



2016/17 Annual Report



• enhancing abilities • supporting families • strengthening communities



our vision

'A community inspired and empowered by people of all ages, abilities and differences'

We will focus on our vision and direct all activities towards its achievement.

our mission

'To be a leader in quality aged and disability services enabling people to have meaningful connections to their communities'

our values

Our values underpin our organisation and provide a framework for our practice

Respect – Beliefs, feelings and values of individuals are acknowledged

Empowerment – Person and family directed services recognising individual's strengths

Quality – Professionalism and quality in everything we do

New Learning – Encouraging personal development and innovative thinking

Who are we



Over 40 years Mpower has grown from humble beginnings as a community group assisting children with disabilities to an accredited agency that has a reputation for being inclusive and highly professional, demonstrating innovative, responsive and contemporary practice.

This year our strategic focus has been on ensuring our organisation is well prepared for the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

We have been working hard to ensure we have the right systems and structures in place to ensure strong governance, effective management, streamlined reporting and information and robust financial management.

For months, our staff and leadership have been engaged in specialised training to help us better understand the NDIS complexities and develop skills to be efficient and effective.

As a united one 'Mpower' team we look forward to working with our clients and their families joining with you on your journey.

The organisation was initially formed in Warrnambool in 1975, by families who had children with disabilities but no access to specialist services apart from those provided in Melbourne.

Mpower is committed to being a well-recognised agency within south west Victoria. We are dedicated to being a service provider and employer of choice for aged and disability services.

Centrally based in Warrnambool, our services are provided by quality staff in a respectful and flexible manner and in a way that empowers families and individuals.

A full range of outreach services are provided to people in Camperdown, Hamilton, Portland, Lismore and Geelong and other regional centres. Services are provided in or close to the communities where people live and those that surround them.

We pride ourselves on instilling new learning which encourages personal development, innovative thinking and identifying creative solutions to challenges and change.

We aim to be seen as the place to contact for services, resources and information enabling families and individuals to have real and meaningful connections to the communities they live in.

Mpower works in closely with the community, corporate entities, councils and governments to achieve quality aged and disability services that are appropriate and that offer real choice and control to our clients and their families.

Our Patron



Mr Geoff Handbury AO

Mr Geoff Handbury AO has been Patron of Mpower since 2010. Mr Handbury promotes the mission, values, aims and objectives of the organisation and Mpower is delighted to have him as our Patron.

We acknowledge Mr Handbury's continued generosity in donating \$10,000 towards Mpower's cause.

Committee of Management



David Beggs President

BVSc MVS FAVA

Cert IV in Training and Assessment, PhD Candidate

Veterinarian – Warrnambool Veterinary Clinic

Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences, The University of Melbourne

Joined the board in 2005



Neil Ballard Vice President

B Ec, Dip Ed

Rural Access Project Officer – Warrnambool City Council

Member of the Finance, Audit and Risk Sub Committee

Member of the CEO Performance Management and Remuneration Sub Committee.

Joined the board in 2011



Rhys Boyle Treasurer

B.Bus

Grad. Dip. Health Service Management

Member of Finance, Audit and Risk Sub Committee

Joined the board in 2015



Helen Bayne

B.Comm

Cert IV in workplace training and assessment, Masters in Ed (in progress)

Senior partnership broker

South West Local Learning & Employment Network

Member of CEO Performance Management and Remuneration Sub Committee

Joined the board in 2013



David Beard

Diploma of Management, Bachelor of Education

Secondary Teacher – Emmanuel College

Joined the board in 2013



Adam Kempton

LL. B, B. Ec.

Lawyer, Company Director, Business

Proprietor, Not For Profit Board

Memberships

Joined the board in 1997



Kerrie Hughson

Bachelor of Commerce (Deakin),

Member of the Institute of Chartered Accounts of Australia (ICAA)

Associate & Managing Accountant at Sinclair Wilson.

Joined the board in 2017



Michele Downs

B.A. (Hons) L.L.B

Solicitor – Dwyer Robinson Pty Ltd.

Joined the board in 2017

CEO & Presidents Report

Our vision is "A community inspired and empowered by people of all ages, abilities and differences". All the services we provide and the work we do is aimed to achieving this vision.

"The NDIS cannot afford to lose existing providers' knowledge of and commitment to current and future NDIS participants..... "The expansion of life opportunities for people with disability promised by the NDIS cannot be delivered without a strong, sustainable and diverse disability services sector." Ken Baker Chief Executive National Disability Service.

It is a great pleasure to put 'pen to paper' for this 2016-17 annual report to capture an amazing year of achievement.

"There is a comprehensive body of work to be done by every organisation in preparation for NDIS". (State of the Disability Sector Report, 2016)

The year has culminated in a sense of positive satisfaction as we review our achievements. Every aspect of the years' work has been based on preparing the organisation for successful transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in October, 2017. The reporting year ending just three months short of the rollout date for NDIS means the reflection for the report is timely as we are putting the finishing touches to our year's accomplishments. Financially the year was positive, our Respite and Therapy centre has had a full year of operating, the strategic projects are completed, and a major IT update is complete including the rollout of the Client Management system CareLink+.

Financially we are pleased to have returned a modest surplus following large investment in NDIS preparation. Many staff hours and contracted subject expert hours have been invested in preparation over the year. New state government funding has also been received for services to vulnerable families reflecting the response the Royal Commission into Family Violence,



"We know that prevention and early intervention is the most effective way to prevent harm, abuse or neglect." (Gayle Tierney 2017)

'Mpower House' was adopted as the official name of the Mpower's Respite and Therapy Centre as it was the colloquial name used by staff and families which seemed to feel comfortable. Following a generous donation of \$270,000 from DHHS to complete our fundraising target and a full 12 months of operations, Mpower House is proving to be a great success. So much so that we have newly taken rental agreement on another property further along the street, in order to meet growing service demand for the 2017-18 year. The demand for use has been predominately respite and group based programs – youth groups and high flyers. Mpower House as planned, has also become the hub for our disability support staff along with service coordinators. The House operates as a home away from home for many children in the Out of Home Care program (an area of growth for Mpower) and those who come for regular after school respite. The children have been enjoying the accessible playground in the rear yard now complete with a large shade sail thanks to generous funding from trusts.

The year has seen consistent staff and board member effort expended in the achievement of outcomes in each of the strategic projects

developed to prepare Mpower for the transition to NDIS.

The Governance Project saw the upgrade of governance documents – Board Charter; policies; risk manual. The governance review also identified a need for Board renewal leading to the successful recruitment of two new board members. Early in 2017 we welcomed Ms Kerrie Hughson, accountant and Ms Michele Down, lawyer to the board providing diversity in skill, gender and age.

In managing the strategic projects a Balanced Scorecard approach was taken, achieving excellent cross-organisational results covering new systems and processes; finance; administration; information technology; workplace and culture transformation and NDIS clients and market transition. The Balanced Scorecard sees all actions checked against the vital perspectives of customers; internal processes; finance and learning/growth. These achievements have supported Mpower to move from program based operations to a whole of organisation 'one Mpower' enterprise.

The year was transformational as we delved into previously uncharted territory with new systems, processes, IT platforms and technology. All of the new resources required constant new learnings which were undertaken happily by staff. The IT upgrade provided the platform for the

client management system and for financial scenario planning software. These new software resources provide the necessary tools for efficient administration and planning of services, capital reserves, working capital and program viability.

New portable IT devices have supported further staff flexibility with efficient remote access available.

"...NDIS is the right reform for Australia, but warns that the scale and complexity of implementation is placing great pressure on stakeholders, including service providers" – David Moody Victorian Manager, National Disability Services.

Amongst all of this change the staff must be congratulated for their dedication to providing wonderful, supportive service to our clients and families. The essence of our staff is their passion for their client service which puts Mpower in good stead for the coming competitive environment.

Marketing and promotional activities are vital for the agency as we move into the competitive realm of NDIS. Mpower has invested in marketing with assistance of the Victorian Government Sector Transition Fund (STF). Our Business Manager has carriage of the Strategic Marketing Plan and has commenced with a revamped suite of promotional resources including radio, newspaper and social media.



Workforce and cultural changes were a strong feature for the year as the organisation positioned itself for the NDIS. A new structure was gradually introduced as service needs changed, which has provided us with a strong 'one' Mpower focus. The specifics of NDIS have been recognised with the development of an NDIS Manager and programs, while our other programs fall under the Community Services Manager. An executive team has been developed creating a close working relationship between the two key managers, accountant and the CEO. This structure allows quick and flexible decisions to be made with the ability to reference whole of organisational needs.

Under the leadership of the NDIS Manager the clients and markets project has successfully developed a full suite of NDIS ready services, some of which were mapped across from existing Mpower services and some newly developed to meet client need. All changes to current programs and new service offering were assessed against; financial viability; resource capability; competitive environment and client need and benefits.

A great success story with one of the new services has been a new weekly, after school program designed to meet the social needs of young teenage girls with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The program is well suited to the NDIS funding schedule and is almost completely subscribed. If demand continues to increase we will consider establishing further programs to meet the need.

'Mpower Presents' is a further successful venture offering a variety of professional development information sessions targeting teachers, allied health professionals and in some cases parents. These events are scheduled monthly and are advertised on Mpower's website and in the newsletter. The sessions are successful and offer another funding avenue as professionals are charged a fee to attend.

Within the parameters of the back office sharing project Mpower has developed supportive partnerships with complimentary agencies such as WDEA and Lyndoch. Exciting new opportunities saw Mpower selected as a finalist for the LASA awards (aged care peak body) and DHHS volunteer services for their PAWS at Lyndoch Living program. PAWS sees teenagers/school aged children having respite at Mpower, volunteering to walk the

residents' dogs at Lyndoch (accompanied by support workers).

Mpower's membership of National Disability Services (NDS) - disability services peak body is enhanced with the CEO's continued membership of the NDS State Committee. Mpower staff and Board members have continued to avail themselves of many opportunities for training and information updates and learning and development opportunities offered through NDS.

Mpower continues to be a quality assured organisation having maintained its QIP accredited status for the past 13 years. Looking to the future Mpower has plans to become accredited to the ISO 9001 Quality Management system standards from the 2017-18 year.

To uphold our values of quality services and new learning Mpower has supported staff to undertake many training courses.

The year saw the CEO and HR Manager attending a transformational leadership course offered by Victorian NDS with subsidies through the STF. The learnings were clearly targeted at transformational skills required in the current and emerging environment.

Through the year Mpower partnered with Victorian Advocacy League for Individuals with Disability Inc. (VALID) to provide a series of five Learning & Development sessions for



a group of parents in the south west. The presenters also offered to provide a two hour session for Mpower staff in the spirit of partnership, which was gladly accepted and attended.

To ensure we provide connected up services to the community we continue to develop and nurture new and existing partnerships across the community sector. Mpower's membership of Community South West supports our strong relationships with other community based organisations providing the capacity for an extended range of services to people in our communities. Partnerships with STAY Residential Services and Kyeema allow the ongoing provision of holiday and after school respite programs in Hamilton and Portland respectively.

Mpower is thankful for the support of a dedicated group of skilled volunteers providing direction for the organisation on our Board of Management. This group continue to give their time generously to the ever changing requirements and knowledge levels commanded by the rate of disruptive change which is at unprecedented level.

We have a number of very generous volunteers providing building maintenance, program assistance and community transport. Mpower is indebted to these people for their generosity and commitment. Mpower's Community Transport program is completely reliant on volunteers as drivers and we offer a special thank you to this group who are extremely important in the lives of those they drive for.

Mpower looks confidently to the future, including the continuing 'disruptive change' of the NDIS and the hope it offers people with a disability for more control over their lives. In a true gesture of faith in the future, Mpower is about to embark on redeveloping the entrance to our offices. The outcome will be a brighter, open space with direct access to a large meeting room where our Client Engagement and Intake Manager will welcome new and repeat visitors to Mpower. Mpower's highly skilled staff welcome the opportunities brought with change and are anticipating the difference they can make in the lives of people with disabilities.

CEO – Kerry Nelson
President – David Beggs

Mpower Paws

A weekly partnership between young people and Lyndoch Living has proven to be a howling success.

Teenagers and school-aged children linked with Mpower's Disability Services have been growing in confidence and enthusiasm since joining the PAWS program where they walk canine pets for residents of the aged care centre.

Such is the positive feedback that the program was nominated by the aged care peak body (LASA) and Department of Health and Human Services for state awards.

Mpower's service development project manager Lil Ward in an interview with The Standard said participants learnt responsibility because they had to be aware of the dog and care for it as well as socialising with other people.

"It's a good exercise for the kids," Lil said.

"The older generation has a world of knowledge they can impart to the younger generation and it's good for older people to have that energy around them."

Paul Torney, Zake Roberts and Tyler Rossiter have been enjoying their time with the PAWS program, walking Billie around the Lyndoch gardens. Picture: Warmnambool Standard.



Increased Social, Community Activities

Nikki has been coming along to Mpower for more than three years now.

During this time she has enjoyed participating in group activities on a monthly basis and enjoys swimming at Archie Graham Centre on a weekly basis. Nikki is very friendly and outgoing and loves helping out and spending time with others. This friendly, kind nature led Nikki to volunteer every Tuesday morning at Lifeline supported by an Mpower staff member. During this time she folds and sort's clothes into appropriate bundles ready for distribution. Nikki is a very enthusiastic volunteer and really enjoys helping out.

NDIS: Capacity Building, Social & Community Participation.



Weekend Getaway

Parents of participants who attended a Weekend Getaway provided the following comments:

"Thank you and the carers for the weekend away for Paul. He had a great time and really enjoyed himself. He liked having James and Breeanna leaders with them. He thought they were cool. We heard all about the weekend all Sunday, that's how much of a success it was for him. I enjoyed the break also."

"Thanks to Disability Services Team for the planning that goes into these getaways and also for the fantastic Youth Groups you run as well. Both boys really enjoy the fun activities and the food that is provided for them."

"Again many thanks I am most appreciative of all programs that you run and organise."

"Thank you for offering the opportunity for Jack to attend the weekend getaway with Mpower at Dunkeld on the weekend."

"Please pass on our thanks to the staff for running a fun weekend for Jack. These opportunities are invaluable for Jack to mix with his fellow peers on a social basis. We thank Mpower for running such programs (including Youth Group) and are very fortunate to have these available to us and in particular Jack."



Developing **Strong Relationships**

Eli Brumby and Hugo Reeve love their weekly Thursday playgroup sessions run by Mpower.

The Down Syndrome friends look forward to their time of play and interaction with other children.

Hugo, 1, and Eli, 2, are typical cheeky toddlers eager to find fun.

Thursday playgroups are running at capacity and families indicate by their comments and consistent attendance they value the group highly.

Mothers, Jayne Brumby, and Sharon Reeve, said in an interview with The Standard their children had far more similarities than differences with other children.

"They're typical toddlers. Our kids are more like other kids than different from them," Jayne said.

"They just want to play, have fun and be included.

"Eli is cheeky – he's very determined and cheeky."

Sharon said Mpower's playgroup gave the boys opportunity to interact with each other and was a support for like-minded mothers.

Program Manager Louise Jellie reports it has been pleasing to observe the development of very strong relationships among parents using this program.

"The group provides a safe and welcoming vehicle for group members to share their triumphs and their sorrows," she says.

"We are proud of and honored by the trust the families place in us as they share their feelings freely.

Picture: Warrnambool Standard



Year in Numbers



5150.3

direct support hours for clients
of Mpower services

1602

hrs in school
holiday
programs

730 hrs

respite for
older carers

642 hrs

in Active
Oceans
program

528 hrs

in Weekend
Getaways

300

hrs in youth
group
activities

229 hrs

assisting TAC
clients

222

hrs junior
High Flyers
program

192 hrs

High Flyers
program

93 hrs in

Junior Youth
Group

113

children
accessed Early
Childhood
Intervention
Services

48 children

supported
through
Helping
Children
with Autism
program

25 NDIS

plans funding
supports
through
Mpower

79 families

received
5150 hours
of support
through the
IFS program

TAP group
supported

16 families

mpower inc.
since 1975

68%

parents had
underdeveloped
parenting skills

Of the **289**

family
members

44 had

identified
intellectual
disabilities.

182 carers received

5980 hours of
counselling and support.

57

new carers joined Carer
Support Program

Our Services

Early Childhood Intervention Service (ECIS)

ECIS aims to improve the lives of infants and children 0-6 with a disability or developmental delay and their families through the provision of specialised early intervention support.

A range of services are provided including speech and occupational therapy, developmental assessments, family support and co-ordination and support to early childhood and care settings to promote access and meaningful participation.

Integrated Family Services

Integrated Family Services (IFS) provides a range of supports and interventions for vulnerable children, youth and families experiencing difficulties in their family relationships and environment. IFS aims to enhance the safety, stability and development of children and adolescents by focusing on strengthening the capacity of parents to provide basic care, ensure safety and promote their child's development.

Actions may include:

- counselling
- parent education
- household management
- outreach
- case management

Disability Programs

These programs are designed to enable participants to take part in both Mpower activities based in the community and other community activities of choice, and are available for families of children, young people and adults with disabilities.

The programs include:

- School Holiday Programs
- Weekend Getaways
- Active Oceans
- Youth Group/High Flyers

Deaf Access Victoria

The deaf Access program assists community organisations and services to work more effectively with deaf and hard-of-hearing people by raising awareness in the local community about their needs and the problems they experience.

Information relating to deafness or hearing loss is provided for deaf and hard-of-hearing people, their families or carers, services that work with deaf and hard-of-hearing people and for the general community.

Carer Support Program

The Carer Support Program provides support, information and referral to carers of people who are frail aged 65+, 50+ indigenous, have a chronic illness or disability or people of any age with dementia.

Sturgeon View Holiday House

Available for rent, Sturgeon View Holiday House has been designed to cater for people with a wide range of disabilities. Sturgeon View is situated at Dunkeld.

Community Transport

Community Transport provides flexible transport arrangements for those who are disadvantaged accessing transport to allow them to attend health or community support services.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

Mpower has been providing services for registered individuals and families who moved into the region from NDIS trial sites.

Toy Library

The special needs toy library provides information for parents and lends play materials and educational toys and equipment to facilitate the growth and development of infants and children with disabilities. Borrowing is available for people of all ages.

Other Funding

Mpower provides services funded by a range of support packages consisting of different levels of funding to purchase services to meet the individual needs of the client/family. This includes Helping Children with Autism (HCWA) and Better Start services.

Our aim is to deliver the best possible outcomes for our clients.

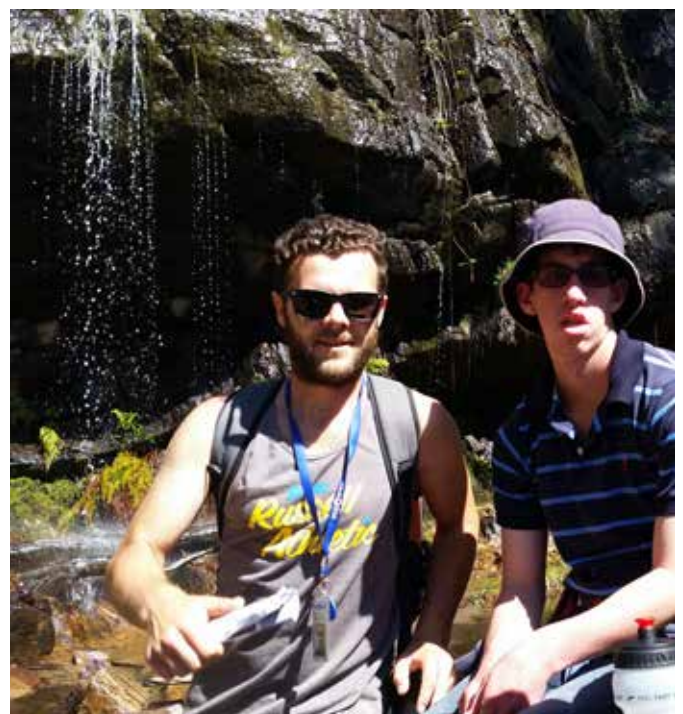
Planning for the NDIS future

In response to the need to prepare the organisation for the implementation of National Disability Insurance Scheme the agency sought opportunities to upskill staff throughout the year.

Finance and management staff attended NDIS planning sessions in Melbourne, Ballarat and Warrnambool. The CEO and HR/Office Manager attended an NDIS specific Transformational Leadership course.

Across the organisation staff have worked to achieve the key objectives of the strategic projects developed to prepare the agency for NDIS implementation ; -

1. Contemporary governance, exemplary leadership
2. Systems development and utilisation
3. New opportunities in core services
4. Culture, transitioning people and culture
5. Improve facilities and resources to support professional delivery of services



The Year in Review

Mpower values underpin our organisation and provide the framework for our practice. Here are some highlights from this year, showing how our values are reflected in all aspects of our work.

QUALITY

– professionalism and quality in everything we do.

The rollout of NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) from October will present exciting new opportunities.

Mpower already has experience in this field handling 25 NDIS packages including two clients from interstate. We have appointed a dedicated NDIS Services Manager and an Intake and Client Engagement Manager from within our staff team to spearhead the new workload growth.

Negotiations are underway to lease another property to run extra NDIS programs in our core services. This will enable us to care for more out-of-home-care children and provide independent living skills for young people preparing to leave home and live independently.

We have appointed more occupational and speech therapists to handle demand which is expected to further increase under NDIS.

Overall, Mpower employs more than 60 staff across 11 program areas providing a total of 6,199 hours of support in 2016-17 – up 924 on the previous financial year. Of this there were 5,159 direct support hours.

Our general day-to-day administration has been progressively streamlined and strengthened with the introduction of the client-management system, CareLink+, as well as new portable IT equipment and efficiencies in our staff decision-making team.

Plans for renovations are underway to modernise our head office at 71 Koroit Street to improve efficiency and integration with clients.

Mpower House at 84-86 Koroit Street marked its first anniversary mid-year. State

Government promised funding of \$270,000 has flowed through into our bank account, for which we are very grateful.

A training plan for a disability support worker certificate IV course has been set up with WDEA with Mpower providing placements for trainees.

Mpower is committed to building stronger relationships between agencies to work together for the best outcomes for our clients. All stakeholders would benefit from stronger connections between agencies.

The vision is to create a seamless transition from Mpower disability services to pre-employment skill development and jobs.

The Mpower webpage, which went live in September 2016, is being progressively updated with more information and links for our expanding client base.



Promotion activities this year included Facebook and radio advertising. Google AdWords granted us \$10,000 of free advertising per month which will give us a substantial presence in digital marketing. Upgraded mobile phones have allowed us to include more photographs and videos of activities for use on our website, Facebook and general promotion.

Provision of Committee of Management board papers on electronic media was trialed with success. This change has reduced administration preparation time significantly.

Mpower was nominated for awards by the aged care peak body and Department of Health and Human Services for the PAWS program at Lyndoch where teenagers and school-age children in respite care volunteer to walk Lyndoch residents' dogs.

Philanthropic fund donations last financial year included: \$19,635 Victorian Cancer Agency; \$10,000 G and H Handbury Foundation; \$4,955 Deafness Foundation; \$2,000 William Angliss; \$1,000 City Memorial Bowls Club; \$325 Geelong Seniors Festival program.

EMPOWERMENT

– person and family directed services recognising individuals' strengths.

The home and community based early childhood intervention program for pre-school children with disabilities and their families continues to achieve goals. We have 13 staff on the team and 81 clients across the region. Play and learn groups particularly are almost at capacity.

Integrated Family Services (IFS) play a vital role for vulnerable families with Mpower continuing to exceed the required client contact hours. The introduction of a part-time team leader is increasing our focus on engagement and maintaining good service delivery outcomes.

A total of \$461,000 funding for IFS was received from DHS including an additional \$31,000 for family violence and \$31,000 for managing demand.

Alarming, recent data shows the south-west has the highest figures in regional

Victoria for children not attending any form of early education and care service prior to engaging in school. Parents with under-developed parenting skills, family violence, disability in the family, child behavioural issues, drugs and alcohol and financial hardship are key factors in these figures. Twenty-eight adults, including primary care givers, involved in our programs had a drug or alcohol issue and 60 per cent of families had exposure to domestic violence.

Mpower's Play and Learn program and Totally Awesome Parents (TAP) group are helping address this serious issue.

Several families were provided with food hampers and grocery and fuel vouchers to alleviate immediate stresses in the household.

Mpower's good reputation for high quality services has seen demand for our disability services continues to rise. Two new programs were introduced in response to identified needs and demand– Junior High Flyers and Junior Youth group.

These are in addition to our regular activities including Active Oceans, Weekend Getaways, school holiday program, high needs packages, individual support packages, TAC/Workcover client support, parent support, out-of-home-care emergency respite and recreation programs in Warrnambool and Hamilton, which provide respite for older carers. The TAC clients are assisted with meal preparation in home, shopping and other tasks as required.

Carers from across the region have been provided a variety of activities including men's night out, high tea, stage show, movies and foreshore breakfast. The Warrnambool Carer Support Group has an average of more than 20 attending monthly meetings while the Terang group has an average of 10 attendees and Hamilton 4-5.

A total of 20 families across the region receive support of up to 24 hours of respite a month where the carer is aged 60 and over and caring for someone in their own home.

The opportunity to engage with the community at the Sungold Field Days resulted in conversations with about 100

adults plus networking with other service providers. More than 100 primary school children received information kits and enjoyed activities provided in our marquee.

RESPECT

– beliefs, feelings and values of individuals are acknowledged.

Mpower has the only worker in the region focusing on better access for the deaf through the Deaf Access program. This issue is particularly relevant in aged care facilities where an estimated 80 per cent of residents experience hearing loss.

Fortunately, NDIS is expected to provide better funding and opportunities for the deaf to access services to meet their needs.

A new Facebook page for women with a disability was introduced to provide a forum for “safe” discussions on issues that affect them.

Mpower’s Carer Support program provides information and referral to carers of people 65 and over who are frail, those with a chronic illness, disability or anyone of any age suffering dementia. Programs cover Warrnambool, Terang, Hamilton

and Casterton districts providing social connection, respite and education.

Our Integrated Family Services (IFS) provides vital support to about 80 families where either the children or parents have a disability and there is an identified risk to the family’s wellbeing. Mpower continues to exceed the benchmark on client contact hours set by the Department of Health and Human Services. This can be attributed to the high level of commitment by our team in handling the complexity of client issues in IFS.

A new after-school program for teenage girls with autism spectrum disorder has been extremely well received and if demand continues we will need to establish a second program. It is well suited to the NDIS funding schedule.

The Better Start and Helping Children with Autism programs reached more than 40 clients throughout the year who will gradually be phased over to NDIS after rollout.

Families who identified service needs within kindergartens were provided with intervention and support, which produced good feedback.



NEW LEARNING

– encouraging personal development and innovative thinking

State manager for NDIS David Moody visited our offices to address staff questions about the scheme and its complexities.

The CEO and staff attended several key training courses locally, Melbourne and Sydney in preparation for NDIS. These sessions included a masterclass in strategy, risk and governance which highlighted the importance of working close with our vision statement so we focus on the right opportunities in our strategic thinking and planning.

Training was also made available for board members.

Specialist marketing advice has emphasized the need for us to manage specialist referrers such as paediatricians, GPs and child health nurses so we can engage with families at the start of their journey in order to offer lifelong service opportunities.

Key support staff were given support to undertake Certificate IV in Disability Services. Our HR Manager and the CEO attended a

high level, five day management training course which focused on the skills needed for transitional leadership to NDIS.

Parents of children with disabilities were provided with learning and development sessions along with Mpower staff.

A new streamlined management structure combined with the introduction of SharePoint communication software will help refine decision making and free up staff for more roles supporting service provision.

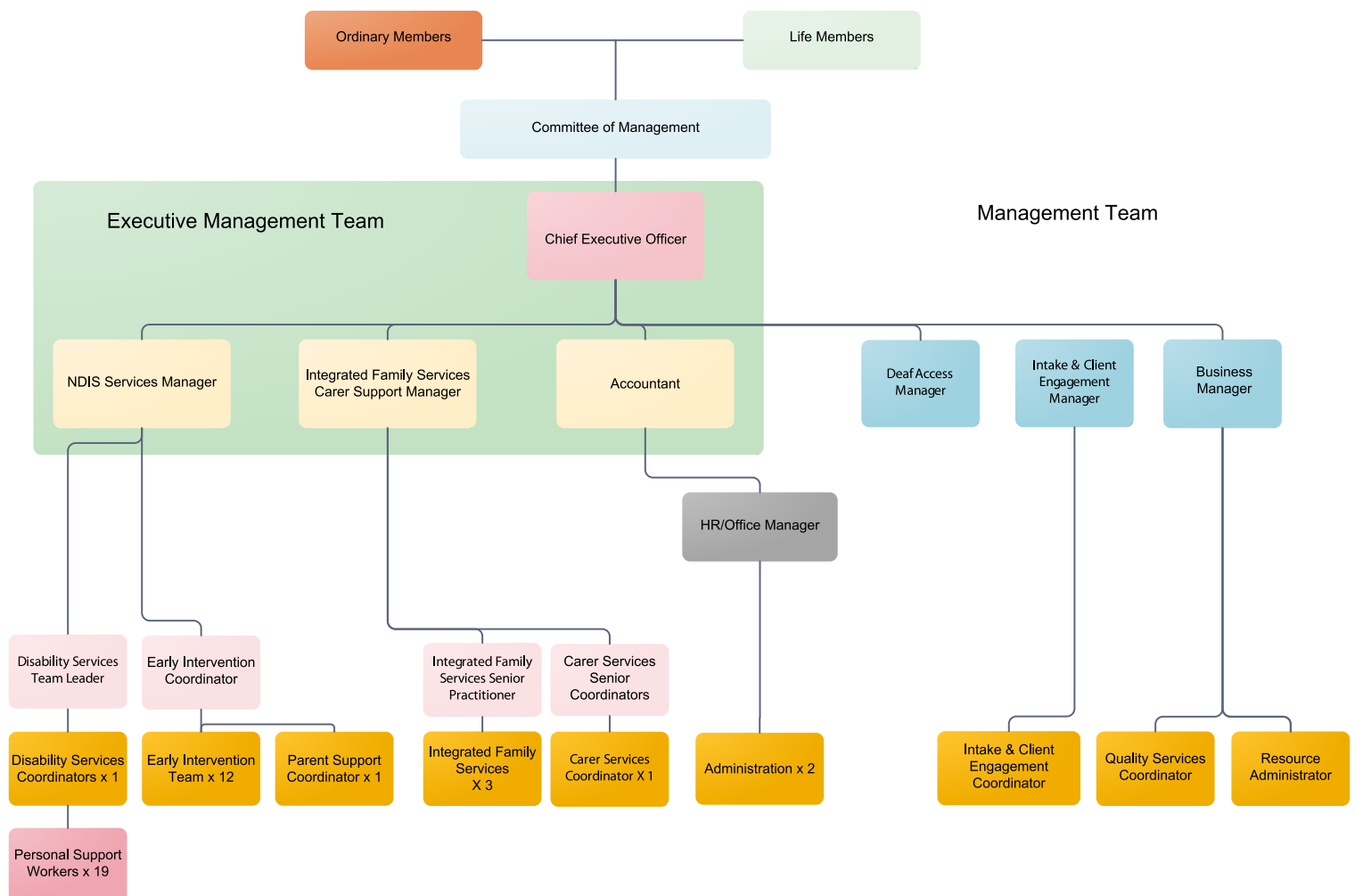
The Mpower Deaf Access Co-ordinator conducted training sessions for 137 staff at 17 aged care and allied facilities.

Mpower has developed professional development information sessions for teachers, allied health professionals and parents. These 'Mpower Presents' sessions are presented monthly and have been met with positive response.

Along with welcoming several new staff we have had notable staff farewells included Wayne Rogers after 17 years as part-time IT administrator and Lil Ward after 13 years' service in disability services management and special projects.



Organisational Structure



Staff

Staff as at 30th June, 2017

Virginia Arbuthnott
Mark Barling
Rianna-Lea Bourke
Lyndy Boyle
Gary Brereton
Katrina Carrod
Robyn Carroll
Prue Clancy
Heather Clue
Helen Conheady
Betty A Dwyer
Herlinda Eykels
Hannah Fleuchar
Amber Flowers
Abby Fraser
Janine Gapes
Jason Gilmour
Jenny Gleeson
Trent Harman
Debbie Harman
Erin Haynes
Catherine Howarth
Louise Jellie
Tracey Jennings

Kirsty Jones
Wendy Jones
Sandy Joyce
Amanda Kearney
Rachel Malady
Pattrina Markey
Dianne Mcfadden
Cheryl Mckinnon
Patricia Mclean
Jenny McMahon
Nicole Neild
Kerry Nelson
Donna Newell
Ashley Nice
Melissa O'keefe
Kirsty Parkinson
Leah Patterson
Rachel Peters
Thomas Reeves
James Reid
Penny Ryan
David Skinner
Erica Smith
Kirsty Sutcliffe

Maria Svent
Eve Tamer
Edda Thomson
Joy Vicary
Shona Waller
Yvette Wilkinson
Michael Wright



Volunteers

Volunteers are a highly valued and essential part of the Mpower workforce, particularly through the Community Transport and Totally Awesome Parents programs.

Mpower staff and management would like to thank all volunteers contributing throughout the year including.

Chris Carroll
David McDonough
Judith Brian
Avis Patten
Greta Perry

Paul Hanlon
Roy Clarke
Maddi Higgins
Ryan Martin



NDIS in Action

As the NDIS rolls out across the south-west from October the Cox family will be seasoned players in the field.

They have been using the scheme since it was introduced in their former South Australian home district in 2014.

Since moving to Warrnambool they have been accessing services through Mpower for Alexander with autism and Thomas with developmental delays.

In an interview with The Standard Tammy Cox said being able to access the scheme made her more confident about her sons' futures.

"For us, it's a huge financial relief and it certainly opens up more options therapy-wise, support-wise," she said.

Prior to the NDIS the family had been paying out of their own funds for physiotherapy, speech therapy and occupational therapy.

They are among NDIS plan package recipients through Mpower which has provided services in homes, schools and at Mpower venues.

Tammy Cox said NDIS opened more options for therapy and support because of better access to funding for families.

Mpower NDIS Services Manager Louise Jellie said with NDIS, individuals nominated goals then worked towards achieving them.

She encouraged people to research and plan what they would like to achieve through the NDIS and to attend information sessions run by Mpower.



Thomas Cox, 5, has been accessing more regular assistance through the National Disability Insurance Scheme under Mpower programs. Picture: Warrnambool Standard.

Caring Support

While not everyone wants or needs support beyond that offered by family and friends, people who do choose to access a support group generally feel less isolated as they make connections with others facing similar challenges.

Participants of a support group, not only get to have a break from their caring role, they have the opportunity to share their personal experiences and offer one another emotional comfort and moral support. Some of the benefits of belonging to the group include improved coping skills, an increased awareness of the services and supports available and improved physical and emotional health. Through the Mpower Carer Support Program carers attend theatre productions, social outings, education sessions and relaxation opportunities.



Charlie Pollock, John Todd, Jason Gilmour and Catherine Fitzgerald (dancer)

Financial Report

The Year in Review:

Mpower Inc. presents a surplus for the 2016/17 financial year of \$539.

Throughout 2016/17 Mpower has continued to grow its revenue while diligently managing costs. Mpower has continued to provide excellent levels of service to current clients and to also assist these clients and many more via numerous information sessions to educate themselves in preparedness for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). It is a credit to the NDIS Services Manager and the Intake and Client Engagement Manager their ability to share their level of knowledge. Mpower's Community Services programs have also been very vibrant throughout the year. Funding in the Integrated Family Services Program has grown in line with delivery of service. The Carers Support Program has again delivered a busy schedule of activities and support service. Late July 2016 saw the first services provided in the refurbished Respite and Therapy Centre at 84-86 Koroit Street. Through fundraising the financial commitment to the project was covered.

This financial result includes an impairment expense to the carrying value of the Respite and Therapy Centre at 84-86 Koroit Street by some \$511,695. Offsetting this impairment was a capital grant received from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to the value of \$270,000. After taking these two extraordinary transactions into account Mpower Inc. has recorded a sound result for the financial year.

Income:

Mpower's total income for the year totalled \$4.15M compared to \$3.76M the previous year, an increase of \$387k. Of this \$387k increase on the previous year a net amount of \$235k was received in the form of donations/capital grants towards the development costs of 84-86 Koroit Street.

Other funding increases were received from the DHHS in the Integrated Family Services program with new funding granted to the alliance of which Mpower successfully applied and received additional targets and also the Early Childhood Intervention program through its Helping Children With Autism and Better Start programs.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) funding was also up in 2016/17 with the early transition of some participants into the scheme combined with existing NDIS clients who had relocated to the region and selected Mpower as their provider of choice.

Non-Department funding was up on the previous financial year due to in part to Fee for Service income with demand for respite brokered services increasing and interest earned on term deposits increasing.

Expenditure:

Expenditure is monitored against budget at each program level and at the organisational level by the Committee of Management.

Total costs for the year were \$4.15M. This is an increase of \$732k on the previous year's total of \$3.41M. A major contributor to this variance was the impairment cost posted to reduce the carrying amount of the building at 84-86 Koroit Street. The value of the impairment cost was \$512k.

NDIS transitional costs were up on the previous year with Mpower continuing its readiness for the NDIS. The use of consultants to assist with the implementation of change in the operating environment and the introduction of a marketing plan were all part of positioning Mpower strongly for the launch of the NDIS.

Maintenance and repair costs were up on the previous year due to maintenance agreements in place for the hardware and software licence agreements which are all vital for the efficient capture of data. Maintenance was also carried out on the Sturgeon View property and we are seeing increased numbers of visitors using this premises for short stays.

Depreciation expense was up for the year with the higher cost base of the buildings with 84-86 Koroit Street.

Balance Sheet Position:

Mpower has maintained its strong financial position with Net Assets in excess of \$3.85M and cash reserves in excess of \$2.75M at the end of the financial year. All funds not required for day-to-day operations are invested into term deposits across three financial institutions. The investment across the three banks/credit unions reduces the exposed risk to Mpower. The Committee of Management has a clear policy that these funds are not to be used to meet day-to-day operational needs and budgets are set accordingly.

Financial Management:

Mpower is very disciplined in its financial management. The Management Team review their program results monthly and the Finance, Audit & Risk Committee review detailed financial results and policies on a quarterly basis. Financial reports are submitted to and reviewed by the Committee of Management on a monthly basis. Program Managers are involved in the setting of budgets and monitoring of costs and this has shown again with the strong performance recorded in 2016/17.

Mpower can now look to the full roll out of the NDIS. Investment has been made in staff, IT infrastructure and building facilities to best assist Mpower going forward. While the NDIS has been a huge focus the Community Service programs that Mpower provides outside of the NDIS has also seen significant growth especially in the Integrated Family Services program. Mpower members can be confident that this work will continue to be done thoroughly, diligently and with empathy for all involved.

Helen Conheady B.Bus (Acc)
Accountant



2016-2017

Financial Statements

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

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Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

Your committee members present the financial report of the Mpower Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2017.

Committee

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

David Beggs	President
Nell Ballard	Vice President
Rhys Boyle	Treasurer
David Beard	
Helen Bayne	
Adam Kempton	
Kerrie Hughson	Appointed June 2017
Michele Downs	Appointed June 2017

Committee members have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year was to provide support and counselling services for Aged and Disability impacted persons.

Significant Changes In the State of Affairs

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

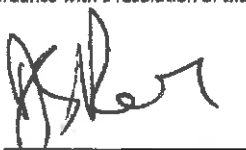
Operating Result

The surplus from ordinary activities for the financial year amounted to \$539. (2016 - surplus \$345,540).

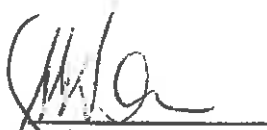
After Balance Date Events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Committee:



Mr David Beggs
President



Mr Rhys Boyle
Treasurer

Dated at Warrnambool, 17 October 2017.

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenue	2	3,449,237	3,381,399
Other income	2	690,861	367,806
Profit on sale of non-current assets		6,191	10,300
Accountancy		(3,594)	(6,944)
Anniversary celebrations		-	(5,017)
Advertising & promotion		(8,360)	(8,260)
Audit and legal charges		(21,350)	(24,680)
Bank charges		(1,291)	(1,532)
Catering		(5,354)	(6,760)
Cleaning		(14,292)	(14,149)
Consultants fees		(34,620)	(39,688)
Depreciation		(153,811)	(107,184)
Insurance		(6,320)	(5,907)
Maintenance and repairs		(110,331)	(65,783)
Impairment of non-current assets	6a	(511,695)	-
Motor vehicle expenses		(55,906)	(55,288)
NDIS transition costs		(98,708)	(46,785)
Postage		(6,158)	(4,814)
Printing & stationary		(12,533)	(13,272)
Program costs		(346,826)	(324,327)
Respite House		(117)	(441)
Employee Benefits		(2,675,516)	(2,616,653)
Security		(1,442)	(1,331)
Subscriptions		(12,549)	(11,623)
Sundry expenses		(12,450)	(8,442)
Telephone		(28,143)	(23,933)
Utilities		(24,384)	(21,153)
Current year surplus before income tax		539	345,540
Income tax expense		-	-
Net current year surplus		539	345,540
Other comprehensive income		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR		539	345,540

The accompanying notes form part of these financial accounts.

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2017

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash on hand	3	2,790,590	2,665,194
Accounts receivable	4	91,163	49,620
Other assets	5	12,890	3,666
Total current assets		2,894,643	2,718,480
Non-current assets			
Property, plant & equipment	6	1,872,726	2,113,393
Total non current assets		1,872,726	2,113,393
TOTAL ASSETS		4,767,369	4,831,873
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable and other payables	7	309,911	298,581
Employee provisions	8	273,876	305,656
Other liabilities	9	287,174	327,967
Total current liabilities		870,961	932,204
Non current liabilities			
Employee provisions	8	46,053	49,854
Total Non current liabilities		46,053	49,854
TOTAL LIABILITIES		917,014	982,058
NET ASSETS		3,850,355	3,849,816
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		3,850,355	3,849,816
TOTAL EQUITY		3,850,355	3,849,816

The accompanying notes form part of these financial accounts.

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2015	3,504,276	3,504,276
Surplus attributable to the entity	345,540	345,540
Balance at 30 June 2016	<u>3,849,816</u>	<u>3,849,816</u>
Surplus attributable to the entity	539	539
Balance at 30 June 2017	<u>3,850,355</u>	<u>3,850,355</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial accounts.

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Notes	2017 \$	2016 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		3,997,236	3,951,809
Payments to suppliers and employees		(3,513,718)	(3,163,774)
Interest Received		60,526	44,292
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	10	544,044	832,327
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		30,783	24,380
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(449,431)	(608,800)
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(418,648)	(584,420)
NET INCREASE IN CASH HELD		125,396	247,907
CASH AT BEGINNING OF FINANCIAL YEAR		2,665,194	2,417,287
CASH AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	3	2,790,590	2,665,194

The accompanying notes form part of these financial accounts.

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012*.

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

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs and do not take into account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise, have been adopted in the preparation of these financial statements.

a. Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997

b. Property, plant and equipment (PPE)

Assets are carried at cost less any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE, is depreciated on a straight line basis over the assets useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

c. Accounts receivable and other receivables

Accounts receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price (i.e cost) and are subsequently measured at cost less provision for impairment. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of accounts receivable and other receivables are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that the amounts are not recoverable. If so, an impairment loss is immediately recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

d. Accounts payable and other payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liabilities at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association that remain unpaid. Accounts payable are recognised at their transaction price. Accounts payable are obligations on the basis of normal credit terms.

e. Employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

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. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may not satisfy vesting requirements. Those cash outflows are discounted using market yields on national government bonds with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cash flows.

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

f. Cash on hand

Cash and cash equivalents comprise of cash on hand, demand deposits and short term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

g. Revenue and other income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the entity and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Grant and donation income is recognised when the entity obtains control over the funds, which is generally at the time of receipt. If conditions are attached to the grant that must be satisfied before the association is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

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

h. Impairment of assets

At the end of the reporting period, the committee reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

i. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

j. Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Note 2: Revenue and other income		
Revenue		
Department of Health and Human Services - State Government Victoria	2,340,847	2,293,313
Department of Education and Training - State Government Victoria	734,516	694,979
National Disability Insurance Scheme	56,635	33,629
Department of Social Services - Australian Government	162,916	113,281
DHHS Out of home care package funding - State Government Victoria	66,251	197,925
DHHS Target care package funding - State Government Victoria	42,291	48,272
Department of Health - Australian Government	45,781	-
	<u>3,449,237</u>	<u>3,381,399</u>
Other income		
Donations	109,458	132,549
Fee for service	101,338	86,438
Other Grants	4,955	3,730
Interest received	60,526	44,292
Program activity fees	30,147	32,483
Sundry other income	114,437	68,314
Department of Health and Human Services Capital Grant	270,000	-
Total revenue	<u>4,140,098</u>	<u>3,749,205</u>
Note 3: Cash on hand		
Cash on hand	1,100	1,100
Cash at bank	2,789,490	2,664,094
	<u>2,790,590</u>	<u>2,665,194</u>
Note 4: Accounts receivable		
Accounts receivable	91,163	49,620
	<u>91,163</u>	<u>49,620</u>
Note 5: Other assets		
Accrued income	6,314	-
Prepayments	6,576	3,666
	<u>12,890</u>	<u>3,666</u>

Mpower Inc.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Note 6: Property plant & equipment		
Land		
Land at cost	503,000	503,000
Total land	503,000	503,000
Buildings		
Buildings at cost	1,232,824	1,155,741
Accumulated depreciation	(316,530)	(331,522)
Work in progress	38,999	582,262
Total buildings	955,293	1,406,481
Plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment at cost	616,820	339,190
Accumulated depreciation	(357,622)	(300,643)
Total plant and equipment	259,198	38,547
Motor vehicles		
Motor vehicles at cost	302,701	305,562
Accumulated depreciation	(147,466)	(140,197)
Total motor vehicles	155,235	165,365
Total property, plant and equipment	1,872,726	2,113,393

(a) Reconciliation of the carrying amounts of each class of asset:

	Land	Buildings	Plant and Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2016	503,000	1,406,481	38,547	165,365	2,113,393
Additions	—	351,140	30,845	67,446	449,431
Disposals	—	—	—	(24,592)	(24,592)
Impairment of non-current assets	—	(511,695)	—	—	(511,695)
Transfers	—	(246,786)	246,786	—	—
Depreciation	—	(43,847)	(56,980)	(52,984)	(153,811)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2017	503,000	955,293	259,198	155,235	1,872,726

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Note 7: Accounts payable and other payables		
Accounts payable	74,245	91,619
Accrued salaries and wages	111,642	83,103
Other payables	15,257	24,799
Statutory payables - GST and PAYG	108,767	99,060
	309,911	298,581
Note 8: Employee provisions		
Current		
Employee provisions		
Annual leave	157,032	130,716
Long service leave	111,156	86,587
Sick leave	-	80,136
Time owing in lieu	5,688	8,217
	273,876	305,656
Non-current		
Employee provisions		
Long service leave	46,053	49,854
	46,053	49,854
Note 9: Other liabilities		
Income in advance	287,174	327,967
	287,174	327,967

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Note 10: Cash Flow Information		
Reconciliation of cash flows from operations with net current year surplus:		
Surplus for the year	539	345,540
Non-cash flows in result:		
Depreciation	153,811	107,184
Impairment of non-current assets	511,695	
Profit on sale of non-current assets	(6,191)	(10,300)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in accounts receivable	(41,543)	53,677
(Increase)/decrease in other assets	(9,224)	(3,666)
Increase/(decrease) in accounts payable and other payables	11,330	76,370
Increase/(decrease) in employee provisions	(35,580)	66,637
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	(40,793)	196,885
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>544,044</u>	<u>832,327</u>

Note 11: Commitments

The entity is unaware of any commitments as at 30 June 2017. (2016: Nil)

Note 12: Contingencies

On 15 November 2016, Mpower Inc. received funding from DHHS of \$270,000 for the redevelopment at 84 - 86 Koroit Street Warrnambool, being the Respite and Therapy Centre.

A funding deed was entered into between DHHS and Mpower Inc. with a ten year expiry date, which may require Mpower to pay DHHS their relevant interest, if the property is not utilised for its permitted use.

The entity is unaware of any contingent assets at 30 June 2017. (2016: Nil)

Note 13: Events after the reporting period

The committee is not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

Note 14: Related party transactions

No related party transactions noted during the 30 June 2017 financial year. (2016: Nil)

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Note 15: Retained earnings		
Opening balance	3,849,816	3,504,276
Surplus for the year	539	345,540
Closing balance	<u>3,850,355</u>	<u>3,849,816</u>

Note 16: Entity details

The registered office of the entity is:

Mpower Inc.

71 Koroit Street

Warrnambool, Vic, 3280

Mpower Inc.

ABN 39 491 685 563

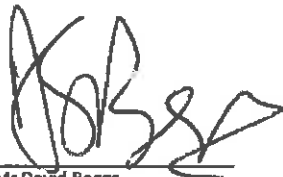
**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017**

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and 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 statements :

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Mpower Incorporated as at 30 June 2017 and its performance for the year ended at that date
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Mpower 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 of management and is signed for and on behalf of the committee of management by:



Mr David Beggs
President



Mr Rhys Boyle
Treasurer

Dated at Warrnambool, 17 October 2017.

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MPOWER INC.

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Mpower Inc. (the entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the entity as at 30 June 2017, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (VIC) 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the entity 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 our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the committees' financial reporting responsibilities under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (VIC) 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act (VIC) 2012* and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our 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 Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We 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 our 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 entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management'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 entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity 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.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

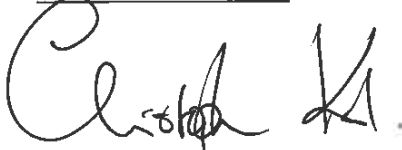
Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.



McLAREN HUNT

AUDIT AND ASSURANCE



C.J. KOL
PARTNER

Dated at Warrnambool; 23 October 2017.

Acknowledgements

Mpower acknowledges the generosity of individuals, businesses, community groups, trusts, grants and government departments who support our work to assist children and families and strengthen the community.

Federal Government

- Department of Social Services

Victorian State Government

Mpower acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government

- Department of Education and Training
- Department of Health and Human Services



Local Government

- Warrnambool City Council
- Corangamite Shire
- Glenelg Shire
- Moyne Shire
- Southern Grampians Shire
- Surf Coast Shire
- City of Greater Geelong
- Colac Otway Shire

Community program partners

- Nestles Rowing Club
- Port Fairy Yacht Club
- Warrnambool Angling Club
- Warrnambool Netball Association
- Warrnambool Surf Lifesaving Club
- South West Sport
- Lifeline
- Daktari Surf School
- Bunnings
- Let's Dance
- Warrnambool Indoor Tennis
- Great Ocean Road Ten Pin Bowling
- Lyndoch Living

Key business and community partners

- Darrian Office Choice
- Enhanced Resources
- Gunners Office Equipment
- McLaren, Buzolich & O'Keeffe (MBO)
- SED Advisory
- South West Credit
- Star Printing
- Tasty Plate
- Warrnambool Toyota

Donors

The William Angliss Charitable Fund
Mr Vern Robson
South West Health Care
Dyspraxia Awareness Group
Geoff and Helen Handbury Foundation
Gordon Curran
Blue Illusion
Warrnambool City Council
Mrs Lorraine Sharrock

Other Disclosures

The Carers Recognition Act 2012 promotes and values the role of people in care relationships and formally recognises the contribution that carers and people in care relationships make to the social and economic fabric of the Victorian community.

Mpower has taken all practicable measures to comply with its obligations under the Act.

Mpower has promoted the principles of the Act to people in care relationships who receive our services and to the wider community by:

- distributing printed material about the Act at community events or service points
- providing links to state government resource materials on our website
- providing digital and/or printed information about the Act to our partner organisations.

Mpower has taken all practicable measures to ensure our staff have an awareness and understanding of the care relationship principles set out in the Act by:

- developing and implementing a staff awareness strategy about the principles in the Act and what they mean for staff
- induction and training programs offered by the organisation include discussion of the Act and the statement of principles therein.

Mpower has taken all practicable measures to consider the carer relationships principles set out in the Act when setting policies and providing services by:

- reviewing our employment policies such as flexible working arrangements and leave provisions to ensure that these comply with the statement of principles in the Act
- developing a satisfaction survey for distribution at assessment and review meetings between workers, carers and those receiving



A community inspired and empowered by people of all ages, abilities and differences

Mpower Inc.
71 Koroit Street
Warrnambool 3280



t: 03 5561 8111
f: 03 5561 8100
e: admin@mpower.org.au
w: www.mpower.org.au

