



**LinC Church Services Network National  
Inc.**

IA No. 0022598N, ABN 23 057 449 199

# 2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**8 pm, THURSDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2023**

- **President's Report** - page 2
- **National Coordinator's Report** - pages 2-4
- **Treasurer's Report** - pages 4-6
- **Administration Report** - pages 7-8

## President's Report – 2022-23

This year has been a return to 'normal' after the last few challenging years of the Covid Pandemic. Or perhaps a 'new normal'. In many organisations Covid has left a legacy of reduced volunteering and a general reluctance to engage in community activities. In addition, there has been a huge increase in the cost of living, leading to increasing demands for support. These factors have influenced LinC both nationally and at the Affiliate level. However, LinC National and Affiliates have responded to these challenges and have found ways to adapt and deliver services in meaningful ways to their respective communities.

LinC National decided that the timing wasn't right to proceed with a national conference in 2023 and encouraged State gatherings instead. The Victorian State Gathering, organised in May 2023 by Julie Szabo, our National Coordinator, was very successful and well received.

We have been blessed to have Julie coordinating LinC National. With a wealth of practical experience in managing LinC Yarra Valley, Julie has strengthened links with Affiliates, offering practical support and encouragement as well as speaking at Affiliate AGMs. She also prepares the National News and the monthly prayer calendar, based on information provided by Affiliates.

On a personal note, this will be my last report as President of LinC National. After my 32-year association with LinC and 5 years as President, I have had to make the decision to step down from the Board due to bereavement and resulting changes in my circumstances.

**LinC, however, will always be in my thoughts and prayers as it has been in my heart all these years. The fact that LinC volunteers continue to love their neighbours with practical support and care in the Name of Christ, will always be a source of joy to me.**

Shalom

**Marylin Leermakers**

*President, LinC National*

## National Coordinator's Report 2022-23

*by National Coordinator, Julie Szabo*

*It has been a year since I began in this role, and I have been welcomed with open arms. Thank you! We have achieved so much together already. I feel privileged to be able to encourage you in the incredible work you do. God has been faithful as always to us this year.*

I've enjoyed getting to know our LinC Affiliate leaders by telephone and on Zoom and have even met many of our volunteers in person at our Victorian state gathering in May and

recently when I visited LinC Hornsby and Warringah while in Sydney. Being together in person has been wonderful and has prompted a desire to do it regularly on a state level if we can. It was a privilege to be invited to speak at LinC Whitehorse AGM in August and I very much enjoyed this event. One of the highlights was presenting four volunteer awards for 20 years of service.

*There's a possibility I will meet up with LinC Pine Rivers and Bayside from Queensland and LinC Alstonville from NSW in February 2024. I'm hoping we can work together to coordinate an in-person gathering in Brisbane then or later in the year.*

I've updated some of the messaging on our website and have a *Facebook profile* called LN Coordinator. Thank you to those who have connected from all around Australia. Please join us if you haven't already and you will be invited to join our private group for encouragement and connection.

Our *Prayer Calendar* continues to be distributed every month with content from each LinC Affiliate and National on a rostered basis. This year we've included a map for each area to help visualize where each Affiliate is situated in the state and country. Let's continue praying for each other.

Our *LinC National Newsletter* has gone out a few times this year and has contained awards, incredible stories, important information and inspiration, to assist our volunteers as they run our referral centres to coordinate practical help for vulnerable people.

*One highlight this year is how many awards were given to our volunteers by their communities and within their Affiliates. It's very important to support and reward our volunteers in meaningful ways. It is vital that we all work hard to find new volunteers to continue our work now that many of our volunteers are over 70 and slowing down.*

There has been a good amount of interest in expanding the LinC Australia-wide network with interest from three states. I think this is in response to churches seeing they need to collaborate with other churches to work together and share resources to meet the practical needs of their communities.

I've enjoyed being part of our bi-monthly zoom board meetings and have supported the board with new ideas including new ways to use digital technology for reporting and communications. We have begun meeting as an executive and have re-established discussions about fundraising options. Lori Kravos from Zoos Victoria shared a great deal of important information we can use to develop a fundraising strategy and the fundraising subcommittee has met this year to discuss how we can move forward in this. Discussions to find a suitable strategy will continue next year.

*I have really enjoyed getting to know so many of our Affiliate and National leaders and have appreciated your willingness to give me feedback, much of it being positive. Since my contract has been renewed, I am looking forward to another year supporting you in the tremendous work you do in our communities. Please make a pledge towards my position so I can continue working with you.*

**Thank you to Marylin Leermakers, Peter Fagg, Janet van Leerdam and Theresa Chew for their support. I've really enjoyed being part of the LinC National team this year. Thank you everyone else as well!**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 2023

### **Overall Results for the Financial Year 2022-2023**

The year ended with a loss of \$3,276 compared to a profit of \$5,640 last financial year. LinC National's income was derived mainly from: (1) Donations from members and others \$10,843, (2) Affiliation fees \$2,905, (3) Insurance premium repayment from Affiliates \$3,390 and (4) Membership fees \$529. The donations included \$5,000 from a family Trust Fund. This year, we also received some extra income (\$199) from a term deposit with the Bendigo Bank, now that interest rates are reasonable.

Our main expenditures were for Insurance premiums (\$4,338) and Salary for our part time National Co-ordinator (\$14,543). Our bank balance closed at \$20,551 compared to \$23,852 last year.

### **Auditing**

We again want to record our most sincere thanks to our auditor Doug Mitchell of Mitchell Wilson, Chartered Accountants, for performing the audit as an honorary service. This is the fourth year that he has audited our accounts – p.6 shows the sign-off by the auditor. The full set of audited accounts is available upon request.

### **Next Financial Year Outlook**

We are blessed to be able to have our current National Co-ordinator, Julie Szabo, continue her part-time employment with us for another term of 48 weeks, however, at a lower number of hours per week compared to last year, as our projected financial position will only allow us to employ her for 5 hours a week. *We have 4 generous members who continue to pledge a total of \$190 per month, and we are hoping that 2023-24 will see more members making pledges to support Julie.*

### **Conclusion**

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as Treasurer of LinC National. We thank God for the wonderful work done by all our LinC Affiliates and may God continue to bless their amazing work. We also ask that God gives the Board of LinC National wisdom to continue to serve Him faithfully and to serve Him well.

In His Service,

*Theresa Chew*

**Hon. Treasurer, LinC National Inc.**

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

**PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INCOME</b>		
Affiliate and Insurance Dues	6,295	9,249
Donations	10,843	7,104
Other Income	0	454
Interest	199	13
Membership Fees	529	564
	17,866	17,384
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Conference & Travel Expenses	515	0
Gift	200	0
Insurance	4,338	6,546
Office supplies	265	356
Salary and Wages	14,543	3,871
Subscriptions	1,101	756
Telephone	180	215
	21,142	11,744
<b>Operating Profit/(Loss)</b>	(3,276)	5,640

**INCOME STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Profit/(Loss) for the year</b>		(3,276)	5,640
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year		23,874	18,234
<b>Profit attributable to the association</b>		20,598	23,874

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	20,551	23,852
Receivables	3	47	22
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		20,598	23,874
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	3	0	0
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		20,598	23,874
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		20,598	23,874
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		20,598	23,874

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS LINC CHURCH SERVICES NETWORK (NATIONAL) INC  
A.B.N. 23 057 449 199**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

**Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of LinC Church Services Network (National) Inc (the association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 September 2023, and the income and expenditure statement and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, the statement by members of the Board.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the association for the year ended 30 September 2023 is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the code.

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

**Responsibilities of Management and those Charged with Governance**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the association's financial reporting process.

**Auditors' Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF LINC CHURCH SERVICES NETWORK (NATIONAL) INC  
A.B.N. 23 057 449 199**

**Name of Firm:** Mitchell Wilson  
Chartered Accountants

**Name of Director:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Mitchell

**Address:** 883 Toorak Road, Camberwell VIC 3124

**Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 2023**



## Administration Report for the 2022-23 Annual General Meeting

*Peter Fagg, Secretary, LinC National*

### **LinC National Board membership 1 Oct 22- 30 Sep 23**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliate</b>
<b>President</b>	Marylin Leermakers	Yarra Valley
<b>Vice-President</b>	Bruce McLaren	Warringah
<b>Treasurer</b>	Theresa Chew	Whitehorse
<b>Secretary</b>	Peter Fagg	Whitehorse
<b>NSW representatives</b>	Mark Quilligan & Bruce McLaren	Alstonville & Warringah
<b>VIC representatives</b>	Janet van Leerdam & Peter Fagg	Manningham & Whitehorse
<b>QLD representative</b>	Peter Taylor	Bayside

### **Board meetings**

During 1 October 2022 - 30 September 2023, 6 Board meetings were held.

All meetings were held using the video conferencing system Zoom. Bi-monthly reports from the Treasurer, the National Coordinator, and most Affiliates were received at each meeting. The 2021-22 AGM, attended by 12 members, was held by Zoom at 2 pm on 19 Nov. 2022.

### **LinC Affiliate data**

As at 30 Sept 2023 the number of LN members in the 10 active Affiliates was 37, and the total number of registered volunteers was 429 – ranging from 15 to 120 per Affiliate (see table below).

Data from the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission (ACNC)* shows that there is a large range in 'net financial assets' held by individual Affiliates.

<b>Affiliate</b> (alphabetical)	<b>Year established</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>No. of LinC National members</b>	<b>No. of volunteers - from ACNC website</b>	<b>Net financial assets (\$000s) from ACNC website</b>
Alstonville	1997	NSW	4	52	17
Bayside	1998	QLD	5	50	26
Eltham	1993	VIC	2	15	7
Hornsby	1993	NSW	2	45	4
Manningham	2002	VIC	6	42	32
Northern	1997	VIC	1	20	85
Pine Rivers	1994	QLD	1	20	14
Warringah	1996	NSW	7	20	2
Whitehorse	2000	VIC	5	45	11
Yarra Valley	1992	VIC	4	120	20
<b>Totals</b>			<b>37 (39 in '22)</b>	<b>429 (365 in '22)</b>	

Note - All Chairpersons are automatically members

### ***Establishment of new Affiliates***

No new Affiliates were established in 2022-23.

### ***Insurance***

Policies for **Public Liability, Personal Accident, Association Liability** for 8 Affiliates\* and LinC National were arranged via the not-for-profit broker Aon who offered much better premiums (cheaper by approx. \$2,700) than our previous broker. Certificates of Currency were supplied to each Affiliate for 2022-23. The revised start date is now 17 December for all policies.

*\*LinC Northern and LinC Yarra Valley receive insurance cover from the Victorian Government. LinC Bayside arranged their own public liability insurance in 2022-23.*

### ***Website***

Thanks to Anthony Leermakers our website ( [www.lincnational.org.au](http://www.lincnational.org.au)) continues to be maintained. The site regularly gets approx. 30 'hits' per month.

### ***Financial matters***

Mrs Theresa Chew has continued to maintain the financial records including dealing with invoices and receipts, and salary payments for the National Coordinator. This position also incurs extra costs such as superannuation, work cover, phone, and annual leave loading. Theresa has been diligent in sending out invoices to Affiliates for affiliation and insurance dues, and in preparing information for the auditor. *See her separate report.*

The 11 October 2023 Board meeting supported a one-off increase of 20% in the 2023-24 affiliation fees in order to help pay for ongoing employment costs, as well as agreeing to reduce Julie's hours from 7 to 5 hours per week. The \$20 annual fee for LinC National members remains unchanged.

### ***Constitution***

The Board agreed to a number of changes to bring the 2013 LinC National Constitution up to date. *Hive Legal*, a legal firm, has offered to do pro-bono work for LinC, and the proposed changes are now being examined by them, with a view to considering a revised Constitution at a special meeting possibly in March 2024.

*Peter Fagg*

Secretary, LinC National