

"People Making Time for People"

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commitment to community



annual report 2005













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Members of the Board

Martin Gribbon Shauna Deane Moya Newman Tony Pires David Pires Steve Walker Ann Wringe

Chairperson Deputy Chairperson

Annual Report Acknowledgments

- City of Kalgoorlie Boulder
- Department for Community Development
- Department of Health
- Department of Consumer and Employment Protection
- Department of Family and Community Services through: Family Relationships Services Program
 - Stronger Families Initiative, and The National Homelessness Strategy
- Department of Health through the Office of Aboriginal Health
- Department of Housing and Works
- Department of Justice
- Goldfields Esperance Development Commission
- Lotterywest
- Office of Racing, Gaming and Liquor
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Perth through Lifelink











Chairperson's Report

THERE is a deep human need to belong, to be part of a group, family and neighbourhood. Who we are, our values and beliefs are strongly shaped by our environment and those to whom we have attachments. Our sense of community identifies and creates a sense of self in shaping our very being. Community is the glue that binds us together often with shared history, language, tradition, customs, beliefs and shared future.

Of course community is not restricted to geographic location or position. Shared interests can be the stimulus for forming a community of interest for like minded people be it bookclub, organic farming or love of art. Sporting clubs are examples of community. For most of us the work environment creates it's own unique community with shared goals and sharing of talents.

Events over the last 12 months highlight the importance of the international community working together as one in response to a number of natural disasters - the Asian Tsunami, Hurricane Katrina, the earthquake in Pakistan. The recent threat of a bird flu virus is a reminder that the world is a small place with consequences affecting the world community. This type of threat requires the international community to work in co-operation in developing protocols and the scientific and medical community developing responses by way of anti-viral medications.

Ask 20 different people what they mean by community and it's likely that 20 different definitions or interpretations would be volunteered. These would be around themes of belonging, sense of place, relationships being part of something bigger than oneself.

It takes time to build community. Just like relationships, being part of a community needs to be worked at. Communities can be under threat through self interest and not taking into account the greater good. Communities can feel under siege or undervalued through lack of respect. The Muslim community is concerned that the broader community shows a lack of tolerance in blaming it for recent terror attacks. Indigenous communities may believe that they have been overlooked or ignored as they don't fit into the bigger picture constructed by the wider community.

So how can we negotiate these differences and potential frictions? How can we bridge competing needs of individuals as part of communities with different beliefs from other communities? How can we be realistic about the strengths and frailties inherent in all communities without being blinded by altruism? Where does Centrecare fit and what role does it have in providing services to a range of communities?

Firstly, Centrecare starts from the belief of the unique value of life, the importance of individuals and the vitality of community.

Secondly, is the premise of starting where the client or community is at without judgement.

Thirdly, is the belief in self-determination and creating services based upon respect. Catholic social teaching has a long and proud history of defending human rights, defending workers rights and defending family rights.

There are a number of challenges which our society is facing at this time. We need to have a sense of fairness and justice to balance the temptation to go too far. How far do we jeopardise democratic freedoms by having anti-terrorist laws which may be seen as draconian in trampling on freedoms and rights which, although taken for granted, underpin our social contact with one another?



Human beings are more than producers or cogs in an all encompassing, economic powerhouse. There is certainly more to being human than just work. Workers rights need to be protected. Those who are least able to bargain have got most to lose under the current proposed Industrial Relations changes. There needs to be time for family matters and to nurture the relationships which nurture us. How will our kids and future generations cope?

Holidays and sick leave are sacrosanct. There is a need to recreate, a need to take time off for caring responsibilities. This is what labour movements over the world have struggled for over generations. We discount this at our peril.

Centrecare is committed to stand alongside those on the fringes and edges of society. Our staff are committed to working with those in pain and those who are suffering. Our services are underpinned by an unshaken belief that we do make a difference. The contracts which we fulfil are about making improvements, about contributing to the community, about encouraging people to grow. We will strive to achieve a happier, fairer more peaceful and just community where all people are valued and important.

In this regard I would like to congratulate all Centrecare staff for their dedication and commitment over this period in often difficult circumstances. The support and encouragement of Archbishop Hickey continues to be a great motivator. The integrity and involvement of Board Members ensures that Centrecare is a vital and empowering organisation, and the energy and passion of our Director, Tony, gives us confidence to move forward with enthusiasm and belief. Thanks are also due to various State and Commonwealth Government funding bodies for providing Centrecare with the means for developing and delivering service on their behalf to the community.

M. Gible

Martin Gribbon
CHAIRPERSON



Director's Report

IT often feels as if the idea of community has become old hat. There is so much focus on individual wellbeing and rights that the connection between the individual and the group to which he or she belongs appears to be non-existent.

Yet it is in this connectedness that our individual endeavours find their meaning. When we see our efforts impacting on others, it is then that we become aware of the importance and purpose of our actions. The individuality that is so valued in today's Western world is only possible due to the productive efforts of the group.

Self-awareness is primarily a consequence of our interaction with others. This interconnectedness between the individual and the group is essential to our physical, emotional and spiritual health. It has been saddening to see our nation becoming increasingly divided into "us" and "them". We seem to have replaced love with fear. Fellow human beings seeking our help are seen as threats rather than people faced with very difficult life situations, people that are desperate for understanding and comfort.

We need to look beyond our fear, remain aware of our common humanity and respond accordingly. It is this awareness that inspires Centrecare's work. It is a sense of responsibility that provides the impetus for social service work. It is the understanding that our common welfare is founded on the health and security of each person which informs and sustains the work that our agency undertakes.

The mountain of work that Centrecare staff has undertaken in the past year, often in very difficult circumstances and far-off places, is testimony to their belief in the importance of others. The professional manner and generous spirit in which the work is undertaken remains an inspiration to me and to many others. My thanks to them for their efforts and they can be assured that they have made a significant difference to thousands of individuals and families in Western Australia and beyond.

Centrecare's work would be impossible without the generous support of Archbishop Hickey and the Catholic Archdiocese of Perth. Lotterywest continues to be a source of much needed equipment and other valuable resources. We greatly value the co-operation and funding received from many State and Federal Government Departments.

It is essential to extend my thanks to all Centrecare managers who always give far more than they ought. Their limitless commitment to the work of the agency and to its ongoing wellbeing is a wonderful support and one that is highly prized.

Thanks also to the Centrecare Board members, especially our Chairperson. Their help and wise counsel, always provided in a spirit of genuine co-operation and mutual respect, is a wonderful gift to me and one that is greatly appreciated.

A Tuppiculo

Tony Pietropiccolo DIRECTOR

Commitment to Community

Executive Manager, Centrecare Corporate - Peta Sloco nbe as quoted in List Magazi

> ... "his compassion, (The Director, Tony Pietropiccolo) commitment and generosity of spirit have resulted directly in the significant growth of an organisation that reaches into the homes and lives of tens of thousands of Western Australians each year".

CENTRECARE'S belief is that change in one individual has the potential to impact on the lives of many within their own communities. It is through commitment and being open to the experience of discovery that we continue to develop professional, practical, innovative and relevant services.

In every sense of the word, Centrecare is a "grass roots" organisation – at its foundation a willingness to share, learn and evolve. We reach out to help communities whenever there is a need, irrespective of distance or difficulty.

During 2004-2005, over 25,000 clients attended one of the 60 services provided by Centrecare. Services are provided to meet the needs of clients, and are conducted in various locations including offices, homes, parks, community centres, hospitals and jails. In fact, Goldfields' outreach services cover a 2,000 kilometre arc.

Services tailored to meet the diversity of Western Australian communities include



Goldfields

ACCESS Programs (Goldfields/Esperance)

Community Drug Service Team (Goldfields/ Esperance)

Domestic Violence Victim Support and Advocacy Service

Domestic Violence Perpetrators Program

Esperance Family and Relationship Program

Family Mental Health Care

Financial Counselling Service

Family Relationships Services Program

National Illicit Drug Strategy Program

Personal Support Program

Primary Dispute Resolution Services Team

Spouse Abuse Counselling and Education

Supported Housing Assistance Program

Djooraminda

Djooraminda Cottages

Aboriginal Family Tertiary Preservation Program ATSI Program

Perth and Joondalup

Adolescent Mediation and Family Therapy (CY)

Gambling Help WA

Family Relationship Counselling

Men in Family Relationships

Men's DV Counselling Service – North Metro

Parent Teen Link (Perth)

Post Abortion Counselling

Spouse Abuse Counselling and Education

Intensive Youth Support Services (IYSS)

Parent Adolescent Conflict Counselling Service (YOISS)

Specialised Domestic Violence Service

Centrecare Corporate

ACCESS - Employee Assistance Programs

Critical Incident Response

Consultancy

Counselling

Dispute Resolution and Mediation

Seminars and Presentations

Services to Schools

Training

Cannington

Community Housing Program

Crisis Accommodation Program

Support and Counselling Services for Children in Family

Supported Accommodation (SKY)

Supported Accommodation Assistance Program

Supported Housing Assistance Program

Transitional Accommodation and Support Services

Southwest

Programs servicing the South West

ACCESS Programs

Consultancy and Supervision/Corporate Services

Domestic Violence Program

Family Support Program

Mirrabooka

Support and Advocacy - Private Rental - Balga,

Mirrabooka and Maylands/ Swan, Midland and Bassendean

Personal Support Program (PSP)

Family Relationships Mediation

Family Link

Parent Link Home Visiting Service

Djooraminda Facts

- Care was provided for up to 30 children at any one time in the five Djooraminda cottages
- Over 180 clients were seen in the ATSI Program

Perth and Joondalup Facts

- Over 450 sessions were conducted in the Specialised Family Violence Service
- Over 1800 male and 2600 female clients were seen across these programs

Centrecare Corporate Facts

- Centrecare Corporate responded to 30 serious incident requests
- Over 270 participants trained in innovative clinical training topics

Cannington Facts

- The Supported Accommodation Assistance Program has provided support services to 41 families at any one time Over 150 children participated
- in the SKY Program

Southwest Facts

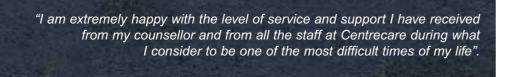
The Family Support Program provided counselling services to over 400 clients

Mirrabooka Facts

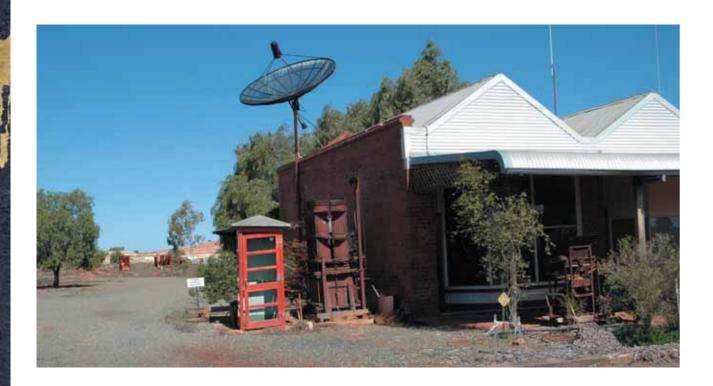
- Parent Link and Family Link provided support and assistance to over 500 clients
- The Support and Advocacy Program provided services to over 150 households



OUR business service, Centrecare Corporate, provided 3,200 counselling hours to its 46 Employee Assistance Program companies, their employees and immediate family members.



We utilise feedback from clients, staff, funding sources, other community service organisations and the community at large to guide the continuous improvement of existing services and the development of new initiatives. Centrecare maintains an openness to new ideas and encourages staff to give expression to these ideas. For example, in response to comment from isolated communities our Goldfields branch has commenced the development of a video conferencing service which will provide our staff with an opportunity to address identified needs.



ONGOING professional development for staff is considered an essential feature of our commitment to maintaining standards of professional excellence and ensuring that staff retain current knowledge of legislative requirements.

Staff are encouraged to participate in individual and agency specific training. This year, the following agency training was provided:

Risk Management Practices
Privacy Legislation and Practices
Child Protection
Clinical Supervision
Vibrant Workplace
Critical Incident Stress Management Response

Our commitment to the community sector has seen staff provide training and make presentations at conferences throughout Australia.

Through Centrecare Corporate 270 participants attended innovative training such as Child Protection, Mediation, Narrative Solutions and Vibrant Workplace™. A number of these workshops were conducted nationally.

Staff from the Gambling Help service delivered training in Broome and Geraldton and made presentations at the National Association for Gambling Studies conference in Brisbane.

Two papers were also presented at the State Community Housing Conference – Balancing the Risks and Leading the Way.

A two day workshop in Business Management Systems and Internal Auditing was provided to a number of Catholic Welfare Australia organisations in Melbourne and Canberra.



"We saw ourselves as capable of making a difference in our workplace and doing our best for others through looking at ourselves through your eyes! Thank you"

A further example of our commitment to community is our involvement in over 30 committees, reference groups and community events during the 2004-2005 period.

In addition, our Director was a committee or panel member on 11 different committees throughout the year.



WITH a spirit of giving and a zest for life, Centrecare staff have participated in a number of fundraising events such as SIDS, Child Protection Week and Daffodil Day. In true Centrecare style this participation generally involved food!

One of the highlights of our fundraising calendar was the shaving of a staff member's hair, with funds raised going to cancer research.



At the Balzano Race in Kalgoorlie not only did the "Care" team raise the second highest amount for charity during the event but they also had fun!

ANOTHER highlight for this year has been the success of Festival of Hearts in Kalgoorlie. This unique event was developed by Centrecare's Goldfields team in 2004 as a fundraising event, and as an opportunity to join with the Goldfields community in a celebration of St Valentine's Day. The Festival of Hearts aims to promote and celebrate positive relationships and extend an appreciation of the strength and happiness that our most important relationships give us. Free balloons, roses and heart shaped chocolates are distributed to the community. A raffle and soiree are held through the assistance of generous community sponsorship with funds raised being donated to charity.



In closing, two simple words, from a client commenting on the delivery of one of our many services.

"Life changing"



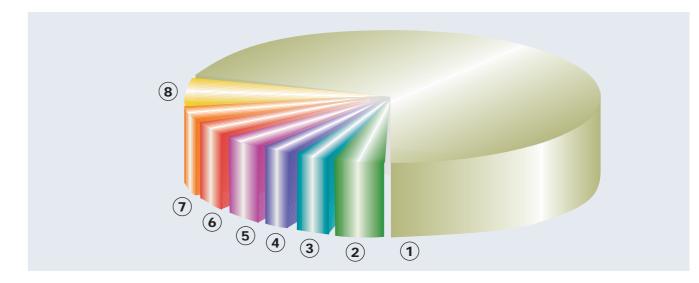
Financial Report

Income/Expenditure Statement for the 12 months to 30 June 2005

Includes Perth Metropolitan, Goldfields, Southwest operations

Income

1	Funding - State and Federal	71%
2	Funding - Non Government	8%
3	Archdiocese of Perth - Lifelink	2%
4	Housing and Accommodation Revenue	4%
	Corporate Services Revenue	4%
	Fees	2%
7	Writeback of Provisions	4%
8	Other Income	5%



Expenditure

1	Salaries, Wages and Oncosts	75%
	Administration Expenses	14%
3	Property Expenses	5%
	Operating Expenses	3%
	Vehicle Expenses	3%

