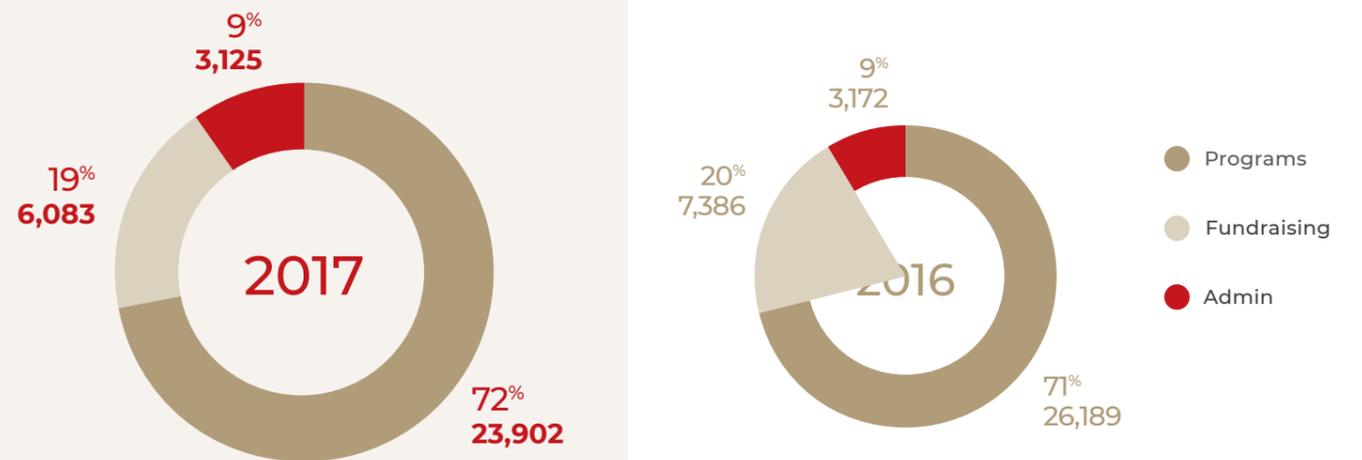
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INCOME (\$'000)



Other income includes grants from overseas, reimbursement from CBM International and other CBM Member Associations, and profit from sales of fixed assets.

EXPENDITURE (\$'000)



CBM Australia's program expenditure percentage has increased over the last three years with a three-year combined total of \$75M: \$24M in 2017, \$26M in 2016 and \$25M in 2015.

Program expenditure includes funds to international programs, program support, disability inclusive advisory, community education and domestic programs.

Fundraising expenditure includes public fundraising and government fundraising.

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
for the year ended 31 December 2017

	2017 \$ '000	2016 \$ '000
REVENUE		
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	18,600	18,733
Bequests & Legacies	5,607	4,647
Grants Received		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	6,417	6,761
Other Overseas	148	179
Other Income		
Disability Inclusive Development Advisory Income	1,351	1,487
Investment income	768	910
Other Revenue	95	103
TOTAL REVENUE	32,987	32,820
EXPENDITURE		
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		
International Programs		
Funds to International Programs	(17,337)	(18,923)
Program Support Costs	(2,292)	(2,631)
Disability Inclusive Development Advisory Costs	(1,784)	(1,984)
Community Education	(2,398)	(2,458)
Fundraising Costs		
Public	(6,059)	(7,357)
Government, Multilateral and Private	(24)	(29)
Accountability and Administration	(3,125)	(3,172)
Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure	(33,018)	(36,554)
Domestic Programs Expenditure	(91)	(193)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	(33,109)	(36,747)
EXCESS/(SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE	(122)	(3,927)
Other comprehensive income:		
Net movement in the Financial Assets reserve	568	(33)
Other comprehensive income for the year	568	(33)
Total comprehensive income for the year	446	(3,960)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
as at 31 December 2017

	2017 \$ '000	2016 \$ '000
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	5,858	4,332
Trade and other receivables	705	763
Financial assets	11,319	13,918
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	17,882	19,013
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	8,349	7,048
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	8,349	7,048
TOTAL ASSETS	26,231	26,061
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	1,417	1,523
Other liabilities	3,354	3,650
Employee entitlements	965	889
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	5,736	6,062
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Employee entitlements	178	128
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	178	128
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,914	6,190
NET ASSETS	20,317	19,871
EQUITY		
Committed Funds reserve	12,375	12,805
General reserve	6,875	6,201
Financial Assets reserve	915	713
Perpetual trusts	152	152
TOTAL EQUITY	20,317	19,871

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
for the year ended 31 December 2017

	Retained Earnings	Committed Funds reserve	General reserve	Financial Assets reserve	Perpetual trusts	Total
	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000	\$ '000
Balance at 1 January 2017		12,805	6,201	713	152	19,871
Excess/(Shortfall) of revenue over expenses	(122)					(122)
Realised and unrealised movements in fair value of investments				568		568
Transfer						
– from committed funds reserve to general reserve		(430)	430			–
– of realised gains/(loss) from financial asset reserve to general reserve			366	(366)		–
– from retained earnings to general reserve	122		(122)			–
Balance at 31 December 2017	–	12,375	6,875	915	152	20,317
Balance at 1 January 2016		18,606	4,431	643	152	23,832
Excess/(Shortfall) of revenue over expenses	(3,927)					(3,927)
Realised and unrealised movements in fair value of investments				(33)		(33)
Transfer						
– from general reserve to committed funds reserve		(5,801)	5,801			–
– of realised gains/(loss) from financial asset reserve to general reserve			(103)	103		–
– from retained earnings to general reserve	3,927		(3,927)			–
Balance at 31 December 2016	–	12,805	6,201	713	152	19,871

These summary financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the ACFID Code of Conduct. For further information on the Code, please refer to the ACFID website www.acfid.asn.au. For a copy of CBM Australia's full audited financial statements or further information on CBM Australia's programs, please contact our team on 1800 678 069 or visit our website www.cbm.org.au.

Report of the Independent Auditor on the Summary Financial Statements

Opinion

The summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017, the summary statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income and a summary statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, and related notes, are derived from the audited financial report of CBM Australia for the year ended 31 December 2017.

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report.

Summary Financial Statements

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements (including Australian Accounting Interpretations), the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and the ACFID Code of Conduct. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial report and the auditor's report thereon. The summary financial statements and the audited financial report do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on the audited financial report.

The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial report in our report dated 24 March 2018.

Board's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements

The board is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the summary financial statements.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the audited financial report based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810 *Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements*.

Saward Dawson

Saward Dawson

Jeffrey Tulk

Partner: Jeffrey Tulk

Chartered Accountant
Date: 24 March 2018
Blackburn, Victoria 3130

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Marie Ickeringill SSA Matthew Stokes CA
Murray Nicholls CA Vicki Adams CA CPA CFP®

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CORPORATE INFORMATION

CBM Australia is a Member Association of CBM International, based in Germany.

CBM Australia is a company limited by guarantee under the Australian Corporations Act and a registered charity with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission. All Board members act in a voluntary, non-executive capacity and participate in externally managed performance review.

CBM Australia is accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), who is responsible for managing Australia's aid program. To maintain accreditation, CBM Australia's systems, policies and processes are rigorously reviewed by the Australian Government. CBM Australia receives support from the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

CBM Australia is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulatory sector code of good practice. As a signatory, we are committed and fully adhere to the ACFID Code of Conduct, conducting our work with transparency, accountability, and integrity. CBM Australia also adheres to the ACFID Fundraising Charter. CBM Australia CEO Jane Edge was elected to the ACFID Board in November 2017.

In 2017, CBM Australia was a Member of the Fundraising Institute of Australia (FIA), the Public Fundraising Regulatory Association, and the Association for Data-Driven Marketing & Advertising (ADMA). CBM Australia is committed to full alignment with the FIA Code of Conduct and relevant components of the ADMA Code of Practice.



Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



CBM Australia is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP)



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FEEDBACK IS ENCOURAGED

This report is prepared in compliance with ACFID requirements, and also in line with ACNC and DFAT expectations. Reference to our full audited financial statements for 2017 is encouraged via www.cbm.org.au, alongside reference to our Annual Information Statement on the ACNC Charities Register via www.acnc.gov.au.

We welcome any comments or feedback and encourage you to call our team on 1800 678 069 or visit www.cbm.org.au/contact-us.

If you have questions or comment about CBM Australia reporting or conduct, contact CBM Australia Company Secretary Trudy Skilbeck. The ACFID Code of Conduct Committee can also be contacted, via www.acfid.asn.au.

