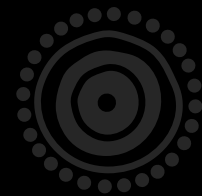
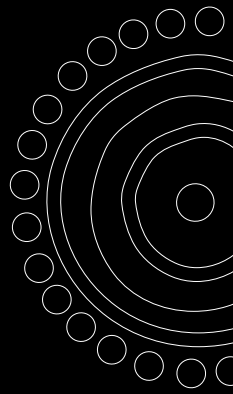




MDAS

MALLEE DISTRICT ABORIGINAL SERVICES

ANNUAL REPORT 2012-2013



**We wish to acknowledge the land and river systems
of the Mallee District and pay our respects to the
traditional custodians.**

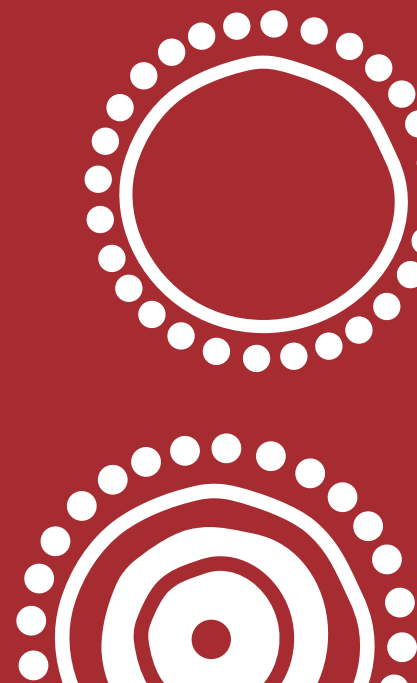
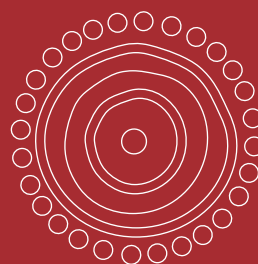
**We are the proud and strong descendants
of the oldest living culture in the world.**



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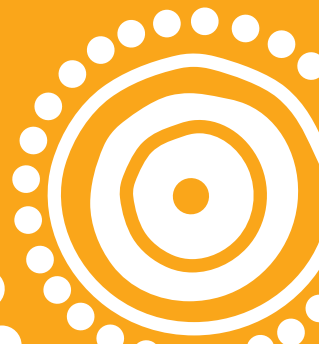
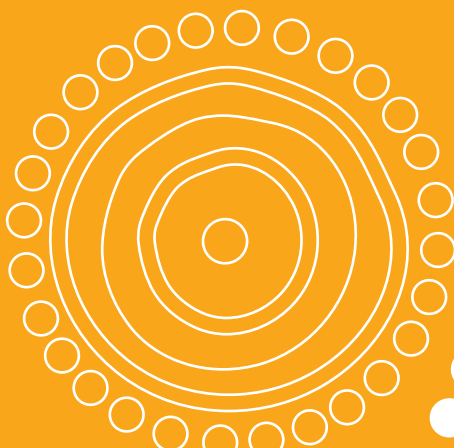
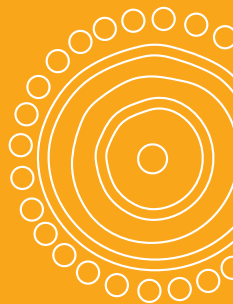
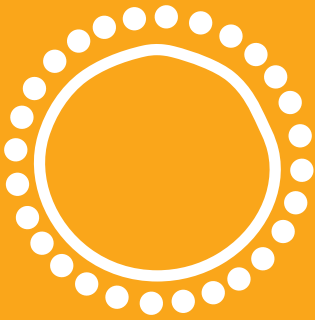
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WARNING: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are warned this document may contain images of deceased persons.



*"We want to walk with
you, we don't wish to
walk alone."*

- Pastor Sir Douglas Nicholls (1906-1988)



About Us

Mallee District Aboriginal Services (MDAS) is a proud Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisation that has a 30 year history of delivering sustainable, democratic, grassroots services and providing the local community with a vehicle for self-determination.

Our communities are serviced by MDAS offices in Mildura, Swan Hill, Balranald and Kerang.

Mallee District Aboriginal Services is a Quality-Endorsed company through QICSA.

Our Vision

Generations of vibrant, healthy and strong Aboriginal communities.

Our Values

Our values drive our culture, are central to how we make decisions and ensure services are delivered in a socially-responsible way.

Our four values are:

- Optimism
- Community
- Respect for Culture
- Compassion

Our Offices

Mildura (administration)

120 Madden Avenue, Mildura
(PO Box 5134 Mildura 3502)
Ph 50184100

Swan Hill

70 Nyah Road, Swan Hill
Ph 5032 5277

Kerang

9 Nolan Street, Kerang
Ph 5450 3019

Balranald

95 Court Street, Balranald
Ph 5020 0330

MAC Inc. trading as Mallee District Aboriginal Services
ABN 54 334 685 198

We wish to acknowledge the land and river systems of the Mallee District and pay our respects to the traditional custodians. We are the proud and strong descendants of the oldest living culture in the world.



Our Board of Directors

Keith Hampton
President



Jan Etrich
Vice- President



Jemmes Handy
Board Member



Pam Mc Cormack
Treasurer



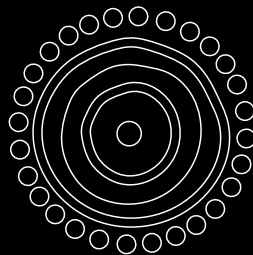
Steve Portelli
Secretary



Michael Gilby
Board Member



Rob Connelly
Board Member





President's Report

Keith Hampton



The year 2012-13 has marked a new beginning for Aboriginal people in the Mallee region.

It has been a year of change and moving forward, but most importantly, a year of milestones and progress. The end of 2012-13 marked the completion of 30 years as the Mildura Aboriginal Corporation. At the end of the financial year we became Mallee District Aboriginal Services, serving the communities of Mildura, Swan Hill, Kerang and Balranald.

That simple change was not so simple. But it was necessary and it cleared the way for important progress for our organisation, our people and the Mallee community. Change brings its own challenges, at times, and some of the decisions we have had to make as a board in the past year have been difficult. However as an organisation and as a community, the vast majority of the experiences in the past year have been enormously positive and exciting. We have worked hard to make the decisions and create a framework that will take our organisation into the future.

One key milestone is the publication of this report. This is the first Annual Report in the history of Mildura Aboriginal Corporation and Mallee District Aboriginal Services. But it is only one of a large number of progressive steps we have taken this year. We have developed our first Strategic Plan and a Code of Ethics that will guide all of our work and decision-making. We have a new website, a new newsletter and we have a new way of doing things. We have two new boardmembers – Michael Gilby and Rob Connelly – with Rob representing the Swan Hill community for the first time at board level.

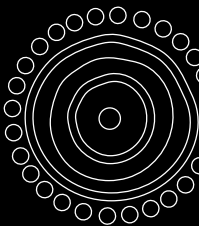
These are the symbols of our new start, and a fresh approach that our organisation is taking. There has been a lot of work to get us this far – from our CEO Rudolph Kirby, our Board, our General Managers and the people we have employed and contracted to help us. But the wider support that has driven us on has been from our communities in

Mildura, Swan Hill, Kerang and Balranald, who want to see their own organisation do things better.

This was evident in NAIDOC Week – a fantastic week for Koori people in our region. The celebrations in Mildura and Swan Hill were the best ever this year. They received unprecedented support and involvement from the community and will be the benchmark for our future celebrations.

The core business of MDAS is Aboriginal Health, wellbeing, culture and economic prosperity. Innovative programs such as our Warrakoo Rehabilitation Hostel are playing an important part in the Aboriginal community taking responsibility for our people. But in future they will also play a growing role in developing the economic independence of MDAS.

As chairman of Mallee District Aboriginal Services, this has been an important and proud year for me. I look forward to working with a range of organisations to continue the progress and to Close the Gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Mallee.



Above:
Warrakoo Rehabilitation Hostel. The programs combine rehabilitation and personal development with development of clients' practical skills





Setting our sights on the future...

MDAS is a proud ACCO (Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation) that has a 30 year history of delivering sustainable, democratic, grassroots services and providing the local community with a vehicle for self-determination. We believe the imposition of structures without community control as a central tenet will fail. As Aboriginal Australians we are best placed to decide and implement the programs and services that work for our communities. With MDAS and the community working together, we know we can positively enrich the lives of all Aboriginal people living and working along the many river systems across the Mallee District.

**Aboriginal health, wellbeing, culture and economic prosperity are everyone's responsibility...
But it is MDAS's core business.**







Chief Executive Officer's Report

Rudolph Kirby



The year 2012-13 marked a turning point for service delivery to Aboriginal people in North West Victoria and Southern New South Wales.

With the end of the financial year, the Mildura Aboriginal Corporation evolved to become a peak Koori organisation, known as Mallee District Aboriginal Services. It was a simple change that perhaps does not adequately reflect the amount of work, effort and commitment required to reach that point.

The name change signified the broad scope that MDAS now takes and is more reflective of the communities we now service and represent. MDAS now delivers services to a potential client base of 5000 people in Mildura, Swan Hill, Balranald and Kerang.

However a simple name-change does not reflect the depth of the transformation that was required for our Aboriginal community-controlled organisation to continue to succeed into the future.

For Koori organisations to progress and support their communities into the future the change required needs to be at a much deeper level. Aboriginal Community-Controlled Organisations need to be more structured, more visionary and more organised in the way we do business. MDAS has made major inroads to this goal in the past year in adopting a business model that is more efficient and more responsive to our communities.

We have established a new identity and a new corporate structure that is in line with the expectations of modern, accountable Aboriginal community-controlled organisations. Our core business is Aboriginal health, wellbeing, culture and economic prosperity. To be effective in our core business we must have structures and mechanisms that demonstrate effective governance and management and adequately respond to the expectations of funding bodies.

Our corporate structure has been re-organised. There are three new General Managers in place to manage the business of Corporate Services, People and Culture and Health, Family and Community services.

We have a new four year Strategic Plan that will guide MDAS as we continue to grow and expand our services and formal plans for what we want to achieve in each of our performance areas. We have a new Code of Ethics, and with it, a set of expected values and behaviours. Our new recruitment processes ensure transparency and appointments based on merit. We have induction procedures, training and governance processes that focus on integrity, respect and accountability. We have implemented a Koori Employment Strategy and a Learning and Development Strategy.

We have put in place a new Continuous Quality Improvement Unit within MDAS that will further strengthen our capacity to continue meeting the growing demands of Quality Assurance Standards, Systems and accreditations. That will support us to meet strategic objectives and continue to implement risk management systems and position MDAS to be recognised as a Centre of

New Identity

Excellence in continuous quality improvement. The adoption of data monitoring quality management tools such as Communicare and Enviso will ensure MDAS delivers on Service Delivery Agreements and service standards

to our communities. As part of this process, MDAS uses QICSA for accreditation across the organisation, as well as AGPAL for the accreditation of our health services.

A key step to operating within this new structure is putting in place improved methods of communication.

MDAS has committed itself to consulting, informing and communicating to a much greater degree. This year we upgraded our website, launched our own newsletter and we are working hard to raise our profile in the mainstream media.

This is paying dividends in not only improving the awareness of MDAS and its role, but also in building pride and understanding between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people in our communities. We have developed closer working partnerships with State and Federal Government Departments to achieve our goals in Closing the Gap on social indicators for Koori people across the Mallee. We have developed new Memorandum of Understandings and partnerships with key organisations to support our goals, including Mallee Family Care, Sunraysia Community Health Service, Mildura Base Hospital and Lower Murray Medicare Local.

We have developed a new master plan this year for future development and there have been capital works and development milestones at each of our sites during the year. Balranald's Aboriginal community health centre was renamed in December as the Bes Murray Centre – a fitting honour for one of our region's most respected Elders. A half million-dollar upgrade was completed at the Swan Hill Aboriginal Health and Family Services and construction began on the \$4million Mildura Aboriginal Community Health Centre. We also began planning for a refurbishment and an expansion of services at Kerang that will be carried out in 2013-14.

As only the second CEO in the 30-year history of this organisation, the past 12 months of work has been about establishing the foundations of MDAS and putting a 'line in the sand' about how we will do business in future. It has been difficult and stressful at times, with challenging decisions to be made.

I am grateful for the support, passion and dedication of the MDAS (MAC Inc.) board and staff. Change is difficult for us all, but we must be a progressive and evolving organisation to continue meeting the needs of our community and finding the balance between two competing worlds.

We should not underestimate what we have achieved, but we should not be under any illusion.

It is only a beginning of where we must go to Close the Gap for our people and meet our vision for Generations of Vibrant, Healthy and Strong Aboriginal Communities.

MDAS is a quality-endorsed company with accreditation obtained from OATSIH (risk assessment), Quality Improvement Council Standards and Accreditation (QICSA), Community Care Common Standards (CCCS), and Department of Human Services (DHS) accreditation against the disability standards. MDAS's Health Services Sector has also been accredited against AGPAL standards, which is essential to receive Medicare rebates. The quality unit is working across the organisation to streamline systems, with the aim to enhance service delivery standards and improve health outcomes for the community.



"The year 2012-13 marked a turning point for service delivery to Aboriginal people in North West Victoria and Southern New South Wales."

- CEO, Rudolph Kirby



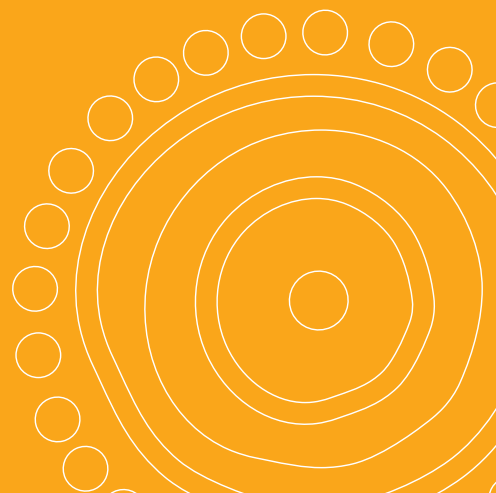
Aunty Esther Kirby receiving her Community Service Award from Kevin Kropinyeri at the Swan Hill NAIDOC celebrations.



Innovating for Positive Change

Mallee District Aboriginal Services is taking a new approach to delivering results for our communities. To bring about meaningful change and real progress in Closing the Gap for our people, we need innovative programs that tackle our problems at the source. Community and culture will always be at the centre of all that we do, but finding creative solutions to our challenges involves collaboration and co-operation. Emerging leaders in our organisation are showing the way.

The following pages outline three of the more innovative programs MDAS is implementing to bring about meaningful, positive change.



Community Safety Project

Ada Peterson,
Senior Project Manager



In October 2012, every open file managed through the MDAS family services area had a history of and/or was currently dealing with issues around violence/family violence.

Family violence continues to be a major problem in the Mallee region, with rates 40% above the State average and with incident reports still growing significantly over the past decade.

It was in reference to these alarming statistics that MDAS received \$600,000 from the Victorian Government for a Community Safety Project in 2012.

We know that the most effective programs to tackle complex issues require multiple strategies – and this grant is not centred on a single program or “silver bullet” approach.

It is a broad-based, multi-faceted community campaign with an underlying goal – to reinforce at every level that domestic violence is not OK, and it’s not our way.

The broad-based aspect of the program has involved the filming of television advertisements in Mildura, Swan Hill, Robinvale and Mildura focussing on family violence. These advertisements will go to air across our region on commercial television, as well as nationally, on NITV. They used local ideas, local actors and local locations to ensure the message resonates most strongly with local people.

Our project is also rolling out initiatives on a second level – with the aim of building resilience in women and children, and bringing about behavioural change in men. These include Sisters Day Out (building resilience and awareness among girls and women), Early Years Cultural Safety (for new parents and

expectant women), the Dilly Bag program (pamper and wellbeing sessions for women and teenage girls) and the behavioural change program (men and boys).

A key to eliminating family violence from our community lies in re-connecting with our culture.

That cultural connection is a really important aspect of living healthier lives, and helping people make good decisions. Many of the initiatives in this program are focussed on reconnecting men, women and children with their culture.

In addition, capacity-building sessions are being rolled out for all 150 staff at MDAS so as an organisation we can better support men, women and young people to develop non-violent ways to resolve their disputes.

Our organisation is determined to make things different for the next generation to come.

I live by the motto: ‘Don’t be pushed by your problems, be led by your dreams’.

If people have their social, emotional and wellbeing needs met, they feel so much stronger in moving forward and making the changes and decisions they need to make in their life.



Filming of the Anti Violence Commercial in Swan Hill.

Michelle's story:

'I was 16 weeks pregnant when I became homeless. I was staying with my boyfriend's family but they were not happy about the pregnancy. In the end, things got so bad they told me to leave. Around the same time my cousin, who worked at MAC (Mallee District Aboriginal Services) referred me to Bumps to Babes and Beyond.

For about two months, I slept on a friend's couch. It was a tough time for me, being pregnant and homeless, and this was not the kind of life I had planned for my baby. As a kid, I spent lots of time in foster care, and I wanted my baby to have a safe and secure home, which was not something I can ever remember having myself. Because I do not have much family support, my mum has her own issues and my dad lives 700 km away, I really relied on the support that I got from BBB.

The BBB co-ordinator not only helped me to find housing, but she also helped me keep my head straight. There were times when I thought I was going to lose it. Looking for housing was really stressful but having someone there who could help me figure things out and also to understand what effect getting upset might have on the baby was so great.

When I was 35 weeks pregnant I managed to find a unit for rent through the private rental market. It's not that flash, but it means I can start to get a rental track record, and hopefully I can move to something better in a year or so. It was great to be able to get set up for the baby, which I could not do when I was staying at my friend's house.

When my baby Richard was born, I relied on BBB a lot. It was so hard in the first few weeks until I got the hang of things. Richard is now 10 weeks old and things are going well. I'm breastfeeding, which I am really proud of. I'm living in my own house and I have lots of plans for the future. I still need support though, but not so much, so I just check in with Bumps to Babes and Beyond when I need to and go to the group sessions.

I would recommend BBB to anyone who needs a bit of support. I'm so glad my cousin recommended it. I could not have done without it!' (names changed by request)



Early Years Program

Danielle Dougherty
Acting Early Years Manager



Mallee District Aboriginal Services' Early Years Service has been developed to provide a complete and continuous support system for young families.

The mortality rate for Aboriginal children has been halved in the past 20 years to 10 deaths per 1000 – however the rate is still double that of non-indigenous children.

The innovative Early Years Service aims to strengthen Koori families and their parenting skills and comprises an interlocking set of programs to support parents on their child's journey from conception to school.

More than 150 pre-schoolers and their parents, along with family workers from Mildura, Dareton and Robinvale, were at the MAC Hall for the service's official launch in May.

We've found in the past often the parents most in need of support are the ones who somehow slip through the cracks – this service aims to overcome that.

It's not about people moving on from one service to another as their child grows – it's a continuous model that tries to ensure the appropriate support at the right time.



The Early Years' Service brings together existing programs under the one umbrella, creating a wrap-around service that ensures people don't slip out of the support network.

It encompasses the Bumps to Babes and Beyond program, Koori Maternal Service and Maternal Child Health Service along with programs providing In-Home Support, Supported Playgroups, Home-based Learning and the Koori Pre-school Program. Our Supported Playgroups, under the operation of Marg Sharman, have achieved outstanding results. There has been a huge increase in attendance rates, with a record number of about 100 families now involved.

Another aspect of Early Years, the Bumps to Babes and Beyond Program has also achieved some terrific outcomes.

Bumps to Babes and Beyond is an intensive and holistic parenting program developed specifically for Koori women, or women expecting Koori babies, in Mildura.

The project evolved out of concerns by maternity services workers with Mallee District Aboriginal Services regarding the lack of parenting programs that were culturally appropriate and effective in engaging Koori women.

Data collected before the program began showed Aboriginal women in the Mallee received less than a third of the recommended antenatal care contact, 76% of Aboriginal women were still smoking in the third trimester and only 15% of Aboriginal babies were being breastfed at three months of age. The program was offered to a select group of high-risk mums this year and focussed on supporting women to connect with their babies prior to birth, which research shows decreases the risk of involvement in the child protection system.

The results speak for themselves:

- No child protection removals
- Anecdotal evidence of less violent behaviour
- 60 % of women having regular antenatal care (30% some care)
- 80% carried babies to full term
- 80% breastfeeding on discharge, 50% after six months
- 100 % up to date with their Maternal and Child Health Key Ages and Stages visits
- 100 % of babies fully immunised according to the schedule





“What’s Killin’ Our Mob?”

Karla Akins,
Regional Healthy For Life Program Manager

“What’s Killin’ Our Mob?” is an innovative Quit Smoking and health program aimed at Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people devised and developed by Mallee District Aboriginal Services.

Smoking is identified as the major contributory health issue for the local Aboriginal community – the major single cause of cancer-related death and linked to other major health problems, such as heart disease, bronchitis, emphysema, stroke, miscarriage, low birth weight, premature birth, cataracts, diabetes and asthma.

An estimated 45 % of Aboriginal people are daily smokers – more than twice the rate of the general community – and smoking rates are not reducing in line with mainstream community results.

As an organisation, MDAS has a vision for “generations of vibrant, healthy and strong Aboriginal communities”. To achieve this goal, the high smoking rates must be a priority.

The objectives of “What’s Killin’ Our Mob?” were to reduce smoking rates and introduce healthy diet and exercise habits among local Aboriginal people. The initiative was rolled out to the Healthy for Life “Along the Murray Consortium”, comprising MDAS, Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation and the Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-operative.

It was clear that traditional Quit Smoking campaigns and messages were failing to resonate and our research found that many Koori smokers found the advertisements and health warnings irrelevant to their own experience and lives.

We needed to find a way of delivering the messages that was relevant and motivating to a Koori audience.

MDAS agreed on a targeted advertising campaign to achieve these aims.

Melbourne company NBS Productions was engaged to produce the ads, and drew its material and scripts from workshops with community members.

The four ads focussed on:

1. Nice One Mum - Smoking for Two from the point of view of a child in the womb
2. Would you Eat Them? - Based on the concept of eating cigarettes or feeding to children
3. Not part of our Culture – “White fellas brought cigarettes to our communities years ago...they’ve been killing us ever since. Today no-one’s destroying us...we’re doing that for ourselves. Smoking is not our culture”.
4. What are your dreams? – From the point of view of a prominent local Aboriginal person affected by loss of family and friends from smoking

Community members were used as actors and two local Aboriginal youths were attached to the film crew.

The project attracted strong newspaper, radio and television coverage and about 100 people attended the launch at the Mildura Cinema on September 12.

The advertisements were then screened over a three-month period on local radio, regional television and NITV for six months. Dedicated phone lines were established within our health teams to provide appropriate and targeted responses to callers and to allow monitoring of the reaction to the commercials.

Because of the importance of lifestyle change, supplementary activities were rolled out in conjunction with the campaign advertising.

These included a 12 week New Year Healthy challenge and Boot Camp focussed on physical activity and lifestyle change (eating habits etc) with 88 people signing up.

Initiatives such as these will be important in ensuring we continue to progress in Closing the Gap for our community.



What’s Killin’ Our Mob? Facebook Page.



"Don't tell me your problems mate... I have plenty of those! Tell me your solutions and let's start the conversation."

- Smiley William Johnston





Our Services

Nahtanha Davey,
General Manager Health, Family and Community

Throughout this year MDAS has improved the way we do business and the way we deliver services through innovative approaches and better integration of our Health, Family and Community Services.

Our aim is to improve frontline service delivery at all our sites – Mildura, Swan Hill, Kerang and Balranald – to improve the experience of families, individuals and community across the Mallee Districts.

Underpinning these changes has been the knowledge that our strength is our culture.

Through connection to culture we can empower Aboriginal families, children and young people to respect their rights and responsibilities, notice their strengths and work toward sustaining them. These strengths will protect our children and empower Aboriginal families to get on with their lives.

This year we set our sights on building a sustainable Health, Families and Community Service system by focussing on our strengths and implementing change and improvement where it is required.

We aim to ensure that children and young people most at risk of abuse and neglect get the help they need, when they need it and in the community where they live.

Part of this has been the introduction of KPI reporting and creating a stronger, more flexible and responsible service system. MDAS now has more emphasis on prevention and improved early assistance strategies.

This year has marked a significant milestone in how we support those most in need. A developing approach to residential care in Australia has been adopted by MDAS -- that is a Therapeutic approach to Residential Care.

This is a relatively new out-of-home care option for children and young people with multiple and complex needs. It is not aimed at simply containing the most difficult cases – as has been the experience in traditional residential care – but rather, actively facilitating healing and recovery from the effects of abuse, neglect and separation from family.

Another part of our service that has evolved in this current year is our Aboriginal Stronger Families Service. This service began in the Swan Hill, Mildura, Buloke and Gannawarra Shires on April 1, 2013. It involves an integrated placement prevention and family reunification service providing intensive culturally-

appropriate case work support to vulnerable families as well as specialist therapeutic support for youth and early parenthood. The service works with Aboriginal families to address underlying issues and build the capacity of parents and families to safely care for their children.

There has also been significant development during the year in upgrading our health services, both in infrastructure and service delivery.

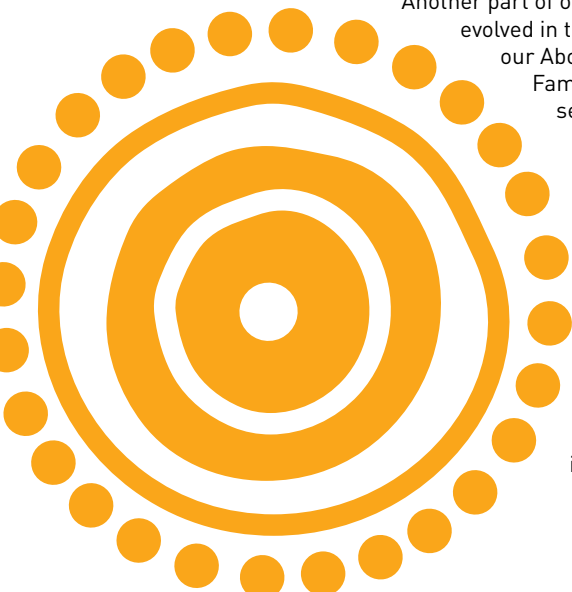
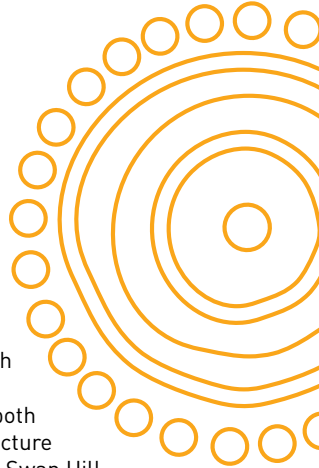
MDAS has two Comprehensive Primary Health Care Services operating across the Mallee – one in Mildura and another in Swan Hill and both have been the subject of substantial infrastructure upgrades during the year. Upgrading work at Swan Hill and Kerang will be the focus this year.

In terms of service delivery, we have appointed at Swan Hill and Mildura two Managers of Primary Health Care both of which have a significant amount of expertise in the area of “Comprehensive Primary Health Care”. We are continuing to work to find better ways to deliver more and better outreach services to Kerang and Balranald.

MDAS has this year established Best Practice in primary care for Aboriginal peoples and has worked towards implementing a model of collaborative service delivery that sustain continuity of care and that is suited to our Mallee Community. We have recognised the need to be creative in engaging our communities with services that will make significant inroads to Closing the Gap on health and well-being for Aboriginal people in the Mallee District.

Our teams have created innovative programs such as the Bumps to Babes and Beyond, an Early Years program focussing on the 0-5 years age-group, a Community Safety Project, men’s programs and a proactive Healthy for Life program. This has been a year of enormous change and development, which can be challenging at times.

However I am confident the outcome of all this work and change is already evident in better, more responsive and more appropriate services to our communities. And, more importantly, better outcomes for our individuals and families across the Mallee District.



Our workforce and culture

Michelle Victora
General Manager, People and Culture



Mallee District Aboriginal Services has reached a key milestone in developing its Koori workforce, with more than half the organisation's employees now coming from an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background.

A total of 52 percent of MDAS staff are now of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background – a really positive statistic, given a large part of our health workforce requires specialist

clinical skills. Those statistics are promising, but with younger people coming through the organisation, we are confident the improvement can continue.

About a quarter of our entire workforce is aged between 16 and 24 years, and 80 percent of the staff in that age group is Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. It bodes well for the future, and we have now set ourselves a goal for the MDAS workforce to be 60 percent Aboriginal within three years.

MDAS has adopted a three-year Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment Strategy, to guide plans to continue increasing the numbers of Aboriginal people we employ. Our staff recruitment policies and practices illustrate our commitment to attracting candidates from diverse backgrounds. Our first priority is always to recruit the right people to the right jobs, but we also have a responsibility to break down barriers for Aboriginal people trying to enter the workforce.

As an organisation, our policy commits us to increasing the participation of Aboriginal people at all levels in MDAS. That means working harder at things like pathways between high school, TAFE and university, and ramping up our student placement program by identifying work that guarantees a quality and constructive experience.

MDAS also seeks to enhance employees' marketability across broader employment sectors through structured learning pathways and by offering educational support.

It is important to our future success to work proactively to embed Aboriginal culture and values into MDAS's services and systems, with initiatives such as ensuring Aboriginal staff are on every selection panel.

All staff members are expected to participate in cultural awareness training and all new staff now undergo a formal induction to our organisation. The MDAS human resource policies reflect our support for staff members to fulfil family and community commitments.

Tangible, achievable steps will help us build a strong Aboriginal workforce that translates into skilled, trained and capable Aboriginal people in jobs right across our community.

As an organisation, MDAS is working hard to re-establish Aboriginal culture as part of everything that we do. Our logo and branding, the design and style of our buildings and the protocols and practices we observe reflect Aboriginal culture and our pride as an Aboriginal community-controlled organisation.



Below:

The MDAS People and Culture team - Carla Germane, Debbie Fankhauser, Melissa Badenoch and Ethan Fox





"Don't be pushed by your problems, be led by your dreams'."

- Ada Peterson

Our Organisation

David Lim,
General Manager of Corporate Services



Although our work is unseen to most people, Corporate Services is the backbone that ensures efficient and streamlined delivery of all the MDAS programs the community does see.

The focus of Corporate Services is to provide the framework the organisation needs in order to manage the efficient delivery of programs. This encompasses all statutory reporting, payroll, Procurement, IT, Fleet, Housing and Fixed Assets. MDAS has put in place a new corporate services management team to oversee the accounting, finance and administration functions of the organisation.

Since I joined the organisation in August last year, it has been a year of change.

We have installed a new integrated accounting system that now "talks" to the payroll and fixed assets systems. This has made it easier to produce relevant reports on budget expenditures for managers and to cut down processing time for month-end reporting to managers and the CEO.

Our fleet has undergone a close examination of all operating parameters to ensure the most efficient use of our motor vehicles. We continue to monitor and adjust when necessary.

Our Housing stock is being looked at in a more strategic fashion in terms of maintenance. We continue to plan for more acquisitions to fulfil the ever-increasing needs of our community for safe, affordable housing.

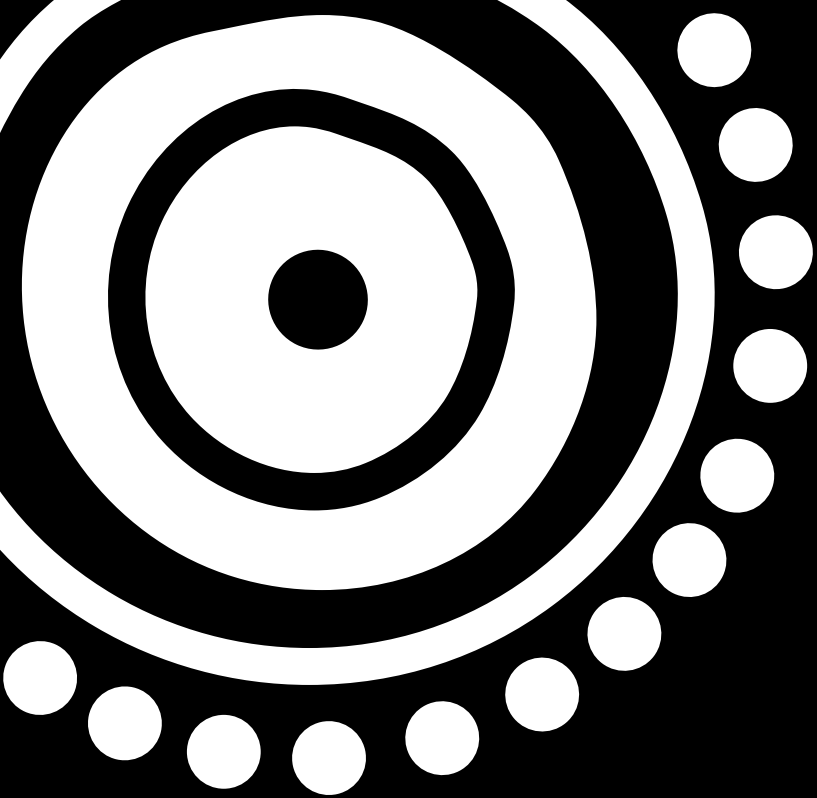
Our IT department also underwent an external review this year to ensure that the organisation was operating the best system in terms of hardware and connectivity and also that we had staff who were well placed to meet the ever increasing need of the organisation as it moves forward. The results were excellent on both fronts of equipment and staff.

In the longer term, we are continuing to plan for more efficiency. This year we will streamline month-end reporting to a more automated reporting system that meets the needs of managers and staff and also the streamlining of reporting to funding bodies. An exciting and promising project in the year ahead will involve the development of a social enterprise to showcase the skills of our employees and community members.

As we move forward, a key focus is developing new investments and enterprises that will ensure the long-term viability of MDAS and decrease our reliance on government funding.

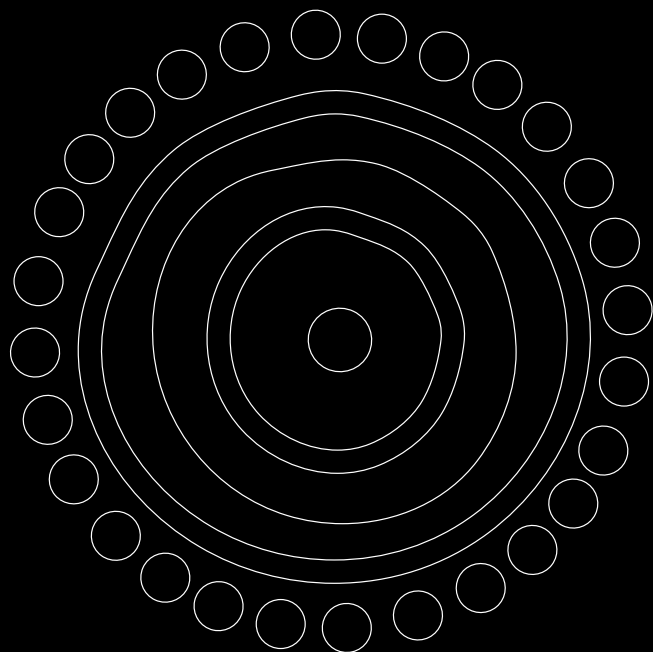
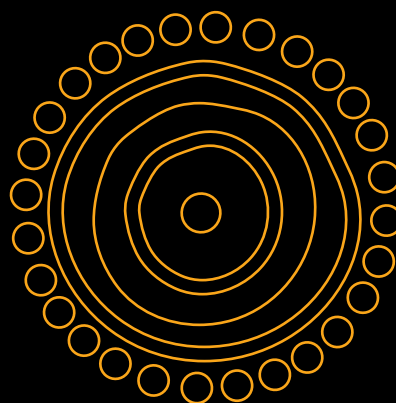
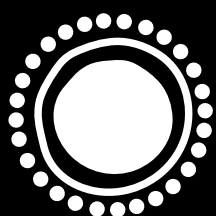


Photo Caption:



Mildura Aboriginal Corporation

Financials







Mildura Aboriginal Corporation

Financial Report for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

Directors' Report

Your directors present their report, together with the financial statements of Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2013.

Directors

The names of the directors throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

- Jan Etrich
- Ada Peterson (resigned 14 March 2013)
- Jemmes Handy
- Steve Portelli
- Keith Hampton
- Summer Hunt (resigned 14 March 2013)
- Pam McCormack
- Nathan Yates (resigned 14 March 2013)
- Rob Connoly (appointed 14 March 2013)
- Michael Gilby (appointed 14 March 2013)

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were the provision of community assistance, health services and affordable housing accommodation to members within regional Victoria and New South Wales, including Mildura, Swan Hill, Kerang and Balranald areas.

Significant Changes

On 17 May 2013 Mildura Aboriginal Corporation registered the trading name, Mallee District Aboriginal Services. There were no other significant changes in the nature of the principal activities during the year.

Operating Results

The net current year surplus for the 2013 financial year amounted to \$3,437,023.


Review of Operations

A review of the operations of the association during the financial year and the results of those operations show an increase in net assets of \$3,437,023 to \$24,045,230 up from \$20,608,207 in 2012. This increase in net assets has largely resulted from capital funding received during the year which is reflected in the statement of financial position.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

KEITH HAMPTON 

Keith Hampton

STEVE PORTELLI 

Steve Portelli



Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$
Revenue	2	17,354,025	14,350,642
Other income	2	3,900,571	4,176,982
Employee benefits expense		(8,619,647)	(8,005,375)
Program administration expenses		(2,223,752)	(2,312,520)
Depreciation expense		(929,424)	(841,609)
Client / program delivery		(2,891,393)	(2,485,969)
Motor vehicle expenses		(612,773)	(556,178)
Travel expenses		(406,302)	(480,291)
Disbursements		(19,247)	(4,500)
Occupancy costs / utilities		(737,693)	(739,351)
Repairs & equipment replacement		(517,090)	(694,233)
Other expenses		(860,252)	(556,672)
Net current year surplus	3	3,437,023	1,850,926
Other comprehensive income:			
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		3,437,023	1,850,926
Total comprehensive income attributable to the entity		3,437,023	1,850,926

Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2013

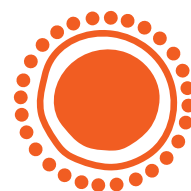
	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	8,800,244	7,065,616
Trade and other receivables	5	214,370	17,479
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>9,014,614</u>	<u>7,083,095</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Trade and other receivables	5	250,898	249,141
Property, plant and equipment	6	17,583,301	14,666,426
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>17,834,199</u>	<u>14,915,567</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>26,848,813</u>	<u>21,998,662</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	7	2,125,890	298,596
Short-term provisions	8	469,221	797,922
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>2,595,111</u>	<u>1,096,518</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Long-term provisions	8	93,472	178,937
Other liabilities	9	115,000	115,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>208,472</u>	<u>293,937</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>2,803,583</u>	<u>1,390,455</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>24,045,230</u>	<u>20,608,207</u>
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		<u>24,045,230</u>	<u>20,608,207</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>24,045,230</u>	<u>20,608,207</u>

Statement of Changes in equity for year ended 30 June 2013

	Retained surplus	Total
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2011	18,757,281	18,757,281
Net surplus for the year	1,850,926	1,850,926
Balance at 30 June 2012	<u>20,608,207</u>	<u>20,608,207</u>
Balance at 1 July 2012	20,608,207	20,608,207
Net surplus for the year	3,437,023	3,437,023
Balance at 30 June 2013	<u>24,045,230</u>	<u>24,045,230</u>

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

	Note	2013	2012
		\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Grant receipts		16,864,404	14,350,642
Other receipts		3,751,972	3,984,779
Payments to suppliers and employees		(16,881,048)	(15,534,470)
Interest received		202,341	238,916
Net cash provided by operating activities	14	<u>3,937,669</u>	<u>3,039,867</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		497,182	396,191
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(2,700,223)	(3,291,866)
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(2,203,041)</u>	<u>(2,895,675)</u>
Net increase in cash held		1,734,628	144,192
Cash at beginning of financial year		7,065,616	6,921,424
Cash at end of financial year	4	<u>8,800,244</u>	<u>7,065,616</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. The directors have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial statements, except for cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical cost, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

a. **Income Tax**

The association is exempt from income tax by virtue of Division 50, Section 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act (1997). Therefore no provision for income tax expense is made.

b. **Property, Plant and Equipment**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Property

Freehold land and buildings are shown at their fair value (being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction), based on periodic, but at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are credited to a revaluation reserve in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are charged against fair value reserves directly in equity; all other decreases are charged to profit or loss.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the asset's employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

The association capitalises plant and equipment where the value of individual items exceed \$5,000.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Buildings	2.5 – 5%
Plant and equipment	15 – 25%
Furniture and Fittings	15 – 25%
Office Equipment	15 – 40%
Motor Vehicles	15%



Statement of Changes in equity for year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

b. **Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)**

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in profit or loss. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation reserve relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

c. **Financial Instruments**

Recognition

Financial instruments are initially measured at cost on trade date, which includes transaction costs, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below.

Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss

A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short-term or if so designated by management. Derivatives are also categorised as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges. Realised and unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of these assets are included in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories. Available-for-sale financial assets are reflected at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken directly to equity.

Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Impairment

At each reporting date, the association assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to determine whether an impairment has arisen. Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss.

d. **Impairment of Assets**

At each reporting date, the association reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of financial position.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

e. **Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities in the statement of financial position.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

f. **Employee Benefits**

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. These cash flows are discounted using market value yields on national government bonds, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows.

g. **Revenue and Other Income**

Grant revenue is recognised in profit or loss when the association obtains reasonable control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the association and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably. If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of grant revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc receives non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for zero or a nominal value. These assets are recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognised in profit or loss.

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received.

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which, for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

h. **Leases**

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

i. **Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the cash flow statement on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

j. **Comparative Figures**

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year where required by Accounting Standards or as a result of changes in accounting policy.

k. **Economic Dependence**

Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc is dependent upon government funding from several departments for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. At the date of this report the Directors have no reason to believe these government departments will not continue to support Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc.



Statement of Changes in equity for year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

l. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The directors evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the corporation.

Key Estimates — Impairment

The association assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the association that may lead to impairment of assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Value-in-use calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates.

m. New Accounting Standards for Application in Future Periods

All new and revised Standards and Interpretations have been adopted in the current period. Their adoption has not had any significant impact on the amounts reported in these financial statements and is not expected to affect the accounting for future transactions or arrangements.

The AASB has issued new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods and which the association has decided not to early adopt. The association does not expect that these changes will have a material effect on its financial statements.

n. Change in Accounting Policy

Recognition of Revenue

The association changed its accounting policy during the financial year ending 30 June 2013 relating to the recognition of revenues from grants. Grant revenues were previously recognised by the association on initial receipt in the year received. The association has now elected to recognise grants received for operating expenses on an accruals basis. Under this approach grant income is recognised when monies are received and obligations have been met in relation to the grant or program. Funds received in advance of obligations being met will be deferred and taken to income as the related expenses are incurred and obligations met. Specific purpose grants received to purchase property, plant and equipment will continue to be recognised when received. This change has been implemented as the directors are of the opinion that the "deferred until earned" approach will provide more relevant information and is consistent with industry practice for Not-For-Profits with respect to recognition of revenue.

The new policy was adopted at 30 June 2013 and has not been applied retrospectively and as such there have been no adjustments made to the amounts reported in the 2012 period. The aggregate effect of the change in accounting policy on the annual financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2013 is as follows:

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

Grants for operating expenses received in advance of obligations being met have been deferred to the statement of financial position in accordance with the accounting policy. This has resulted in a decrease in government funding revenue of \$1,408,868 (2012 \$3,106,542) for the year ended 30 June 2013.

Net current year surplus has decreased by \$1,408,868 (2012 \$3,106,542) for the year ended 30 June 2013.

Statement of Financial Position

Trade and other payables / deferred income has increased by \$1,408,868 (2012 \$3,106,542) for the year ended 30 June 2013.



Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 2: REVENUE

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Government funding		
— ICC Grants	140,336	268,100
— Department of Health & Aging	6,141,726	5,568,965
— Department of Human Services	5,957,795	7,084,386
— Department of Family & Community Services	121,311	209,669
— Department of Justice	454,276	279,457
— Other Grants	4,538,581	940,065
	<u>17,354,025</u>	<u>14,350,642</u>
Other revenue		
— Rebates & refunds	443,004	608,338
— Program administration fees	2,470,539	2,312,520
— Reimbursements	413,831	605,396
— Rental	1,440	6,033
— Sundry revenue	378,880	217,896
— Donations received	3,800	200,397
— Interest received	202,341	238,916
— Vehicle lease	40,478	36,130
— (Loss) on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(53,742)	(48,644)
	<u>3,900,571</u>	<u>4,176,982</u>

NOTE 3: PROFIT FOR THE YEAR

a. Expenses

Advertising	153,762	29,360
Printing & stationery	99,298	115,987
Staff amenities / training / uniforms	181,306	48,340
Subscriptions	141,144	125,621
Remuneration of auditor		
— audit or review	22,550	22,400
— Other accounting services	10,090	9,564
	<u>608,150</u>	<u>351,272</u>

b. Significant Revenue and Expenses

The following significant revenue and expense items are relevant in explaining the financial performance:

— In kind revenue from property divestments	1,697,000	-
— Capital projects funding	2,372,000	-
	<u>4,069,000</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 4: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and on hand	8,800,244	7,065,616
	<u>8,800,244</u>	<u>7,065,616</u>

Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the cash flow statement is reconciled to items in the balance sheet as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	8,800,244	7,065,616
	<u>8,800,244</u>	<u>7,065,616</u>

NOTE 5: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

CURRENT

Trade receivables	210,626	-
Loans & advances	3,744	17,479
	<u>214,370</u>	<u>17,479</u>

NON-CURRENT

Loans – Warrakoo	250,898	249,141
	<u>250,898</u>	<u>249,141</u>

No impairment of accounts receivable and other debtors was required at 30 June 2013 (2012: \$Nil).

NOTE 6: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

LAND AND BUILDINGS

Land at cost	3,809,082	2,755,081
Buildings at cost	9,504,704	8,998,977
Less accumulated depreciation	(2,087,925)	(1,891,852)
	<u>7,416,779</u>	<u>7,107,125</u>
Property & leasehold improvements	2,074,428	1,774,664
Less accumulated depreciation	(441,373)	(356,998)
	<u>1,633,055</u>	<u>1,417,666</u>
Work-in-Progress	<u>1,561,211</u>	<u>219,772</u>
Total land & buildings	<u>14,420,127</u>	<u>11,499,644</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 6: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)		
	2013	2012
	\$	\$
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and equipment at cost	491,962	361,255
Less accumulated depreciation	(256,026)	(200,720)
	<u>235,936</u>	<u>160,535</u>
Motor vehicles	2,269,262	2,498,486
Less accumulated depreciation	(702,355)	(560,171)
	<u>1,566,907</u>	<u>1,938,315</u>
Office equipment	1,342,726	1,196,758
Less accumulated depreciation	(1,034,778)	(890,658)
	<u>307,948</u>	<u>306,100</u>
Furniture & fittings	281,534	253,410
Less accumulated depreciation	(139,180)	(107,180)
	<u>142,354</u>	<u>146,230</u>
Plant and Improvements – Warrakoo Station	1,545,524	1,196,265
Less accumulated depreciation	(635,495)	(580,663)
	<u>910,029</u>	<u>615,602</u>
Total plant and equipment	<u>3,163,174</u>	<u>3,166,782</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	<u>17,583,301</u>	<u>14,666,426</u>

Movements in carrying amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year

	Land & buildings	Property improvements	Plant & equipment	Work in progress	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2012	9,862,206	1,417,666	3,166,782	219,772	14,666,426
Additions	1,697,000	249,640	801,081	1,561,211	4,308,932
Transfers	-	50,000	169,772	(219,772)	-
Disposals	(131,695)	-	(330,938)	-	(462,633)
Depreciation expense	(201,650)	(84,251)	(643,523)	-	(929,424)
Carrying amount at the end of year	<u>11,225,861</u>	<u>1,633,055</u>	<u>3,163,174</u>	<u>1,561,211</u>	<u>17,583,301</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 7: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	Note	2013 \$	2012 \$
CURRENT			
Trade and other payables		80,670	51,470
Accrued expenses		577,901	144,735
Deferred income		1,408,838	-
Funds held in trust		58,481	102,391
		2,125,890	298,596
		2,125,890	298,596

The average credit period on accounts payable and other payables is 30 days. No interest is payable on outstanding payables during this period. For payables outstanding longer than 30 days, 0% per annum is payable on the outstanding balance.

a. Financial liabilities at amortised cost classified as trade and other payables

Trade and other payables:

- total current		2,125,890	298,596
- total non-current		-	-
		2,125,890	298,596

Less deferred income		1,408,868	-
Less other payables and accrued expenses		143,977	(5,205)
Financial liabilities as trade and other payables	15	573,045	303,801

NOTE 8: PROVISIONS

CURRENT

Employee benefits	469,221	797,922
	469,221	797,922

NON-CURRENT

Employee benefits	93,472	178,937
	93,472	178,937

Based on past experience, the association does not expect the full amount of annual leave to be settled within the next 12 months. However, the amount must be classified as a current liability because the association does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of the amount in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlements.

Statement of Changes in equity for year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 9: OTHER LIABILITIES

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
NON-CURRENT		
Aboriginal Affairs Victoria	80,000	80,000
Department of NSW Health	35,000	35,000
	<u>115,000</u>	<u>115,000</u>

Represents the value of mortgage held over the title on 124 Madden Avenue, held by AAV.

Represents the value of mortgage held over the title on 95 Court Street, held by Dept of NSW Health.

NOTE 10: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year ended 30 June 2013, all transactions between related parties were on commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties, unless otherwise stated.

NOTE 11: EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING DATE

No matter of circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operation of the association, the results of those operations, or state of affairs of the association in subsequent financial years.

NOTE 12: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

The Corporation had contingent liabilities at 30 June 2013 in respect of the following claims:

(a) Contingent Liabilities

- (i) In July 2012 Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc was advised of a potential claim for damages being lodged for non-performance of contract. The association has disclaimed any liability and will be defending the action if it were to proceed. Based on advice from legal counsel it is not practical to estimate the potential effect of this claim that may arise in the unlikely event that the action is successful.
- (ii) A former employee of Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc has lodged a claim for entitlements in relation to their past employment. The matter has been referred to the association's insurers who have engaged the services of legal advisors who are in the process of reviewing the matter. At this stage it is not practical to estimate any potential liability, if any as the result will be dependent on the outcome of the legal review.

(b) Contingent Assets

- (i) Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc is in the process of investigating claims that it has a beneficial interest in a local business venture. As the facts around this matter have yet to be fully reviewed, it is not practical to estimate the potential benefit owing to the association, if any.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 13: CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS

	2013	2012
	\$	\$
Capital Expenditure Commitments		
Capital expenditure commitments contracted for:		
Capital expenditure projects	675,000	-
Payable:		
-- not later than 12 months	675,000	-
-- between 12 months and 5 years	-	-
	<u>675,000</u>	<u>-</u>

Capital works project 113-115 Orange Avenue Mildura Health Centre.

NOTE 14: CASH FLOW INFORMATION

Reconciliation of cash flow from operating activities with net current year surplus

Net current year surplus	3,437,023	1,850,926
Non-cash flows in current year surplus		
— Inkind grant revenue	(1,697,000)	-
— Depreciation	929,424	841,609
— Net loss on disposal of plant and equipment	53,742	48,644
Changes in assets and liabilities		
— Decrease/(increase) in receivables	(198,648)	(1,931)
— (Decrease)/increase in payables	1,827,294	117,053
— (Decrease)/increase in provisions	(414,166)	183,566
	<u>3,937,669</u>	<u>3,039,867</u>

NOTE 15: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The association's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, short-term investments, accounts receivable and payable.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 139 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note		
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	8,800,244	7,065,616
Receivables	5	465,268	266,620
		<u>9,265,512</u>	<u>7,332,236</u>
Financial liabilities			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
— trade and other payables	7	573,045	303,801
		<u>573,045</u>	<u>303,801</u>

Statement of Changes in equity for year ended 30 June 2013

NOTE 16: SEGMENT REPORTING

The association operates predominantly in one business and geographical segment, being the provision of community assistance, including health services and housing to community members within regional Victoria and New South Wales, including Mildura, Swan Hill, Kerang and Balranald areas.

NOTE 17: ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The registered office of the association is:

Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc.
118-124 Madden Avenue
Mildura VIC 3500


Mildura Aboriginal Corporation

Annual Statements give true and fair view of Financial position and Performance of Incorporated Association

We, Keith Hampton and Steve Portelli, being members of the committee of Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc, certify that –

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2013.

Signed: KEITH HAMPTON 
Keith Hampton

Signed: STEVE PORTELLI 
Steve Portelli

Dated this 28th day of October, 2013



Mildura Aboriginal Corporation

Independent Audit Report to the Members of Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc.

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Mildura Aboriginal Corporation Inc. (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2013, and the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

The Responsibility of Committee for the Financial Report

The committee of the association are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control as the committee and management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act Victoria. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

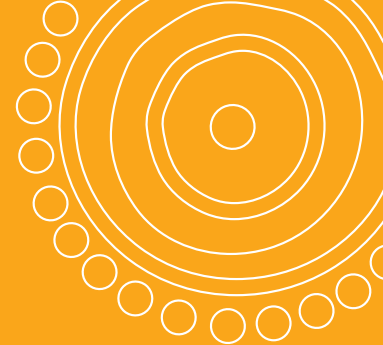
In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.



Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Mildura Aboriginal Corporation as of 30 June 2013 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations).





Our partners

MDAS is grateful for the ongoing support of our partners.

Major Funding Bodies

Victorian Department of Human Services
Victorian Department of Health
Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development
Victorian Department of Justice
Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (Federal Department of Social Services)
International Children's Care Australia Mission
Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health (Federal Department of Health)
Medicare Australia
Community Justice Panel
Federal Department of Health and Ageing

In addition, we have received financial and funding support from:

Mildura Rural City Council
Family Planning Victoria
Loddon Mallee Medicare Local
Bendigo Health Care Group
Australian Council for the Arts
Mildura Koori Courts
Mallee Family Care
Queen Elizabeth Centre

Pharmacy Guild
University of New South Wales
University of Western Australia
Victoria Police
Victorian Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Organisations
Rural Workforce Agency of Victoria
Quality Assurance for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Medical Services
Victorian Independent Living Centres

Our Partners

MDAS has formal Memorandums of Understanding with:
Sunraysia Community Health Services
Mildura Base Hospital
Mallee Family Care
Loddon Mallee A
Lower Murray Medicare Local
Maari Ma Health Aboriginal Corporation

MDAS is a member of the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations (VACCHO)



"Thank You"



John Rogers

Honor Roll

Congratulations and thank you to long-serving staff with more than 10 years' service

John Rogers (25 years)
Jan Etrich (17 years)
Rhonda McInnes (15 years)
Donna Hunt (10 years)
James Peterson (10 years)

Our Staff

(MDAS staff as of 30/06/13 listed in order of starting date)

Cecline Biles
Oliver Wise
Mary Baker
Kerrie Burton
Jacinta Chaplin
Raymond Meehan
Jody Croft
Christina Brims
Keith Hampton
Ruth Broughton
Michelle Gray
Lynette Algie
Jennifer Berry
Anne Smith
Renee Boulton
Bernadette Manson
Orion Hunt
Ada Peterson
Summer Hunt
Rarni Spencer
Melanie Wade
Terrence Kuchel
Jan V Etrich
Janice Hancock
Tarina Sailor
Terrance Brennan
Tracy Watson
Victoria Simpson
Joseph Azzarelli
Billie Brims
Maureen Fox
Charmain Anton
Warren Johnson
Nathan Kelly
Maria Greatz

Russell Taylor
Tara Bruton
Michelle Kerr
Sherryl Farrow
Mark Etrich
Karla Akins
Jennifer Sonnemans
Jo-anne Johnson
Shaina Collins
Tahnaya Giddings
Amanda Williams
Brendan Johnson
Jason Pappin
Leon Mallia
Delureen Kirby
Erin Williams
Carol Cook
Darlene Cunningham
Jodie Dichiera
Margaret Sharman
Wayne Clarke
Jade Griffiths
Gregory Pepper
Paul Roberts
Jessica Micale
Rebecca Wilson
Zanele Thebe
Samantha Brennan
Kim Taha
Marissa Gilbert
Cain Chaplin
Leory Eggmolese
Jodie Soraggi
Adam Street
Troy Fikaris

Charlene Davis
Tina DeGroot
Michelle Chapman
Raelene Stephens
Melissa Watson
Nickki Kirby
Ricky Cameron
Andrew Charles
Ernest Mitchell
Shanice Kuchel
Melanie Lane
Victoria Laurie
Valentina Fifita
Anthony Taylor
Patrica Watson
Julia Goodes
Kristy Gordon
Trent Chilly
Rupert Clarke
Ethan Chilly
Stacey Peterson
Adrian Baxter
Rudolph Kirby
Danielle Dougherty
Stacey Fa'ase'e
Jacob Fifita
Raymond Wise
David Lim
Guy Mitchell
Sarah Mitchem
Alicia Deppeler
Margot Isailovic
Ryan Bailey
Jennifer Blake
Nicole Davis

Tracy Orr
Jessica Li
Yasmin Birnie
Trudi Louchard
Dennis Laurie
Sarah Carn
Narelle Anderson
Joseph Murray
Sarah Brady
Nahtanha Davey
Debra Fankhauser
Hine Taurima
Amanda Mattarazzo
Gary Webb
Travis Morvell
Amanda Caddy
Leah Bottams
Todd Martin
Luke Milne
Emily Knights
Kelly Taliloa
Janice Cook
Margaret Nowers
Leanne McDermott
Alana Doe
Simone Philp
Michelle Victora
Mark Baumann
Tia Helsham
Robert Connelly
Melissa Badenoch
Bradley Campbell
Kellie Peterson





Who are we?

Mallee District Aboriginal Services is an organisation that has provided support, information and advice to Koori people and their families for more than 30 years. Known also as the Mildura Aboriginal Corporation, we provide more than 50 essential services from our health and family services centres in Mildura, Swan Hill, Balranald and Kerang. With about 150 staff, we provide services for a potential client population of nearly 5000 people in NSW and Victoria. Mallee District Aboriginal Services is building strong and culturally-proud communities for now and investing in our next generation. We are walking the lines between Koori culture and non-indigenous Australia and providing services and leadership to break cultural barriers that keep our races apart.

Our vision: Generations of
vibrant, healthy and strong
Aboriginal communities

Aboriginal health, wellbeing, culture and economic prosperity are everyone's responsibility...
But they are MDAS's core business.



Mallee District Aboriginal Services
(trading as MAC Inc)
120 Madden Avenue
PO Box 5134
Mildura 3502

MDAS Annual Report 2012-13
Mallee District Aboriginal Services (trading as MAC Inc)

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