

**ST KILDA GATEHOUSE**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2021**





St Kilda  
Gatehouse  
belong connect respect

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St Kilda Gatehouse acknowledges the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present and uphold their continuing relationship to this land.



St Kilda Gatehouse is committed to safe and inclusive workplaces, policies and services for people of LGBTIQ+ communities and their families.

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## OUR VISION

Women involved in street based sex work or young women and girls affected by sexual exploitation have access to the space, support and connections they need to respond to challenges and to cultivate personal strengths aiding recovery and empowerment.

## OUR MISSION

St Kilda Gatehouse takes a relational approach to deliver practical assistance, places of belonging, and to holistically build on strengths and capacity to enable positive pathways for women involved in street based sex work and young women and girls affected by sexual exploitation.

# OUR HISTORY

What began in 1992 as an intentional community of hospitality and support for those experiencing the cycle of homelessness and addiction, has evolved into a highly regarded community organisation and essential service that meets the needs of those who are often 'forgotten' and 'fall through the gaps' of more traditional service providers.

In 1992 the Drop In Centre was opened, strategically located in what was then the heart of Melbourne's Red Light District. The Drop In provides practical assistance and support and is often the first point of call for those living and working on the street who need a safe place of belonging, connection, and respect.

In 2015 the organization opened its Young Women's Project (YWP) in Dandenong working alongside young women and girls aged 12-25 years old affected by child sexual exploitation (CSE), with the aim of intervening earlier, reducing the risk of CSE and its harmful impact on the long-term health, socio-economic and educational outcomes of vulnerable girls and young women.

In 2016 St Kilda Gatehouse began to develop 'ARISE'. This professional development resource equips frontline workers to

understand and respond to the risk factors associated with CSE. Since its launch in 2018, ARISE has been delivered to over 100 practitioners.

In 2017 Greeves St. Social Enterprise was established. The Greeves St. Boutique Op Shop has become a much-loved community hub in the heart of St Kilda and is home for the Craft Group, Greeves St. Voices and opportunities for women to engage in volunteerism, job readiness and skills development.

St Kilda Gatehouse has a long history of working collaboratively with the community sector, Government departments, key agencies, local community groups and individuals to address issues that limit a woman's options. For many who come from challenging backgrounds it's a source of dignity, hope and belonging.

Today St Kilda Gatehouse employs the equivalent of 8 full time staff, is governed by an independent Board and has the commitment of 75 dedicated volunteers across our various programs that help us create our vision and achieve our mission.

# REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

The financial year ended 30 June 2021 has been a year of challenge, review, consolidation and progress. We extend our congratulations and sincere appreciation to our staff and supporters for your efforts, your responses and your continuing passion for the work of SKGH throughout the past year. Despite so much unrest since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the challenges have made us stronger and more resolute in pursuing our shared vision and mission.

As we start the new financial year, we can reflect on the successful completion of year 2 of the St Kilda Gatehouse strategic business plan, which was developed in a pre-pandemic world in April 2019. Year 2 was intended to be a period of consolidation, to establish clear expectations, processes and data collection, and to stabilise our financial position. Despite the circumstances of the past 18 months, which we could not have anticipated in early 2019, we are so close to achieving these goals, with just a few issues still a work-in-progress.

The pandemic revealed a critical deficiency in our practice of operating with a minimal financial buffer over the past decades. The demand for our services is always greater than the funding we receive, and St Kilda Gatehouse has previously used all funds available to optimise our outreach. Consequently, we were hit hard as our funding

pipeline suddenly halted and the global pandemic took hold in Australia. We were immensely grateful for government support through Job Keeper and the ATO Cash Boost, which enabled us to remain solvent and retain our staff.

In accordance with lockdown restrictions, we were able to provide only a limited service to clients throughout the prolonged lockdown in Victoria, which lasted four months from July to October 2020 (refer CEO report). During this time, we restructured our board to bring the skills we needed for the improved governance and oversight of a growing organisation, and we conducted a close review of our outreach services, our internal processes and fundraising to focus on how to improve delivery of each of our strategic goals (see page 12).

Our staff have worked with funding insecurity for their roles for too long, and the pandemic shone a bright light on both their continuing vulnerability and their incredible commitment. St Kilda Gatehouse has long-serving, experienced, loyal staff, further supported by a large group of committed volunteers, all passionate in carrying out our vision and mission on a daily basis. With limited face-to-face outreach permissible during the lockdown, and hence deferral of funding towards future service provision, we have been able to build a small financial buffer.

For the first time since St Kilda Gatehouse commenced outreach 29 years ago, we start the new year with a financial sustainability reserve, which will enable us to plan for the future and grow our outreach.

Year 3 will be our year to review our organisational structure and programs, putting in place the groundwork to grow our outreach and presence, before we set our next 3-year plan in 2022. As we develop social impact measures to describe our services, based on our relational practice model for community development, we see the potential to expand and extend our outreach.

For example, we dream about building a second floor to the Drop In Centre to provide medical and counselling services, in familiar surroundings to those who live with complex trauma and have difficulty accessing these services. We plan to extend delivery of our ARISE professional development courses across the social services sector, so that there is better understanding and recognition of child sexual exploitation. We have started developing materials from our Young Women's Program into an educational program to be provided in schools, thereby extending early intervention and awareness of sexual abuse. We consider that a schools' program will also address the need for better understanding around consent. We would like to open a second boutique Op Shop, to provide a

second source of sustainable funding and another community hub where women can feel safe through social inclusion and develop creative skills that boost confidence and sense of self-worth.

The progress we make in the next few months will be critical to our evaluation of how these goals can form the basis of our strategic business planning next year. We need supporters to partner with us and share our vision and mission. Please join with us as approach 30th-anniversary celebrations in 2022, in building stepping-stones towards achievable goals to maintain and extend support of some of the most vulnerable women and girls in our communities.

With sincere thanks from the Board of St Kilda Gatehouse for your continuing support



S. Dianne Azoor Hughes  
Chair, St Kilda Gatehouse



# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

I could not be prouder of the entire team of St Kilda Gatehouse over the course of this past year. They have continued to innovate and work hard and smart to keep up with the challenges of Covid-19 delivering focused support for women and girls navigating tremendous obstacles in life, many of whom slip through the gaps of traditional support services. The resilience of the women and girls, and their families we support both inspires and challenges us to do our best.

This year we reviewed organisational policies, began updating our client management system, expanded our reach with our social media and regular donor newsletters, strengthened existing and developed new stakeholder relationships and recruited a new Arise Facilitator with the view of delivering professional development focused on understanding and responding to child sexual exploitation in the new financial year.

I wish to thank our incredibly generous supporters, donors, and friends, who continue to surprise and encourage us with the many and creative ways they show how deeply they support the work we do.

Next year St Kilda Gatehouse will celebrate its 30th anniversary. We have much to be grateful for and we have many dreams yet to be realised as we head into a new financial

year from a place of stability and hope. At the very heart of everything we do is our determination to listen and respond to the needs of those who call St Kilda Gatehouse 'home'. We will continue to strengthen our relationships with supporters and stakeholders, seek sustainable funding and remain wholeheartedly committed to creating safe spaces of belonging, connection, and respect for those who most need it.

I hope this annual report inspires and encourages you. Thank you for your wonderful support.



Stacey Aslangul/CEO



Dear Gatehouse

I never thought I'd end up homeless. Words don't really describe the anguish and shame I feel.

I want to thank you for the FB posts this week. Each one reminds me that I'm not alone + how thankful I am for Gatehouse - my home.

Even in lockdowns you are open with food, a smile, clothes and shower.

Homelessness is beyond hard. But you make it a bit easier.

# OUR IMPACT

**2800+**  
VISITS TO OUR PROGRAMS

The Drop In is an open access support centre for women involved in street-based sex work.

The Young Women's Project provides specialised support for young women and girls aged 12-25 at risk of sexual exploitation.

The Greeves St. Social Enterprises operates as a boutique Op Shop and host for the Craft Group.

**320**  
FORMS OF HOUSING SUPPORT

Includes referrals to primary housing services, access to lockers, backpack bedding, use of shower and laundry.

**5223**  
ITEMS OF MATERIAL AID

Includes meals, groceries, clothing, shoes and toiletries.

## 6218 HARM MINIMISATION

Provided syringes, condoms and duress alarms, plus face masks and sanitiser across all programs as needed.

## 942 FORMS OF TARGETED SUPPORT

Our programs include parental support, pharmacotherapy, community overdose prevention and social inclusion programs that focus on emotional wellbeing and interpersonal skills development.

## 443 MENTORING AND EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

Support sessions focus on, sexual, AOD and mental health, informal counselling and child sexual exploitation risk factors.

## 216 ADVOCACY AND REFERRALS

Connections to primary services for health and wellbeing, legal and housing.

# STRATEGIC PLAN OVERVIEW

In 2019 St Kilda Gatehouse developed a 3-year Strategic Plan. In collaboration with St Kilda Gatehouse staff, community, key supporters and state-holders we committed to four strategic directions to help shape our future service delivery, social impact and sustainability as an organisation.

Our four Strategic Directions are:



St Kilda Gatehouse operates in a highly complex environment. This strategic plan guides the way we provide support for women and girls navigating life in extremely difficult circumstances as well as inform the implementation of key initiatives.

# A NOTE ABOUT COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to disrupt every aspect of St Kilda Gatehouse' operations this past year and continues to disproportionately impact the welfare and health of the vulnerable women and girls we support. Ongoing lockdowns, insecure housing and limited access to the usual supports and services are leaving women and girls feeling more isolated and vulnerable than ever before.

As the new financial year begun, it quickly became apparent that the impact of the pandemic was continuing to see a demand for food, material aid, and crisis support. We have also experienced a rise in service providers requesting our assistance in contacting clients. During lockdowns - when other agencies close their premises - our Drop In has remained open and become a central 'hub' where services can connect both in person and via phone with their clients. This has been increasingly important in maintaining care for clients and building our relationship with primary service providers. The retail sector has been hit hard by Covid-19 and our Greeves St. social enterprise and Op Shop has felt this impact having to close its doors for many months.

The need for informal counselling, harm minimisation assistance and education, and referrals to primary health services continues to increase with the extension of lockdowns. Vulnerable women and girls are seeking support from the St Kilda Gatehouse team, many of whom already experience significant disadvantage, isolation, mental health challenges and housing insecurity.

As an organisation we are compliant with the Victorian Government Public Health orders and have an active Covid Safe Plan that ensures we deliver a safe service. We will consider all Covid-19 and mandated vaccination guidelines and remain committed to providing a safe environment for all who work, participate, and engage with our programs.





# THE YOUNG WOMEN'S PROJECT

*by Rebecca Roberts, YWP Program Manager*

In October 2020 I joined the team as Program Manager for the Young Women's Project (YWP). As a team, we have experienced some significant changes this past year to ensure best practice and moved from our Dandenong premises to office space in Bayswater. It is a great privilege to be involved, providing support and leadership for the team, and seeking ways we can continue to strengthen our service delivery for the vulnerable young women and girls we support.

Over the past year, we have continued to be affected by the Covid - 19 pandemic. Not only have the constant changes in restrictions and lockdowns impacted heavily on the mental health and vulnerability of the young women we work with, it has also meant that we have needed to evaluate how we work in order to provide the most effective support for them at such a difficult time. The team are able to adapt quickly to telehealth support when necessary as well as maintain face-to-face contact in a covid safe way.

We have continued to provide outreach, working with over 35 young women with a focus on providing intentional 1:1 support and being a safe consistent person in a young woman's often chaotic life. We have also continued to receive referrals and requests for secondary consultations from local organisations and the Department of Families Fairness and Housing (DFFH).

Together with City Life Casey, we have hosted two birthday and Christmas parties, to celebrate the young women we support. This is always such a great opportunity to speak value into their lives and celebrate them in a practical and meaningful way.

Our group work program has continued to provide a safe space for young women to connect and be supported. This year we implemented a Coffee Club. This aims to provide connection, community, and peer-to-peer support. Thanks to Victoria Stables (Equine program) and Explore Youth and Family Therapy (adventure program) we have continued to provide opportunities for small groups of young women to have some 'time out' away from their day-to-day distractions and stresses. These outdoor experiences in and amongst nature provide opportunity for education, insight, and reflection.

Another highlight has been the development of a school based early intervention group work program, for young women at risk. This is to be piloted in term four and we are really excited about future opportunities within this space. It is a preventative program with the aim of educating, empowering and building protective factors for young women, as well as supporting wellbeing teams in their role.

## A STORY FROM THE YOUNG WOMEN'S PROJECT

Meet \*Emma:

A year ago a local doctor contacted the Young Women's Project seeking support for a patient who had disclosed several traumatic experiences including assault. The doctor was concerned that with Emma's history of abuse, family breakdown, mental health challenges and lack of social and community connections she was extremely vulnerable to being targeted for sexual exploitation. Emma was living in a caravan park with her family, sleeping on the couch with no heating or cooling and struggling at school. Emma and her family had only recently arrived in Australia and there were a lot of factors working against her - her family situation, vulnerability, being bullied at school, socially isolated and a lack of confidence in herself and her abilities. Emma quickly embraced the opportunity for outreach support and committed to our group work program. She has loved attending the fortnightly coffee club and adventure therapy as well as benefiting from one-on-one outreach support. One year on, Emma has almost completed Year 12, has managed to get a part time job on her own, and has found stable housing for her and her siblings. She has grown confident in voicing her opinions and understands that boundaries are important for her wellbeing and safety. She has learnt the importance of a healthy diet and has discovered things that help her maintain good mental and physical health. Emma recently commented to her YWP outreach worker: "Thank you for all of your support and care. I would not be in this place without it."

## FROM YWP OUTREACH WORKER

"Lockdown is hard for everyone. With it comes social isolation, increased anxiety, and all sorts of other mental health issues within communities. But there have also been some beautiful spotlights of humanity shining through this time. We sat at the beach close to her house drinking hot chocolates, eating cookies and enjoying the sunshine. This is where she began to unpack and explore her feelings. She speaks about how this lockdown has impacted her and that she has begun to explore mindfulness - just a short time each morning makes the world of difference. This space has allowed her to learn more about who she is, her resilience and her ability to heal and let go of past traumas. We have been able to discuss her strengths and passion for equality and fairness. We explore our own self-esteem and how it is intricately linked to our general well-being. She begins to laugh and share her dreams with me as we sit and continue to watch the water lap on the beach. This is the reward during lockdown. It may be tough, but these glimmers of hope, for even an hour, can help us dream of a healthier and safer future."





# DROP IN

*by Jim Panakos, Drop In Manager*

This past financial year COVID has impacted us all in many ways. As an essential service the Drop In has remained open throughout the year and we adjusted our client face-to-face contact hours to ensure we could engage with clients as best as possible, as well as maintain a covid safe environment. Serving our community of clients, many of whom have complex needs and no traditional family supports, has been both incredibly challenging and rewarding.

Sadly, for the majority of the year, our dedicated and experienced volunteers had to take a break especially during the lockdowns – greatly missed by clients and staff alike.

Recurring homelessness, mental health issues, substance abuse, legal issues, increase in social isolation and loneliness, financial hardship, anxiety, depression, fear regarding the uncertainty of the future, have been some of the issues our clients have experienced.

It soon became apparent that there was a growing need to provide information and education about Covid-19 safe practices, restrictions, vaccinations and misinformation.

Despite the challenges of the year the Drop In has continued to be a safe haven for those we support. A few highlights include:

Due to the limited space in the Drop In Centre, and restricted airflow of the building we accessed funds through Igniting Change and Grace Community Church to erect an adjustable roof pergola.

In between lockdowns, and with the assistance of volunteers the pergola was fitted in the front yard. The pergola gives us another space to safely interact with clients in the open air, and clients also have a space to rest, access the services and support they need and take refuge from the rain.

With funding received from the City of Port Philip ten mobile smart phones with twelve months of phone credit were purchased and given to mothers (mostly isolated) wanting to remain in touch with family, children, and agency workers. The feedback was very positive regarding this project. One of the participants stated, “This is fantastic. I can keep in touch with my family and workers and won’t be seen as neglecting my kids”.

We repurposed our Tarago van to provide weekly outreach. The outreach van has enabled us to remain engaged with clients who have stable housing and help us reach the needs of the homeless community who access emergency housing in hotels during lockdowns.

We provide wellbeing checks, emergency relief such as food parcels, meals, face masks, hand sanitiser, clothing, toiletries, etc, harm minimisation support and informal counselling. We also provide follow up care between visits.

## A STORY FROM DROP IN

Meet \*Helen:

Helen and her partner \*David first accessed St Kilda Gatehouse Drop In centre about 18 years ago.

Having experienced several childhood trauma's, mental health challenges and various attempts at rehab, Helen was introduced to street sex work by her drug dealer. This has led to a cycle of poverty and addiction which has severely impacted her life. Yet, amidst the turmoil Helen and David met, fell in love, and began their life together.

Life has been hard for Helen and David. They have fallen in and out of homelessness and at times would squat or sleep rough on the streets. When Helen became pregnant, she and David made a promise to each other that they would stop using and for a time life was OK. When their son, \*Tim was 5 years old Helen fell back into drug use while David continued to care for their son with the help of his mother. David's allocated support worker from St Kilda Gatehouse would visit him regularly supporting him in any way possible. Other Drop In support workers continued to engage with Helen providing day to day care and harm reduction support.

Each week David and Tim would meet with their support worker and share a meal together at Hungry Jacks. This became their tradition and provided the Drop In support worker opportunity to work with the Department of Families to help David maintain custody of Tim, ensure he was remaining connected to the support he needed, and cover the cost of David's methadone program and provided material aid and food to help offset the cost of living for David.

But tragedy hit and sadly David lost custody of his son Tim. Helen and David were back on the streets, living in their VW van and trying to make ends meet. They would come to St Kilda Gatehouse every day for support, friendship, encouragement, hot meals, clothing and a safe place to rest. Life on the streets is dangerous and David's van was involved in an accident and written off, meaning they lost their housing as well as transportation. Soon after that Helen was the victim of a violent assault and so seriously injured that she spent many months in hospital recovering.

While in hospital St Kilda Gatehouse was the first phone call Helen made. Staff and volunteers visited her regularly providing love and moral support. Over time Helen recovered but the ongoing trauma stays with her.

Once discharged from hospital Helen and David ended up sleeping rough. In the winter months they could be seen asleep on the couches of drop in keeping warm from the cold. Neighbours and local agencies would express their concern for the couple as their health and wellbeing rapidly declined. The Drop In team referred them to housing, legal and other specialist services along with providing parental support, pharmacotherapy and remembering and celebrating their birthdays. When David passed away from an accident, we assisted Helen in organising the funeral.

You would think that all this suffering and disadvantage would render someone paralysed. However, Helen fights on with her head held high. She is a strong, intelligent woman now drug free and working towards her goals including being reunited with her children and family.





# GREEVES ST. OP SHOP

*by Andie Patchett*

In November 2020, our shop doors reopened after Melbourne's big lockdown, and customers streamed in, a little cautiously at first, but then with great gusto. It was fantastic to welcome back our customers and community and we are grateful for our many volunteers who step up to help with Covid safe measures.

We updated our antiquated Point of Sale system to SquareUp which has simplified our accounting processes. This system is easier to manage, and we can train staff and key volunteers in a transferable skill.

Covid-19 restrictions and lockdowns have impacted our 2020-2021 sales dramatically. Like many others in the retail sector Greeves St Op Shop has suffered. We also farewelled several valued volunteers who have taken the opportunity to make 'tree changes' away from St Kilda. Two new participants joined the existing sewing group this year, so we now hold two craft groups each week outside of lockdowns. During lockdowns craft groups catch up via Zoom each week, however there are women who can't participate because they disengage if they can't be face to face or don't have access to reliable technology.

Women we support at St Kilda Gatehouse continued to visit the shop for a range of reasons including emergency support such as clothing and toiletries. For many women the Shop provides a safe and quiet space where they can use our computers to stay connected with family and access agencies, such as Centrelink. They also have opportunities to volunteer at the shop and, for the first time this year, to sleep. As lockdowns lifted and emergency housing opportunities evaporated, women quickly returned to their reality of homelessness. We created a sleep space to support women who needed a safe place to rest.

In early 2021 we were immensely fortunate to have three professional jewellers share their skills with a small cohort of women we support, to help them produce quality semi-precious jewellery. This program has been very popular. Four women have now graduated with their own jewellery making kit and sales opportunities through Greeves St. Op Shop and online.

## A STORY FROM GREEVES ST.

We knew Joy years ago when she was involved in street sex work before the Greeves St. Op Shop opened. Back then Joy attended our sewing group which used to meet in the city. This is where we first dreamt of a boutique Op Shop in St Kilda, where we might also sell products handmade by our community of women. Joy graduated from the sewing group just before our Greeves St. Op Shop opened. She like all of us from the sewing group was thrilled that the dream of an Op Shop had become a reality and her wonderfully perfect handmade products sold quickly. But sadly, Joy slipped back into addiction, and we lost contact. It was sometime later that Joy reconnected with us, reengaged with our programs, and soon graduated from the jewellery course and began selling her gorgeous earrings. Joy, after decades of drug dependency, has since found the strength and support to get clean from her Ice and Marijuana addiction. Joy volunteers regularly at our Op Shop, has learnt back of house processes such as the donation and sorting process, understands the pricing procedure, and has now been trained to use the SquareUp Point of Sale system. Joy is studying at university and receiving incredibly high marks. She is confident and strong and working towards her goals. We are so excited for her future and will continue to provide opportunities for skills development and support her through community and friendship.

*“In craft group I get to build a practicality that I’ve never had before but always needed - a structure. This translates to other parts of my life. It grounds me.”*

*“I love when women come into the shop over the weekends and offer to help. They pick up a broom, sort the books, and generally just help us out. I know how they feel because I used to work on the streets. The value is being able to give back to St Kilda Gatehouse. It makes you feel useful.”*



# ST KILDA GATEHOUSE FINANCES 20-21

*by Helen Colston*

During the financial year ending 30 June 2021, we have seen the generosity and goodwill of Individuals, Corporates, Trusts and Foundations, Local and State Government, Churches, Small Business and more reflected in our financial figures.

Whilst the impact of COVID has been challenging, the assistance of JobKeeper and cash flow boosts (\$303,030) contributed enormously to continue providing a consistent program and service throughout the year, albeit operating at limited capacity due to restrictions. This has meant we have finished the year reporting a surplus of \$368,302.

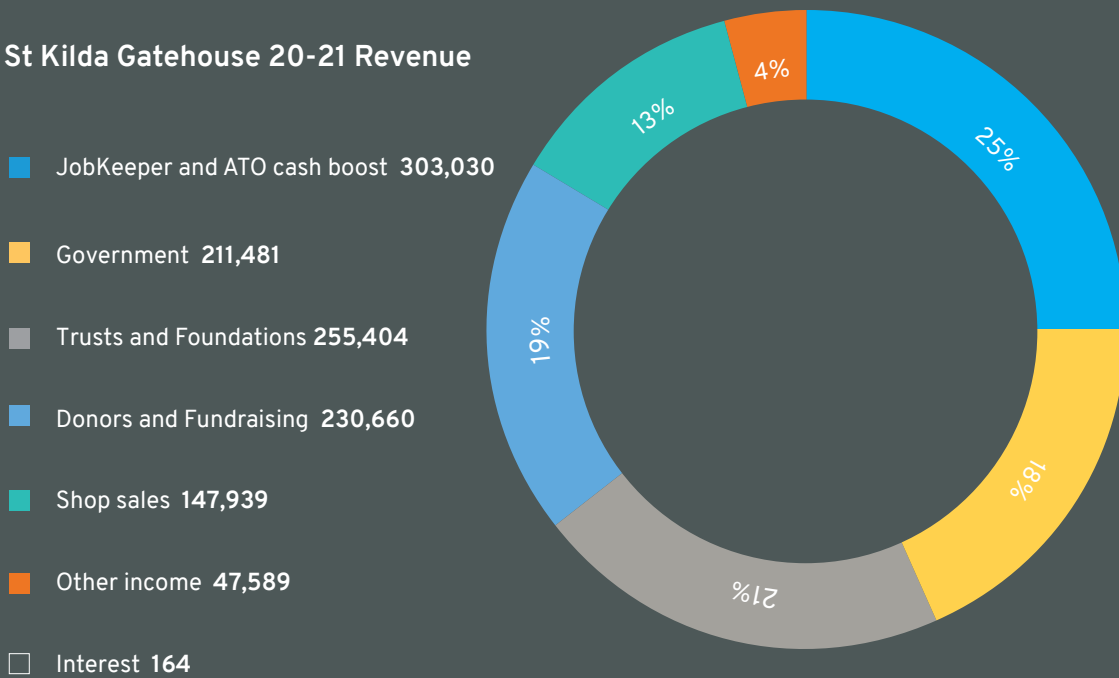
With only limited face-to-face contact permissible during the lockdown, and hence deferral of funding towards future service provision, we have been able to build a small financial buffer. For the first time since St Kilda Gatehouse commenced operating 29 years ago, we have been able to start the new financial year with a financial sustainability reserve, which will enable us to plan for the future and grow our services.

The in-kind contributions in the form of material goods, volunteering time and labour are not reflected in the below numbers but we would like to acknowledge the enormous significance and importance these contributions have made in running our various programs affectively.

## Income Statement

Total Revenue	20-21	19-20
Income	\$1,196,267	\$936,819
Expenses	\$827,965	\$878,018
Net Profit/(Loss)	\$368,302	\$58,801

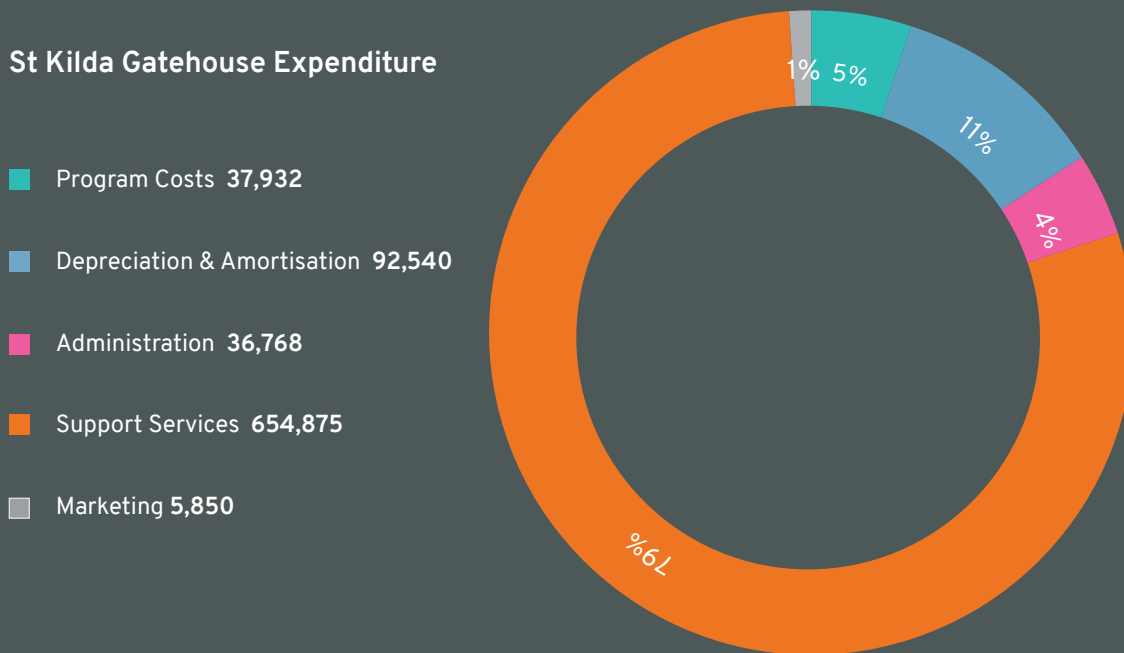
### St Kilda Gatehouse 20-21 Revenue



### Where your funds were invested

St Kilda Gatehouse operated three main service delivery programs this past year (the Drop In Centre, Young Women’s Project and the Greeves St Op Shop incorporating the craft groups). Support services and program costs represents a total 84% of all expenditure in the last financial year. Allocated funding was directed toward the particular program for which funds were given in accordance with funding agreements and requirements.

### St Kilda Gatehouse Expenditure



*\* please see our website or the ACNC to download a complete audited report of financial statements for more information*

# OUR BOARD

The St Kilda Gatehouse Board meets each month and has responsibility for strategy, governance, financial management and significant operational decisions. Each member of the Board brings their experience and expertise to St Kilda Gatehouse, and we thank them for their skill and dedication.

Dianne Azoor Hughes – *Chair of the Board*

John Sutherland – *Secretary*

Andrew North – *Treasurer*

Desiree Smit – *Member*

Linda Wise – *Member*

Alan Marr – *Member*



# DONORS & SUPPORTERS

St Kilda Gatehouse is a strong believer in the power of community, collaboration, and partnership. We are extremely thankful to all the organisations who share our vision of creating a fairer and more just world for vulnerable women and girls, and have worked alongside us to pursue this goal:

Victorian Government	Share the Dignity
City of Port Phillip	Fitted for Work
Bank of Melbourne Foundation	Dress for Success
Streetsmart Australia	The Bennett Group
The Jack Brockhoff Foundation	Price Waterhouse Coopers
Feed Melbourne	Collins Biggers Paisley
Etre Foundation	Urban Zeal
Igniting Change	RSM Australia Pty Ltd
Flora & Frank Leith	Community Care St Kilda (SKBBS)
Gandel Foundation	The Erdi Foundation
Gospel Resource	IRESS
Soroptimist International Brighton	Bombardier
Oz Harvest	TLC
St Kilda Mums	Conekter
Kogo	YAFT (Youth & Family Therapy)
Whitelion	Barnabas Group
Churches of Christ Victoria	Mildura Church of Christ
CityLife Casey	Southern Community Church of Christ
Grace Church of Christ	Westpac Bank – St Kilda
St Kilda/Elsternwick Baptist Church	The Bourne Foundation
Victoria's Stables	MacPherson Kelly Foundation
Foodbank	Port Phillip Community Group
Soupees	Community Bank Windsor
Pinchapoo	Pitcher Partners

We also wish to thank and acknowledge all the wonderful donations and in kind support we receive from the broader community as well as those who wish to remain anonymous. Thank you for your generosity.

# OUR VOLUNTEERS

**“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”**

*African Proverb*

St Kilda Gatehouse relies on the support and generosity of about 75 wonderful humans who regularly volunteer their time and energy.

From sorting clothes, pricing, preparing food, providing a listening ear, to business and IT support, design, fundraising activity, and event management – our incredible team of volunteers dedicate hours to ensure St Kilda Gatehouse continues to provide spaces of belonging, connection, and respect.

During various stages of Covid-19 lockdowns our volunteer teams have not been able to assist as they usually would. Despite not being able to attend in person, we have kept in touch with our volunteer community via virtual catch ups, emails, and phone calls. Staying in touch has kept spirits high and reminded us that kindness and humanity have the power to change the world.

We wish to thank all our volunteers for their amazing contribution. We couldn't do it without you!

“Volunteering at St Kilda Gatehouse makes me happy and gives me perspective. It means I'm contributing to something bigger than myself. It has also enriched my friendship circle and I always learn something new through the people I meet and the conversations I've have. It's a real privilege for me to be part of it all at (St Kilda) Gatehouse.”

*Greeves St Op Shop Volunteer*

“Every one of my years at Gatehouse has had its share of challenges. This last year has been exceptional in many ways and no doubt has affected us all to different degrees. I am very fortunate to have a secure roof over my head and to know that my family is safe. Our clients don't have this security. Each time I hear a news item which could involve our clients I worry and wonder if the story concerns “one of ours”.

*Drop In Volunteer*



