



**BREAKING**  
SOCIAL ISOLATION

**BUILDING**  
COMMUNITY

MICAH PROJECTS INC



annual report

2011

## Vision Statement

Our hope is to create justice and respond to injustice at the personal, social and structural levels in society, including government, church and business.

## Mission Statement

To respond to people who experience exclusion, poverty, injustice and social isolation so that they may experience inclusion, economic wellbeing, justice and connection within their community of choice.

## Guiding Principles

In responding to individuals, families, groups, communities and institutions, we believe that every adult and child has the right to:

- a home, an income, healthcare, education, safety, dignity and connection with their community of choice;
- access to a broad range of personal, social, intellectual, economic and spiritual resources for personal and community wellbeing;
- forums to participate in decisions which impact on their lives at an individual, social and structural level;
- equity, acknowledging the impact of age, gender, economic status, disability, sexual orientation, culture and religious belief;
- opportunities for processes that redress past and/or present experiences of neglect and abuse;
- resources to enable restoration of relationships with self, family, community, social and religious institutions.

Micah Projects endorses the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights.

We acknowledge the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of Australia as the traditional owners of this land and support the right of Indigenous people to self determination and cultural expression.

## Core Business

The agreed core business or reason for being of Micah Projects is:

**An unswerving commitment, focus and determination to advocate and deliver on our social justice mandate.**

The service areas that will be governed by the Board and continuously developed and delivered by the Coordinator, team leaders and workers are:

- Family, Women and Children Support Services
- Forgotten Australians Support Services
- Homelessness to Home Support Services
- Mental Health and Disability Support Services
- Supportive Housing Services
- Innovation, Research and Evaluation Unit
- Business Services.

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# MICAH PROJECTS BOARD MEMBERS 2010/2011

**Chairperson:**

Michael Kelly  
*Natural Resource Officer  
Department of Environment and Resource Management*

**Treasurer:**

Michael Booth  
*University Tutor, Queensland University of Technology*

**Secretary:**

Terry Fitzpatrick  
*Priest, St Mary's Community Ltd*

**Board Members:**

Joanne Richards  
*Client Services, Westcare Family Support Service*

David Gonsalves  
*Lawyer, MPN Lawyers*

Dr Annie Holden  
*Management Consultant, ImpaxSIA Consulting*

Peter Martin  
*Director, Mission Support Services, Mater Health Services*



Strategic Planning Day  
with Micah Projects  
Board and Leadership  
Team, 12 March, 2011.

# CHAIRPERSON'S COMMENTS

In January 2011 Micah Projects was called upon to support flood evacuees in temporary shelter at the RNA Showgrounds. At the request of Brisbane City Council, Micah Projects was able to step up and fulfill a much needed role because of the staff's extensive expertise and the organisation's reputation within the sector and broader community. The Board acknowledges the enormous effort made by staff at that time. We continue to assist flood affected people to access housing and support services through the Flood Recovery Housing and Support Service.

The Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance was once again the highlight of the social calendar for the people Micah Projects supports along with the many colleagues, partners and supporters of the organisation who also attend. The music was fantastic, the urge to be on the dance floor irresistible and the enthusiasm of everyone guaranteed all who attended had an amazing night.

Earlier this year the Board attended the Strategic Planning Day in which the organisation's strategic direction for the next three years was set. It was a wonderful opportunity to work alongside the Leadership Team and Patrick Herd as facilitator of the process.

Micah Projects Coordinator Karyn Walsh and I continue to meet regularly to discuss a variety of issues and concerns in an informal setting. It is a great way to stay informed about the organisation and its wider involvement in the sector along with providing support to the Coordinator.

I have been active in developing our Supportive Housing Partnership with Common Ground Queensland. We were very happy to formalise this partnership when a Deed of Cooperation was signed between our two organisations in March 2011. We look forward to continuing our shared commitment to supporting people who have been homeless to be housed and stay housed.

Students of the University of Queensland reviewed and evaluated three Micah Projects programs – Homefront, Court to Home and Participate in Prosperity (PiP). The students examined the work of staff, the level of participant satisfaction and made recommendations on how to improve these services. In May I attended the presentation of students' evaluation. It was very valuable to hear an external evaluation of how well the organisation is delivering on its mission.

In June the Board received the results of the BSI Certification and Accreditation quality audit. The audit was conducted against the Disability Services Standards and ISO 9001 Standards. It was wonderful to hear the feedback and that Micah Projects had again achieved recertification against the quality standards.

I thank all the staff and fellow Board members for continuing to share the vision of creating justice.

**Michael Kelly**  
**Chairperson**



# COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Karyn (centre), with staff, Board members and Michael Leunig (front row, third from left), May, 2011.



Once again it has been a year in which Micah Projects has built on the innovation, research and experience of so many staff members in respective teams. We have continued to review how we can best provide a comprehensive response to individuals and families seeking assistance.

In recognition of the growing numbers of families with whom we are engaged, we have worked at integrating our work with families, women and children. This is to guide us further in incorporating and developing our response to each person within a family, especially to women and children when significant trauma from experiences of domestic and family violence occurs. Our focus has been on enhancing our responses to children, enabling us to engage holistically with all members of a family. It is important for us to be constantly aware of the impact of age, gender and culture when we work together with families.

This has provided greater clarity in our responses to families, with a focus on preventing homelessness and responding within a Housing First approach when they are already homeless. The teams working with families, women and children have been looking at more holistic responses and partnerships with other key stakeholders to enhance the availability and scope of services available to each family, acknowledging the uniqueness of their circumstances.

We continued with the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign, giving direction and a sense of urgency for all of us in wanting to house the most vulnerable. The campaign was successful in developing the partnerships we needed to access affordable housing, and to develop collaborative practices that bring together group effort, expertise and joint planning in the best interest of each person.

We acknowledge both the political and departmental leadership which enabled the most vulnerable in Brisbane to access some of the new housing stock delivered through the Australian Government Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan. The dedication and persistence of the Street to Home workers, and the support of the Brisbane community through donations totalling \$39,435 have all combined in meeting our first goal of housing fifty of the most vulnerable people from the streets of Brisbane.

It was an unexpected request when Micah Projects was asked to assist the Red Cross and Brisbane City Council in setting up the Evacuation Centre at the RNA Showgrounds in January, as the river began to make its imprint on the homes and businesses of so many.

Tending the worm farm at Caterpillar House.



As an organisation we demonstrated our ability to work together doing what we do in the lives of marginalised and disadvantaged people, but this time assisting the whole community. We worked alongside other community organisations in responding to the devastation, personal trauma and displacement of so many people. Micah Projects staff focused on supporting people to exit the Evacuation Centre through finding alternative accommodation options, connecting them with family and linking them with the resources they needed. We also managed volunteers who presented to assist.

We were able to use the skills we learned through the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign to ensure that people could leave the Evacuation Centre at the earliest opportunity. It was an experience that many of us considered a privilege; to be able to use our knowledge, skills and resources in a way that could provide a small but important contribution to the whole community effort.

I personally thank all the staff who gave of their time and knowledge so generously and know that we all gained a greater sense of ourselves as an organisation by being a resource to the community at such a time.

Upon reflecting on our experience, we all acknowledged how our process of shared leadership provided us with a great foundation for being responsive and this year sees us continuing our work on Sustainable Leadership with Howard Nielsen. Howard's work has facilitated us through processes of team building, developing our skill base for leadership and exploring further environmental sustainability. We also benefit from the contribution of Patrick Herd in our planning and review processes as a Leadership Team, enabling us to focus on our day to day work in the context of the strategic planning process. I thank Howard and Patrick for continuing the journey with us. I would also like to thank Paul Hebinger from UBR Technology Services for providing our IT network support and helping us extend our productivity through mobile solutions.

This year Micah Projects supported a total of 3,401 adults and 1,609 children.

We thank the personal donors, businesses, community and corporate organisations and representatives from local, state and federal governments, who have worked collaboratively with us.

Finally, as always I thank our Board members who provide us with great moral support as well as effective governance; each of the team leaders and all the support and advocacy workers who do such great work seven days a week, 365 days of the year.

**Karyn Walsh**  
Coordinator



# TREASURER'S COMMENTS



A newly established unit for a person housed through the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign.

The 2010/2011 financial year was a busy one for Micah Projects. It saw us assisting people affected by the Brisbane flood and managing the pay equity increases while also replicating growth in funding from last year. We also made a financial contribution to the setting up of homes for people being housed through the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign. All this was achieved while increasing our overall retained earnings; a good reflection on the planning and leadership of the Board, Karyn Walsh and the committed staff of Micah Projects!

The Brisbane flood event affected many and as a support service we are still assisting people to both rebuild and access assistance. The generosity of the people of Brisbane to support their neighbours was overwhelming. We wish to acknowledge all those who gave significant donations to assist households affected in their area. Over the months that followed January 2011, Micah Projects has provided direct support to 307 households through both funding and donations totalling \$273,368 (\$153,535 Queensland Government, \$119,833 donations).

In July 2010, the Board implemented the new wage rates following the pay equity case in Queensland and this 2010/2011 financial year we have continued to pay the increases as regulated. Absorption of the increases have been the result of planning, re-adjustments to contracts as they have fallen due and re-negotiation of some employee positions as they have become vacant.

The key areas of support also saw growth with the full year effect of successful grants received in the last financial year – Supportive Housing and Street to Home. The 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign was successful throughout the year in housing 83 people directly from the streets and Micah Projects assisted with approximately \$50,000 in funding towards the furnishing and fit out of homes.

The result for the financial year was a budget surplus of \$11,799. The reserves position at 30th June 2011 is now \$141,791, an increase on last year from \$129,992. The Board continues to be confident that Micah Projects is in a sound fiscal position.

The finance unit within Business Services continues to facilitate the financial management of the organisation. Sherryn West led the team with Julie Herbert, Mi Seon Kim, Rebecca Jones and Rossana Cossu providing excellent financial services. Paul Bellas and Peter Allen from Bellas Accountants continue to be our external accounts consultants and Arrow Accountants are our Auditors.

Micah Projects is fortunate to have the services of highly skilled and dedicated members of staff. I have confidence in the strong focus on financial accountability of Micah Projects.

**Michael Booth**  
Treasurer

# 2010/2011 HIGHLIGHTS



The flood peaked in Brisbane at 4.46 metres on January 13, 2011.  
© Picture Media, Reuters.  
Photographer: Tim Wimborne.

## Brisbane Floods

During the Brisbane floods in January 2011, Micah Projects was a key contributor to the work carried out at the RNA Showgrounds Evacuation Centre and afterwards as community recovery efforts began. Beginning on Tuesday 11 January, our Street to Home service and Brisbane City Council worked together going to all the known spots along the river where people live and sleep. 32 people who were sleeping rough were transported to the Uniting Church Hall in West End.

All staff made plans with the people we support to be prepared for flooding and emergency supplies were provided to families and individuals across Brisbane. Communication strategies were developed in case our workers were unable to reach them. Families evacuated from the West End and New Farm areas were also assisted. When it became evident that significant evacuations would be necessary, the Brisbane City Council requested our assistance in setting up the RNA Showgrounds as an Evacuation Centre with the Red Cross. Micah Projects staff worked from the RNA for the duration of the floods in managing people known to us through our homelessness services and managing the placement and needs of the general public who required evacuation. Later in the week we also based workers at the QEII Evacuation Centre to assist people to exit into housing.

We initiated a process based on what we had learned in undertaking the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign by creating a short term housing register to plan where people would move onto from the RNA. The aim was to ensure people spent as little time as possible staying in the Evacuation Centre. This register enabled us to clarify the need for short term housing options and then work on where those options could be accessed. Evacuees were connected with family members, assisted with travel arrangements and matched with the many offers of free accommodation. Short term accommodation in hotels and motels was also purchased. In many cases people could return home with assistance from volunteers with transport, food or ice if they had lost power.

The provision of \$153,535 in brokerage from the Queensland Government and donations from the public enabled us to assist a total of 307 households. Many community workers and volunteers went above and beyond to help. Businesses assisted by providing discount rates on accommodation and other resources. Griffith University responded to the needs of over 120 international students and community organisations provided accommodation and support to very vulnerable people. The regular presence of the Minister for Community Services and Housing Karen Struthers and her departmental staff enabled quick responses to presenting issues. Our staff worked flexibly and beyond their normal roles to provide 24 hour support to evacuees. As an organisation, having the opportunity to contribute our skills and knowledge in such a way under such circumstances gave us all a renewed sense of unity and respect for each other.





**ROMIGA** (Roberta, Michelle and Geraldine)

1. Roberta with Eileen on a garden visit, September 2010.
2. Michelle with Indira and Kalpana at Romiga's 10th Anniversary celebration, November, 2010.
3. Geraldine in the park, September 2010.

## Romiga Celebrates 10 Years

In November 2010 the Romiga program celebrated its 10 year anniversary of supporting three women to live in their own home. During the closure of the Basil Stafford Centre residential facility, the Queensland Government approached Micah Projects about supporting the women to live in the community. Members of the St Mary's Community formed a reference group to guide this process. The women have lived in two different locations since then and continue to receive 24 hour support in their home and to make connections and enjoy activities in the community.

The anniversary was featured at the 2010 Micah Projects Annual Dinner and was marked with an arts project and a celebration event at the Morningside Services Club. The event was attended by over 80 family members, friends, current and former staff of the program, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the three guests of honour. In the ten years that have passed, the changes for the women have been subtle but significant. Perhaps the simplest and yet greatest change is the increased quality of life for the women, something noted by one of the women's father when he once made this observation about his daughter: "she smiles now".

## Community Meal

The Community Meal (formerly the West End Dining Club) continued this year in its new home at Trinity Place. Held on Tuesday evenings, the event brings together people who have recently moved from homelessness into housing and community members to share good food and company. People from St Mary's Community attend, as do volunteers who first assisted with 50 Lives 50 Homes. This year Grocon staff constructing the Brisbane Common Ground building have joined the Meal as part of their commitment to the community. Dinner is cooked onsite by staff, volunteers and people we support who are developing their culinary skills. Dessert is made offsite by parents from the All Hallows' School community and students set up the hall. For many of the more than fifty people who regularly attend, the Community Meal has become the highlight of their week.

## 7th Annual Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance

"Hello everybody, my name is Heather. I've been coming to Moonlight Magic for many years now and I can honestly say it is the best night of my whole year... It's even better than Christmas!!" With these words, Heather welcomed over 700 guests to the Micah Projects 7th Annual Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre. This was the biggest Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance to date and it is now an event unparalleled in Brisbane for the sheer number of people who come together from such different parts of the community to share a meal, dance and celebrate.

A special effort was made this year to assist hostel residents to choose their own outfits from donations of evening wear, shoes and accessories and the results were amazing! Moonlight Magic has become an event based on partnerships and it would not have been possible without the support of the individuals, organisations and local businesses who donate each year.



Heather (with Kay) greeting guests at the 7th Annual Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance, 3 September, 2010.



The Resident Support Program's Campbell's Club now established at Trinity Place, Woolloongabba.

## Trinity Place

In January 2010 the church hall that had been home to the Resident Support Program's Campbell's Club for six years became a flood recovery centre and so a temporary alternative venue needed to be sought. We found Trinity Place, the parish venue for Holy Trinity Anglican Church at Hawthorne St, Woolloongabba. The new venue has excellent facilities including air conditioning, great outdoor spaces and easy parking as well as a beautiful view of the city. The benefits of the space allowed Campbell's Club and the weekly Community Meal to permanently relocate. The venue is also used across the organisation for workshops, training and forums.

The Rev Ron Paschke and the entire Holy Trinity parish community have been very welcoming and are wonderful to work with. One member of the community has even joined Campbell's Club and is a regular and enthusiastic participant. We wish to thank the Holy Trinity parish community for sharing their space and making us feel so welcome.

## Forgotten Australians History Projects

Forgotten Australians, people who as children were residents of church and state run institutions, continue to receive national recognition of their childhood experiences. The National Library's 'Forgotten Australians and Former Child Migrants Oral History Project' is documenting the experiences of children in institutional care and the lasting impact this has on their lives and their families by recording people telling their histories. The National Museum is collecting artefacts, stories, photos, artwork, poems, songs and articles for a permanent exhibition entitled 'Inside: Life in Children's Homes and Institutions'. It is great to see Queenslanders engaged in recording their histories and supplying artefacts for these projects. It is so important to the story of our nation that these experiences become embedded in the fabric of Australian history.

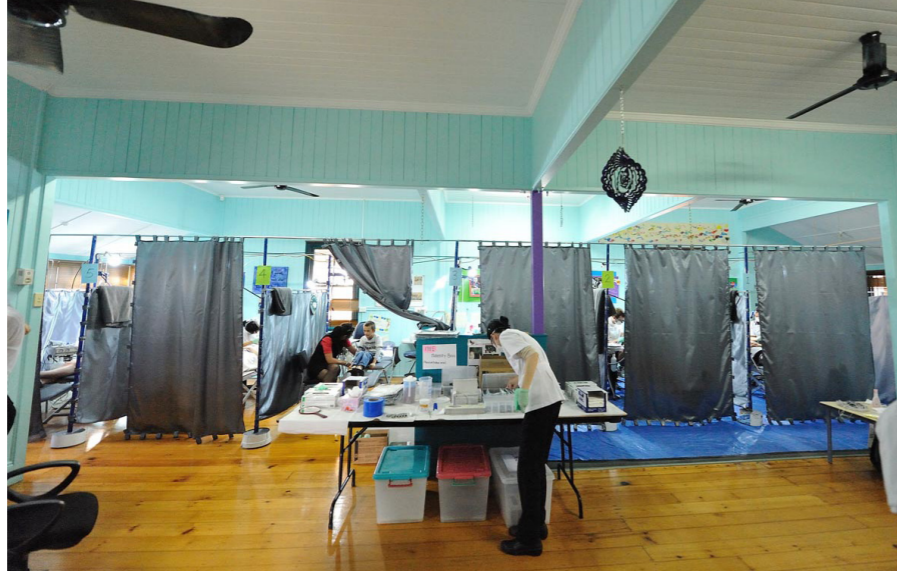
The Forde Foundation funded our Forgotten Australians Support Services to conduct a local project recording the personal histories of people we support. The Forde Foundation has also funded local events and activities that promote skills development and social inclusion, including leather craft workshops, an art collective, drama group and Christmas celebrations in Brisbane, Rockhampton and the Gold Coast.



Colleen, Leneen Forde and Minister Karen Struthers at the Remembrance Day commemoration, 8 September, 2010.



Caterpillar House hosts the Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation mobile dental clinic, June 2011.



### Healthcare Integration

Micah Projects recognises that accessing healthcare that is available, affordable and accessible is very difficult for people experiencing social and economic disadvantage. We continue to work towards the integration of healthcare services into our support and advocacy work with individuals and families.

#### Mater Health Services

Homeless to Home Healthcare is the partnership between Mater Health Services and Micah Projects located at the Brisbane Homelessness Service Centre (BHSC). The principles of care recognise the need for services which are person-centred and trauma-informed to enable treatment and recovery to occur. The Mater Health Services Community Clinical Nurse, Ros Butler, provides health assessments, medical referrals and follow up treatments, liaison and coordination with hospitals, other healthcare services and medical professionals, and health education. Ros also coordinates the other visiting healthcare professionals who make up Homeless to Home Healthcare, including: volunteer general practitioners; volunteer homeopath; acupuncturist; Medicare Mental Health Incentive Program mental health nurses; podiatrists; social workers; and the Homeless Health Outreach Team. All services are free to patients.



Ros Butler, Homeless to Home Healthcare Community Clinical Nurse, visiting Ross at home.

#### Homeless to Home

The Homeless to Home Healthcare Network was formed in June 2010 as an extension of our partnership with Mater Health Services. The Network brings together other health professionals and services with the aim of promoting collaboration and improving access to healthcare for people across Brisbane making the move from homelessness to home. The Vulnerability Index survey, which was used in the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign to identify the health conditions of people sleeping rough, is now embedded in the practice of our Street to Home service. Service coordination meetings convened by Street to Home see health, housing and social support agencies provide integrated services to people sleeping rough and moving into housing. It is so important that healthcare services work for people in their new housing setting, as good health is vital for successful housing and quality of life outcomes.

#### Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation

Since working together at the RNA Evacuation Centre during the January floods, a new relationship has been formed with the Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation's Brisbane Office. The Foundation provided free dental services to homeless and recently housed families (49 adults and children) at a clinic at the Young Mothers for Young Women's Caterpillar House in June 2011. The volunteer dentists brought their own portable dental equipment in order to provide all the services normally provided in a dental surgery. We look forward to holding more clinics in the future.



Minister Karen Struthers and local federal member Kevin Rudd, turning the sod at the Brisbane Common Ground site, 14 December, 2010.



Allan, Linda Apelt, Director-General, Department of Communities and Rose at the 50 Lives 50 Homes Parliamentary Breakfast hosted by Minister Struthers, 22 December 2010.

### Brisbane Common Ground - out of the ground

The Brisbane Common Ground project officially broke ground with an event in December 2009 at which Federal Member for Griffith, the Hon Kevin Rudd, Queensland Minister for Housing and Women, the Hon Karen Struthers, Grocon's National Development Manager Carolyn Viney and Micah Projects Chairperson Michael Kelly did the honours. Since then construction at 15 Hope Street, South Brisbane, has advanced at a lightning pace. Construction is due to be completed in April 2012. Micah Projects has been working with project partners, the Queensland Government and Grocon Constructors, to design a building that best meets the needs of its future tenants and fits well into its surrounding neighbourhood. We have also been working with project partners to engage with local neighbours and interested community members to keep them informed about the project.

Micah Projects continues to participate in the Australian Common Ground Alliance, which brings together community organisations engaged in Common Ground supportive housing projects around Australia. Common Ground Adelaide has recently opened its second building; Melbourne has celebrated one year since its building opened; Sydney's Campbelltown project is nearing completion; and in Hobart two projects will open in 2012.

### 50 Lives 50 Homes Campaign

The 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign was launched in June 2010 with an initial goal of housing fifty of Brisbane's most vulnerable people experiencing chronic homelessness. Micah Projects has partnered with a range of government and community housing, healthcare and support service organisations in order to deliver the campaign. This collaboration has yielded astounding results. In January 2010 the initial goal was reached with fifty people assisted to move into housing and supported to stay housed. By the end of the financial year 83 people were housed and supported by Street to Home, the Supportive Housing Outreach Team and other organisations to maintain their housing. Unfortunately five people have died since they were housed; a strong indication that the campaign was effective in identifying those who whose health was most vulnerable and were at risk of death. Each of these people enjoyed many months of living with dignity in their own homes.

**50 Lives 50 Homes** community action to house vulnerable rough sleepers, at 30 June, 2011:

- 329 people sleeping rough surveyed over 12 months
- 83 people housed
- 118 people supported (outreach on streets and in housing)
- 25% reduction in rough sleeping in Brisbane, two years ahead of the Australian Government White Paper interim target (25% reduction in rough sleeping by 2013).

This work has also been made possible through the support and generosity of many local businesses and community members. We endeavour to move people into homes that are fully furnished and fitted out with food, kitchenware and other household items. Businesses have donated household items, such as Marcia's on Montague which donated 100 brand new dining sets. Other businesses have made furniture and whitegoods available at discounted prices, such as Tender Disposals, Retravisation West End and Briscoe's Furniture. The generosity of schools, individuals and families has been overwhelming with donations of furniture, groceries, appliances and other items. Members of the Edmund Rice Network have donated kitchenware, cleaning and food packs. Special mention must be made here of the efforts of the Street to Home team and Michael Tudor who has been the decorator extraordinaire in setting up scores of homes.





### 100 Years of International Women's Day

International Women's Day has always been celebrated at Micah Projects, but this year we commemorated its centenary year in a special way. Illustrator Sonia Kretschmar was commissioned to create an illustration for a commemorative poster which was distributed to staff, colleagues and women we support, as well as Australian women in leadership including Queensland Premier Anna Bligh, Prime Minister Julia Gillard and Governor General Quentin Bryce. Her Excellency the Governor General commented that the poster "captures the spirit and the ethos of Micah Projects with a special loveliness".

Young Mothers for Young Women program participants celebrated with an evening event at the Caterpillar House children's space, beautifully decorated with special lighting by the Peer Support Workers. About 30 women celebrated together and listened to the inspirational story of one young woman Nicole Huig, who described her journey into and out of domestic violence. Nicole is now enrolled in a Bachelor of Human Services, majoring in child, family and community development and her full speech is available on the Micah Projects website.

The Domestic Violence Resource Centre and Micah Projects partnered to host an event at Trinity Place with guest speaker Neroli Holmes, Deputy Commissioner of the Anti-Discrimination Commission Queensland. The event was enjoyed by staff from each organisation, human services sector colleagues and community members. And in recognition of women making a difference in the community, Coordinator Karyn Walsh was acknowledged through the Queensland Government Department of Communities Office for Women's tribute, *Everyday Women, Extraordinary Lives*.

1. The Domestic Violence Resource Centre and Micah Projects honouring 100 years of IWD at Trinity Place, 7 March, 2011.
2. YMYW celebrates International Women's Day at Caterpillar House, 24 March, 2011.
3. Nicole Huig, speaker at the YMYW event, with her mother Belinda Huig. Photography: Katie Bennett.
4. Karyn Walsh receiving her IWD honour from Minister Karen Struthers and Premier Anna Bligh, 14 March, 2011.

Opposite page: Poster for IWD. Illustration: Sonia Kretschmar.

# We Stand on our Sisters' Shoulders

1911 - 2011 Celebrating 100 years of International Women's Day

MICAH PROJECTS INC  [www.micahprojects.org.au](http://www.micahprojects.org.au)  
 Breaking Social Isolation  
 Building Community



Illustration: Sonia Kretschmar



# RNA EVACUATION CENTRE

## 11 JANUARY - 19 JANUARY 2011



### OPPOSITE PAGE

1. Bronwyn's first week working at Micah Projects was a big one - setting up the children's play area on day 2 of the floods.
2. Adele brings order to the Registration Desk.
3. Minister Struthers chats with a Broncos staff member while the players sign autographs for evacuees.
4. Evacuees start to arrive at the RNA, 11 January, 2011.
5. Micah Projects Coordinator Karyn Walsh.
6. The sleeping quarters.
7. Mother and daughter, Gayle and Lucy, register the evacuees.
8. Mark and Kanjana at the registration desk.
9. Volunteers like Donna (centre), put in an amazing amount of time and effort across the week.

### THIS PAGE

1. The most senior evacuee Jim, aged 95, with volunteer Mitch who stayed by his side the first day and then shared his house until Jim could return home.
2. International student evacuees in good spirits.
3. Prime Minister Julia Gillard visits and chats with evacuees.
4. The Media set up base.
5. Generous health practitioners ran a free acupuncture clinic.



# MICAH PROJECTS

## SERVICES PROVIDED

### Overview

In 2010-11 Micah Projects provided support and advocacy services to 3,401 adults and 1,609 children.

Services were provided to 790 families with children.

We recorded 35,907 casual contacts with people for information, referral, transport and financial assistance.

### HOMELESSNESS TO HOME SUPPORT SERVICES

Outreach and centre-based support services to individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

#### Street to Home

Housing support to people sleeping rough, 7 day service 6am - 2am. 171 people supported (48% Indigenous), including:

- 104 outreach support
- 67 supportive housing
- 9 families with 9 children
- 36 families without children (couples, people in other familial groupings; 60% Indigenous).

Monitoring Public Intoxication Program (MPIP): casual contacts 6,329.

#### Prevention of Homelessness (HomeStay)

Support and advocacy for individuals and families at risk of homelessness to sustain housing and prevent further homelessness. 251 individuals supported including:

- 66 families with 186 children and 7 couples without children receiving outreach services
- 41 families with 106 children receiving centre based services preventing eviction
- 109 individuals receiving outreach support from the Special Circumstances Court.

#### Assessment and Referral

Information, advice and referral services to 1,896 adults and 448 children, including:

- 1,200 individuals
- 284 couples without children
- 214 sole parents with children
- 198 couples with children.

#### Family Crisis

Outreach support and advocacy for families who are homeless, 309 adults, 173 children:

- 22 couples without children
- 52 sole parents with children
- 56 couples with children
- 179 individuals (flood recovery).

37% of families receiving planned support were Indigenous.

#### Flood evacuation centres, Jan 2011

- registered 1,613 evacuees
- assisted 732 people to exit evacuation centres
- managed approximately 210 volunteers.

### WORKING WITH FAMILIES, WOMEN & CHILDREN

Family support, advocacy, peer support and early childhood services for families. Creating equal opportunities for home, safety, learning and wellbeing.

#### Homelessness to Home – Spotlight on Families

There was continued significant demand for services from families with children seeking housing and homelessness assistance:

#### Prevention of homelessness

- 107 families with 292 children

#### Homelessness crisis response

- 520 families with 630 children.

#### Young Mothers for Young Women

Support for young pregnant and parenting women, their children and families:

- 57 families with 87 children

- Peer support and early childhood program – 45 groups with an average attendance of 24 women and 29 children under 5 years old
- Mater Health Services antenatal clinics held onsite – 100 clinics (twice weekly).

#### Participate in Prosperity

Targeted support to access employment, training and education:

- 67 jobless parents supported
- 9 parents gained employment
- 3 attending university
- 3 returned to school
- 22 accessed a training program.

### WORKING WITH FORGOTTEN AUSTRALIANS

Working in partnership with Forgotten Australians to seek justice for the abuse many experienced as children. Providing support and advocacy services to create opportunities, wellbeing and community.

- 397 people supported during the year, with more than 5,000 contacts.
- Groups included art, theatre and drama, community discovery, senior citizens, computer skills and exercise (av. 18 people per group).
- 1,964 contacts for weekly 'drop in day lunch'.
- 73 people participated in Lotus Up Late, the monthly shared meal and celebration.
- 46 people supported to process complaints with churches and professional bodies.

### SUPPORTIVE HOUSING SERVICES

Connecting support with long-term housing to end homelessness, improve quality of life and connections with resources and opportunities in the community.

Proactive support to people who have experienced chronic homelessness in their homes, 75 individuals (31% Indigenous).

Support and Advocacy for 49 people (18 men, 31 women) through Homefront.

### MENTAL HEALTH & DISABILITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Providing person-centred services for people with a disability and/or mental illness. Opportunities for people to achieve equal access to housing, healthcare, social and economic participation in their community of choice.

- 24 hour care and support to three women, 8,760 hours of support (per annum).
- 104 groups for people with a disability.
- 330 hours per week of support to 75 people in Level 3 residential services
- 373 hours per week of support to 17 Individuals.

# MICAH PROJECTS STAFF



Rebecca Jones (right) graduating with a Bachelor of Business Majoring in Accountancy, with Micah Projects colleague, Mi Seon Kim.

Increased funding and new programs have given Micah Projects the opportunity to recruit more staff in the past year, adding to our passionate, skilled and dedicated workforce and bringing the total staff number to 135 members. Micah Projects prides itself on being an equal opportunity employer with a family friendly focus, employing men and women of all ages from a diversity of social and cultural backgrounds.

We are proud to continue supporting our volunteers who provide an invaluable contribution to our organisation, particularly with our ongoing activities of Campbell's Club, Community Meal, Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance and Christmas Hampers. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the large number of community members who offered their time to assist us in supporting those affected by the January 2011 floods. Thank you.

Students continue to have a presence at Micah Projects, completing the placement component of their studies in Social Work, Human Services and Disability. Over the past year we have happily supported 20 students from the Australian Catholic University, the University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, Griffith University, University of the Sunshine Coast, Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE and South Bank Institute of Technology. We have also been proud to host international students from both the United States of America and Japan.

Micah Projects is committed to offering regular professional development and training to staff members to encourage high levels of skill and confidence in providing assistance to those we support. We once again had the opportunity to receive training in motivational interviewing and challenging behaviours delivered by Matthew Berry from Melbourne-based consultancy Caraniche. Matthew has also provided training in writing case notes, as well as privacy and confidentiality. We are also fortunate to have a number of local specialist organisations contributing to our professional development program, including the Domestic Violence Resource Centre, Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House (QPILCH), and the Queensland Ombudsman. They have helped further our knowledge around cultural awareness and competency, brain injuries, engaging with risk, enhancing safety, domestic violence, homelessness and sustainability.

The Micah Projects Board is very supportive of our staff continuing their development through study. We currently have staff studying Certificates and Diplomas in Community Services, with some achieving Recognised Prior Learning as a result of their extensive experience in the sector. Over the past year we have proudly supported graduates from Certificate IV in Community Services and QUT's Bachelor of Business (Accountancy).

Finally, we wish to acknowledge and thank consultants who provide significant support and leadership to our staff and our work. Patrick Herd from Community Business Australia facilitates the planning processes that result in our annual Organisational Plans and Operational Plans. This year Patrick also met with our Board and Leadership Team to develop the next three year Strategic Plan. Howard Nielsen from NACC Consulting provides supervision to several teams and directs the Sustainable Leadership Program for our Leadership Team and Norelle McHugh provides supervision to our Family, Women and Children Support Services staff.

# AUSPICE PROJECTS



Family Inclusion Network Brisbane logo.

## Family Inclusion Network Brisbane

Micah Projects is committed to working collaboratively to ensure a fair and equitable child protection service system. Actioning this commitment, Micah Projects auspices the Family Inclusion Network Brisbane (FIN Brisbane), which has parents as partners, along with the primary aim of developing collaborative partnerships between the Department of Communities, Child Safety Services, the family support service system and parents.

The Working in Partnership with Parents Project incorporated a number of initiatives to work towards this end. The experiences of 85 parents involved in the child protection system, along with a significant body of research on child and family vulnerability, highlighted the continuing issues facing families. This information will be used to inform future advocacy and family support planning across the Brisbane Region.

A Service Providers Forum was attended by 90 service providers and resulted in a reinvigorated network with a commitment to meeting regularly to build a strong and active family support network. Guided by a new vision, 'People, Families and Communities grow in a fair, just and respectful society, which responds to their needs', FIN Brisbane conducted a strategic planning process to develop a new business plan and governance model. Three working groups with a focus on parent engagement, family support practice and systemic advocacy, now provide a unique model of evidence based practice linking the lived experience of families, the family support sector, advocacy and government.

The Network will continue to work collaboratively with government, families and service providers to build an inclusive children's service system where parents work in partnership to play a continuing role in the wellbeing of their children. FIN Brisbane is funded by the Queensland Government Department of Communities, Child Safety Services.

## Jane Street Community Garden

The past year has seen enormous growth and development at the Jane Street Community Garden, evolving from a single shared garden to a rent-a-plot system, with community members growing their own food in separately rented plots. Management of the garden has also transitioned to a collective sharing of responsibilities among garden members. The garden was badly affected by January's floods but received a significant Flood Recovery Grant from the Commonwealth Bank. It is now very well equipped with tools and supplies and is being restyled in line with the principles of permaculture design, with new raised beds, a custom-designed composting system and extensive worm farms being built.

Funded by the Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund, two training days have been held per month, as well as working bees to develop the gardening skills of members. More than half of the plot-holders are new to getting their hands dirty and have become involved in learning to garden. Skills and knowledge have also been shared with other community gardens in the local area, with workshops on obtaining grant funding and the care of stingless native bee hives.

The Jane Street Community Garden is extremely grateful to have received over \$30,000 in donations from the public in the past financial year.



The garden flooded and growing again. Photos courtesy of Jane Street Community Garden, West End.



# INNOVATION, RESEARCH & EVALUATION

## Focus on Families with Children

Micah Projects strives to ensure that the services we deliver will achieve positive outcomes for people and the Innovation, Research and Evaluation (IRE) Unit plays a key role in this.

This year the Unit has focused on identifying and responding to the unique needs of families with children. Micah Projects is experiencing substantial demand for support services from families with children. Between July 2010 and June 2011, Micah Projects supported 370 families, including 1,609 children.

The IRE Unit conducted a literature review to identify the needs and issues for vulnerable families in Brisbane and identified a preferred practice model for responding to these needs. Our research indicates that throughout Brisbane there are large numbers of vulnerable families receiving limited support and that the needs and issues for families are interrelated.

In Brisbane:

- 14.8% of households have a weekly income of less than \$500;
- more than 10,000 jobless households with children under 15 years;
- over 900 notifications to Child Safety Services for neglect;
- 2,190 parents aged 16-24 years receive Centrelink payments;
- 2,223 children accompanied a parent who received support from a specialist homelessness service;
- 3,741 Domestic Violence Protection Order applications were made and 1,503 breaches of Domestic Violence Protection Orders occurred in 2010;
- more than 1,000 parents accessed a mental health service in 2009.

The IRE Unit has been working with experienced Australian and International organisations to ensure the services we provide are based on the best evidence and practice internationally. This year we have partnered with the Parenting Research Centre (based in Melbourne) to enhance the capacity of our teams to identify and respond to the unique needs of children whom we support with their parents. The Parenting Research Centre has expertise in identifying, adopting and implementing evidence-based approaches to parenting intervention. Dr Robyn Mildon from the Parenting Research Centre has worked with the Leadership Team, Family, Women and Children Support Services and the Assessment and Referral Team to develop practice guides. These guides bring together successful practices from our teams with 'evidence-based kernels' (small pieces of practice that are proven to be effective).

This project moves to its implementation phase in 2011-12. Teams will be supported with practice coaching and mentoring to implement their practice guides and the goal is to improve parenting outcomes, as well as our workers' skills and confidence in supporting families with children. The IRE Unit will work next year to implement the practice framework into all teams currently working with children.

From Right: Kylee (with Taylor, 4, Lloyd and Katie, both 3) and Nicole (with son Lachlan, 18 months) have both begun university studies. Photography: Darren England, courtesy of The Courier-Mail.



Parents are essential partners in improving our services and developing new models of service delivery. An important strategy for hearing the voices of parents is participation in research. This year Micah Projects has led a family homelessness research project in partnership with the University of Queensland and funded by the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA). This research has involved all of our family support teams, the Assessment and Referral Team and 88 families who have experienced homelessness. Brisbane Youth Service and Brisbane Domestic Violence Advocacy Service have also supported us to contact homeless families.

In the early stages, the research has already impacted the way we support families. We found in the first round of interviews that families with children who have experienced homelessness have difficulty enrolling their children in childcare and school, and many children are missing days of school. Given the effect of education on children's options later in life, our Family, Women and Children Support Services are increasing their focus on supporting families to access education and childcare.

One of our Innovation projects funded by the Queensland Government, Participate in Prosperity (PiP), continues to achieve outstanding results supporting parents to engage in education, training and employment. During 2010/2011, PiP worked with 67 parents and their highlights have included supporting nine parents into employment, three to attend university, three to return to school, and 22 to access training. The PiP team works alongside the Family, Women and Children Support Services to achieve these outcomes and their work has made a significant difference to the way we support families. Supporting parents to access study or employment provides an opportunity to work with families on their strengths, and gives parents an opportunity to develop personally and improve their family's circumstances. Given many families are living in poverty and experiencing generational joblessness, this project provides families with a chance to break the cycle.

This year, four young parents, along with the PiP team, participated in a Peer Education Project with fourth year Social Work students at the University of Queensland (UQ). In a first for the University, parents who had previous involvement with the child protection system were employed to participate in student role plays. This process was at times challenging and confronting but also provided a realistic opportunity for students to develop skills and an understanding of the experience for parents and young people. UQ is planning to run this program with Micah Projects each year.



# WORKING TOGETHER

Micah Projects acknowledges and thanks the state, local and federal governments as the primary funders of our work.

## Queensland Government

Department of Communities, Housing and Homelessness Services  
 Department of Communities, Disability and Community Care Services  
 Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation  
 Department of Communities, Child Safety Services

## Brisbane City Council

## Australian Government

Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA)  
 Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA)

We acknowledge all of the government, businesses, community organisations and individuals with whom we partner and collaborate to deliver better outcomes for the people we support.

## Government

Australian National Library  
 Australian National Museum  
 Brisbane City Council, Homeless Response  
 Brisbane City Council, Brisbane Lifestyle Division  
 Centrelink  
 Commonwealth Ombudsman  
 Department of Communities  
 - Child Safety Services  
 - Community Recovery, Referral and Information Centre  
 - Housing & Homelessness Services  
 - Office for Women  
 - Youth and Family Support Services  
 Department of Justice and Attorney General  
 Department of Public Works, Project Services Medicare  
 Queensland Health  
 - Princess Alexandra Hospital  
 - Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital  
 - Prince Charles Hospital  
 Queensland Ombudsman  
 Queensland Police Service  
 TAFE Queensland

## Universities/Research

Griffith University, Research Centre for Clinical and Community Practice Innovation  
 Griffith University, School of Human Services & Social Work  
 University of Queensland, School of Social Work and Human Services

## Business, Community Organisations and Individuals

4Walls  
 50 Lives 50 Homes Community and Stakeholders Committee  
 99 Consulting  
 139 Club  
 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Health Service  
 Acacia Ridge Districts Community Centre  
 Acacia Ridge Tenant Advice & Advocacy Service  
 Access Arts  
 Alliance of Forgotten Australians  
 Anglican Church of Australia, Professional Standards Commission, Brisbane  
 Australian Catholic Bishops Conference & the Australian Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes, Towards Healing, QLD & NSW  
 Australian Common Ground Alliance  
 Bayside Tenant Advice & Advocacy Service  
 Beelarong Community Garden  
 BRiC Housing  
 Brisbane Business & Hospitality Training  
 Brisbane Domestic Violence Advocacy Service  
 Brisbane Housing Company  
 Brisbane South Division  
 Brisbane Youth Service  
 Bruce Shaw Lawyers  
 Buddhist Compassionate Relief Tzi Chu Foundation – Brisbane Office  
 Career Employment Australia  
 Career Keys  
 Caxton Legal Centre Inc  
 Centacare SWBCOP Homeless Programs  
 Churches of Christ - Care Housing  
 Clare Homes  
 Common Ground Queensland  
 Common Ground USA  
 Community Business Australia  
 Curtis Video  
 Darra Community Group Inc  
 Dennis Ryan (Homeopath)  
 Dr Brian Donohoe (General Practitioner)  
 Dr Paul Cleary (General Practitioner)  
 Dr Paul F. Pincus (General Practitioner)  
 Dr Peter Norris (General Practitioner)  
 Drugarm  
 Embellyish Photography  
 Encompass Family and Community Pty Ltd  
 Families Australia  
 Feed the Children Australia  
 Footprints  
 Forde Foundation  
 Gardens Wall  
 Gateway Housing  
 Goori Referral Centre  
 Grocon Constructors  
 Habitat for Humanity  
 Help Enterprises  
 Holy Family Parish  
 Holy Trinity Parish  
 Homeless Health Outreach Team  
 Homeless to Home Healthcare Network

Housing Innovations, USA  
 INCH Housing  
 Jemma Taylor (Acupuncturist)  
 Kumara Indigenous Family Care  
 Kyabra Community Association  
 LANDS Community Services  
 Legal Aid  
 Link-Up (Qld) Aboriginal Corporation  
 Lisa O, Flexi Care (Podiatrist)  
 Mangrove Housing  
 Mater Child and Youth Mental Health Service  
 Mater Foundation  
 Mater Health Services  
 Mater Midwifery Group Practice  
 Mater Parent Aide  
 Minter Ellison  
 Mission Australia  
 Moggill Uniting Church  
 Murri Watch  
 Myala Consulting  
 NAC Consulting  
 Olpac  
 Othila's Young Women's Housing and Support Service  
 Oxley Flood Relief  
 OzCare  
 Queensland Association for Healthy Communities  
 Queensland Public Interest Law Clearing House (QPILCH)  
 Queensland Reconstruction Authority  
 Parenting Research Centre  
 Partnering Works  
 Peter Hegedus & Soul Vision Films  
 Reclink  
 Red Cross  
 Red Cross Training Services  
 Relationships Australia After Care Resource Centre (ARC)  
 RLW Contracting  
 Ros Rhodes (Bowen Therapist)  
 SANDBAG  
 Save the Children  
 Spiritus  
 St John Ambulance First Aid  
 St Mungo's, UK  
 St Vincent de Paul Housing Services  
 St Vincent de Paul Society  
 Supported Accommodation Providers Association  
 Supportlink  
 The Salvation Army Pindari Women's Hostel  
 The Salvation Army Professional Standards Office, Sydney  
 The Salvation Army Training Services  
 UBR Technology Services  
 Uniting Care Queensland  
 Volunteering QLD  
 Welfare Rights Centre  
 West End Flood Recovery Group  
 Women Against Violence Support Service  
 Yeronga Recovery Centre  
 Young Women's Clinic  
 Youth and Family Services (Logan City)

# PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION

Partnerships can create new opportunities for people who are marginalised to access services in more effective ways. We value our partnerships within the community services sector, with government as a funder and other sectors such as health and business in supporting us to implement our mission as an organisation.

The **Brisbane Homelessness Service Centre (BHSC)** would not exist as a service hub without strong working relationships with the agencies that share its space. Together we provide a wide range of health and support services to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Micah Projects works alongside four collocated partners: Centacare South West Brisbane Community Options Project, Mater Health Services, The Big Issue and Reclink. Visiting services include the Homeless Health Outreach Team, Queensland and Commonwealth Ombudsman, QPILCH Homeless Persons' Legal Clinic, State Penalties Enforcement Registry, Centrelink, Open Minds (Personal Helpers and Mentors), Medicare and Department of Communities, Housing and Homelessness Services.

Micah Projects has an ongoing partnership with **Mater Health Services** in responding to homelessness. This is achieved through the Homeless to Home Healthcare services provided at the BHSC, coordinated by Mater Community Clinical Nurse Ros Butler (details on page 10 of this report). The Young Mothers Partnership Program (YMPP) is the formal relationship between the Mater Midwifery Group Practice (MGP) and our Young Mothers for Young Women program. The MGP is a continuity of care model, where young women are assigned an individual midwife who will provide their antenatal care, deliver their baby, and follow up postnatally for six weeks. The Young Women's Clinic (YWC) provides pre-birth education and antenatal healthcare. Both Clinics operate at Caterpillar House.

**Street to Home Partnerships** bring together organisations who share a commitment to supporting people moving from rough sleeping to being housed. Several government and nongovernment agencies come together weekly to match housing allocation, support and healthcare services for people identified through the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign. These include the Department of Communities, Housing and Homelessness Services, Queensland Police, Queensland Health Homeless Outreach Team, Centacare South West Community Options Program, Homeless to Home Healthcare, Mater Health Services, Brisbane City Council, Supportlink, Murri Watch, Spiritus and the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital.

When **Grocon Constructors** were appointed to build Brisbane Common Ground, they agreed to do so at cost, with no profit margin to the company. Our collaboration with Grocon evolved into a partnership with the company supporting our work both financially and as volunteers. Micah Projects is a recipient of the Grocon Workplace Giving Program in which the company matches donations made by its employees. The company has made significant financial contributions, including providing \$10,000 in sponsorship for the Moonlight Magic Dinner Dance. What we have discovered in Grocon is a rich and enthusiastic spirit of generosity permeating the entire organisation. We congratulate CEO Daniel Grollo on growing this spirit of giving among his team and make special mention of Corporate and Government Affairs Manager Jane Wilson and Brisbane Common Ground Project Manager Paul Bickham for their leadership and shared commitment to building community.



1. Year 11 students from Mt. Maria College visit the BHSC every month to hold a bbq.
2. Anthony & Jennifer attend the Young Mothers Partnership Program antenatal clinic.
3. Aerial view of the Brisbane Common Ground building at 15 Hope St, South Brisbane.



# DONORS, SUPPORTERS & VOLUNTEERS

Micah Projects acknowledges the many schools, businesses, government and community organisations, community groups and individuals who provide their time, efforts, goods and give financially to support the people who access our services. Your generosity is vital and we are so grateful for it.

## Trusts and Foundations

Dina Grollo Foundation  
Forde Foundation  
Lord Mayor's Community Trust  
RBSM Foundation  
StreetSmart Australia  
The Ian Potter Foundation  
The Pratt Family Foundation

## Businesses, Schools, Organisations and Individuals

15 Offices of Qld Government Ministers  
99 Consulting  
AAR Operations  
Alison Muir  
All Hallows' School  
Avid Reader  
Bargain City Stafford  
Barker Lifestyle Creations  
BDO Kendalls  
Belinda Burgman  
Brisbane City Council Access & Equity Team  
Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre  
Briscoe's Furniture  
Bronte Women's Group  
Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation, Brisbane Office  
Bunnings Warehouse Cannon Hill  
Bunnings Warehouse Stafford  
Carol's Gift Baskets  
Catholic Religious Australia – Queensland  
Chris Harkin  
Christian Brothers Oceania Province  
Colour Chiefs  
Commercial Images  
Community Angels  
Community Business Australia  
Conference of Leaders of Religious Institutes Qld  
Daryl Clifford  
Ed Hope Hair  
Edmund Rice Network  
Eureka Steel Fixing (Qld)  
Feed the Children Australia  
Gabrielle Chisholm  
Girl Guides Queensland  
Givit  
Grocon Constructors  
Gwenneth and John Roberts  
Homelessness Health Outreach Team

Housing Innovations (USA)  
KDW Design  
LANDS Community Services  
Lorraine Gorman  
Lourdes Hill College  
Marcia's on Montague  
Mar Fan family  
Margaret McIlwain  
Medico Legal Insurance Group  
Miller Metallurgical Services  
Mt Alvernia College  
Mt Maria College  
Mt St Michael's College  
NACC Consulting  
Oxford St Bakery, Bulimba  
Paladar Fumior Salon  
Pete's Party Products  
Pondera Physio & Pilates, West End  
Premier Anna Bligh  
Prince Charles Hospital Social Work Services  
Project Services, Department of Public Works  
Pylara Nursery  
Queensland Council of Social Services  
RBS Morgans  
Retravisio, West End  
Rowland  
Savvy  
Senator Claire Moore  
Southbank Institute of Technology  
Souths Leagues Club  
St Ambrose's Primary School, Newmarket  
St Elizabeth's Primary School, Tarragindi  
St Mary's Community, South Brisbane  
Summit Leasing  
Sunshine Dry Cleaners  
The Hon Kevin Rudd MP and Griffith Electoral Office  
Tender Disposals  
The Spiritual Church Brisbane  
The Vardy Family  
TOPS  
University of Queensland  
Willow House  
Wilston Court  
Wintringham  
Woolworths Moorooka  
Yeronga State High School  
Zonta Club of Brisbane River

Our volunteers are a key ingredient in our activities that aim to build community. Their efforts are highly valued by the individuals and families we support.

Adam Mansy, Alison Muir, Angela O'Connell, Blair Ansford, Brad Hennessy, Cameron Starkey, Cass Cusack, Celia Sargent, Charles Sullivan, Christine Rose, Collis Appo, Craig Ellwood, Diane Jeans, Dolores McCreedy, Elizabeth Jansen, Frank Bortoletto, Gabrielle Chisholm, Gerard Bromley, George Moraitis, George Porter, Indus DeCouto, Jack Cummins, Jean Krautz, John Dooney, John Felicissimo, Josip Sutalo, Joy Reiken, Julian Walsh, Justin Spirason, Kai Borchert, Kate Doolan, Kate Sangha, Katia Bonomo, Kay Johnston, Kieran Wilson, Kim Broderick, Kristine Bentley, Lara Reindl, Liz Faulkner, Madonna McGahan, Mai Nguyen, Margaret Ridley, Maria O'Neill, Mary MacMahon, Mary Raineri, Matthew Leonard, Maureen Connelly, Michael Deed, Mitch Bourke, Nancye Read, Patricia Stanley, Paul Bickham, Rebecca Hunt, Rita Curtis, Rob Curtis, Rose Stoker, Ruth O'Connell, Shane Crotty, Shelley Farquhar, Susane Crotty, Tania Michiels, Tanya Vanderiet, Tara Perry, Tracey 'Tubs' Edwards, Ursula Farrelly, Yvonne Davis, Yvonne Dunne.

The Christmas Hamper Appeal was once again strongly supported by the local community. 187 volunteers helped to pack and deliver a total of 236 food hampers. We received \$13,434 in donations and hundreds of non-perishable food items to make it all possible.

We acknowledge and thank the St Mary's Community South Brisbane and the West End community for their ongoing commitment and generosity supporting our work.

From all of us, thank you.

# THANK YOU

## 50 Lives 50 Homes thanks Brisbane

The move from homelessness is easier for people when their home is fully furnished and fitted out with everything they need to cook, clean, sleep and relax. We have been able to achieve this for people housed by the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign through the incredible generosity of the Brisbane community. The campaign has been assisted by schools, businesses, community groups, individuals and families with a broad range of donations, discounts and in kind support. Furniture, whitegoods, appliances, linen and kitchenware have been either secondhand or purchased new at discount rates with donated funds (see also page 11). A total of \$39,435 in donations has been received and support continues to flow in. Thank you, Brisbane.

## RBSM Foundation

The RBSM Foundation is the philanthropic arm of RBS Morgans, specialists in stockbroking, investment and wealth management services. The RBSM Foundation is a leader in corporate philanthropy in Queensland and has supported Micah Projects with grants of \$25,000 per year for the last four years. In this financial year the support has been directed to the work of housing individuals through the 50 Lives 50 Homes campaign by fully furnishing and fitting out homes. We have appreciated the flexibility and creativity in our work that these grants have allowed us to achieve and the positive outcomes that have resulted for the people we support. We warmly thank the RBSM Foundation for their continued support.

## Mary Bourke

Foundress, Community Angels Inc.  
6th January 1936 – 31st May 2011

This year we were deeply saddened by the sudden passing of Mary Bourke, a long time advocate, supporter and friend who, with her organisation Community Angels, provided enormous practical assistance to homeless families moving into housing. No request for assistance went unheard and all were promptly met with enthusiasm and Mary's infectious energy. Micah Projects team members and families who have benefited from Community Angels support offer some reflections on Mary:

"Mary supported us to move a 50 year old woman into her first unit, after a lifelong string of violent relationships. Later, Mary invited her to speak at the Community Angels Luncheon. That made a huge difference to the woman's life, giving her an amazing shot of confidence. She is now studying at TAFE, performing in a drama group and having regular support to break the cycle of abusive relationships."

"A young family was affected by the Brisbane floods; they had two small children and the young woman was 8 months pregnant. Mary arranged new furniture, baby items, food and linen, kitchen gear, a clock for the wall, art work... and personally delivered the donations herself."

"Mary was a very nice person, she helped everyone... she never judged. Everyone who came in touch with her will always remember her...there will never be another Mary."

Thank you Mary, you made a difference... we miss you.



A happy Jason with the key to his new home, December 2010.



Mary Bourke (left) with Sue Gleeson from Community Angels, receiving a certificate of appreciation. Community Angels raised funds to support the very popular Sewing Group at Lotus Place.





# BUILDING COMMUNITY



## SOCIAL INCLUSION & WELLBEING

1. David and friends celebrating his birthday at the Boundary St office, June, 2010.
2. Sharing a sausage at the Anti-Poverty Week bbq, October, 2010.
3. Robert and Paul at the 50 Lives 50 Homes Breakfast, Queensland Parliament House, 22 December, 2010.
4. Moonlight Magic dance floor, Plaza Ballroom, September 2010.
5. Micah Projects staff with Sam Watson at the Sorry Day bbq, May 2011.
6. Guests at the Community Meal Christmas lunch, Dec, 2010.
7. Joe enjoying the Micah Projects art project, Lotus Place.
8. Molly, Colleen and Sherryl entertaining guests at 'Lotus up Late', the monthly evening meal at Lotus Place.

Opposite page: Invitations to the many events that foster social inclusion throughout the year.





## STATEMENT BY MEMBERS

The Board have 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.

The Board declares that:

1. the financial statements and notes present fairly the association's financial position as at 30 June 2011 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements; and
2. in the Board's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board.



Chairperson: Michael Kelly



Treasurer: Michael Booth  
Thursday, 6 October 2011

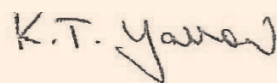
## DISCLAIMER

The following financial data was prepared by Micah Projects Inc to provide additional information to the association's members. Micah Projects Inc is solely responsible for the additional information. Accounting Standards and UIG Consensus Views have not been adopted in the preparation of the additional information.

Although we have audited the preceding general purpose financial report, no audit or review of the additional information has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

To the extent permitted by law, we do not accept liability for any loss or damage which any person, other than the association, may suffer arising from any negligence on our part. No person should rely on the following financial data without having an audit or review conducted.

We do not accept responsibility to any person for the contents of the following financial data.



Kevin Yarrow  
Arrow Accountants  
Brisbane  
Friday, 7 October 2011

## STATEMENT OF REVENUE & EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>this year</b>	<b>last year</b>
Grants (Cmlth) OP - Recurrent	0.00	23,365.69
Grants (Cmlth) OP - Non-Recurrent	83,706.88	38,490.65
Grants (State) OP - Recurrent	8,555,079.13	6,208,323.36
Grants (State) OP - Non-Recurrent	701,544.00	1,322,190.55
Grants (Local) OP - Non-Recurrent	34,095.73	33,498.24
Grants - Other	49,081.82	59,000.00
Donations Received	247,082.03	94,153.71
Donations (Public Collections)	42,069.60	37,074.50
Contributions (Members)	446.46	753.32
Contributions (Public)	189.00	392.00
Fees and Charges - Restricted	2,400.00	8,600.00
Fees and Charges - Other	5,000.00	0.00
Fees and Charge - Sponsorship and Licensing	26,000.00	17,500.00
Ticket Sales	23,800.25	19,000.03
Rental Income	0.00	130.45
Dividends Received	0.00	423.63
Other/Sundry Income	306,029.26	184,720.63
Disposal of Motor Vehicle	0.00	12,400.84
Unspent Funds Carried Forward	22,890.79	(45,689.10)
Interest - Restricted	0.00	4,846.33
Interest - Unrestricted	67,164.89	26,688.48
Gain on Sale - Non Current Asset	933.13	0.00
Insurance Rebate	500.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>10,168,012.97</b>	<b>8,045,863.31</b>

### **OVERHEAD EXPENSES**

Accountancy	35,536.11	30,000.00
Advertising	8,846.37	21,815.82
Amortisation	1,178.93	0.00
Auspicing Fees	0.00	502.15
Audit Fees	18,754.80	16,159.84
Asset Purchased < \$5000	13,518.40	167,219.33
Asset Purchased Depreciation	89,259.55	156,272.10
Bank Charges	7,353.31	8,780.04
Business Planning Cost	0.00	1,795.00
Client Support Services	938,445.99	511,826.18
Client Support Consumables	77,457.45	87,180.39
Computer Supplies	115,848.77	111,433.43
Consultancy fees	14,266.05	43,475.95
Depreciation - buildings	14,448.00	0.00
Depreciation	48,271.71	49,285.36
Donations	1,115.27	6,195.87
Employment Support	81,037.80	37,384.79

### **OVERHEAD EXPENSES CONTINUED**



**OVERHEAD EXPENSES CONTINUED**

Fees and Charges	23,109.79	32,443.53
Hire - Plant and Equipment	28,874.47	21,330.64
Insurance - General	8,972.37	7,358.94
Insurance - Public Liability	3,504.90	3,490.92
Insurance - Prof Indemnity	11,971.12	9,561.45
Insurance - Volunteers	1,299.96	1,299.97
Lease Payments	341,073.86	256,744.84
Legal Expenses	6,223.46	260.65
Fuel and Oil	108,220.59	91,476.82
Insurance	40,806.60	38,437.56
Motor Vehicle Repairs Maintenance	28,449.17	39,271.31
Registration	2,259.20	2,186.29
Management Fee Paid	10,040.79	0.00
Meeting Expenses	157,458.37	126,221.52
Other	16,790.32	11,250.02
Postage	8,661.67	9,724.68
Printing and Stationery	114,193.61	99,684.26
Publications & Info Resources	29,652.82	13,093.18
Rent	250,832.60	176,862.91
Repairs and Maintenance	173,086.79	132,027.50
Salary Sacrifice	651,983.82	597,890.14
Salaries - Other	482,620.72	487,734.39
Meal Entertainment	28,710.00	0.00
Security	7,019.62	5,488.77
Staff Training and Development	49,536.92	76,266.33
Staff Amenities	32,217.09	26,149.51
Subscriptions and Memberships	10,864.74	9,863.93
Sundry Expenses	18,188.32	13,807.63
Superannuation	489,165.53	399,047.24
Telephone	181,514.01	155,592.85
Travel and Accommodation	138,353.41	134,603.18
Utilities	73,335.12	62,846.98
Volunteer Costs	1,001.33	1,111.14
Wages	4,883,207.15	3,396,491.89
Annual Leave Expense	133,819.71	255,462.01
Long Service Leave Expense	6,953.15	18,769.10
Sick Leave Expense	76,952.94	88,977.51
Recruitment Expense	780.00	5,400.48
Workcover	59,167.38	32,579.04
<b>TOTAL OVERHEAD EXPENSES</b>	<b>(10,156,211.93)</b>	<b>(8,090,135.36)</b>
<b>NET LOSS</b>	<b>11,801.04</b>	<b>(44,272.05)</b>

# BALANCE SHEET

## AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

**ASSETS**

<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>this year</b>	<b>last year</b>
Cash and cash equivalents	1,779,118.45	1,555,642.90
Trade and other receivables	167,878.55	60,683.41
Financial assets	67,329.11	67,329.11
Current tax assets	987.47	0.00
Other current assets	18,103.46	20,586.81
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>2,033,417.04</b>	<b>1,704,242.23</b>

**NON CURRENT ASSETS**

Property, plant and equipment	24,577.74	56,299.15
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<b>24,577.74</b>	<b>56,299.15</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>2,057,994.78</b>	<b>1,760,541.38</b>

**LIABILITIES****CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Bank overdrafts	2,444.01	3,355.68
Trade and other payables	595,822.22	540,900.60
Short-term provisions	714,663.97	521,374.24
Other current liabilities	521,918.84	444,809.63
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,834,849.04</b>	<b>1,510,440.15</b>

**NON CURRENT LIABILITIES**

Financial liabilities	0.00	31,984.08
Long-term provisions	81,352.21	88,124.66
<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<b>81,352.21</b>	<b>120,108.74</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>1,916,201.25</b>	<b>1,630,548.89</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>141,793.53</b>	<b>129,992.49</b>

**EQUITY**

Reserves	49,827.66	49,827.66
Retained earnings	91,965.87	80,164.83
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>141,793.53</b>	<b>129,992.49</b>



# SUPPORT MICAH PROJECTS



Kate, Justin and Stella packing the hampers on Christmas Eve 2010.

## It is easy to support Micah Projects and make a difference in Brisbane.

Poverty, social exclusion and isolation continue to impact on many people who live in Brisbane and the housing crisis shows no signs of abating. The high cost of living compounds the vulnerability of people subsisting on low incomes. Micah Projects is assisting people to not only have their basic needs met but to enjoy a quality of life that we in Australia expect and hope for each other.

You can assist Micah Projects to continue to provide support for people who are excluded or vulnerable by becoming a member or by giving a cash donation.

You can make a **secure online donation** at [www.micahprojects.org.au](http://www.micahprojects.org.au) or complete this form and return it to us.

Yes, I wish to become a member of Micah Projects Inc.

\$5.50 (annual fee inc GST)

Also included is my tax-deductible donation for the amount of:

\$50

\$25

\$100

Other \$ .....

**Total amount** \$ .....

Name .....

Address .....

Phone .....

Email .....

Please make cheques payable to Micah Projects Inc or charge my credit card:

Visa  Mastercard

Card Number \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ \_ / \_ \_ \_ \_

Exp Date \_ \_ / \_ \_

Name on card .....

Signature .....

MICAH PROJECTS INC



Breaking Social Isolation  
Building Community

Phone (07) 3029 7000 | Fax (07) 3029 7029

Ground Floor, 162 Boundary St, West End Q 4101 | PO Box 3449 South Brisbane Q 4101  
info@micahprojects.org.au | www.micahprojects.org.au





# CONTACT US...

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**MICAH PROJECTS INC**  
[www.micahprojects.org.au](http://www.micahprojects.org.au)

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Ground Floor, 162 Boundary St, West End Q 4101  
PO Box 3449 South Brisbane Q 4101  
[info@micahprojects.org.au](mailto:info@micahprojects.org.au)  
ABN 76 409 721 192

**BRISBANE HOMELESSNESS SERVICE CENTRE (BHSC)**  
Homelessness to Home Support Services

**Phone (07) 3036 4444** | Fax (07) 3036 4400  
62 - 64 Peel Street, South Brisbane Q 4101  
[info@micahprojects.org.au](mailto:info@micahprojects.org.au)

**LOTUS PLACE**  
Forgotten Australians Support Services

**Phone (07) 3844 0966** | Fax (07) 3844 6706  
18 Merivale Street, South Brisbane Q 4101  
[info@micahprojects.org.au](mailto:info@micahprojects.org.au)

**BUTTERFLY PLACE & CATERPILLAR HOUSE**  
Young Mothers for Young Women (YMYW)

**Phone (07) 3013 6000** | Fax (07) 3013 6013  
Butterfly Place: 11 Sussex Street, West End, Q 4101  
Caterpillar House: 111 Vulture St, West End, Q 4101  
[info@micahprojects.org.au](mailto:info@micahprojects.org.au)

## **Public Transport**

Nearest Stations:

- Train – South Brisbane or South Bank
  - Bus – Cultural Centre Busway Station, South Bank
- Bus route 199 to West End

Follow us on **Twitter**... [@micahprojects](https://twitter.com/micahprojects) | [@50lives50homes](https://twitter.com/50lives50homes)  
Find Micah Projects and 50 Lives 50 Homes on **Facebook**.





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