



LinC Church Services Network National Inc.
IA No. 0022598N, ABN 23 057 449 199

2019-20 ANNUAL REPORT

Presented at the AGM on 5 December 2020

LinC National
President's Report 2019- 2020

No-one could say that 2020 has not been a memorable year! The impact of the Covid 19 pandemic has sadly impacted the lives of many thousands of Australians and indeed millions around the world. Our LinC Affiliates have had to either suspend some or all operations or make significant changes to their ways of working to adapt to the Covid restrictions around the country. The year has certainly presented many new challenges and some opportunities to review, recharge, and re-invent services to meet the needs of a community impacted by Covid 19 and the emerging 'Covid Normal' environment.

LinC National has continued to respond to the recommendations of the LinC National Review completed in 2019.

To enhance communications and facilitate donations, a new website has been developed which is attractive, professional and easy to use. The website is linked to GiveNow which enables donations to be easily processed online. Further plans for the website include an E-Newsletter and links to Affiliate Websites and/or more information about activities in local affiliates. The LinC promotion video is included as well as information video about the new NeighbourLinC- LinC CALL project to be launched early in 2021. Check out the website – www.lincnational.org.au

Another communication strategy which has been discussed and is underway is the development of a LinC National Facebook account – where we can share stories from Affiliates and keep people up to date with new events and ideas.

LinC National has been blessed this year to have Jane Hathaway working at least 2 days per week as a Program Support volunteer. Jane has a long history with LinC – she was the first Program Coordinator of LinC Eltham and worked in Training and Development with LinC National for some time.

One of the first priorities was to establish a new website for LinC National. Jane was instrumental in developing the website content which was then set up by Anthony Leermakers. Jane's main focus has been to research and apply for grants to fund a part-time coordination role for LinC National (as recommended in the Review). Unfortunately, we have not yet received a grant in this extremely competitive environment. Trusts report a 40% increase in the number of applications received in these unusual times.

Jane has also developed an excellent, comprehensive suite of resources for the LinC CALL project which will soon be offered to all LinC Affiliates. This project is ideally positioned to impact one of the major challenges in our communities today – loneliness.

Research clearly shows that isolation and loneliness are proving to be more than just part of the human condition. New research shows it's a serious public health problem, for young people as much as the elderly.

‘There is robust evidence that social isolation and loneliness significantly increase risk for premature mortality, and the magnitude of the risk exceeds that of many leading health indicators,’ Holt-Lunstad told the 125th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in August 2017, adding, ‘Many nations around the world now

suggest we are facing a 'loneliness epidemic'. The challenge we face is what can be done about it.'

*According to research 'the most effective way to reduce loneliness is to make people feel connected to their community. As loneliness and social isolation can arise from very different factors, interventions to alleviate them will also be varied. They could include projects that support connections, such as online groups, volunteering programs and befriending projects, and other approaches such as local neighbourhood approaches. Interventions can be aimed at the individual, community or societal level'.
(<https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/letter/articles/vh-letter-47-loneliness>)*

One of the main aims of LinC has been to respond to identified needs and service gaps in our communities. Indeed, one of our Core Values is 'We are responsive'. I can think of no better way to respond to the isolation and loneliness epidemic, which has probably been highlighted by Covid 19, than for LinC Affiliates to take up the LinC CALL project. LinC CALL is designed to build relationships with people of all ages facing isolation. The project has great potential for LinC Affiliates as a 'can do' and very relevant strategy to meet a challenging social need. LinC CALL may well encourage greater volunteer participation in all age groups and increase church involvement. Keep an eye out for more information!

Finally I wish to give thanks for all those volunteers and churches that make up the wider LinC Network – for your gifts of time, love and compassion extended to people in your communities. You truly make a difference in the Name of Christ.

Blessings

Marylin Leermakers
LinC National President

LinC Church Services Network National Inc.
Administration Report for the Annual General Meeting - 5 December 2020

Board meetings

During 1 Oct 2019 - 30 Sep 2020, 6 Board meetings were held. The 30 Nov 19 meeting was face-to-face in Sydney; all other meetings were held using the video conferencing systems Whereby or Zoom. Due to the increase in activity, Board meetings are being held about every 2 months compared with 3 months previously.

Fund-raising committee meetings were held on 14 Mar and 10 Nov 2020.

LinC National Board membership 2019-20

Position	Name	Affiliate
President	Marilyn Leermakers	Yarra Valley
Vice-President	Bruce McLaren	Warringah
Treasurer	Theresa Chew	Whitehorse
Secretary	Peter Fagg	Whitehorse
NSW representatives	Bruce McLaren & Mark Quilligan	Warringah & Alstonville
VIC representatives	Janet van Leerdam & Peter Fagg	Manningham & Whitehorse
QLD representatives	Peter Taylor & Wendy Grech	Bayside
WA representatives	nil	

LinC National membership and volunteer numbers

As at November 2020 the number of LN members was 45, an increase of 11 over last year, and the total number of registered volunteers was about 430.

Affiliate	State	No. of LinC National members	No. of volunteers (from the June 2019 survey)
Alstonville	NSW	5	60
Bayside	QLD	8	54
Canning	WA	3	64
Eltham	VIC	2	12
Hornsby	NSW	3	52
Logan	QLD	na	0
Manningham	VIC	7	43
Northern	VIC	1	na
Pine Rivers	QLD	1	25
Warringah	NSW	7	20
Whitehorse	VIC	4	66
Yarra Valley	VIC	4	36
Totals		45	432

All Chairpersons are automatically members.

Closure of Affiliates

Manning Valley and Corangamite which had closed in 2017 and 2018 respectively, donated some of their remaining funds to LinC National.

The new Board of LinC Logan (Qld) is attempting to re-establish this Affiliate by meeting with church leaders in the Logan area, but COVID-19 restrictions have severely limited this plan.

Establishment of new Affiliates

No new Affiliates were established in 2019-20.

Review of LinC's Operations and Structure in 2019

Conducted by Dr Neville Carr, the review's objectives were to:

1. Study the operations and structure of LinC at the local and the national level, identifying why many Affiliates are struggling to survive.
2. Make recommendations to the Board designed to strengthen both existing Affiliates and establish new Affiliates, and to strengthen the national management and structure of LinC.

Dr Carr's report had 9 broad recommendations. A meeting of the LinC National Executive developed these into 18 specific recommendations for the Board and 17 specific recommendations/suggestions for Affiliates to consider.

The appointments of a National Director and Chaplain were put on hold pending the outcome of the 2019 Review and are still on hold. However, the Board advised Affiliates that they could appoint their own chaplains.

Marylin's report summarises much of the great work that Jane Hathaway has done or planned as our Program Support person, building on the general outcomes of the Review.

Newsletters

No new issues of our national newsletter *NewsLinC* were produced. No one has come forward to replace me as previous editor.

Website

Thanks to Anthony Leermakers our website (www.lincnational.org.au) was significantly updated in mid-2020, with the help of Jane. The 2019 video is now included, and the *NeighbourLinC* program is described.

Financial matters

Mrs Theresa Chew (of LinC Whitehorse) took over from Mark Rohrsheim in early 2020.
See her separate report.

Peter Fagg

Secretary, LinC National

What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds?...faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. James 2:14, 17

TREASURER'S REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2020

Introduction

Firstly, I would like to note my thanks to our previous Treasurer, Mark Rohrsheim who has served for more than 7 years and who resigned at last year's AGM. Mark has done a tremendous job in this role and has been kind to hand it over to me at the start of 2020.

Auditing

We have changed our auditors for this financial year, and the new auditors are Mitchell Wilson, Chartered Accountants. They are performing the audit as an honorary service, and we are thankful for that. The third page shows the sign-off by the auditor. The full audited report is available on request.

Overall Results for the Year 2019-2020

The year ended with a loss of \$709 compared to loss of \$2,984 last financial year. This is mainly driven by a reduction in travelling expenses that were high in 2018-19 due to supporting the Review carried out by Dr Neville Carr.

Cash balance (\$15,898) remains similar to last year (\$16,607). We kept \$13,000 in a term deposit account with CBA. The balance is kept in a cheque account with CBA.

Next Financial Year Outlook

Next year our expenditure is expected to be higher, as LinC National will need to absorb the full cost of Associations Liability insurance. However income could be a little higher due to increased membership fees.

LinC National income is derived entirely from fees and insurance payments from Affiliates, membership fees, donations and bank interest. Our main expenditures are for insurance and administration.

Conclusion

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to serve as Treasurer of LinC National. May God continue to bless the amazing work done by all our Affiliates and give us wisdom to serve Him better.

Theresa Chew
Hon. Treasurer
LinC National

LINC CHURCH SERVICES NETWORK NATIONAL INC
A.B.N. 23 057 449 199

PROFIT AND LOSS & INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Affiliation Fees	10,348	12,069
Donations	929	84
Interest	124	218
Membership Fees	350	130
	11,751	12,501
EXPENSES		
Administration	60	1,511
Annual Meeting	1,913	
Donations		200
Insurance	8,663	9,347
Office supplies	270	49
Miscellaneous		849
Professional Fees	282	
Subscriptions	626	
Telephone	210	
Travelling Expenses	436	3,529
	12,460	15,485
Operating profit (loss)	(709)	(2,984)

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INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	2020	2019
Note	\$	\$
Profit (loss) for the year	(709)	(2,984)
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	16,607	19,591
Profit attributable to the association	15,898	16,607

LINC CHURCH SERVICES NETWORK NATIONAL INC
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BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	15,883	16,371
Receivables	3	15	236
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>15,898</u>	<u>16,607</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>15,898</u>	<u>16,607</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>15,898</u>	<u>16,607</u>
EQUITY			
Retained earnings	4	15,898	16,607
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>15,898</u>	<u>16,607</u>

AUDITORS' INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001
TO THE BOARD MEMBERS
LINC CHURCH SERVICES NETWORK (NATIONAL) INC

We declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 September 2020 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Name of Firm: Mitchell Wilson
Chartered Accountants

Doug Mitchell

Address: 261-271 Wattletree Road, Malvern VIC 3144

Dated this day of **17/11/2020**

