

ANNUAL REPORT

CENTRE CARE

CATHOLIC

COUNSELLING AND WELFARE SERVICES

of the

Archdiocese of Perth

Western-Australia

1976/1977

Member Organizations:

Family Welfare Bureau
Marriage Guidance Council
Immigration Office
Natural Family Planning Centre.

25/27 Victoria Square
PERTH W.A. 6000

Tel: 25 6644

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

The Director wishes to record his appreciation of the competence and dedication of the staff, and the efforts of the many volunteers that have assisted us in our work.

It is not possible for any agency that offers direct family services to operate in isolation.

For that reason we appreciate the close ties that have developed with the Religious Orders engaged in the Social Apostolate, and with the many agencies, both within the Church and in the broader community that have helped us work smoothly and, we hope, effectively for those seeking our services.

Particular mention is made of the Catholic Child Caring Agencies, the Catholic Education Committee, the Department for Community Welfare, the Mental Health and Education Departments, Social Security, Royal Perth Hospital, Princess Margaret Hospital, the Marriage Guidance Council of W.A., and the Schools of Social Work at the University of W.A. and W.A.I.T.

We acknowledge the patronage of His Grace Archbishop Sir Lancelot Goody, under whose mandate we operate and to whom this Report is submitted.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions.

2. It is essential to ensure that all entries are supported by appropriate documentation and receipts.

3. Regular audits should be conducted to verify the accuracy of the records and to identify any discrepancies.

4. The second part of the document outlines the procedures for handling cash and credit transactions.

5. Cash transactions should be recorded immediately and in full, with a clear description of the nature of the transaction.

6. Credit transactions should be recorded as soon as the invoice is issued, and the amount should be tracked until payment is received.

7. The third part of the document provides a detailed explanation of the accounting cycle and the various accounts used in the system.

8. It is important to understand the relationship between the different accounts and how they affect the overall financial position of the business.

9. The fourth part of the document discusses the role of the accountant in providing financial information to management and other stakeholders.

10. The accountant should be able to provide timely and accurate information to help management make informed decisions.

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice. This ensures transparency and allows for easy verification of the data.

In the second section, the author outlines the various methods used to collect and analyze the data. This includes both manual and automated processes. The goal is to ensure that the information is both reliable and up-to-date.

The third part of the report details the results of the analysis. It shows a clear upward trend in the data over the period covered. This indicates that the current strategy is effective and that there is significant potential for further growth.

Finally, the document concludes with a series of recommendations for future action. These include investing in new technology, expanding into new markets, and continuing to monitor the data closely. The author believes that these steps will lead to long-term success.



I N M E M O R I A M

We were deeply saddened by the sudden death of

Mrs B A R B A R A K I N N A

our senior social worker, who died on

14th January, 1977.

Her untiring work for families, especially for children and migrants, remains an inspiration to us.

We were indeed fortunate to have a person of her ability with us for four years before her untimely death,

Her contribution to our agency and to the development of social work within the community is gratefully acknowledged.

May God give her eternal rest.

1. The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses.

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CENTRECARE

A Description

In June 1977 a decision was made to bring the family-oriented organizations operating in the name of the Archdiocese together under a common name, CENTRECARE.

It is linked with similar moves in other States.

CENTRECARE encompasses the operations of -

CATHOLIC FAMILY WELFARE BUREAU
CATHOLIC MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL
CATHOLIC IMMIGRATION OFFICE
NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CENTRE.

It also accepts responsibility for -

PREGNANCY HELP
MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES
ABORIGINAL APOSTOLATE
ST FRANCIS XAVIER COTTAGES, WANDERING

It acts on behalf of the Archbishop in the development and co-ordination of Church services, and co-operates with other Church, community and Government bodies.

This Report covers the activities of the following organizations and the services operated by them.

CATHOLIC FAMILY WELFARE BUREAU

The Bureau is the central family agency of the Catholic Church. It was set up in 1970 to regulate the admission procedures for children referred to Catholic institutions, to co-ordinate and develop many of the Church's welfare services, and to offer a general family and child social work service to the public, regardless of religious adherence.

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MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL

An approved Marriage Guidance Organization under the Matrimonial Causes Act 1959-66. Its counsellors work closely with the Family Welfare Bureau in providing individual, joint and group counselling to people with marital, pre-marital or other personal difficulties.

IMMIGRATION OFFICE

Set up after the Second World War to implement the Child Migration Scheme. It is able to sponsor families approved by the Australian Department of Immigration, grants travel loans and offers social work services to migrants once they arrive.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CENTRE

The Centre has been operating for nine years, offering information and guidance on natural family planning methods.

FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES OF CENTRECARE

FAMILY PROBLEMS

MARRIAGE COUNSELLING

PRE-MARRIAGE COUNSELLING

PERSONAL COUNSELLING

FAMILY PLANNING

CHILD GUIDANCE

CHILD PLACEMENT

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORK

GROUP WORK

MORAL COUNSELLING

MIGRANT SOCIAL WORK

MIGRATION ASSISTANCE

- travel loans

- sponsorship and accommodation guarantees

- settlement assistance

- temporary accommodation upon arrival

PREGNANCY SUPPORT

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES

EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

GENERAL WELFARE ASSISTANCE

SOCIAL WORK AND PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS' SUPERVISION

CONTROL OF ST FRANCIS XAVIER CHILDREN'S COTTAGES, WANDERING

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CITY ABORIGINAL APOSTOLATE.

S T A F F

DIRECTOR : Fr Barry Hickey, S.T.L., B.A., M.Soc.Wk.,
SECRETARY : Mrs Corry Schoenmakers, Dip.Welf.Psych.
RECEPTIONISTE : Miss Nancy Scurria

FAMILY WELFARE AND MARRIAGE GUIDANCE

SENIOR SOCIAL WORKER : (unfilled)
SOCIAL WORKER : Mrs Beatrice MacFarlane, Cert.Soc.Stud.(Edin)
SOCIAL WORKER : Mrs Marilena Green, B.A., M.Soc.Wk.,
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST : Mr Daniel Coughlin, B.A., M.A. (Psych.)
COUNSELLORS: :
Mr Paul Bowen
Mrs Pat Brown
Mrs Beth Burrows
Mrs Maureen Chamberlain
Mrs Aileen Jack
Mrs Joan Jones
Mrs Pat St John-Kennedy

PROBATIONARY COUNSELLORS: 12

SECRETARY (Marriage : Mrs Hazel Wigmore
Guidance) :
TYPISTE " " : Mrs Kathy O'Brien
HONORARY ACCOUNTANT : Mr Ken Hales
HOME VISITOR : Sr Loreto Gray, R.G.S.
VOLUNTARY WORKER : Mrs Doreen Hoey

IMMIGRATION

SECRETARY : Mrs Corry Schoenmakers
SOCIAL WORKER
(Grant-in-Aid) : Mrs Marilena Ghisalberti-Green

FAMILY PLANNING

SECRETARY : Mrs Maureen Chamberlain
COUNSELLORS : Mrs Margaret D' Rossi
Mrs Evelyn Newman

PREGNANCY HELP

: Mrs Pam Miller
 : Imelda Bennett

CONSULTANT PSYCHOLOGISTS

: Fr Robert Carden
 : Mr Ron Bauer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

: Rev. Fr B. Hickey
 : Mrs Maureen Chamberlain
 : Mrs Beatrice MacFarlane
 : Mrs Hazel Wigmore,
 : Mrs Corry Schoenmakers.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The past year has seen a continuation of the agency's work in marriage and family support.

An examination of the caseload of the four organizations that make up CENTRECARE reveals features of our social welfare system that deserve comment.

1. Homelessness seems to be increasing in Perth. Requests for emergency accommodation come from many sources:
 - from women and children fleeing from an intolerable home situation, from families arriving from the Eastern States in search of employment, from lonely people discharged from hospital, from families evicted from private or State Housing accommodation, and from alcoholic women unable to persuade landlords to rent them a room.

Although half-way houses and other forms of shelter are increasing in Perth for down-and-out men, it is obvious that the women's shelters cannot cope with the demand, and that facilities are almost non-existent for intact but homeless families.

Our two emergency shelters have been continuously filled.

The rapid rise in house rental has meant real hardship for families. High bonds and high rents have forced low-income families to settle for the poorest type of accommodation, often having to pay back the bond-money borrowed from friends, or accept a State Housing Home after a long waiting period, with little say in the type of house or its location.

Our housing policies are in urgent need of revision.

2. Unemployment has sapped the morale of so many to the point where they feel of no value to society. One cannot be convinced that anyone, Government, private industry or the unions, is really seriously trying to create jobs. Each group blames the other, while little constructive is done. The unemployed are cynical about the fine promises made to them. The Commonwealth Employment Service is so snowed under with work that it is not able to give enough attention to job search.

Centrecare is co-operating in a self-help venture whereby the unemployed supplied with a few basic commodities such as a phone and a job board, can more successfully find jobs for themselves.

3. Family support is seen by us as the most important single thrust in promoting a healthy and happy society. Centrecare is often involved in helping after the damage is done - the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff - for children in need of care, for homeless people, for alcoholics.

We see preventive services aimed at strengthening marriages and family life of far greater value and far less expensive in the long term.

For this reason we stress the importance of marriage preparation and early marriage guidance while much can still be done.

So fragmented are the government and non-government family support services that they fail to prevent the breakdown of families. Disturbed children, suicides, alcoholism, and a host of other symptoms of distress are the result.

It is time that legislators stopped the piecemeal development of provisions for needs as they arise, and put forward coherent, comprehensive and integrated programmes of family support, which would include aged care, day care for children, income maintenance schemes, housing and rental provisions, domestic assistance and neighbourhood health and welfare facilities.

4. Abortion is a scourge of modern life. As a solution to the problem of a distressing pregnancy it is entirely misguided.

Our service, Pregnancy Help, tries to point out that there are other solutions. We know we are a voice crying in a wilderness, but it is a voice that must be heard. It is not the answer to abortion. The final answer lies in strong family life, strong beliefs in the sanctity of life, and a compassionate attitude to people who find themselves in trouble.

5. Social Welfare planning

In recent years we have seen a rapid growth in social welfare spending. Obviously the Government must ensure proper accountability for the money spent.

Much of the money goes to Government welfare bodies, whether Federal or State.

It is our view that a halt must be called to the expansion of personal services in the Government sector, and a real attempt be made to stimulate the non-Government sector to expand good quality confidential services throughout the community.

In some services, such as child and family guidance, professional expertise is necessary. So limited are the funds in the non-Government sector that most welfare professionals must, of necessity find their jobs in the Government sector alone, whether they want to or not.

If this is obvious enough in the metropolitan area, it is incapable in country areas where professional help in the non-government sector is virtually non-existent.

The Federal Government is looking at the handing over of some of its welfare services to State control. It has hardly begun to look at the handing over of services to non-Government groups.

Unless Australia is to become a true "Welfare State" it must radically alter the direction of its social welfare planning.

FAMILY WELFARE BUREAU

The family component of Centrecare takes four main directions -

1. the support of families in distress, with particular concern for children who may need residential care,
2. assistance for people with basic needs, such as accommodation and emergency financial assistance,
3. the co-ordination of Catholic residential child care centres, principally through the Catholic Child Care Committee,
4. the assistance of migrant individuals and families.

It will be seen from the caseload that most of the work was with children and their families. The family focus of the agency is an essential aspect of the work. The staff try, in so far as it is possible, to see clients in the context of their family, as it recognizes the powerful influence of family life and primary relationships over the behaviour and psychological adjustment of people.

With a number of languages at their disposal, the staff are conscious of the particular ethnic differences that affect the client's situation.

There has been a greater demand for assistance for people in financial crises, particularly with regard to accommodation.

While the agency was not set up to offer material relief, the demands being made require attention. The reasons for the increased demands are not at all clear.

The practice has been, and still is, to enlist the services of the St Vincent de Paul Society for such cases.

At the same time the need is becoming obvious for a longer-term involvement by the agency to remedy the situation on a lasting basis.

For this reason the Centrecare Management Service is being set up to offer budgeting assistance, debt consolidation and direct management of income for those who appear to need it on a temporary or permanent basis.

Material assistance alone would seem to be of very limited use. Where people wish to enter into a voluntary partnership with Centrecare in the management of their own funds, the matter is discussed thoroughly, and an appropriate contract established.

Although this service has been offered to a few clients for some time with success, it is now being set up on a proper basis to assist a greater number of people who might otherwise face eviction, bankruptcy, or chronic dependence on emergency relief organizations.

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1. CATHOLIC CHILD CARE COMMITTEE

The work of co-ordination and mutual assistance has continued over the past year, under the sponsorship of Centrecare, with the following residential centres in regular attendance:

Catherine McAuley Centre
Castledare
Clontarf
Good Shepherd Teen Centre
St Francis Xavier's Cottages, Wandering.

The major event affecting all the centres was the publication and acceptance of the recommendations of the Committee of Enquiry into Residential Care.

With the view to the raising and maintenance of standards, the provisions offered fairly generous financial assistance to non-government residential centres, such as:

90% of professional salaries,
50% of full-time child care workers,
50% of an administrator's salary,
a weekly child care subsidy.

In addition, immediate grants were made to each agency for needed maintenance.

The important point of the Enquiry was that non-government agencies were recognized by the Government as providing necessary services. They were not seen as dying anachronisms, as some critics had suggested.

Two centres received considerable assistance from the Catholic Child Care Committee by way of suggestions and support, in planning for radical future changes. Catherine McAuley began its building programme for re-developing the whole Wembley site, whereas St Francis Xavier, Wandering, achieved the backing of the Church for a major change - closing the present service in favour of cottages in country centres.

The other centres have discussed plans for internal changes with the Committee.

As a Committee that appears to achieve its aims, the Child Care Committee is one of the most worthwhile ventures undertaken by Centrecare.

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2. STUDENT TRAINING

Until her death, Mrs Barbara Kinna acted as Supervisor for students from W.A. Institute of Technology and the University of W.A.

Since then the Director has continued with the supervision of social work students, believing that the agency offered a

range of suitable learning casework and community development experiences for students.

A psychology student from the W.A.I.T. counselling course completed a placement at the agency, mainly in the area of marriage guidance.

Students are welcome. They both benefit from and contribute to the activities of the agency.

3. EMERGENCY HOUSING

The two houses in Royal Street under the control of Centre-care have been used continually over the past year.

Family groups formed the bulk of those accepted. Such groups are rarely catered for in the established emergency shelters.

The pressure for emergency accommodation is such that greater public attention needs to be given to it, especially since our experience shows clearly that supervised self-management schemes are cheap to run, and in no way resemble institutions.

4. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

While Centrecare is a Catholic agency, it operates as part of the network of social services in Perth, and must keep close contact with other Church, community and Government agencies.

It has representatives on the following committees and organizations:

- Australian Catholic Social Welfare Commission
- W.A. Catholic Social Welfare Commission
- W.A. Council of Social Service
 - Executive Committee
 - Standing Committee on Child and Family Welfare
 - Migrant Issues Committee
 - Community Liaison Committee
- A.C.O.S.S. Board of Governors
- Australian Association of Social Work
- Richmond Fellowship
- Catholic Child Care Committee
- Catholic Committee for Caring of the Aged
- Consultancy service for Christian Family and Ethnic Services (Bunbury)
- Homeless Persons Committee
- Australian Conference of Marriage Guidance Organizations
- Board Member: Family Service Centre
- Board of Studies (Social Work), University of W.A.

MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL

The Council's workload continues to increase.

With the families seen by the Family Welfare section, where marriage counselling was necessary, a total of 361 cases were handled, requiring 1524 interviews.

From the beginning of 1977, Mr Paul Bowen, full-time counsellor for three years, began an academic course in social work at the W.A. Institute of Technology. With his years of experience behind him the course will give him professional competence in a field where academic qualifications are being increasingly demanded.

He was succeeded by Mr Dan Coughlin, a clinical psychologist with long experience in marital and individual therapy in Canada.

Mr Coughlin is offering counselling supervision and casework management to all Centrecare staff, an area in which all have felt the lack in the past.

Marriages continue to be fragile. High unfulfilled expectations, lack of communication and excessive drinking are some of the most frequent problems that occurred.

Counselling is becoming more acceptable to a greater number of people. It is hoped that people will approach the Council at a much earlier stage in their story of marital disharmony.

Three of the Family Court counsellors met the staff of Centrecare in May with a view to understanding the nature of the service offered, and to inform the staff of the work of the Family Court counselling service. As a result a number of referrals have been made from and to the Court counsellors.

The Council was responsible for a number of initiatives -

1. MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSES

During the year the bi-monthly conferences for engaged couples were changed to monthly conferences, being held in Perth and in East Fremantle on a rotation basis.

As a result of two Seminars for Priests held in 1976, organized by the Marriage Guidance Council, more couples have been referred by priests to the Conferences.

Marriage preparation is being seen as of major importance for stable and healthy marriages.

The courses cannot make up for the long-term preparation which occurs in the home and the school, but it offers information on communication, on the use of sexuality, and on other matters of importance to couples about to marry.

After submissions to the Attorney General's Department, a grant

of \$2,000 was made to the Council to further its work of marriage preparation.

2. FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION

Requests from schools for talks and group sessions were frequently made.

Not all could be complied with due to limits of available staff.

The Diocese is not adequately served in this area.

It is not yet certain who should accept responsibility for programmes on a Diocesan scale. If Centrecare is to offer them, it will need more resources than are available to it at present.

The Director wishes to acknowledge his debt to all the staff for their dedication and level of skills. The voluntary counsellors who receive no remuneration for their work, provide a laudable example of high level of service given for other reasons than financial.

After screening by an evaluation panel, the trainee counsellors began counselling under supervision. When their probationary period is over, they will be assessed again for acceptance as accredited counsellors, able to offer a competent service to clients.

The Council is grateful for the work of the organizers, speakers and group leaders of the marriage preparation courses, especially for the work of Mrs Sybil Hopkins and Mrs Joan Wedd.

It is also grateful for the financial assistance given by the Attorney General's Department for marriage counselling and marriage preparation work.

I M M I G R A T I O N O F F I C E

The major changes affecting this office during the past year were seen in personnel. Mr R. de Gersigny, who had been the Immigration Secretary for over 8 years, resigned in the beginning of August 1976.

Mainly due to lack of finance it was decided that his workload, which was of a clerical as well as social work nature, would be absorbed by existing staff. Mrs C. Schoenmakers became Secretary of the Immigration Office.

Travel Loans

There was not much demand from clients to arrange travel loans, although there was still some work done in this area through repayments of travel loans given in previous years.

Accommodation

Prospective migrants who do not have relatives in Australia contact us sometimes, asking us to give them an accommodation guarantee. These are migrants who are not eligible for assisted passage, and are therefore not entitled to accommodation in the Government Migrant Hostels. For small families the emergency shelter in Royal Street has at times been used for a short period after arrival.

Main Area of Assistance

General settlement problems are usually dealt with by the social work staff.

However, there is one area in which the office is becoming increasingly involved, and this is in the area of family reunion. Usually people come to this office as a last resort, when their nomination of relatives overseas has been refused. The Catholic Immigration Office does not possess special powers to influence the Government, but it has happened that due to an oversight or technicality the nomination has been rejected. A new approach with the help of our staff has at times proved successful.

It must be stressed that separation from relatives can in certain cases cause real anxiety. Due to an awareness of the unemployment problem Australia is experiencing at present, many officers at the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs see it as their duty to discourage prospective migrants from entering. It is true to say that the present policy is a very restrictive one indeed, particularly with regards to the family reunion category, where only spouses, dependent children and parents of Australian residents are accepted. Many migrants who come from countries where the concept of the extended family is a very strong one, fail to see, why it is not possible for them to bring out relatives who fall outside this narrow category. This applies particularly to people from Asian countries. When they do not qualify under the family reunion category, the occupational category is the only one

left to them. It is difficult, nearly impossible in many cases, to have their qualifications assessed, because of a difference in training programmes.

When nominations have been rejected a sympathetic ear and a shoulder to cry on are needed, and this is one of the roles of our trained staff.

Letters from Overseas

A number of letters have arrived at this office from overseas, asking our advice and assistance in connection with migration plans. Usually all that can be done for these people is to write back to them, explaining the present Immigration policy, and to advise them to apply for entry at the office of the Australian High Commissioner or Australian Embassy in their country.

Refugees

Our contact with refugees to date has been small. Now that more are being accepted into the country, a move that we wholeheartedly support, we expect to be far more involved in their settlement problems.

N A T U R A L F A M I L Y P L A N N I N G

This centre has been in operation for the past 9 years and in that time the number of people seeking instruction has increased from year to year.

This year over 830 people came in for private interviews, while 300 people attended Clinic sessions held at St John of God, Subiaco.

A lot of couples who come to the centre have infertility problems and we help them by teaching them to understand and recognize their peak fertility.

As well as interviews, we work with final year students in high schools, nurses in training hospitals, Nursing Mothers Associations and other similar organizations.

A lot of couples who come to the centre have infertility problems and we have had a lot of success in pinpointing ovulation.

The big change happening to Natural Family Planning over the years has been the increasing number of couples coming for the initial interview. In previous years it was mostly the woman who would attend by herself; now a lot of couples see fertility as being the responsibility of both man and woman.

Approaches are not limited to married couples only. Much work is done with engaged couples, especially as the Marriage Preparation Courses are organized to fit in with the monthly clinics at St John of God Hospital. This work is particularly valuable, as couples enter marriage better informed and better motivated.

Mrs Maureen Chamberlain and her team work closely with the other services of Centrecare to provide a wide range of assistance to those who seek information or counselling.

P R E G N A N C Y H E L P

Now in its second full year of operation, Pregnancy Help continues to prove its worth. The nature and the number of the calls indicate that the service is needed.

It is becoming all too clear that there is little support for women who wish to continue with an unexpected pregnancy, let alone any encouragement to do so. Abortion is seen more and more as a way out of a difficulty.

Pregnancy Help, while motivated by a pro-life attitude, is a genuine counselling service, enabling people to sort through the fears, anxieties and problems surrounding the pregnancy, with a view to reaching their own decision. All the help we can give, financial or emotional, is offered so that those that approach us can see that there are real alternatives to abortion.

Pregnancy Help is not a political lobby. It has kept out of the field of public agitation, seeing the two roles of counselling and lobbying difficult to combine. We are happy that the political pressure is accepted by other groups with a pro-life orientation.

Calls and interviews are handled by the staff of Centrecare. The organizations is handled by a Committee chaired by Maureen Chamberlain. Most of the publicity and secretarial work is handled by Pam Miller with help from Imelda Bennett and others.

Sincere thanks must go to these and all those who assist in this valuable work.

The publicity of the service in metropolitan Drive-ins was supported financially by the Knights of the Southern Cross. We are most grateful for their interest and continued support.

Pregnancy Help has also been publicized in the "Record" and in the personal columns of the "Sunday Times" and the "West Australian". Cards and stickers have been placed in strategic areas throughout the city, at Secondary and Tertiary Colleges, in doctors' surgeries, health centres and shopping centres.

The interest of the public has been sought through annual membership at a cost of \$3.

The purpose is not primarily to attract funds, because the Archbishop has guaranteed sufficient money, and donations are often made; it is to gain and retain the sense of participation of as many in the community as possible. It is an indirect but valuable form of public education.

The more the service is appreciated, the more support will be given to distressed people who may feel they have no other choice but abortion.

ABORIGINAL APOSTOLATE

Centrecare acts as a co-ordinating point for many of the Diocesan activities. in the Aboriginal Apostolate.

It is directly responsible for the administration of St Francis Xavier's, Wandering, for Aboriginal children. It is the referral point for the activities of the Religious in the field of Aboriginal religious and social assistance, especially for Fr Bryan Tiernan, Sr Patrice Rafferty and Sr Carmeline.

It also takes a close interest in the work of Sr Bernardine at St Norbert's New Era Shelter.

1. ST FRANCIS XAVIER' S CHILDREN'S HOMES, WANDERING

Over the past year the present and future of Wandering has been the subject of very close attention.

Three questions were being raised:

1. Should Wandering continue in its present location, and in what way ?
2. Should the children be re-located to townships ?
3. Should the work be disbanded ?

In the year 1977, a Superintendent Mr John Namnik, and a social worker, Miss Jeanette Underwood, were recruited to take over the running of Wandering, under Centrecare.

Under their control, the children received excellent attention, and the staff worked happily as a team.

They participated in the discussions about Wandering's future. Discussion papers were drawn up and given wide circulation.

After a meeting with Archbishop Goody, it was resolved to continue the work, to re-locate the children in cottages in suitable country towns, and set the present location aside for other Aboriginal purposes, if possible.

The State Housing Commission and the Community Welfare Department expressed their willingness to co-operate in the venture.

Thanks must go to the staff of Wandering, both present and past, for their dedication and generosity. The location of Wandering has disadvantages that require special qualities in those who view the work as worthwhile. We are fortunate to have had so many with those qualities.

2. CITY ABORIGINAL APOSTOLATE

Centrecare acts as a co-ordinator for the Religious working on behalf of the Diocese among Aboriginal people mainly in the metropolitan area.

Sr Patricia Rafferty has now been in the work for over three years. She has developed a lively and expanding apostolate during that time, as described in her report below.

Fr Bryan Tiernan began his work as Chaplain to the Aboriginal people at the beginning of 1977. With his extensive knowledge of the people after his years of working among them in all parts of the State, he involves himself in their spiritual and temporal care.

One of his main hopes is to establish an alcoholic rehabilitation centre in a suitable location in or near Perth. In this he works very closely with Sr Bernardine, who is in charge of St Norbert's New Era home for Itinerants.

Fr Tiernan and Sr Patricia have established a weekly Mass at Holy Trinity Church, Embleton, for Aboriginal people. It is well attended each week, and a significant force in the spiritual development of those who attend.

Printed below is the Report that Sister Patricia Rafferty submitted in June of this year. Much of it was contained in the "Record" of June 30th 1977.

3. SPECIAL REPORT - SISTER PATRICIA RAFFERTY

This is my fourth year working with Nyoongahs (Aboriginal people of the South West) in Perth metropolitan area.

In 1974 I was commissioned by Archbishop Goody to commence the Perth Apostolate to Aboriginal people in a spiritual and welfare capacity.

Visitation of the homes in several suburbs eventually enabled me, with the help of a very fine Nyoongah Elder, Mr John Blurton, to bring together a group of women and the foundation of Aboriginal Kadee Club was laid.

"Kadee" means "Mother". What these women wanted more than anything else was a mothers' Club, hence Kadee Club. We perhaps would term it an Adult Education Centre because these Mothers wanted to learn. They wanted to learn sewing, cooking, and all kinds of crafts; they wanted to know about budgeting, keeping house, food values, how to entertain, how to be well-groomed; to speak with a doctor on their problems; and currently, as they are coming to a greater understanding of the importance for them to be vocal in the community, public speaking.

I am very ably assisted at our Bayswater Centre by Sister Carmeline, Servite Sister from Mt Lawley.

The introduction of their children to a Pre-pre-school was quite an experience for these mothers. At first they resented being parted from their children but as they discovered the pleasure of working uninterruptedly at whatever they desired to do, and that their children were learning also, they grew to appreciate and to commend the experience to others. And so Kadee Club grew.

The President of Kadee Club is Mrs Gwen Corunna of Balga - a woman of outstanding ability and potential. Indeed, many of the Members display similar potential. It has been wonderful to witness the development that has taken place in them since the commencement of the Club in July 1974.

We have been through much together and the going has not always smooth. As well as external pressures from society, there have been internal - understandably, as we stem from different cultures and can never fully understand the other. The words of Father Yves Raguin, S.J. may help you to understand something of the process that occurs when we meet with another culture:

"There is mystery in each human being - more so if a person is from another culture. If you say you understand, you don't understand. If you accept this understanding by not understanding, accepting this fact, knowing there is a mystery in a person, you will act in such a way as to never offend. He will feel he is understood and you will feel you are understood. The inner world of a person is a universe and you will 'know' a person only when you 'know' his world as extensively as you know your own."

So, as you can see, I am engaged in development. And development is, as I see it, providing a climate of friendship and trust wherein they can grow by making decisions, becoming aware of their needs, assisting them to understand white people and their culture

Out of our group's decisions: we have acquired a very nice State Housing Commission cottage at Bayswater with a well-equipped Pre-pre-school; because they saw clothing and furniture as two vital needs in the community, we now have a bargain shop in Bassendean and shortly will be opening another in Midland to bring a really wonderful service to Nyoongah families.

The next felt need to be dealt with is job opportunity. Negotiations are being made currently with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to commence a Welding Business and it is hoped to get this off the ground by the end of the year. Six young men will be trained initially and it is hoped that the following year another group will be trained, retaining the original trainees in the business. From this source other avenues of training and enterprise will be explored.

Aboriginal Kadee Club is proud to announce that early in July they will become: Kadee (Aboriginal) Co-operative Limited and thereby the first big step will be taken towards becoming a vital part of the West Australian community. The co-operative movement is "a form of organization wherein persons voluntarily associate together as human beings on the basis of equality for the promotion of their own economic interests." It is called Christianity in action.

A high point in my work has been to see the commencement of the Nyoongah Mass Centre at Embleton where an attempt is being made to show Catholic life in all its richness and fullness.

Another facet of my work in the Aboriginal community is the weekly visitation of Bandyup Women's Prison where I visit the Aboriginal women prisoners. Again I am faced with the process of building a relationship of friendship and trust.

May I conclude by saying that the only qualification required by those desiring to work and share their skill with Aboriginal people is a loving heart. Hard as it is to be constantly flexible, adaptable and available, believe me, to acquire the friendship of these beautiful people is well worth all the effort and of course we are not alone at any time.

Sister Patricia Rafferty.

APPENDIX I

TOTAL CASELOAD

(Marital and General Welfare)

	No. of cases
Marital and Family Conflict	361
Parent/Child Conflict	36
Child Behaviour	54
Child Placement	115
Pre-marital	67
Special Migrant Problems	148
Finance/Employment/Accommodation	253
Psychiatric/Drugs/Alcohol	46
Other Problems	94
Cases from earlier years	156

TOTAL CASELOAD 1330

TOTAL INTERVIEWS 4309

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN

U.K.	173
SOUTH EAST ASIA	203
SOUTHERN EUROPE	139
OTHER EUROPEANS	87
OTHER COUNTRIES	69

AUSTRALIA 671

TOTAL 1330

CATHOLIC MARRIAGE GUIDANCE COUNCIL (W.A.)

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR 1 JULY 1976 to 30 JUNE 1977

Receipts

Payments

1977 June 30 To Refund fares 1975/76 A.C.O.M.O.G.O.

1976 July 1 By Bank Overdraft 720.38

Conference 285.20
 " Diocesan Grants 5,300.00
 " Australian Government Subsidy 15,300.00
 " Australian Government Grant Pre-marital Education 2,300.00
 " Sale of Books 127.40
 " Bank Interest 24.62
 " Donations 515.00
 " Sundry Creditor Fares Brisbane 400.00

1977 June 30 Salaries 16,227.26
 Director 3,000.00
 Professional Staff 9,154.72
 Clerical Staff 3,872.56
 Part-time book/krpr 200.00

By Superannuation Office Cont. 220.84
 " Postage 99.66
 " Printing & Stationery 260.43
 " Library 189.78
 " Office Equipment & Furniture 1,207.64
 " Telephone 443.04
 " Subscriptions 100.00
 " Maintenance & Repair 52.09
 " Rent 1,500.00
 " Fares 325.20

Counsellors Fares 777.20
 A.C.O.M.G.O. Conf 144.00
 Accommodation 15.80
 Sundries 937.00

Less refund 100.00
 836.36

Trainee Counsellors Seminar 555.00
 Fees Lecturers 200.00
 755.00

Less Payment by trainees 419.65
 Office Mess 335.35
 Advertising 112.15
 Petty Cash 118.54
 Balance at Bank 387.03
 361.03

\$23,352.22

\$23,352.22

CATHOLIC EPISCOPAL MIGRATION AND WELFARE ASSOCIATION

APPENDIX IV

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1 JULY 1976 TO 30 JUNE 1977

<u>Income</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Commission on Travel Loans	91.89	Grants Catholic Family Welfare Bureau	3,000.00
Donations	545.59	Honorarium P/T Bookkeeper	880.00
Interest	202.95	Office Expenses	109.47
Migration Sunday	5,000.00	Printing and Stationery	22.01
Subsidy National Office	1,000.00	Postage	29.88
Sale Trailer	50.00	Petty Cash (Bank Charge)	.50
		Salaries	1,705.93
		Salary Director	500.00
		Balance	642.64
	<u>\$6,890.43</u>		<u>\$6,890.43</u>

