



OzChild

**Annual Report
2019-20**





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Our Vision

All children and young people are safe, respected, nurtured, and reach their full potential.



Our Purpose

OzChild supports vulnerable children and young people by providing healing, preventing abuse and neglect, and strengthening families.



Our Strategic Niche

We are thought leaders providing solutions to government and the sector that are front foot, collaborative, agile, strategic and systemic – with the sole objective to improve outcomes for children, young people and families.

FFT - Functional Family Therapy

FFT-CW - Functional Family Therapy-Child Welfare

MST - Multisystemic Therapy

MST-CAN - Multisystemic Therapy-Child Abuse and Neglect

TFCO - Treatment Foster Care Oregon



Who We Are

OzChild is a leading child welfare organisation committed to improving the lives of at-risk children, young people and families in our community for nearly 170 years.

We work hard every day to provide a better future for those in our care with the belief that every child and young person deserves the chance to shine.

We are focused on providing support for children and young people in foster or kinship care and keeping families together where possible through the delivery of evidence-based programs and services aimed at strengthening and repairing relationships.

OzChild was one of the first not-for-profit organisations to introduce evidence-based programs to Australia and have a proven record of working collaboratively with government to allocate investment in innovative solutions to achieve better outcomes for vulnerable children and young people.

“It is **no longer good enough** for a child to only get what is available. We strive to give a child what is needed and what the **evidence says works**”

– Dr Lisa J. Griffiths, Chief Executive Officer, OzChild

Today OzChild employs over **700 staff, carers and volunteers** in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and the ACT, delivering **programs and services** to over **10,000 children, young people and family members** each year.

Join Us



OzChild acknowledges the First Peoples of Australia as the traditional custodians of the land on which we work.

We acknowledge their cultures are living ones, which relate to their ongoing connection to all things living and non-living on land, sea and sky. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present. May our children of today lead us to a brighter tomorrow.





President's Message



“ Keeping our purpose front and centre through the challenging times of COVID-19 meant we maintained all our services while keeping everyone safe during a year unlike any other ”

Welcome to OzChild's Annual Report for 2019-20. Everything we do at OzChild is focused on supporting children, young people, and families.

OzChild has a rich history of providing care for children and young people dating back to 1851. While our programs and services have evolved, we have never lost sight of our vision that all children and young people are safe, respected, nurtured and reach their full potential.

The 2019-20 financial year was no different. While the year presented many external challenges we were well placed to take it in our stride and continue the work we do.

Supporting our staff and OzChild carers so they could focus on the work they do was at the forefront of our response to the pandemic. In early April, the Board came together to receive an update on how the organisation was tackling business continuity underpinning a continued focus on providing services to vulnerable children and young people, families, and our wonderful carers.

We were very impressed to learn of the practices and processes put in place, well ahead of many others, and the way in which all staff embraced a new way of working.

While uncertainty and fear were for many a real challenge, and the way in which we work changed in so many ways, our priority to support children and families remained.

We knew, despite the pandemic, that we must keep going and in many cases, do more. Programs and services had to continue as our number one priority. And we made plans so that we could provide greater support to foster and kinship carers. And we knew that our early intervention and prevention programs would play an important role in keeping families together.

For some children in out-of-home care the effects of childhood trauma, neglect or abuse make it difficult to manage their feelings, thoughts and behaviour. It has never been more important to ensure support services were in place to help carers manage and address behaviours brought about by the added pressures of social isolation.

Young people, in particular school age children, have been impacted significantly, facing challenges like stress and mental health, feelings of loneliness and helplessness, not to mention confusion brought about by a pandemic which imposed restrictions and changed routines.

With the disruption of informal support systems, protecting children and young people during this time became everybody's business. Maintaining contact with at-risk families was such an important part of ensuring the safety of children and young people during this time.

Having a team of committed and enthusiastic staff members with such a positive can-do attitude and willingness to pull together made a great difference to the way and the speed with which we were able to adapt.

While the coronavirus crisis shifted the way in which we delivered our services and provided support we did not stop any service delivery or support for carers, children and young people.

Utilising technology and ensuring carers, families and children had access to virtual case management and support ensured no one was left behind.

I would like to thank OzChild carers and staff who continued to go above and beyond in the face of the pandemic. The commitment and resilience they have demonstrated during the past 12 months has been inspiring.

And now as we look towards our 170th year, we expect to see the true impact of the pandemic on families and the effect of isolation on at-risk children and young people.

I believe the demand for support of vulnerable children, young people and families will increase, and that now, more than ever, we must ensure we can be there when they need us most.

I am incredibly grateful for the support we receive from our philanthropic and corporate partners, and thank everyone who shares our vision, supporting our work with a financial contribution, in-kind donation, or pro-bono support. Without your belief in what we do, we simply could not continue the important work we do.

It is my absolute privilege to represent the Board as President. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to my fellow Directors for their unwavering support, outstanding governance and genuine passion – you set the platform for the rest of the organisation to thrive, and ultimately enable our purpose.

And, to the Executive Leadership Team and fabulous staff at OzChild who work so tirelessly in pursuit of our vision, I acknowledge the commitment and dedication you display each and every day. Thank you, you are simply brilliant, and you are changing lives.

Finally, I thank our Chief Executive Officer, Lisa Griffiths for her continued support of the Board and myself during what has been, a truly extraordinary year. Your leadership continues to inspire many.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Helen Maxwell-Wright" followed by a stylized flourish.

Helen Maxwell-Wright FAICD
President



A message from our Chief Executive Officer



The devastation of the 2019-20 summer bushfires seems so long ago now, but the impact and lives lost far from forgotten. While it was impossible to comprehend the scale of destruction and loss at the time, we really had no idea

what the rest of the 2019-20 financial year had in store as COVID-19 brought the world to a grinding halt.

For the last few months of the financial year our lives were monopolised by COVID-19. Worry, loneliness, financial stress, fatigue, depression, and disruption affected us all, and it got me thinking - this 'once-in-a-lifetime' feeling for many of us is the everyday reality for at-risk children, young people and families across Australia who live with a constant feeling of displacement and uncertainty.

The coronavirus pandemic has placed families at greater risk of being separated and the risk of children entering care has increased significantly. Families are at breaking point, disadvantaged by a virus which has had a significant impact on all of us – individually, socially, and economically.

Motivation for us to keep going right? To make sure we could be there to support those facing vulnerable times, today, tomorrow and for a long time after a vaccine for COVID-19 is found.

As well as the threat of the virus, the mental health of our staff, carers, children, young people and the families we work with was a real concern. The reality that this pandemic would have a devastating long-term effect on vulnerable children, young people and families saw our staff and carers step up like never before.

Amongst the challenges brought upon by the pandemic the increasing uncertainty around funding is worrying. With state and federal government budget announcements delayed, COVID-19 certainly threw us several curve balls.

The full social impact and fallout of COVID-19 is still to come and with increased demand expected we know we have much work to do.

The number of potentially vulnerable children in Australia will increase significantly because of COVID-19 related unemployment and underemployment. Mitchell Institute² modelling estimates that in 2020 around 1.4 million preschool and schoolchildren are in families experiencing employment stress. This is up from 615,000 children in 2016 – a jump of around 130%.

Financial stress is a risk factor for vulnerability, though whether children are vulnerable depends on the presence of multiple risk factors.

There is no doubt significant financial stress combined with the experience of living through a global pandemic, social isolation, and temporary disruption to education all constitute risk factors for vulnerability.

Right now, we must be able to do more, and it begins with greater investment into evidence-based early intervention programs and certainty around program. We must challenge the current child welfare model to give at-risk children and young people what is needed, and what the evidence says works.

Since the inception of OzChild's evidence-based programs in 2016 - 1,195 families and nearly 3,000 children and young people have been supported, with a success rate of 90 per cent - preventing many hundreds, if not thousands of children from entering out-of-home care.

Helping children means making sure parents are supported, that they have access to and can engage in programs aimed at intervening early to prevent child abuse, neglect, or harm.

Evidence-based early intervention is a tried and tested solution. Instead of removing children we must shift our focus from crisis care to preventative care to create lasting generational change.

The support we receive from state and federal government, our philanthropic and corporate partners, and individuals who share our vision, not only confirms what the evidence is telling us; that these programs work, but affirms the positive returns being seen for the whole community. Thank you for your belief in the work we do. I know everyone has been doing it tough so support during the past financial year means so much.

I want to thank the *incredible* OzChild staff. Every role and every person at OzChild is important and the combined contribution of all staff is what makes us successful in our work. I am so proud of the workforce we have.

And our carers who work tirelessly to see better outcomes are achieved for children and young people and who, much like our staff were faced with incredible challenges throughout the year including juggling work with home schooling of children.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to the OzChild Board who played a crucial role in our preparedness to tackle the challenges of working at home, having supported significant investment in recent years to provide technology and resources which facilitated our ability to successfully work from anywhere at any time. This forethought has been of great benefit during this crisis. The commitment of the Board to see our people are set-up for success and able to achieve life changing results is unwavering.

And finally, to the Executive Leadership Team, you never cease to amaze me. Your diligent dedication and commitment to seeing all children and young people are safe, respected, nurtured and reach their full potential never stops. It is a privilege to work alongside such a passionate group of people.

If there is one thing 2020 has given us is the ability to diversify. The ability to adjust, pivot (yes, one of the most over used words of 2020!) and reflect.

I am grateful to have had the opportunity to slow down, and find the balance between what we must do, what we want to do and what we take for granted.

Yours in making a difference,



Dr Lisa J. Griffiths
Chief Executive Officer

¹ The Age, 10 September 2020 – Available from: www.theage.com.au/national/victoria/calls-for-help-surge-as-teens-mental-health-suffers-in-lockdown-20200910-p55u7m.html

² Noble, K., Hurley, P. & Macklin, S. (2020). COVID-19, employment stress and student vulnerability in Australia. Mitchell Institute for Education and Health Policy, Victoria University.

Available from: www.mitchellinstitute.org.au



Our Work

The 2019 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) Child Protection report released in March 2020 reminds us of the very real need for the organisation to continue to focus on delivering programs proven to work, programs backed by, and informed by evidence.

According to the AIHW 170,000 young Australians received child protection services during 2018-19, 115,000 were repeat clients. The total number of children in out-of-home care (OOHC) in Australia was close to 55,000 during 2018-19¹.

To accept the rising number of children being abused, neglected or harmed, or whose parents are unable to provide adequate care or protection is not good enough, instead of removing these children we must focus on working with families, intervening early to prevent removal or promote reunification.

While OzChild's In-Home Care programs play a critical part in supporting the child protection sector, we cannot continue to rely on the recruitment of foster or kinship carers to care for at-risk kids, we must address the underlying issues, the reasons why children are being placed in out-of-home care.

Intervening early to provide an immediate, intensive, and sustained intervention that suit the needs of each family to provide better support and achieve real and measurable outcomes, not only supports better outcomes for children and young people but contributes significant cost savings to community and government.

The long-term social benefits of preventing children from entering care are well established. Many young care-leavers are at increased risk of a range of poor social, educational and health outcomes including homelessness, mental illness, unemployment, substance misuse, contact with the justice system, early parenthood and low educational attainment².

Evidence-based programs that have a proven efficacy in treating the symptoms of child abuse and neglect through thoroughly assessing, understanding and targeting factors that put children at risk, are our best chance at turning the tide on the number of children receiving child protection services.

At OzChild we are focused on **Strengthening our Impact** through evidence-based programs. There is no doubt, children do better when they are with their families, and programs like SafeCare, FFT, FFT-CW, MST and MST-CAN and TFCO are not only strengthening our organisation's impact but interrupting the cycle of disadvantage many children and young people face.

Introducing evidence-based early intervention programs to Australia five years ago, our journey to deliver programs and services that work has only just begun. While we know these interventions are working, we also know we have only just scratched the surface, there is certainly more work to be done, and no doubt many more hundreds of families will be facing vulnerable times in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

“ The argument for greater investment into evidence-based models has never been more important. The need for early intervention and prevention programs will be greater than ever before, for a long time after the coronavirus crisis. There is significant value in larger scale investment of the continuum of these programs ”

– Dr Lisa J. Griffiths, Chief Executive Officer,
OzChild



¹ Child protection Australia 2018-19 data – Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

² See for example, evidence summarised by Campo, M., & Commerford, J. (2016). Supporting young people leaving out-of-home care (CFCA Paper No. 41), for the Australian Institute of Family Studies.

Responding to the *coronavirus* pandemic

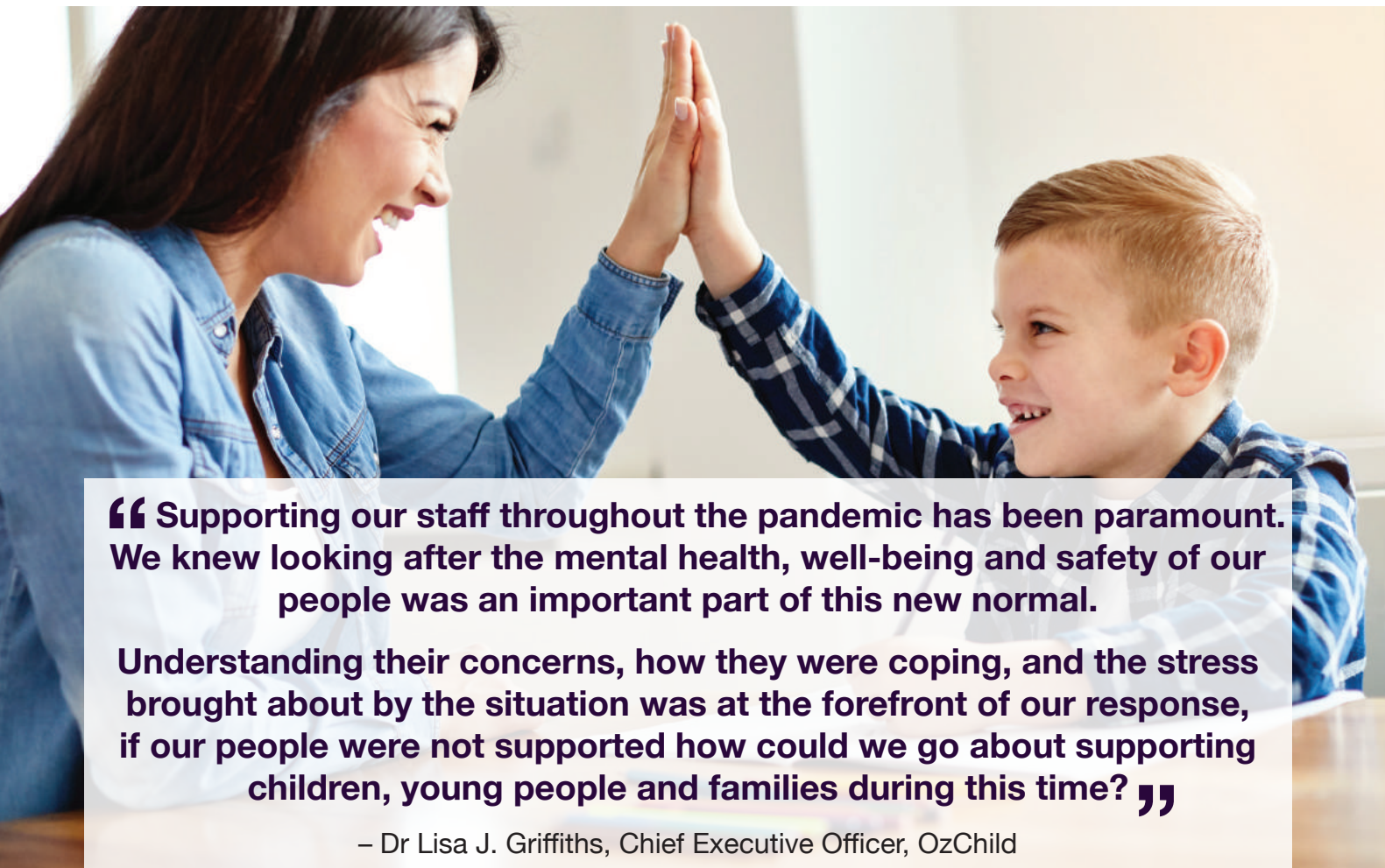
The last three months of the 2019-20 financial year saw the organisation take action early to ensure the health, safety and well-being of all clients and staff in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

Supporting children, young people, families, OzChild carers and staff throughout the pandemic meant as an organisation our processes, practices, and ways of working to deliver support and services had to evolve very quickly. Strict protocols were put in place to ensure staff and clients remained safe and the risk of spreading the virus was limited.

Closing all office sites in late March, our response was swift. Having 300 plus staff setup and ready to work effectively from home within a week was no easy feat but a testament to the infrastructure already in place, resources, and equipment available to staff.

The ability to shift our entire workforce to a working at home arrangement would not have been possible without the hard work of our People & Culture, IT & Infrastructure teams, and staff from our National Support Office who provided behind the scenes support to ensure a successful transition.

With staff working at home several initiatives were implemented to provide greater support, while staff were guided by a newly developed client visit risk assessment tool which provided a step by step guide to assessing the risk of proceeding with client face to face visits.



“ Supporting our staff throughout the pandemic has been paramount. We knew looking after the mental health, well-being and safety of our people was an important part of this new normal.

Understanding their concerns, how they were coping, and the stress brought about by the situation was at the forefront of our response, if our people were not supported how could we go about supporting children, young people and families during this time? ”

– Dr Lisa J. Griffiths, Chief Executive Officer, OzChild

Significant changes in service delivery were executed due to the need to adapt to social distancing rules and stay at home directives. While this presented some challenges, especially when beginning program delivery with new clients and facilitating contact between children and young people with birth family, the challenging circumstances also revealed just how resilient and creative carers, children, young people and our staff can be.

Disruptions to routines, school, sport, even access to support networks is hard enough at the best of times, but for children, young people and families facing vulnerable times, those who have experienced and are dealing with trauma, the pandemic added another layer of complexity. Being able to continue to support children, young people, families and carers during this time was vital.

With other support services like occupational therapy, counselling and speech therapy sessions becoming harder to access, ensuring our clients were equipped with the right tools was paramount.

Funds available thanks to the support of our philanthropic partners enabled the purchase of essential items like mobile phones, iPads, laptops, SIM cards and data packages to keep families connected. Staff also provided additional support helping to set-up email accounts and conducting tutorials on how to use platforms like Zoom, Skype, and Microsoft Teams to facilitate Telehealth and video calls and participate in online support sessions.

Advocating on behalf of carers with schools for children and young people to attend onsite rather than remote learning and for provision of necessary equipment for online learning played a large part in supporting carers.

While the continuation of support services was critical during the pandemic, ensuring support networks were in place was just as important.



Leaving nobody behind during the pandemic saw additional support put in place for OzChild carers. Self-care packages, in-home help support, online training and regular online coffee catchup sessions along with respite opportunities were well received by carers as we all ventured into uncharted territory.

Committed to keeping carers connected and supported regular Zoom Cuppa catch-ups were implemented, at the height of the pandemic sessions were scheduled four times per day for our carers and kids' activity 'boredom busters' sessions were also held via Zoom. These activities were aimed at engaging children in fun activities for 30 minutes to allow carers to take a break.

A special shoutout to OzChild foster carer, Anthony Denahy who established and facilitated the first ever Blokes Night catchup sessions which provided some much-needed support for OzChild carers.

Beginning in April and held fortnightly, this open forum for male foster carers aimed at providing emotional, practical and social support to others, provided a place where men could share information, get parenting tips, educate others, share solutions and unexpected successes, and maybe have a laugh or two as well.

Foster and kinship carers had access to a free mental health session via Zoom with Bryan Jeffery, a mental health specialist trainer to help them deal with the effects of the pandemic. This support was extended to staff with Bryan providing virtual training for our In-Home Care team members in Victoria.

In Victoria on 24 April 2020 Minister for Child Protection and Disability, Ageing and Carers, The Hon. Luke Donnellan MP announced a \$77.5 million investment package, which included financial support for carers and children in their care.


Aimed at providing practical support and services to minimise children, young people and families requiring more intensive intervention, a \$600 payment for carers was available to relieve some financial pressure brought about by the pandemic.

Additional costs associated with spending increased amounts of time at home saw power, gas and water bills skyrocket along with grocery bills increase. Carers reported having to increase data plans and purchase devices, printers, and other home office equipment to ensure students were equipped for learning from home.

OzChild staff within our foster care southern and western division teams and our kinship program provided brokerage for this funding, a welcome helping hand which was used to pay for essential household items like desks and office chairs, washing machines and dryers, the purchase of baby seats, face masks, iPads and to pay for tutoring, child care and psychology sessions.

Across OzChild's three In-Home Care programs within Victoria 117 carers accessed these funds which equated to almost \$60,000 worth of additional support, taking some much-needed pressure off during such uncertain times.





“ Whilst staff were initially uncertain about how telehealth would be received by clients, they are now expressing confidence in using technology to deliver services to clients. Whilst the transition had posed some challenges for families and therapists (working out how to set up skype meetings with clients and testing and troubleshooting different platforms to see what worked best for clients) it also highlighted some strengths in our clients. Clients have worked with the therapists to trial different technologies, and been patient when that has taken time, and families have been observed to help each other out, for example children teaching parents how to face time, during this process ”

– OzChild FFT-CW Team Leader, Lorna

OzChild recognises and thanks the Victorian Government for their investment into supporting kids through the COVID-19 crisis with this additional funding and the commitment made to expand the Home Stretch program in Victoria to support all young people in care who are due to turn 18 before December 2020, providing some certainty and much needed stability for these young people.

Achieving *better outcomes* for First Nations children, young people and families

OzChild's commitment to strengthening our impact through the implementation of evidence-based programs is changing lives. Ensuring these programs are delivered effectively, respectfully and in collaboration with local communities to support the cultural needs of First Nations children, young people and families is imperative.

We have made substantial progress on our journey towards reconciliation and an incredible amount of groundwork was undertaken during the 2019-20 financial year by inaugural Executive Director, Dhiyaan Mirri, Associate Professor Dea Delaney-Thiele and the Dhiyaan Mirri team.

Nationally, at 30 June 2019, **44,906** children were in out-of-home care, **17,979** were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children¹.

Of the **59,073** children aged 0–17 years who were on care and protection orders during 2018-19, **21,931** were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children¹.

And sadly, of the **107,772** children and young people who received child protection services during 2018-19 just over **51,000** were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander¹.

These figures are alarming and is why we must not rest on strengthening our practices to ensure First Nations children and young people remain connected safely to their families and their cultures.

Officially launching OzChild's Bridging Cultures Unit Dhiyaan Mirri in August 2019, the Dhiyaan Mirri team have led the organisation's charge to improve and strengthen the cultural responsiveness of our people; actively ensuring cultural needs are met for children and young people, developing the Cultural Practice Guide, and OzChild's National Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan.

We extend a heartfelt thanks to Dea for her guidance on our reconciliation journey and the establishment of our Bridging Cultures Unit, a vision Dea so proudly saw come to fruition during the year.

Cultural advice to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and families receiving OzChild services is being provided by our Dhiyaan Mirri team, ensuring the success of Dea's legacy.

Respecting cultural strengths and values is at the heart of the way we are now delivering programs to support our First Nation Peoples. In September 2019 Dhiyaan Mirri launched OzChild's first Cultural Practice Guide, which informs the way we deliver all programs and services and respectfully support First Nations children, young people, and families.

Ensuring OzChild programs are culturally responsive to our First Nation Peoples, Dhiyaan Mirri's aim is to work with all OzChild teams to endeavour to:

Keep First Nations children and young people connected to their families, communities, cultures, and country.

Our commitment to our frontline services involves a layered response which is driven by the **Strategic Priorities of our Bridging Cultures Unit Dhiyaan Mirri, our Reconciliation Action Plan, OzChild's online cultural awareness training "Moments in Time", and through the work of our Aboriginal Cultural Advisors supporting frontline service delivery.**

¹ Child protection Australia 2018-19 data – Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

In respect to working effectively with our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people, and their families, the following three strategic priorities for 2019-2022 guide the day to day operations of Dhiyaan Mirri:

Strategic Priority One - To enhance the cultural capability of OzChild staff and carers to manage and deliver culturally safe, sustainable, relevant, and responsive services.

Strategic Priority Two - Develop strong and effective relationships and or partnerships with all major stakeholders.

Strategic Priority Three - To monitor the quality and efficacy of OzChild services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, young people and their families.

The First Nations Strategic Forum was attended by community representatives, local Elders and OzChild staff, along with OzChild's President of the Board and the Vice President who is the Chair of OzChild's Cultural Competence Committee of the Board. Throughout the day attendees were taken on a journey hearing about the programs being delivered, the challenges faced, what has been working well for First Nations children and young people and where we could be doing better.



OzChild's Executive Leadership Team at the launch of Dhiyaan Mirri

Official Launch of Dhiyaan Mirri: The long-awaited official launch of Dhiyaan Mirri, OzChild's Bridging Cultures Unit was celebrated during a formal dinner held in Penrith NSW on Tuesday 20 August 2019. The beautiful Dhiyaan Mirri artwork (above) was uncovered and presented by artist, Rod MacIntosh. The artwork hangs proudly at our Blacktown office, home to Dhiyaan Mirri.

The dinner was followed by OzChild's inaugural First Nations Strategic Forum which was held on 21 August 2019. The Official Acknowledgement to Country was provided by one of the oldest surviving Kamilaroi Elders 'Uncle' John Delaney. 'Uncle' John provided his formal permission to use the Kamilaroi language for the naming of Dhiyaan Mirri.



Uncle John Delaney with Artist Rod MacIntosh

Our journey to supporting the self-determination of First Nation Peoples has only just begun. Our commitment to reconciliation continues as we develop our people building a workforce comprised of teams that are diverse in background and experience. And we remain committed to fostering genuine and meaningful relationships built on trust with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, including local communities where we deliver services.

Our vision to see First Nations children and young people have access to services and are able to fully participate in every aspect of life they choose drives our determination to see better outcomes achieved for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples.



Dhiyaan Mirri
Bridging Cultures

In-Home Care

Delivering a stable family life for children and young people

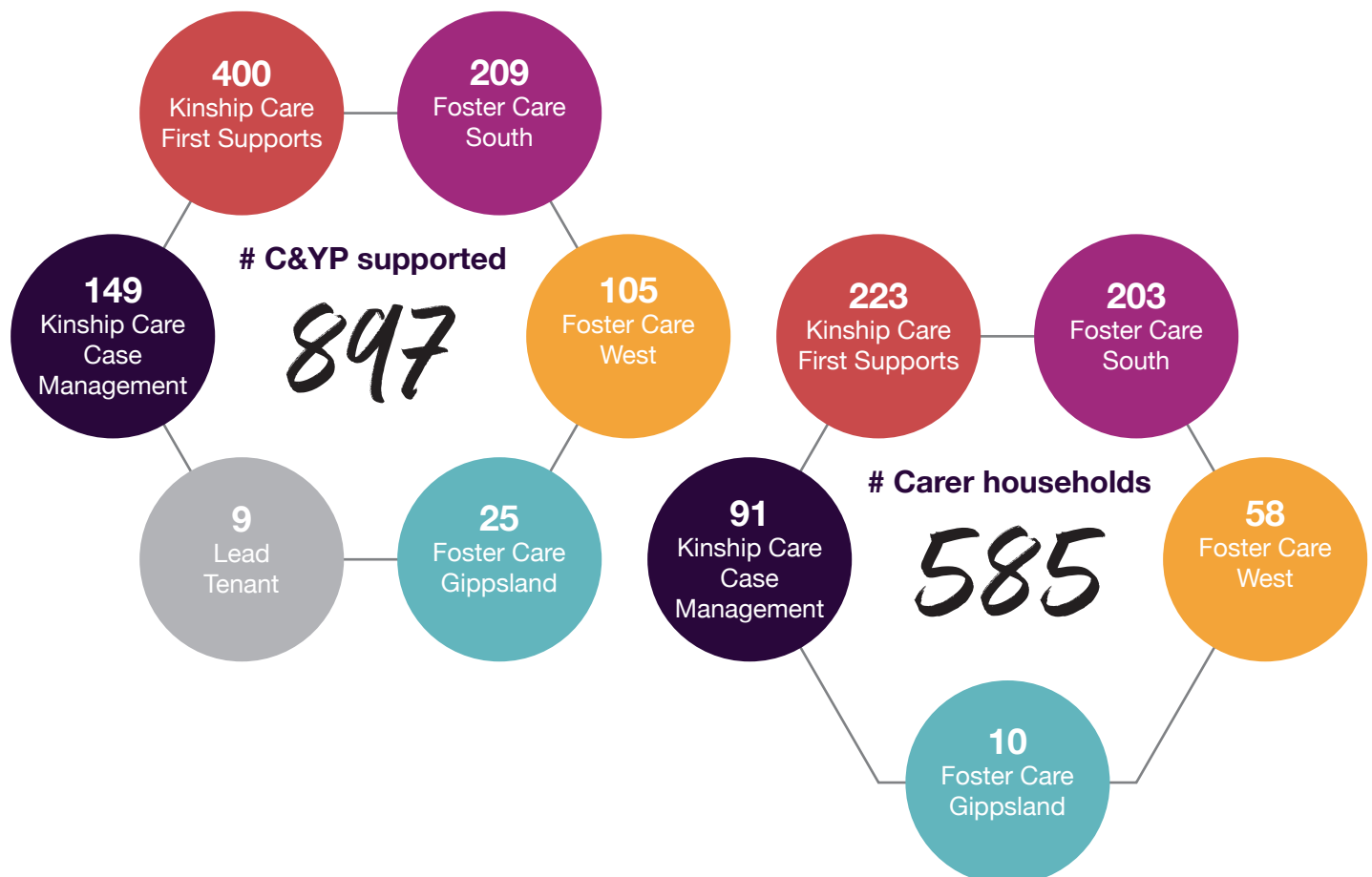
In Australia 59,073 children aged 0–17 years were on care and protection orders, of these, 44,906 children were in out-of-home care (at 30 June 2019).¹ OzChild's In-Home Care Programs play a critical part in supporting the child protection sector, keeping children and young people safe, respected, and nurtured so they can reach their full potential.

For more than 30 years OzChild has been providing foster and kinship care support within the City of Greater Dandenong and Frankston, and more recently in the Gippsland region and western Melbourne; included in which is OzChild's Lead Tenant program.

Supporting more than 270 foster care households and over 300 kinship families throughout Victoria during the 2019-20 financial year, OzChild's In-Home Care team, in partnership with our valuable village of carers provided a safe and nurturing home for close to 1,000 children and young people (C&YP) throughout the year.

OzChild's Lead Tenant program in western Melbourne provides semi-independent out-of-home care accommodation for young people aged 16-18 and promotes independent living skills in a safe and supported environment.

During the year nine young people were supported through the program by a volunteer adult who provides day-to-day guidance and mature role modelling, with additional support provided by case managers from OzChild's Yarraville office and youth workers.



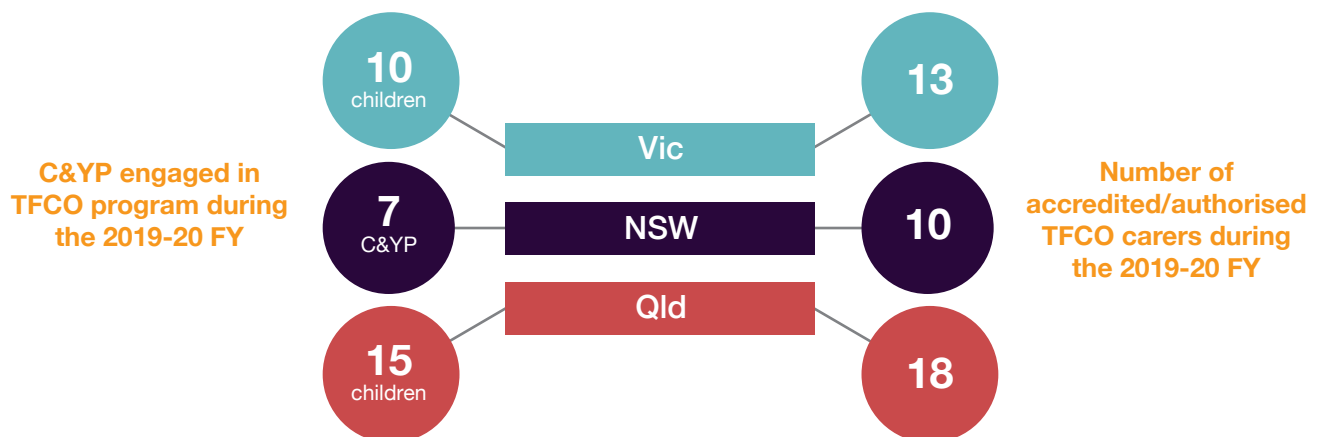
In the ACT we work in partnership with Barnardos and the Australian Childhood Foundation to provide foster and kinship care. More than 75 children and young people were supported throughout the year.

In Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland children and young people (C&YP) are supported through OzChild's Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO) program. OzChild is the only agency currently delivering TFCO in Australia.



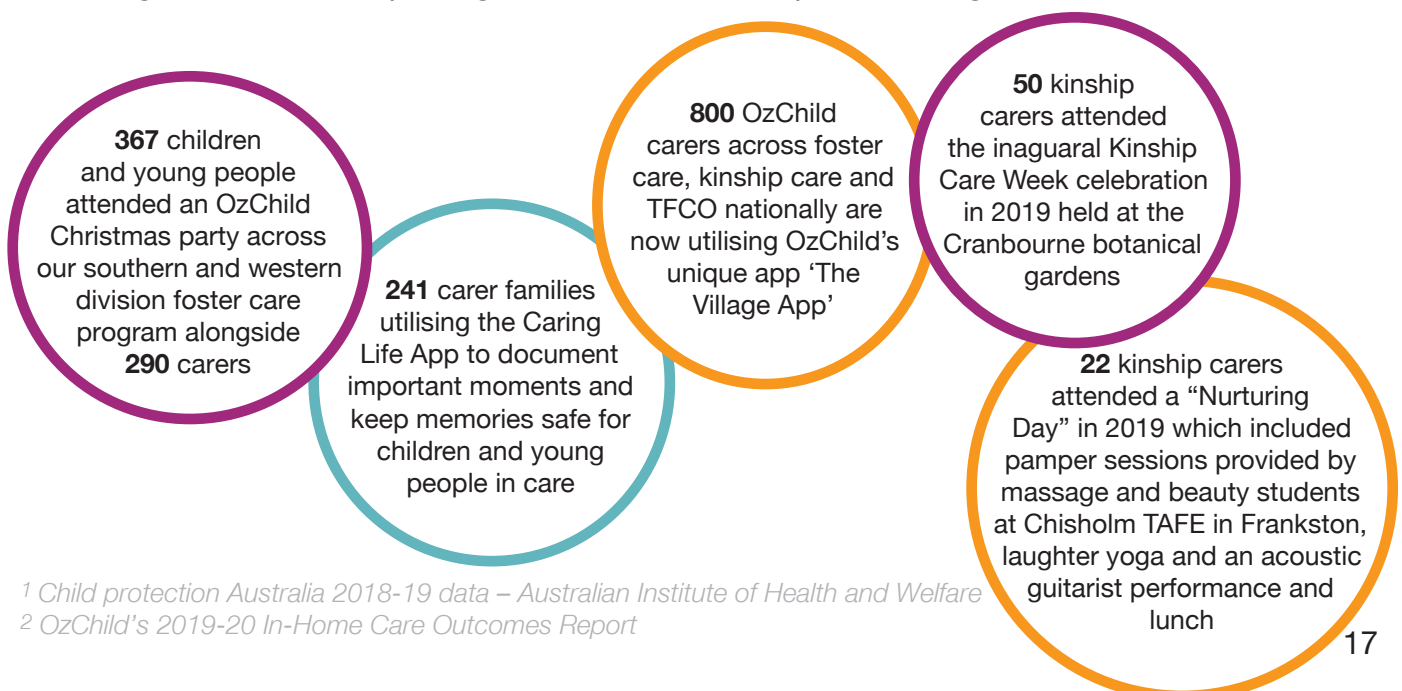
80% of C&YP who graduated from TFCO, successfully progressed to lower level care arrangements²

(i.e family reunification or a long term placement with a foster carer).



TFCO is an evidence-based therapeutic foster care program for children and young people with severe emotional and/or behavioural difficulties. It is an alternative to residential care and alternative care arrangements. The program is especially suited to children and young people who have experienced multiple placement breakdowns and who need intensive support for up to 12 months. The aim of the program is to reunify children and young people with their biological family (including kinship carers) or place in lower intensity long-term foster care.

With close to 50,000 children and young people in out-of-home care nationally, being able to answer the call to place a child with a carer has never been more important. The challenge of recruiting foster carers or placing children into a kinship care arrangement remains.



¹ Child protection Australia 2018-19 data – Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

² OzChild's 2019-20 In-Home Care Outcomes Report

Thriving Families *Change Lives*

In February 2020 OzChild's Chief Executive Officer, Dr Lisa J. Griffiths launched the organisation's very first carer strategy, Thriving Families *Change Lives*. This strategy has given our teams very clear focus on how we can better support OzChild carers and their family members to ensure their long-term wellbeing and happiness.

Because, caring for our carers is the least we can do!



OzChild CEO, Dr Lisa J. Griffiths with foster carers, Sue Gibson (left) and Helen Fox (right)

We know carers are working 24/7 to ensure children and young people are given the greatest chance at a brighter future, and so often they are supported themselves by a household of family members who care as much as they do. That is why our Thriving Families carer strategy forms an integral part of everything we do - to ensure the whole carer household is supported and thrives in our care.

Providing exceptional home-based care for children and young people to thrive by empowering and supporting our carers is at the heart of our Thriving Families carer strategy.

Improving the day-to-day carer experience by embedding carers into our organisational culture, program development and community building, embodies our partnership in action.

How do we do this?

By ensuring all staff live and breathe our carer strategy, embedding our partnership values in everything we do means we are true partners in care. Setting our carers up for success means we collaborate, listen, and involve carers in program planning, and most importantly we build and support a community of thriving carer households offering opportunities for training and development and social interaction.

Partnership in Action

Working in partnership with our carers means ensuring our communication is open and honest and has seen us seek regular feedback from carers, using it to inform the way we work alongside them.

Offering tailored support for carers and family members is important to us. There is no one size fits all when it comes to providing support and that's why talking with our carers to develop the kind of support that works for them is essential.

Working in true partnership with our carers ensures they can focus on their caring role. It means our carers have a voice, and are valued as equal partners, right across the organisation.

Supporting our carers and every member of the carer household, ensuring the long-term wellbeing and happiness of everyone will provide children and young people with placement stability while preparing them for reunification or permanent care. It also means together we can truly make a difference to a child's experience in care.

We thank the following carers for their valuable contribution to developing our carer strategy.

Thank you, Laura Dillon, Sarah Gyopar, Robyn DiPilla, Helen Fox, Audrey Bagshaw, Kaitlin Pucovsky, Lyndy Denholm, Lisa Laing, Anthony Denahy, Emma Stirling, Linda Perrin, Nicole Mackay, Lynne Graham, Sue Gibson and Joan Graham.

If you would like to make a difference in the life of a vulnerable child or young person visit [ozchild.org.au](https://www.ozchild.org.au) to find out more about becoming a carer.



OzChild carers *Recognised*

Every year we recognise and acknowledge the commitment and dedication of OzChild carers at our annual Carer Dinner normally held in June. Sadly, events scheduled to take place during the latter part of the 2019-20 financial year were not able to go ahead as planned, but this did not stop us celebrating our foster and kinship carers.

Nominations from OzChild case managers for the annual Carer Awards are always plentiful, a testament to our incredibly strong village of carers. We want to congratulate every carer who was nominated for these awards and thank you all for the incredible difference you are making.

The Elizabeth Tudor Award recognises the outstanding dedication and commitment of a foster carer within our In-Home Care program in Southern Melbourne and Gippsland in the spirit of an inspirational lady, the late Elizabeth Tudor a remarkable OzChild volunteer.

The recipients of the 2020 Elizabeth Tudor were Janelle Crossett and Russell Jones.

Nell and Russ have been OzChild foster carers since early 2015. Two weeks into their foster care journey two siblings entered their world, and they remain with them today.

Over the past 12 months, the family have experienced major highs and lows, together the couple have continued to provide unwavering love, commitment, and support to the children.

Both Russ and Nell are very strong advocates for the children in their care, navigating through challenging times to ensure their voices are heard.

Nell and Russ believe in giving the kids the best experiences they can, recently undertaking a three-month long trip in a campervan around Australia together. This was the trip of a lifetime for the family.

Nell and Russ shared a camel ride with the kids on their trip of a lifetime



For the first time in 2020 the Jillian Wain Award was included in the OzChild Carer Awards.

This award recognises the outstanding dedication and commitment of a foster carer within our In-Home Care program in western Melbourne in the spirit of a great advocate for children and families – Jillian Wain.

The recipients of the inaugural Jillian Wain Award were Bob and Barb Paterson.



Bob and Barb started their foster care journey 25 years ago after responding to a newspaper advertisement for a carer wanted for a child who had a physical and intellectual disability and high medical needs. Fierce advocates for biological families of children in care Bob and Barb are committed to siblings being placed together and are extremely supportive of birth families – going above and beyond to ensure the children they care for have the chance to know their parents – and vice versa. The couple put together monthly communication/life story books for the children's parents, ensuring a bond is maintained.

A couple, who without a doubt, have an enormous amount of love to give Bob and Barb are extremely deserving recipients of the inaugural Jillian Wain Award.

The recipient of the JC Butler Award was Teresa Harding.

The JC Butler Award celebrates the role of OzChild kin and kith carers in the spirit of the late JC Butler, a founding father of OzChild. In 2020 Teresa Harding was the very worthy recipient of the JC Butler Award.

In choosing the recipient of this award the qualities held by JC Butler himself are considered. While JC's qualities were abundant, above all he had a strong sense of service to others, with strong family and social values. JC was compassionate, committed, and humble.

Teresa exudes all these qualities and more. Teresa and her husband Graham care for two of Graham's third cousins. Both young people have a significant trauma history.

Despite a busy professional life Teresa never misses a meeting for the boys and is very proactive regarding their care and is committed to ensuring the boys remain connected to their brother and other family members. Teresa's selfless commitment to the two boys in her care and her determination to ensure their voices are heard is truly commendable.

Teresa exemplifies the qualities of the Award's name sake, she is extremely humble, compassionate, and committed to family. But above all she provides unwavering love and support to the two young people in her life - a very deserving winner of this prestigious award.



The **Victorian Protecting Children Awards** take place each year to recognise and celebrate dedicated teams and individuals working within government and community services who make protecting children their priority every day.

In September 2019 OzChild foster carers, **Nicole and Ross Mackay** were recognised for their tireless dedication to providing care for more than 27 children since 2009. In addition, **Emma Stirling and Anthony Denahy** were awarded the Minister's Award for Innovation for the CaringLife platform they developed which provides a platform for children in foster care to keep memories like photos, videos, school reports, artwork and much more, ensuring special moments are captured when more often than not these things are lost when a young person moves through different placements.

Nicole and Ross Mackay with Child Protection Minister, Luke Donnellan



“I was delighted to see Nicole and Ross awarded the carer award, their dedication and commitment to the children in their care is second to none. Not only have they cared for 27 children since becoming foster carers in 2009, Nicole and Ross are passionate about ensuring the children in their care remain connected to their culture, community and extended family”

– Dr Lisa J. Griffiths, Chief Executive Officer, OzChild

“ Last night was a double celebration, not only were we proud to see Nicole and Ross receive the carer award - Emma and Anthony winning the Minister’s Award for Innovation was the icing on the cake ”

– Dr Lisa J. Griffiths, Chief Executive Officer, OzChild



Emma Stirling and Anthony Denahy with Child Protection Minister, Luke Donnellan



Supporting children and young people by doing what the evidence says works!

In Australia, the child welfare system is hardwired to remove children and young people in crisis by putting them into foster or residential care once their home is no longer safe for them. By the time they're removed, they have already experienced trauma, and the statistics say that once removed they then have a greater likelihood of ending up in the youth justice system or unemployed.

OzChild has been delivering evidence-based models since 2016. These programs sit within our Prevention and Strengthening Families service delivery portfolio.

The primary goal of these services is to empower families to repair and strengthen their relationships to create a safer home environment that ensures the well-being of children and young people.

OzChild's Prevention and Strengthening Families services are focused on providing services to children and their families who present with vulnerabilities that may have led to (or are likely to lead to) child protection intervention, due to the risk of child abuse and neglect. This means the families OzChild work with present with a number of factors that put children at greater risk, such as mental health, family violence, drug and alcohol misuse, disabilities, homelessness and intergenerational trauma that often lead to poorer parenting and poorer outcomes for their children. Most families present with more than one of these risk factors.

During the 2019-20 financial year OzChild delivered six evidence-based models within four states and territories:

- SafeCare - Vic
- Functional Family Therapy (FFT) - NSW
- Functional Family Therapy – Child Welfare (FFT-CW) - Vic, NSW, ACT
- Treatment Foster Care Oregon (TFCO) - NSW, Vic, Qld
- Multisystemic Therapy – (MST) - Vic
- Multisystemic Therapy – Child Abuse and Neglect (MST-CAN) - NSW

Diverting children from out-of-home care, preserving family relationships and keeping kids with family is not only the right thing to do, there is no doubt, children do better when they are with their families, and programs like SafeCare - a structured training program to help parents of young children at risk of neglect and abuse - help to make this a reality.

OzChild was the first organisation to be accredited in Australia to deliver SafeCare, and the first to implement SafeCare in Victoria. Not only is the program keeping kids with family, SafeCare aims to prevent maltreatment and improve health, development, and welfare of children (aged 0-5 years old) in at-risk families. It uses knowledge and skill development to address parental behaviours associated with child maltreatment, with an emphasis on neglect.

Since program delivery began OzChild has had more than 150 referrals to the program¹. By post treatment 87 per cent of families (33 families) reduced hazards in their home by 60 per cent or more⁷.

At the end of treatment 100 per cent of parents were able to correctly identify when they needed to take their child to the emergency department and 100 per cent knew when it was appropriate to take a child to the GP, compared to 32 per cent pre intervention².

Similarly, FFT-CW has shown remarkable outcomes strengthening relationships in at-risk families by equipping them with skills and strategies to manage challenging behaviours and situations. Already, over 800 Australian families have successfully graduated, with a 95 per cent average of children and young people remaining with their families in the last 12 months³.

In Victoria, OzChild has been successfully delivering FFT-CW in Bayside Peninsula, Outer Eastern and Goulburn regions. Having engaged 226 families, 86 per cent of these families successfully remained together³.

There is no doubt, greater investment into early intervention programs aimed at keeping families together is now well and truly overdue.



“ In this time of great disruption, all industries are reforming, we must challenge the current child welfare model to give at-risk children and young people what is needed, and what the evidence says works ”

– Dr Lisa J. Griffiths.

¹ This includes cases that were active at some point during the 2019-20 financial year. This also encompasses families that moved to another catchment, were no longer eligible, moved to another service, did not engage, removed consent prior to treatment, partially completed treatment or fully completed treatment. It also refers to families that were active in the program at 30 June 2020.

² OzChild Prevention & Strengthening Families Outcomes Report 2019-20

³ OzChild program data collected 1 October 2018 – 30 March 2020

Measuring our Outcomes

To understand the impact of the work we do, each year we undertake an evaluation of our In-Home Care programs and our Prevention and Strengthening programs.

Impact and evaluation measures capture outcomes being achieved for children, young people and their family members to understand if the work we do is contributing to our three main outcomes of **Safety**, **Permanency** and **Well-being**.

First Priority – Safety

OzChild's first priority is to ensure the safety of children, young people and families who access our services, so they can feel safe at home and live free from family violence and child abuse and neglect.

Second Priority – Permanency

Ensuring children can live in safe and loving homes with family who provide for their safety and wellbeing is our second priority. Reducing the need for out-of-home care placements for children and young people provides permanency for a child and the family.

Third Priority – Well-being

In order to ensure children are healthy and happy and parents can meet their children's needs, a broad range of outcomes relating to child and family well-being are measured, including family functioning, emotional and physical health, and social and cultural connections.

Measuring the mental health of parents and children, child and parent interactions and parenting stress across all OzChild's preventative programs is equally important.

Evaluating the outcomes being achieved for children and young people in OzChild in-home care programs

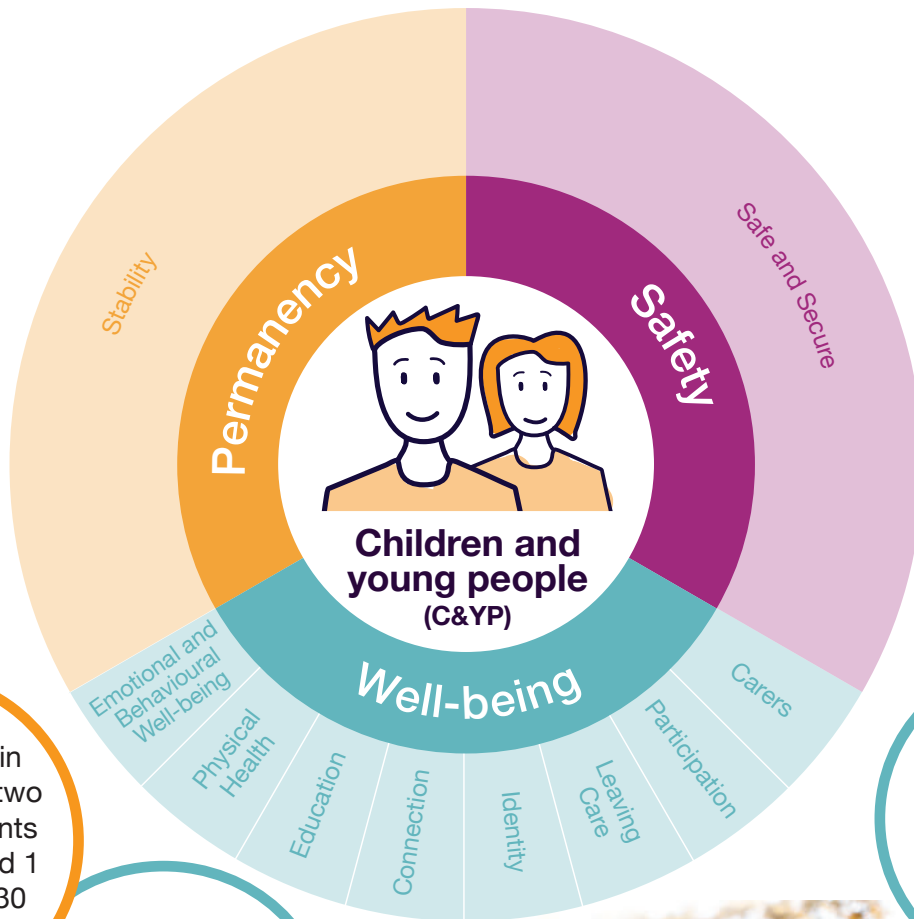
Through the evaluation of our In-Home Care programs we seek to understand a number of outcomes:

- Is OzChild helping vulnerable children, adults, and their families?
- Does OzChild bring about positive change in their lives?
- Is OzChild achieving positive outcomes in and through its work?
- And ultimately, is OzChild achieving its purpose of: healing, preventing abuse and neglect, and strengthening families?

When reviewing the effectiveness of our In-Home Care programs in achieving in the three primary domain outcomes of **Safety**, **Permanency** and **Well-being** feedback is received from children and young people, carers and program staff, and case worker relationships are measured.

Highlights from 2019-20

In-Home Care Outcomes Report



82% of C&YP in foster care had two or less placements during the period 1 July 2019 and 30 April 2020

96% of C&YP surveyed reported having a significant adult in their life they can rely on

81% of C&YP aged 15-17 participated in their leaving care planning

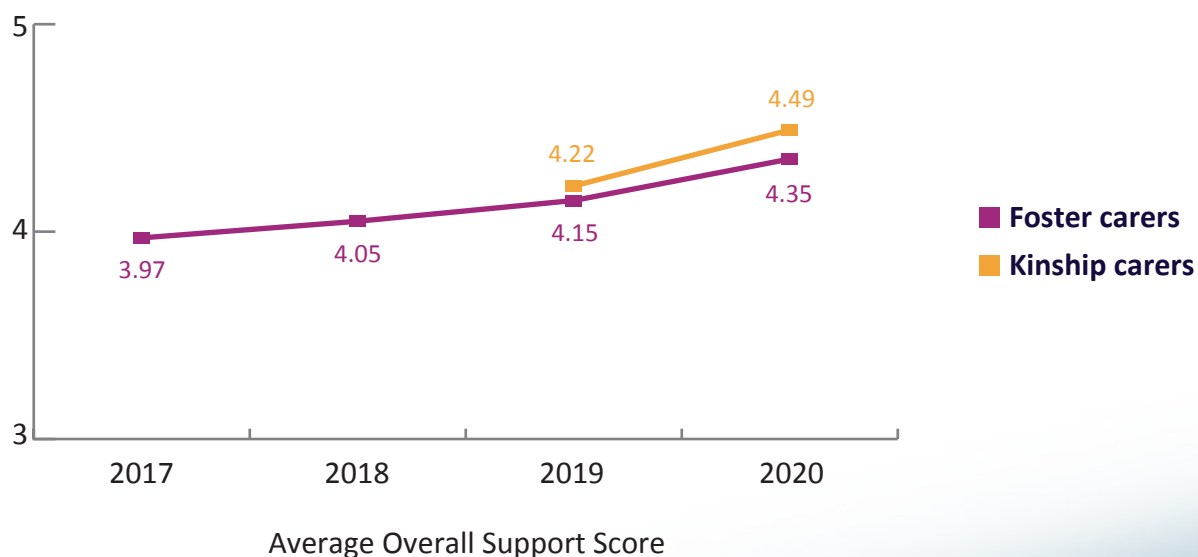
72% of C&YP described their physical health as 'Very good'

98% of C&YP in OzChild IHC services reported feeling 'Very safe' or 'Somewhat safe' in their placements

89% of First Nations C&YP had either regular contact with their siblings in care or with other family members



Carer satisfaction with OzChild's overall *support*, 2020



87% of carers felt they were 'Mostly' or 'Always' consulted about decisions that may affect them, children and young people in their care and/or their family

86% of foster carers were 'Satisfied or very satisfied' with the training provided by OzChild to support them to meet the needs of children and young people in their care

87% of OzChild carers are either 'Satisfied or very satisfied' with their overall relationship with OzChild

83% of kinship carers were 'Satisfied or very satisfied' with the information provided by OzChild to support them to meet the needs of children & young people in their care

83% of carers are 'Satisfied or very satisfied' with OzChild's communication regarding children & young people in their care (e.g. contact arrangements, meetings, transport, case planning)

Understanding the impact of our early intervention and prevention programs

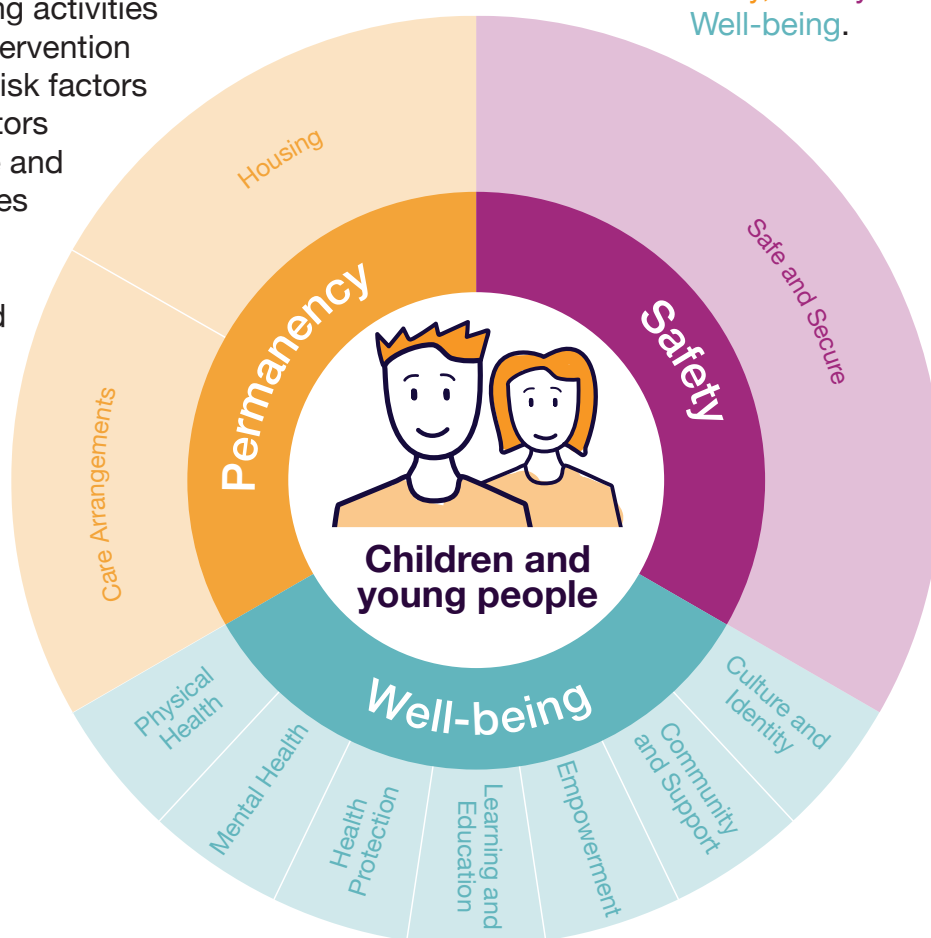
OzChild is committed to ensuring that through the collection of data the impact and outcomes of services to children, young people and their families is known and reported.

This process is part of our commitment to **Strengthen our Impact** and nurture an evidence informed continuous quality improvement culture. At the conclusion of the year we engaged with children, young people and their family members who participated in our Family Preservation programs to ensure the work we are doing is contributing to our three main outcome objectives of **Permanency**, **Safety** and **Well-being**.

Prevention and strengthening activities undertaken by OzChild's intervention services intend to address risk factors and enhance protective factors associated with child abuse and neglect. Prevention strategies can be aimed at different levels such as societal, community, relationship and individual (AIFS, 2017a).

Most OzChild Prevention and Strengthening Families programs address the risk factors and enhance protective factors at the individual and relationship levels. For example, substance abuse (individual) and family conflict (relationship). However, Prevention and Strengthening Families services also provide community level strategies such as linking families to social supports, and health and social services where appropriate.

To determine whether prevention and strengthening strategies employed by OzChild are effective, thereby achieving outcomes for children and their families, OzChild routinely collects data in relation to the primary outcome domains: **Permanency**, **Safety** and **Well-being**.



The review period for the 2019-20 outcomes report was between 1 July 2019 and 30 April 2020

The programs in scope for the 2019-20 outcomes report included FFT, FFT-CW, MST, MST-CAN, SafeCare, Intensive Therapeutic Program (ITP) and Families First.

Key Findings

Across the seven programs in scope for the 2019-20 Outcomes Report 1,342 family referrals were active during 2019-2020. Of these 239 were First Nations families.

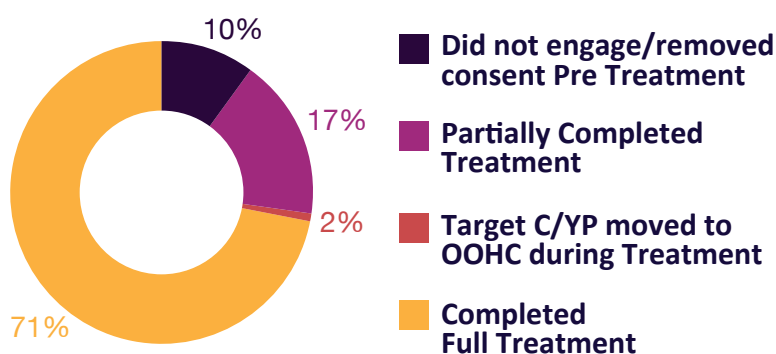
Program name	FFT NSW	FFT CW ACT	FFT CW NSW	FFT CW VIC	MST VIC	MST CAN NSW	Safe Care VIC	ITP VIC	Families First VIC	TOTAL
Non-Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	61	N/A ¹	284	284	53	22	122	252	25	1103
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	15	47	79	43	1	6	32	13	3	239

Permanency

Care arrangements

71 per cent of families in PSF services completed full treatment.

Two per cent of target children and young people moved to out-of-home care during treatment.



All families (in MST and FFT) who completed full treatment, had young people living at home by treatment completion.



Housing

80 per cent of children and families (in ITP and Families First) had stable housing by program closure. This was a **26 per cent improvement** from intake.



¹FFT-CW ACT is not applicable as this program only accepts First Nations Families



Safety

Safe and secure

80 per cent of children and families (in ITP, Families First and SafeCare) were safe overall by program closure. This was a **51 per cent improvement** from intake.



87 per cent of families (in SafeCare) had reduced at **least 60 per cent** of safety hazards in the home.



75 per cent of children and families (in ITP, Families First and SafeCare) had strong or adequate parent/child interactions by program closure. This was a **48 per cent improvement** from intake.



All families (in MST) had improvement to family functioning by **a moderate or great extent** by program closure.



At least **83 per cent** of parents (in FFT-CW and FFT) noted that their family's functioning was somewhat better, a lot better or very much better.



87 per cent of children and families (in ITP, Families First and SafeCare) were safe in their community by program closure. This was a **26 per cent improvement** from intake.



At least **77 per cent** of adolescents' (in FFT-CW and FFT) noted that their family's functioning was somewhat better, a lot better or very much better.



Well-being

Physical health

83 per cent of caregivers (in ITP, Families First and SafeCare) were adequately managing their child(ren)'s physical health by program closure. This was a **13 per cent improvement** from intake.



All parents (in SafeCare) were able to manage their young child(ren)'s health symptoms and respond appropriately by program closure.

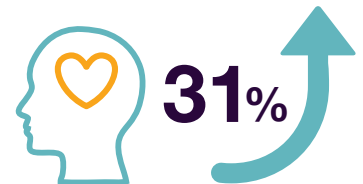


Mental health

Approximately one in two children and young people aged 4-17 years (in FFT, FFT-CW, MST and MST-CAN), were at risk of clinically significant mental health problems at program closure. This was a **23 per cent decline** from intake.



31 per cent of parents' (in FFT and FFT-CW) mental health improved by program closure.

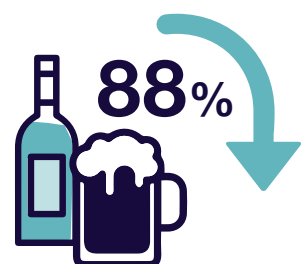


Health protection

81 per cent of children (in ITP, Families First and SafeCare) had baseline or strong overall well-being by program closure. This was a **43 per cent improvement** from intake.



88 per cent of young people (in MST) had decreased substance abuse to some extent by program closure.



Learning and education

78 per cent of children (in ITP, Families First and SafeCare) had baseline or strong overall parental capabilities by program closure. This was a **44 per cent improvement** from intake.

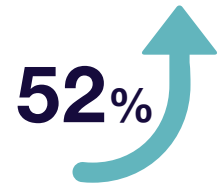


85 per cent of target child(ren) were in school or working by program completion.



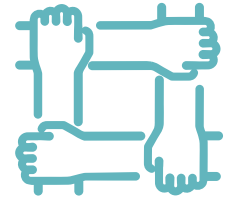
Empowerment

81 per cent of children and their families (in ITP, Families First and SafeCare) demonstrated self-sufficiency by program closure. This was a **52 per cent improvement** from intake.



Community and support

85 per cent of children and their families (in ITP, Families First and SafeCare) demonstrated connection to community and access to social supports by program closure. This was a **46 per cent improvement** from intake.





Philanthropic Partnerships

The national peak body Philanthropy Australia defines philanthropy as *“the planned and structured giving of time, information, goods and services, voice and influence, as well as money, to improve the well-being of humanity and the community”*. We are thankful a growing number of trusts, foundations and charitable funds share OzChild’s commitment to helping the children of today lead us to a brighter tomorrow. Their contributions both improve the efficacy of our programs and help ensure every child and young person has the chance to shine.

Supporting carers and families to thrive

OzChild is proud of its new carer strategy *“Thriving Families Change Lives”*. It outlines OzChild’s commitment to carers and the children and young people they care for by strengthening our organisational culture, program focus and community support, and by contributing to a robust system that honours carers.

To support the Thriving Families strategy action plan, philanthropic support was sought to help enable a suite of integrated supports for carers across four domains: practical, community, emotional and training. Supports within the practical domain focus on minimising practical barriers to ongoing care placements and offsetting daily hardship, whereas the community domain, once pandemic restrictions allow, will concentrate on enabling carer communities and peer-to-peer support, and offering carer pamper activities and events that ‘value’ carers. Supports in the emotional domain will centre on provision of debriefing and counselling services for carers and their families, whereas the training domain will use carer voice in help determine additional and relevant carer training needs.

Since the launch of the strategy in February 2020, grants from seven philanthropic bodies have already been secured to help implement Thriving Families. As a result, throughout 2020-21 it is expected more than 100 carer families will directly benefit from Thriving Families: the generous support of these donors making this possible.

Philanthropic support easing the effects of a pandemic

In addition to the strategic commitment by our philanthropic partners to improving out-of-home care system outcomes, OzChild also received some much-needed immediate financial support in response to the COVID-19 pandemic from the philanthropic sector.

The pandemic exposed the technology divide in our community, with many families OzChild supports lacking the technology resources and internet access to fully participate in the virtual delivery of telehealth, OzChild case management and therapeutic support or in remote home-based education for children and young people.

Responding to a call for support to help provide devices such as tablets and iPads, and SIM cards to enable internet access, five trusts and foundations, four of them new to OzChild, contributed funds to enable the COVID-19 Technology for Carers initiative. This program directly supported more than 50 families.

Susan is a 16 year-old currently attending TAFE and working part-time. The new iPad funded by this program meant she could still attend all her classes online during COVID-19 and now has a portable device she can take with her to TAFE to do her classwork. This has helped her a lot with her studies and has meant she was able to submit all her work on time. Susan has also used the device to keep in touch with her friends who go to her previous school; during COVID-19 she hasn't been able to see them and having access to video calling means she was still able to maintain these social connections, lifting her spirits, ensuring she did not feel so isolated. The iPad was something her kinship carers could not afford as they are caring for three other children. Susan was very grateful for the device.



19 year-old Tamsin* is a young mother who had left NSW fleeing an abusive childhood and was residing with the father of their newborn baby. Tamsin was the beneficiary of a laptop funded by this program. The father has an Intellectual disability and as new parents, the young family is incredibly vulnerable. The laptop enabled Tamsin to continue her online learning so she could complete VCAL. It also enabled her to take personal control of their finances after past financial and emotional abuse by another family member. Support services were at last able to Skype and Zoom therapeutic intervention support. Tamsin could also maintain contact with interstate family members. The young parents were empowered to manage their affairs using the laptop which assisted their autonomy. The maternal child health nurse could contact her via telehealth to monitor the baby's development while visitation was limited due to the pandemic.



Tamsin was so grateful for the computer. She has suffered such extreme adversity for someone so young. She didn't have the financial means to purchase a computer herself. Using the device, she was able to connect with culture and her supports. This is so important to enable the required service provision to support the family remaining together in a safe and stable manner. She said "Thank you Thank you. **I can't believe that I have a computer. I never thought I would have one of my own, ever.** I don't feel so different now from other teenagers."

**Names have been changed and models used in imagery to protect the identity of our clients.*

Supporting educational goals through *scholarships*



OzChild's two scholarship programs, **Chance to Shine** and **Pincus Family Foundation Scholarship**, are both entirely funded by philanthropic partners, and focus on equity.

The Chance to Shine program seeks to ensure children and young people in foster care or kinship care, or those at risk of entering out-of-home care, can access support to offset the costs of education, both within school, and lessons and community participation beyond school.

The program had eight different philanthropic supporters during the 2019-20 financial year, some of whom prefer anonymity, and others who, like the Matana Foundation for Young People and the RM Ansett Trust hope their example encourages the support of other philanthropists. Two further supporters have already committed to Chance to Shine for the 2020-21 year.



Scholarships were awarded during the year providing funding for a range of needs including school uniforms and shoes, laptops and technology, external tutoring, books and school resources.

The Pincus Family Foundation Scholarship (PFFS) program commenced in 2019 driven by the wish of the Pincus family to make scholarships available to financially disadvantaged young people enabling them to pursue tertiary education that would otherwise not be accessible to them. Two scholarships per year are offered to assist young people to pursue a university, TAFE or registered training organisation course. The annual scholarship amount ranges from \$5,000-\$8,000 per year and continues each year for the duration of the recipient's course. The inaugural recipients were a young woman exiting foster care now undertaking a Bachelor of Arts and a young man exiting kinship care now doing Bachelor of Education (Primary).



The PFFS is wholly funded by the Pincus Family, and truly gives the recipients the chance to pursue their dreams.

We are extremely grateful and thank all funders of the Chance to Shine Scholarship Program, and those who have donated to the program since its inception in 2010.



Corporate Partnerships

OzChild is fortunate to have several long-standing corporate partnerships built on shared vision and positive social intent. Throughout the 2019-20 year, our corporate partners helped bring our vision to life, donating time, product and money, volunteering at events, even taking on the role of a support crew for our annual Wishing Tree Appeal. The support of our corporate partners also means we have an army of people advocating for vulnerable children and young people through word-of-mouth.

How the generosity of our corporate partners can make a big difference

Booran Holden helps family back on the road

An OzChild foster carer desperately needed a larger vehicle to transport her instantaneously larger family, having welcomed two children into her home. One of the children had special needs which made travel in a standard sedan difficult. What the carer really needed was a 'people mover' with three rows of seats so all family members could travel in one vehicle, with enough space between the children to keep them safe.

Just before Christmas 2019, two OzChild team members met with long-term OzChild supporters Steve Cadden and Mal McPhee at Booran Holden, explaining the carer's need. Steve and Mal jumped on board straight away finding a suitable second-hand seven-seater vehicle without delay. The Holden Captiva suited the carers needs, and within days the car was removed from public sale, given a free service, and in the New Year, the OzChild carer was able to collect.

Foster Care case manager Sandy said carer Kym* could not speak too highly of how responsive Booran Holden had been; "They have been awesome; Mal is a really lovely person."

The vehicle has made an enormous difference for the family, making longer car trips possible with both children able to visit other family members while feeling relaxed and comfortable with each other, ensuring for example they were in the right frame of mind, emotionally, to see their baby sister.

With the loan vehicle generously provided by Booran Holden, the day-to-day challenges of life for Kym and her family have been eased somewhat.



**Names have been changed to protect identities*

Many hands make light work

O'Brien Electrical Carrum Downs have provided electrical services to OzChild for several years. Over the last three years, this service arrangement has grown into a true partnership.

O'Brien Electrical Carrum Downs is committed to lending a hand to make a difference in the lives of OzChild carers. In 2018 they instigated OzChild's first Mother's Day home makeover, bringing together a team of trades and services to spruce up the home of one of OzChild's long-serving foster carers; a 14-hour makeover just in time for Mother's Day.

They repeated the Mother's Day Makeover activity in 2019, when another very special foster carer had her home transformed.

But in 2020 uncertainty around the Mother's Day Makeover set in as the pandemic set hold.

"2020 has been a year like never before. After a summer of bushfire tragedy, our community has been challenged by the global

COVID19 pandemic, which meant sadly a third consecutive Mother's Day Makeover wasn't possible, so we turned our minds to figuring out another way we could help out," said David Gibson, O'Brien Electrical Carrum Downs.

The "Many Hands Make Light Work" initiative saw O'Brien Electrical Carrum Downs provide OzChild with a pro bono electrical technician for one day per week throughout the peak of the pandemic. During this time 16 carer families in Melbourne's south east and the Mornington Peninsula benefitted from this generosity, solving a range of electrical problems such as repairing lights and power points, boosting Wi-Fi strength and repairing TV aerials, all at no cost to the carers or OzChild.

Getting through lockdown has been made a little bit easier for many families thanks to the team at O'Brien Electrical and the Many Hands Make Light Work project.

David Gibson, O'Brien Electrical Carrum Downs



Harvey Norman Springvale lightens the load

A kinship carer of nine children living in Melbourne's outer east faced several challenges. One of those impacting the day-to-day running of the household was her small, unreliable washing machine. In a household of 10, and with a small 4.5kg washing machine, the carer was doing 20-25 loads of washing a week, occupying a considerable amount of her time and effort.

OzChild's In-Home Care Case Manager, Alison knew a new washing machine would save the carer hours of work per week, giving her back some much-needed time.

A new 14.5kg washing machine was identified at Harvey Norman Springvale, but the small philanthropic donation available for the purchase would only cover around half the cost. Lincoln and Steve at Harvey Norman Springvale kindly agreed to support OzChild and the carer by offering the appliance at a significantly discounted price. Harvey Norman acted swiftly, arranging to deliver and install the appliance and remove the old one, all at no cost.



Steve (L) and Lincoln (R) from Harvey Norman Springvale with Martin from OzChild and the new washing machine.

“ The carer choked back tears telling me how much easier it was going to be for her now she had this machine. She said doing the washing for 10 people was taking her hours and hours every week and she never felt like she was on top of it. The carer asked to have her thanks passed on to everyone for this amazingly generous gift ”

– Alison, OzChild Case Manager.



A community that cares makes a *significant* difference

A Support Crew has never been more important

There is no doubt OzChild foster and kinship carers are changing lives, but they cannot do what they do without a **support crew**; individuals, partners and supporters who care as much as they do about children and young people.

Support from individuals and the community is incredibly important and the financial contributions we receive go a long way in ensuring we can continue to support those in need.

During the 2020 financial year donations from individuals, and support from our partners was more important than ever before, we are extremely grateful to every person who made a donation, volunteered their time or supported the work we do by talking about it with others.

Raising awareness of the work we do by hosting a community fundraising event is critical to helping us spread the word about the issues facing at-risk children and young people and highlighting the importance of our work in early intervention and prevention.

Of our enthusiastic community of fundraisers, we are especially grateful to have the continued support of Kenshi Candles, a local social enterprise.

Liam, a 17-year-old from Melbourne, is the young man behind Kenshi Candles. Starting in the family home, Kenshi Candles now collaborate with the Chin refugee community in Melbourne to produce the candles.



Thank you, Liam, and **the Kenshi Candles team!**

These life-changing candles are all about taking action and making a real difference in the world. The team do this by donating over half the profit from every candle sold on the website to charities and worthy causes that help people in need.

So far Kenshi Candles have donated over \$50,000 directly to charities.

In 2019 we were lucky enough to receive \$2,235, a portion of the profit of candles sold to people who selected OzChild as the beneficiary of their purchase.

A big thank you to the team at Input Fitness in Frankston who held a fundraising raffle during September and October increasing our profile in the Bayside area. **The raffle raised \$210.**

One of our own team members, Monica from MDL Healing Solutions held a very special Christmas event in 2019. The **Christmas is for all Children Fundraising** Feast was held in November raising funds to support the Wishing Tree Appeal. Monica was supported by many friends and family members who contributed to the event raising \$1,352 on the day. Thank you to everyone who attended the event and those who donated goods and services making the event such a big success.

2020 was certainly not the year any of us expected. With social distancing protocols in place from late March and the very real threat of the coronavirus looming, all fundraising activities and events planned for the second half of the 2020 financial year ceased.

As we head into our 170th year growing the support we receive from individuals and corporate partners, even during times of uncertainty, will ensure the longevity and sustainability of services we can offer to provide greater support for children, young people and families.



“The capacity to care is the thing which gives life its deepest significance”

– Pablo Casals

Carers from OzChild's Western Division Foster Care Program attended the Yarraville Festival in February 2020 – raising awareness of the need for carers in the area.

It's no secret OzChild foster and kinship carers are working 24/7 to support better outcomes for children and young people, what may not be seen is the contribution they make behind the scenes to ensure the successful delivery of our In-Home Care programs.

During the past financial year, we had the support of so many carers who work alongside us every day in true partnership, supporting internal and external events and activities and raising awareness of the need for carers; generously volunteering their time, sharing their expertise and own story.

Carers from our In-Home Care programs in the southern and western division are represented on carer accreditation panels, carer consultation groups and staff recruitment panels. Carers also provide their expertise at pre-accreditation training and information sessions throughout the year and our Treatment Foster Care Oregon Carers provide invaluable promotion and recruitment support.

We extend our sincere thanks to every carer who contributed throughout the year, your support really does make an incredible difference to the outcomes being achieved.

OzChild *Wishing Tree* Appeal



The Wishing Tree Appeal provides extra cheer for children, young people and families alike.

Throughout November and December the Wishing Tree Appeal encourages organisations to collect gifts for the children and young people in our care. These gifts are distributed to families in the days before Christmas, making this time of year a little easier and brighter for so many.

Just like other years, our 2019 appeal was generously supported. 50 organisations and schools participated, and we collected close to 4,000 presents which we know brought a smile to many faces.



Following on from the success in 2018, Christmas hampers were included in the appeal drive for a second year, and the response was nothing short of generous. This enabled us to share the love with the grown-ups of our families too; foster carers, kinship carers and parents who have been supported through any of our family strengthening programs.

For many, this time of year can be hard. Often the superheroes caring for our children struggle to make Christmas a special time.

From the bottom of our hearts, on behalf of all the children, young people, and families we support, we thank everyone involved who made our 2019 appeal a great success.

We also thank all the volunteers who assisted with collection of presents and sorting of gifts. It makes an incredible difference to the number of families we can help.

Your generous support allowed us to relieve the pressure of financial hardship that is felt by so many at Christmas time.

In NSW we learnt of the difference a Coles Myer voucher made to a mum escaping domestic violence who had been isolated on her property without nearby services because she was unable to afford to replace her car tyre. The voucher this mum received gave her the flexibility to replace her car tyre and purchase some presents for her children.

The Christmas gifts and hampers generously donated by participating organisations and staff do make a significant difference to the lives of so many.

An OzChild case manager was there when a young boy was gifted an EB Games voucher which he then selflessly used to buy presents for his family as well as something for himself. His father was quite emotional as this relieved some financial pressure for his family.

Every year our staff and volunteer teams thoroughly enjoy getting out and about collecting the gifts and meeting our supporters who so warmly embraced the spirit of giving, and to those who delivered gifts to our offices, this was an enormous help. Thank you.

Likewise, the Family Practitioners who work directly with the families, were overwhelmed by the generosity of our supporters and partners who gave so generously. Our Family Practitioners who give so much of themselves to help the most vulnerable families within our community were delighted to be able to provide these families something tangible for their children to play with.

It is with sincere gratitude we thank our friends at the Langham Hotel, Realestate.com.au, Beaumaris North Primary School, Marvel Stadium and Cheltenham East Primary School who contributed significantly to the 2019 Wishing Tree Appeal.

Thank you to everyone who shares our vision and supports our work, we could not do what we do without you!

If you would like to support our work visit ozchild.org.au to donate or find out more about becoming a foster carer.



Meet our *Leadership Team*

Working together for the past six years, our Executive Leadership Team (ELT) are focussed entirely on achieving better outcomes for children, young people and families, setting our workforce up for success ensuring we can all achieve life changing results.

Dr Lisa J. Griffiths | Chief Executive Officer



Lisa's role as Chief Executive Officer at OzChild sees her contributing strongly within the sector, holding Non-Executive Director positions with the Centre for Excellence in Child & Family Welfare (VIC), the Association of Child Welfare Agencies (NSW), the Roadmap for Reform Implementation Ministerial Advisory Group (VIC), the Ministers Advisory Group (NSW) and as a member of the Victorian Children's Council. Lisa also contributes her expertise to a variety of other committees as she works tirelessly to strengthen relationships to ensure evidence-based practice is placed at the forefront of the community sector.

Completing a Doctor of Business Leadership in 2019 which focussed on an Evidence-Based Ethical Leadership Model for the Community Services Sector, Lisa is now determined to share her knowledge with others to build stronger leaders in the sector and contribute to the significant advancement of Community Services business leadership.

Since joining OzChild in early 2014 the organisation has undergone a significant transformation introducing evidence-based programs and expanding its operations nationally. Lisa is a strong advocate for using 'what works' for Australian children, young people and families facing vulnerabilities and has led the introduction of new evidence-based models across several jurisdictions.

Michelle Van Doorn | National Executive Director of Services



Michelle is a long-standing member of the OzChild family having been with the organisation for 14 years. Michelle has spent her career working with vulnerable children, young people and their families in both Government and Non-Government roles.

Michelle holds a National role within OzChild overseeing the delivery of all OzChild services throughout Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales and the ACT.

Actively leading the implementation of OzChild's evidence-based programs and driving an outcomes focused culture, Michelle is also responsible for the Clinical Governance of the organisation.

Mark Powell | Chief Operating Officer



An energetic, passionate, innovative, strategic individual who has worked in various financial capacities across public and not-for-profit sectors, both in Australia and internationally, Mark has been part of the OzChild team for more than a decade.

Having held several positions within the organisation Mark is now the Chief Operating Officer and is accountable for leading the sustainable financial development and performance of OzChild.

Along with holding the role of Company Secretary, Mark directly oversees corporate services including finance, planning, fleet, legal, human resources, payroll, privacy, investment, ICT, infrastructure, and facilities across OzChild operations.

Jarrold Edwards | Chief Transformation Officer



A graduate of Leadership Victoria's Williamson Community Leadership Program and with a background in engineering and regulating high risk industries Jarrold Edwards arrived at OzChild almost four years ago.

As Chief Transformation Officer Jarrold is responsible for Business Development and Project Management within the organisation along with the Marketing, Communications and Fundraising arm and Business Assurance and Outcomes, Compliance, and Investigations. Jarrold also supports OzChild's National Cultural Advisor and the oversight of Dhiyaan Mirri, our Bridging Cultures Unit.

Alison Dall Stosic | Director, Office of the Chief Executive



With decades of experience in project management and executive organisation, Alison is the right-hand woman to our Chief Executive Officer and provides invaluable support to the OzChild Executive Leadership Team (ELT) in her role as Director, Office of the Chief Executive.

Day-to-day Alison ensures Lisa and other members of the ELT are set up for success, particularly in the areas of stakeholder management, planning, reporting and internal OzChild communications.

Meet our Board

Our Board of Directors are responsible for the overall governance of the organisation, including its strategic direction. All directors act in an honorary capacity and are dedicated to seeing all children and young people are safe, respected, nurtured and reach their full potential.

Helen Maxwell-Wright FAICD | President



Helen Maxwell-Wright considers it a privilege to serve on the OzChild Board and to contribute to better outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and families. Helen currently serves ex officio on all Board Committees and chairs the Board Executive and Brand Committee. Helen's professional life spans both for purpose and commercial sectors. Her portfolio includes Firefly Health, JDRF State Leadership Group, and various advisory board appointments with the Australian Medical Council (SEAC), MBS Taskforce, Medicines Australia (Panel of Chairs of the Monitoring Committee) and Australian & New Zealand College of Anaesthetists and the College of Intensive Care Medicine. Helen is a Fellow of the AICD and recipient of the 2001 Centenary Medal for services to health and politics.

Stephen Fontana APM | Vice President and Chair OzChild Cultural Competence Committee



Stephen joined the OzChild Board in 2014, and is the Chair of the Cultural Competence Committee of the Board. After 45 years of service to the community, Steve retired from Victoria Police in September 2020.

Awarded the Australian Police Medal in the 2002 Australia Day Honours, Steve's career has been filled with many achievements since joining the force back in 1975 where he spent most of his career as a criminal investigator.

Stephen was promoted to the rank of Assistant Commissioner in charge of the State Emergencies and Security Department in early 2008. In June 2011, he took charge of the North West Metropolitan Region which delivers frontline police services for the largest region in the state.

Stephen was the Assistant Commissioner Crime Command from July 2012 until May 2018 when he commenced an appointment of Chief Information Officer (CIO) for Victoria Police and in a dual-role Steve also led the Information, Systems and Security Command (ISSC).

As CIO, Stephen was responsible for the governance, strategic direction and management of Victoria Police information technology and communications systems and applications, and for the overall management and strategic direction of enterprise information management and protective security.

Dr. Angela Williams | Vice President



Angela joined the board in 2013. With a background in forensic medicine, Angela has helped many women, children and families in crisis. Currently working as a forensic physician with the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, Angela is also a foster carer and interested in tangible programs that concentrate on the emotional and practical wellbeing of children. Angela chairs OzChild's Quality and Child Safety Committee.

Michael Wootten FAICD FCPA | Treasurer



Michael joined the board in 2014 and has over 25 years' experience in executive finance and leadership roles within the water, emergency services, and local government sectors. Michael worked in the water sector as a Chief Financial Officer for six years and was appointed Director of Finance and Administration at the Country Fire Authority (CFA) in 2001. He continued to work with the CFA in finance and leadership roles becoming Executive Director of Business Services then Chief Executive Officer. He then served as Chief Executive Officer of the City of Whittlesea and is currently the Chief Financial Officer & Corporate Secretary of City West Water.

Michael holds undergraduate qualifications in accounting and computing, and a master's degree in business. He is a Fellow of both the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and CPA Australia.

Catherine Dunlop



Catherine, who joined the board in 2015, is a lawyer. She specialises in work and public health and safety and in inquests and Royal Commissions. She has acted for clients in some of Australia's most significant safety hearings.

Catherine is a partner at Maddocks Lawyers, the Deputy Chair of the Emergency Services Foundation, and the President of the Health Complaints Commission Advisory Council. Catherine has undergraduate degrees in law and economics, post graduate degrees in law and is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Patrick Baker



Patrick is a philanthropy and non-profit specialist and is currently the Director of The Alfred Foundation. Previously he was the Partnership Executive at Perpetual Private, where he was a senior member of the national leadership team for Community and Social Investment managing key stakeholder engagement across corporate, philanthropic, not-for-profit and private wealth networks. Patrick joined the board in April 2018.

Dr Sandra Heriot



Dr Sandra Heriot has 18 years of experience working in NSW university and government positions. She has a broad range of experience and expertise in clinical, research, academic, public administration and executive areas.

Sandra currently provides consultancy services and high level advice to health and human services in government and non-government organisations.

Sandra's last government role was at the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (previously FACS) where she contributed to a number of key reforms including the NSW Government's *Their Futures Matter* and the *Targeted Earlier Intervention* program. She

oversaw the design, commissioning and large-scale implementation of reform funded evidence based programs and services. Sandra joined the OzChild board in March 2019.

Penny Beeston



Penny joined the OzChild board in August 2018. With a background in education, management and leadership, Penny has been Leadership and Executive Coach and Consultant and Director at Strategic Options since 2015. Penny also serves as a non-executive Director on the Board of Sheldon College, a non-denominational Kindy to Year 12 co-educational, independent school.

Across her career, Penny has worked with vulnerable children, adults and families, initially as a special needs teacher before growing an extensive leadership career across a diverse range of For-Purpose organisations in the disability sector. In the decade prior to establishing her own business, Penny was CEO of a complex statewide For-Purpose organisation supporting children and adults

on the Autism Spectrum and their families.

Penny now helps people on leadership journeys across all sectors through her executive and leadership coaching programs, and through her leadership podcast, 'What Leaders Know'.

Highlights of 2019-20

Celebrating foster and kinship carers week in 2019 with some OzChild carers



Victorian State Member for Melton Mr Steve McGhie met with staff from our Western Division team to hear about the life changing work being done in Western Melbourne



Minister for Child Protection in Victoria, the Hon. Luke Donnellan dropped by our Dandenong office to hear about the incredible work being done within our TFCO program and meet some TFCO carers.



Staff celebrated the opening of a new office site in Campbelltown in NSW in August 2019



Minister Carroll stopped by our Frankston office in October to hear about the success of our MST program and announce an extension of funding

OzChild Frankston site staff celebrated the opening of their new office site with State Member for Frankston, Mr Paul Edbrooke alongside OzChild President, Helen Maxwell-Wright and Dr Lisa J. Griffiths, Chief Executive Officer



Social Workers and young people with care experience from Hong Kong dropped into our National Support Office to learn about our Treatment Foster Care Oregon program



Lisa Griffiths with Shane Bautista at the launch of his memoir *Resilience* which tells the story of his childhood having been placed in foster care at the age of eight



Tokyo Government officials paid a visit to our Qld team to learn about Queensland Child Protection reforms. Most children in care in Japan reside in institutions so they were very keen to learn about the Australian foster care system and how organisations like OzChild support foster carers and the children and young people in care.



OzChild staff in Qld joined in the celebrations to mark Goolburri Aboriginal Health Advancement's 25th anniversary, sponsoring the event in support of our partnership



OzChild's Tuggerah office in NSW was officially opened by Member for Dobell, Ms Emma McBride



OzChild Op Shop volunteers celebrate Christmas 2019 with their traditional Christmas lunch



Kylie Bell, OzChild's Victorian Cultural Advisor lent a hand at the Dandenong & District Aborigines Co-Operative's Back to School event



Bayside Peninsula SafeCare team celebrating graduations in October, before shifting graduations to virtual events



OzChild Western Division carers celebrating at the inaugural Carers Dinner held at Windmill Gardens Reception venue in October 2019

A young boy with brown hair, wearing a white V-neck shirt and a dark backpack, is looking up at an adult's hand. The adult's arm, wearing a patterned sleeve, is extended from the left side of the frame. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with green foliage and a path. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white box in the lower-left quadrant.

Our Financial Report

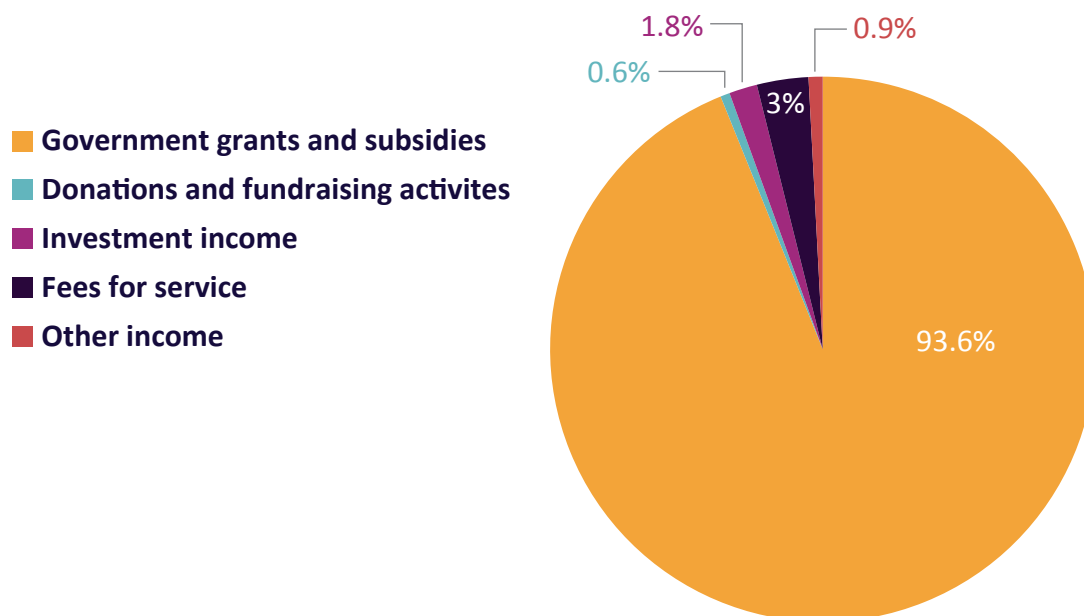
During the 2020 financial year support from federal, state and local governments, individual donors, community fundraisers, trusts and foundations and corporate partners made an incredible difference to the lives of many.

These partnerships are fundamental to our work, without others sharing our vision, and believing in the work we do, we simply could not support the many thousands of children, young people and families we do each year.

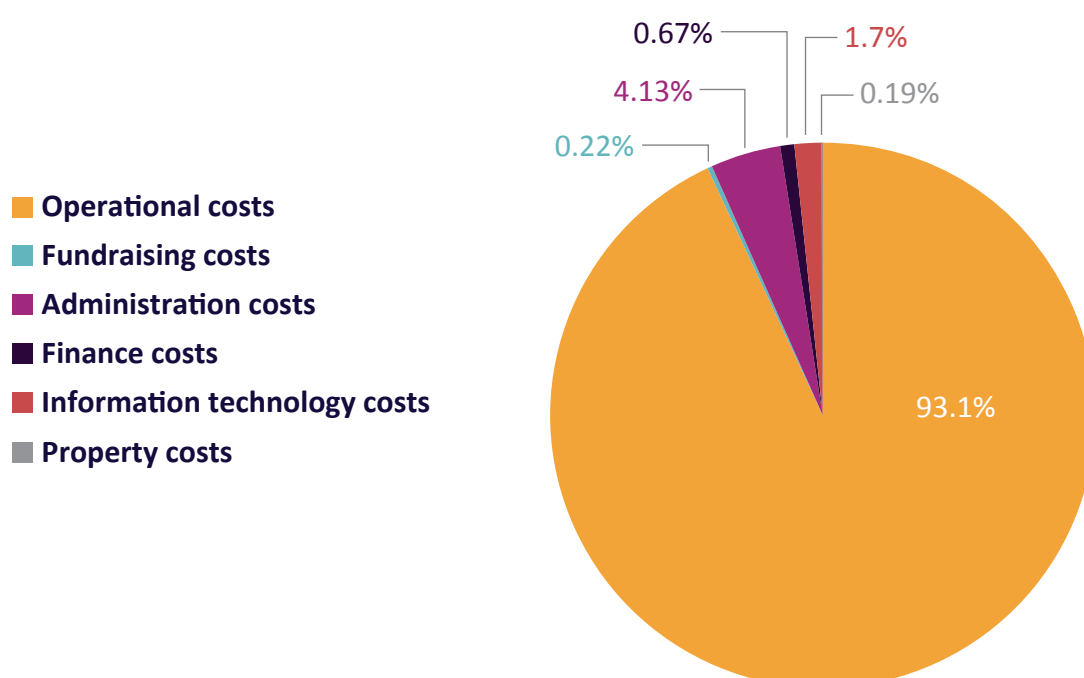
We extend our sincere thanks to all our supporters, we are extremely grateful to have you on our team.

Financial Snapshot

Funding Breakdown



Where we Invested



Treasurer's Report



The 2020 financial year has seen OzChild continue to invest in delivering targeted early intervention programs and services to strengthen our impact, while consolidating the capability of our back of house functions (systems and resources) to support any growth or contraction of service delivery to ensure the financial sustainability of the organisation.

The 2020 result was highlighted by an operating deficit of \$3,758,328 (2019: deficit of \$1,668,213) with a comprehensive deficit of \$5,155,794 (2019: deficit of \$1,145,001). The \$3,758,328 operating deficit reflects an increase in operational costs on the previous year.

This increase reflected additional staff and staff related costs within frontline and support services, alongside the impact of new accounting standards related to the treatment of leases.

Financial year 2020 saw OzChild's operating revenue increase by over 9%, adding to the 27% increase that occurred in financial year 2019. This was a result of OzChild strengthening its program delivery in partnership with state and territory governments. This increase was in despite of investment distributions and fundraising income being significantly impacted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

With increased operating expenses outweighing the income growth, OzChild reviewed its budget position in June 2020 to bring organisational resources back to a sustainable level.

Continuing our strategy of Growing our Reach, during the year the organisation invested close to \$800,000 into evidenced-based interventions over a number of jurisdictions to set up future success.

Although OzChild's asset base has decreased by \$5.16M, we remain in a strong net asset position of \$19.06M (2019: \$24.22M).

On behalf of the Finance, Risk, Audit and Compliance Committee, I would like to extend my thanks to Chief Executive Officer, Dr Lisa Griffiths, and the finance team led very capably by Chief Operating Officer Mark Powell, for their support and assistance during a year that presented some unique and unexpected challenges.

I continue to be confident that our investment into evidence-based services over the past four years, combined with a commitment to focus on securing and further diversifying our revenue streams, will continue to deliver enhanced support for children, young people, families and carers.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Wootten'.

Michael Wootten
Treasurer

Comprehensive Income

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as at 30 June 2020

This statement also shows Other Comprehensive Income which includes unrealised gains and losses on market based investments and service providers.

	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
Operating revenue		
Government grants and subsidies	40,172,917	34,057,211
Donations and fundraising activities	274,248	304,040
Investment income	780,975	1,845,384
Fees for service	1,279,465	3,003,336
Other income	405,876	143,183
Total operating revenue	42,913,481	39,353,154
Operating expenses		
Operational costs	43,444,786	37,735,171
Fundraising costs	101,349	63,399
Administration costs	1,927,179	2,372,930
Finance costs	313,751	10,209
Information technology costs	795,099	782,566
Property costs	89,645	57,092
Total operating expenses	46,671,809	41,021,367
Operating deficit for the year	(3,758,328)	(1,668,213)
Endowment funds revenue		
Increment in endowment funds	-	20,000
Fair value profit loss on endowment investment properties	-	75,000
Endowment surplus	-	95,000
Operating and endowment deficit for the year	(3,758,328)	(1,573,213)
Other comprehensive income		
Fair value movements on available-for-sale financial	(1,097,466)	283,512
Gain (loss) on revaluation of service properties	(300,000)	144,700
Other comprehensive surplus (deficit)	(1,397,466)	428,212
Total comprehensive surplus (deficit) for the year	(5,155,794)	(1,145,001)

Financial Position

Statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020

This report includes a summarised version of the audited financial statements. A full version of the financial statements is available on our website at ozchild.org.au

	2020 (\$)	2019 (\$)
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,421,425	5,117,491
Receivables	1,406,321	1,829,187
Financial assets	192,882	189,489
Other assets	280,272	387,414
Total current assets	3,300,900	7,523,581
Non-current assets		
Financial assets	14,809,673	19,009,479
Property, plant and equipment	9,312,995	9,942,154
Endowment property	1,100,000	1,100,000
Other assets	188,656	158,397
Right of Use Assets	6,397,514	-
Total non-current assets	31,808,838	30,210,030
Total assets	(35,109,738)	(37,733,611)
Current liabilities		
Provisions	2,379,081	2,039,354
Other	2,415,735	7,163,313
Payables	4,337,508	4,056,376
Lease Liabilities	1,471,015	-
Total current liabilities	10,603,339	13,259,043
Non-current liabilities		
Provisions	229,786	259,186
Lease Liabilities	5,217,025	-
Total non-current liabilities	5,446,811	259,186
Total liabilities	16,050,150	13,518,229
Net assets	19,059,588	24,215,382
Equity		
Endowment funds	18,137,255	18,136,400
Asset revaluation reserve	2,769,985	3,069,985
Financial asset valuation reserve	3,038,979	4,137,300
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)	(4,886,631)	(1,128,303)
Total equity	19,059,588	24,215,382



Thank you!

Supporting children, young people, and families during times of vulnerability would not be possible without the support of those who care as much as we do.

Thank you to all those who share our vision, individual donors, philanthropic and corporate partners, Community Service Organisations, Federal and State Government departments, Local Government Authorities and our friends at Peak Body associations and Aboriginal Controlled Community Organisations.

Raising a child does take a village, and we are so grateful to have the generous support of so many. During the 2019-20 financial year we could not have made a difference in the lives of children, young people and their family members without you.

Government

Australian Government Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

Australian Government Department of Social Services

Australian Government Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet

Australian Government Department of Social Services

Victorian State Government Department Health and Human services

Victorian State Government Department Justice and Regulation

Victorian State Government Department Education and Training

NSW Government Department of Communities and Justice

Queensland Government Department of Child Safety, Youth and Women

ACT Government Community Services Directorate

Partners

Aboriginal Child, Family and Community Care
State Secretariat
Alliance
Association of Children's Welfare Agencies
Australian Childhood Foundation
Aboriginal Health & Medical Research Council
ACT Together Consortium
Anglicare Victoria
Barnados
Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning &
Employment Network
Baw Baw Regional Youth Network
Bayside Peninsula Orange Door (Support and
Safety Hub) Governance and Operational
Group
Berry Street
Beyond the Bell
Casey Aboriginal Gathering Place
Centre for Evidence and Implementation
Child First Family Solutions Bayside Peninsula
CREATE Foundation
Dandenong & District Aborigines Co-Operative
Limited
Dhauwurd-Wurrung Aboriginal Community
Controlled Organisation
Dhelk Dja Action Group
Faculty of Education at Monash University
Family Life
Federation University, Berwick
Frankston and Mornington Peninsula Family
Violence Network
Foster Care Association of Victoria
Fostering Connections
Frankston Aboriginal Gathering Place Nairn
Marr Djambana
Frankston City Council, Family Youth Services
Functional Family Therapy LLC
Glenelg Southern Grampians LLEN
Good Shepherd
Goolburri Aboriginal Health Advancement
Grandparents Victoria
Gugan Gulwan Aboriginal Corporation
Gunditjmara Aboriginal Community Controlled
Organisation

Hastings Aboriginal Gathering Place Willum
Warrain
Headspace
IFS/Child FIRST/Orange Door Network
Kambu Corporation for Health
Kinship Carers Victoria
Kirrip House
La Trobe Valley Regional Youth Network
Life Without Barriers
Monash University
Mornington Peninsula Shire
MST Services
Mullum Mullum Aboriginal Gathering Place
Mums Supporting Families in Need
National SafeCare® Training and Research
Center
PeakCare Queensland
Quantum Support Services
Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory
Committee
Relationships Australia
Rumbalara Aboriginal Co-operative
Salvation Army
Southern Metro Local Aboriginal Education
Consultive Group
St Kilda Mums
The Centre of Excellence in Child and Family
Welfare
The New York Foundling
The Secretariat of National Aboriginal and
Islander Child Care (SNAICC)
Treatment Foster Care Consultants
Uniting Connections
Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency
(VACCA)
Victorian Aboriginal Education Association Inc
WAYSS
Wellington Valley Regional Youth Network
William Cooper Institute, Monash University
Wimmera South West Area Integrated Family
Violence Partnership and the Family Violence
Local Area Planning Group
Winda-Mara Aboriginal Community Controlled
Organisation
Youth Horizons

Thank you!

Contributors

Adairs
Air-Met
Antaeus Charity Fund (via Morgans Client Giving Fund)
APT
Athenaeum Club
Australian Higher Education Industrial Association
Backpacks for Kids
Balcombe Grammar
Balnarring & District Community Bank®
Branch of Bendigo Bank
Barr Family Foundation
Beaumaris North Primary School
Beaumaris Secondary College
Blue Max Music Pty Ltd
Booran Holden
Brian M Davis Charitable Foundation
Cetrola Legal
Cheltenham East Primary School
City of Melbourne
Cottee Parker Architects
Cranbourne Country Womens Association Inc
Dentsply Sirona Pty Ltd
DesignInc
Edward Davies Trust (via Perpetual)
Erdi Foundation
Eric & Elizabeth Gross Foundation
Estate of the Late C. DeSilva
Estate of the Late G.M. Miller
Fit Impact
Flora & Frank Leith Charitable Trust
George Warman Charitable Fund (via Equity Trustees)
Harvey Norman Springvale
Harvey Patterson Trust Fund (via Equity Trustees)
Haywood, Wilkins & Assoc
Henry & Robert D'Esterre Taylors Charitable Fund (via Equity Trustees)
Hickory Group
HPC Real Estate
HWA Insurance Brokers
Input Fitness Frankston
Jasco
Jenkins Family Foundation
Jessie Mcpherson Private Hospital
John Lambrick Trust (via Perpetual)
Juno Fund, a sub-fund of the Australian Communities Foundation
Kenshi Candles
Kids In Philanthropy
Lancemore Lindenderry Red Hill
Langham Hotel
Lawrence and Hanson Dandenong
Lush
Make Me Iconic
Marvel Stadium
Matana Foundation for Young People
MDL Healing Solutions fundraising event
Meg & Frank Sims Fund, a charitable fund of Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
Moray & Agnew Melbourne
Moray & Agnew Sydney
Mornington Primary School OHSC
NCR
O'Brien Electrical Carrum Downs
Office National
One Tomorrow Charitable Fund, a sub-fund of the Australian Communities Foundation
OzChild Op Shop Volunteers
Paul Baker
Paul Edward Dehnert Estate (via Perpetual)
Pierce Armstrong Foundation

Pincus Family Foundation
PZ Cussons
R.M. Ansett Trust (via Equity Trustees)
Ray White Narre Warren
REA Group
Rotary Frankston Peninsula
Schepisi Communications
Septimus Jones & Lee Solicitors
Simply Giving
Sky Jade Corporation
Stone Real Estate
Suncorp
Suncorp AAMI portfolio
Suncorp Brighter Futures Foundation
Suncorp Fountain Gate
Suncorp Gisbourne

Telstra
The Cube Group
The Essoign
The Sixth Child
The Washroom
Tom and Narelle Debenham- Nature Play
Every day
Vaughan Constructions
Verve Travel Management
Victorian Building Authority
Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Social Club
Wantirna Pharmacy
William Buckland Foundation
Windsor Management Insurance Brokers
Xtend Barre Bayside

Could you care?

**If you have ever considered
becoming a foster carer or
you know someone who
could, now is the time.**

Become a foster carer

Find out more visit [ozchild.org.au](https://www.ozchild.org.au)





ozchild.org.au

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