

VMIAAC ANNUAL REPORT

2016-2017

VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS
AWARENESS COUNCIL
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BRUNSWICK EAST
VICTORIA WWW.VMIAC.ORG.AU

ABOUT VMIAC



VMIAC is the peak Victorian non-government organisation for people with direct lived experience of mental health issues or emotional distress.

VMIAC's membership comprises individuals and groups of people with direct lived experience. Associate members (non-consumers) may also belong to the organisation if they support the aims of VMIAC.

VMIAC engages in a number of activities including:

- Information provision
- Support
- Consumer perspective education and training
- Individual, group and systemic advocacy
- Research

VMIAC receives recurrent funding from State government and funding from the Commonwealth. The State Department of Health and Human Services provides the bulk of our funding to enable us to undertake most of our work. The Commonwealth Department of Social Services provides funding to deliver an advocacy service to people who live in rural and regional Victoria.

OUR VISION

A world where all mental health consumers stand proud, live a life with choices honoured, rights upheld and these principles embedded in all aspects of society.

VMIAC aims to achieve by:

1. Honouring mental health consumer diversity
2. Providing advocacy for mental health consumers
3. Advancing mental health consumer workforce and leadership
4. Delivering information and training to the community
5. Enabling mental health consumer driven education and research
6. Developing strategic partnerships

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

VMIAC's work is premised on the following beliefs:

- People's experiences are respected and valued
- People are experts in their own lives
- People have a right to self determination
- People have capacity to make genuine choices, free from coercion
- People should be safe, respected, valued and informed
- People's diversity is embraced



Highlights of the year

- The VMIAC Consumer Awards
- Collaborative work with Melbourne University through the Melbourne Social Equity Institute
- Collaborative work with Melbourne University on the Mental Illness research funded project – CORE
- Supported 4 consumers to attend Themhs in Sydney
- Hosted a series of Emotional CPR (ECPR)
- Hosted a series of Consumer workforce days
- Active participation on the Mental Health 10 year plan Taskforce
- Active participation on the following 10 year Mental Health plan reference groups
 - Lived Experience reference group (co chair)
 - Workforce reference group
 - Innovation reference group
- Active participation on NDIS taskforce
- VMIAC roadshows to rural Victoria
- Key note speech to Office of the Public Advocate conference
- Key Note speech to the Department of Human Services Mental Health Week
- NDIS Musical performed at Themhs Conference in Sydney
- Request to perform NDIS Musical at Sydney National NDIS Conference
- NDIS Musical performed at MIND conference

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Members of the Committee of Management for the 2015-2016 year were:

- Chairperson Vrinda Edan
- Deputy Chairperson James Horton
- Secretary Liz Carr
- Treasurer James Horton (Acting)

Ordinary members

- Erandathie Jayakody
- Philip Kalidis
- Xenia Girdler
- Ali Pain
- Wanda Bennett
- Sharon Saunders
- Gayle Grassick

As well as the Committee of Management meetings, Committee members and general members have also sat on sub committees that form part of the VMIAC Governance structure

- Finance Audit and Risk Management sub committee
- Human Rights and Ethics committee
- Governance sub committee



Our Team

The VMIAC TEAM have undergone a number of changes.

In the last year we have said goodbye to:

Lee Thornton
Ella Kingsley
Craig Wallace
Jey Jeyakumaran
Nathan Grixti

We have welcomed to our team:

Vaani Krishnan
Narelle Fousketakis
Ian Stephenson
Jo Stephenson
Neil Turton-Lane
Jo Berto

Continuing their work within the team:

Maggie Toko, CEO
Deb Carlon, Human Relations Manager
Susan Borg, Advocate
Bill Moon, Information and Telephone Advocate
Dominic Troughton, Information and Telephone Advocate
Frankie Freeman, Advocate
Liz Leveridge, Personal Assistance and Administration
Simone Allen, NDIS Educator
David Barclay, NDIS Educator

WORD FROM THE CHAIR - VRINDA EDAN



I am very pleased to present to you the 2016-17 Annual Report for VMIAC. This last year has seen VMIAC grow both in awareness by the community, membership and staffing. VMIAC has built on the previous years' work by the staff and committee of management to improve services for consumers in Victoria.

On reflecting on the past 12 months I have reviewed our Vision, Aims and Principals and am extremely proud to be able to say that I have seen VMIACs Staff, Committee and membership not only meet these ambitious goals but in some instances absolutely exceed them. Our work towards achieving the Rainbow Tick, advocating for consumers, administering the CALD grants and leading consumer workforce development activities as some of the activities undertaken this year, meets all of our aims.

We welcomed several new staff members with a focus on NDIS, in particular that of advocating for consumers in the NDIS space. NDIS the Musical has had several showings throughout the year with the team successful in gaining funding to film the show. NDIS will remain a focus of our work as more services are rolled into this program.

VMIAC has been successful also in achieving some new funding to support the engagement with consumers across the state. This is an important task for us. As the identified Peak Organisation for consumers we are often asked to provide consumer consultation for many committees, programs and services. We also have a responsibility to the community to ensure that people feel supported to be engaged with us and participate in activities with VMIAC. In the coming months you will see more opportunities to be involved in these activities.

I want to congratulate and thank all the staff for the wonderful work they have been doing this year. We would not have been able to achieve what we have without their dedication.

I am excited to be involved in further developing and growing VMIAC and look forward to a most successful 2017-18.



TREASURER'S REPORT -

JAMES HORTON



After a difficult 2015/16 financial year for VMIAC, the 2016/17 financial year has recorded a significant turnaround with, VMIAC returning to a near break-even position of a \$3k deficit from a deficit of \$214k the previous year.

The main reasons for the improvements are:

- Expenditures have been well managed in line with increased grant funding.
- Wages and salary costs have generally improved proportionately to the increased grants received compared to last year.
- Overall finance and administration costs have been reduced.
- Income increased by \$200k mainly derived from State non-recurrent grants.

VMIAC's cash position was also sound with reserves increasing by approximately \$600k from the prior year. These funds represent grant funding received in advance for services to be delivered over coming years and have not been diminished by current operations.

It is pleasing to note that VMIAC has already secured grants of approximately \$900k to deliver services, with cash in the bank exceeding this. Approximately 50% of this will be provided in this financial year, and the balance in financial year 2018/19. VMIAC also has a further grant commitment of \$350k, due in January 2019 for services to be provided by the end of the June 2019/20 financial year.

VMIAC's balance sheet sound, highlighting that VMIAC is able to meet its commitments as they fall due. This is a pleasing improvement from the prior year with VMIAC maintaining a retained surplus of \$200k.

CEO REPORT - MAGGIE TOKO



The past year has been absolutely amazing. Team VMIAC still manages to show me how passionate they are to achieve the best outcome for consumers that they possibly can. We have seen the staffing team grow substantially over the past year with the introduction of the NDIS. The introduction of a designated consumer liaison role has meant that we have been able to facilitate the development of our speakers register which will provide an avenue for consultation at government and community levels. As stated, the NDIS plays a big part in our work which has involved information sessions across the state in particular in roll out areas.

The advocacy team as always has been very active in assisting consumers either in person or on our information lines. Rural visits have been a highlight of our “VMIAC roadshows” which has seen us go from Mildura to Warrnambool, Horsham to Gippsland with a myriad of places in between. Advocates continue to be the point of reference within hospitals, SRS hostels, Community Care Units, Secu, inpatient units while assisting with issues of human rights, advanced statements and clarification about the Mental Health Act.

NDIS the musical is another feature that has grown over the past year since. Written and developed by David Barclay, VMIAC’s NDIS Educator the musical has gone on to provide a wonderful introduction to the workings of the NDIS within a theatrical format. Utilising a talented group of young people we have seen the show performed across the state and more recently interstate at the Themhs Conference in Sydney. The musical is so successful that we have been invited to perform at the National NDIS conference in November in Sydney. The cast is made up of a rotating group of nine young people with David as the lead, it truly is a spectacular show. VMIAC was successful in securing funding to perform the show across the state and to film its workings – this should be ready by the end of 2017.

VMIAC also produced a video specifically for General Practitioners to assist their assessment processes for the NDIS. This video has been distributed via our partnership with the North Western Primary Health Network to over 1000 GP’s and now features on our website. We currently have new videos which are in production and due for release around Christmas – again featuring our talented staff and young people.





Our year has also seen us partner with Tandem Carers and Victorian Transcultural Mental Health to distribute funding for projects which target Cultural and Linguistically Diverse community projects. This has been an exciting project to co-facilitate and we look forward to seeing them develop and grow.

VMIAC continues to represent the consumer voice across a number of streams – either in community spaces or government forums. We are present on the 10 year Mental Health Taskforce, NDIS Taskforce, Lived Experience Leadership, Innovation and Workforce Reference Groups. We have been a part of the Chief Psychiatrist audits into ECT and are about to participate in the recruitment of the community members for the Mental Health Tribunal.

Our ongoing partnership developments has seen us work very closely with like-minded organisations and we see this as a recognition that the consumer voice is very important to the broader community. I envisage that we will continue to push forward the rights of consumers as our priority, whilst recognising the changing landscape of opportunities. VMIAC has more to do, I recommend you watch this space.

Yours truly

Maggie - CEO

THEMHS REPORT



VMIAC introduced the annual THEMHS Scholarship in June 2016. The aim is to provide an opportunity for a breadth of consumers to apply to attend the conference. Applications were sort from participants who identified with one or more of the following categories:

- GLBTIQ
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Youth
- Consumer Workers
- Those who had not previously attended

VMIAC awarded 6 scholarships. The following recipients commented on their experiences.

Neal -

"I am grateful for the experience of attending the Themhs conference this year as a representative of VMIAC. I appreciated the warm welcome from the all staff involved and from the people of New Zealand in particular. I felt New Zealand to be further advanced in many areas including indigenous recognition, GLBTIQ and working with families. Attending the consumer day I was impressed by seeing such a large workforce advocating for change from a lived experience viewpoint. Spending time with VMIAC staff and other consumer workers has allowed me to feel more comfortable with my own lived experience resulting in more mindful work practices. I would like to extend my thanks to all staff involved in my participation at Themhs this year as it was truly a special week where I was able to connect to other like-minded professionals within the field."

Toni -

"The conference experience was great, well organised with a huge program. For me the most informative and interesting parts were the 3 key note presentations. It's a pity Australia seems to be going in a different direction the "whole person including family and all workers" practice reported in Philadelphia and secondly to the compassion first practice adopted in a whole city in Texas and other places. Finally, the novel multi-media non binary overview which was new information for many of the thousand delegates. I also picked up some interesting bits about NDIS. The networking was great as was the accommodation especially being in the same venue as the conference."

Simone -

To receive such an opportunity was surreal. I'd never been to New Zealand or the Themhs conference before. The country was beautiful and welcoming just as the VMIAC team and other scholarship recipients with whom I travelled. As diverse as we all were we all came together as one with a passion for mental health and the conference did not disappoint with life-long relationships made. The daily keynote speakers were both inspiring and educational with a psychologist from Philadelphia talking about supporting vulnerable people before they experience mental illness as early as childhood by listening to them before they endure years of suffering. Recognising the person before they become unwell really stayed with me. Could it be that easy? If someone had given me the time when I so desperately needed to be listened to could things have been different? Another memorising speaker was a young girl by the name of Gloria who spoke of her lived experience and recovery and her ambition to become a psychiatric nurse. I was in complete admiration to her bravery, honesty and endeavours she is aiming to achieve. She will make a great psych nurse.

As for the conference overall, it was empowering to be with so many like-minded people, with an overwhelming choice of sessions and you wanted to be in three places at one time, the catering was plentiful and the venue and accommodation luxurious. What more could you want from a scholarship! I am forever grateful for the scholarship, I have met the most amazing people through this opportunity that has opened many doors for me and has inspired me to continue my journey to study and work in mental health to make a difference.

Many thanks to my new family at VMIAC, especially to Maggie Toko for inviting us into her family's home in New Zealand and for her endearing support. You are one in a million!



ADVOCACY TEAM REPORT



The 2016-2017 period saw some big changes for VMIAC and for the environment in which our group and individual advocacy program does its work.

Tony Salter, our Senior Advocate and an important part of VMIAC for many years, entered a well earned retirement, though still keeping an eye on us occasionally. Thanks again Tony, for your advice, commitment, empathy and help getting to the top shelves in the kitchen.

Another big player cemented their role in rights advocacy for consumers in Victoria - IMHA, providing high quality support in one area VMIAC traditionally serviced.

Community managed mental health services, to which VMIAC advocacy is directed, emerged from the throes of one reorganisation to transformation under the NDIS.

The more things change, the more they remain the same

A vital part of our work, of seeing that consumers have 'choices honoured, [and] rights upheld' has always been advocacy, both the important Systemic Advocacy that VMIAC representatives do in many forums, and the group and individual advocacy, mainly but not exclusively conducted by the Advocacy Team.

IMHA's excellent work means that some of the work VMIAC used to do with involuntary consumers is in good hands. We still have an important role with rights education in the hospitals, and with the many people in hospitals who may not be formally 'compulsory' patients but still having difficulty getting a say in their treatment.

Additionally, the IMHA advocates' ability to visit every hospital means they come across many consumers, who while not in compulsory treatment, or whose needs do not concern mental health services but who still have important advocacy needs. These people are referred to VMIAC. Hearing from these consumers, many of whom might not have known about VMIAC otherwise, is very welcome, and means the demand for VMIAC advocacy is stronger than ever.

VMIAC is implementing several different sorts of measures to gear up for the transition of the people we support to the NDIS, and the advocacy team is developing links, internal and external, and strategies to see that we play our part in contributing to the people we support still getting the best advice and support possible in their interactions with the people funded to provide them services, as we have for decades.

So what have the Advocates been doing?

Oh, sooo much! One of our Regional advocates, for instance, reports:

'I have also been providing individual advocacy to consumers with various issues around mental health service provision including historical complaints (pre MHCC and the new ACT which include historical ECT complaints), MHCC, FOI, leave requests when in an acute unit, referrals around compulsory treatment, consumers requesting advocacy re issues with centrelink and job network providers, child contact, linkages to legal advocacy services.'

Advocacies which come from 'Info Calls', or enquiries to VMIAC which are taken by the Advocacy team run a similar gamut, from straightforward complaints, Freedom of information requests or negotiations with case managers to impending homelessness and other housing crises and complex complaints stretching back decades or serious legal issues for which we seek legal assistance.

Often, even identifying the action to be taken can take a considerable time, listening to an important and event filled history, and more time - and perhaps shared experience- than some organisations can offer.

And now more than ever, the advocacy we perform tends to be complex and challenging.

Every consumer whose needs can be met by a standard specialist advocacy service is referred to such a service, and every consumer who can advocate for themselves with a little guidance is given that guidance.

So the people we do provide continuing advocacy for, people who will not be assisted by anyone else, tend to have complex and serious situations, often with years of history which have given rise to trauma and strong feelings.

This can make it hard for standard services to hear past the pain, anger or frustration people express or make it hard for the same people to interact with procedures and routines of standard services.

This is the space in which VMIAC does its most important work; empathy, shared experience, Intentional Peer Support principles and a commitment to justice for all can create bridges to allow us to assist people, our comrades, to access all the other services that could assist them in achieving their advocacy goals.

Common themes consumers mention to us in this reporting period

Some prominent ones are not being able to get legal representation for MHT hearings, issues around NDIS access, Advanced Statements - a number of consumers report not being aware of their right to make an advanced statement, inflexible responses from community housing services, pressure to accept proposed treatment under threat of a compulsory order - all the restriction of a compulsory order without the protections, and difficulties in having formal complaints resolved.

Our commitment to regional consumers is still strong.

Not only do all members of our team respond to many phone calls from all around the state, but, in addition to the Road Shows involving various VMIAC staff, the Advocacy team keeps up a presence in the regions .

For instance our Southern Region Advocate, Susan regularly travels monthly to services in the southern metro region and country areas including - Traralgon, Sale and Ballarat (monthly) and quarterly to Bairnsdale, involving 5 or 6 hours travelling on numerous days.

And there's more!

As well as formal advocacy, Team members provide information and education to consumers, staff and the public, support to the consumer workforce, development of position papers and educational materials, representation at fora and working groups, responding to email enquiries, peer support, and generally being one of the first points of contact with VMIAC

In addition to all this, team members are also contributing to VMIAC's wider work, Dom as OH&S, officer, Susan by attendance at forums and organising education via observation at the Mental Health Tribunal and Frankie's tireless work in Diversity and Inclusion, conference organising and other important projects.

We can get a little bit busy!

So who supports the Peer Supporters?

Well, in addition to excellent support from, like, supervisors and Maggie, and all, we - of course - couldn't begin to keep up without the invaluable assistance of our vital Personal Encouragement Team members (or 'PETS').



Susan Borg's At-Home Supervisor Thoma, ensuring the security, and assessing the paper quality, of VMIAC publications, The Terrific Tassie, who looks after Dom and VMIAC's Welcoming Committee and 'Pat Therapist' Chanel trying on her uniform

The Future

The changing environment, consistent demand and finite human resources are requiring flexible and creative responses from the Advocacy Team; new internal processes, IT developments and flexible roles (Bill and Dom get to do stuff outside the office more, hurrah!) are all in train.

NDIS particularly will be a crucial consideration not just for our specialist workers, but the existing Advocacy team as well.

Yes, a lot has changed, but some important things have stayed the same.



VMIAC is still the consumers' place, where how well you speak or 'present', how much you know, your 'diagnosis' and reputation are less important than who you are - and the Advocacy team still has the enormous privilege of being one of the first points of contact for people coming to VMIAC to get heard and get personal support towards getting their 'choices honoured, and rights upheld'.

It's a place in which we are proud to work.

Written by Bill moon,

For The Advocacy Team

(Bill, Dom, Frankie and Susan)

NDIS DSO PROJECT UPDATE - ELLA KINGSLEY



2015 to completion 2017

The Peer Support Project [PSP] was funded in 2015 with the offer of a \$5000 grant to be acquitted over a two year period to enable disability groups to gain and deliver information about the emerging NDIS. The aim was to not only to build the capacity of consumers and communities towards NDIS readiness, but as an emerging framework of community linkage for those not NDIS eligible.

The Peer Support Project was to be led by a Project Reference Group and steering committee comprised of;

- A project worker
- A member of VMIAC's [CEO or Snr Advocate]
- A member of the Consumer community who is an expert in peer support
- Four representatives of the supported groups
- Two staff: supporting education and systemic advocacy

VMIAC identified approximately 16 existing peer support groups in both metro and regional locations with established community links supporting consumers with psychosocial disability and eager to grow their knowledge of the NDIS for people with psychosocial disability. VMIAC further identified four newly emerging groups aiming to support diverse communities which, within their respective climates were not active after the first year.

Over a period of two years, VMIAC provided the DSO communities with supportive information about the NDIS as it was received. Regular contact and visits to locations across the state supported community information sessions. VMIAC presentations and speaking engagements to groups aimed to actively encourage individuals to self-reliant confidence building in ways to source local information and build links with networks as part of capacity building in community.

Facilitators of Peer Support Groups were invited to regularly attend VMIAC to meet, discuss progress and gain group support in presenting issues. Telephone contact with groups continues with group feedback on progress and discussion of issues.

Within the first four months of 2017 the next phase of the NDIS framework being stage 3; Information, Linkage and Capacity Building were pushing forward. Whilst NDIS contributed a small amount to supporting the possibility of developing a further five groups within the newly focused document of 2017, no further funding was to be made available to the existing PSP's under the DSO project. Important to note that Victoria's funding for I.L.C., comes on-stream late 2018.

In viewing the DSO's as primary links in the chain for communities seeking information and support the NDIS perceive these community groups will be the only form of support many people will require.

Moving forward towards I.L.C

VMIAC's Project Plan moving forward towards I.L.C came into being following renegotiation of the NDIS contract in June 2017, to commence July 2017.

The I.L.C Plan is a 'creative, living document' and involves;

- A campaign – utilising multi-media in education and outreach
- Seeking interactive networking and feedback opportunities
- Identifying existing community networks and provisions
- Scoping demographics in understanding the needs of remote & regional communities
- Discuss sustainability
- Identify possible funding options
- Encourage cross fertilisation of knowledge and experience

VMIAC provides an inherently trusted service for consumers and communities, building capacity in offering a safe space as an information hub for sharing information, knowledge and experience and will build capacity and multi-media presence.

As well as advice and sign posting to relevant network contacts, VMIAC will support community inclusion in finding creative ways to engage and bring together diverse and unique groups, developing enjoyable and socially interactive opportunities.

As this project moves forward VMIAC will extend their outreach to include hard-to-reach communities; forming closer partnership with LGBTIQA groups to deliver targeted services. People with psychosocial disabilities living in Supported Residential Accommodation and those living in shared housing situations will have opportunity to build links and learn about the NDIS and peer supports within their community.

In some respects, the NDIS are aiming to reinvent past models of 'community drop in centres'. That said, there are great possibilities and opportunities for people to re-embrace the power of community and grow the peer network.

CONSUMER LIAISON MANAGER UPDATE

NEIL TURTON - LANE



I have been working at VMIAC since March this year in the newly created role of Consumer Liaison Manager, which has quite a broad scope of duties. Working for a peak body such as VMIAC has been a very exciting experience for me as I am constantly being reminded by what an important role VMIAC plays across our mental health sector. Trying capture all of the work I have been involved is difficult but the following is a small snapshot of my work at VMIAC.

The NDIS has been an area of much focus for VMIAC in 2016-17 and our organisation has undertaken much work to ensure that needs and viewpoints of consumers with regards to the rollout of the NDIS remain influential and central.

Earlier this year VMIAC made important submissions on the NDIS to the Joint Standing Committee on the NDIS and the Productivity Commission. In April VMIAC testified at public hearing of the Joint Standing Committee in Melbourne.

Other prominent NDIS work that VMIAC has delivered this year includes: information sessions on the NDIS for consumers, the production and distribution of 1,000 training videos for GP's on how to support consumers seeking to access the NDIS, our amazing musical theater production NDIS the Musical which has been wowing audiences right across the State and of course our ongoing involvement in a plethora of NDIS related working groups and projects.

Over the next two years as the NDIS heads towards full rollout VMIAC will continue to expand and refine its efforts to inform, support and educate and advocate on behalf of consumers within our changing mental system.

In 2017 in partnership with Tandem VMIAC has overseen the design and coordination of a DHHS Funded Small Grants Program that will provide funding of \$1.013 million to projects that seek to improve the mental health and well-being of immigrant and refugee background communities. After an exhaustive selection process (that reviewed 64 high quality submissions) 14 outstanding and innovative projects have successfully received funding to deliver projects up until August 2018.

With generous support from DHHS VMIAC has now launched a Consumer Register that will work to ensure that a strong and diverse consumer voice is heard across the mental health service. The VMIAC Consumer Register will provide training and resourcing to a selected register of consumers who will be supported to work on DHHS and mental health sector projects as well deliver public speaking engagements to the community.

Finally as part of my role as Consumer Liaison Manager I have undertaken lots of public speaking; including events such as the launch of the WorkSafe Reducing Violence against Health Care Workers campaign, presentations at NDIS forums and lectures and training to University students.

VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL INCORPORATED
(An Association incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act)

FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL INCORPORATED

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VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL INCORPORATED

**INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	2	1,315,012	1,167,940
Employee benefits expense		(895,356)	(737,811)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(15,836)	(14,468)
Loss on sale of assets		(2,798)	(9,616)
Consultants Fees		(1,756)	(29,301)
Direct Program Expenses	12	(159,372)	(166,738)
Rent and rates		(40,733)	(41,326)
Other expenses from ordinary activities		(201,765)	(382,564)
Surplus/(Deficit) before income tax expense (income tax revenue)		(2,604)	(213,884)
Income tax revenue (income tax expense)			-
Surplus/(Deficit) after income tax expense (income tax revenue)		(2,604)	(213,884)

VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL INCORPORATED

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	3	1,423,408	800,411
Receivables	4	23,993	60,028
Other	5	38,161	2,297
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		1,485,562	862,736
NONCURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant & Equipment	6	59,649	54,687
Other	7	78	111
TOTAL NONCURRENT ASSETS		59,727	54,798
TOTAL ASSETS		1,545,289	917,534
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	8	123,423	73,599
Provision for employee benefits	9	66,704	95,752
Other	10	937,802	316,116
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,127,929	485,467
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provision for employee benefits	9	21,139	35,321
Other	10	136,704	134,625
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		157,843	169,946
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,285,772	655,413
NET ASSETS		259,517	262,121

MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained surplus	11	259,517	262,121
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		259,517	262,121

VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL INCORPORATED

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from Government and Sponsors		1,993,640	1,004,333
Other grants, donations and sundry income		173,470	198,354
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,525,073)	(1,428,974)
Interest received		4,523	10,081
Borrowing costs			-
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	14 (b)	646,560	(216,206)
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(32,073)	(2,016)
Proceeds on sale of assets		8,510	150
Net cash used in investing activities		(23,563)	(1,866)
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of borrowings		-	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities		-	-
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		622,997	(218,072)
Cash at beginning of financial year		800,411	1,018,483
Cash at end of financial year	14 (a)	1,423,408	800,411

NOTE 1: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic). The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of noncurrent assets.

The following specific accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this report:

(a) Property, Plant & Equipment

Fixed assets are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset was held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The carrying amount of fixed assets is reviewed annually by the Committee to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of those assets.

The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, are depreciated over their estimated useful lives to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Properties held for investment purposes are not subject to a depreciation charge. Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset

Depreciation Rates

Office Furniture & Equipment

10-40% Diminishing Value

Motor Vehicles

18.75% Diminishing Value

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

Asset classes carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the income statement. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

(b) Leases

Leases of fixed assets, where substantially all the risks and benefits incidental to the ownership of the asset, but not the legal ownership, are transferred to the association are classified as finance leases. Finance leases are capitalised, recording an asset and a liability equal to the present value of the minimum lease payments, including any guaranteed residual values. Leased assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives where it is likely that the association will obtain ownership of the asset, or over the term of the lease. Lease payments are allocated between the reduction of the lease liability and the lease interest expense for the period.

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

(c) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year together with benefits arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled plus related oncosts. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

Contributions are made by the association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(d) Revenue

Revenue from sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(e) Unexpended grants

The entity receives grant monies to fund projects either for contracted periods of time or for specific projects irrespective of the period of time required to complete those projects. It is the policy of the entity to treat grants monies as deferred income (income in advance) in the balance sheet where the entity is contractually obliged to provide the services in a subsequent financial period to when the grant is received or in the case of specific grants where the project

has not been completed.

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 2: REVENUE			
Operating activities			
interest	2(a)	4,523	10,081
operating grants		1,152,789	977,537
- other income		157,700	180,322
		1,315,012	1,167,940
(a) Interest from:			
Bank account deposits		4,523	10,081
NOTE 3: CASH ASSETS			
CURRENT			
Cash at Bank		1,190,318	571,589
Term Deposit		96,122	93,817
Cash on Hand		-	-
Petty Cash		264	380
		1,286,704	665,786

Term deposit held for restricted purpose		
VMIAC Awards - Estate of DJ Western	136,704	134,625
TOTAL	1,423,408	800,411
NOTE 4: RECEIVABLES		
CURRENT		
Trade & Sundry Debtors	18,793	54,828
Rental Bond	5,000	5,000
Refundable Deposit	200	200
	23,993	60,028
NOTE 5: OTHER ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Prepaid Expenses	38,161	2,297
	38,161	2,297

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 6: PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT			
(a) Furniture and equipment			
At cost		96,188	80,858
Less accumulated depreciation		(80,823)	(74,990)
		15,365	5,868
(b) Motor Vehicles		30,893	41,944
At cost			
Less accumulated depreciation		(8,150)	(18,520)
		22,743	23,424
(c) Leasehold Improvements			
At cost		56,932	56,933
Less accumulated amortisation		(35,391)	(31,538)
		21,541	25,395
Total fixed assets		59,649	54,687
NOTE 7: OTHER			
Website Development costs		10,000	10,000
Less accumulated amortisation		(9,922)	(9,889)
		78	111
NOTE 8: PAYABLES			
CURRENT			
Unsecured liabilities			
Sundry creditors & other accruals		36,120	41,574
Accrued audit and accounting fees		-	-
PAYG Liability		10,625	8,902
GST Liability		76,678	23,123
		123,423	73,599
NOTE 9: PROVISIONS			
CURRENT			
Employee benefits - annual leave		60,196	95,752
Employee benefits – time in lieu		6,508	-

Employee benefits - long service leave	-	-	
9(a)	66,704	95,752	
NON-CURRENT			
Employee benefits - long service leave	9(a)	21,139	35,321
(a) Aggregate employee benefits liability	87,843	131,073	
	Notes	2017	2016
		\$	\$
NOTE 10: OTHER LIABILITIES			
CURRENT			
Income In Advance			
Commonwealth Grants - Operating Recurrent	41,153	-	
Commonwealth Grants - Operating Non Recurrent	206,948	148,135	
State Grants - Operating Recurrent	-	92,551	
State Grants - Operating Non Recurrent	174,509	75,430	
State Grants - One off	438,063	-	
Grants - other	14,951	-	
Sponsorship in advance - conference	24,000	-	
TheMHS funding in advance	38,178	-	
	937,802	316,116	
NON-CURRENT			
VMIAC Awards Trust – Estate of DJ Western	136,704	134,625	
	136,704	134,625	
NOTE 11: RETAINED SURPLUS			
Retained surplus at the beginning of the financial year	262,121	476,005	
Net surplus (deficit) for the year	(2,604)	(213,884)	
Retained surplus at the end of the financial year	259,517	262,121	
NOTE 12: DIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES			
Meals and meetings	5,671	7,380	
Consultants and speakers	122,635	18,319	

Registration Fees	-	4,628
Travel and accommodation	5,443	30,358
Education and support	5,525	4,946
Financial assistance	5,887	-
Hire of venue and equipment	7,969	28,675
Conference materials and translating	1,062	2,432
Capacity Development	5,180	70,000
	159,372	166,738

Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
NOTE 13: CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS		
Non-cancellable operating lease contracted for but not capitalised		
In the financial statements -		
Payable		
not longer than one year	34,069	31,230
- between 12 months and 5 years	34,069	70,977
- greater than 5 years		-
	68,138	102,207
The property lease is a non-cancellable lease with a 5 year term. An option exists to renew the lease at the end of the five year term for a further term of five years.		
NOTE 14: CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
(a) Reconciliation of cash		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash at bank	1,423,408	800,411
	1,423,408	800,411
(b) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with profit from ordinary activities after income tax		
Surplus (Deficit) from ordinary activities after income tax	(2,604)	(213,884)
Noncash flows in profit from ordinary activities		
Amortisation	33	48
Depreciation	15,803	14,420
Net (gain) / loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	2,798	9,616
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in receivables	36,035	(51,894)
(Increase)/decrease in other assets	(35,864)	6,081
Increase/(decrease) in income in advance	621,686	(16,587)

Increase/(decrease) in payables	49,824	45,637
Increase/(decrease) in provisions	(43,230)	(14,014)
Increase/(decrease) in other non-current liabilities	2,079	4,371
Cash flows provided by (used in) operations	646,560	(216,206)

NOTE 15: ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The principal place of business of the association is:

Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Incorporated
22 Aintree St, Brunswick East VIC 3057

VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL INCORPORATED

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Incorporated as at 30 June 2017 and its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

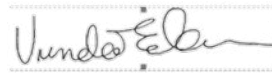
This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Dated this 24th day of October 2017



James Horton

Deputy Chair & Treasurer



Vrinda Edan
Chairperson

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL INCORPORATED

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Incorporated which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the income and expenditure statement, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Incorporated is in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic), including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) that the financial records kept by the association are such as to enable financial statements to be prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. I am independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110: Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The committee of the association is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the association's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2017, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon. My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic) and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

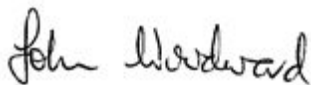
My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Dated at Melbourne this 24th day of October 2017



John Woodward

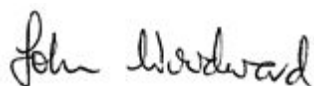
Chartered Accountant

Suite 4, Level 5,

398 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne Vic 3000

**DISCLAIMER TO THE MEMBERS OF
VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL INCORPORATED**

The additional financial data following is in accordance with the books and records of the association which have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in my statutory audit of the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2017. It will be appreciated that my statutory audit did not cover all details of the additional financial data. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on such financial data and I give no warranty of accuracy or reliability in respect of the data provided. Neither the firm nor any member or employee of the firm undertakes responsibility in any way whatsoever to any person (other than Victorian Mental Illness Awareness Council Incorporated) in respect of such data, including any errors of omissions therein however caused.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Woodward', is positioned on the left side of the page.

24th October 2017

John Woodward

Chartered Accountant

	2017 \$	2016 \$
INCOME		
Grants received		
Commonwealth Grants - Operating Recurrent	202,087	226,102
Commonwealth Grants - Operating Non Recurrent	168,195	70,000
State Grants - Operating Recurrent	538,776	572,410
State Grants - Operating Non Recurrent	197,472	43,570
State Grants - One off	20,437	-
Grants - other	25,822	65,455
Total Grants	1,152,789	977,537
Other Income		
Interest Income	4,523	10,081
Administration Fees	-	61,966
Conference Registration	-	-
DHHS – Interpreting Recovery	-	20,000
Donations	-	-
Fundraising Contributions	-	12,200
Forum Participation	-	2,000
Other Income	15,718	10,748
Service Fees & charges (inc. International Peer Support)	110,120	21,512
Cost Recoveries – Workers Compensation	31,862	51,896
Refunds - Insurance	-	-
Total Other	162,223	190,403
Income		
TOTAL INCOME	1,315,012	1,167,940
Accounting and bookkeeping fees	1,500	92,182
Administration and management fees	-	61,966
Advertising & promotion	7,664	2,426
Amortisation of Leasehold Improvements	3,853	4,561
Amortisation of Website development costs	33	48
Annual Awards	5,016	-
Auditors remuneration (including non-audit services)	13,000	10,680
Bank charges	742	493
Board/Governance Expenses	3,974	9,826
Business Planning and Accreditation Costs	22,787	25,363
Cleaning	8,715	8,655
Computer expenses	14,711	3,648
Conference materials	1,330	-
Consultants Fees	1,756	29,301

Contractors		3,620	38,704
Direct Program Expenses	Note 12	159,372	166,738
		6,117	7,127
Depreciation - Motor Vehicles			
- Office Furniture & Equipment		5,833	2,732
Donations			-
Equipment maintenance & security		1,362	1,044
Fees & permits		566	911
Health & Safety		2,100	-
Insurance - General		1,244	1,232
Interpreting and Translation costs		-	31,419
Utilities - Light and Power		9,041	8,455
Loss on disposal of assets		2,798	9,616
Meeting costs and expenses		11,397	2,060
Motor Vehicle expenses		9,395	6,905
Minor Equipment purchases		2,516	2,317
Membership, Subscriptions & Publications		612	735
Parking			582
Printing, Postage and Stationery		18,486	16,149
Professional development & training		6,119	17,063
Publications and information resources		8,066	1,166
Rent and rates		40,733	41,326
Repairs and maintenance		4,846	4,497
Salaries and wages (inc movement in entitlement provisions)		801,196	670,049
Staff amenities & general office expenses		8,126	6,150
Staff Recruitment		1,758	920
Superannuation		74,640	56,423
Telephone		25,725	15,510
Travel, Meals and Accommodation		11,310	12,425
Volunteer expenses		185	1,480
Workcover		15,372	8,940
TOTAL EXPENSES		1,317,616	1,381,824

OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	(2,604)	(213,884)
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