

UnitingWorld
connecting communities for life

ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 2016 - JUNE 2017

CONTENTS

2 Values and Vision
4 Message from our Chairs
5 Message from our National Director
6 Relief and Development Programs Unit
14 Relief and Development Financial Report
20 Relief and Development Committee
22 Mapping our work
24 Church Connections Programs Unit
32 Church Connections Financial Report
38 Church Connections Committee
40 Regional Action

A copy of the Annual Report can be downloaded from our website at www.unitingworld.org.au

BUT LET JUSTICE ROLL ON LIKE A RIVER, RIGHTEOUSNESS LIKE A NEVER-ENDING STREAM.

Amos 5:24

COVER UnitingWorld, connecting communities for life! Image credit: Market Lane Media. **LEFT** Woman at a market in Papua New Guinea. Image credit: Market Lane Media

WHO WE ARE

UnitingWorld is an Agency of the National Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia (UCA), mandated to drive collaboration with the global church.

Our purpose is to address poverty and injustice and help the church grow in faith and leadership.

UnitingWorld manages this two-fold mission through two distinct program units.

The Relief and Development Programs Unit is responsible for all development and humanitarian aid work; supporting our overseas partners to address systems that perpetuate poverty and enable marginalised communities to live healthy and well-resourced lives.

The Church Connections Programs Unit is responsible for programs in church leadership, advocacy and Christian discipleship; creating global connections that enrich life and witness through mutual learning.

LEARN TO DO RIGHT; SEEK JUSTICE. DEFEND THE OPPRESSED. TAKE UP THE CAUSE OF THE FATHERLESS; PLEAD THE CASE OF THE WIDOW.

Isaiah 1:17



VISION

See transformed communities who honour God, experience hope and wellbeing and live free from poverty and injustice.

MISSION

Help the people of the Uniting Church in Australia connect with our overseas partner churches. We support our partners as they minister among people and address difficult issues in their local communities. As we foster relationships between people in Australia and across the world we see lives mutually transformed.

VALUES

We commit to live and serve with overseas partners in God's mission, valuing:

PARTNERSHIP

We give generously and receive humbly, committing to long term change and growth.

FULLNESS OF LIFE

We believe the good news of Jesus means justice and hope for all, particularly for the oppressed and vulnerable.

MUTUAL RESPECT

We are sensitive to context, mindful of power imbalance; we recognise difference and embrace diversity.

INCLUSION

We actively seek equality for all, ensuring no discrimination due to age, culture, gender, disability, race, religion, sexual orientation or social or political affiliation.

INTEGRITY

We are ethical, accountable and open in our relationships and work practices.

SUSTAINABILITY

We care for creation and build resources for the future.

IMAGE In Papua New Guinea, UnitingWorld's work with our partner UCPNG is providing life-saving clean water and WASH services in rural communities. Image credit: Market Lane Media

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRS



I feel fortunate to be able to be involved in the Relief and Development work of UnitingWorld. It is always a joy to see the many ways in which UnitingWorld is striving to serve and partner with others, to deliver a wide range of effective programs with our partners overseas.

Over the past year, significant effort has gone into updating our strategic plan to have a clear vision for the future. There has been continued expansion of staff and offices in Asia and the Pacific, to see the new South East Asia Regional Office gain momentum, and we look forward to celebrating the fruit of stronger regional collaboration. We await eagerly the increase in efficiency and effectiveness as the Relief and Development team and the Church Connections team come together to plan and resource the two programs in a co-ordinated fashion, while maintaining clear distinctions in funding and objectives.

Rob Floyd has recently finished as National Director. Rob became National Director in 2014 after working within and leading the Relief and Development Unit of UnitingWorld since 2006. He has worked faithfully and tirelessly to build and strengthen relationships with our partner churches and to strengthen the work of UnitingWorld. Rob's hard work and dedication has helped the agency to continue to look to the future with optimism and hope. Thank you Rob.

The National Committee and I look forward to working with Dr Sureka Goringe as the new National Director and are thankful for the energy, enthusiasm and hard work of all the staff at UnitingWorld as we all work together to serve our partners.

I commend the Annual Report to your reading and ask for your continued support of this important work.

John Ruhle I Relief and Development National Committee Chair





This has been a year of change within UnitingWorld. The organisation has been altered to ensure that we use our staff in the most effective way, to focus on the delivery of our programs. Significant time has also been spent working alongside external consultants getting feedback from internal and external stakeholders to devise a new Strategic Plan 2017-2020. This, in the future, will commit us to fewer but larger programs. Due to reduced funding for UnitingWorld through the Uniting Church Assembly, there has also been a focus on adjusting the Church Connections budget.

UnitingWorld also saw the resignation of its National Director Rob Floyd. Rob had worked with UnitingWorld for 11 years, and during his term as National Director, he oversaw significant re-shaping of the organisation. Dr Sureka Goringe, who had previously been Associate Director of UnitingWorld, has been appointed as his successor.

Amidst these major changes there has been a continuation of the work done in partnership with our partner churches and agencies around the world. In particular we have done further work to make real the declaration of our partners, made at the National Assembly in Perth in 2015, to work and share together to address problems we face.

The work of UnitingWorld is possible only through the generosity of the many church communities and individuals who support us financially. To those people we are deeply grateful, and so are the thousands of people who benefit from their generosity. Of course the hands that link most directly with our partners are our wonderful staff who continue to inspire me with their energy, dedication and enthusiasm. The National Committee continues to be well served by its members who bring their skill and commitment to their task.

We look forward with hope to the future and to the ongoing work of UnitingWorld making a difference.

Andrew Glenn I Church Connections National Committee Chair



MESSAGE FROM OUR NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Welcome to the UnitingWorld Annual Report for 2016-2017.



This is the first time we have produced a single Annual Report covering all the work of our Agency, both our Relief and Development and Church Connections Programs Units. We feel that this is both helpful and important for our supporters and partners to get a full picture of the work that UnitingWorld is doing with our overseas partners.

This single report reflects some of the changes that have taken place within our Agency as well over the last 12 months as we have brought together the work of our Pacific focused staff and our Asia/Africa focused staff into multidisciplinary teams with a particular geographic partnership focus.

For me personally there have been some significant achievements as an Agency through the year. We brought together church leaders and key program staff from across Indonesia, Timor Leste and the Philippines to share their experiences, joys and struggles as both churches and organisations seeking to serve their local communities. The opportunity for our partners to share together, pray together and support each other was a wonderful experience for all, leading to strong commitments amongst them to work together into the future.

In the Pacific, our responses to Cyclone Winston that devastated many communities in Fiji, as well finalising our emergency response to the El Nino driven famine in parts of Papua New Guinea, reflected the ongoing concern and generosity among our supporters for these close neighbours. The developing capacity of our church partners, in these and other natural-disaster-affected Pacific countries, to help their communities prepare, plan and respond to disasters is inspiring. The growing awareness and resilience of local communities will stand them in good stead as climate related events increase in both frequency and intensity.

The Uniting Church, with UnitingWorld leadership, also explored new relationships with churches in Lebanon. I was privileged to visit Lebanon as part of a delegation to meet with a broad range of church leaders and communities. The effect of the Syrian crisis, which has seen well over 1 million refugees enter Lebanon, has led to many challenges. I was deeply moved by the responses that churches are making to support refugees and educate children. We have been able, with donations of support across our church, to provide assistance in this important work.

Finally, I concluded my role as National Director at the end of June 2017, moving to a new role in the National Assembly of the Uniting Church. I am delighted that Dr Sureka Goringe has been appointed to the role and have full confidence in Sureka and the wonderful staff and National Committee members of the Agency to continue to lead and connect communities across Australia and the world in life-giving relationships that build up the church and build up local communities as they share in God's mission in the world.

I have been richly blessed during my time in UnitingWorld, through the privilege of meeting and working with our overseas partners, staff and many of our supporters here in Australia.

I want to thank the Australian Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for their ongoing funding support to UnitingWorld, thank the dedicated staff I have worked with and most importantly thank the people from across Australia, who have trusted UnitingWorld and supported us in our work. Your commitment and generosity have enabled all that you will read in this report to come to fruition. Thank you for being partners with us in all we do.

Rob Floyd I National Director



"ALL WE DO TOGETHER, WE DO THROUGH CHRIST'S LOVE, TOGETHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE AT WORK IN THIS WORLD."

Rob Floyd, UnitingWorld

RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

The Relief and Development Unit of UnitingWorld supports our overseas partners as they enable marginalised communities to live healthy and well-resourced lives.

Our mission is simple: we want to see a world where peace and justice reign and in which church communities and people step up to partner in God's mission. To make this a reality, we focus on building the capacity of our overseas partners and their communities, assisting them in overcoming poverty and injustice, realising their fundamental human rights and developing long term, sustainable livelihoods.

In order to bring about real and lasting change, we work with our partners to empower communities to analyse their local context and identify their strengths and barriers to their development. We give particular attention to issues of participation, human rights, inclusion and gender and capacity development. Our program areas are poverty alleviation, gender equality and emergency relief.

BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY

In the last year we have focused heavily on developing the capacity of our partner organisations, to help them better address the challenges their local communities are facing. This has included:

- Improving governance, especially in strategy, policy and procedures
- Improving analysis of context, systems, policies and processes that impact on communities
- Developing a clear focus and approach for development work
- Strengthening financial management including audit
- Strengthening staff development
- Developing appropriate tools for project planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
- Developing approaches that lead to increased sustainability of organisations
- Developing good systems for child protection, fraud prevention and anti-terrorism

> "DEVELOPMENT IS NOT ABOUT A BETTER LIFE BUT A BETTER WAY OF LIVING AMONG HUMAN BEINGS AS WHOLE PERSONS."
>
> BENA SETA, UNITED CHURCH IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

IMAGE Yohana in West Timor helps tend a community garden made by our partners (TLM) to grow food and generate incomes. Image credit: Cath Taylor

POVERTY ALLEVIATION

The Relief and Development Unit has continued to work alongside our overseas development partners to bring about sustainable change in communities experiencing poverty and injustice.

UnitingWorld received $2,470,615 in Australian Aid, towards poverty alleviation, institutional capacity building and gender equality programs. UnitingWorld, as part of the 'Church Agencies Network Disaster Operations' consortium, qualified as an Australian Humanitarian Partner and is now able to apply for emergency relief funds from the Australian Government.

DURGAPUR | NORTH INDIA

A family of three, Sumitra, her husband and her son, were poor daily labourers who were indebted to a rich landowner in their neighbouring village. The principle amount coupled with a high interest rate had prevented the family from ever getting out of debt, effectively rendering them as bonded labourers.

"We worked every day without break in order to just feed our family. Even though it was our greatest desire to educate our only son, we could not afford it because of our financial status…"

There was never enough money for all their household needs. A huge portion of the family's meagre earnings went towards paying off their loans and they were left with very little.

It was during these times that the Economic Empowerment project run by our partner the Church of North India (CNI), decided to provide help to the poor women of the village. The financial support was provided through Self Help Groups and Sumitra became a member. Each member was given a goat. After rearing it for 6 months, the goat gave birth to a male and a female kid. After 6 months Sumitra sold the first male for Rs. 14,000 INR and then sold another one for Rs. 6,000 INR. At present she has 7 goats and her family is doing very well financially.

"I had never raised goats in my life…who would have ever thought that a goat could get me out of poverty and give my family hope! We did not have the opportunity to study, but, with the help of CNI we have the option to educate our child, and that gives us a lot of joy," says Sumitra.

Sumitra's family has paid off their debts to the landowner. They have dedicated themselves to work in their own village, rearing their goats and their son now has the opportunity to attend high school.

**Supported by the Australian Government*

FIGURES FOR CHANGE

In **South Sudan, 24 trainee midwives** completed their second year of training*

In **Zimbabwe, 152 households** have increased their incomes through income generating activities*

In **Durgapur India, 5,711 people** have taken part in self help groups, to become economically self-sufficient*

In **Papua New Guinea, 2,511 people** received education and access to safe water and sanitation*

In **Sri Lanka, 169 children** living with a disability received access to education and medical support

In the **Philippines 1,898 indigenous people** benefited from community development and and livelihoods activities

In **Timor Leste, 1,523 people** participated in education programs to help prevent diarrhea and tuberculosis

In **Bali, Indonesia, 28 villages** received access to better water and sanitation facilities through the WASH program*

** Supported by the Australian Government*

IMAGE Woman carrying water pot, North India. Image credit: Alex Baker

MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE BOND OF PEACE.

Ephesians 4:3

GENDER EQUALITY

Our partners in the Pacific are breaking new ground. The Partnering Women for Change (PW4C)* program combines a number of interrelated, complementary projects in a holistic, regional approach to gender equality and the elimination of violence against women and girls. It resources partner churches to be agents of change in their local and broader communities. To do this, they use a theological framework that challenges biblical interpretations of gender relationships and opens refreshed understanding of God's equal creation of all people and God's intentions for equal human relationships.

The program produces biblical and theological resources in gender, disability inclusion, and child protection and care, facilitates regional training and capacity development activities (Australian Government funded) in these resources and supports partner women's fellowship organisations to implement community development projects within their communities that empower women.

SO MUCH MORE THAN MAKING TOAST

In September 2016, UnitingWorld facilitated a workshop with the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu (PCV) on Gender Equality through Theology. The theological teaching was facilitated by Rev Dr Cliff Bird, a prominent Pacific theologian and UnitingWorld Regional Coordinator, as well as Cliff's wife, Mrs Siera Bird. Both Cliff and Siera equally led the teaching, modelling the theology as they stood side by side.

The workshop was coordinated by Elder Martha, the PCV Gender Project Officer. Elder Martha's husband is a local 'big man' in his village; a village leader with local power, authority and respect. Elder Martha's husband attended the workshop as well, working in the kitchen providing the food and refreshments for the participants – traditionally women's work. This change in roles had a strong impact on all the participants.

After attending the workshop, one of the participants decided to put the theology they were learning into action. He got up early one morning, even before his wife and prepared the breakfast for his wife and family. This was the very first time he had ever done this. He had always seen it as his wife's role to serve him. He served his wife breakfast and gave her the double share, usually reserved for him as the 'head of the house'. During the workshop that day he reported that he had done this as he now recognised that his wife was equal to him in God's eyes but had not been treated as so in the home. His wife then stood beside him and shared how this seemingly simple action represented for her, a revolutionary change.

What may seem like a very small thing can herald hope and the promise of transformation for women in the Pacific. It's not just theology, it is a mandate for action and even the smallest actions have impact.

*Supported by the Australian Government



ABOVE Martha is the Gender Project Officer of the Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu, working to progress gender equality within the church and wider Vanuatu. Image credit: Cath Taylor

RIGHT A community development worker and teacher employed by the Church of North India. Image credit: Market Lane Media



FIGURES FOR
CHANGE

In **Vanuatu, 980 people** participated in Gender Equality awareness training*

In **Kiribati, 647 people** received training in food security, child protection and family relationships

77 church leaders from across **12 Pacific countries** attended training in Gender Equality Theology*

** Supported by the Australian Government*

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

We continue to respond to humanitarian disasters, both directly through our partners and through our ACT Alliance network.

This year we continued supporting our partners in Fiji to rebuild after the devastation by Cyclone Winston, and completed our recovery programs in Vanuatu (Cyclone Pam) and PNG (El Nino famine). Our recovery programs have a strong emphasis on 'building back better', integrating elements that will make the communities more resilient to future disasters.

We also raised funds for the Syrian refugee crisis and the famine in Africa, in support of relief projects implemented through the ACT Alliance.

HELPING OUR PARTNERS TO RESPOND | SOUTH SUDAN

Famine was declared in South Sudan in February 2017. It was the first time in six years that famine was declared anywhere in the world. More than 40 percent of South Sudan's population were in urgent need of food. In the worst hit parts of the country, one in three children was acutely malnourished. In a country already devastated by war and a collapsed economy, severe drought was the final straw.

Working with local ACT Alliance church partners and directly through the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan, UnitingWorld has been able to support the delivery of vital food supplies, nutrition supplements and water purification tablets to children and families desperately in need. Our partners in South Sudan remain committed to peace, justice, and to practically supporting their local communities. Through the support of our donors, we stand with them in all these efforts.

REBUILDING AFTER CYCLONE WINSTON | FIJI

Fiji's recovery from Severe Tropical Cyclone Winston is a great story of what partnerships can achieve. When Winston hit Fiji on 20 February, 2016 it was one of the strongest category-five cyclones ever recorded in the Southern Hemisphere. Winds over 300 km per hour flattened villages and cut a path of destruction across the country, taking the lives of 42 people and displacing more than 62,000. We partnered with the Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma who partnered with the Fijian government to provide the following support:

- Providing clothes, toiletries, bedding, emergency lighting equipment, kitchen utensils for cooking and eating.
- Providing gardening tools and plants of nutritious food species to re-establish subsistence livelihoods as part of recovery.
- Assisting communities to appropriately dispose of unrecyclable cyclone debris.
- Assisting communities to repair and/or rebuild community facilities such as schools and health clinics.
- Developing a national, multi-denominational network of trained disaster response chaplains to provide psychosocial support.



ABOVE Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma volunteers cleaning up and assessing damage after Cyclone Winston. Image credit: Michael Constable
RIGHT South Sudan famine. Image credit: ACT Alliance.

FIGURES FOR
CHANGE

In **Zimbabwe, 200 families** affected by La Nina related floods were provided with emergency relief foods, drinking water and emergency supplies

In **South Sudan, 7000** internally displaced people received food and emergency supplies

$248,185 was raised through the **Africa Famine Appeal**

We raised **$20,564** for **Syrian Refugees**

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

During FY 2017, Relief and Development raised $2.4M from our donors, which comprised 46% of operating revenue for the year. These funds include donations from Australian individuals, congregations and groups and also funds from donors who left gifts in their wills.

We are grateful to our supporters for their generous donations to our work including those who have graciously chosen to provide for our overseas partners and programs through their estate planning. We remain committed to our focus of building strong, healthy and resilient communities overseas, and a strong financially sustainable organisation with a view to growth in the future.

Our Australian Government funding received through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) remains a very important component of our income for which we are most appreciative. This funding has however reduced from the previous year due to changes in the aid environment. This had an impact on the Papua New Guinea Church Partnership Program and the ANCP (Australian NGO Cooperation Program).

Expenditure on our overseas programs was 83% of the total expenditure for the year. This included $528,000 of emergency relief funds raised for our responses to Cyclone Winston in Fiji and Cyclone Pam in Vanuatu, both of which were carried forward from FY 2016. This has had the impact of increasing our total expenditure and has been a significant contributor to the deficit we are reporting for FY 2017.

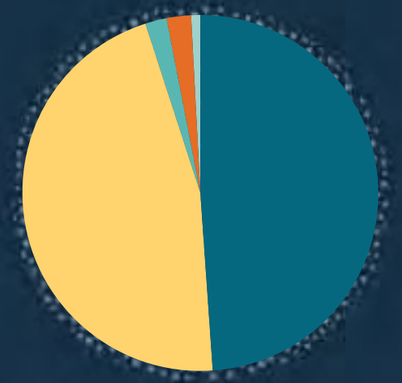
We spent almost $108,000 on education in Australia, a significant proportion of which involves working with schools and other Uniting Church groups to help them become more aware of the world in which they live.

The balance of our expenditure, $0.92M, funded our other organisational costs which included costs associated with preparation for our DFAT re-accreditation. During the year we have increased investment in fundraising activities with the aim of growing and diversifying our revenue and our organisational capacity to better serve the communities in which we work, thereby keeping the UnitingWorld mission and commitment to transforming communities alive.

The full financial report for the year ended 30 June 2017 is available on request and on the UnitingWorld website at www.unitingworld.org.au. The summary financial information that follows has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct. UnitingWorld Relief and Development is committed to full adherence to this code.

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

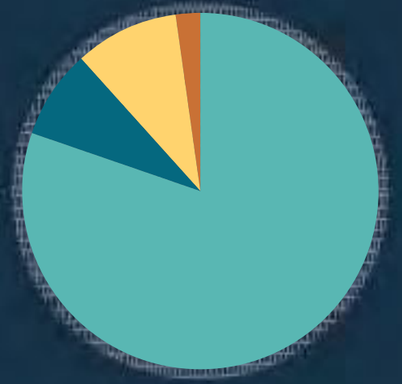
YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017



- **49%** Grants
- **46%** Donations
- **2%** Bequest and legacies
- **2%** Investment Income
- **1%** Other Income

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017



- **83%** International Programs
- **7%** Accountability and Administration
- **8%** Fundraising Costs
- **2%** Community Education

2016-2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017

Revenue	30 JUNE 2017	30 JUNE 2016
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	2,316,476	2,587,124
Bequests and Legacies	101,511	151,075
Grants		
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	2,470,615	3,163,091
Commercial Activities Income	–	–
Investment Income	110,703	112,362
Other Income	29,320	134,175
Total revenue	**5,028,625**	**6,147,827**

Expenditure	30 JUNE 2017	30 JUNE 2016
International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure		
International Programs		
Funds to International Programs	4,211,799	4,420,352
Program Support Costs	819,943	899,672
Community Education	108,075	85,850
Fundraising Costs		
Public	502,892	386,849
Accountability & Administration	419,987	370,710
Total International Aid and Development Programs Expenditure	**6,062,696**	**6,163,433**
Total expenditure	**6,062,696**	**6,163,433**
(Deficit)/Surplus	**(1,034,071)**	**(15,606)**

"OUR MISSION IS TO WORK WITH COMMUNITIES TO ELIMINATE POVERTY AND INJUSTICE THROUGH INTERVENTIONS WHICH BEAR WITNESS TO GOD'S LOVE, REMEMBERING THAT JUSTICE IS A COMMAND FROM GOD."

Clever Tabaziba, Methodist Church in Zimbabwe

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

Assets	30 JUNE 2017	30 JUNE 2016
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	3,750,448	4,705,709
Trade and Other Receivables	46,259	63,741
Other Financial Assets	25,590	23,237
Total Current Assets	**3,822,297**	**4,792,687**
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	7,446	15,998
Total Non-Current Assets	**7,446**	**15,998**
Total Assets	**3,829,743**	**4,808,685**

Liabilities		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and Other Payables	94,645	44,754
Provisions	85,770	64,187
Total Current Liabilities	**180,415**	**108,941**
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	13,660	30,005
Total Non-Current Liabilities	**13,660**	**30,005**
Total Liabilities	**194,074**	**138,946**
Net Assets	**3,635,668**	**4,669,739**

Equity		
RESERVES		
Restricted Reserves	2,575,762	3,461,568
Unrestricted Reserves	302,896	444,916
Total Reserves	**2,878,658**	**3,906,485**
Retained Earnings	757,010	763,255
Total Equity	**3,635,668**	**4,669,739**

"THE ISSUE OF POVERTY IS NOT A STATISTICAL ISSUE. IT IS A HUMAN ISSUE."

James Wolfensohn, World Bank

IMAGE Johan in West Timor was able to go to school thanks to an education grant provided by our partner, TLM. Image credit: Cath Taylor.

THIS IS WHAT THE LORD ALMIGHTY SAID: 'ADMINISTER TRUE JUSTICE; SHOW MERCY AND COMPASSION TO ONE ANOTHER. Zechariah 7:9

DECLARATION BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE
for the year ended 30 June 2017

In accordance with a resolution of the UnitingWorld Relief & Development National Committee we state that, as set out on pages 1 to 2:

(a) in the Committee's opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Unit will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and

(b) in the Committee's opinion, the attached financial statements and notes thereto are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* .

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.

On behalf of the National Committee

John Ruhle
Chairperson

Sydney
26 September 2017

Committee Member
JAMES BATLEY

Sydney
26 Sepember 2017

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

To the National Committee of UnitingWorld Relief & Development

Report on the audit of the Summary Financial Report

Opinion

The Summary Financial Report of UnitingWorld Relief & Development (the Agency) is derived from the Audited Financial Report of the Agency as at and for the year ended 30 June 2017 (Audited Financial Report).

The Summary Financial Report comprises:

- Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017.
- Statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income for the year then ended.

In our opinion, the accompanying Summary Financial Report is consistent, in all material respects, with the Audited Financial Report of UnitingWorld Relief & Development, and has been prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct.

Summary Financial Report

The Summary Financial Report does not contain all the disclosures required by *Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements* applied in the preparation of the Audited Financial Report. Reading the Summary Financial Report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the Audited Financial Report and the auditor's report thereon.

The Audited Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the Audited Financial Report in our report dated 26 September 2017.

Emphasis of matter – basis of preparation and restriction on use and distribution

The Summary Financial Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct to assist the National Committee of UnitingWorld Relief & Development meet its reporting requirements with ACFID.

As a result, the Summary Financial Report and this Auditor's Report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Our report is intended solely for the National Committee of UnitingWorld Relief & Development and should not be used by or distributed to parties other than the National Committee of UnitingWorld Relief & Development. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report, or on the Summary Financial Statements to which it relates, to any person other than the National Committee of UnitingWorld Relief & the Development or for any other purpose than that for which it was prepared.

Responsibility of Management for the Summary Financial Report

Management are responsible for the preparation of the Summary Financial Report in accordance with the requirements of the ACFID Code of Conduct.

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

Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the Summary Financial Report

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

KPMG

KPMG

Stephen Isaac

Partner

Sydney

26 September 2017

RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT

JAMES BATLEY

BA (Hons.), PSM

James has over 30 years' experience in international diplomacy and development including positions such as Deputy Secretary of DFAT; Deputy Director-General of AusAID; Australian High Commissioner to Fiji (and Permanent Representative to the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat); Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands; Special Coordinator of the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI); Australian Ambassador to East Timor; as well as diplomatic positions in Beirut, Lebanon; Jakarta, Indonesia; Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea; and Port Vila, Vanuatu. He graduated from the University of Sydney in 1982 and was awarded the Public Service Medal in 2002. He currently works at the Australian National University.



ROB FLOYD (NATIONAL DIRECTOR)

BSci (Hons.) DipEd, GradDipEd, GradDipIntlDev, GAICD

Rob has been National Director of UnitingWorld and Director of the Relief and Development Unit since May 2014. Previously he was the Associate Director Relief and Development, a role in which he oversaw all of UnitingWorld's emergency relief and community development programs.



COLLEEN GEYER

BTh, GCELead, DipTeach, Cert IV WTA

Colleen has held roles including Director of Mission at UnitingCare Queensland, Associate Director at UnitingCare Australia, and National Consultant for the Assembly Gospel and Gender Unit. She has worked for the Uniting Church and its agencies since 1995 holding positions at state and national level. Since becoming Assembly General Secretary, Colleen has sought to improve national cooperation and resource-sharing across the Uniting Church.



MARGARET HARVIE

BA AppSc

Margaret is a Director of a consultancy that provides planning and community engagement advice and services to government and the private sector. She is an Associate at the University of Technology Sydney and an Associate of the Civil Service College, Singapore. She trains others in the skills to effectively communicate and encourage the public to participate in creating plans for services, infrastructure and land use. In addition to her work in Australia she has been involved with projects to assess social, economic and planning impacts on communities in China, Malaysia, Laos and has delivered training in Singapore, Malaysia and Papua New Guinea.



DAVID HODGES

BA, BLEG, LLM, GDipEd, GAICD, JP

Following a public service career of approximately 15 years David worked for almost two decades as a lawyer in private practice principally in the commercial, corporate and government enterprise sectors, including over six years as a partner with a leading national firm. Subsequently David served as a director in the agribusiness sector, taking a particular interest in governance, strategy setting and policy.



NATIONAL COMMITTEE



JOHN RUHLE (CHAIR)

BAgEc, BTh, MAICD

John is a former rural bank manager and lay education and discipleship facilitator. John spent time as a volunteer in central India and has since been involved with exposure and monitoring and evaluation visits to UnitingWorld projects in Asia. He is the Moreton Rivers Presbytery Minister in Queensland.



WENDY SUMA

BTh, DipCC

Wendy has worked in community development programs in Australia and overseas including women and children's protection, education and refugee support and humanitarian entrant housing. Wendy also brings a grassroots perspective to the National Committee through her current role as Head of Programs at the Uniting Church's Wayside Chapel in Sydney, where she leads a team of staff and volunteers who support people from disadvantaged backgrounds in Kings Cross and Bondi.



SIOKATAME TUPOU

Tame is husband to Rose and father of Semisi and Israel. Tame has a Bachelor of Economics, Bachelor of Law, Master of Theological Studies and Master of Law (Applied Family Law). Tame is the principle solicitor of Pinnacle Lawyers and the Treasurer and lay-preacher at Siaola Church, Tempe NSW.



MARGARET WATT

BA (Hons.), DipEd

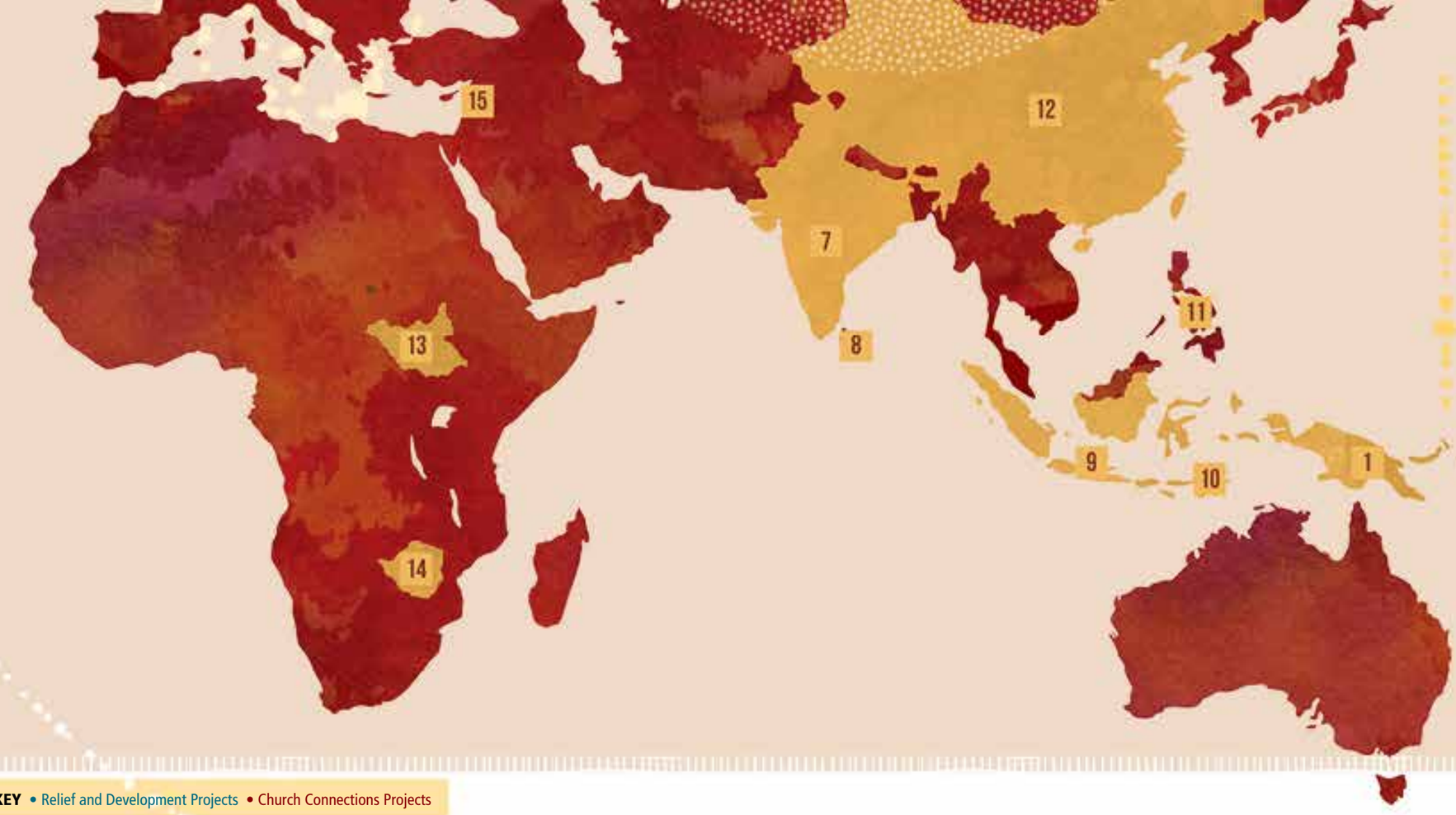
Margaret has been Chief of Staff to three politicians over 17 years including the Hon. Bob McMullan when he was Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance from 2007 - 2010. Margaret currently serves on several boards and has been Chair of the Church Council at Canberra City Uniting Church, where she has been an active member for more than ten years.



PAUL WAIT

MA

Paul is a transport economist with over 40 years experience consulting in Australia and overseas. His experience in more than a dozen developing countries has involved multiple agencies and governments in Asia, the Pacific region, the Middle East and the Caribbean. He graduated in philosophy, politics and economics from the University of Oxford. Before he retired, Paul was the director of a number of organisations, including PwC, Saha International and Booz Allen Hamilton. Paul is a member of Killara Uniting Church.



NO ONE HAS EVER SEEN GOD; BUT IF WE LOVE ONE ANOTHER, GOD LIVES IN US AND HIS LOVE IS MADE COMPLETE IN US.

1 JOHN 4:12

COLOUR KEY • Relief and Development Projects • Church Connections Projects

1. PAPUA NEW GUINEA

- Church Partnership Program - United Church in Papua New Guinea (UCPNG)
- Safe Water Campaign - United Church in Papua New Guinea (UCPNG)
- Famine Appeal - United Church in Papua New Guinea (UCPNG)
- Theology Training for Women - United Church in Papua New Guinea (UCPNG)

2. FIJI

- Cyclone Winston Response - Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma (MCIF)
- Partnering Women for Change – Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma (MCIF)
- Eye Care - St Clair Uniting Church
- Squatter Settlement Support - Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma (MCIF)
- Theology Training for Women - Methodist Church in Fiji and Rotuma (MCIF)

3. VANUATU

- Partnering Women for Change – Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu (PCV)
- Theology Training for Women - Presbyterian Church of Vanuatu (PCV)

4. KIRIBATI

- Partnering Women for Change – Kiribati Uniting Church (KUC)
- Theology Training for Women - Kiribati Uniting Church (KUC)

5. TUVALU

- Disaster Risk Reduction/Climate Change - Ekalesia Kelisiano Tuvalu (EKT)

6. TONGA

- Early childhood education – Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga (FWCT)

7. INDIA

- Durgapur Social Empowerment and Education - Church of North India (CNI)
- Amritsar Social Empowerment and Education - Church of North India (CNI)
- Eastern Himalayas Leadership Training - Church of North India (CNI)
- Eastern Himalayas Education - Church of North India (CNI)
- Amritsar Education for Girls - Church of North India (CNI)

8. SRI LANKA

- Supporting People with Disabilities - Methodist Church of Sri Lanka (MCSL)
- Peace Building and Conflict Resolution - Methodist Church in Sri Lanka (MCSL

9. INDONESIA

- Bali Village Development - Gereja Kristen Protestan di Bali (GKPB)
- West Timor Microfinance and Village Development - Gereja Masehi Injili di Timor (GMIT)
- Maluku Peacebuilding and Women's Empowerment - Gereja Protestan Maluku (GPM)
- West Papua Community Livelihoods - Gereja Kristen Injili di Tanah Papua (GKI- TP)
- West Papua HIV Clinic - Gereja Kristen Injili di Tanah Papua (GKI- TP)

10. TIMOR LESTE

- Community Health Clinics - Protestant Church in East Timor (IPTL)
- Leadership Training - Protestant Church in East Timor (IPTL)

11. PHILIPPINES

- Agriculture for Indigenous Communities - United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP)

12. CHINA

- Theological Education - China Christian Council (CCC)
- Aged Care Training with UnitingCare – China Christian Council (CCC)

13. SOUTH SUDAN

- Midwifery Training - Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS)
- Famine Relief- ACT Alliance (Presbyterian Church of South Sudan)
- Peacebuilding and Trauma Healing - Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS)

14. ZIMBABWE

- Sustainable Livelihoods - Methodist Church in Zimbabwe (MCZ)
- Famine Relief - Methodist Church in Zimbabwe (MCZ)
- Youth Resilience Training - Methodist Church in Zimbabwe (MCZ)

15. LEBANON

- Education for Syrian Refugees –ACT Alliance (Middle East Council of Churches)

CHURCH CONNECTIONS

The Church Connections Unit is focused on building the capacity of churches to be effective in mission and ministry, growing in faith, discipleship and service. The work is structured deliberately to enable both overseas partner churches and the UCA to be connected and transformed through collaboration.

Program areas:

EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN LEADERS

Building the capacity of church leadership

GROWING GLOBAL CONNECTIONS

Deepening and broadening church-to-church relations by facilitating the exchange of people

MINISTRY IN THE MARGINS

Providing services to vulnerable and marginalised communities

IMAGE Rev. Andrew, Kate, James, Hannah and Micah Smith, participants of an InSolidarity trip to Fiji in 2016. Image credit: Megan Calcaterra

"ALL LIVES – NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE BEING LED – HAVE EQUAL VALUE."

GATES FOUNDATION

EQUIPPING CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP

We believe in seeing churches across the world strengthened to be spiritual and practical resources for their communities. This year we supported the Chinese church to train ministers as the church continues to experience unprecedented growth; the church in the Eastern Himalayas to train leaders in community organisation and theology; and the traditionally male dominated Pacific church to train women for ministry.

FORGIVENESS IS LIMITLESS

Two weeks before Christmas, on a sweltering summer's day in Juba, 68 lay leaders and ministers from across South Sudan gathered to talk about peace and forgiveness. Finding inspiration from Matthew 18:21-22, the workshop focused on reconciliation and trauma healing. "According to scripture, forgiveness is limitless, compulsory, and two-way. It releases our hearts from sin. Repentance is the key to forgiveness," explained the Rt Rev Peter Gai Lual Marrow, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS). Operating in a context where violence and tribalism reign, PCOSS are working day in and day out to preach a message of peace and reconciliation.

Women and men, both lay and ordained, came together for five days to learn about forgiveness and reconciliation, peace building, human rights and justice, conflict resolution, and trauma healing, using a faith based and multicultural approach. Equipped with the knowledge and tools that they gained at the workshop, each participant has returned to their home church and community to share what they've learned.

Achieving peace in South Sudan isn't an easy task. Our partners believe that the church can act as a tool for unification and peacebuilding among faith communities and communities at large. Their goal is to prepare church leaders for their role in the peacebuilding process by equipping them with the practical skills and knowledge they require alongside a renewed and strengthened faith in their role in God's mission for peace.



FIGURES FOR CHANGE

In the **Pacific, 16 female scholarship** recipients graduated with a Diploma of Theology

In **Tuvalu, 60 people** participated in workshops focused on dealing with stress and clergy burnout in times of disaster

In **China, 93 aged care managers** attended UnitingCare training for professional development

In **China,** more than **100 clergy and lay preachers** took part in intensive preaching courses to help support growing rural churches

In the **Pacific, 30 representatives** from partner churches participated in a climate change and disaster risk reduction seminar

In **Zimbabwe, 220 young people** attended 4 workshops to learn about community leadership and peaceful participation in government processes

In **South Sudan, 68 leaders** were trained in peacebuilding and trauma healing; each one went on to train **12 other leaders** in their home town

ABOVE Women's gathering in Zimbabwe. Image Credit: Stephanie Dalton **RIGHT** Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan. Image credit: Market Lane Media

YOU SEE THAT HIS FAITH AND HIS ACTIONS WERE WORKING TOGETHER, AND HIS FAITH WAS MADE COMPLETE BY WHAT HE DID.

JAMES 2:22

MINISTRY IN THE MARGINS

Poverty, conflict and injustice are realities for many of our partners. We support them to be the church in their context in ways that bring life to their communities. This year we supported a remote school in the Himalayas with resources and teacher training, provided 76 scholarships for vulnerable school children in Fiji and supported girls' education in India.

THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN IS NOW VERY BRIGHT

High up in the Indian Himalayas, in a small village of mostly farming families, a busy school day begins. Students leave their homes and walk the short distance to newly built classrooms for their first lessons of the day. They are taught by young, local teachers, enthusiastic to see improvements in their classes and their own teaching practice, encouraging students to excel in all areas of learning.

Until just a few years ago, going to school was a very different experience for many children in this remote community. With no school nearby, children would have to walk four hours each way to attend the nearest school, often on isolated mountain trails, a journey made largely impossible during monsoon season. For many parents the risk was too great, especially for their daughters; many children dropped out of school altogether, losing the opportunity for education for another generation and raising the very real risk of human trafficking.

With the support of UnitingWorld, the Church of North India, Diocese of Eastern Himalayas responded to this need by establishing a local school in this remote region. The school began in February 2015 with its first cohort of 63 Year 5, 6 and 7 students. Steadily growing each year, there are currently 150 students attending the school from Years 5 to 9.

This access to local education has been life-changing for these students and their families. Young people in the area are now better equipped for future employment and livelihoods, parents no longer fear for their children's safety and local communities are filled with hope for their future.



FIGURES FOR CHANGE

In **Fiji, 76 educational scholarships** were provided to children living in squatter settlements

In **North West India 28 girls** were supported to attend school

In **Timor Leste, 37 church leaders** received training in leadership and child protection

In **Eastern Himalayas, India,** a school supported by UnitingWorld offered affordable education to **230 children** in remote mountain villages adding **4 new teachers** because of growth

ABOVE School students in Eastern Himalayas. Image credit: Laura McGilvray
RIGHT Parmjeet, a teacher employed by the the Church of North India with her students. Image credit: Market Lane Media

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

GROWING GLOBAL RELATIONSHIPS

UnitingWorld values our relationships with our many partners around the world, some of these span more than 100 years. We have attended partner Synod and Assembly gatherings and brought regional partners together to learn from each other.

We are committed to connecting communities.

This year our Experience Program enabled volunteers to live, work and make a real difference alongside our overseas partner church communities. They connected and collaborated with people across the globe to share their knowledge and experience to learn, build capacity and share in the mission of God.

Volunteering can be a life changing experience. Joy and Ron Simpson were volunteers in Tonga and offer this reflection:

"In a time of international unrest, programs such as Uniting World's leave a lasting legacy for visited and visiting countries and people. Our experience volunteering has proven to us that as we partnered and helped build capacity in the identified fields within the visited country, not only was our work input valued, but more importantly relationships were built and cultural barriers overcome, bringing understanding and comradeship. As we shared our journey by blog, journal and emails while we were away and then on our return home, this attitude and influence is impacting on the society in which we live, bringing compassion and increased global understanding, which ultimately results in change for the good." Joy and Ron Simpson

IMAGE UnitingWorld staff and former volunteer, Alexandra Bingham, building the communications capacity of our partner, the United Church of Christ in the Philippines. Image credit: Market Lane Media

CHANGES THIS YEAR

Over the past year, UnitingWorld has had to re-shape the nature of both the volunteer program and the exposure visit program. These programs were successful and popular. They played a vital role in connecting members of the Uniting Church to the life and work of our partners, in ways that were profoundly transformational and with lifelong impact. Many current UCA leaders can look back on an encounter with partners overseas that played a crucial role in their spiritual formation. However, changes in church funding has meant that UnitingWorld no longer has staff dedicated to these programs and has had to significantly tighten the scope of the services we provide.

As of December 2016, UnitingWorld is only able to place volunteers into placements that are directly linked to projects that are funded by UnitingWorld. These placements are likely to be skills based, and be focussed on building capacity within our partner church through training and skills transfer. These placements are also unlikely to be longer than 6 months.

Also as of December 2016, InSolidarity exposure visits are only organised in response to interest from groups who are able to cover all costs and are committed to longer term support of the partners and projects that are visited.

These decisions have not been made lightly, and UnitingWorld is deeply grieved at our inability to support a wider engagement with our partners overseas. We are still utterly convinced of the value of visiting our partner churches and building relationships, sharing in experience, expertise, culture, life and faith that is so mutually significant and enriching.

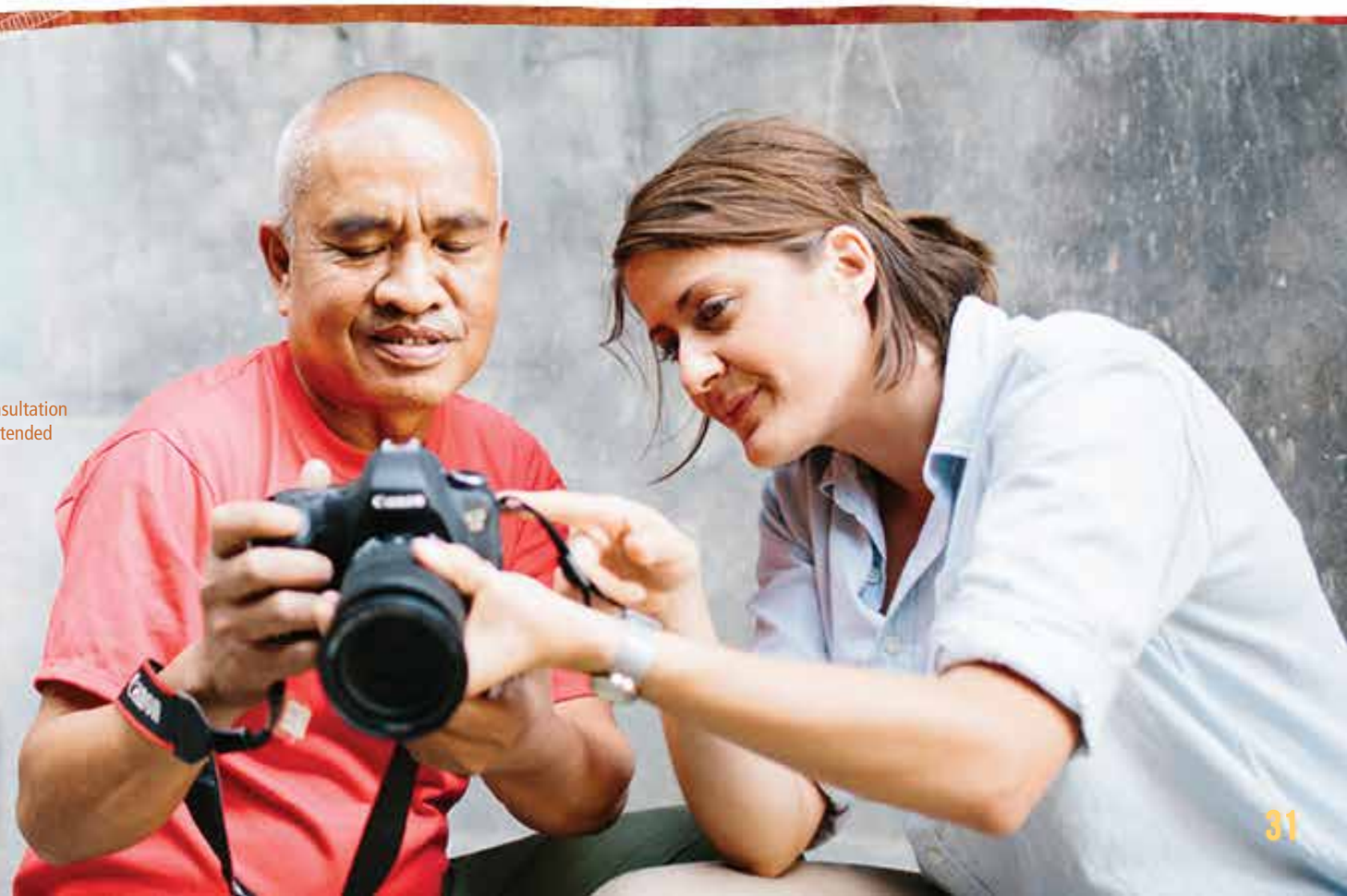
Personal interaction with our Partner Churches is a longstanding and vital part of the UCA's history. The Uniting Church, through UnitingWorld, remains committed to engaging with the church across the world and supporting our Partner Churches in their mission and ministry. We will continue to work with our Partners and the UCA to maintain these important relationships but in ways that are within the means of both UnitingWorld and our Partners to sustain.

FIGURES FOR CHANGE

23 delegates including leaders from our partner church in Papua met in Sydney for a consultation around ways forward for advocacy for West Papua from Australian partners. The meeting was attended by UnitingWorld, the UCA President Stuart McMillan and Justice staff from the Synods

UnitingWorld Church Connections supported **15 volunteers** to contribute to and learn from the work of our partners in **8** countries across **17 placements**

National Director Rob Floyd and **UCA President Stuart McMillan** travelled to Lebanon to meet with churches there and learn about the impact of the Syrian refugee crisis



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The Church Connections Unit raised $0.9M public funds, which comprised 60% of operating revenue for the year compared with 71% in the previous year. Public funds included donations from Australian individuals and organisations including funds from donors who left gifts in their wills totalling $0.31M, significantly lower than the previous year. Investment income was $0.33M, a slight decline from the previous year.

We are grateful to our supporters for their generous donations to our work including those who have graciously chosen to provide for our overseas partners and programs through their estate planning. With their support and encouragement we continue to be committed to building a strong, financially sustainable organisation.

The program expenditure was 55% of total expenditure for 2017. This is made up of grants to overseas projects, partner relationships and support costs and included almost $148,000 on education in Australia. A significant proportion of this education component involves working with schools and other Uniting Church groups to help people become more aware of the world in which they live. We help students understand the realities of poverty, injustice and inequality and the ways we can assist communities across the world to enjoy a higher quality of life.

The balance of our expenditure $0.79M funded our other organisational costs including fundraising. We have worked hard to reduce administration costs, directing savings towards fundraising, with the aim of growing our revenue and thereby our organisational capacity to better serve the communities in which we work.

The fundraising and administration costs of Church Connections are not proportional to program activity as these expenses have historically been shared evenly between the unit and UnitingWorld Relief and Development which is another unit within UnitingWorld even though UnitingWorld Relief and Development has a much higher turnover.

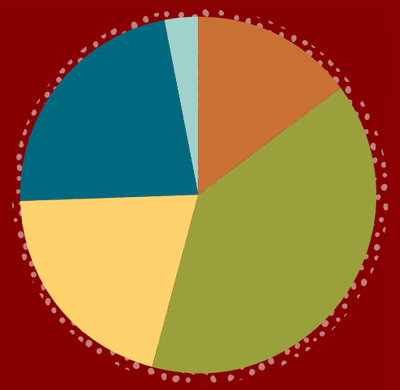
The Church Connection Unit received around $11,000 as trust funds this year, which brings the total trust fund equity to $1.612M at the end of FY 2017. Trust funds are funds managed by Church Connections in the role of trustee. Income from these funds is directed according to the terms of trust, to organisations with which the UCA has a historical connection. These funds cannot be used to support Church Connections projects or operations.

The financial information that follows has been extracted from statutory financial statements. It is consistent with these statements notwithstanding the technical language and contents.

The statutory financial statements have been audited and are available on request or on the UnitingWorld website at www.unitingworld.org.au.

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM

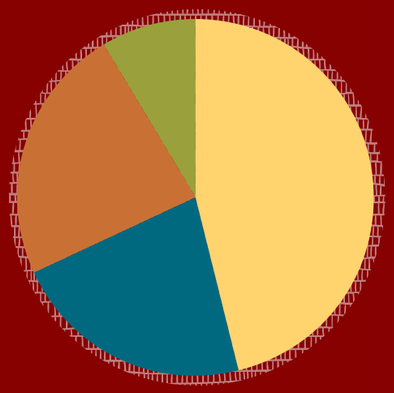
YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017



- **15%** Grants
- **39%** Donations
- **21%** Bequests and Legacies
- **22%** Investment Income
- **3%** Other Income

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017



- **46%** International Programs
- **22%** Accountability and Administration
- **23%** Fundraising Costs
- **9%** Community Education

FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017

Revenue	30 JUNE 2017	30 JUNE 2016
Donations and gifts		
Monetary	592,350	592,429
Bequests & Legacies	307,762	1,044,544
Grants	221,516	221,516
Investment Income	335,869	368,690
Other Income	43,639	85,789
Total Revenue	**1,501,136**	**2,312,968**

Expenditure	30 JUNE 2017	30 JUNE 2016
International Programs	811,480	1,257,109
Community Education	147,950	126,271
Fundraising Costs	409,983	219,533
Accountability & Administration	384,887	541,412
Total Expenditure	**1,754,300**	**2,144,325**
(Deficit)/Surplus	**(253,164)**	**168,643**
Other Comprehensive Income	312,566	(121,908)
Total Comprehensive Income	**59,402**	**46,735**

"ECONOMIC GROWTH CANNOT BE SENSIBLY TREATED AS AN END IN ITSELF. DEVELOPMENT HAS TO BE MORE CONCERNED WITH ENHANCING THE LIVES WE LEAD."

James Wolfensohn, World Bank

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017

Assets	30 JUNE 2017	30 JUNE 2016
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,764,207	5,015,238
Term Deposits	984,315	236,272
Trade and Other Receivables	58,380	42,780
Other Assets	21,568	48,162
Total Current Assets	**5,828,470**	**5,342,452**
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Financial Assets	2,564,576	2,208,584
Property, Plant and Equipment	2,124,287	2,160,078
Total Non-Current Assets	**4,688,863**	**4,368,662**
Total Assets	**10,517,333**	**9,711,114**

Liabilities	30 JUNE 2017	30 JUNE 2016
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and Other Payables	898,273	138,026
Provisions	62,842	62,708
Other	12,517	5,656
Total Current Liabilities	**973,632**	**206,390**
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Provisions	2,190	22,615
Total Non-Current Liabilities	**2,190**	**22,615**
Total Liabilities	**975,822**	**229,005**
Net Assets	**9,541,511**	**9,482,109**

Equity	30 JUNE 2017	30 JUNE 2016
UNRESTRICTED EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	4,600,738	886,687
Reserves	1,952,891	5,679,968
Endowment Fund - Capital Preserved	1,375,340	1,314,146
Total Unrestricted Equity	**7,928,969**	**7,880,801**
RESTRICTED EQUITY		
Trust Fund	1,612,542	1,601,308
Total Equity	**9,541,511**	**9,482,109**

IMAGE Community member, Church of North India. Image credit: Alexander Baker

DECLARATION BY THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

DECLARATION BY UNITINGWORLD CHURCH CONNECTIONS NATIONAL COMMITTEE
for the year ended 30 June 2017

In accordance with a resolution of the UnitingWorld Church Connections National Committee we state that, as set out on pages 3 to 20:

(a) in the National Committee's opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Unit will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable; and

(b) in the National Committee's opinion, the attached financial statements and notes thereto are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* including compliance with accounting standards and giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Unit.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the National Committee made pursuant to s.60.15 of the Australian *Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.*

Andrew Glenn
Chairperson



Sydney

21 November 2017

Tina Rendell-Thornton
Committee Member



Sydney

21 November 2017

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

KPMG

Auditor's Independence Declaration under subdivision 60-C section 60-40 of Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012

To: the National Committee of UnitingWorld Church Connections

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, in relation to the audit for the financial year ended 30 June 2017 there have been.

i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and

ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

KPMG



Stephen Isaac
Partner
Sydney
21 November 2017

CHURCH CONNECTIONS

ANDREW CORISH
BA-LLB

Andrew is a lawyer of 33 years with specialist accreditation through the NSW Law Society in family law. He is the proprietor of Corish and Co Specialist Family Lawyers at North Sydney. He has been a member of the Uniting Church since 1977 at Pymble, Canberra City and at Lane Cove since 1999 where he is the chairman of the church council. Andrew's introduction to the Uniting Church was through Christian Work Camps and then International Christian Youth Exchange whilst he was at university, with an exchange year to Finland in 1979.



ROB FLOYD (NATIONAL DIRECTOR)
BSci (Hons.) DipEd, GradDipEd, GradDipIntlDev, GAICD

Rob has been National Director of UnitingWorld since May 2014. Previously he was the Associate Director Relief and Development, a role in which he oversaw all of UnitingWorld's emergency relief and community development programs.



COLLEEN GEYER
BTh, GCELead, DipTeach, CertIV WTA

Colleen Geyer has held roles including Director of Mission at UnitingCare Queensland, Associate Director at UnitingCare Australia, and National Consultant for the Assembly Gospel and Gender Unit. She has worked for the Uniting Church and its agencies since 1995 holding positions at state and national level. Since becoming Assembly General Secretary, Colleen has sought to improve national cooperation and resource-sharing across the Uniting Church.



ANDREW GLENN (CHAIR)
Bsc (Hons) D Phil FAICD

Andrew has held a number of senior administrative roles in Universities, most recently before retirement as Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) and Vice President (Research) at Murdoch University and the University of Tasmania. He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He has also been involved in leadership in the councils of the Church since the time of Union, including as chairperson of the Presbytery of Tasmania.



HANNAH JACKSON
BA (Hons) (Political Science)

Hannah is a senior policy advisor with professional experience in governance, politics, strategy and risk management. Hannah is a Church Council Elder at Glebe Road Uniting Church in Ipswich, Queensland, and has been a part of that congregation for over fifteen years. Since 2011 she has been involved in the development of Glebe Road Uniting Church's partnership with a congregation in Dili, Timor Leste.



RICHARD LA'BROOY

Richard is a Lay Pastor in the Uniting Church and works as the Associate Chaplain at Macquarie University and is part of the Epping Uniting Church ministry team working in community development. He is studying a B Arts/B Education Degree majoring in Ancient History at Macquarie University. He is involved in various wider work of the Uniting Church including representing the Church on the World Methodist Council 2016-2021. He is a Second Lieutenant in the Australian Army Cadets working with the Knox Grammar School Cadet Unit.



NATIONAL COMMITTEE



ELAINE LEDGERWOOD
PhD, BTh(Hons.), BSc(OT)

Elaine currently works in aged care chaplaincy and presently chairs the international mission committee of the Synod of Western Australia. She is pastor to a small congregation. Elaine undertook theological studies at Murdoch University, completing a PhD in 2011. Her thesis explored issues of suffering, hope and faith drawing on the reflections of Christians who had supported trauma survivors.



HUW LUSCOMBE
BEd, MDiv

Huw works as the Youth Pastor at Turramurra Uniting Church in Sydney. Previously he worked as the co-ordinator of the Glebe Cafechurch, also in Sydney and as a teacher at a number of state and independent High Schools. Some of Huw's other passions include poetry and cycling, with his garage holding several bikes, two unicycles and a Bangladeshi rickshaw.



JOHN MANNING

John is Managing Director and Equity Partner of Dewings Pty. Ltd, Adelaide, a firm of Chartered Accountants. He has been employed by that organisation for a number of years including as HR Manager and Practice Manager. From 2000 to 2002 he undertook theological study at Morling College in Sydney, graduating with a Bachelor of Ministries and has subsequently completed a Master of Divinity through the Australian College of Theology.



KATE POTTER
BA/LLB, BBus, GDipLegalPrac

Kate is experienced in business development and client management, holding a senior role at Gilbert + Tobin, a leading Australian law firm. Kate is currently the Deputy Chair of the Crows Nest Uniting Church Council of which she has been a member for the past four years. Kate was nominated to join the Church Connections National Committee in 2016.



TINA RENDELL-THORNTON
BA, GradDip Ed, Assoc Dip Social Welfare, M Social Admin

Tina is well known in the Uniting Church for her ten years of service as Executive Director of the Board of Mission of the Synod of NSW and ACT. She has a background and qualifications in education, community development and social welfare and is currently Resilient Families Service Delivery Lead for Uniting NSW/ACT. Tina has 30 years' experience in cross-cultural relationships within and outside the Uniting Church. In her previous role she regularly interacted with UnitingWorld and undertook a review of social services in the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga. Tina brings particular expertise in the area of cross-cultural relationships.



PAUL SWADLING
MA, LTh, FAICD

Former General Secretary of the NSW/ACT Synod and former Connexional Secretary of the Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga, Paul served as a Minister in rural, regional and inner suburban congregations, spent six years on the staff of the Australian Council of Churches and three years on the staff of the NSW/ACT Board of Mission. Paul also chaired the Synod Budget Committee and the Board of UnitingCare NSW/ACT.

REGIONAL ACTION

Throughout the past year, UnitingWorld has worked hard to develop and nurture regional networks. We have intentionally made alliances with other organisations who are aligned with our goals, and we regularly bring our partners together, to share experience and learning, and to build relationships between people and churches who have much to offer each other.

"While UnitingWorld contributes vital skills and expertise to our partners' work, strong regional networks of supportive relationships makes all our partners stronger and more resilient. The skills, knowledge and encouragement our partners gain from time with each other cannot be underestimated." says Associate Director, Dr Sureka Goringe.

SOUTH EAST ASIA

The UnitingWorld South East Asia Regional Office (SEARO) staff led the way in regional networking, bringing program staff from partner churches in Indonesia, Timor Leste and the Phillipines together for two regional workshops. Partners worked together on techniques for analysing root-causes of problems, engaging communities in planning, and financial management and reporting. The SEARO also built relationships with stakeholders such as Australian Government representatives in Jakarta and international NGOs, like Global Mission and Opportunity International who also support our partners, leading to more opportunities for collaborative work.

SOUTH ASIA

In South Asia, our Sri Lanka and India partners came together to work on child protection challenges, and on improving methods for monitoring and evaluating the impact of projects. The team from the Methodist Church in Sri Lanka led the child protection component, sharing their strengths in this area. The time spent together was valuable in trading knowledge and experience, and planning for future opportunities for sharing and learning.

PACIFIC

In the Pacific, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with Pacific Disability Forum (PDF) to outline ways for UnitingWorld and PDF to work regionally to mainstream disability and include it as a key outcome of the Partnering Women for Change program. Led by the UnitingWorld Pacific Regional Office staff, we hosted three regional workshops, involving staff from eight Pacific partners. Our Partners gathered to map out collaborative work in disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. Two other workshops across the region focussed on gender equality, one with women's fellowship groups and one with youth. The Pacific Office continued to forge stronger connections with local stakeholders such as the Pacific Conference of Churches.

BELOW UnitingWorld Project Officer Sina Suliano speaks at a Partnering Women for Change workshop in Nadi, Fiji. Image Credit: Market Lane Media
RIGHT "I hope to bring light to those who are in the dark" - Student at the Nanjing Union Theological Seminary. Image Credit: Market Lane Media





THANK YOU!

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS WHO HAVE JOINED WITH US OVER THE PAST YEAR TO HELP OUR PARTNER CHURCHES CONTINUE THEIR LIFE GIVING WORK.

YOU HAVE PARTNERED WITH UNITINGWORLD IN SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS,
IN **DONATIONS**, IN **BEQUESTS**,
IN **SPREADING THE MESSAGE IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH**,
IN **VOLUNTEERING WITH OUR PARTNERS OVERSEAS**
AND BY **PRAYING FOR OUR PARTNERS**
AND THE COMMUNITIES THEY SERVE.
WE ARE CONTINUALLY THANKFUL THAT YOU ARE PLAYING YOUR PART!

ACCOUNTABILITY AND MEMBERSHIP

ACFID MEMBER

The UnitingWorld Relief and Development Unit is a member of the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) and a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct, against which we review our compliance annually, sets high standards in relation to how we are governed and managed, how we communicate with the public and how our funds are used.

www.acfid.asn.au

actalliance

We are a member of the ACT Alliance, a global coalition of relief and development agencies working in over 140 countries.
Membership expands our capacity to respond to humanitarian emergencies in a well-coordinated and effective way. It also increases our ability to raise and direct donations from our supporters in response to emergencies across the world.

www.actalliance.org

Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

We are fully accredited with the Australian Government as part of the Australian Aid Program. Each year we gratefully receive funding from the Australian Government, which is described within this report.

www.dfat.gov.au

UnitingWorld has a process for handling complaints. Our full complaints policy appears on our website. If you would like to lodge a complaint or give any other feedback, please email complaints@unitingworld.org.au or phone (02) 8267 4456.

We are committed to full adherence to the ACFID Code of Conduct. Should you wish to lodge a complaint against the UnitingWorld Relief and Development Unit for breach of the Code, please email ACFID at complaints@acfid.asn.au or phone (02) 6285 1816.

The Summary Financial Reports 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 Code of Conduct Guidance Document available at www.acfid.asn.au

All photographs taken by UnitingWorld staff, volunteers and overseas partners in Africa, Asia and the Pacific unless otherwise specified. All photos are used with permission.

Graphic Design: Wild Hive Studios.

UnitingWorld
connecting communities for life

Level 10, 222 Pitt Street, Sydney NSW 2000

PO Box A2266
Sydney South NSW 1235
Australia

T (02) 8267 4267
F (02) 9262 7936
E info@unitingworld.org.au

www.unitingworld.org.au

ABN 16 939 630 947

UnitingWorld is an agency of the National Assembly of the Uniting Church in Australia.