



MISSION AUSTRALIA
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Mission Australia is a non-denominational community service organisation that has been transforming lives for more than 150 years. Today our community and employment services help more than 300,000 Australians a year to get back on their feet.

Our vision is to see a fairer Australia by enabling people in need to find pathways to a better life. We do this by delivering services that strengthen families and children, empower youth and provide pathways away from homelessness and into employment.

By learning from others and sharing what works well, we deliver positive outcomes for individuals, families and communities. We work to stop problems before they start, provide support to prevent situations from getting worse and form partnerships to find long-term solutions to community issues.

During 2012 we delivered 28 community services (including two Early Learning Services) in this state that supported children, families, young people and adults. Our Employment Solutions teams worked from four sites to help job seekers take the steps towards gaining lasting work.

It was a year that saw our creation of a clear pathway between our Youth Beat outreach service, crisis accommodation and drug and alcohol services in Perth's inner city. As a result, vulnerable young people now need only tell their story once and we can respond with a range of linked support services.

Throughout the year our homelessness and youth support professionals continued to work closely with Department of Housing staff to ensure disadvantaged families and individuals were safely housed.

We are blessed with a team who bring their individual gifts and passion to their roles. Whether it's working with children and families, youth, people struggling with drug, alcohol or mental health issues or homelessness, our 200 staff give their all.

Mission Australia is also proud of the strong relationships it enjoys with government, other not-for-profits, local business and community volunteers. Working together we will create a safer, healthier and happier Western Australia.

In 2012 our **200** employees delivered:



2

children and family services that supported

974 individuals and 40 families. We also ran 2 Early Learning Services.



10

youth services that supported

1,615 individuals.



13

homelessness services that supported

416 individuals and 85 families.



1

life and work-ready skills service that supported

76 individuals.



3

Employment Solutions programs that supported

4,205 job seekers and placed 2,521 people in employment.

In total these services helped **3,081 individuals and 284 families.**

In 2012 Mission Australia strengthened families and children, empowered youth, strived to solve homelessness and supported job seekers through 28 community services, including two Early Learning Services, and from four Employment Solutions sites.

Among these services were:

Pathways to strong families and healthy, happy children

Reconnect, Mandurah: A service for young people and their families who are experiencing conflict and communication difficulties. Individual and family counselling, advocacy, mediation and practical support is provided to reconcile differences. In 2012 Reconnect worked with 40 families.

Mission Australia Early Learning Services: Throughout the financial year we operated early learning services at Parmelia and Wambro. We also won Australian Defence Force contracts to operate two long day care and before and after school care services at Bullsbrook and Swanbourne. We commenced management of these in July 2012.

Pathways through a successful youth

Youth Beat, Perth: In 2012 the Department of Child Protection's Inner City/Northbridge At Risk Youth Service contract enabled us to extend our youth services to the inner-city. Under the Youth Beat title, we work with the Nyoongar Patrol and police to operate an outreach service for at-risk youth on the streets at night, and run early intervention, referral and recreation programs. The relationship of the Youth Beat service with Nyoongar staff has developed significantly over the year, resulting in increased referrals and collaboration in working with Aboriginal families.

Drug and Alcohol Youth Service

(DAYS), Perth: Incorporating Next Step and our Withdrawal and Rehabilitation units, it is an entry point to treatment for young West Australians with alcohol and other drug issues. In 2012 we developed clinical pathways between DAYS and Youth Accommodation Support Service, which assists 15 to 18-year-olds in crisis.



Mandy (pictured), first slept rough at 13 and started using drugs at 15. After leaving juvenile detention, she had a son. When he was taken away, many lost hope in her.

“Mandy had been in and out of refuges and faced sleeping rough again,” said Michelle Bryan, a Housing Support Worker from Wattle House, our family support and accommodation centre in Perth’s Maddington.

Michelle helped Mandy address her drug and alcohol issues, and worked with the Department of Housing to find her a house. She now shares her home with her new partner, baby and son.

“If I didn’t have that support when I was homeless, I’d be in jail,” Mandy said.

Pathways away from homelessness

The Supported Housing Assistance Program, Perth: Based in Balcatta, this program gives people at risk of losing public housing tenancies the appropriate support to stay housed. In 2012 the WA Department of Housing funding enabled us to halve the service’s waiting list from 80 to 40 people.

Catalyst Clemente, Maddington: Mission Australia operates this free humanities education program in partnership with Edith Cowan University. Delivered in our Wattle House community setting, Catalyst Clemente offers socially supported university education to people who have experienced significant life challenges, including homelessness, mental health issues and family breakdown. This program is made possible thanks to our volunteer Learning Partners. In 2012 Catalyst Clemente worked with 12 people.

Pathways for life and work-ready skills

Language Literacy and Numeracy Program (LLNP), Geraldton: LLNP is a Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE) service that helps job seekers aged from 15 to 64 to improve their speaking, listening, reading, writing and maths skills. This free program is available to people with English as a second language, as well as native English-speakers with limited education. In 2012 LLNP Geraldton worked with 76 people.

Pathways to sustainable employment:

Mission Australia’s Employment Solutions: This division provided three Australian Government programs in Western Australia during 2012 from four sites – Job Services Australia (from Carnarvon, Geraldton and Meekatharra) and the New Enterprise Incentive Scheme, which assists job seekers to establish their own small businesses (from Maddington). We also delivered Australian Apprenticeships Centres until June 2012



Mission Australia is proud to work with a range of organisations – from government agencies to not-for-profits and businesses – to support disadvantaged West Australians.

We would like to thank the following for supporting our work:

- > Apache Energy
- > Australian Government Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE)
- > Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
- > Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- > Bankwest
- > BHP Billiton Iron Ore
- > City of Perth
- > The Fogarty Foundation
- > Paul Griffin Charitable Trust
- > Kerry Harmanis
- > The John and Beryl May Henderson Foundation, managed by Perpetual
- > Lotterywest
- > Mental Health Commission
- > McCusker Charitable Foundation
- > Joshua Pitt
- > South West Development Commission
- > WA Department for Child Protection
- > WA Department for Communities
- > WA Department of Housing
- > WA Department for Corrective Services
- > WA Drug and Alcohol Office
- > WA Police Service
- > Wesfarmers Limited
- > Woodside Energy
- > Wythenshawe Pty Ltd

Many thanks also to our wonderful volunteers and advocates!



If your business or organisation would like to help us to create a fairer Western Australia for all, please contact us at:

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