



2018

ANNUAL REPORT





▲ Alekhya is happy to be back at home after cataract surgery on her left eye and can't wait to learn to read and write like her friend Sruthi.

◀ Cover: Zenebech lived with the pain of trachoma and feared she would lose her sight. She was able to undergo sight-saving surgery and now feels confident about looking after her children. Here she is pictured with her daughter.



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# MESSAGES FROM OUR CEO AND BOARD CHAIR

## FROM OUR CEO

CBM Australia is inspired by working alongside all who are passionate about changing the way the world thinks about people with disabilities – as a matter of justice and inclusion, not charity.

One in seven people globally live with disability. In the developing world it is closer to one in five.

We are celebrating 110 years of CBM's work, which has transformed the lives of millions.

In 1908 Pastor Ernst Christoffel seeded a vision of a better future for people with disabilities. A vision that embodied the love of God. A vision to leave no one behind. A vision to shape inclusive communities.

That sustained vision underpins our determination to engage with those living with disabilities who are most likely to be isolated, experience inequality and live in extreme poverty. We work with diverse partners to together dismantle the barriers that stop people caught in the double bind of poverty and disability from accessing vital services and opportunities. By working in partnerships, we create a ripple effect that spreads our message far beyond what would be possible acting alone.

Whether you've been part of CBM Australia's work for many years or one, we're excited to share the impact you've made possible in 2018.

## FROM OUR BOARD CHAIR

The Bible encourages us that if we are honest and trustworthy in small things, we'll be honest and trustworthy in big things (Luke 16:10).

CBM Australia recognises the incredible value of getting the small things right and honouring every contribution. It's often the small things that lead to the biggest impact.

The Board is very conscious that our Miracles Day partnership with Christian radio stations across Australia started with a small idea. And each 'Miracle' is a small donation in terms of the overall generosity of CBM Australia's very loyal supporters. The 12-minute surgery to remove a cataract may also seem like a small thing. Yet this is just one example of how small acts can accumulate to profoundly transform lives.

This is life-changing, lasting impact, bringing hope to entire communities.

Thank you for every small act you added to the reach and depth of CBM Australia's impact during 2018.

With strong acknowledgment of our CEO and Senior Management Team, and of the combined effort of our entire staff and volunteer cohort, I'm very pleased to present our 2018 Annual Report and encourage your feedback.



**Jane Edge**  
Chief Executive Officer  
CBM Australia



**Mick Turnbull**  
Board Chair  
CBM Australia



^ Mediha from Ethiopia has bow legs. Here she is enjoying reading with Jane during her visit to Ethiopia.



# SNAPSHOT OF OUR ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2018





## WE RECEIVED

**>\$22 million**

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

## WE WORKED WITH

**63 PARTNERS** around the world including the Australian Government, disability representative bodies, Disabled People's Organisations and local field partners

## WE ENGAGED

**17 PARTNERS** across **18 COUNTRIES** through our advocacy and advisory work, reaching **207 DIFFERENT ORGANISATIONS.**

## WE WORKED ALONGSIDE

**46 PARTNERS** across **11 COUNTRIES**, supporting **35 FIELD PROGRAMS** and **6 GLOBAL INITIATIVES.**

◀ CBM's work with partners helps us make practical changes to the lives of people with disabilities and their families.



# ACKNOWLEDGING OUR BOARD

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

CBM Australia is very grateful to our Board members who generously volunteer their time and expertise and act in a non-executive capacity. In 2018, we said thank you and goodbye to two long-standing Board members, Ben Smith and Deputy Chair Karen Streckfuss, and welcomed the arrival of Michael Pilbrow and Andrew Ellis.

Our Board leadership is continually being renewed with careful consideration to ensure a balanced mix of skills, with diverse experience and leadership qualities. The relationship of our Board and Senior Management Team is one of co-creation, with a commitment to continuous

learning and review. In 2018, our Board conducted an externally facilitated Director review.

During the year, CBM Australia also fully cooperated with the Australian Council for International Development's (ACFID) Independent Review. The review comprehensively enquired into the practice and response of ACFID members in the prevention of sexual misconduct, resulting in over 15 recommendations directly applicable to CBM Australia that we will progressively implement. This area was a focus of the Board's regular review of CBM Australia's policies and practice over the year.

## MICK TURNBULL, CHAIR

Appointed to the Board in 2016 and Board Chair since May 2017, Mick is a professional company director in both the profit and for-purpose sectors and holds qualifications in management. During 2018, Mick was a Member of all Board Committees and engaged with the Chairs of other CBM Member Associations.

## HELEN GREEN

Appointed to the Board in 2010, Helen has qualifications in international development and management. In 2018, Helen was a Member of the Finance & Audit and Programs Committees.

"I thank all of the members of the Board for the many volunteer hours spent in preparation, meetings, constructive disagreement and clear directives this year. As we prepared for a new Strategy from 2019, with our eyes also on a longer horizon to 2030, the Board provided significant leadership with CBM Australia's varied stakeholders. This will position CBM Australia well for the future as we continue to leverage our strong financial position and credibility in service of the people and partners we work alongside."

– Mick Turnbull, Chair





#### ELIANE MILES

Eliane joined the Board in 2016 and went on a maternity leave of absence from July 2018 for the remainder of the year. Eliane is a social researcher, consultant and strategist. For the first half of 2018, Eliane was Chair of the Community Engagement & Fundraising Committee.

#### MICHAEL PILBROW

Michael was appointed to the Board in May 2018. He holds a Bachelor of Economics and is a Partner at Strategic Development Group. In 2018, Michael was a Member of the Programs and Community Engagement & Fundraising Committees.

#### TIM BUDGE

Appointed to the Board in 2015, Tim holds Bachelor degrees in Science and Theology, a Masters of Entrepreneurship and Innovation and a PhD in International Development. In 2018, Tim was a Member of the Programs and Community Engagement & Fundraising Committees and a Member of the CBM International Supervisory Assembly.

#### SHAWN CHOONG

Shawn joined the Board in 2012. He is an obstetrician gynaecologist specialising in ultrasound. In 2018, Shawn was Chair of the Board Development & Human Resources Committee and a Member of the Finance & Audit Committee (part year).

#### ANDREW ELLIS

Andrew was appointed to the Board in May 2018 and holds a Bachelor of Engineering, a Master of Project Management and a Master of Business Administration. In 2018, Andrew was a Member of the Finance & Audit and Board Development & Human Resources Committees.

#### ELIZABETH LUCAS

Elizabeth joined the Board in 2016 and was appointed Deputy Chair from May 2018. She is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and a Director at Grant Thornton Australia. In 2018, Elizabeth was Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee.

▼ CBM Australia Board as at June 2018. Left to right: Michael Pilbrow, Andrew Ellis, Mick Turnbull, Elizabeth Lucas, Tim Budge, Shawn Choong. Not pictured: Eliane Miles (maternity leave of absence) and Helen Green.





# WHERE WE WORK



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## AFRICA

Read how poor communities in Ethiopia are eliminating trachoma (page 14), how our technical advice is changing attitudes in Zimbabwe (page 25) and how women with disabilities are benefiting by sharing their own stories in Cameroon (page 32).



## IN 2018, OUR PROGRAMS AND ADVOCACY PARTNERS WORKED IN:

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



## ASIA PACIFIC

Read about our response to the Rohingya emergency (page 12), our clinical eye health services (page 10), our inclusive education programs in Bangladesh (page 22) and how people with disabilities are being lifted out of poverty in India (page 20).



## CBM MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

**F** FIELD PARTNERS

**A** ADVOCACY AND  
ADVISORY PARTNERS

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



# OUR WORK ON HEALTH, MEDICAL CARE AND REHABILITATION

CBM Australia works with local partners to prevent and treat avoidable causes of blindness such as cataract, river blindness and trachoma, and to treat conditions like club foot to avoid permanent impairment. This is done by providing medical services, equipment and training, and by raising community awareness.

We also make sure that people with disabilities are included and can access the medical, health and rehabilitation services they need. We do this by providing training for health services and workers, and by partnering with governments to provide technical advice at a policy level.

Wherever possible, we partner with national and local Disabled People's Organisations so that training, planning and delivery of health services can best meet the needs of people with disabilities and ensure a more sustainable program for the future.

## IMPACT OF LEADERSHIP

### **Our partnership with the Kumundini Eye Hospital in Bangladesh is preventing blindness in the community.**

This project is improving the hospital's clinical services as well as ensuring that people with disabilities are not left behind and can access the eye-health services they need.

Providing new equipment such as operating microscopes, ophthalmoscopes, retinoscopes and fundus cameras, and in-service training to eye doctors and other staff, has improved the quality of the hospital's eye-health services. This is benefiting the community, with more patients seeking eye care as well as the hospital considering future programs that continue to strengthen the eye department.

During 2018, over 4,000 people, 46% women, benefited from sight-saving cataract and glaucoma surgeries, including Anowara (pictured).

A big part of ensuring that people with disabilities are also accessing the Kumundini Eye Hospital has been working with local Disabled People's Organisations.

This has proved to be a very valuable partnership resulting in:

- Awareness-raising in the community, particularly in rural and remote areas, to ensure that people with disabilities can attend outreach programs
- Training hospital staff on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability and what it means in their context
- Upgrades to the hospital's information management system to include disability data
- Recruitment of an Inclusion and Monitoring Officer with a disability.

The leadership on disability inclusion shown by hospital management resulted in 145 people with disabilities accessing health-care services, and 41 people receiving eye-care treatment, a significant increase from 11 in 2017.

In addition, a two-way referral process is now in place between the hospital and the government services due to the advocacy efforts of this project. Consequently, many more people with disabilities have accessed the government's social protection benefits to which they are entitled.





# 46%

WOMEN  
BENEFITED  
FROM  
CATARACT AND  
GLAUCOMA  
SURGERIES

# 145

PEOPLE WITH  
DISABILITIES  
ACCESSED  
HEALTH-CARE  
SERVICES

# >4,000

PEOPLE RECEIVED  
EYE-CARE TREATMENT

^ Sheer joy – Anowara can see again following her cataract surgery.



# ADOPTING A REAL-TIME MODEL FOR GREATER IMPACT

**In early 2018, a new approach, a real-time evaluation, was undertaken as part of CBM Australia's response to the Rohingya refugee crisis.**

This approach emphasises learning and reflection, so that changes to services can be made early rather than waiting for an end-of-project evaluation. This is particularly important when lives need to be saved and refugee camps need to be safe and secure for their residents.

In the last months of 2017, escalating violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State caused over 687,000 Rohingya refugees to cross borders to southern Bangladesh. The refugees, predominantly women and children, were highly traumatised, many with injuries caused by gunshots, shrapnel, fire and landmines.

CBM Australia and its partner organisation, Bangladesh's Centre for Disability in Development (CDD), responded to this crisis through the provision of a medical and rehabilitation centre, a mobile bus medical service and distribution of blankets. Initially, more than 60 staff were recruited to work in the program, whose services are now used by more than 4,000 refugees each month.

To conduct the evaluation, a team came together to undertake over 35 interviews in 10 days with individual team members, government officials, community members, workers from the United Nations (UN), and local and international organisations. They examined areas such as safety and security, engagement with the UN system, human resource management processes, quality of services offered, feedback from the affected population, and relationships with government and other organisations. Each night, findings were collated and then presented at a workshop on the final day.

The evaluation validated the overall direction of CBM Australia's response and highlighted changes to improve the next phase of work. These included adding a mobile health service and developing joint programs with UNICEF and the International Organization for Migration.

CBM Australia will continue to use this evaluation methodology in emergency situations and potentially in other projects.

▼ Staff outside the medical and rehabilitation centre established with CBM Australia's support inside the refugee camp.





CBM Australia and its partner organisation's services, which include the provision of a medical and rehabilitation centre, are used by

**>4,000**  
refugees each month





# PREVENTING AND TREATING TRACHOMA

Trachoma is endemic in Ethiopia, with over 60% of the population (100 million) requiring treatment to prevent lifelong vision impairment or blindness.

CBM Australia and its partner, ORDA, work in the remote Amhara region to provide access to surgery and antibiotics to treat and prevent the spread of this highly infectious disease, providing relief to people in local disadvantaged communities.

The project also provides wells for clean water supply, and community awareness and training on hygiene practices to improve overall health in the community. Through this SAFE strategy (Surgery, Antibiotics, Facial cleanliness and clean Environment), many more people can experience greater relief from pain and fear, so they can return to work or school and support their families.

Three years ago, Tayetu had problems seeing and started treatment with antibiotics. She was at risk of completely losing her sight when the disease developed further in both eyes. Afraid that she would be unable to support her seven children and 10 grandchildren due to the pain, she attempted to treat herself by cutting her eyelashes. The partner health staff eventually convinced her to have surgery. Tayetu explains that many women like her need support as the surgery is far away, it's difficult for them to stay clear of smoke from their charcoal fires and they often support large families.

However, after the treatment, Tayetu's life really changed and she is so happy! She can support her large family again, plant crops and collect water at the water source, which is now nearby. She encourages others in her community to use the health services.

➤ Tayetu happily shares her story with our CEO, Jane Edge.











^ Co-facilitators Ameta and Sylvia, from RHTO, lead a group in identifying accessibility barriers during the inclusive health training in Timor-Leste.

## MAKING HEALTH SERVICES IN TIMOR-LESTE INCLUSIVE

CBM Australia provides expert advice and support to the Australian Government's Partnerships for Human Development program in Timor-Leste, to ensure that people with disabilities benefit from and are included in programs supported by the Australian Aid program.

A large part of this work involves supporting the development of disability-inclusive health services.

In 2018, CBM Australia continued to work closely with the Timorese Ministry of Health and Ra'es Hadomi Timor Oan (RHTO), Timor-Leste's national Disabled People's Organisation, to develop a training package to address some of the key barriers to accessing health services for people with disabilities.

The Disability Inclusive Health training package is the first training of its type in Timor-Leste, and it's the first time that the Ministry and RHTO have collaborated to deliver training to health workers. The training is co-facilitated by the Ministry and RHTO, enabling opportunities for better relationships and future collaboration on health issues that impact people with disabilities.

This style of training also reiterates key principles of disability-inclusive development, namely that people with disabilities are the experts in their own experience and the best people to talk about and educate the community about disability rights.

In 2018, a National Consultation on inclusive health was also held which engaged over 100 representatives from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Solidarity and Inclusion, civil society organisations, disability service providers, Disabled People's Organisations, UN agencies and other government departments across Timor-Leste. This consultation enabled Disabled People's Organisation representatives from across the country to educate many community leaders about the experience and rights of people with disabilities in Timor-Leste.

CBM Australia will continue to support the training of trainers to deliver the inclusive health training package to health workers across the country. Working closely with the Partnerships for Human Development team, the Australian Government, the Ministry and Disabled People's Organisations, CBM Australia expects that there will continue to be an ongoing training program for health workers. This will increase access to and quality of health services for people with disabilities in Timor-Leste.





^ RHTO trainers Ameta and Elisa lead a group in identifying barriers during the barrier audit activity as part of the disability inclusive health training in Timor-Leste.

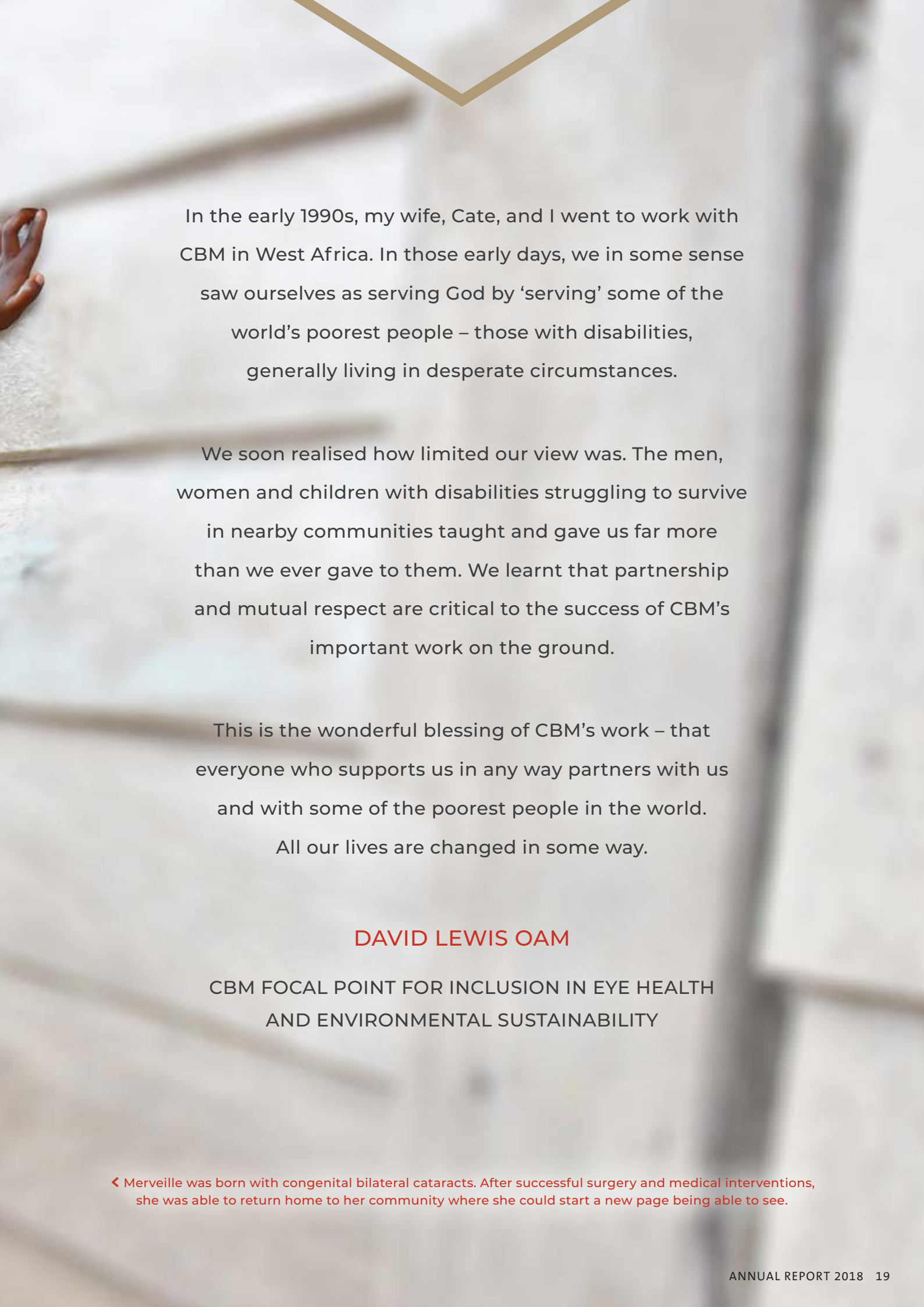
## LESSONS LEARNED

- Working over an extended period and in coordination with other organisations and government programs is the only way to tackle a widespread health problem like trachoma.
- Our message of disability inclusion works best when we talk about disability as part of broader inclusion – for example, how to ensure that all people, regardless of age, gender, race and disability, can access a health system.
- We achieve more when we start with the end goal in mind. For example, if health staff understand they are working towards a service that supports people to register at the hospital reception desk regardless of their literacy, type of impairment or dialect spoken, they develop solutions to achieve that in practice.
- Staff training and awareness-raising should accompany physical accessibility modifications like ramps and lifts, so that more people with disabilities can access services and feel welcome and comfortable.









In the early 1990s, my wife, Cate, and I went to work with CBM in West Africa. In those early days, we in some sense saw ourselves as serving God by ‘serving’ some of the world’s poorest people – those with disabilities, generally living in desperate circumstances.

We soon realised how limited our view was. The men, women and children with disabilities struggling to survive in nearby communities taught and gave us far more than we ever gave to them. We learnt that partnership and mutual respect are critical to the success of CBM’s important work on the ground.

This is the wonderful blessing of CBM’s work – that everyone who supports us in any way partners with us and with some of the poorest people in the world.

All our lives are changed in some way.

**DAVID LEWIS OAM**

CBM FOCAL POINT FOR INCLUSION IN EYE HEALTH  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

◀ Merveille was born with congenital bilateral cataracts. After successful surgery and medical interventions, she was able to return home to her community where she could start a new page being able to see.

# OUR WORK ON EQUALITY AND OPPORTUNITIES

People with disabilities have a right to, and deserve, the same opportunities to participate in and benefit from development activities as others in their communities. Our work often opens the door for people with disabilities to gain an education, open a business, earn a living, make friends and be part of their community.

We work alongside local organisations to build equal societies and provide much-needed opportunities for people with disabilities. This is mostly in the areas of health, livelihood and education. We also work in partnership with other development organisations to help them effectively include people with disabilities in their policies and programs, achieving even broader impact than we can achieve on our own.

In 2018, through our advisory and advocacy work, we engaged with 17 partners reaching 207 different organisations, with our disability message impacting governments, institutions, and social welfare and civil society organisations across 18 countries.

## ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

**The *Parivatan* (meaning ‘change’) project in rural Uttar Pradesh, India, works with people with disabilities, supporting them to understand their rights and access much-needed services, information and training. Helping families to step through the process of applying for government pensions and schemes has been a key focus, as well as setting up an active Disabled People’s Organisation.**

To monitor the impact of this project over the last three years, CBM Australia, together with the University of Delhi’s School of Social Work, completed a survey in 2015 and 2018 with 250 randomly selected local families that include a person with disability.

The survey found that there has been a positive impact on the lives of people with disabilities and their families who are moving out of poverty.

We now see among these families:

- More families are spending money on education and study.
- People are more able to afford medical services.
- In 2015, 50% of families accessed government schemes. Due to support of the project, this is now 70%.
- In 2015, 46% of people received the government disability pension. Now this is 61%.
- For around 40% of families, their ability to save has improved since 2015.
- Almost half of the families’ household situations had improved since 2015.
- Over 70% of people said that community attitudes to and support for people with disabilities had changed significantly since 2015.





70%

FAMILIES ACCESSED  
GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

40%

FAMILIES' ABILITY  
TO SAVE IMPROVED

ALMOST 50%

FAMILIES' HOUSEHOLD  
SITUATIONS IMPROVED

▲ People with disability in our project in rural Uttar Pradesh are moving out of poverty due to CBM's community work.

Importantly, the survey also highlighted areas for future focus – in particular, the need to have more focused support for people with more severe impairments, as well as to help people with disabilities with income-generating activities:

- One in three families with a person with a severe impairment felt the household situation had worsened.

- Twenty-four per cent of people with disabilities have no job. This hasn't changed since 2015, with findings suggesting that people who are deaf are more likely to be unemployed.

The Parivatan project is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).





## BENEFITS OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN BANGLADESH

CBM Australia provided education and training support to five local *Provat* community centres in rural Bangladesh. The centres support children and teenagers with disabilities and help with teacher training and resources.

### PRESCHOOL FOR CHILDREN

In rural Bangladesh, children from poor families and children with disabilities often miss out on the chance to go to school. Many families can't afford the time and extra transport cost; teachers are not confident supporting a child with physical or learning challenges; and often families don't see the benefits of education for children with disabilities.

Each *Provat* (meaning 'dawn') centre operates a preschool five mornings a week for children with disabilities. The centre is connected with the local primary school and partners with the local Disabled People's Organisation, which identifies children in the area and meets with their parents to discuss the benefits of education. Children with disabilities

are also linked with much-needed services such as physiotherapy, assistive devices and health support.

As part of the project, 200 children attended these local preschools and will move through to primary school – something their parents never dreamt they would do.

Mim's mother feels hopeful for her daughter's future:

*"I felt hopeless about my daughter's future, but with the project support, she received therapy while attending Provat. Now she can walk on her own and can go to school without being carried by others. She can now play with classmates and neighbours. She even helps me with decorating the house! More importantly, she was accepted to enrol in primary school Grade 1 in January 2019. If other children with disabilities like Mim, who has cerebral palsy, can get sufficient support, then they can actually go to school. This gives me hope."*



## VOCATIONAL TRAINING FOR TEENAGERS

In the afternoons, the Provat centres support teenagers with more severe impairments, many of whom have no education at all. Government vocational training officers come to the centre to teach trade skills, as well as basic literacy. This training has resulted in teenagers in the community being better equipped and confident to go out into the world.

◀ Children with intellectual disabilities are now going to school and making friends.

▼ Khalid is delighted to be at school learning with his peers.

## BUILDING INCLUSIVE TEACHING SKILLS

The project also supported disability inclusion teacher training in surrounding primary schools, and worked to improve the government's Education Resource Centres with teaching resources for children with disabilities. Teachers build their skills and confidence and are better able to meet the children's particular needs when they move into mainstream primary schools.

CBM Australia is exploring expanding the Provat model to other communities in Bangladesh. Proving to be effective and cost-efficient, it is community-centred and ensures that children with disabilities benefit from the same opportunities as other children in the community.







Did you know that CBM Australia provides expert advice and training to the Australian Government, World Vision Australia, Plan International and other international NGOs?



# INCLUSIVE WATER PROJECT CHANGES ATTITUDES

Over the past four years, CBM Australia has provided expert advice and training to strengthen disability inclusion in World Vision's water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) project in Zimbabwe.

The project, which finished in July 2018, focused on increasing access to WASH through building public water points and toilets and delivering health and hygiene messages to communities. CBM Australia was engaged to help ensure that people with disabilities and other marginalised groups were included in all WASH activities.

An evaluation of the project in 2018 found it had a strong, positive impact on the lives of people with disabilities, improving their access to water and sanitation as well as increasing their independence and self-confidence. There was also a big shift in attitudes, with people with disabilities reporting they experienced less stigma when collecting water or joining a meeting, now being and feeling respected and welcomed in the community and listened to in public meetings.

Due to the project's training and awareness-raising activities on disability inclusion, two local government agencies have adopted disability-inclusion policies and are applying these to ensure people with disabilities have access to all government services (not just water and sanitation).

CBM Australia worked to ensure that people with disabilities were actively involved in implementing the project. CBM Australia's advice to the project team on how to design disability-inclusive approaches and the training we provided to everyone involved all played a critical role in achieving these outcomes.

◀ Jorjina from Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, washes dishes with water that she can now collect independently from a shared tap near her house, which was installed along with an access ramp and accessible toilet as part of World Vision Zimbabwe's CS WASH project.

An independent evaluation undertaken at the end of the project found that CBM Australia's involvement was pivotal for disability inclusion. The evaluation report noted:

*"It seems unlikely that meaningful change would have occurred without CBM's involvement to champion disability inclusion and support [the local Disabled People's Organisation's] involvement."*

The Civil Society Wash, Sanitation and Hygiene project in Zimbabwe was an Australian Government aid program initiative.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Families must be included in discussion and planning when working to involve people with disabilities in community activities. Often families can hold people back because they are overly fearful about the safety of their family member. Parents need particular encouragement to enrol their child with a disability in school and support their ongoing attendance at school.
- Special attention must be given to people who are deaf or have psychosocial disabilities, to ensure they are included in initiatives specifically supporting disability.

Love one another,  
just as I have loved you.

JOHN 15:12

➤ Nhung from Vietnam is thrilled after receiving the miracle of sight-saving cataract surgery.











# OUR WORK ON INFLUENCING AND ADVOCACY

To achieve a more disability-inclusive world, we need to change attitudes and beliefs as well as physical environments, systems and policies. Our advocacy work plays an important role in helping us to achieve this.

We undertake our influencing and advocacy work alongside, and in solidarity with, people with disabilities. We are committed to our policy and advocacy priorities being informed by the priorities of the disability movement. We do this by building and maintaining relationships with disability-inclusive development partners and representative organisations at local, national and international levels. Our advocacy is evidence-based, drawing on lessons, examples and evidence from our program work and latest research.

In Australia, our advocacy work links us with key decision-makers in parliament and the development sector. Around the world, all of our projects and advisory roles include advocacy components. This ranges from supporting self-advocacy by people with disabilities and local Disabled People's Organisations to CBM Country and Regional office staff advocating to their governments and other decision-makers.

In 2018 key achievements included launching, at Australia's Parliament House, the second publication in the *Leave No One Behind* series, focused on gender equality and disability inclusion, and preparing a submission to the Australian Labor Party which influenced the party's national policy platform to make disability-inclusive development "a fundamental principle of Australia's aid program, recognising the impact of poverty on people living with disability".

◀ People with disability map out their local services before advocating to their local government for improvements.



➤ Kazol is a leader in the Bangladeshi disability movement whose life changed when she joined a self-help group. Now she advocates for people like her with disability to do the same and get the support they need.



# DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME



© Erin Johnson/CBM Australia

**International Day of People with Disabilities is a key moment for CBM Australia to influence the Australian development community to expand the priority they give to disability within policies, programs and public communications.**

It also provides an important opportunity to raise awareness and change attitudes among the public and key decision-makers, as well as to celebrate with our supporters.

In 2018 we again produced a comprehensive communications kit, including stories, images and a short video, encouraging the sector to celebrate the day and share the message of disability inclusion with their staff, partners and supporters. These resources were also adapted for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) to share with Australian Embassies overseas (which oversee the Australian Aid program), enabling us to reach different audiences across the globe.

For 2018, CBM Australia focused on the theme of defying expectations, highlighting the common experience faced by people with disabilities of being

underestimated. In the video *Don't Underestimate Me*, nine people with disabilities from developing countries shared their stories to challenge harmful attitudes and misconceptions about people with disabilities and their skills and capabilities.

CBM Australia also launched a petition calling for an increase in funding for disability-inclusive development in Australia's aid program. This provided an opportunity for our supporters and the Australian community to get involved in our advocacy work. It also allowed us to demonstrate public support for our advocacy objectives to policy and decision-makers, particularly in the lead-up to the 2019 federal election.

Some key results for the International Day of People with Disabilities:

- *Don't Underestimate Me* was viewed 40,000 times across Facebook and YouTube alone, with a wider reach estimated at 55,000 views.
- Sixty organisations and key individuals publicly shared our resources.
- DFAT shared our resources with all Australian Embassies, with at least 16 further sharing these resources on social media.



# INFLUENCING THROUGH COALITIONS : MICAH AUSTRALIA

Advocacy is a part of achieving transformational change, but we know that we can only achieve so much on our own. This is why we choose to work with coalitions made up of like-minded organisations, grassroots advocates and everyday Australians committed to justice.

Micah Australia is one such coalition. Micah Australia is a network of churches and Christian organisations mobilising Australian Christians to advocate for a world free from poverty. Each year, Micah Australia runs a four-day advocacy and political lobbying event at Parliament House in Canberra called Voices for Justice. In 2018, CBM Australia was there to make sure that justice for people with disabilities was on the agenda.

CBM Australia staff worked with the Micah Australia team to brief the Voices for Justice attendees

on disability-inclusive development and equip them to speak confidently about the issue. As a result, 200 grassroots advocates from around the country spoke to 94 Australian politicians about the need for the Australian Government to commit further funding to support people with disabilities living in poverty. This included meetings with Treasurer Josh Frydenberg MP, Minister for International Development and the Pacific Senator Anne Ruston, and Shadow Minister for Foreign Affairs Senator Penny Wong – all of whom listened compassionately, with minds attuned to Australia's values on the world stage.

This is far beyond what we could achieve alone. By working in coalitions, we are able to demonstrate a strong and active constituency in support of disability-inclusive development, reach more decision-makers with our advocacy and provide new ways for our supporters to lend their voices to our collective call for justice.





## STORIES INSPIRE CHANGE FOR WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES





Women and girls with disabilities are much more likely to experience physical and sexual violence than women without disability.<sup>1</sup> In Cameroon, a network of development organisations – the Group for Rehabilitation and Inclusive Development (GRID) – has been set up by CBM Australia’s partner there. In 2018 they focused on raising awareness of this important issue, often clouded in shame and guilt, and on influencing for change.

Inspired by the resilience and determination of the women in the villages of north-west Cameroon, the GRID team developed a set of 16 short stories focused on gender-based violence. The stories share the traumatic experiences of local women with disabilities, how they have coped and how communities are responding. Over 16 days, the stories were shared on social media and local radio, reaching listeners across the region.

The stories have had a big impact. They have motivated other women with disabilities to speak up about violence. There is now increased reporting of abuse, and local social welfare organisations and governments are becoming more proactive in taking action on gender-based violence.

In 2018, this initiative was selected from 70 African submissions to be showcased at an international conference on gender-based violence in Kenya.

<sup>1</sup> UK Department for International Development, 2000. *Disability, Poverty and Development*, p. 3.

The Socio-Economic Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Project, of which GRID’s work is a part, is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP) and CBM Australia supporters.

One story is about ‘Patience’ (name changed), a young woman in her 20s with hearing, speech and mobility impairments, who spent her days alone at home while her mother worked on their distant farm. It became known by men in the area that Patience was home alone – and Patience was raped several times. Her mother often noticed that Patience was agitated and upset, and her fears were confirmed when Patience became pregnant. The story tells of how community women then set up a system to look out for and support this young woman, and to keep her and her new baby safe from harm. It tells how a local organisation then helped her set up a roadside stall, raising much-needed money for her poor family and reducing her isolation and vulnerability.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- People with disabilities are experts in their own experiences. This is why we facilitate their leadership in our advocacy activities.
- Making events inclusive for people of all disabilities – for example a wheelchair user, a deaf person or a person who is blind – is a great way for organisations to think seriously and practically about inclusion. Without sufficient preparation, people with disabilities may not be able to access a venue, contribute in meetings or engage in conversations.
- Working in coalitions maximises our impact, both in influencing decision-makers and in reaching wider audiences of engaged grassroots activists.
- In a society where women with disabilities are more impacted by sexual violence than those without disabilities, it’s important to give them opportunities to share their stories in a powerful way to raise awareness and build self-confidence.



# CBM VALUES

International

Professional

Christian

➤ Khut from Vietnam lives with his family, helping them earn a living with his small fish farm. After sight-saving surgery in one eye several years ago, the other began to deteriorate. Now he is so grateful to have received the support and access to the second surgery he needed.





Inclusive

Integrity

Communication



# ENGAGING WITH SUPPORTERS

## A RECORD-BREAKING MIRACLES DAY

One of the highlights of our year is always Miracles Day, and our 2018 campaign was no exception. It was truly humbling to see Australians, right around the country, generously give a record-breaking 38,948 Miracles, raising more than \$1 million in one day.

Our 2018 Miracles Day campaign, run in partnership with Australia's Christian radio stations, saw seven radio stations travel to remote Vietnam where they broadcast live for five days, relaying the amazing

stories of sight-saving surgeries and the impact of CBM's eye-health work.

"Our goal in 2018 was to raise 35,000 Miracle gifts of sight, which is a \$33 donation for a 12-minute surgery that restores someone's sight," says Mariska Meldrum, Miracles Day Campaign Manager. "And through the overwhelming generosity of Australians, we surpassed that target, meaning more than 38,500 people can now access sight-saving surgery."

We'd like to thank everyone who makes Miracles Day such a success each year. We truly value our partnership with Australia's Christian radio network through the Australian Christian Media and Arts Association. We gratefully acknowledge the support of CBM Vietnam and our partner and the entire CBM Australia team.

38,948 MIRACLE GIFTS OF  
SIGHT-SAVING SURGERY

11,345

AUSTRALIANS  
GAVE A MIRACLE

♥ Thrilled and feeling so fortunate after receiving sight-saving surgery for their cataracts, these happy patients say thank you!





## OUR WORK WITH THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

CBM Australia works alongside churches and supports Christian events around Australia to further our fieldwork and share the message of disability inclusion through Luke14.

It's also a wonderful opportunity to meet with many of our existing supporters and thank them for their support, and to pray for a more just world, particularly for people with disabilities living in poverty around the world.

In 2018 CBM Australia supported:

- The Surrender Conference in Melbourne, bringing together over 800 Christians who are passionate about social justice.
- The Justice Conference, featuring Savina Nongebatu from the Pacific Disability Forum based in Fiji, who shared about her experience as a woman with a disability. Savina's impactful personal reflection was an important reminder of how the church can play a powerful role and example in championing inclusion.
- Prayer breakfasts around the country which provide an opportunity to meet with our supporters and to pray.

Throughout the year, we ran Luke14 workshops and spoke at local churches. A particular highlight

was welcoming Dr Julian Eaton, CBM International's Senior Advisor for Mental Health, to speak with two churches in Queensland about the important topic of bridging the gap of addressing and including people with mental health issues in our churches, and to talk about CBM Australia's work in this area in our field programs.

## GIVING THANKS AT CHRISTMAS TIME

For the first time, in 2018 we held four Christmas supporter events – in Fremantle, Adelaide, Gosford and Toowoomba – to recognise and say thank you to our faithful supporters.

We had an overwhelming response with more than 370 people attending the events across Australia.

Singer-songwriter Helena McNeill performed Christmas carols, and Jane Edge also attended two of the events. It was a beautiful time for people to connect with CBM Australia's work around the world and acknowledge the impact it makes because of the generous support of Australians.

"Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year, and what a blessing to come together to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas with our incredible supporters," says Lavinia Podolak, Gifts in Will Relationship Manager. "We are really looking forward to hosting Christmas gatherings and meeting up with our supporters in 2019."

## CONNECTING WITH SUPPORTERS

Our people and our supporters remained highly connected in 2018.

>37,200 CALLS MADE TO SUPPORTERS

>15,100  
PHONE CALLS ANSWERED

>43,410  
PIECES OF MAIL PROCESSED

>5,500  
EMAILS /SOCIAL MEDIA  
POSTS RESPONDED TO



# OUR PEOPLE

At CBM Australia, we are blessed to have a wonderful team of staff and volunteers who dedicate their talents and skills to serving people with disabilities living in poverty around the world.



^ Many of our amazing volunteers are joined by staff at the December 2018 Volunteers Christmas lunch.

## LIVING OUT OUR VALUES

Having a values-based culture is our highest people priority, with our values – inclusive, integrity, international, professional, Christian, communication – driving the way we work, our behaviours and our interactions both internally and externally.

Staff members also come together to live out our values through staff gatherings and in devotional reflection. In 2018, staff members also had the opportunity to give feedback to their colleagues about their values-based behaviour in a 360-degree review.



IN 2018  
>70  
VOLUNTEERS DONATED...

>4,600  
HOURS OR...

657  
DAYS OF WORK



#### CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our current group of magnificent volunteers has together contributed over 450 years of combined service benefiting people with disabilities living in the poorest places on the globe.

We pay tribute to this extraordinary contribution, level of commitment, teamwork and persistence in living out CBM values.

At the end of 2018, we had 108 staff based in Australia, including 23 part-time staff members. Seventy-five per cent are female and 25% are male. Nineteen per cent of staff identify as living with a disability, including 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.



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

In 2018, for **every dollar** given to CBM Australia, 73 cents supported **field programs** and 18 cents generated the funds to **support future programs**, leaving 9 cents to deliver our **administration**.

Disability Inclusive Advisory continues to be a **strategic focus** for CBM Australia, with **2018 income** growing to **\$1.6M**.

**\$23.5M**

PROGRAM EXPENDITURE  
IN 2018

**>\$98.8M**

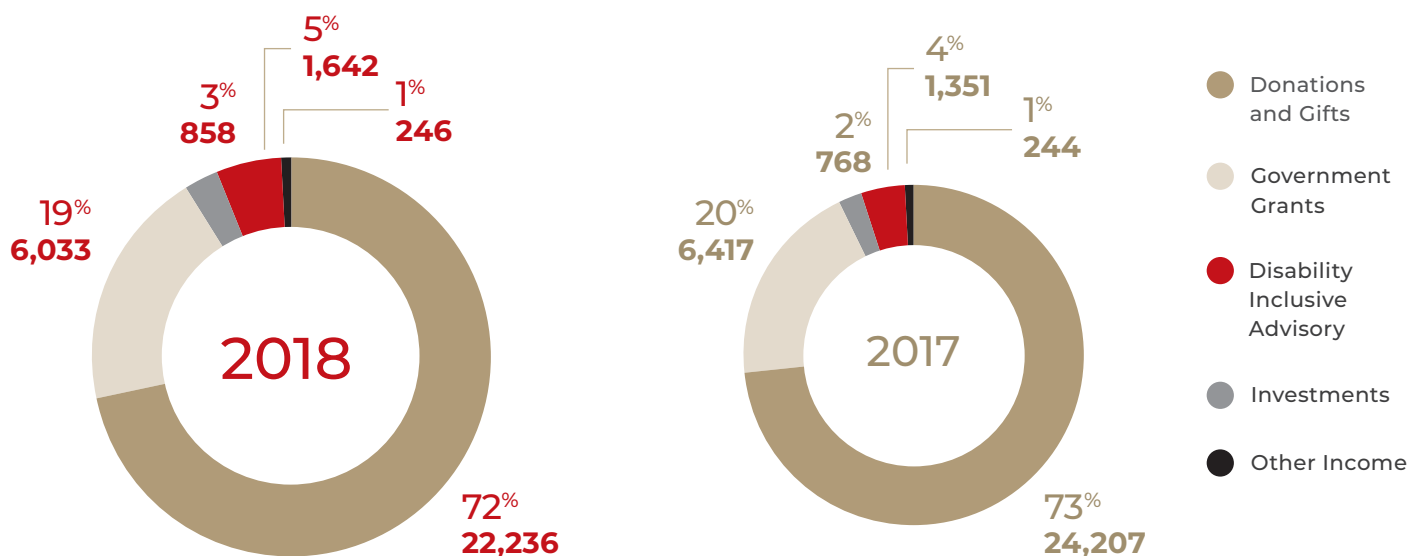
COMBINED TOTAL  
FOR LAST 4 YEARS

A continued **focus on cost containment** saw the 2018 Fundraising and Administration expenditure reduced for the third consecutive year from \$11.6M in 2015 to **\$8.9M** in 2018.

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

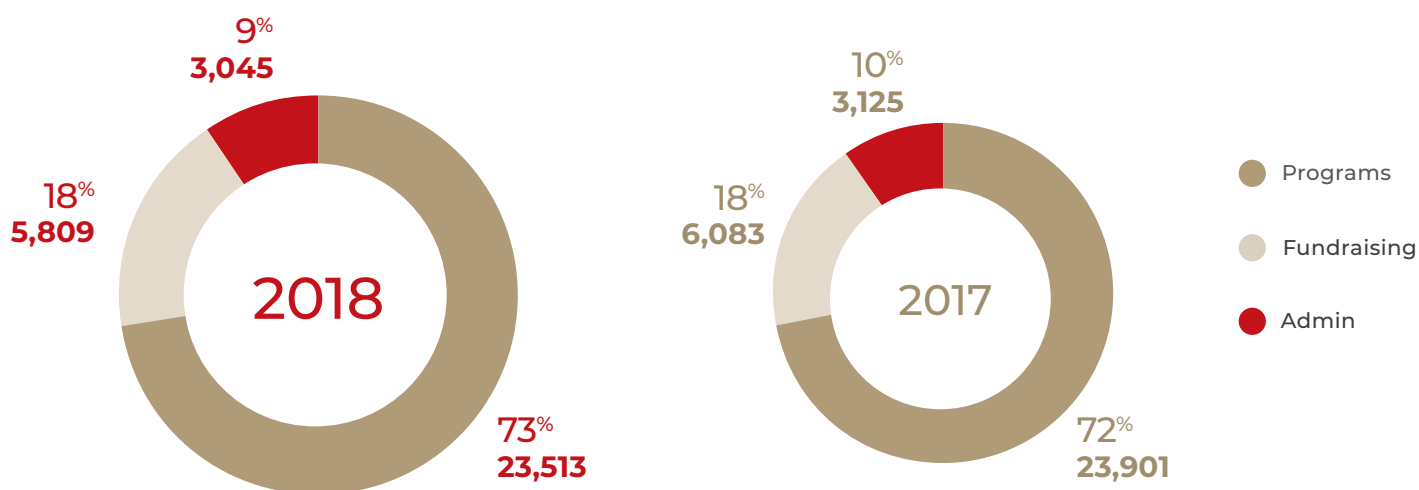


## WHERE DID CBM AUSTRALIA'S INCOME COME FROM?



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

## HOW DID CBM AUSTRALIA SPEND EACH DOLLAR?



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

**Fundraising** includes public fundraising and government fundraising.

Changes in the market value of CBM's investments are not included in **Admin** costs as these movements have not resulted in CBM Australia gaining or losing any cash or capital.



**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
for the year ended 31 December 2018

	<b>2018</b> <b>\$ '000</b>	<b>2017</b> <b>\$ '000</b>
<b>REVENUE</b>		
<b>Donations and gifts</b>		
Monetary	<b>17,622</b>	18,651
Bequests & Legacies	<b>4,614</b>	5,556
<b>Grants Received</b>		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	<b>6,033</b>	6,417
Other Overseas	<b>54</b>	148
<b>Other Income</b>		
Disability Inclusive Development Advisory Income	<b>1,642</b>	1,351
Investment income	<b>858</b>	768
Other Revenue	<b>192</b>	95
Increase in Fair Value of Financial Assets	<b>–</b>	568
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>31,015</b>	33,555
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>		
<b>International Programs</b>		
Funds to International Programs	<b>(16,234)</b>	(17,337)
Program Support Costs	<b>(2,541)</b>	(2,292)
Disability Inclusive Development Advisory Costs	<b>(1,952)</b>	(1,784)
Community Education	<b>(2,728)</b>	(2,398)
<b>Fundraising Costs</b>		
Public	<b>(5,781)</b>	(6,059)
Government, Multilateral and Private	<b>(28)</b>	(24)
<b>Accountability and Administration</b>	<b>(3,045)</b>	(3,125)
<b>Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure</b>	<b>(32,309)</b>	(33,018)
Domestic Programs Expenditure	<b>(59)</b>	(91)
Decrease in Fair Value of Financial Assets	<b>(880)</b>	–
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(33,247)</b>	(33,109)
<b>EXCESS/(SHORTFALL) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>(2,232)</b>	446
<b>Other Comprehensive Income:</b>		
Other Comprehensive Income for the Year	<b>–</b>	–
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the Year</b>	<b>(2,232)</b>	446

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
as at 31 December 2018

	2018 \$ '000	2017 \$ '000
<b>ASSETS</b>		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	6,980	5,858
Trade and other receivables	682	705
Financial assets	9,021	11,319
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	16,683	17,882
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	7,917	8,349
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	7,917	8,349
TOTAL ASSETS	24,600	26,231
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	1,945	1,418
Other liabilities	3,320	3,354
Employee entitlements	1,088	964
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	6,353	5,736
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Employee entitlements	162	178
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	162	178
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6,515	5,914
NET ASSETS	18,085	20,317
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Committed Funds reserve	12,638	12,375
General reserve	5,295	7,789
Perpetual trusts	152	152
TOTAL EQUITY	18,085	20,317



**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**  
for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Retained Earnings \$ '000	Committed Funds reserve \$ '000	General reserve \$ '000	Perpetual trusts \$ '000	Total \$ '000
<b>Balance at 1 January 2018</b>	–	<b>12,375</b>	<b>7,790</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>20,317</b>
Excess/(Shortfall) of revenue over expenses	<b>(2,232)</b>	–	–	–	<b>(2,232)</b>
Transfer from general reserve to committed funds reserve	–	<b>263</b>	<b>(263)</b>	–	–
Transfer from retained earnings to general reserve	<b>2,232</b>	–	<b>(2,232)</b>	–	–
<b>Balance at 31 December 2018</b>	–	<b>12,638</b>	<b>5,295</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>18,085</b>
<b>Balance at 1 January 2017</b>	–	12,805	6,914	152	19,871
Excess/(Shortfall) of revenue over expenses	446	–	–	–	446
Transfer from committed funds reserve to general reserve	–	(430)	430	–	–
Transfer from retained earnings to general reserve	(446)	–	446	–	–
<b>Balance at 31 December 2017</b>	–	12,375	7,790	152	20,317

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](http://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](http://www.cbm.org.au).

**CBM Australia**

**ABN 23 005 326 849**

## **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 2018, 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 2018.

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 21 March 2019.

### **Board's Responsibility for the Summary Financial Statements**

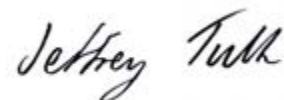
The board is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the summary financial statements.

### **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**



Partner: Jeffrey Tulk

Chartered Accountant

Date: 21 March 2019

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**PRINCIPALS:** Bruce Saward FCA Peter Shields FCA  
Joshua Morse CA Jeff Tulk CA  
Matthew Stokes CA  
**Directors:** Marie Ickeringill SSA Cathy Braun 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 (ACNC). All Board members act in a voluntary, non-executive capacity and participate in externally managed performance reviews.

CBM Australia is accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), which 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 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 is Vice President (Finance) on the ACFID Board.

In 2018, CBM Australia was a Member of the Centre for Social Purpose, the Fundraising Institute of Australia (FIA) 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 2018 is encouraged via [www.cbm.org.au](http://www.cbm.org.au), alongside reference to our Annual Information Statement on the ACNC Charity Register via [www.acnc.gov.au](http://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](http://www.cbm.org.au/contact-us).

If you have questions or comments about CBM Australia reporting or conduct, contact CBM Australia's Company Secretary, Trudy Skilbeck. The ACFID Code of Conduct Committee can also be contacted via [www.acfid.asn.au](http://www.acfid.asn.au).






## CONNECT WITH US


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