



Montessori
Children's
Foundation



Annual Report

2021

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MESSAGE FROM **THE CEO**

2021 has been a year a change, challenge and ultimately redemption. Since founded in 19?? by LC Masterman, MMICT has been struggling to establish itself as an institution capable of effecting the change he saw as possible with the use of Montessori education in indigenous communities. With 2021 drawing to a close it is of great satisfaction that I can now see a clear path forward to fulfilling his vision in an impactful and scaleable manner. The development of the Raising Happy Kids parenting program is on track for completion in 2021. The program uses the Montessori philosophy and pedagogy but also incorporates best practice from psychology (Circle of Security), parenting (3a) and neuroscience (zero to three). The program can be delivered remotely or in person at a cost that will allow us to make the program available to all indigenous communities over the coming years.

This year we will have completed the necessary work to expand our sphere of influence and impact from funding other organisations programs on an ad-hoc basis to developing and delivering our own program.

Next year I hope to see validation of our program, growth in our partner network and significant growth in the number of families served and ultimately children provided a family environment to needed to thrive.

OVERVIEW

VISION AND MISSION



Our Vision

One day, all indigenous children will have the opportunity to claim their rightful place in society.



Our Mission

To enhance the dignity and quality of life for indigenous children by inspiring families to provide an ethical framework and a trusted environment that fosters independence, self-reliance and a love of learning and exploring.

OVERVIEW

GOALS AND VALUES



Values

- Strengths based
- Culturally appropriate
- Sustainable
- Montessori philosophy
- Access for all



Goals

The goals identified as best guiding the organisation toward the Vision and Mission are:

- Developing world class and sustainable programs
- Serving remote communities
- Training facilitators to deliver programs
- Assisting indigenous children and their families
- Bringing the cost of services down to affordable levels
- Raising funds to develop and deliver services



OUR IMPACT 2021

PROGRAMS

After feedback from 15 years of engagement with early childhood education in communities in the North Queensland ATSI communities we realized the maximal impact was going to be with parenting programs that could be available to all who were interested. Key to the long-term success of any program of this nature would be its ability to engage parents and carers, develop parenting skills in a demonstratable manner and be cheap enough to be run by partner organisations without fear of being shut down due to funding issues.

”

We needed to develop a world class parenting program for deployment in a highly challenging location that could be delivered essentially for free.”

RAISING KIDS RIGHT

The first iteration of our supported Montessori parenting playgroup pilot rolled out on Term 2, 2021. This program was the first step in establishing a new parenting program developed for the ATSI communities from the ground up. The program needed to be cost effective to deliver at scale, highly structured in the approach to support of the alumni as well as being of utility and interest to the ATSI community. During this pilot the focus was on the development of the parenting component of the program and the trialing of the unique combination of parenting resources with ATSI families.

This program was a great success with the parent guide resources being developed and deployed with great feedback from both the parent guide and the participating families.

The program is designed to be delivered with two weeks prior training and a heavy emphasis on the twice weekly support following training and during deployment.

An evidence based approach to determine efficacy of the program was developed which utilized pre and post assessment. ASQ-Trak was employed for assessing development of the children and PSA-10 for assessing the development of the parents and carers as they progressed through the program.

RAISING HAPPY KIDS

The second iteration of our supported Montessori parenting playgroup rolled out in Term 3 and has continued on through term 4 2021. Focus has been on the development of the child guide training program. During Term 3 a mixed group of families were enrolled (5) whilst child guide materials were being developed and trialed. During Term 4 a child guide training session was run with Julia Hilson (Australia's foremost Montessori educator for working with indigenous communities) and that training will be the basis for all further child guide training. This program will be completed and rolled out in 2022 in-house and through partner organisations.



TRAINERS

5 Trainers have been trained to deliver Raising Happy Kids in 2021. All are able to deliver either the child guide or parent guide components of the program.



FAMILIES

Each of the last three terms have had five or six families attend (capacity is six) for a total of 16 enrollments over the three terms.



CHILDREN

Most families have one child they bring regularly, however we have had up to three children with a parent attend, total 18 children have attended over the three terms.



LOOKING AHEAD

A BRAND NEW CHAPTER FOR MCF

With our Raising Happy Kids program now scheduled for deployment in 2022 we are ready to enter a new chapter, MCF will transition from merely disbursing funds for programs run by other organisations to being an operational entity developing and deploying its own programs in conjunction with other service delivery organisations.

The transition is indicative of the continuing evolution of MCF and as the organisation matures it should be able to establish program credibility, pioneer new partners and sites as well as seek donations and grants.

Families are now recognized as the first teachers and the important role families play in early childhood is now understood within mainstream education (as it was in Montessori 150 years ago) however the development of programs serving indigenous families for children in the early years has lagged considerably leaving a considerable void for MCF's program to fill.

The continued growth and evolution of MCF and the Raising Happy Kids program will lead to highly impactful outcomes as the number of families served grows. For meaningful inroads to be made in Closing the Gap the issues relating to parenting need to be addressed and the model for service delivery in indigenous communities needs to be revised.

We aim to do both.



PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

The Raising Happy Kids program will be initially housed on our learning management system and will be made available as an online course that would be delivered live either in person or via zoom. Over time it is anticipated that efforts will be made to continue to drop the cost on a per participant basis by providing a pre-recorded version of the presentations and continuing to build the support channels out.

PROGRAM DEPLOYMENT

Initially the program deployment is expected to be focused on building on the model at the head office and pioneering sites with partner organisations. Over time the process of democratizing access will continue with a view for the program to be available for all interested parties, essentially free with varying levels of support and training as appropriate. The program is expected to be tailored for a range of different applications, from interested parents and care-givers all the way to facilitators in organisations looking to start their own supported playgroup.

PARTNERSHIPS

Once the program development is complete demonstrations and training will be conducted in 2022 leading to partnerships with service delivery organisations.

KEY FINANCIALS

PROFIT AND LOSS

MONTESSORI CHILDRENS FOUNDATION					
Summary of Consolidated Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 30th June, 2021					
30/06/2020		Budget - to 30th June, 2021	Actual year ended 30/06/2021	Variation Actual to YTD Budget	% Actual more/less than YTD budget
	Trading Income and expenses				
	Sharehouses				
	Loeven Street - room rentals	91,350	96,191	4,841	
	- direct running costs	19,150	17,230	1,920	
	Surplus Loeven Street	72,200	78,960	6,760	9%
	Martyn Street - room rentals	136,950	169,689	32,739	
	- direct running costs	23,975	32,261	8,286	
	Surplus - Martyn Street	112,975	137,428	24,453	22%
	17 Scott Street - room rentals	26,650	28,525	1,875	
	- direct running costs	14,825	13,233	1,592	
	Surplus - 17 Scott Street	11,825	15,292	3,467	29%
	22 Scott Street - room rentals	-	34,812	34,812	
	- direct running costs	-	17,664	14,903	
	Surplus - 22 Scott Street	-	17,148	19,909	
	Draper Street - room rentals	-	28,464	28,464	
	- Direct running costs	-	18,145	14,742	
	Surplus - Draper Street	-	10,319	13,722	
	Common Receipts - for further information refer to P & L	11,450	3,685	7,765	
	Common Payments - for further information refer to P & L	141,700	144,897	2,999	
	Common - deficit	(130,250)	(141,212)	(10,764)	
	Total Trading Surplus	66,750	117,936	63,545	95%
	Other income				
27,183	MMICT - Other Income- cash flow boost	9,061	9,061	0	
93,942	MMICT - Dividend and managed investment income	698	698	0	
26,822	MMICT - Interest Income	70,000	62,500		
(68,033)	MMICT - Profit/(loss) on sale of financial assets and other		144	0	
79,913	Total other Income	79,759	72,403	-	
	Other expenses				
870	Total MCF operating expenses	9,500	17,068	7,568	
-	Total MCF Education Expenses	16,500	5,829	10,671	
116,952	Total MMITC Operating Expenses	152,886	192,798	39,912	
-	Total MMITC Education Expenses	60,000	35,845	24,155	
30,000	Total MMITC Project Expenses	31,725	31,725	0	
-	Total MMITC costs in acquiring sharehouses	18,228	17,851	377	
147,823	Total Operating and Other Expenses	288,839	301,116	12,277	-4%
(66,100)	Net Profit/(Loss)	(142,330)	(110,759)	31,571	22%

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

MONTESSORI CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION (Incl MCF, MMIT, MICT & MCF SF) Consolidated Statement of Financial Position As at 30th June 2021		
	30th June 2021	30-Jun-20
Assets		
Bank		
MMICT, MICT and MCF Cheque Accounts	99,064	2,427,694
Total Bank	99,064	2,427,694
Current Assets		
Petty Cash	50	-
GST refund due	4,081	7,478
KODA Investment Fund	-	1,157,407
C2 Capital Notes	460,000	500,000
C2 Capital - interest receivable	-	19,167
Cairns Beach Law Trust Account	8,340	-
Prepayments	12,458	1,021
Owed by MAF to MCF (written off in 2020 financial year)	-	-
Security Bonds on Draper St and 22 Scott Street sharehouses	15,000	-
Owed by MAF to MMIT and MICT- written off 2021 financial year	-	24,974
Total Current Assets	499,928	1,710,047
Fixed Assets		
Computer equipment	2,133	-
Share houses Air Conditioners	21,169	-
Motor Vehicle - Utility	34,990	-
Property - 17 Scott Street, Parramatta Park	900,000	-
Renovations - 17 Scott Street, Parramatta Park	16,832	-
Property - 80 Martyn Street, Parramatta Park	1,500,000	-
Property - 8-10 Loeven Street, Parramatta Park	1,075,000	-
Total Fixed Assets	3,550,124	-
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	35,000	-
Total Fixed Assets	3,515,124	-
Total Assets	4,114,116	4,137,741
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accrual	28,716	6,382
Accounts payable	0	-
Sharehouse rent security refundable deposits	34,950	-
PAYG Withholdings Payable	14,109	(8,591)
Superannuation payable	1,405	-
Wages Payable - Payroll	13,225	7,500
Vendor Finance - Scott Street Property	-	-
Total Current Liabilities	92,405	5,291
Total Liabilities	92,405	5,291
Net Assets	4,021,711	4,132,450
Equity		
Retained Earnings	4,132,450	4,198,838
Current year surplus/deficit	(110,759)	(66,408)
Settlement sum	20	20
Total Equity	4,021,711	4,132,450

THANK YOU

STAFF

We have developed an outstanding team of dedicated individuals all committed to making Raising Happy Kids absolutely the best parenting program around. As we continue to develop the program it is important to recognise the dedication and passion these amazing individuals bring.



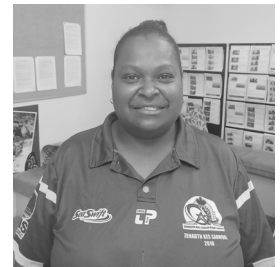
Rebecca Ward



**Hortense
Dossous**



Telida Banu



Simah Banu

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Bruce Clarke - Board Chair

Bruce Clarke is Chairman of respected professional services firm Allygroup which he jointly established in 2008.

Bruce has established an extensive network of contacts in a range of community and environmental groups over the past 16 years. He is a member of the Ewingsdale Community Association and the Bangalow Koala Protection Society.



Sue Pynenburg - Finance Chair

Sue was a director of ASBA State and National Boards and has served as the NSW president, in addition to directorships on the Boards of Edmund Rice College and the Sydney Catholic Superannuation Fund. Sue's major passion during this has been delivering over \$100 million worth of building projects, large and small; all to budget and on time. Sue holds a B.Com and M.Com; is a fellow of the Governance Institute of Australia and of CPA Australia; and a director of a building company.



Elizabeth Goor - Education Chair

Elizabeth has been involved in Montessori Governance since 1986. She established the first Montessori Adolescent program in NSW as well as the first International Baccalaureate Diploma in Wollongong. She advocated for and mentored an Indigenous AMI 3-6 Montessori teacher trainee and has long-time links to the Cook Islands community. Elizabeth joined the MCF Board in September 2018.



Robert Morrison - Governance Chair

Following a long and highly successful career as a commissioned officer in the Royal Australian Navy culminating as a member of the Defence Senior Leadership Group, Robert now works as a self-employed management consultant, strategic advisor, and an active Non-Executive Director for public, non-profit and private sector clients across Australia.



Fran Reed

Fran has over 50 years in Education, including 32 years as Principal of a Montessori School. She taught at Primary, Secondary and University levels. Currently serves on the Association of Independent Schools (AIS) in a consultative capacity.



Jorian Cunliffe

In the past 20 years Jorian has been in roles of increasing responsibility, recent highlights include leading RAY International (headquartered in the Sultanate of Oman) as GM from a handful of staff to a headcount of 900. In Papua New Guinea Jorian established Laitepo Engineering which looked after all landowner equipment leasing to Exxon Mobil on the PNG LNG project.

As the grandson of the late LC Masterman Jorian joined MCF in an executive role in late 2019.



Vicki McKinnon

Vicki McKinnon is the owner and CEO of Building Futures Pty Ltd who operate 3 Montessori Long Day Care centres in Brisbane and a Family Day Care Scheme, along with a Registered Training College, management and software for early childhood. Understanding the universal application of Montessori across diverse cultures and environments, she holds the unique opportunity that MCF holds in high regard to make a positive change in the lives of Australia's most vulnerable children.

OUR PATRON

Sally Connellan

Sally's professional career in early childhood began with her first AMI Montessori Three to Six teacher training in 1974. This training ignited a lifelong passion for the wellbeing of the child and his destiny in our 21st century. Since then, she has attended a second AMI Montessori training, Birth to Three, and attended the first two Educateurs sans Frontières assemblies. These assemblies offer a deepening of one's understanding of Dr. Montessori's work as well as an understanding to take Dr. Montessori's work out of the classroom and into community be that down the street or across the globe. Currently Sally is the patron of the Montessori Children's Foundation and is an examiner for the Birth to Three oral exams





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