

Cornerstone Contact Centre *2022 Annual Report*

About the Work of Cornerstone

Cornerstone Contact Centre provides emergency relief, community meals and assistance to homeless and marginalised people in Greater Dandenong. We partner with other local agencies to provide comprehensive support and care for people who are struggling, whether their challenges be financial, addiction, mental health or due to unstable family life or accommodation.



Volunteer David, community member Carol, and placement student John, collecting vegetables in the Cornerstone Community Garden.



Programs

The core programs of Cornerstone are community meals, a gardening club in our thriving community garden, a cooking club, emergency relief support, along with advocacy and referral work.

In 2022 Cornerstone provided over 14,000 cooked meals, assisting homeless and marginalised locals with our breakfast, lunch and dinner programs. We offer five meal programs each week, and the housing crisis and increasing cost of living has meant a significant increase in community members requiring food support.

Along with addressing food instability for people experiencing financial hardship, the meal programs are also a valuable source of friendship, community and support for our rough-sleeping friends.

Emergency Relief

The need for emergency relief food remains high, with many local families relying upon support from Cornerstone for the first time in 2022, just to fill school lunchboxes and feed their families. This has placed a tremendous strain upon resources, with our team working hard to meet the increased local need. We are so thankful for the support of our funders, volunteers and hardworking staff, who all contribute so much to help Cornerstone assist locals who are desperately in need.

In 2022 we partnered with Dandenong Presbyterian Church in Dandenong West to help them provide food assistance for locals in their precinct, and in December we held the first of five scheduled *Pop-Up Food Markets*. Subsequent markets, providing free, culturally suitable food for migrant families and rooming house residents in the precinct, are scheduled for March and April 2023.



Our team assisting Gina from the Dandenong West community with food parcel support in Dandenong West.

Advocacy Work

In 2022 our team became involved with the Dandenong Project Zero, where local agencies work together to find good housing outcomes for people experiencing homelessness. This has been a great avenue for more tailored support for our rough-sleeping community members.



We also worked with local Council, state government and local residents, on the Dandenong West Precinct committee, established to address community challenges that exist in this low socio-economic pocket of Dandenong.

This is alongside our work with the City of Greater Dandenong Council helping to inform their Anti-Poverty Strategy. Cornerstone community members contributed their thoughts and views, adding *voices of lived experience* to help inform the strategy.

This advocacy work, along with timely and relevant referrals to other local agencies, ensures that we can better support and care for vulnerable people from our broader community.

30 Years of Cornerstone

In 2022 Cornerstone Contact Centre celebrated 30 years of our work assisting homeless and marginalised in Dandenong. At our *30 Year Gala Celebration* we honoured our founder, Ms. Barbara Siddall, and were pleased to rename the Drop-In Centre as the Barb Siddall Drop-In Centre. This was an exciting milestone, and a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the many lives that have been touched and transformed through the work of Cornerstone over these 30 years.



Cornerstone CEO Naomi Paterson, the Hon. Gabrielle Williams MP, founding member Barbara Siddall, the Hon. Julian Hill MP, and 2022 Mayor of Greater Dandenong, Cr Jim Memeti.

Team

Staff and Volunteers

CEO – *Naomi Paterson*

Kitchen Manager – *Juwita Jouhari (JJ)*

Social Worker – *Preeti Preeti*

Regular Volunteers – *Barbara Carlin, Barbara Ashton, Debbie Jackson, Andrew Cumming, Tarquin Davis, David Barr, Boutros Jeitani, Ovidius (Ovi) Libert, Julie McConaghy*

Board

Chairperson – *Rev. Dr David Talathoti*

Vice Chair – *Mr. Jamie Maddaford*

Secretary – *Mr. Grant Renkema*

Treasurer – *Mr. Corey Van Garderen*

Board Member – *Ms. Gloria Anderson*

Board Member – *Ms. Suzanne Van Rooy*

Collaborations and Partnerships

During 2022 Cornerstone entered some exciting and innovative collaborations and partnerships. This included co-locating with a Bolton Clarke Homeless Person's Program (HPP) Health Nurse, hosting the team from Monash Health Drug and Alcohol Services for the 2022 *International Overdose Awareness Day*, and partnering with The Open Door to celebrate the work of community artists.



Leanne and Jeff from the Monash Health NSP team providing overdose response training to community members on International Overdose Awareness Day, 31st August 2022.



Cornerstone artist Kevin at the Open Door collaborative art show, featuring artworks from The Art Corner.

Program Partners

With thanks to our 2022 Program Partners:

- The Lions Club Greater Dandenong
- The Rotary Club of Greater Dandenong and Endeavour Hills
- The Lion's Club Supper Club
- Friends of the Children Foundation
- Noel's Social Services
- Bolton Clarke Homeless Person's Program
- One Voice
- Orange Sky
- The Avalon Centre
- Australian College of Optometry
- Reaching Out Because We Can and Servants of the Two Hearts



Cornerstone's Supporters and Sponsors

We are so thankful for the support we have received from our many sponsors, contributors and friends. Without your support, the important work of Cornerstone would not be possible. With special thanks to:

- City of Greater Dandenong Council
- Federal Government of Australia, with special thanks to the Honourable Julian Hill, MP.
- State Government, with special thanks to the Honourable Gabrielle Williams, MP.
- The Andrews Foundation
- Dandenong Baptist Church
- Dandenong Christian Reformed Church
- Dandenong Christian Reformed Church Opportunity Shop
- Barry Plant Dandenong
- The Open Door
- A1 Bakery
- Domino's Pizza, Dandenong
- Our many individual supporters.



Moving Forward: 2023 and Beyond

We look forward to welcoming a Cross Cultural Worker to our team in 2023, and are excited to plan new community development projects that will connect vulnerable community members with employment prospects and greater support.

It is exciting to see the way that God is at work within this community, and we are looking forward to 2023 with anticipation of great things.

*“I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.”*

Psalm 9:1



Chairperson David Talathoti, artist Leila Ashtiani and CEO Naomi Paterson, in front of the completed mural in the Cornerstone community garden.

Cornerstone Financials 2022

Income and Expenditure Statement

Cornerstone Contact Centre Inc
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	2022	2021
Income		
Grants		
Government Grants	129,778	107,892
Government Covid Assistance	-	10,200
Philanthropic Grants	20,000	20,000
Total Grants	149,778	138,092
Donations	75,461	56,668
Gain on disposal of Fixed Assets	-	4,403
Gala Tickets	3,370	-
Interest Income	142	6
Total Income	228,751	199,169
Expenditure		
Employment Expenses	138,142	100,624
Finance and Administration	24,885	18,000
Program Expenses	31,427	28,338
Property Expenses	47,122	36,880
Total Expenditure	241,576	183,841
Current Year Surplus (Deficit)	(12,826)	15,328

Assets and Liabilities Statement

Cornerstone Contact Centre Inc As at 31 December 2022

	NOTES	31 DEC 2022	31 DEC 2021
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		63,563	103,732
Trade and Other Receivables			
GST Receivable		-	4,466
Total Trade and Other Receivables		-	4,466
Total Current Assets		63,563	108,198
Fixed Assets			
Motor Vehicle			
1. Motor Vehicle		58,097	58,097
Less Capital Grant for Purchase of Motor Vehicle		(50,000)	(50,000)
Less Depreciation Accumulated on Motor Vehicle		(8,097)	(2,515)
Total Motor Vehicle		-	5,582
Kitchen Equipment			
1. Kitchen Equipment		18,624	13,825
Less Depreciation Accumulated on Kitchen Equipment		(1,943)	(1,038)
Total Kitchen Equipment		16,681	12,787
Renovation			
Kitchen Upgrade		9,091	-
Total Renovation		9,091	-
Total Fixed Assets		25,772	18,369
Total Assets		89,335	126,567
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade Creditors and Employee Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables		7,969	5,735
Provisions for Annual Leave		5,727	7,368
Total Trade Creditors and Employee Liabilities		13,697	13,103
Deferred Income		-	25,000
Total Current Liabilities		13,697	38,103
Total Liabilities		13,697	38,103
Net Assets		75,638	88,464
Member's Funds			
Current Year Earnings		(12,826)	15,328
Retained Earnings		88,464	73,136
Total Member's Funds		75,638	88,464