



# **2021-22 Annual Report**

**Kara**  
family violence service





Julie Coombes, a proud Wurundjeri and Burnurong woman and representative of the Traditional Custodians of the land we gather on, delivered “Welcome to Country” at our new development.



In the spirit of reconciliation, Kara Family Violence Service acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



Kara Family Violence Service acknowledges and supports people from the LGBTQIA+ community. We are committed to supporting and ensuring our team and clients feel safe to be seen and treated as they are.



# We have a new name and look

## Rebranding

After 44 years, Kara House has updated our name to Kara Family Violence Service. A small change perhaps, but for us it better reflects the range of services we provide to the many women and children in our crisis accommodation and the wider community.

Embedded in our new logo is the merit of 44 years of history supporting women and children along with a clearly stated purpose. It’s fresh and modern look represents our expert advice, grounded presence and inclusion. The new colour palette retains the purple hues of the women’s movement and aqua reflects a brighter and optimistic future.

Although our look and name has changed, our priority continues to be the safety of women and children experiencing family violence, and we remain supportive, efficient and independent enabling us to respond quickly to the individual needs of victim-survivors.

# Kara

family violence service



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# Who we are

Kara Family Violence Service provides safety, support and education for women and children impacted by family violence.



For 44 years Kara Family Violence Service has supported victims of family and domestic violence. Our specialist service offers high security accommodation, transitional housing support, outreach support, secondary consultations, and therapeutic and educational community programs across the Eastern suburbs of Melbourne.

We work with all women and children of all ages including people with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This year we worked with people from 38 linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds.

As part of the Victorian women's refuge service system, we offer highly secure crisis accommodation for women and their children who are in need of relocation to ensure their safety and provide specialist family violence support. In the wider community we support women and children who are residing in transitional housing or their own accommodation with support services and education programs to develop their long-term resilience.

We encourage and empower women to make well-informed choices which help them transition out of our service and into lives free of violence.

## Acknowledgement

The Kara Family Violence Service Board and team acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government and the staff in the Eastern Region for their ongoing support.



# Message from the Chair

## A year of challenges and achievements

This year has been the biggest in the history of our organisation. Kara House rebranded ourselves as **Kara Family Violence Service**, acknowledging our transformation from a refuge into an organisation that supports women and children in a multitude of ways. Our outreach services have grown many times over, with expanded offerings.

Thanks to the **Victorian Government**, in May we took over our new crisis accommodation facility. This new space gives independence and dignity to our clients with their needs at the forefront of the thoughtful design. We have a dedicated Child and Youth Practitioner, taking forward our commitment to building resilience in our youngest clients. Recently we were able to bring on a Housing Support Worker to ensure families are set up sustainably when leaving our crisis accommodation.

Our new location accommodates pets along with families – an important service that helps make the decision to leave an abusive situation that much simpler. This new location operates as a 24/7 responsive service, which has seen us add three new Support Workers to provide our overnight response.

Kara FVS continues to have strong partnership with our individual donors, corporate donors and not-for-profit organisations who continue to help support our clients with additional material aid and services.

The Kara FVS team, headed up by Veronica Coleman has turned the new facility into a homely space for those seeking respite from family violence. The new services mean our clients are better cared for than ever before. The team are a living testament to the values of Kara FVS, and their work is transforming the lives they touch.

With all this growth and change, it is with a heavy heart that I have made the decision to retire from my role as Chair of Kara FVS and will leave the board after our AGM. We have strong leadership in our board, and at our AGM the new office bearers will be elected and new board members will be confirmed. A huge note of thanks to the board, all of whom are volunteers bringing their expertise to Kara FVS. Any Chair would be blessed to work with a group like this, and I have treasured my time with both the board and our Kara FVS team. Onward and upward for Kara FVS!

Catherine

**Catherine Lockstone**  
Chair – Kara Family Violence Service Board



# Strategic priorities

## Priorities for 2022/22

Kara Family Violence Service provides services to women and their children affected by domestic and family violence under the guiding principle that all women and children should have the right to live free from family violence, harassment, discrimination and abuse. Kara FVS operates from a trauma informed, feminist and intersectional perspective, using best practice and recognising the gendered nature of domestic and family violence.



## Vision

Kara House supports the rights of women and children to live safely and without fear of violence.

## Mission

> To provide support to women and their children impacted by family violence.

### We do this by:

- > Advocating on behalf of our diverse client base and the Domestic and Family Violence sector.
- > Being responsive and adaptable in our service delivery.
- > Contributing towards changing the story around wider awareness of Domestic and Family Violence.
- > Actively collaborating for a sustainable future.



# Message from the Manager

## A year of growth and development

The last 12 months have seen us finally commence operations in our new 24/7 crisis accommodation. Thanks to the support of partner organisations, the **Department of Families Fairness and Housing**; particularly in the Inner East, Homes Vic and well organised staff, the end result saw us thoroughly prepared and ensured a smooth transition to the new site. Although we were well prepared and moved in mid-May we didn't welcome our first clients until June. The time in-between was certainly not wasted and was taken up with welcoming and training new staff and stocking up client units and communal spaces. In July 2022 we were fortunate to have Wurundjeri and Burnurong woman Julie Coombes perform a Welcome to Country on site, to mark our transition. The new crisis accommodation has generous communal spaces and gives us the ability to conduct activities and has accessible areas for practitioners to meet with clients both formally and ad hoc; vital for engagement.

Post Covid we have continued to provide our family violence support group in the community and now that we are located in the City of Monash will work towards expanding our collaboration and groupwork into this area. While we are a provider of crisis accommodation a lesser-known facet of our service is outreach support and the past year has seen a significant increase in the outreach support we provide to women in the community and those accommodated in motels short term, prior to entering crisis accommodation.

During this past year we made the decision to change our name. Kara House has been our name for over 44 years, but it no longer clearly reflected the breadth of our services. Feedback, however indicated that there was an enormous amount of value in honouring our history and so we chose to retain the Kara and clearly define that we are a family violence service by renaming to Kara Family Violence Service. We also changed our brand image and we are working on this flowing through to a new website due for launch in early 2023.

Just as Kara FVS staff have experienced some changes this year so to has our Board. We will be losing some long-term members, including our Chair, Catherine Lockstone, but gaining some fresh faces. We wish them all the best and thank them for their oversight and support of Kara FVS over the years and trust they have also gained some knowledge of the challenges our clients, the team and the sector face. The Kara FVS team remains strong and united. For the most part our team, especially the Specialist Family Violence Practitioners, are young and enthusiastic. Their youth however belies their maturity. It is truly a pleasure to work with the whole team on a daily basis and we are very proud of the reputation we have built for flexibility and client focus. We look forward to further growth and development over the year to come.

Veronica

**Veronica Coleman**  
Manager – Kara Family Violence Service



# Our team is growing

## Now offering a 24/7 service with an expanded team

The last 12 months has seen some significant changes to our staff team. We have expanded to provide the enhanced support to women and children on site, that our new accommodation allows, but have also seen staff changes through maternity leave, study and career change. Although some staff have moved into a new phase of their professional and personal development, they are warmly remembered and always remain part of the Kara FVS staff team.

Our expansion has seen the employment of 3 overnight support workers, a child and youth worker and a housing worker. The new support workers provide added security and a point of contact for women and children, especially on weekends and afterhours, while the child and youth worker position is dedicated to the assessment, engagement and wellbeing of children of all ages. The Housing worker position is one of the most challenging in the current and ongoing climate of housing shortage and lack of affordable rentals. Women have welcomed the assistance and we have had some small, initial successes

As always, we have been very pleased to welcome new team members and students this year and are proud to acknowledge that we provide a broad and comprehensive deep dive into the family violence sector, producing skilled and professional team members, in all areas of the organisation.



How do you feel about the transition to the new location?

“It’s great to have easy and more regular access to our clients”

How do you describe the teamwork at Kara FVS?

“It’s excellent, I feel supported by my colleagues.”

What’s your favourite thing about working at Kara FVS?

“I enjoy how much the team works together assisting the clients, no matter their circumstances.”



# Our new crisis accommodation

"Everything is so neat and clean... many, many trees... the bed is so warm and comfortable."

Nyala\* – the first client welcomed to the new accommodation



Three bedroom unit

## After one or two delays we welcomed clients to our new crisis accommodation

Located in Melbourne's Eastern suburbs, the site offers secure and safe accommodation for people impacted by family violence and in need of relocation to ensure their safety. The site was built by the Victorian Government in response to the 2015 Royal Commission into family violence that recognised the communal refuge model was not conducive to the recovery of victim survivors.

### The site is made up of six separate units to suit different client groups

- > 2 x one-bedroom units
- > 1 x two-bedroom disability unit
- > 3 x three-bedroom units

Each unit offers large kitchen, dining and lounge areas, spacious bedrooms, as well as an outdoor courtyard or private balcony.

New and secure meeting rooms and outdoor courtyards will afford team privacy when meeting with clients one-on-one. A sleepover room for team members is a comfortable space to stay overnight enabling us to offer 24/7 support for clients in residence. The multipurpose room will be used to facilitate activities like cooking, art and specialist children's groups.



Three bedroom unit



Three bedroom unit



Outdoor courtyard



# Welcoming all clients



Play area



Multipurpose room

## We can now offer the same safe accommodation and support services to clients with a disability

The new development has been purpose-built to be fully accessible to Kara FVS staff members and clients who have a disability. Entry access is via ramps from the street as well as a secure, easily situated car park. The second floor units are accessible via an elevator.

One of the six units has been designed to accommodate people with a disability. The 2 bedroom disability unit can cater for a single disabled person, a client with a disabled dependent or a disabled person with a live-in carer. The kitchen benchtops are lowered and there is space under the sink for a wheelchair. We have furnished the unit with an adjustable bed, chairs and bathroom accessories.



Disability unit bathroom



Disability unit bedroom

## Space for furry friends

When considering to escape from family violence, the thought of leaving pets behind can be incredibly upsetting and often people will choose to remain in the abusive situation to be with their pets. Kara FVS can now offer accommodation to clients and their pets. The units have an outdoor courtyard suitable for smaller pets, with one having a large back yard for bigger pets. We also have food and accessories on hand.



Pet setup

## A dedicated multipurpose room for client wellbeing and activities

The large dedicated multipurpose room is a space that will be used for a number of activities. The room features a full kitchen, ample space for a large table and couches.

Clients will have access to the multipurpose room to meet with their practitioner, use the desktop computer, watch tv or relax while their kids play in the play area which is filled with toys, games and a library.

We have restarted our in-house **Wellbeing Program**, which offers age-based activities to all clients. The program provides a valuable icebreaker for difficult conversations and is a great way for residents to meet others in similar situations.

For families, we run a weekly cooking class which offers recipes that are both economical and easy to prepare. For women, the **Gratitude Jar** is an example of a therapeutic activity that encourages clients to identify what is good in their lives.

For our younger clients activities like **Donut Decorating** give them a great distraction from the stress they experience in crisis and it gives them an opportunity to play with other children.



Children's play area



Gratitude Jars



Donut decorating





# Our services

Kara Family Violence Service offers free and confidential information, advice and case management support to women and children experiencing family violence.

## Safety

- > Risk assessment and safety planning
- > Crisis accommodation or referral to secure refuge
- > Holistic case management

## Support

- > Advice, information and emotional support
- > Specialist children's assessment, support and school liaison
- > Information about legal processes, intervention orders, court processes and child protection
- > Advocacy, referral, and liaison with other appropriate services
- > Secondary consultations for other professionals

## Education

- > Community Education Programs – support groups and therapeutic programs
- > Activity Programs – to promote wellbeing
- > Access to resources that assist in identifying family violence and other services in the community

## Crisis outreach

Kara FVS provides crisis outreach to women and children residing in motels awaiting accommodation. In collaboration with Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre we provide material aid and emotional support to ensure the safety of these vulnerable women and children who are experiencing family violence.

## Crisis accommodation

We offer safe and secure short-term crisis accommodation for women and children experiencing family violence and who are in need of relocation to ensure their safety.

## Case management support

Our **Specialist Family Violence Practitioners** provide intensive case management, safety planning, emotional support, referrals and Material Aid to assist clients during the initial crisis. We work with women and children to stabilise and rebuild their self worth and give them the tools to transition to more stable accommodation.

## Community outreach

Kara FVS supports women and children in the wider community experiencing family violence. We respond to referrals from other sector organisations or direct contact from clients and provide support that assist clients to live safely and independently in community.

## Specialist child and youth services

Our **Child and Youth Practitioner** works alongside the specialist family violence practitioners with a dedicated focus on each individual child's needs. A formal developmental and needs assessment is completed with the child and mother depending on the child's age or capability. This is used to prioritise and coordinate referrals and actions. We partner collaboratively with Child Protection, Medical professionals, schools and Maternal/Child Health centres to deliver innovative solutions.

## Specialist LGBTIQ+ services

Kara FVS responds to direct contact or referrals from LGBTIQ+ community and we have a specialist understanding of the complexities of domestic violence and its effects on the community. We can provide ongoing outreach support and advice to anyone identifying as lesbian, transgender, gay, bi-sexual intersex or queer and have strong connections with organisations whose services are specific to the LGBTIQ+ community.

## Transitional housing support

Wherever possible Kara FVS will nominate clients leaving refuge for transitional housing. Transitional housing provides is short-term accommodation in the community giving clients greater independence and our ongoing support while looking for longer-term housing.

## Ongoing stable accommodation

For many of our clients we are able to assist them to find more stable accommodation in private rental in the community. Our Housing Worker will work with the client to find accommodation that works within their budget and family needs.

## Secondary consultations

Kara FVS provides secondary consultations for professionals and other services who are working with clients experiencing family violence. We provide a specialist assessment and advice over the phone or meet to discuss and assess the client's situation.



# At a glance



**394 adults**

**299 dependents**

693 clients were supported with advice, emotional support, secure accommodation, safety planning and referral to other specialist family violence services.



**11%**

Identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people



**3%**

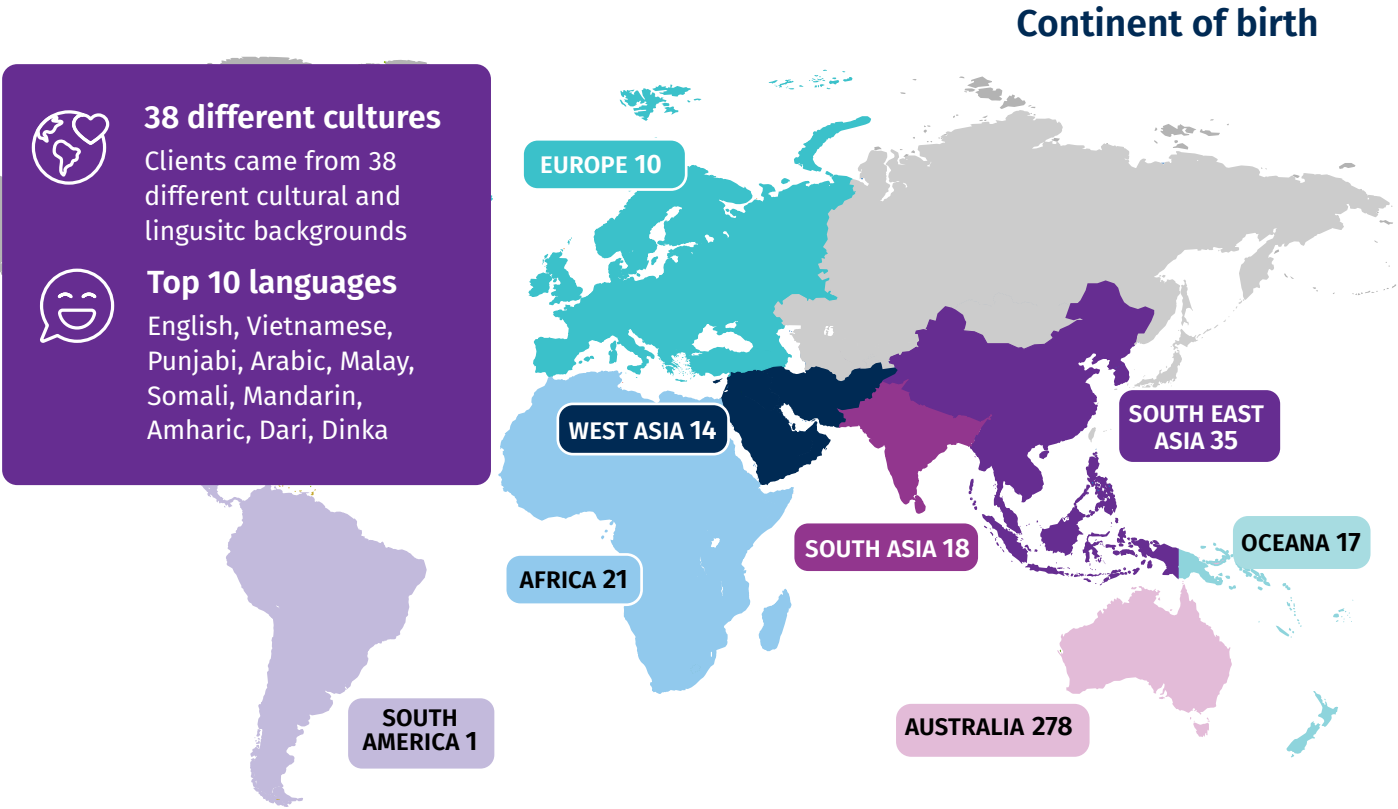
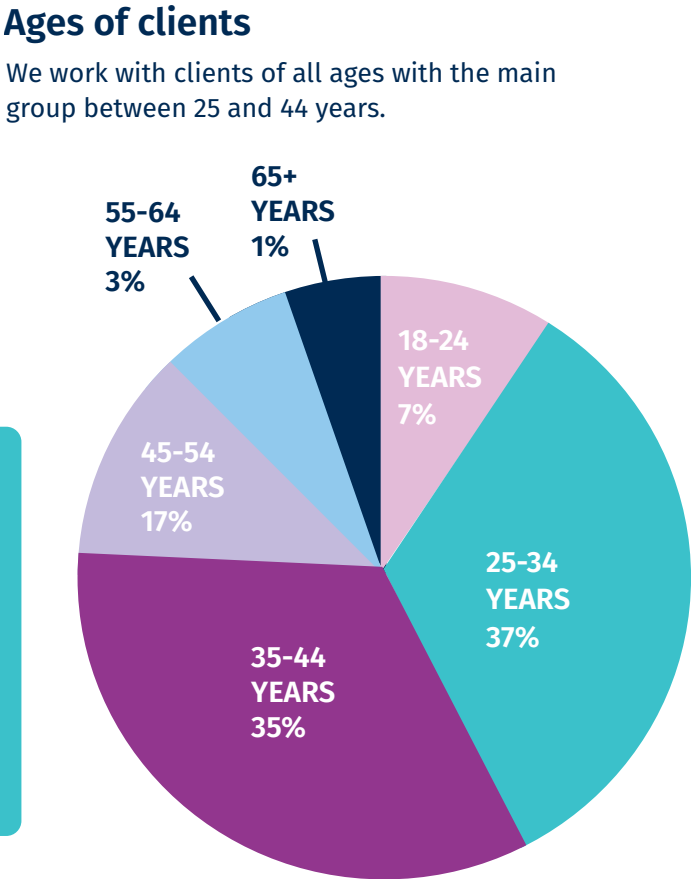
Identified as members of the LGBTIQA+ community





**21 women pregnant**

while supported by Kara Family Violence Service



**38 different cultures**

Clients came from 38 different cultural and linguistic backgrounds

**Top 10 languages**

English, Vietnamese, Punjabi, Arabic, Malay, Somali, Mandarin, Amharic, Dari, Dinka



**63%** of clients experienced family violence by their current intimate partner

**29%** of clients experienced family violence by their former intimate partner


**8%** of clients experienced family violence by other family members

**9%**

of clients presented without a temporary visa, meaning they have limited access to financial assistance from the government

**684 nights**

of crisis accommodation was provided to clients in the past year



**72%** of adults presented with one or more mental health conditions

**31%** of adults presented with one or more health conditions

**22%** of adults presented with one or more types of substance addictions



**95%** of dependents experienced family violence by their parent/guardian

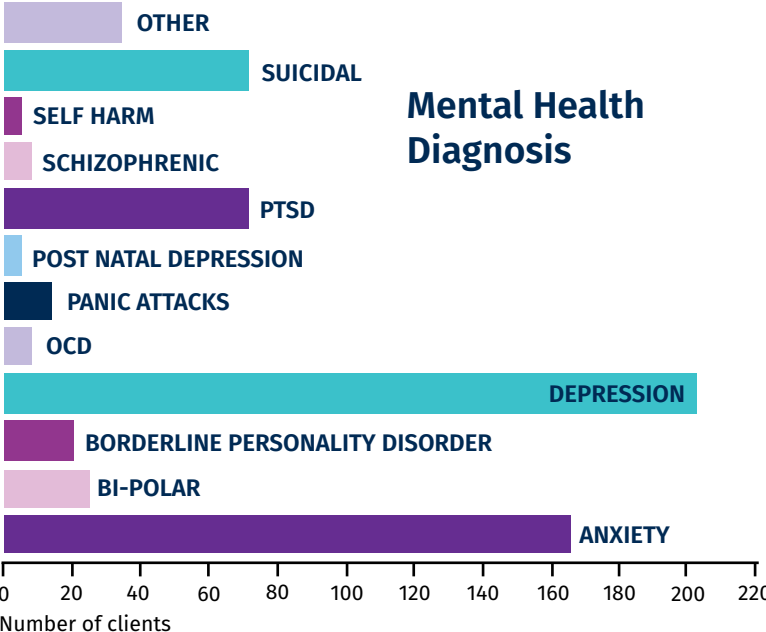
**Top types of targeted abuse experienced by clients**

- Coercion 67%
- Economic 61%
- Emotional 73%
- Physical 76%
- Sexual 42%
- Threats 82%
- Stalking 61%
- Choking 41%



**100% of children**

All the children we work with have witnessed some form of family violence





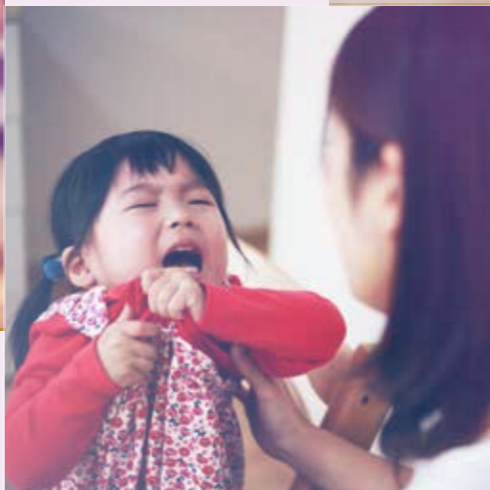
# Case study

Janelle and her three children came to Kara FVS without a home and in need of support



## Motel

Janelle, 7 months pregnant and her three children, Tom 9, Emily 6 and Sarah 2 were assisted by **Safe Steps** to leave their home due to the family violence perpetrated by Janelle's husband and the father of her three children. They were accommodated in a motel to wait for referral into refuge. **Kara FVS** first met this family when requested by **Safe Steps** to provide emotional support and material aid. Janelle appeared to be exhausted, the children were out of sorts – Tom leaping on and off furniture, Emily and Sarah both clinging to their mother. We settled the children by giving them toys while we acknowledged the situation Janelle was in, answered her many questions and discussed her safety including IT safety (we provided her with a new mobile to prevent hers being tracked). We left her with much needed toiletries and clothing packs for her and the children.

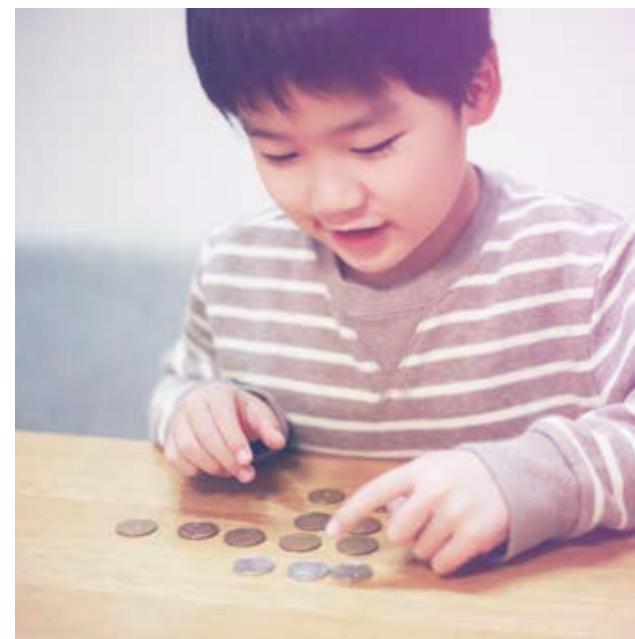


## Crisis accommodation

**Safe Steps** referred Janelle and her family to a vacancy at Kara FVS. Janelle arrived, overwhelmed and struggling to manage her children. They were unhappy and confused, not understanding what was happening; where they were coming to, why couldn't they go home and where was dad. Our **Child and Youth Practitioner (C&YP)** distracted the children by reading to them, while Janelle's allocated **Specialist Family Violence Practitioner (SFVP)** commenced her induction. The family was then orientated to their unit, the playground and multipurpose room. They were provided with food for dinner and breakfast the next morning, as well as welcome packs for all of them.

## Support and case plan

We encouraged Janelle to spend the next day getting her bearings, allowing the children to settle, and to try and re-commence their usual routines. The following day, we met with Janelle to commence her case plan. Lists were made, priorities were highlighted, and we got to work. Medical appointments were made for Janelle to be referred for ante-natal care. Over the next few weeks, we assisted Janelle to change her bank account and apply for **Centrelink Crisis Payment**. We confirmed Janelle wanted to follow through with an **Intervention Order** and liaised with the police for her to make a statement. Next Janelle met with our **Financial Wellbeing Worker** who helped her set up a budget and provided her with strategies on saving money, as well as referring her to a financial counsellor for assistance with her debts. We liaised with her real estate agent to remove her name from the lease and utilities. We introduced Janelle to our **Housing Support Worker (HSW)** to commence the process of accessing long-term housing.



## Supporting the children

Our **C&YP** met with Janelle to discuss how she could provide support to Janelle while she was in crisis accommodation. The children were individually assessed and Janelle's **SFVP** joined the discussion to develop case plans for each child. Tom, who has autism had been attending a special need's school and we liaised with the school who agreed to send a learning program to us. We arranged for his behavioural therapist to come to visit and continue their support with him. Emily was booked into our local primary school. We arranged for her uniform, and she was excited when we gave her a new backpack full of goodies. An appointment was made for Sarah for the Maternal and Child Health Nurse, and she was booked into childcare for 3 days per week. Our **C&YP** met with Janelle several times during the week to discuss the impact of family violence on children, as well as providing parenting skills and general advice and information. During their stay, the children met with the **C&YP** for therapeutic play as well as reading time and outdoor play.



## Transitional housing

After 4 weeks in in refuge, Kara FVS nominated the family into medium term transitional housing. Janelle was given a 12-month lease and we continued to support her for that period of time. The initial intensive case management levelled out to managing her ongoing needs, one of which was her imminent birth. Kara FVS provided all new baby requirements – cot, pram, bath, clothing and nappies to help Janelle prepare. With no family support she was linked to respite foster care who looked after her children while she was in hospital. Our **C&YP** continued to check-in with Janelle and the children to address any issues. The **HSW** and Janelle worked towards the plan of accessing private rental – budgets were drawn up, locations selected, and application forms prepared.



## Safer future

After 10 months living in transitional housing, Janelle was successful in a private rental application and moved her family of five into safe long-term housing. Private rental brokerage assisted her with rent in advance. New furniture and white goods were bought using a flexible support package. Generous donations allowed us to provide linen packs, home and cleaning packs. We referred Janelle and the children to local services – Tom commenced at a new developmental school, Emily transitioned into her new school, Sarah moved to a new childcare and baby Frankie met with the local Maternal and Child Health Nurse. Janelle started seeing a psychologist to support her emotional and mental health needs. It was a difficult and very hard year for Janelle. Thanks to her hard work to make a safer future for herself and her children, she made our role easy. While she still has hurdles to contend with, she is now confident enough to manage them herself. Kara FVS has closed her file.



# Client feedback

“Thank you for being able to access refuge and giving me a roof over my head, I am very happy with my room.”

“Thank you for your patience and encouraging me to understand I am a worthy.”

Practitioner is a great listener, is supportive and doesn't judge where a person has come from.”

## Listening informs how we work with our clients

The experiences of clients who have contact with us are the richest source of information about the quality and safety of our services. Listening to the client voice is an important part of the work we do in providing support to our clients. As our services expand, we have responded with more meaningful and efficient methods of collecting feedback. Online surveys are accessible to clients via iPads and laptops or through links and QR codes sent directly to them. We have kept traditional paper forms and an anonymous drop box in our refuge for those who feel more comfortable writing their feedback. We also collect ad hoc feedback in our everyday interactions with clients in our compliments and complaints register. And we now have a dedicated email address for clients to send in feedback.

More recently, we have been able to restart our client round tables to meet with clients in a focus group setting to gather valuable and constructive feedback on our services. These discussions allow clients to explore their experiences further as a collective and generate practical solutions to issues they may face. Clients are paid for their time and expertise in attending our roundtable discussion.

The way we work is constantly evolving to better meet the needs of our clients. All of the feedback gathered shapes the way we work. We thank all of our clients who have taken the time to fill out a survey, come to a feedback roundtable and share their experiences, thoughts and ideas which have helped to improve the services we provide now and in the future.

# Community Education Programs

Our Community Education Program is for women living in the wider community and who are past the initial crisis and in need of further support and education. We identified a gap in the support offered to victim-survivors once they have resettled back in the wider community and are particularly vulnerable to returning to an abusive situation.

Over the last two years, due to Covid, more often than not we had to cancel our community groups in response to restrictions. We are pleased that we have been able to offer the program again.

## Step Forward – Family Violence Support group

During the lock down, the team took the opportunity to re-assess the format of the group in response to feedback from participants. As a result, we developed a program to run over two longer days rather than short sessions over six weeks to ensure more consistent attendance.

In term 2 we were able to restart Step Forward and offer the new format. We surveyed the participants post group and their response was positive and we observed improved attendance and commitment. We will continue to offer the group for the foreseeable future.



Activity - Shark Cage



Step Forward work booklet



Client Wellbeing Pack





## Community support

With the help of the community we are able to provide the best possible environment for the women and children we work with.



## Establishing our new site

**With the help of a generous group of donors we were able to take the new crisis accommodation to a whole new level of style and comfort**

Providing a safe and inviting environment can make significant difference to the long-term outcomes of our clients. Research shows it can reduce the likelihood of a client returning to an abusive situation. As part of the build, the Victorian Government provided an establishment fund to cover all basic furniture and whitegoods. With the help of donors we were able to take the units to whole new level of style and comfort.

### The projects included:

- > **Outdoor area makeover:** Tables, chairs and plants on balconies and in courtyards.
- > **Desks in each unit:** Study desks, lamps and stationery for students and adults.
- > **Finishing touches:** Lamps, vases, bowls, painting, artwork, books, cushions and throws.
- > **Storage shed:** Shelving and fit out of shed to store material aid on site.

## Huge thanks to our wonderful donors

- > Box Hill Golf Club – Ladies
- > Starcorp Corporation
- > Bronwyn Burgess
- > Women in Business – Mornington Peninsular
- > Boroondara Rotaract Club
- > Drew Flowers
- > Lyndsay Stewart
- > Susan Goldie
- > Zonta Club of Melbourne's East

## Our suppliers helped make it all happen

With the help of some amazing suppliers, we were able to make the most of the establishment fund through their generous discounts, allowing us to purchase long-lasting and sustainable furniture. Covid restrictions meant timings were pushed out, but thankfully the suppliers came to our assistance and held the items until we were ready for set up. Thank you to:

- > Ikea Melbourne
- > Nunawading Bed Shed
- > Freedom Richmond
- > Krost Furniture
- > E & S Blackburn
- > The Good Guys Commercial



# Grants and gifts



Pack A - East Asia

## District Rotary Centenary Grant for Culturally Appropriate Kitchen Pack Program.

This year we worked with women from 38 different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. In the initial days of crisis, we encourage our clients to develop routines and many of these routines are underpinned by existing habits and rituals specific to their cultural heritage. Our current kitchen packs did not reflect the everyday needs of our diverse client base. In consultation with clients and cultural groups, we developed 4 packs with the appropriate cooking tools broadly covering the majority of cultural backgrounds.

A **District Rotary Centenary Grant** has enabled us to get the project up and running. A huge thank you to **Rotary District 9810** and Anne Teese from **Rotary Club of Mont Albert and Surrey Hills** for assisting us with the grant.

The grant will provide 30-35 packs to clients like Ashaki\*:

Ashaki\* was presented with her Cultural Cooking Pack when she came into refuge. Ashaki said she felt like she was receiving a beautiful birthday present. She said it was lovely to make coffee in her own Ibrik. She expressed her gratitude in receiving her own prayer mat and Quran. Many thanks to the people who are helping her.



Pack B - South Asia



Pack C - African region



Pack D - Middle East

# Communicating better with help from Monash



## The Monash MITI team developed a communication plan to set up Kara FVS for the future

Communicating with donors, industry colleagues and the wider community is an important part of how we obtain donations and referrals and advocate for societal change for victim-survivors. As a small organisation the development of a Communication Marketing Plan can be both expensive and time consuming and out of our scope.

The **Monash Industry Team Initiative MITI** provides opportunities for students to get real time paid industry experience in their final year of study. In late November Kara FVS was approached to be part of the initiative with Monash University generously coming on board with a grant to fund the students costs while working with Kara FVS.

The three students Shreya, Samantha and Nicole all provided different skills across marketing, strategic planning, copywriting and research. Across a three-month period they worked with our Development Officer to provide a 90 page plan and developed concepts and assets for real time campaigns.

The end result is a comprehensive and innovative plan that will help us expand our reach into the community. Thank you to MITI and Monash University for their amazing support.

## Immediate Impact Grant from StreetSmart to help assist clients with permanent housing

For women and children impacted by family violence, finding long-term stable accommodation is incredibly difficult. If a suitable property is located, financially securing the property can be equally challenging.

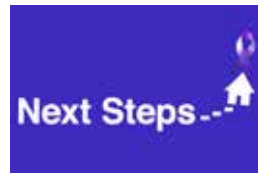
This is even more difficult for women who are ineligible for brokerage programs and other financial assistance programs. The StreetSmart Immediate Impact Grant will enable us to support this latter group with funds to cover tenancy establishment costs.

Stable and safe accommodation is one of the key components in the recovery from family violence and can greatly reduce a woman's propensity to return to an abusive situation. Thank you StreetSmart.





# Donors



## Individual, business and organisational donors

We would like to thank the many individuals, businesses and organisations that have supported Kara FVS. Their generous donations and support have enabled us to provide additional programs, services and resources to our clients.

- > James Maurer
- > Stephen Crosby
- > Andrea Dillion
- > Drew Flowers
- > Bethany Whitcher
- > Bronwyn Burgess
- > Suzie Jacobovits
- > Lions Club of Blackburn
- > Probus Club of Mont Albert North
- > Zonta Club of Melbourne's East
- > The Generosity Collective
- > You Matter
- > Father's House Church
- > Share The Dignity
- > Susanne Goldie
- > Rotaract Club of Booroondara
- > Blackburn Lions Club
- > Burwood Brickworks Shopping Centre
- > Lyndsay Stewart
- > Lions Club of Nunawading
- > Full Gospel Assembly
- > Eastern Emergency Relief Network
- > Fame Group Pty Ltd
- > Monash Interfaith Gathering

# Material aid



**651** packs and items were handed out to clients to assist them with basic necessities like food, linen, clothing and phones. We were able to do this with the generosity of the community.

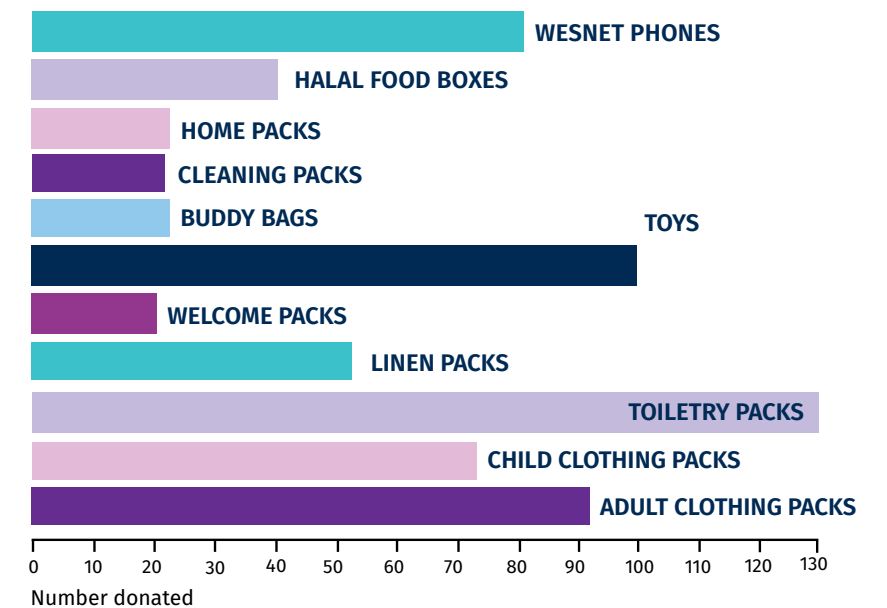


**131** toiletry packs provided to clients including soap, tooth brush and all the necessities



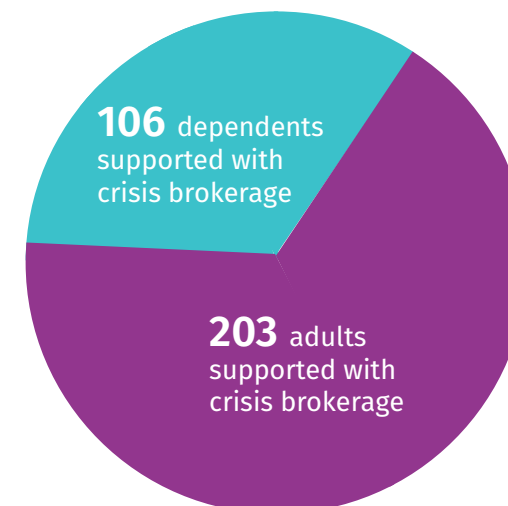
**169** clothing packs provided to adults and dependents including track pant, t-shirt, underwear and more

## Material Aid provided



## Crisis brokerage

With the help of the Victorian Government we can provide flexible funding to women and their dependents while in crisis



## Women on temporary visas

The Victorian Government provides funding to support women on temporary visas who have no access to Centrelink

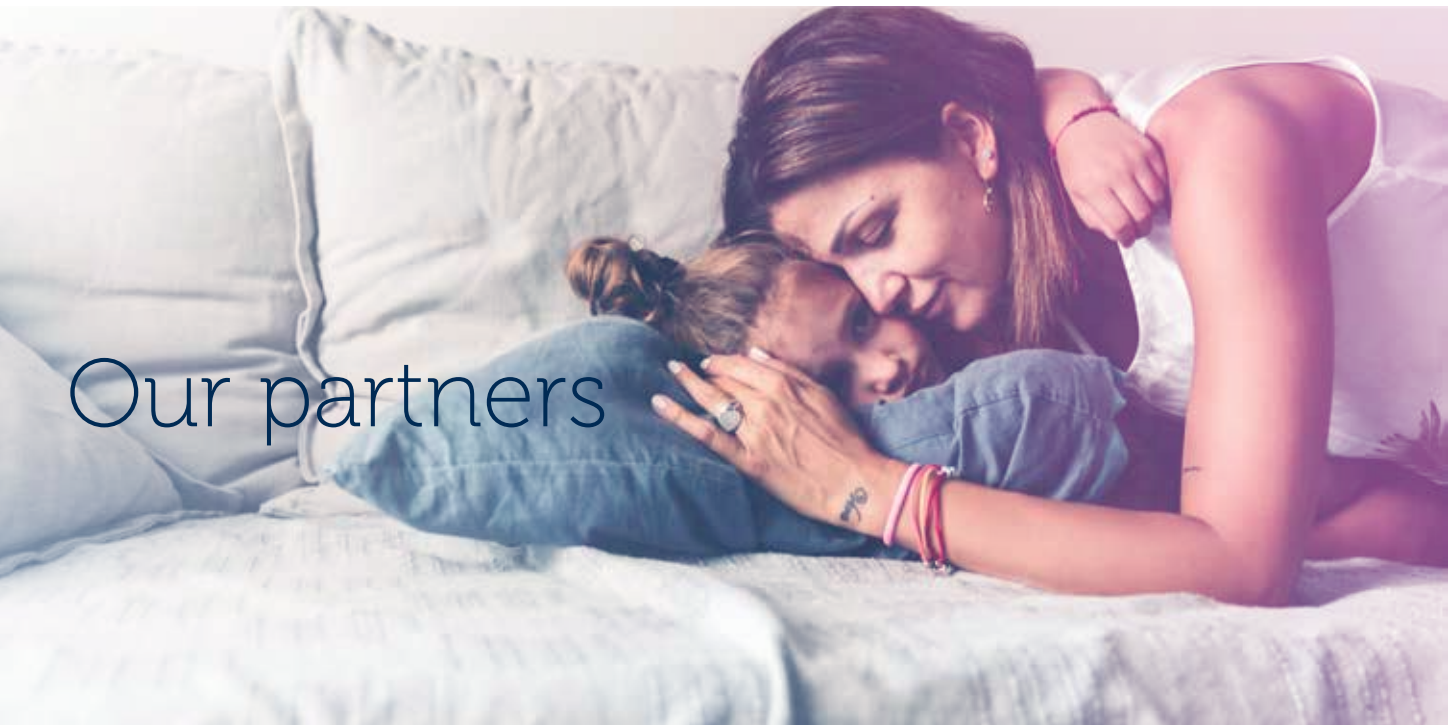


**\$1,904** on average provided to each woman on a temporary visa for accommodation expenses and material aid

**\$30,000+** was provided in flexible funding to clients

- Clothing and toiletries
- Groceries
- Furniture & Household expenses
- Emergency accommodation
- Relocation costs
- Rent in advance
- Safety and security responses
- Transport costs





# Our partners

## Victorian Government

The Kara Family Violence Service Board and Staff would like to thank Family Safety Victoria and the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing who provide our operational funding under the Funding and Service Agreement and to the Staff of the Department in the Eastern Region for their ongoing support.



## Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre

The Kara Family Violence Service Board and Staff would like to thank Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre who partner with us to support vulnerable women and children residing in motel while they await a refuge bed. Kara FVS continues to strengthen its valuable partnership with Safe Steps and associated services.



## Our partners

We would like to thank the organisations and services below who we partner with to provide services.

- > Safe and Equal
- > Orange Door Inner Eastern Melbourne
- > Orange Door Outer Eastern Melbourne
- > Box Hill CIS
- > Community Housing Ltd (CHL)
- > Connections UnitingCare
- > Anglicare Victoria
- > EDVOS
- > Eastern Community Legal Centre
- > Box Hill Police
- > Infoxchange
- > Kerrimuir Primary School
- > Box Hill North Primary School
- > Eastern Access Community Health (EACH)
- > Box Hill Medical Centre
- > Centrelink
- > Uniting Vic.Tas
- > YWCA Australia
- > Boorndawan Willam Aboriginal Healing Centre
- > Burgess Family Centre
- > Clota Cottage Neighbourhood House
- > Connecting Up Inc.
- > Eastern Emergency Relief Network Inc (EER)
- > InTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence
- > Salvocare Eastern
- > The Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne)
- > Women's Housing Ltd (WHL)

# Financial Reports 2021-22



Kara House Inc  
ABN: 20 305 139 734  
Financial Statements  
for the year ended  
30 June 2022



**Kara House Inc**  
ABN 20 305 139 734

Financial Statements  
For the year ended 30 June 2022

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**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**

**Board's Report**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

Your board members submit the financial accounts of the Kara House Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

**Board Members**

The names of board members at the date of this report are:

Catherine Lockstone  
 Ciara Boyd  
 Ilsa Evans  
 Susan Smith  
 Angela Spinney  
 Shelley Tung  
 Maureen Breen  
 Geraldine Bilston

**Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: A family violence service providing crisis supported accommodation to women and children.

**Significant Changes**

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

**Operating Result**

The profit from ordinary activities after providing for income tax amounted to

Year ended	Year ended
30 June 2022	30 June 2021
\$	\$
427,763	98,330

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board on: **3RD SEPTEMBER 2022**

*Catherine Lockstone*

Catherine Lockstone

*CB*

Ciara Boyd

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Income and Expenditure Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Interest received	1,815	3,964
Other income	2,261	1,775
Donations & other grants	71,154	113,238
<b>Grants Received - DFFH</b>		
- DFFH - Crisis Supported Fund	1,180,727	627,459
- NPAH - Sector Capacity	18,083	17,607
- NPAH - A Place to Call home	74,850	72,729
- Transition Support	468,321	397,759
- Family Violence Crisis Brokerage	44,836	43,957
- New Refuge Establishment	2,048	115,000
- REC 209 Alignment		25,000
- Non PR		6,400
- Covid-19 Capacity Building Funding		14,465
- Pets In Refuge	29,552	
- System Enablers FV	75,000	
	1,968,647	1,439,353
Grants brought forward	260,985	115,474
Grants carried forward	(338,740)	(260,985)
ATO Stimulus		74,822
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1,890,892</b>	<b>1,368,664</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Income and Expenditure Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Expenses</b>		
Audit fees	3,634	2,500
Client Expenses	24,654	19,205
Continuous Quality Improvement		176
Depreciation	17,134	35,204
Donations expenses	27,275	29,435
Event Costs	3,010	299
Fundraise & development	15,341	4,408
Governance & Management	10,070	1,710
Grant expenses	172,679	75,038
Human Resources	27,209	10,892
Holiday pay	20,344	63,439
Flexible funding	32,831	43,311
Portable Long Service Leave	6,843	7,568
Long service leave	8,553	13,361
Motor Vehicle Expenses	14,591	10,680
Network & Partnerships	6,465	7,652
Office Expenses	83,785	86,353
Refuge Expenses	4,579	29,101
Risk Management & OHS	2,104	453
Sick Leave		(20,360)
Storage Fees	2,818	742
Superannuation	82,721	68,741
Worksafe Injury Insurance	27,434	25,554
Wages & Salaries	869,054	754,871
Total expenses	1,463,129	1,270,334
<b>Surplus from ordinary activities before income tax</b>	<b>427,763</b>	<b>98,330</b>
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities		
<b>Net surplus attributable to the association</b>	<b>427,763</b>	<b>98,330</b>
<b>Total changes in equity of the association</b>	<b>427,763</b>	<b>98,330</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Income and Expenditure Statement**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Opening retained earnings	395,159	296,829
Net surplus attributable to the association	427,763	98,330
<b>Closing retained earnings</b>	<b>822,922</b>	<b>395,159</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022**

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash assets	<u>2</u>	1,326,019	568,007
Receivables	<u>3</u>		4,639
Other	<u>4</u>	177,633	394,405
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>1,503,651</b>	<b>967,050</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	<u>5</u>	98,218	72,579
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>98,218</b>	<b>72,579</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>1,601,870</b>	<b>1,039,629</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Payables	<u>6</u>	50,454	36,180
Current tax liabilities	<u>7</u>	54,277	39,387
Provisions	<u>8</u>	278,718	258,373
Other	<u>9</u>	338,740	260,985
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>722,188</b>	<b>594,925</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Provisions	<u>8</u>	56,760	49,546
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>56,760</b>	<b>49,546</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>778,948</b>	<b>644,470</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>822,922</b>	<b>395,159</b>
<b>Members' Funds</b>			
Retained earnings		822,922	395,159
<b>Total Members' Funds</b>		<b>822,922</b>	<b>395,159</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Cash Flow From Operating Activities</b>		
Receipts from customers	1,893,716	1,360,061
Payments to Suppliers and employees	(1,311,517)	(1,009,323)
Interest received	1,815	3,964
Lease Interest Expense		(193)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (note 2)	584,014	354,509
<b>Cash Flow From Financing Activities</b>		
Repayment of Lease Liabilities		(18,758)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		(18,758)
<b>Cash Flow From Investing Activities</b>		
<b>Payment for:</b>		
Other Assets	(3,228)	1,823
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(42,774)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(46,002)	1,823
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	538,012	337,574
Cash at the beginning of the year	958,007	620,433
Cash at the end of the year (note 1)	1,496,019	958,007

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

	2022	2021
<b>Note 1. Reconciliation Of Cash</b>		
For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.		
Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:		
Cash At Bank - General Account	7,007	9,534
Community Solutions Cash Reserve	1,244,913	495,086
Donation Account	71,135	60,421
Service Deposit	8	58
Debit Card	2,556	2,507
Petty Cash	400	400
Short term deposits	170,000	390,000
	<u>1,496,019</u>	<u>958,007</u>

**Note 2. Reconciliation Of Net Cash Provided By/Used In Operating Activities To Net Surplus**

Operating surplus (loss) after tax	427,763	98,330
Depreciation	17,134	35,204
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
(Increase) decrease in trade and term debtors	4,639	(4,639)
Increase (decrease) in other creditors	92,029	152,330
Increase (decrease) in employee entitlements	27,558	56,441
Increase (decrease) in sundry provisions	14,890	16,843
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>584,014</u>	<u>354,509</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

**Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Basis of Preparation**

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. In the opinion of the board the association is not a reporting entity because it is not reasonable to expect the existence of users who rely on the association's general purpose financial statements for information useful to them for making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of resources.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, the basis of accounting specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of Accounting Standards AASB 101: Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107: Cash Flow Statements, AASB 108: Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 1031: Materiality and AASB 1054: Australian Additional Disclosures.

The association has concluded that the requirements set out in AASB 10 and AASB 128 are not applicable as the initial assessment on its interests in other entities indicated that it does not have any subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures. Hence, the financial statements comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards.

The association has not assessed whether these special purpose financial statements comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

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

**(a) Accounts Receivables and Other Debtors**

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from donors. Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

**(b) Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)**

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.



**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

**(c) Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

**(d) Employee Benefits**

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

**(e) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

**(f) Revenue and Other Income**

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

The association has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15) and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 1058) using the cumulative effective method.

**Contributed Assets**

The association receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (eg. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

On initial recognition of an asset, the association recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer).

The association recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

**Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests**

When the association receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

– recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (eg. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138)
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer)
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the association recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

**Capital Grant**

When the association receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

The association recognises income in profit or loss when or as the association satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

**Interest Income**

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

**Dividend Income**

The association recognises dividends in profit or loss only when the right to receive payment of the dividend is established.

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

**(g) Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

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

**(h) Trade and Other Payables**

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

**(i) Income Tax**

The Association is a Public Benevolent Institution and is exempt from Australian Income Tax. It is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient and donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.



**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

	2022	2021
<b>Note 2: Cash assets</b>		
Bank accounts:		
- Cash At Bank - General Account	7,007	9,534
- Community Solutions Cash Reserve	1,244,913	495,086
- Donation Account	71,135	60,421
- Service Deposit	8	58
- Debit Card	2,556	2,507
Other cash items:		
- Petty Cash	400	400
	<u>1,326,019</u>	<u>568,007</u>
<b>Note 3: Receivables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Pledges Receivable		4,639
		<u>4,639</u>
<b>Note 4: Other Assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Short term deposits	170,000	390,000
Other	7,633	4,405
	<u>177,633</u>	<u>394,405</u>

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

	2022	2021
<b>Note 5: Property, Plant and Equipment</b>		
Buildings Improvements		
- At cost	38,376	5,088
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(3,446)</u>	<u>(4,593)</u>
	34,930	494
Plant and equipment:		
- At cost	29,350	54,847
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(15,531)</u>	<u>(41,973)</u>
	13,819	12,874
Motor vehicles:		
- At cost	77,929	77,929
- Less: Accumulated depreciation	<u>(28,459)</u>	<u>(18,718)</u>
	49,469	59,210
	<u>98,218</u>	<u>72,579</u>
<b>Note 6: Payables</b>		
Unsecured:		
- Other creditors	50,454	36,180
	<u>50,454</u>	<u>36,180</u>
	<u>50,454</u>	<u>36,180</u>
<b>Note 7: Tax Liabilities</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
GST payable	66,918	47,753
Input tax credit	<u>(12,641)</u>	<u>(8,366)</u>
	<u>54,277</u>	<u>39,387</u>



**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

	2022	2021
<b>Note 8: Provisions</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Employee entitlements*	278,718	258,373
	<u>278,718</u>	<u>258,373</u>
<b>Non Current</b>		
Employee entitlements*	56,760	49,546
	<u>56,760</u>	<u>49,546</u>
* Aggregate employee entitlements liability	335,477	307,919

There were 14 employees at the end of the year

**Note 9: Other Liabilities**

<b>Current</b>		
Contract Liability (Grants & Income In Advance)	338,740	260,985
	<u>338,740</u>	<u>260,985</u>

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**  
**Statement by Members of the Board**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2022**

The Board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

In the opinion of the Board the Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position, and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Kara House Inc as at 30 June 2022 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

*Catherine Lockstone*

Catherine Lockstone  
Chairperson

*CI Boyd*

Ciara Boyd  
Treasurer

3<sup>rd</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



Director:  
A.R Ager CA, BEc  
Registered Company Auditor

Assur Pty. Ltd.  
PO Box 987  
Level 1, 189 Coleman Parade,  
Glen Waverley, VIC 3150  
ABN. 78 167 481 834  
T: +61 (3) 9561 6311  
M: +61 419 541 727  
F: +61 (3) 9562 5965  
E: tony.ager@optusnet.com.au

Authorised Audit Company  
No. 453122

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Kara House Inc (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Committee, the Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2022, a summary of significant accounting policies and the Statement by members of the Board on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2022 and [of] its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

**Basis for Opinion**

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

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

**Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

**Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report**

The board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the board is responsible for assessing the association'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 board either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Director:  
A.R Ager CA, BEc  
Registered Company Auditor

Assur Pty. Ltd.  
PO Box 987  
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Authorised Audit Company  
No. 453122

**Kara House Inc**  
**ABN 20 305 139 734**

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members**

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

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

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the board.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

Signed on: 16TH SEPTEMBER 2022

ASSUR PTY LTD  
ASSUR PTY LTD  
Authorised Audit Company number: 453122  
Chartered Accountants

Anthony Ager  
Anthony Ager - Director Audit & Assurance  
Chartered Accountant





**Contact details**  
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**Kara**  
family violence service