

Caritas Australia

Strategic Plan 2018-2020

Who we are

Caritas Australia is the international aid and development agency of the Catholic Church in Australia and, as an integral part of the Church, lives out the mission of Jesus in all that it does. With love and compassion, Caritas works alongside the poorest and most marginalised people, accompanying them as they help themselves out of poverty and injustice and take greater control of their lives.

Our Vision

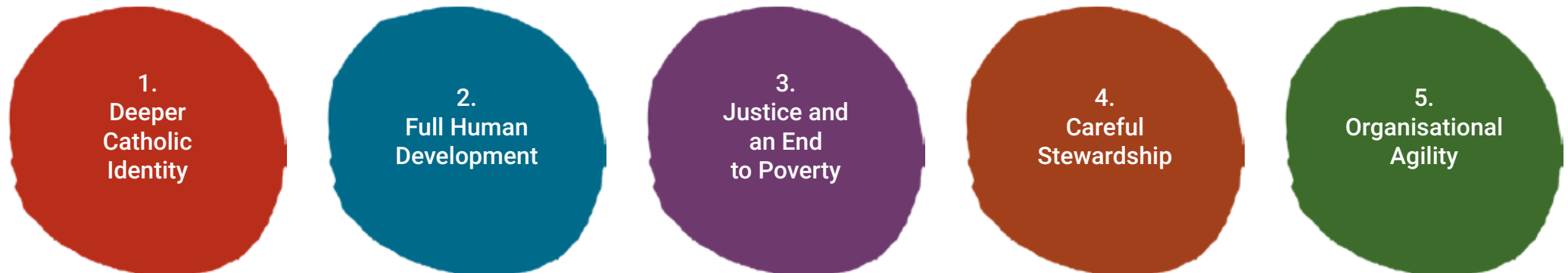
A just world, at peace and free of poverty, where all people live in dignity.

Our Mission

The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." **Luke 4:17-19**

At the heart of Caritas' mission is our quest for the full realisation of human dignity and wellbeing for all people as the key way to end poverty and injustice. Our education, humanitarian aid and development work focuses on joining with people as they become agents of their own change.

Our Goals





The Sandhurst Diocesan launch of Project Compassion 2018 is just one example of how Caritas Australia deepens Catholic identity and fosters participation in the work of justice.

Photo: Kerry Stone

GOAL 1: Deeper Catholic Identity

To actively uphold and take leadership in living out Gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching principles in our communities and workplaces, and with our partners and supporters, the Catholic community and the Australian public.

Outcomes

1.1 Everything we do places those who are marginalised first

1.2 Our staff, volunteers and supporters uphold human dignity and social justice

1.3 Our Catholic identity is seen positively in Australia and internationally

Strategies

1.1.1 Ensure humanitarian aid and development programs uphold human dignity and focus on the most marginalised

1.1.2 Place those experiencing poverty and injustice at the centre of advocacy, community engagement and education

1.1.3 Ensure operations and policies at all levels reflect the Gospel message of love and compassion and embrace Catholic Social Teaching principles

1.2.1 Develop and implement a multi-layered program of education and formation for mission, tailored to staff, volunteer and governance levels

1.2.2 Encourage and support staff and volunteers towards a deeper understanding of the Church's strengths-based approach to humanitarian aid, longer-term development and education

1.2.3 Engage supporters in opportunities to celebrate Caritas' mission and their role in it.

1.3.1 Promote Caritas as the Catholic Church's humanitarian aid and development agency, through the Catholic and wider Australian community

1.3.2 Liaise with other Catholic agencies to bring a shared message of compassion, peace and justice to Australian and international communities



Through training at the Djilpin Arts Ghunmarn Culture Centre, Evangeline has developed new skills and re-ignited her passion for the maintenance and preservation of her culture.

Photo: Danielle Lyonne

GOAL 2: Full Human Development

To achieve full human development outcomes by working alongside the most marginalised so that they are empowered, resilient and self-sufficient.

Outcomes

2.1 Wherever and whenever we are called upon, our work benefits the most marginalised people

2.2 The people we work with become stronger, more resilient, and increasingly independent

2.3 Our partnerships and community engagement empower local decision-making and action

Strategies

2.1.1 Focus international programs, First Australians programs and disaster recovery efforts on the most marginalised people and communities.

2.1.2 Underpin all programs with Integral Human Development objectives - a life lived with dignity, just and peaceful relationships, sustained economic wellbeing and resilience, and strengthened influence and independence

2.2.1 Place people experiencing poverty and marginalisation at the centre of decision making throughout all stages of their social, economic, political, cultural, personal and spiritual development

2.2.2 Assist the people with whom we work to leverage support and diversified resources through local, national and international networks

2.3.1 Develop and nurture strategic partnerships that focus on improving the lives of the most marginalised people

2.3.2 Foster the independence of partners and communities through accompaniment and support



CADECOM (Caritas Malawi) worked with Doney's community to harness their strengths, improving hygiene, literacy, agricultural yield and build sustainable livelihoods.

Photo: Andrew Garrick

GOAL 3: Justice and an End to Poverty

To advocate and act for a world free of poverty and injustice by effectively amplifying the voices and stories of the people and communities we serve.

Outcomes

3.1 The voices and stories of the people we serve influence local practical and political decisions about their lives

3.2 Our supporters and allies across Catholic and non-Catholic networks become stronger advocates for justice

3.3. Our combined advocacy voices change attitudes in the wider Australian public

Strategies

3.1.1 Prioritise advocacy effort on making a difference for people in greatest need.

3.1.2 Promote an alternative story of compassion, hope and inclusiveness to counter the growing pattern of insular thinking in national politics and fear for the future in the wider community

3.2.1 Build and nurture relationships with supporters connected with the Catholic Church, focusing on national, Diocesan, donor and volunteer networks

3.2.2 Strengthen contact and engagement with young adults, both within and outside of the Church

3.2.3 Promote cross-sectoral advocacy and engagement opportunities for social, economic and climate justice with Australian and international aid and development networks

3.2.4 Equip and support staff, volunteers and the people we serve to participate in advocacy and community engagement activities

3.3.1 Utilise strategic alliances with the international aid and development sector, governments and the Church to influence legislation, policy and public opinion

3.3.2 Assist partners to strengthen their advocacy voice, both on behalf of and alongside their communities



Typhoons regularly threaten communities in the Philippines. Aloma and her community have re-planted mangroves for disaster risk reduction.

Photo: Richard Wainwright

GOAL 4: Careful Stewardship

To be effective stewards of resources in order to maximise CA's program impact, and to sustainably grow our community support and carefully manage our human, financial and physical assets.

Outcomes

Strategies

4.1 We demonstrate a social and mission-focused return on investments

4.1.1 Adapt programs and operations to ensure the organisation remains sustainable and flexible, and delivers optimal results for the people we serve, our funders and supporters

4.1.2 Prioritise outcomes measurement, with a focus on wellbeing and justice outcomes for the most marginalised

4.2 Our financial and organisational capacity to achieve our humanitarian and educational goals is secure

4.2.1 Align resource allocation with integral human development priorities, inequality trends and partner strengths

4.2.2 Develop and implement a process for achieving effective, whole-of-agency digital capability

4.2.3 Maintain sustainable reserves to protect the organisation in times of financial uncertainty

4.3 Our supporters, donors and funders have confidence that our resources target the most marginalised people in regions of greatest need

4.3.1 Increase Caritas brand awareness in the Catholic and wider community

4.3.2 Increase profile in the Catholic community by leveraging strategic partnerships with Catholic agencies, Dioceses, ambassadors and donors

4.3.3. Demonstrate and communicate the impact of resource investment on integral human development outcomes



Meyakinkan Komunitas Komunikasi

1. Buatlah workshop komunitas dan tak tak long di kelas / shop long di...
2. Ajaklah / gab'ain long tak tak, no doctim fag'ing / no feting blong at long shopin tak'pala' long'atip.
3. Helpun komunitas long tak'pala' long tak'pala' havi / shop long komunitas no sidanun no long tak tak long doctim HIV/AIDS.

In the face of numerous problems in his community, Dominic was inspired to learn communication and problem-solving skills to create lasting change in Papua New Guinea.

Photo: Richard Wainwright

GOAL 5: Organisational Agility

To be an agile and creative organisation that is led and supported by talented and committed people at agency, diocesan and country level and where sound practices, policies, systems and infrastructure ensure service quality, a high level of competence and a culture of continuous learning.

Outcomes

Strategies

5.1 We continue to meet our humanitarian and educational goals in the face of change and uncertainty

5.1.1 Build and strengthen Caritas' organisational capacity to identify and adapt to change, and respond rapidly to domestic and international crises

5.1.2 Underpin program and system development with continuous learning and innovation

5.2 We maintain a committed and skilled network of staff, volunteers and partners, in Australia and internationally

5.2.1 Prioritise a whole-of agency approach to investing in people, systems and technological capacity

5.2.2 Promote a culture of open communication, learning and continuous improvement, ethical practice and collaboration.