

A young girl with long brown hair is carrying a baby on her back. They are in a grassy field with trees in the background. The sun is low in the sky, creating a warm, golden glow and lens flare effects. The girl is wearing a grey dress and the baby is wearing a striped shirt and grey pants.

Annual Report

2017 - 2018

Working together
to support
bereaved children

nccg
NATIONAL CENTRE FOR
CHILDHOOD GRIEF





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01

Introduction



Our Vision

A community which accepts there is no right or wrong way for children to grieve, and that grief is a normal and ongoing process which, with compassionate support, children can accommodate into their lives as they become adults.



Our Purpose

To provide the best possible care for grieving children, their families and support networks, to enhance their opportunity to live a full and meaningful life.



Our Values

Trust, Love, Resilience, Quality,
Compassion, Accessibility.

INTRODUCTION

Our Story

The National Centre for Childhood Grief (NCCG) is dedicated to helping bereaved children rebuild their lives, by teaching them how to live with their grief. The Centre was established in 1994 by founders Mal and Dianne McKissock OAM, internationally recognised experts in the field of child bereavement and grief counselling.



We are Australia's only provider of free and unlimited grief counselling for bereaved children aged 3 - 18 years. The McKissock therapeutic model, developed and used at the Centre, represents best practice when working with bereaved people.

We operate from 'A Friend's Place', our dedicated bereavement care centre in Denistone East, Sydney. We offer a range of programs nationally, supporting children, families, adults and those who work with the bereaved. We have an experienced team of

specialist bereavement counsellors and trained volunteer support workers, led by our Clinical Director, Dr Elizabeth Mann, ensuring the effective delivery of our services.

One in 20 Australian children experience the death of one or both parents. We know this has a profound and lifelong impact on children. We know that our services contribute greatly to providing a child with the opportunity and resources to go on and live a full and meaningful life.

INTRODUCTION

Our Programs

Through our programs, we provide a safe environment for bereaved children and their families to share their experiences, which in turn helps them integrate grief into their everyday lives.

Our care is delivered through the provision of the following programs:

- Individual counselling for bereaved children (free and unlimited), adults and caregivers (fee-for-service basis)
- Group support for bereaved children, bereaved parents and young adults
- Weekend programs and workshops for bereaved children
- Phone and email support to bereaved people and caregivers i.e. schools, hospitals and other healthcare professionals
- Delivery of accredited bereavement counselling training programs
- Publication and distribution of grief resources
- National Outreach Support Service coordinated by Dianne McKissock OAM

Our Focus

Bereaved children often feel different and alone in their grief, leading to social withdrawal and isolation. They may find difficulty staying socially and academically engaged. It is common for bereaved children to experience anxiety due to the dramatically changed circumstances at home.

Bereavement counselling at our Centre has three important aspects:

.....

1 We **support** children to learn that the grief response they are experiencing is a normal reaction to death and that there are skills and techniques they can develop through this process to improve their wellbeing.

.....

2 We **teach** children to learn to manage intense feelings, build resilience and strengthen their confidence, as they integrate grief into their daily life.

.....

3 We **provide** a safe, nurturing environment and community where bereaved children and families feel they belong, which supports them to not feel alone and different.

.....

INTRODUCTION

Chairperson's Report



The 2017 - 2018 financial year marks the second full year of operations under the stewardship of Dr Elizabeth Mann (Liz) following the retirement of the founders, Mal and Dianne McKissock in January 2015. Pleasing progress continues to be made in the attraction and retention of outstanding counsellors, and the company continues to provide an excellent level of service to the community with our existing and new programs that have been piloted this year.

In the 2017-2018 period, our newly appointed members, Heidi Coupland, Emmanuelle Delannoy and Deborah Clay deepened and diversified the Board with their positive contributions, for which we are all thankful. This was our first year without our longest serving board member, Rick Taylor, who retired on 30 June 2017. On behalf of the NCCG Board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Rick for all his efforts over the years in steering this organisation. His contribution has played an enormous role in establishing the strong foundations of the Centre, ensuring capacity for future strategy. This has certainly been an incredibly helpful

legacy for our current Board, particularly as the Centre moves forward under a new leadership. We are all thankful for his commitment to the NCCG and while he will no longer be on the Board, we know he will always remain a dear friend and continue to support our efforts in other ways.

“ THE COMPANY CONTINUES TO PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT LEVEL OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY WITH OUR EXISTING AND NEW PROGRAMS THAT HAVE BEEN PILOTED THIS YEAR. ”

I am excited for the year ahead and thankful to have a solid team of colleagues to work alongside with.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Steinberg', with a horizontal line underneath.

Mark Steinberg
Chair

INTRODUCTION

Clinical Director's Report



I have great pleasure in reporting on the 2017-2018 period at 'A Friend's Place'.

Our bereavement counselling programs have continued to be successful in providing bereaved children and their families with quality care to support them in the devastating pain of their grief and help them to learn to live with their grief and begin to build life around those painful feelings. In this period, we saw another 10% increase in those accessing our services from the previous year. We also completed two successful Peter Coupland Adventure Weekends for bereaved girls and bereaved boys. These weekends provide children some time away from home with other bereaved children, to have fun but also to spend time to remember their loved ones who have died. They are incredibly special for all those who attend and while participants may commence the weekend as strangers, they certainly end it as family.

Our education programs have thrived during this period. The accredited training courses continued to attract a varied and diverse group contributing to a rich and interesting training experience for those who participated. Through these programs we enable those working with children to gain understanding and confidence in working with bereaved children. In doing so, we indirectly support many bereaved children and their families.

“ IN THIS PERIOD, WE SAW ANOTHER 10% INCREASE IN THOSE ACCESSING OUR SERVICES FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. ”

During this year, we also introduced a monthly support group for young adults who were bereaved in childhood. Our new service identifies and explores the impact of childhood grief on early adult life, providing

an opportunity for participants to learn a variety of strategies to navigate adulthood without the support and care of a parent/s. We are receiving very positive feedback from all the participants and are excited at the early success of this newly introduced service.

During this time, we also held our second Open Day

at the Centre, which was well attended by existing and prospective supporters and many from the

school sector. The day provided a unique opportunity to find out what goes on behind the scenes, and everyone who attended enjoyed an informative and interesting visit. It also contributed to expanding our centre outreach services with many invitations to present at conferences and seminars and facilitate workshops at schools,

hospitals, universities and corporate organisations. It was another valuable initiative, resulting in further awareness of our services within the school and corporate sectors.

The publication of our latest grief resource by Founder and Patron, Dianne McKissock OAM, also occurred

in this period.

'Talking to Children and Young People about Suicide' is a valued addition to our collection and has been appreciated

already by many. The new edition of 'Coping with Grief (Fifth Edition)' by Mal and Dianne McKissock OAM is also now available.

The donations given to the Centre make a real difference in achieving positive outcomes for the kids that we care for. Over the last year we have attracted funding from both

existing and new supporters. I would like to thank the individuals and corporations for this support. Your donations ensure we can continue to provide our valuable services to our grieving families.

And finally, I wish to acknowledge my colleagues. We continue to be supported by many remarkable people and I thank every one of you for all your efforts this year. The outcomes outlined in this report are a reflection of your passionate investment to ensure the NCCG continues to provide a loving safe place and quality service for bereaved children and their families

“ THE DONATIONS GIVEN TO THE CENTRE MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN ACHIEVING POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR THE KIDS THAT WE CARE FOR. ”



Dr Elizabeth Mann
Clinical Director

INTRODUCTION

Our Strategic Pillars

1



To continue to deliver **quality counselling programs** in a loving, safe environment to grieving children (and their families and carers) in a way that is client centred and accessible to all.

2



To attract and retain **quality people**, right across the organisation, from clinical staff to non-executive directors to enable us to deliver on our purpose.

3



To ensure ongoing **financial sustainability** through attracting funding from a diverse range of sources.

4



To develop our **national outreach** program that is creative and effective in the way it supports our purpose.

5



To follow industry standard **good governance** practices to recognise and manage risk, which will underpin our success and sustainability.

INTRODUCTION

Highlights 2017-18

**700+**Individual Counselling
Sessions**22% ↑**Children's Counselling
Sessions from 2016**3,500+**

Resources purchased

**2**New Grief Publications
by Dianne McKissock OAM**25% ↑**

in Counselling Resources

**2,000+**

Volunteer Hours



NEW PROGRAM

Young Adult Support Group

“There is nothing quite like this group out there and being a part of it has showed me just how much need there is for programs like this.”
[MG, 21]



The Annual Peter Coupland Adventure Weekend Programs

“... Meeting the other boys and talking about their common bond allowed them to see that they are not alone.”
[Parent, name withheld]

“... I believe empathy is not easy to master but I believe this camp really provides a platform for the kids to learn this skill.”
[Parent, name withheld]



02

Operations

OPERATIONS

Our Bereavement Counselling Services

Individual Counselling

The NCCG has been providing individual face-to-face counselling to bereaved children and adults since 1994. To date our services have helped many thousands of bereaved children and their families.

In 2017-2018, there was a 22% increase in the number of children's sessions provided from the previous year. We attribute this to our capacity to offer more sessions due to our two new counsellors commencing in this period and the increase in awareness of our services resulting from our Open Day and our Outreach Program.

Email and Phone Support

All our counsellors are available to provide additional phone and email support to clients in between sessions if required. We also collaborate with multidisciplinary teams when necessary for transparency and alignment, to support children and families who are engaged in other systems of care. Dianne McKissock OAM, Cofounder and Patron of NCCG,



“ IN 2017-2018, THERE WAS A 22% INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN'S SESSIONS PROVIDED FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR. ”

also provides email support for dying and bereaved people (all ages) and anyone involved in their care, as part of the Centre's outreach program.

During the 2017-2018 period, we provided advice to more than 1200 bereaved families and practitioners including hospital social workers, school counsellors and other health professionals.

Kids' Group

In addition to our individual counselling, we provide a Kids' Group program. As bereaved children often

feel different and alone in their grief, it can be helpful for some to process their grief experience within a group environment, to know there are others who are in a similar situation. However, as everyone grieves individually, not all children will benefit from a group environment. Therefore, children must attend individual counselling for a number of sessions, be assessed by their counsellor and approved by the Clinical Director, prior to joining group.

Maksim, who graduated during this period, shared his experience of being in group at the End of Year Party.

A KID'S GROUP TALE

Maksim's Story

AGED 10

My name is Maksim Gusavac and I graduated from Group last fortnight. I would like to share my experience of coming to 'A Friend's Place'.

When I was little my sisters went to Group. After my eldest sister Milana graduated, then Katarina started and when she graduated Adriana started. I imagine there are quite a few people here tonight who would have attended group with a Gusavac. I so badly wanted to go to this "Group thing". The girls didn't really talk about what was happening at this group, but they were always excited to go and even more excited when they came home. I was so intrigued about the events taking place there I stayed up... even though I was supposed to go to bed... just so I could hear a little bit about what happened that night. Mum would get

annoyed that I wasn't asleep, but it was worth it. My sisters mentioned talking stick, craft, friends, food and cooking, playing games and sport... it was hard to fall asleep after that and even harder to get up the next morning... sorry mum.

Well a couple of years passed and one day mum said that I will be starting group... if I wanted. Did I??? More than anything. I couldn't wait. But on the day I was supposed to start I was so nervous. I had my brother starting with me so that made it a little better, but I still remember how worried I was. My first memory is that I was greeted with smiling faces from the counsellors... and there was juice and cookies. I remember listening to other kids sharing stories about their mum or dad who had died. I was glad to hear other stories but sad at the same time, that this had happened to all these kids. I made friends that first night and we played soccer... what can I say... Group lived up to all my expectations.

Over the next year and a half I looked forward to group night just like my sisters did. I loved doing the scrolls and craft activities. I liked finding words to describe my feelings. I enjoyed cooking and especially eating.

I loved playing celebrity heads, balloon volleyball and red knickers. But mostly I love that I learnt lots of things about my dad, through these activities, because I don't remember him.

“ MY FIRST MEMORY IS THAT I WAS GREETED WITH SMILING FACES FROM THE COUNSELLORS... AND THERE WAS JUICE AND COOKIES.”

All week I have been thinking about what to say tonight but then I read this poem, which I think, sums up what I have learned at Group. I would like to share this poem with you all tonight.

“You will lose someone you can't live without,
And your heart will be badly broken,
And the bad news is that you never completely get over the death of your beloved. But this is also good news. They live forever in your broken heart that doesn't seal back up.

And you come through.
It's like having a broken leg that never heals perfectly – that still hurts when the weather gets cold, but you learn to dance with the limp”

- Anne Lamott

Parent Support Group

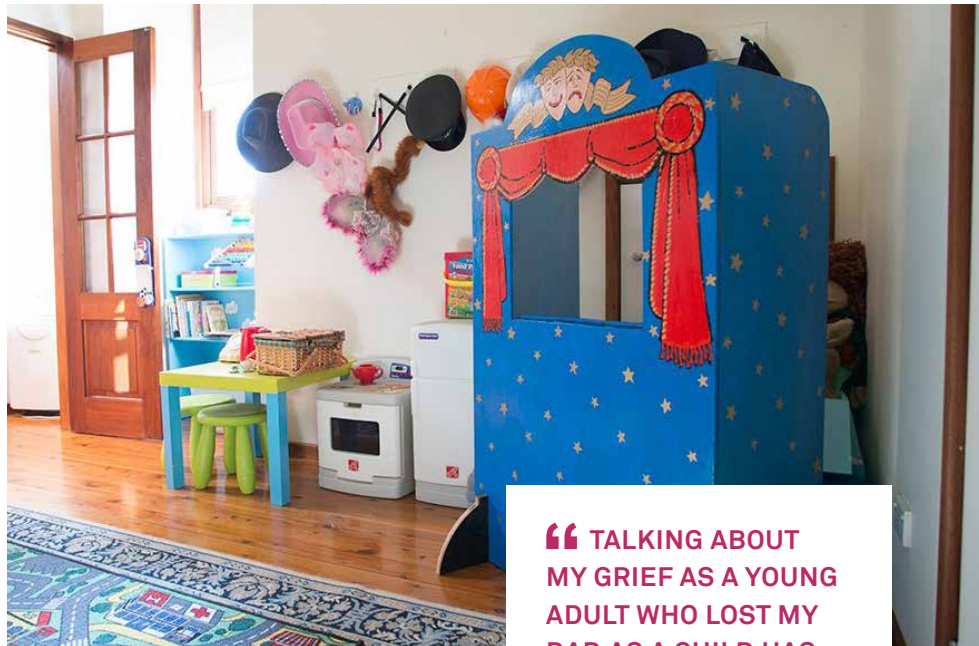
The parent support group runs at the same time as the kids' group. It is an opportunity for the bereaved parents to come together to share the challenges that come with managing their own grieving process, while also parenting and navigating the adjustment to the family system.

"I have been able to share the difficulties of solo parenting whilst grieving for my loved husband with others who really get just how hard that is. I honestly don't know if we would have adjusted to the way life is if we hadn't become part of the family that exists at 'A Friend's Place.'" [name withheld]

Young Adult Group

In April we introduced the monthly support group for young adults. This group is for young people aged 18 – 25 years, who were bereaved as children through the death of a parent/s. This new program is an opportunity to provide another level of support, as new perspectives on childhood bereavement arise in young adulthood.

Feedback from participants suggests that this is an incredibly valuable support to those engaged. When participants were asked what they hoped to achieve from the group, a consistent response was to learn how to talk about their grief with others and process the feelings that still



“ TALKING ABOUT MY GRIEF AS A YOUNG ADULT WHO LOST MY DAD AS A CHILD HAS BEEN DIFFICULT, AS THERE WAS ALWAYS A STIGMA THAT I SHOULD HAVE “GOTTEN OVER IT” BY THIS POINT. ”

MILANA, 21



come up around the death of their parent/s. Feedback from facilitators has indicated how necessary this group has become to support this age group to understand and validate the re-emerging nature of grief, particularly that experienced by a child, and how this may appear in daily life and how to normalise these experiences when it does.

Peter Coupland Adventure Programs for Bereaved Boys and Girls

The annual Adventure Weekend Program was established by and is named in memory of Peter Coupland, a valued and long-time counsellor at the Centre. These weekends are an important and special adjunct to our individual counselling programs. Through a combination of different adventure experiences, group activities and discussion, having fun and relaxing together, the children find these weekends incredibly beneficial. The group aspect enables them to witness other children in similar situations. While this does not lessen the pain or grief experience it helps them to feel less alone and more able to live with their grief.

During this period, both weekends were again very successful with children thoroughly enjoying all aspects of the camp from the horse riding and pool time, to the grief focused clinical activities woven throughout.



Testimonials from parents of the girls' weekend

[names withheld]

"The weekend provided a new sense of camaraderie. It was also nice to give her a reminder that other people are going through the same situation and their ideas were very helpful."

"My daughter felt different because she doesn't have a mum and I know that after having the weekend away she was able to realise that she is not alone, such an important thing for someone her age."

"...she thoroughly enjoyed it and still talks about the weekend fondly."



Testimonials from parents of the boys' weekend

[names withheld]

"A heartfelt thank you to everyone at NCCG and the generous sponsors who made this Adventure Weekend possible and so special."

"The world groups bereaved kids in with children of separated parents, but their emotional needs are so different. For my child to be in a group where his story is the norm is so important."

Clinical Supervision

All our counsellors are required to undertake both individual and group supervision monthly. Supervision is provided by Dianne McKissock OAM and Dr Elizabeth Mann, Clinical Director, both specialist bereavement counsellors and qualified clinical supervisors.

In-service Training

To ensure our counsellors meet their professional counselling bodies' annual requirements, we conduct four internal professional development training workshops for our counsellors. We seek to continue to diversify our in-service training with new topics and revisiting of significant areas to further instil these learnings.

In the 2017-2018 period, we hosted international educators Betty Davies and Tom Attig at the Centre, to deliver a full day's workshop on sibling grief and grief philosophy. Both were inspiring and provided valued learnings to our counsellors to support expansion of our clinical offerings with bereaved children and adults.



The Growth Project

This project aims to support leaders of charities to cultivate a sustainable business model.

Dr Elizabeth Mann, NCCG Clinical Director, graduated from this mentorship program, in June 2018 and left with a broader perspective on how to evaluate the NCCG's operations.

Evaluation

We have many testimonials and feedback from our programs that indicate our services are valuable and helping bereaved people integrate grief into their daily lives.

In the 2017-2018 period, with the support of our Board member, Dr Heidi Coupland, we developed a new evaluation program, which involves a formalised six month and 12 month follow up with the child's parent.

While this project is still in its infancy, at this stage feedback indicates that parents have found this helpful, as it is an opportunity to see what change has happened or what needs to be further addressed.

2018 – 2019 Plans for Bereavement Counselling Services

Over the next year we will pilot a Family Camp program for Police Legacy and host our own Family Camp program with the families who attend 'A Friend's Place'. As part of our outreach services program, we have been funded by Greater Charitable Foundation to distribute grief resources and pilot a one day intensive workshop on Children's Grief in the Hunter/Newcastle school sector. We will also continue to refine our evaluation program.



OPERATIONS

Our Education

The McKissocks's are internationally renowned authorities on childhood bereavement with each having over 50 years clinical experience. During this time, the McKissocks have provided their specialised and accredited training programs throughout Australia and internationally and have published many books on the subject. They have received wide acclaim for their innovative therapeutic interventions, particularly with bereaved children.



Professional Development Workshops

Currently we run three accredited professional development training workshops in bereavement counselling at 'A Friend's Place' each year. These workshops attract a diverse range of national and international participants, particularly those who are needing to upskill within this specialist area to further support their work (e.g. school counsellors, psychologists, chaplains, police, social workers and other health professionals).

For 2017-2018 our education programs included the Core Course

in Bereavement Counselling, the Working with Bereaved Children's Course and the Working with Bereaved Adults Course. Organisations that participated in our training included Compassionate Friends, Police NSW, Canteen, InvoCare and various hospitals. Feedback from all these workshops has been positive with high emphasis on the value and necessity of these skills to further enhance their professions.

Post-Graduate Training

We also offer Post-Graduate Diplomas in working with bereaved adults and bereaved children for those wishing to

become bereavement counsellors. As this is a specialist area, enrolment is by invitation only.

In 2017-2018 we enrolled two new counsellors, one adult and one children's counsellor, both of whom are well on track to graduate in December 2019.

Outreach Program Training

As part of the Centre's Outreach Program we provide tailored presentations and workshops to various organisations requesting resources and training.

In 2017-2018, we presented to Campbelltown Hospital, West Pennant Hills Public School, Notre Dame University, School Counsellors Conference, Macquarie Group, Police Legacy and the School Principals conference. Feedback from these sessions has been consistently positive with many participants expressing how valuable the information delivered was.

2018 - 2019 Education Calendar

All the education programs offered by the NCCG will continue to run in the 2018 – 2019 financial year. We also expect to commence training of another children's counsellor.

Resources

Mal and Dianne McKissock OAM have to date written and published 14 grief resources accessible to both children and adults.

During this period, over 3,500 of the NCCG's resources were purchased through 'A Friend's Place'. This included Dianne McKissock's new publications, a brief booklet titled 'Talking to Children and Young People about Suicide' and a topical novel 'Picking up Threads'. The fifth edition of their best selling book 'Coping with Grief' is also available.

In the coming year Dianne McKissock OAM will also publish a book, 'Coping with Grief after Suicide' in response to what we are seeing as a consistent demand for support regarding suicide related grief. In April, the NCCG joined Suicide Prevention Australia (SPA) in an effort to strengthen our relationships with organisations working to address the impact of suicide.



OPERATIONS

Our Supporters

Thank you to all those who are working with us in varying capacities to support bereaved children and their families. The NCCG relies on the generosity of our corporate sponsors and individual donors whose ongoing support allows us to develop and deliver services independently and with a focus on quality and compassion. This support varies from donations of goods and skills, time and resources, to capital funding for our bereavement programs. We are extremely grateful to all our supporters for their generous contributions which help fund our programs and raise awareness of our specialist services, enabling us to assist these hurting families directly and through the upskilling of others who come into contact with them such as school counsellors and community leaders.



OUR SUPPORTERS

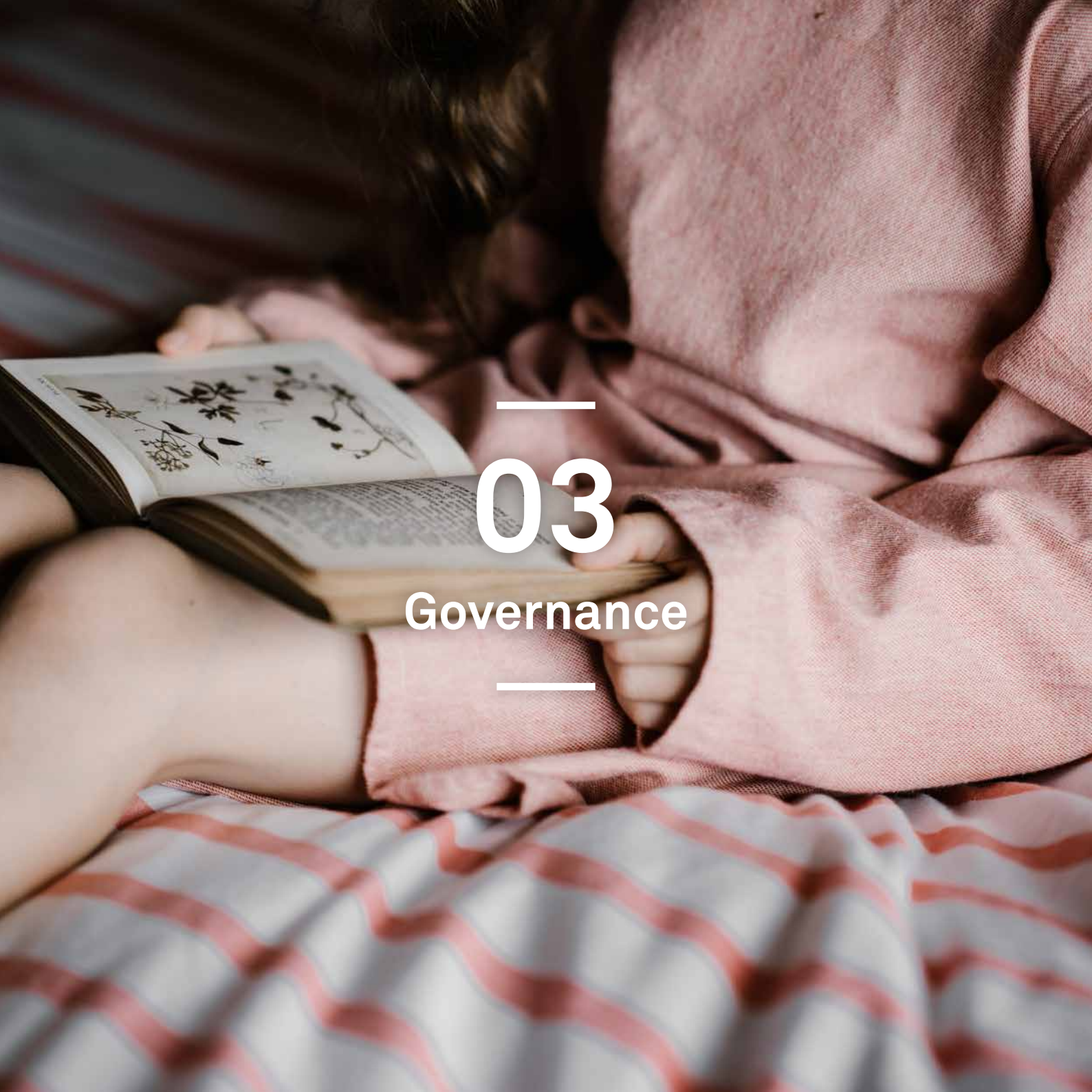
Angela

“Watching grief engulf your child is incredibly hard. It almost broke me then, and still chokes me very regularly. ... Our son was 5 when his dad died. I looked carefully for support for him, and for me, as we navigated our way through early grief and beyond. The National Centre for Childhood Grief, a charity who operate from ‘A Friend’s Place’ in Sydney, were what we needed, and what we continue to need. Having lost my own mum at a young age, I know how it feels, and what lies ahead. This is only the beginning of our journey without Colin, and I know we’ll continue to need help in the coming years.” Angela

Angela ran in the 2018 Sydney Half Marathon raising \$8,000 for NCCG. Her fundraising efforts were incredible, and we were truly touched by the camaraderie and strong community spirit reflected in the messages of support to Angela as she prepared for this half marathon event. We know how significant community is for people experiencing bereavement and it has been a privilege to witness such generosity of heart from so many.



“ THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CHILDHOOD GRIEF, A CHARITY WHO OPERATE FROM ‘A FRIEND’S PLACE’ IN SYDNEY, WERE WHAT WE NEEDED, AND WHAT WE CONTINUE TO NEED. ”



03

Governance

GOVERNANCE

Governance

Organisation Management

The NCCG is led by our Clinical Director and Board Member, Dr Elizabeth Mann. Dr Mann is a qualified General Practitioner and specialist bereavement counsellor. Our Board is comprised of corporate business, legal, accounting and clinical professionals, who meet eight times each year. A finance subcommittee meets at regular intervals between Board meetings to refine, implement and evaluate the outcomes of our fundraising strategy.

Bereavement Counselling Faculty:

The NCCG's current case load is managed by a team of specially trained bereavement counsellors. To specialise in this area and to work at the NCCG, all counsellors must have:

- a tertiary qualification in social work, counselling or psychology.
- attended the NCCG's accredited training courses, including the 'Core Course in Bereavement Counselling', the 'Working with Bereaved Children' and/or 'Working with Bereaved Adults' programs.
- graduated with an NCCG Post Graduate Diploma in Counselling Bereaved Children or Adults.
- a current 'Working with Children' check.
- a current first aid certificate.
- participated in monthly clinical supervision (individual and group) facilitated by Dianne McKissock OAM and Dr Elizabeth Mann.
- participated in a minimum of 20 hours of professional development training annually.
- undertaken child protection training in line with PACFA (Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia) standards.



GOVERNANCE

Our People

Board Members



Dr Elizabeth Mann
NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Clinical Director
National Centre for Childhood Grief
MBBS (USyd),
PostGradDipCoun (InstCoun),
PostGradDipBereaveCouns(Adults/
Children) (BCC); PACFA



Andrew Marchant
NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chief Investment Officer
Minchin Moore Private Wealth Advisers
BComm(AccFin) (UON), GradDipAppFin
(SIA) GradDipFinPl (SIA).



Emmanuelle Delannoy
NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Division Director
Macquarie Group
BA in Mathematics and German
Studies (Cornell University), MBA and
MA (International Studies) (Lauder
Institute at University of Pennsylvania).



Mark Steinberg
CHAIR

Chief Executive Officer
Colonial First State Global Asset
Management
Chartered Accountant; BComm
(HonsAcc) (University Witwatersrand)
and Fellow of the Institute of Chartered
Accountants (ANZ), Member of FINSIA



Robert McRobbie
NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Division Director of Legal, Commodities
and Global Markets Group
Macquarie Group
LLB (UNSW), BA(Pol&EnLit) (UQ),
MSocSci (PolSci) (UQ)



Dr Heidi Coupland
NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Public Health Researcher in Drug
Health Services
Royal Prince Alfred Hospital
BAppSc(OT) (USyd), MPH (UNSW) and
PhD (UNSW).



Deborah Clay
RESIGNED 11 JULY 2017

National News Director
Australian Radio Network



Patrons

Dianne McKissock OAM, Mal McKissock OAM

Bereavement Counsellors & Support Workers

Scott Andrews, Mary Ashton, Nick Backo, Belinda Dunn, Wendy Grant, Kerri Hamer, Elizabeth (Betsy) Hill, Carolyn Johns, Emmanuel (Manny) Kassiotis, Johanna (Joke) Klein-Van Exel, Lillian (Lil) Markovic, Ada Stanton

Operations Staff

Annette Gurr, Valda Tucker



04

Financials



FINANCIALS

Directors' Report

Your directors present their report on the company for the financial year ended 30th June 2018.

Directors

The names of directors in office at the date of this report and during the financial year are as follows:

E. Mann
A. Marchant
R. McRobbie
M. Steinberg
H. Coupland
D. Clay – Resigned 11 July 2017
E. Delannoy

Principal Activity

To develop and maintain a centre of Clinical Excellence to ensure that all bereaved children in NSW and eventually Australia, have access to appropriate support as they grieve, and to provide training and support for those who care for them.

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

Operation Results

The net loss after providing for income tax amounted to \$34,639.72 (2017 \$86,704.08).

Dividends Paid or Recommended

The directors are prohibited from payment of dividends pursuant to the company's Constitution.

Review of Operations

Financial Year 2018 was another successful year for the Centre. In addition to regular counselling services, we continued the successful Peter Coupland Adventure weekends, with two of these weekends held during the year, one for boys and one for girls.

Thank you to all our donors this year including Third Link Investment Managers, St George Foundation, Turks Legal, Macquarie Group Foundation, IMB Bank Foundation, and a number of private individuals who made donations. We receive no government funding and your support is integral to the viability of the charity.

We continue to provide a much needed and highly valued counselling service and this is mainly due to our skilled counsellors, and the Board would like to thank them for their work.

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

No significant change in the state of affairs of the company occurred during the financial year.

After Balance Date Events

Mark Steinberg retired as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company with effect on and from 4 December 2018 in accordance with the Board's governance principles. Robert McRobbie was appointed Chairman with effect from that same date. No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the company in financial years subsequent to the financial year ended 30th June 2018.

Likely Development

We expect our counselling services to be in high demand this coming year and the consequential demand on our finances to be draining. As a charity that relies on donations we will continue our fund raising activities with increased vigour.

Indemnifying Officers or Auditors

The company has not, during or since the financial year, in respect of any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company or of a related body corporate:

indemnified or made any relevant agreement for indemnifying against liability, including costs and expenses in successfully defending legal proceedings; or

paid or agreed to pay a premium in respect of a contract insuring against a liability for the costs or expenses to defend legal proceedings.

Directors' Meetings

The number of directors' meeting held, and directors' attendance at those meetings during the financial year is recorded as follows:

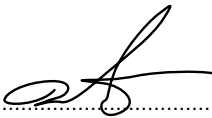
	Attended	No. of Meetings
Mark Steinberg	6	6
Andrew Marchant	5	6
Robert McRobbie	6	6
Elizabeth Mann	6	6
Emmanuelle Delannoy	6	6
Heidi Coupland	6	6
Deborah Clay	1	1

Environmental Issues

The company's operations are not subject to environmental regulation under the law of the Commonwealth and State.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors made pursuant to s298(2) of the Corporations Act 2001.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Director: 
Robert McRobbie

Date: 28 May 2019

FINANCIALS

Auditor's Independence Declaration

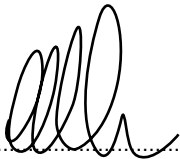
Under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To the directors of National Centre for Childhood Grief Australia Limited.

In relation to our audit of the financial report of National Centre for Childhood Grief Australia Limited for the year ended 30 June 2018, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit: and
- (b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

MOSER BLAND & CO



.....
C. S. Moser
Partner
Chartered Accountant

Date: 2 July 2019

Income Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
Income		
Counselling Revenue	42,908	48,204
Donations Received	383,965	279,812
Grants Received	20,000	-
Interest Received	4,388	5,827
Merchandise Sales	20,565	14,855
Sundry Income	34	1,810
Training Course Sales	27,282	57,120
	499,142	407,628
Expenses		
Auditor's Remuneration	10,150	9,200
Bank Charges	2,039	1,737
Bookkeeping fees & subscriptions	-	1,135
Boys & Girls Weekends	9,600	7,593
Cleaning & Gardening	5,759	7,673
Counselling Materials	1,028	2,037
Counselling Services (BCC)	27,273	22,073
Counsellors' Fees	1,750	4,136
Depreciation	1,587	1,771
Fundraising Expenses	4,296	100
General Expenses	1,353	3,235

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
Expenses (continued)		
Insurance	6,658	6,840
Interest Paid	8	463
Internet & Website Expenses	1,320	4,109
Light, Power & Rates	3,997	5,591
Meeting Costs	6,462	3,571
Postage & Freight	501	1,721
Printing & Stationery	14,146	2,591
Professional Development	107	1,400
Purchases - Merchandise	11,840	12,902
Recruitment Expenses	761	9,440
Rent	37,021	34,524
Repairs & Maintenance	1,764	227
Salaries & Wages	338,762	307,725
Staff Amenities	1,342	2,311
Subscriptions	3,529	1,355
Superannuation Contributions	32,182	29,234
Telephone & Teleconferences	3,440	3,873
Training Costs	5,107	5,765
	533,782	494,332
Net loss	(34,640)	(86,704)
Retained earnings at the beginning of the year	-	-
Transfer from Reserves	34,640	86,704
Retained earnings the end of the year	-	-

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet

As at 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	451,785	482,485
Trade and other receivables	4	13,562	16,932
Total current assets		465,347	499,417
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	5	1,508	2,154
Total non-current assets		1,508	2,154
Total assets		466,855	501,571
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	6	52,017	52,093
Total current liabilities		52,017	52,093
Total liabilities		52,017	52,093
NET ASSETS		414,838	449,478
Equity			
Gift Fund		414,838	449,478
TOTAL EQUITY		414,838	449,478

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

As at 30 June 2018

	Note	2018 (\$)	2017(\$)
Cash Flows from Operating Activities:			
Receipts from operating activities:			
Donations Received		383,965	279,812
Counselling Revenue		42,908	48,204
Grants Received		20,000	-
Interest received		4,388	5,827
Training Course Sales		27,282	57,120
Merchandise Sales		20,564	14,855
Sundry income		35	1,811
Payments for operating activities		(528,901)	(480,390)
Net Cash Used in Operating Activities	1	(29,759)	(72,762)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(941)	(2,263)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held		(30,700)	(75,025)
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		482,485	557,510
Cash at the End of the Financial Year	2	451,785	482,485

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

As at 30 June 2018

	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows		
NOTE 1. Reconciliation of Net Cash provided by Operating Activities to Operating (loss) after income tax	(34,640)	(86,704)
Non Cash Flows in Operating Profit:		
Depreciation and Amortisation of Property, Plant & Equipment	1,587	1,771
Changes in Assets & Liabilities:		
Decrease (Increase) in receivables	3,370	(16,932)
Increase (Decrease) in creditors	(76)	29,103
Net Cash Provided By (Used In) Operating Activities	(29,759)	(72,762)
 NOTE 2. Reconciliation Of Cash For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash and at call deposits with banks, and investments in money market instruments, net of bank overdrafts. Cash at the end of financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:		
Cash at bank and on hand	451,785	482,485

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

The financial statements cover the business of National Centre for Childhood Grief Australia Limited and have been prepared to meet the needs of stakeholders and to assist in the preparation of the tax return.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1. Basis of preparation

The company is non-reporting since there are unlikely to be any users who would rely on the general purpose financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies described below and do not comply with any Australian Accounting Standards unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

2. Summary of significant accounting policies

Revenue and other income

Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be measured reliably. If this is the case then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period.

If the outcome cannot be reliably measured then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

Other

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the company is entitled to it.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

Cash and cash equivalents

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

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is recognised when the business is entitled to it.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be measured reliably. If this is the case then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period. If the outcome cannot be reliably measured then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the company is entitled to it.

	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
3. Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on Hand	686	913
Moser Bland & Co Trust Account	4,684	7,172
Westpac Banking Corporation - Cheque Account	136,622	99,998
Westpac Banking Corporation - Project Account	407	407
ING - Business Optimiser	271,444	347,109
Paypal Account	27,942	26,886
IMB Grant - Young Adults	10,000	-
	451,785	482,485

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
4. Trade and other receivables		
Current		
Trade Debtors	13,562	16,932
	13,562	16,932
5. Property, plant and equipment		
Plant and equipment		
Furniture & Fittings, at Cost	13,487	12,546
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(11,979)	(10,392)
	1,508	2,154
	1,508	2,154
6. Trade and other payables		
Current		
Other Creditors & Accruals	52,017	52,093
	52,017	52,093
7. Reserves		
Gift Fund		
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	449,478	536,182
Transfer to (from) Gift Fund	(34,640)	(86,704)
	414,838	449,478

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2018

	2018 (\$)	2017 (\$)
8. Retained Earnings		
(Net loss) attributable to members of the company	(34,640)	(86,704)
Transfer from/(to) Reserves	34,640	86,704
Retained Earnings at the end of the financial year	-	-

9. Related Party Transactions

Directors:

The names of directors who have held office during the financial year are:
R. McRobbie, M. Steinberg, E. Mann, A. Marchant, H. Coupland, D. Clay, E. Delannoy

No directors were entitled to receive any remuneration during the financial year.

10. Segment Reporting

The company operates predominantly in one industry. The principal activity of the company is to develop and maintain a centre of Clinical Excellence to ensure that all bereaved children in NSW and eventually Australia, have access to appropriate support as they grieve, and to provide training and support for those who care for them.

The company operates predominantly in one geographical area, being NSW, Australia.

11. Financial Instruments

The company has no exposure to interest rate risk.

12. Company Details

The registered office of the company is:

Moser Bland & Co.
Level 10, 31 market Street
Sydney NSW 2000

The principal place of business is:
14 Hollis Avenue
Eastwood NSW 2212

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Director's Declaration

The directors have determined that the company is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

The directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 6, present fairly the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2 to the financial statements; and
2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the board of directors.

Director: 
.....
Robert McRobbie

Date: 28 May 2019

FINANCIALS

Independent Auditor's Report

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of NATIONAL CENTRE FOR CHILDHOOD GRIEF AUSTRALIA LIMITED (A Company Limited by Guarantee), (the company) which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2018, the income statement and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the director's declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the company is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the director of the company, would be in the same terms if given to the director as at the time of this auditors' report.

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

Emphasis of Matter- Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the director's financial reporting responsibilities under the Corporations Act 2001. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Director's for the Financial Report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and is appropriate to meet the needs of users. The directors' responsibility also includes such internal control as the directors determine necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditors' Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report

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

Name of Firm: Moser Bland & Co
Chartered Accountants

Name of Partner: 
Christopher Shedden Moser

Address: Suite 1001 Level 10 31 Market Street Sydney NSW 2000

Date: 2 July 2019



Highlights 2017-18



700+

Individual Counselling
Sessions



22% ↑

Children's Counselling
Sessions from 2016



3,500+

Resources purchased



2

New Grief Publications
by Dianne McKissock OAM



25% ↑

in Counselling Resources



2,000+

Volunteer Hours