

MARY MACKILLOP *today*



2021/22 Year in Review

Dear friends,

Together with our Chair, Kieran Gleeson, and our Board, I'd like to thank the incredible Sisters of Saint Joseph for their dedication to continue the important work of Saint Mary MacKillop. Being part of a legacy born in 1842 inspires me to drive our organisation all the way, no matter how hard it is.

As you can read in this snapshot report, our resilient partners around the world have continued to deliver life-changing programs. Our work can be incredibly tough. But with your wonderful support, we can find fresh courage to do something about the need we see amongst the most vulnerable communities.

This has been a year of transition into new environments for our programs. With easing restrictions, 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. We also had the privilege of travelling to the East Kimberley to explore how we might support a Josephite legacy in the region.

We make every effort to 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 conducted external evaluations to shape our projects for maximum impact over the next three years.

I can't thank you enough for your support.



Jane Woolford

Australia

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.

- 470 NLS Program loans (\$447,717) provided for essential goods and services
- 159 NLS 4 Vehicles loans (\$724,671) provided to purchase reliable transport
- 132 people participated in Financial Literacy sessions across Central West NSW for better financial management
- 127 Energy Accounts Payment Assistance (EAPA) vouchers were provided

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

- 18 Community Grants (\$164,925) were awarded to grassroots projects throughout Australia



Judy, Financial Inclusion Officer with Peta, Nils 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 support students at Deakin University, James Cook University and North Regional TAFE (WA).

- 30 tertiary students received scholarship support
- 5 students completed their studies

The **Yawardani Jan-ga Equine Assisted Learning (EAL)** program in the Kimberley continues to improve the social and emotional wellbeing of Aboriginal youth. 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
- 26 Aboriginal trainee practitioners currently employed

Fiji

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 attended learning sessions

Project Talitha#, with our partner Ola Fou Fiji, works to empower young women at risk to make positive contributions to their communities.

- 48 young women from 3 communities participated in leadership training



Mobile Kindy program

Timor-Leste



Teacher from Ermera Municipality teaching health literacy

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 school teachers across Ermera and Manufahi municipalities.

- 200 teachers completed training

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



These projects are supported by the Australian Government through the Australian NGO Cooperation Program (ANCP).

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
- 19 schools were awarded small grants for toilet construction and waste disposal units

The Parent Training project provided training to parents across Manufahi, Ermera and Dili- Atauro so they can support their children's learning at home.

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

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
- 3,401 educational and musical resources were distributed to schools

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)

The Vanilla Beans of Hope project, with support from Edmund Rice Foundation Australia, provides local vanilla farmers with skills, resources and credit to build a sustainable livelihood.

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

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.

- 8 key government policy makers attended safeguarding training
- 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



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
- 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.

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

The **Enhancing the Educational Environment for School Students project#**, in partnership with CEOP Ilo, encouraged parental involvement in the education of children.

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

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 learned about food security and nutrition
- 74 teachers trained to improve access to food

This year, our Fair Trade social enterprise, **ethica**, has seen an increase in the number of women benefiting from our livelihood programs by producing goods for a fair income.

Financial Snapshot

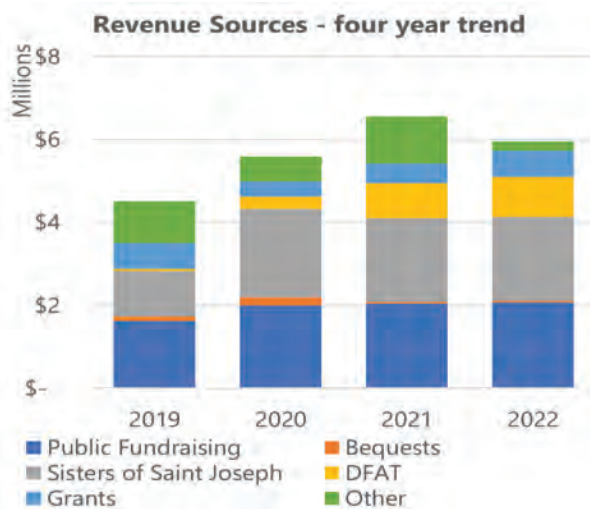
In 2021-2022, Mary MacKillop Today recorded total revenue of \$5.951M, with \$6.332M invested in funding and support for domestic, international and community development programs aimed at transforming the lives of people living on the margins.

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

was slightly higher, totalling \$4.074M (2021: \$4.039M). We were also honoured to receive several bequests.

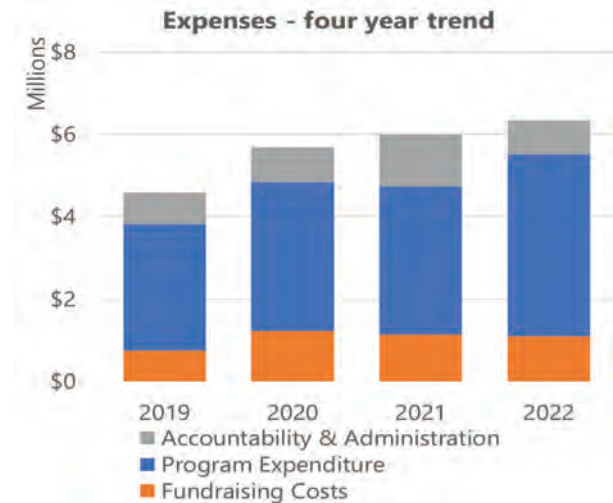


Where the money comes from

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,



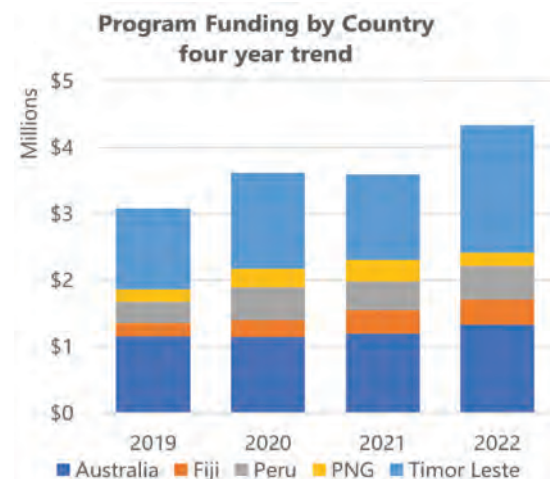
Where the money goes

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 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.



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

MARY MACKILLOP
today



Scan the QR code to access our 2021-22 Annual Report or visit marymackilloptoday.org.au/our-reports

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