A man with a warm smile is the central figure, wearing a tall, intricately beaded and embroidered hat with a red tassel. He is dressed in a dark blue jacket over a grey shirt. He holds a small, light brown guinea pig gently in his arms. The background is a rustic, dimly lit interior with wooden beams and shelves. A teal speech bubble in the upper right corner contains a quote. A teal banner at the bottom of the image contains the title of the report.

*"We must
teach more
by example
than by word"*

- Mary MacKillop 1867

Annual Report 2021-22

MARY MACKILLOP
today

About us

Mary MacKillop Today is a ministry proudly continuing the works of the Sisters of St Joseph. In the spirit of Mary MacKillop, we are working to transform lives with dignity for self-determination.

Mary MacKillop Today is a public company limited by guarantee and we are governed by a Board of Directors. In Australia, our head office is in North Sydney, and we also have offices based remotely in Bathurst, Orange, Cowra, Young, Lithgow, Condobolin, Mudgee, Kandos, Blue Mountains and Penrith Region. Overseas, we have an office in Dili, Timor-Leste.

Our vision

Our vision is a world without poverty, where the rights and dignity of every person are respected and where people are free to engage fully and flourish in society.

Our mission

Guided by the Gospel, we take fresh courage and stand with the marginalised poor, rural and remote peoples, in Australia and internationally, so they can realise their potential and flourish in their communities. We seek to empower and transform lives through self-determination, access to education and the learning of practical life skills.

Front cover image:

A participant from the guinea pig breeding program in Peru.



ACFID
MEMBER

The Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) is the peak body for Australian non-government organisations involved in international development and humanitarian action. As an ACFID member, Mary MacKillop Today is a signatory to the ACFID Code of Conduct, which is a voluntary, self-regulating sector code of good practice. As a signatory we are committed and fully adhere to the ACFID Code of Conduct, conducting our work with transparency, accountability and integrity.

Complaints alleging breaches of the ACFID Code of Conduct can be made to the ACFID Code of Conduct Committee via www.acfid.asn.au/content/complaints



Mary MacKillop Today is accredited by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), responsible for managing Australia's aid program. To maintain accreditation, Mary MacKillop Today's systems, policies and processes are rigorously reviewed by the Australian Government. Mary MacKillop Today receives support through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

Mary MacKillop Today welcomes feedback about our organisation. To provide feedback, or lodge a complaint or compliment, call 02 8912 2777, write to Mary MacKillop Today, PO Box 1646 North Sydney 2060 or send an email to complaints@marymackilloptoday.org.au

View our policy www.marymackilloptoday.org.au/who-we-are/publications-and-reports/our-policies/feedback-and-complaints-policy/

MARY MACKILLOP *today*

Our Values

FAITH

Guided by the charism and spirituality of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of the Sacred Heart we are full of faith and hope in the Gospel teachings and in God's Providence, each other and humanity.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We take our responsibilities and partnerships seriously. Our decisions, actions, governance, transparency, integrity and trust can be relied on.

RESPECT

We respect the dignity of all, we bring light to the darkest corners of society, we are motivated by the needs of others.

EXCELLENCE

With our commitment to quality, we do what we do very well so those we serve can expect the best. We are committed to programs that demonstrably enact our mission, to evidence-based programming, sustainability and achievable outcomes.



Students at the Mobile Kindy in Fiji

Our focus

In the 'can help' spirit of Mary MacKillop, our focus is on building dignity through learning for life. By partnering with local communities, organisations and groups, we bring dignity to thousands of children, women and families in Australia and throughout the world.

Our purpose

LEARNING FOR LIFE

Enabling access to learning opportunities; traditional literacy and numeracy; broad skills for living; across the various stages of life. Through our education and life skills programs we develop essential skills for self-sufficiency. We act today, because today we create a better tomorrow.



Women's Empowerment Project, Peru

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Message from our Chair

Dear friends,

I am so pleased to share the Annual Report for the financial year 2021-2022, as our opportunity to report back to you on the many and varied initiatives that Mary MacKillop Today has undertaken with your support.

The last twelve months have been a challenging period with the ongoing impact of the pandemic together with the increasing cost of living. And yet, it has been heartwarming to witness the generosity of Mary MacKillop Today's supporters to help those in greatest need. We are also thankful for the ongoing positive relationship with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The Board and I are delighted with the commitment and dedication of our CEO, Jane Woolford, and her amazing team, who together with our partners have continued to provide support to the vulnerable. The team have again displayed their resilience and flexibility to ensure that our support to those in need is ongoing despite the many challenges that confronted them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Sisters of St Joseph under the leadership of Sr Monica Cavanagh, who have been a great source of inspiration and guidance to the Board and our staff. Our Board is humbled by the faith and trust that the Sisters have placed in us to continue the legacy of Saint Mary MacKillop in assisting poorer communities to achieve their true potential. Mary was a trailblazer, to say the least, with her ability to rally support to go where she saw the greatest need, despite significant barriers.

Your generosity is greatly appreciated to ensure our work is consistent with Mary's legacy, no matter how difficult our challenges may be.


Kieran Gleeson



Jane, Kieran & Maria with Sister Alma and local women on a trip to the Kimberley

Message from our CEO



I have marvelled at the ability of our partners and staff teams around the world to continue to deliver life-changing programs in the face of enormous disruptions. Their resilience to learn new skills and pivot their work to succeed is remarkable.

This has been a year of transition into new environments for our programs. With easing restrictions around movement, our Australian team members could finally visit our local partners in Fiji and staff in Timor-Leste to see field work in action. I, myself, was able to travel to visit our partners in Fiji to be on the ground amongst communities supported by Mary MacKillop Today. The Chair,

Kieran Gleeson, and I also had the privilege of travelling to the East Kimberley to meet with the incredible Sisters of St Joseph. It was a crucial opportunity to explore how we might support a Josephite legacy amongst communities in the region.

With your support, we maintain the highest standards across all our programs here in Australia and overseas. We are uncompromising when it comes to vital issues like our commitment to safeguarding children. As many of our international projects completed their three-year cycles this year, we've conducted external evaluations to review program effectiveness and shape our projects to achieve maximum impact over the next three years.

Our work can be incredibly tough, and my team have witnessed true hardship amongst communities around the world. But with the spirit of Mary MacKillop and your wonderful support, we can find fresh courage to do something about the need we see. Being part of a legacy born in 1842 inspires me to drive our work all the way, no matter how hard it is.

I know you are right here with us and I can't thank you enough for your support.


Jane Woolford



Jane, Tessa & Amita visiting Fiji with women from the Women's Leadership in Rural Fiji project

Learning for Life

Thanks to the generosity and compassion of our supporters, we remain committed to reaching people living on the margins with the opportunities they need to flourish. Your vital support has helped provide people with access to education and life skills to participate fully in their communities. Thank you!

These are some key achievements from our International Programs you helped to make possible:



Learning is valued and aspired to

- 587 women accessed training and other support to help them to better participate in political and other community leadership roles
- 774 parents and family members participated in training on the value of learning



Learning enables the realisation of rights and freedoms

- 84 women were supported to assume leadership roles at the community, regional and national level
- 2,803 people were supported to build their skills to earn an income
- 516 people enrolled in further formal education/learning programs
- 574 people have increased their income



Learning is high quality and learner-centred

- 599 teachers and educators were trained in skills to improve learning outcomes
- 95% of educators from our teacher training programs were trained in high quality teaching skills
- 924 parents and caregivers were trained to support their children's learning
- 70,616 learning resources were distributed
- 4,599 people accessed learning resources that meet quality standards



Learning is accessible

- 118 people were provided with improved access to sufficient food
- 168 people participated in training on prevention, reduction and response to violence, abuse and exploitation of children
- 601 children accessed our early learning/school readiness program



People achieve positive learning outcomes

- 87% of participants reported improved knowledge in preventative health
- 54% of participants gained new financial literacy skills

Navigating COVID-19



Parent Training Program, Peru

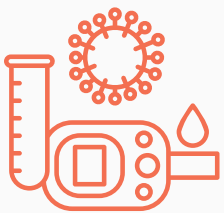
All of the countries we work in — Timor-Leste, Peru, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Australia — have been impacted by COVID-19 which, in turn, affected our programs on the ground. It meant many of our activities were modified to be carried out remotely or, in some cases, paused for a period of time.

During the financial year 2021-22, communities experienced a shift away from government imposed

widespread lockdowns, allowing for more movement and the reintroduction of in-person activities.

The steadfast generosity of our supporters helped put us in a position to forge ahead and navigate the pandemic conditions. Our resilient team members have been able to continue providing educational opportunities to communities as a pathway out of poverty.

These are some of the ways you have helped our International Programs meet the needs of communities throughout the year:



385

people trained in COVID-19 prevention/management



835

people accessed educational/literacy materials to educate their children



272

households provided with emergency food relief



642

women accessing information regarding gender-based violence at home during COVID-19

9,634

COVID-19 hygiene kits distributed (including personal protective equipment)

Australia



Judy, Financial Inclusion Officer with Peta, NILS recipient

“I didn’t have a bed, fridge, or washing machine. No bank would give me a loan. Having access to a No Interest Loan through Mary MacKillop Today meant I could have a bed to sleep on, put food in the fridge, wash my clothes. I was also able to buy a car, which I really need in a regional town. I’m now able to compete for employment opportunities, get back into society, and say things are better for me now.”

– Peta, recipient of a No Interest Loan from Mary MacKillop Today

In Australia, Mary MacKillop Today supports people experiencing marginalisation to improve their quality of life through educational opportunities and financial relief.

The **Financial Inclusion Program** continues in partnership with Good Shepherd Microfinance to provide adults experiencing financial hardship with access to affordable credit without interest or fees. The **NILS Program** assists people on low incomes to cover the costs of essentials, such as household appliances, while **NILS 4 Vehicles** (commencing in October 2021) gives people the opportunity to purchase reliable transport right away.

- 470 loans provided for essential goods and services totalling \$447,717
- 159 loans provided to purchase vehicles totalling \$724,671

As additional financial support services:

- 127 Energy Accounts Payment Assistance (EAPA) vouchers totaling \$38,250 were provided to help people pay for gas and electricity bills during a time of crisis
- 3 people received opportunities to reduce their fines through Work and Development Orders (WDO)

The **Financial Literacy Program** encourages and equips people to make informed financial decisions and manage their finances, such as household budgeting, in a better way.

- 132 people participated in Financial Literacy sessions across Central West NSW in Bathurst, Lithgow, Cowra, Mudgee and Condobolin:
 - Including one-to-one training for 12 people with higher support needs
 - 53% of participants completed Year 10 in school or lower
 - 1 in 3 participants were First Nations Australians
 - 50% of participants were living with a disability

The **Community Grants** program provides opportunities for lifelong learning and community building to people affected by marginalisation.

- 18 Community Grants were awarded (out of 72 applications received)
- Totaling \$164,925
- Supporting projects across New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria and Western Australia



Financial Inclusion Team

Community Grant initiatives supported include:

- 'Operation Stitches' in Victoria to empower children from disadvantaged families through personalised tutoring support which includes skills for social interaction and relationship building.
- 'Empowering Plantagenet Seniors' in rural Western Australia through the Community Craft Corner for seniors to connect, learn and contribute towards a healthy community.



Bridie, First Nations Scholarship recipient

Our **First Nations Scholarships** provide students with the financial support they need to overcome barriers to higher education. We continued our tertiary partnerships and currently support students at Deakin University, James Cook University and North Regional TAFE (WA).

- 30 ongoing tertiary students have received scholarship support in the past year
- 70-80% said the scholarship positively impacted their studies
- 66% intend to continue with further study
- 60-70% have greater aspirations because of the scholarship

(Online survey of scholarship recipients, 2022)

Congratulations to the graduating students!

- 5 students completed their studies this year
- The degrees achieved include Nursing, Primary Education, and Science
- All graduating students were female

Yawardani Jan-ga, meaning 'horses helping' in the local Yawuru language, is our Equine Assisted Learning (EAL) program in the Kimberley aiming to improve the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal youth referred by parents, teachers, counsellors, psychologists, or social workers. By working with the horses through non-verbal communication, participants develop the skills and confidence to engage positively with others. In March 2022, the program transitioned in partnership from Telethon Kids Institute to the Aboriginal-led Ngangk Yira Institute for Change at Murdoch University.

- Currently partnering with 23 referring organisations
- 138 referrals were made by individuals (an increase from 99 in the previous year)
- 74 representatives from schools and local service providers attended demonstration sessions to build trust and awareness around the program
- 8 Aboriginal trainee practitioners graduated and 3 additional practitioners were hired to bring the total number to 26



Abby Murray Photography

“The young students learn to read the horse's body language and communicate with both the horse and teacher. They learn to regulate their emotions and let go of stress.”

– Abby-Rose, EAL facilitator

Timor-Leste



"Before I attended these trainings, I lacked self-confidence and faced some difficulties regarding teaching methodology with small children... I am so proud of doing Mary MacKillop Today's training because after training I have self-confidence to conduct the teaching and learning process." - Rosaria, Teacher

Volunteer Teacher Support program

In Timor-Leste, Mary MacKillop Today is working to improve education and health outcomes for all, so communities can flourish after experiencing decades of violence.

The **Teacher Training and Tetun Literacy** project, in partnership with the Ministry of Education, continued to deliver quality training and mentoring to preschool and primary school teachers across Ermera and Manufahi municipalities.

- 200 teachers completed the Tetun Literacy training program
- 5,065 students received quality literacy education in the classroom
- 7 small grants were awarded to schools to receive materials such as chairs and tables
- 24,717 educational resources such as books were distributed

This project was supported by the Australian Government via the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

The **Volunteer Teacher Support** project provided training, support, and resources to volunteer teachers in Railaco in the Ermera municipality to improve the quality of education that children receive.

- 24 volunteer teachers in 9 preschools received a monthly stipend and literacy teacher training
- 360 preschool students benefited from higher quality education, as well as receiving meals from the feeding program



Teacher from Ermera Municipality teaching health literacy

The **Health Literacy** project, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, aims to give preschool and primary school teachers the skills and resources to deliver health education in the classroom and create healthy school environments.

- 182 teachers and 5,948 students were involved in the program across primary schools in Ermera and Manufahi municipalities
- 991 parents and community members participated in a health awareness event about malaria, dengue, and personal hygiene
- 165 students received dental check-ups
- 19 schools were awarded small grants for toilet construction and waste disposal units

This project was supported by the Australian Government via the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

The **Parent Training** project delivered quality training to parents of children attending schools across Manufahi, Ermera and Dili- Atauro. This training aims to teach a range of simple skills and activities to parents so they can support their children's learning in the home, including topics such as literacy, numeracy, storytelling, child protection and child development.

- 774 parents received the training which benefited the learning of 1176 children
- 19,979 educational resources and stationery delivered to all parents



Rafaela learning to read at the Mobile Learning Centre

The **Mobile Learning Centre** project brought fun and educational activities and resources to thousands of children in remote preschools and primary schools across Liquica and Ermera municipalities as well as providing support to parents and teachers.

- 2,406 students across 25 schools benefited from learning sessions
- 98 teachers attended professional development trainings
- 3,401 story books as well as other educational and musical resources were distributed to schools

"I have been involved in this program for a year and it made lots of changes in our school. Our old teaching methods was changed from traditional to creative and interactive. We gained training on how to select appropriate topics... Selecting music and play to help students listen and learn and read different story books." - Pascuela, teacher EBF Ediri

The **Women's Livelihoods** project supported cooperative members with income generation activities and vital training in areas such as saving, loans, and small business management.

- The cooperative group has grown from 47 to 76 active members (62 female)

"In cooperatives we can save and borrow money to open the kiosk. We have the skills of doing business connected to the market. We can also sew clothing to get money. And also has the skills of Excel computers in calculating money.... The kiosk can help the family's food economy, pay for children's school and address cultural issues and build houses." -

Irene, business owner

The **Vanilla Beans of Hope** project, with support from Edmund Rice Foundation Australia, has made great progress to support local vanilla farmers. Through the project, participants acquire skills, resources and credit to build a sustainable livelihood. This year's focus was to strengthen the vanilla farmer's capacity to establish and successfully manage a cooperative as a steppingstone to their independence from Mary MacKillop Today.

- 665 farmers in 5 villages benefited from involvement in the project



Vanilla farmer in Timor-Leste

Following the devastating floods in Timor-Leste in April 2021, Mary MacKillop Today hired an external consultant to work with our local staff by conducting a **Disaster Risk Reduction Assessment** and creating strategies to limit the impact of disasters on communities.

Mary MacKillop Today completed **external project evaluations** for all our projects in Timor-Leste as this year was the final year of our latest 3-year project cycle. It provided an opportunity to reflect on the achievements over the last three years and to inform the next multi-year project designs.

Fiji



Mobile Kindy program

Ms. Kama is a parent at one of the Mobile Kindy sites. She volunteered as a teacher's aid and was later selected to be part of the Early Childhood Education Diploma course. Her dream is to become an early childhood educator to help change the mindset of young parents and youths in the community. She said she has already learned a lot about the importance of early childhood education, children's safety, children having access to nutritious meals, and the development of the child.



Mereoni - Project Talitha

In Fiji, Mary MacKillop Today aims to provide skills and opportunities to young women, and education support for young children and their families.

Through the **Mobile Kindy** program, delivered by our partner Child Benefit Fiji, children in settlement communities are given an opportunity to access quality early childhood education.

- 118 children accessed high quality early childhood education across 6 Mobile Kindy sites supported by 6 dedicated teachers

Project Talitha, implemented by our partner Ola Fou Fiji, works to empower young women at risk to make positive contributions to their communities. The young women attend training workshops to gain vital knowledge and skills around leadership, human rights, women's health, and financial literacy to manage their own resources, including:

- 48 young women from 3 communities participated in leadership training
- 153 participants attended leadership training on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management and Community Mapping

This project was supported by the Australian Government via the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

"This training has helped me and my sisters to give back to the community and our families to make a difference in our lives. Through the training, I'm learning skills to invest and save to provide for my daughter and support her education. That is my priority." - Mereoni, participant in Project Talitha

Comprehensive **monitoring and evaluation** of our Fiji projects was conducted by a local consultant to continue growing the positive impact of these projects and training was provided to partners to further strengthen their work.



Monitoring & Evaluation Visit June 2022

Peru



Women's Empowerment project, Peru

In Peru, our focus is on improving access to education and employment, particularly in rural areas.

The **Women's Empowerment** project progressed well in its third year, in partnership with CCAIJO in the province of Quispicanchi.

- 72 female government officials, councillors and youth leaders were reached, as well as hundreds more family and community members
- 12 meetings with 9 female councillors from different districts were conducted to create proposals that contribute to gender equality. 9 of the 10 developed ordinances were approved by the local governments.
- 52 radio programs were broadcast featuring the importance of women in politics, as well as women's social, economic, cultural, and environmental empowerment.

"I learned a lot from the meetings and experiences of women from all over the province. I returned very motivated and encouraged to continue working in a better way and apply those experiences in my district." – Paulina, District Leader

This project was supported by the Australian Government via the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

The **Vocational Training** project continued in its second year to address the skills gap in rural communities, through CCAIJO and the Quispicanchi Centre for Technical Productive Education (CETPRO).

- 620 students studied programs such as breeding guinea pigs, agriculture, and hotel services
- 1 new course in Accounting is being developed
- 18 teachers were trained in new skills

This project was supported by the Australian Government via the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

The **Enhancing the Educational Environment for School Students** project, in partnership with CEOP Ilo, encouraged parental involvement in the education of their children in its final year of implementation.

- 69 students, 90 teachers and 115 parents participated in project activities
- 100% of students surveyed said they have developed skills and resilience from their participation in the project

This project was supported by the Australian Government via the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

The **School Agriculture** project, through our partner Fe y Alegria and the Sisters of St Joseph in Peru, works to improve children's nutrition.

- 1,181 school children in 2 rural communities learned about food security and nutrition
- 74 teachers have been trained in areas to improve access to food
- 6 bio-gardens have been installed or improved in 2 schools as well as a guinea pig pen and 2 hydroponic systems set up in one of the schools

"I learned many things that I did not know, such as growing the different organic vegetables. This helps us to consume fresh and healthy vegetables." - Nadya, school student

External evaluations were conducted for three of our four development projects to measure the effectiveness of our projects in Peru. The findings are helping to shape how these projects will look in upcoming years.

Through Mary MacKillop Today's unique collaborative approach to **partnership**, we continued to work closely with our Peru partners to strengthen their capacity and increase project outcomes through skill-building within their teams.

Mary MacKillop Today continued our **Peru Small Grants Program** with approximately \$46,500 AUD granted across four partner organisations in Peru towards initiatives to mitigate the impact that COVID-19 has had on access to education.

The generosity of supporters also helped support **non-development projects** delivered by the Sisters of St Joseph in Peru, including the Mary MacKillop Hausi centre for children with disability and several other small humanitarian and community projects.



Women artisans in Peru making beautiful handcrafted gifts

We are proud of contributing to the dignified work of women artisans in Peru with a fair income, helping them build a better life for themselves.

This year, the number of women who benefit from producing our ethica goods has increased.

We are seeing more interest in products that are ethically made and are sustainable. Our followers on Facebook and Instagram have increased. And we continue to supply amazing shops, including some new additions.

Every ethica item purchased is an investment in women and their families.

The impact of ethica:

- **Cultural** - We value traditional skills and techniques.
- **Economic** - Women earn a fair income which allows them to contribute to the family finances.
- **Wellbeing** - Women benefit from being part of a group, feel proud of their achievements, and have more resources to improve their quality of life.
- **Environmental** - Our commitment to climate change saw us partner with Tree Nation. We have planted 45 trees in our ethica forest in the Camino Verde project in the Peruvian Amazon. This represents a total of 6.91 tonnes of CO2 captured. We also promote slow fashion handmade goods and the use of natural resources like alpaca wool.
- **Social** - Women have gained confidence and now have a stronger voice when it comes to vital issues such as gender equality and pricing goods for the market.

"We have the warm and luscious ethica products in our store, all made from alpaca. Our customers absolutely love these products, and their beautiful warmth help us Melbournites through the long winter blues. It is important to us at The Fair Trader to have products in store that are fair trade made. We are proud to have these products in our store. ethica products are well presented, with labels attached that are signed by their artisan makers". – The Fair Trader, ethica retail customer



Let's continue to invest in a more just world.

Papua New Guinea

In PNG, we worked to build skills in communities that support inclusive education, particularly for people living with disability in remote areas.

Our Inclusive Education in Remote Communities project with Callan Services National Unit (CSNU) focused on activities advocating for more safeguarding awareness and stronger policies within the PNG National Department of Education and broader community. These activities replaced planned CSNU activities working directly with children because strong safeguarding agreements need to be in place to mitigate safeguarding risks faced by children, especially those living with disability. Mary MacKillop Today has currently paused supporting projects in PNG and, in the coming year, will prioritise a review on how to achieve adequate safeguarding compliance for all so we can best support communities.

Environmental Sustainability

At Mary MacKillop Today we are committed to reducing the impact our organisation has on the environment. This year we have continued to find ways to reduce our waste through recycling initiatives and making smarter buying choices. To promote greener practices, we regularly review our list of suppliers to ensure partners align with our policies and procedures for sustainable procurement. We also renewed our Fair Trade Workplace Certification, in recognition of our commitment to work towards an environmentally sustainable and equitable future for all.

Every Mary MacKillop Today project is designed with a focus on environmental sustainability and minimising the impact of activities on the environment.

Safeguarding Commitment

We take the safety of children and vulnerable adults who access our programs and services very seriously. We promote and demonstrate our commitment to Safeguarding with our staff and representatives both in Australia and overseas in our partner organisations and programs. Our policy is compliant with ACFID, DFAT and Australian Catholic Safeguarding Limited (formerly Catholic Professional Standards Limited). Our Safeguarding Committee continues to meet prior to every Board meeting to ensure that Safeguarding remains an organisational priority.



1

wheelchair was provided to a young child with a disability



26

participants received PNG Sign Language training



A draft **Community Based Inclusive Development (CBID) Manual** has been developed



A Memorandum of Agreement was developed with

12

key policy makers to ensure the National Department of Education's compliance with Callan Services National Unit's Safeguarding Policy



2

training sessions with parents and caregivers covering child protection and safeguarding measures



8

key policy makers from the National Department of Education attended safeguarding training

Reconciliation Action Plan

Mary MacKillop Today has drafted a Reflect Action Plan ready for the consultation process with the aim to implement in 2023. The Reflect Action Plan will enable us to strengthen our knowledge and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories, and outline how we can support reconciliation in our organisation.

Financial Snapshot

In 2021-2022, Mary MacKillop Today recorded total revenue of \$5.951M, with \$6.332M invested in funding and support for domestic, international and community development programs aimed at transforming the lives of people living on the margins.

We ended the financial year with an accounting loss of \$718,232 which reflects a substantial increase in program spending over the past twelve months and a decrease in the value of our financial assets.

This is the fourth year of our five-year strategic plan to establish and build the new ministry of Mary MacKillop Today. Over five years, the Sisters of Saint Joseph have committed to a significant annual philanthropic contribution to ensure long-term sustainability for the organisation.

We are incredibly grateful for this contribution and the generosity of individual donors, schools, community groups, parish communities and trusts and foundations. This support enables Mary MacKillop Today to provide quality education and learning for life opportunities for vulnerable people and communities.

Where the money comes from

Total year-on-year revenue decreased by 10%, mostly due to a decrease in value of financial assets and the cessation of government COVID subsidies.

From July 2019, we started receiving funding under the Australian NGO Corporation Program. This contributed to an increase in government and grant funding to \$1.601M (2021: \$1.324M), including \$965,774 from DFAT.

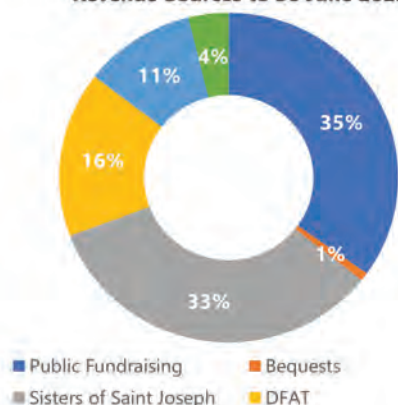
Total fundraising income, which includes Public Fundraising and a \$2M contribution from the Sisters of Saint Joseph for staff, systems and fundraising activities, was slightly higher, totalling \$4.074M (2021: \$4.039M). We were also honoured to receive several bequests.

Where the money goes

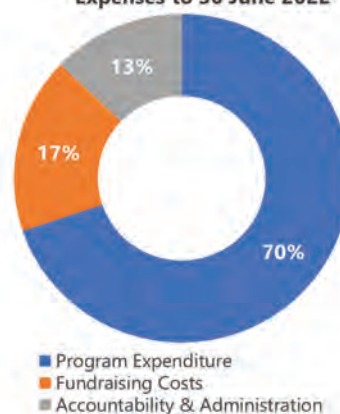
Total expenses increased by 6% to \$6.332M (2021: \$6M) as a result of a strategic increase in program expenditure.

Program expenditure, including program support costs, was increased by 19% to \$4.421M (2021: \$3.593M). We delivered 17 education and livelihoods-based development programs, 4 COVID-19 education small grant projects

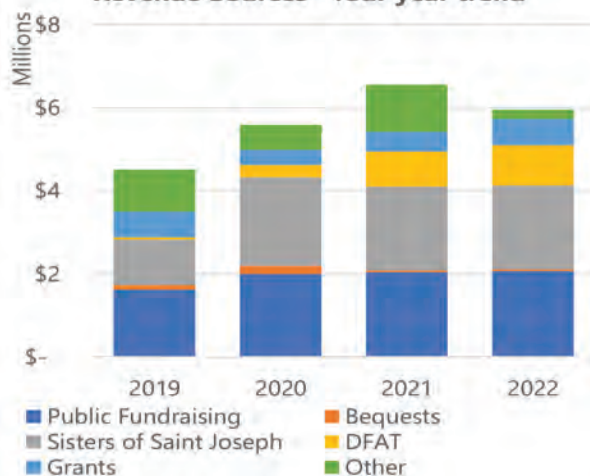
Revenue Sources to 30 June 2022



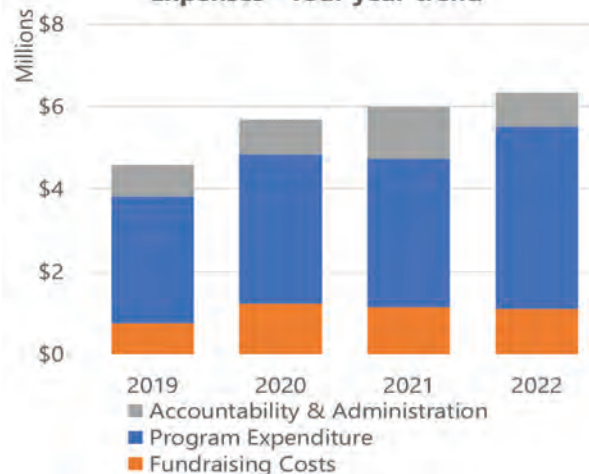
Expenses to 30 June 2022



Revenue Sources - four year trend



Expenses - four year trend



and 4 non-development programs in Australia, Fiji, Peru, Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste.

Fundraising and marketing costs decreased by 4% to \$1.097M as a result of new donor acquisition strategy.

Administration costs decreased to \$813,534 due to a gain on US currency program expenditure and US currency holdings.

Accountability Measures

Program Expenditure ratio is the total amount spent on domestic and international programs, including program support costs, expressed as a percentage of total expenditure.

Program Expenditure ratio was significantly increased to 70% in 2022FY (2021: 60%) the highest value achieved over the past four years. Maintaining the Program Expenditure ratio at 70% will be a key goal over coming years.

Cost of Fundraising ratio is the total amount spent on Public Fundraising expressed as a percentage of total revenue from the Australian public, rather than total revenue. It excludes funding and associated costs related to grant funding from DFAT and other organisations. Net surplus from fundraising is the balance of revenue from the Australian public after deducting the amount spent on Public Fundraising, expressed as a percentage of this revenue.

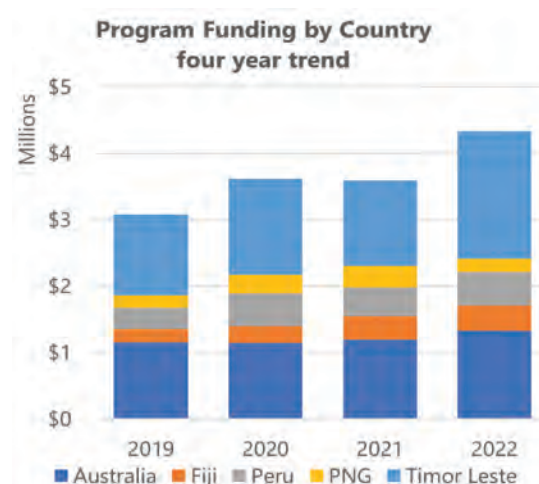
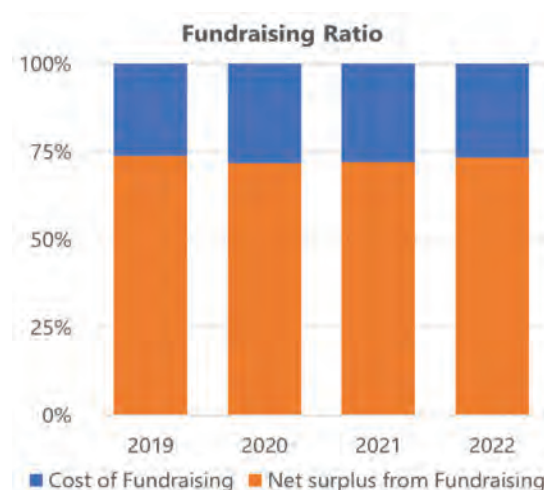
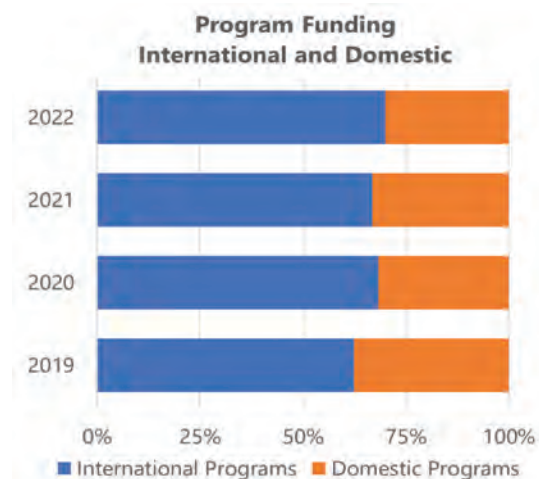
For the five years from 2018, we plan to invest in fundraising programs, staff and systems to diversify sources of revenue and secure a sustainable financial future.

Administration ratio is the total amount spent on administration, accountability, and management of financial assets, and is expressed as a percentage of total expenditure.

The average Administration ratio over the past four years is 16%. In 2022FY, the Administration ratio decreased to 13% due to gains on US currency program expenditure.

Financial reserves

Our financial reserves, valued at \$12.144M as of 30 June 2022, are the total of combined funds from the three merged organisations which formed Mary MacKillop Today. Strategic planning is underway to determine the best way to invest and apply these reserves to achieve maximum benefit in the communities we work.



Read the full report at:
marymackilloptoday.org.au/our-reports

Our People



Read more about the Board at:
[marymackilloptoday.org.au/
our-board-of-directors](http://marymackilloptoday.org.au/our-board-of-directors)

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Chairperson, Fellow of the Institute of Public Accountants; Associate Fellow of the Australian College of Health Service Executives



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Dip.Mod.Lang (Chinese) Melb.
GradDipCommM UTS



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Leader



Maria Attard
Australian Programs
Group Leader



Elizabeth Phegan
Supporter Relations
Group Leader



Joanne Lee
Finance Manager



Belinda Pratten
Quality and Compliance
Advisor; Company
Secretary



Gina Bradley
National Manager, ethica



Alipio Baltazar
Timor-Leste Country
Director



Anita van Dartel
Financial Inclusions Team
Leader

Our Staff

Mary MacKillop Today is driven by a workforce of talented and committed staff across Australia and overseas. Our diverse team is motivated to serve those in need and ensure fairness and dignity for all. At 30th June 2022, there were 32 staff in Australia. This included 22 in North Sydney, and 10 staff based remotely in Bathurst, Orange, Cowra, Young, Lithgow, Condobolin, Mudgee, Kandos, Blue Mountains and Penrith Region. In Timor-Leste, we had a total of 42 staff members.



Staff attending retreat at Kincumber South



How you can help

Our work is only possible thanks to the generosity of our supporters. There are many ways you can get involved with Mary MacKillop Today!

MAKE A MONTHLY DONATION

A regular monthly gift will enable you to transform lives and make a real difference to those in need. To become an Independent Spirit please visit our website today.

LEAVE A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

You can support future generations by remembering Mary MacKillop Today in your Will.

ORGANISE OR ATTEND AN EVENT

Consider engaging your local parish, school or community with fundraising initiatives.

COLLECT STAMPS

Collect and send in postage stamps to support our mission.

WORKPLACE GIVING

To help some of the most vulnerable people in the world get access to education, you can make a regular pre-tax contribution from your pay through employer.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Follow our social media pages featured on our website.

STAY INFORMED

Get all the latest news in the Mary MacKillop Today Newsletter and blog.

BUY FAIR TRADE GOODS FROM ETHICA

The fair trade company of Mary MacKillop Today, ethica is a not-for-profit organisation endorsed by Fair traders of Australia (FToA) specialising in quality products.

MARY MACKILLOP *today*

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Email: hello@marymackilloptoday.org.au

ACN 159 091 737 | ABN 88 808 531 480

Please visit our website to read about Mary MacKillop Today:
www.marymackilloptoday.org.au