



Annual Report 2019-20

*Supporting and empowering women
and children impacted by family violence*

Thank you Kara house
for providing Shelter and safe
environment.
Thank you Sarah for all your
kind support. With lots of Love
from Jas, grade 3.



Front cover
and above:
Created in Art and
Wellbeing session
in the refuge

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Play area for children at the refuge with new softfall

Who we are



Art and Wellbeing in refuge

Kara House is a specialist family violence service providing safe and secure accommodation and outreach services to women and children experiencing family violence. We deliver real outcomes for our community's most vulnerable, empowering women and children with informed choices, person-centred support services and a steadfast focus on creating a safer future.

OUR MISSION

Kara House supports the rights of women and children to live in safety and without fear of violence

OUR VISION

To provide support to women and their children impacted by family violence. We do this by:

- Advocating on behalf of our diverse client base and the family violence sector
- Being responsive and adaptable in service delivery
- Actively collaborating for a sustainable future
- Contributing towards changing the story around wider awareness of domestic and family violence

OUR VALUES

In our community and sector we value:

- Respect and acceptance for those who access our services
- Empowerment of women and children
- Resilience
- Children's safety and wellbeing
- Access and equity

Within our Kara House team we value:

- Respect and acceptance of our colleagues
- Working together as a team
- Environment for growth and learning
- Flexibility
- Diversity
- Continuous improvement

What we do

Kara House is a specialist family violence service with a 42 year history of providing support to victims of domestic and family violence. Services include, family violence risk assessment and safety planning, the provision of secure crisis accommodation, case management support, information, referral and community education.

Kara House provides services to women and their children affected by domestic and family violence under the guiding principle that all women and children should have the right to live free from family violence, harassment, discrimination and abuse. Kara House operates from a trauma informed, feminist and intersectional perspective using best practice.

As part of the Victoria women's refuge service system we provide highly secure accommodation for women and their children who are in need of relocation to ensure their safety and support them with specialist crisis services that respond to their specific needs. In the wider community we support women and children who are residing in transitional housing or their own accommodation with support services and education programs to develop their long-term resilience. We encourage and empower women to make well-informed choices which help them transition out of our service and into lives free of violence.

Contact details

Contact details

Kara House Inc

W: karahouse.org.au

P: 1800 900 520

E: admin@karahouse.org.au

H: Monday to Friday 9.00pm – 5.00pm

A: P.O. Box 308 Burwood, VIC 3125

ABN: 20 305 139 734

Who we work with

Kara House provides information, advice and support to all women about family violence including:

- Single women
- Women with children
- Women with disabilities
- Young women
- Older women
- Women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
- Women who identify as LGBTIQ

Below:
Christmas
hampers for
clients donated
by Full Gospel
Assembly



Message from the Chair

Kara House has weathered a year like none before in 2020. Every aspect of our work has been touched by Covid-19, with this pandemic having greatest impact on the most vulnerable in our society.

Our team has pivoted everything that we do – from how we deliver our services, to how we support our team, to how the board manages our business. It is with some pride that we reflect on the continued quality of our work as well as our support and outreach innovations.

We've learned this year the value we place on our human connections. The Board of Kara House has had a couple of our members move on to other things, and we have welcomed new members. This year we have reviewed and updated our constitution, and have been ensuring everything is in order for our accreditation in 2021. As a Board we are reflecting intently on what our future looks like as in 2021 we hope to see the build completion of our new purpose-built facility. Our Board has been focused on understanding the latest research and thought leadership in domestic and family violence, in order to ensure we keep our strategy forward thinking.

The Board recognises the huge efforts of our Kara House Team – from our client facing team members, our finance, admin, and development folks have all been stretched and challenged this year. We all rely on the calm expertise of Veronica Coleman, managing the service with a steady hand throughout a year with a surprise around every corner. Thank you all for your contributions to the team.

It's with great gratitude that we call out the enormous generosity of our many donors and the excellent ongoing relationship we have with DHHS. We have had all of the PPE needed to keep our staff and clients safe. Our linen packs, kitchen packs, and wellness packs all make a huge difference to our clients and our donors have really supported these offerings. The Board sincerely thanks all of our donors, and we look forward to a new year working together for Kara House and our clients.

Catherine Lockstone

**Chair
Kara House Board**

"We've learned this year the value we place on our human connection."

CATHERINE





Above:
Kara House
Board meetings
conducted virtually

The Board of Kara House is comprised of volunteers from diverse backgrounds but all with a common passion for the safety and wellbeing of women and children.



Above:
Celebrating
International
Women's Day
breakfast
with supporters



Above:
Walk Against
Violence
in central
Melbourne

Message from the Manager

2020 has been an interesting year for many and certainly for Kara House. Although the first half of the financial year was progressing well, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic raised inevitable challenges in the second half.

Like numerous organisations in the family violence and broader welfare sector, Kara House has had to modify how we provide services to clients. It is a testament to the team at Kara House that everyone has adapted according to client need and we continue to provide a quality service, albeit remotely in most cases.

The most significant modification to practise we have had to manage, is the limit on the number of women and children we accommodate in refuge. Communal living was identified very early on as a significant risk and therefore client numbers have been restricted, for the safety of clients and staff. Family violence victims, along with people experiencing homelessness have been accommodated in motels for their safety and support has been provided directly to people in these settings.

Similarly, we made the decision to suspend student placements and our family violence support group in the community, we plan on recommencing these activities later in the year. While some activities were suspended, others, with the assistance of our donors, were ramped up. While our primary role is the provision of specialist family violence support, during this crisis we have also had the responsibility to ensure our clients remain informed of the COVID-19 restrictions, and importantly, understand they can reach out for emotional support regarding the lockdown. While face-to-face support has decreased for the moment, the amount of emotional support provided by Kara House has increased. In addition to this, we have provided women and children with hygiene packs, masks, and wellbeing gifts and activities. Much of this made possible by the generosity of our donors.

If we look at the positives to come out of this experience, our staff team, always flexible and supportive of each other, has become more cohesive. Staff have also undertaken a significant amount of training and we have embraced technology for communicating with clients. This has included the provision of Art Therapy in the refuge via online meeting applications, an important therapeutic aid for those clients impacted by lockdown during their refuge stay.

Unfortunately, the new Kara House development stalled as COVID-19 impacted the construction industry. As I write we are hopeful that building will commence shortly and 2021 should see us operational.

Kara House is due to undergo Accreditation in February 2021 and preparation for this is underway. As with everything else some aspects of this preparation are testing us, especially as members of the team continue to work remotely.

In the last year we have had some long-term staff members move on to progress their careers and have welcomed two new team members. The orientation and induction of these new workers has very much been a team effort and I am pleased to report that they have quickly become valued team members. As I write the COVID-19 numbers are steadily trending downwards, the sun is shining, and we have renewed hope that things can start to return to normal.

All of us at Kara House thank our donors and supporters; without you so many of the extras we provide our clients would not be possible. I would also like to thank the Board of Kara House for their focus on the provision of innovation and their unwavering support of the Kara House team.



Finally, thanks go to the Kara House team. This year when the going got tough, all team members, from those who support clients, through to finance, admin and development, supported each other while continuing to provide exceptional service.

Veronica Coleman
Manager



“It is a testament to the team at Kara House that everyone has adapted according to client needs.”

VERONICA

SayItOutLoud is an Australian initiative to encourage people from the LGBTIQ communities to start talking about their relationships. The Say It Out Loud website is a world first online resource focused on recognising LGBTIQ relationships and provides domestic and family violence educational and awareness raising resource for LGBTIQ people, their friends, family and community and for professionals who work with individuals from the LGBTIQ community.

In May 2020, Kara House successfully applied to become the organisations Victorian partner. The role will involve liaising with LGBTIQ organisations and services in Victoria to provide content for the website. Currently there is no central resource in Victoria that includes information that recognises and discusses the uniqueness of LGBTIQ, as well as providing services, support and upcoming community events.

The aim in of the initiative is to assist the LGBTIQ individuals to recognise and develop healthy and respectful relationships. Part of this is providing extensive information and resources for those who are or know someone who is experiencing domestic and family violence. For over 15 years Kara House has been committed to providing specialist support to LGBTIQ individuals and we understand the importance of developing a central resource for LGBTIQ victims in Victoria. We look forward to collaborating with existing and new partners to develop a central resource that recognize the individuality LGBTIQ relationships and respond with the appropriate resources.

2019-20 in review

Each year Kara House provides specialist services to women and children no matter what their background.

Supported with advice, emotional support, secure accommodation, safety planning and referral to other specialist services

311
Women

Supported with specialist children's services and trauma-informed interventions

171
Children

10%
No income

10% of women presented with no access to any income while 77% of clients received only Centrelink or a government pension/allowance

88
Sought refuge

55 women and 33 children requested high security accommodation in our refuge

10
Weeks

Clients stay as long as 10 weeks with the average stay being 3-4 weeks

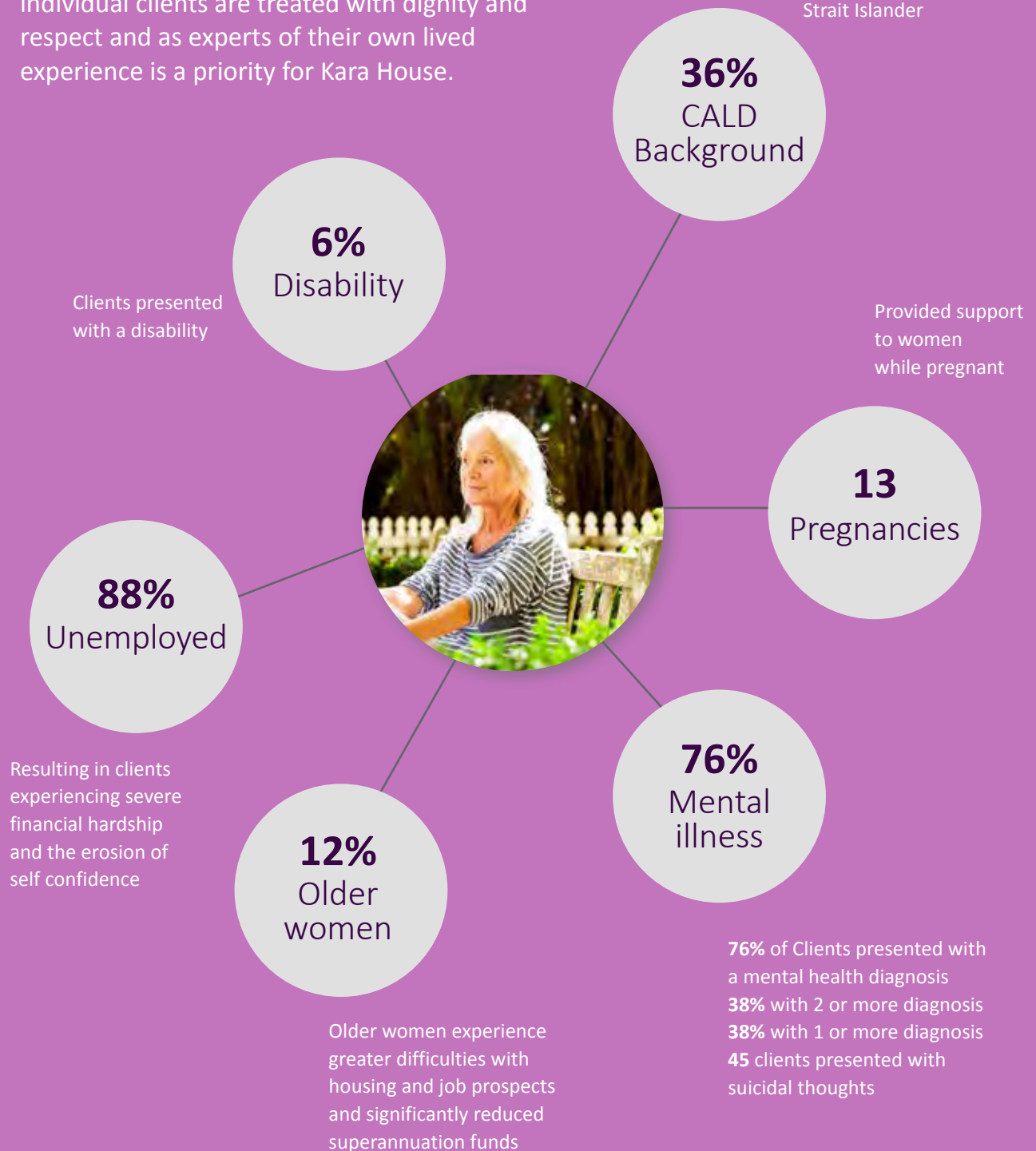
68%
Aged 25 to 45

Women between 25 and 40 years requested support services.



Viewed through an intersectional lens, many of our clients are additionally disadvantaged as they sit at the intersection of multiple social and political identities, such as class, race, culture, religion and disability. Acknowledging intersectionality and ensuring individual clients are treated with dignity and respect and as experts of their own lived experience is a priority for Kara House.

36% of women supported were from 46 different cultural and linguistic backgrounds
61% Identified as Australian
3% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander



Our service delivery



Specialist
Children's
activity

Kara House provides the highest level of support that responds to the needs of clients, no matter what stage they are at their recovery journey. We work in prevention providing information and support to clients who are in an abusive situation. For those in crisis we assist with secure accommodation and safety management. For those who are re-establishing their lives we can provide education and support to help them work towards a better future.

Secure crisis accommodation

Kara House offers secure short-term crisis accommodation in our refuge property for women and children experiencing family violence and who seek to increase their personal safety. Our Specialist Family Violence Practitioners provide intensive case management, safety planning, emotional support, referrals and Material Aid to assist clients during the initial crisis.

Crisis outreach

Kara House assists Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre to provide material aid and emotional support to women and children residing in motel while they await a refuge bed. We also offer these crisis services to ensure the safety of vulnerable women and children experiencing family violence in their own accommodation in the community.

Specialist children's services

Kara House provides trauma-informed services and programs, which prioritise the safety of children impacted by family violence. Through an initial assessment, our Specialist Family Violence Practitioner is able to identify the unique requirements of each child and develop a case plan that puts in place supports, referrals and linkages with other services to deliver the most effective outcomes. We partner collaboratively with Child Protection, Medical professionals, schools and Maternal/Child Health centres to deliver innovative solutions.

**"Thanks for helping
me not move from
place to place."**

FEEDBACK FROM CLIENT
WHO SECURED PRIVATE
RENTAL ACCOMMODATION

152 outreach
visits were made
to women and
children residing in
hotels waiting for a
place in a refuge

55 women
and **33** children
were provided with
high security
accommodation
in our refuge

171 children
were provided
with specialist
services and
support

Transitional housing and ongoing stable accommodation

Kara House works with women exiting refuge to find pathways into more stable accommodation in the community. Wherever possible Kara House will nominate clients leaving refuge for transitional properties through housing managers. Transitional housing is short-term accommodation, which provides women and children leaving refuge with greater independence and ongoing support and services while looking for longer-term housing options. Equally for many of our clients we are able to assist them to find secure accommodation in private rental in the community.

Community outreach

Kara House provides support to women and children in the wider community. We respond to referrals from other sector organisations or direct contact from clients and provide services that assist women who are re-establishing themselves as they live independently in community. Outreach services provide support services and education programs to support women with solutions and strategies to make informed choices for the future.

LGBTIQ Specialist Services

Kara House responds to direct contact or referrals for LGBTIQ community members experiencing domestic violence. We have a specialist understanding of the complexities of domestic violence and its affects on the LGBTIQ community. We offer crisis accommodation and support for same sex attracted women who are experiencing abuse in a relationship. We also provide ongoing outreach support and advice to anyone identifying as lesbian, transgender, gay, bi-sexual intersex or queer. We have strong connections with organisations whose services are specific to the LGBTIQ community.

Secondary consultations

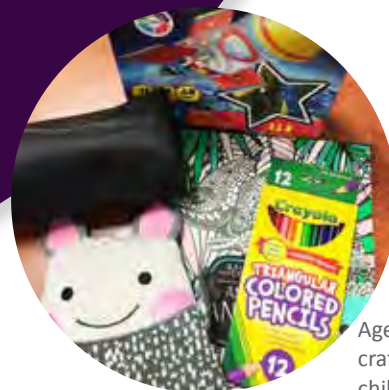
Kara House provides secondary consultations for professionals and other services who are working with clients who are experiencing family violence. We provide a specialist assessment over the phone or meet to discuss and assess the client's situation. Secondary consultations are available to provide assessment and advice regarding the LGBTIQ community.

197 women
were provided
with outreach
services in the wider
community

Below:
Kara House stall
at Midsumma
Festival in
January 2020



Our response to COVID-19



Age appropriate craft packs for children donated by Rotary

For all of us, 2020 has been challenging as we change the way we work and live. Through innovation and flexibility, Kara House continued to provide safety and support for women and children impacted by family violence while prioritising the health and safety of our clients and the team.

From day one, the immediate challenge was face-to-face contact. A welcoming face, personal touch and empathy have always been essential to the emotional response we provide to clients and we had to radically adapt to a new way of working with clients. Usually our team spends a lot of physical time with clients transporting them to meetings, shopping, court, Centrelink appointments and school as we help them re-establish themselves in a new area. Other than essential appointments, all of this support had to be provided at a distance – our team transitioned to phone and FaceTime support. When clients moved into new accommodation we provided them with a taxi voucher and remained on the phone from a distance to assist them through the process.

Kara House is a shared refuge and in line with government guidelines, we drastically reduced the numbers in the refuge to allow family units to reside in defined areas. We immediately increased the professional cleaning of the refuge and provided the appropriate equipment to clients to ensure their safety of each family group. Upon arrival, each family received their own new kitchen equipment, cleaning and hygiene packs.

By mid March, all administration staff had shifted to working remotely to enable the core support team to remain on site and meet social distancing protocols. With our IT support we were able to establish team members at home and developed additional policies and procedures to ensure continuity and consistency of service delivery to clients.

Historically we have relied on the community to supply us with a steady flow of Material Aid to meet our clients needs. Unfortunately in March we needed to put physical donations on hold to ensure the team

and office remained COVID-safe. The community immediately responded to our needs, and financial donations started to come in which allowed us to set up the COVID-19 response fund to assist our clients to face the crisis.

We worked closely with mothers to help them navigate the challenges of remote learning for their children. We secured grants and donations to provide students with the necessary tablets, personal computers and internet connections to allow them to easily work from home. Utilising our close collaborations with schools in our area, we were able to support families to meet the challenges.

Women have experienced greater effects during the COVID-19 crisis

61%
Job losses

Women make up 61% of Victorian COVID-19 job losses

200+
Police calls

An increase to over 200 calls to Victoria police seeking help

50%
Increase in court

Increase in appearances by women at the magistrates court

We have always relied on the community to help us and once again our donors reached out, enabling us to provide appropriate responses to the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis.

COVID-19 Response fund

Donations from organisations and individuals allowed us to set up the COVID-19 Response Fund in April, which enabled us able to provide additional material aid to our clients. Thank you to **Lions Club of Blackburn**, **Lions Club of Nunawading**, **Lions club of Box Hill** and the many individuals who contributed to the fund.

Help from the community

To meet guidelines, our Specialist Family Violence Practitioners had to limit face-to-face contact and we were unable to transport our clients to appointments. We received a Community Grant from **StreetSmart**, enabling our clients get to important appointments by providing them with TAXI VOUCHERS, PETROL VOUCHERS and MOBILE PHONE CARDS.

The Members at **Monash Blues Football Club** have a long history of supporting women and children impacted by family violence. On May 31st they held the ISOLATION CHARITY RUN with all proceeds going to Kara House. They encouraged participants to make a donation and run 5km or 10km on the day. The money raised was used to purchase CRISIS CLOTHING PACKS to keep clients warm during winter.

Rotary contributed a wonderful donation that enabled us to purchase WELLBEING PACKS for women which included mindfulness colouring books, journals and other goodies. We also provided age appropriate CRAFT PACKS for children including craft projects, pencils, books and toys. Thanks to **The Rotary Club of Box Hill Central** for making the donation possible with the kindness of **The Rotary Club of Box Hill**, **The Rotary Club of Nunawading**, **The Rotary Club of Mont Albert & Surrey Hills**, **The Rotary Club of Mitcham**, **The Rotary Club of Forest Hill** and **The Whitehorse Rotaract Club**.

Our initial response in the first three months of the COVID-19 crisis

21 Wellbeing Packs for women

30 Children's Craft Packs

10 Hygiene packs for children

20 Individual refuge kitchen packs

36 Transport vouchers

Upgrade in hygiene stations in refuge and office

Upgrade in IT to improve connectivity

Below:
Monash Blues
Football Club
Isolation
Charity Run





CASE STUDY

Cheryl and Cassie are looking forward to the end of COVID-19, but until then we will continue support them, but just a little differently.

A welcoming face has been a key part of the emotional support we provide to women and children when they arrive at Kara House. The COVID-19 restrictions means face-to-face contact is very limited and over the last 15 weeks we have radically changed the way with work with our clients.

Cheryl* is 42yo and was referred to Kara House with her 12yo daughter Cassie* for specialist family violence support. The perpetrator of Cheryl's violence was her husband of 17 years and she was in urgent need of secure and safe accommodation.

Due to COVID-19, Kara House as communal property has had to restrict to the number of clients that can be accommodated. Luckily we were soon able to locate a suitable transitional property nearby for Cheryl and Cassie that would provide them with safety for the coming months.

Like other services, Kara House has limited face-to-face interaction with clients, only meeting with them when absolutely necessary. Therefore our first introduction to Cheryl was via the phone, completing risk assessment, safety planning and intake. We first met with her in person when she came into our office for intake. Currently we meet clients in our large conference room, standing at either end of the room using protective equipment and sanitiser.

Normally the Family Violence Practitioners would personally drive families when they move from refuge and help settle them into their new accommodation. For Cheryl we used a taxi to transport her to the property, and from a distance we stayed on the phone with her while she settled into the house. We continue to support Cheryl and Cassie in the transitional property. To combat her sense of isolation, we make frequent phone calls to Cheryl to ascertain wellbeing and provide support. They have been linked into Telehealth, and have commenced counselling via zoom.

We have applied for funding for stay-at-home school supplies for Cassie allowing her to continue her schooling and provided Cheryl with activities she can do with Cassie to assist with overcoming boredom. Thanks to generous donations we have been able to deliver food boxes, wellbeing, craft and hygiene packs to both Cheryl and Cassie. We wave to them from the driveway.

Like everyone else, Cheryl and Cassie are looking forward to the end of COVID-19, but until then we will continue support them, but just a little differently.

*Names changed

Listening to our clients

“My case manager was patient and supportive.”

CLIENT FEEDBACK
FROM ROUND TABLE

Kara House is committed to providing a high quality service. To do this, we regularly listen to our clients to understand how they use our services and what kind of impact the service has on their lives.

This year Kara House undertook a review of our client feedback process against the DHHS Client Voice Framework. As part of the review, we have made significant changes to our feedback process, shifting to an online survey collector and improving the quality of questions. The online format has reduced errors, increased participation and improved analysis of data. Where possible, tablets are now carried by practitioners to service locations allowing easy access to online forms.

In January, Kara House facilitated its first round table discussion with a group of clients. Participants were randomly selected from a group of clients who had previously received services from Kara House but were now past the crisis stage. The facilitator had no previous contact with the clients and could remain neutral in the process of collecting feedback. We found clients were open and honest in their feedback, often engaging with each other to discuss their responses to questions. Not only did we collect valuable and informative feedback, but clients were also able to ask questions and learn more about Kara House, our organisational structure, funding model and governance.

Clients were acknowledged for their expertise and appropriately remunerated for their time. We found the whole process very valuable, and will look at doing round-table discussions on a regular basis.

Our annual client review, which is usually a phone survey took place online this year and resulted in an increased response rate. We believe that our clients may have felt more comfortable providing feedback anonymously, addressing the power imbalance that may be present otherwise.

Along with these improvements to the feedback process, Kara House has plans to incorporate the client voice into all aspects of service delivery, from design to review, based on our findings and recommendations from the DHHS Client Voice Framework. We will keep you updated on all of these improvements over the coming year in our newsletters. Stay tuned!

“Yes. It has been a difficult adjustment but I have found my feet and worked out how to do things independently.”

CLIENT FEEDBACK
FROM ROUND TABLE

“I am forever grateful for all the help and support the Staff member and all her team have given my 2 children and I. I don't have any family in Australia, I don't know what I would do and I would not be where I am today without your help.”

CLIENT FEEDBACK
FROM ROUND TABLE

Educational programs

2020 has been an interesting year for many and certainly for Kara House. Although the first half of the financial year was progressing well, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic raised inevitable challenges in the second half.

MOVING ON Family Violence Support Group

MOVING ON is a free six-week family violence support group for women experiencing or have experienced by family violence living in the community. The group is aimed at women who are past the initial crisis and beginning to rebuild their lives. The primary aim of the group is to provide education and strategies that encourage the participants to recognise respectful relationships and make informed choices for themselves and their children in the future.

The group is a free six-week course facilitated by Specialist Family Violence Practitioners. Free childcare is provided onsite to help participants to concentrate on their own wellbeing. The group also integrates therapeutic practices like art and music therapy. Most importantly the group is a safe place to meet others in a similar situation and share thoughts and experiences.

Kara house has been conducting the group since 2018 with great success and encouraging referrals from sector organisations. Participants reported that they felt safer and better informed about family violence. In 2019-20 year we were only able to run the group 3 times as it was placed on hold in March due to the COVID-19 restrictions.



Below:
Circle of hope
created by women
participating in
MOVING ON



On average, participants rated their expectations being met by the group at 91 (where 100 indicates expectations were fully met).

SURVEY OF PARTICIPANTS

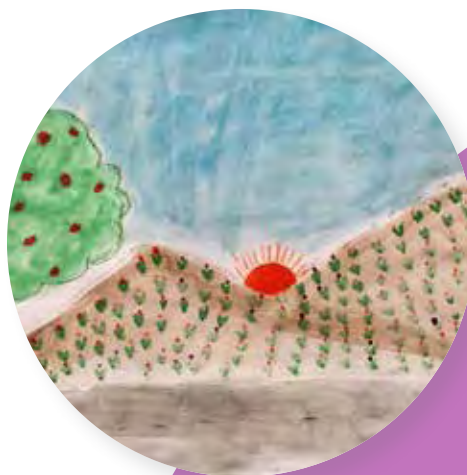
Art and Wellbeing

For victims of family violence, the impact of trauma can make it incredibly difficult to verbalise thoughts. Strong feelings of shame, humiliation, guilt and fear around speaking of the abuse can make it even more difficult for them to receive the support and direction they really need.

Our Art and Wellbeing Program provides an empowering outlet to process feelings and thoughts, by allowing them to express themselves through art rather than verbal language. Clients can make sense of traumatic memories and find their way through the chaos and raw emotion of abuse. Each fortnight, clients in the refuge participate in a two-hour session facilitated by an accredited Art Therapist and a Kara House Specialist Family Violence Practitioner.

In early March 2020 we implemented COVID-19 restrictions which enabled us to continue to provide the Art and Wellbeing Program in the refuge using social distancing methods. To meet the challenges in late May we provided one-on-one sessions via Zoom. In 2021 we hope to implement a second program allowing us to provide the program to women in the wider community

Proudly supported by City of Whitehorse Community Grant and Whitehorse Community Chest



Financial wellbeing

Kara House has identified an opportunity for FINANCIAL WELLBEING, a 6-week pilot program, specifically developed to address the lack of financial literacy and disempowerment experienced by women impacted by family violence. The aim of the program is to engage participants in money conversations to dismantle existing barriers to financial independence, bring about better decision-making abilities and validate existing skills and knowledge, which will lead to financial empowerment.

The Program will offer a unique combination of financial capability tools underpinned with Kara House's specialist insights into trauma and the lived experience of family violence survivors. Over six weeks, the program will engage the participants in a safe environment using interactive prompts and activities that encourage them to express their own thoughts and assist them to build good financial habits that provide stability for a brighter future.

We plan to run a pilot program in the first few months of 2021 with a view to making it an asset to our recovery programs.



Left and above:
Artwork created in
Art and Wellbeing
in refuge



Above and below: Children's activity programs in refuge

Mother Goose Program

We collaborate with other organisations in the City of Whitehorse to facilitate a Mother Goose group in our local community. Parent-Child Mother Goose is an evidence-based program that strengthens attachment and interaction between parents or carers and their young children by introducing them to the pleasure and power of using rhymes, songs and stories together. Our Specialist Family Violence Practitioner encourages appropriate Kara House clients to attend. Parent-Child Mother Goose is particularly suitable for parents and carers who need extra support because of their own personal or social circumstances, or because their children have special needs or are otherwise at risk.



Community outreach

When clients come into refuge, they are usually tired, emotional and overwhelmed. Once in refuge, their days are filled with meetings, appointments and countless tasks, which often deplete their already low wellbeing reserves. In response, Kara House runs a Wellbeing Program for clients in refuge. The idea is to 'take them away' from their current situation by providing an opportunity to be creative and learn new skills. The activities provide social inclusion – particularly for those clients where English is not their first language. Some of the activities included this year were pizza making, seed planting, baking, painting and bottle decorating.

Children's Wellbeing Program in refuge

For children in refuge, spending time away from their mother can provide respite from bearing witness to their mother's emotions. Kara House run a Children's Wellbeing Program that provides time to draw, listen to stories, sing and dance. The Specialist Family Violence Practitioner will prepare an age-appropriate activity, and run it either in the playroom or in the back garden. Some of the activities the children enjoyed this year included biscuit decorating, drip painting and drawing. The Practitioner, during the activity session, will take the opportunity to observe the children at play and can then provide feedback to the children's mothers and where necessary, refer them to child-specific services.



CASE STUDY

While the boys were not directly abused by their father, they have, for most of their lives, witnessed the violence towards their mother and it appears to have taken a toll on their young lives.

By leaving home, Leonie has given the boys a stable and secure future. Leonie* and her two boys, Evan* 8yo and William* 6yo were referred to Kara House for crisis accommodation and support just at the beginning of the COVID restrictions. The perpetrator of the violence was Leonie's husband and the father of the boys. At intake Leonie advised her Kara House Practitioner she was very worried about her children. Leonie said her husband isolated her and the children in the home, never allowing her to leave the home without him. She said, while he was not abusive towards the boys, he would hit her, shout at her, and call her names in front of them. Leonie advised the boys often complained of headaches and sore tummies, and didn't want to go to school. She said they moved around a lot, and had already been to 3 different schools and were always in trouble because of their behaviour.

Our Specialist Family Violence Practitioner met with Leonie and the children to make an assessment and develop a case plan for both Evan and William. It was identified Evan was anxious with poor impulse control

and was struggling with the most basic reading. While William appeared to be a timid boy with babyish behaviour and speech problems. Both boys were referred to the GP for a general check-up. William was diagnosed with hearing loss.

To introduce the idea of returning to school after COVID, the Specialist Family Violence Practitioner liaised with the local school and arranged for some schoolwork to be sent to them. Using brokerage, laptops for each child was purchased, along with stationery and books.

Evan was booked into Equine Therapy, and despite COVID restrictions has been able to participate weekly. Research has confirmed equine therapy can assist with reducing the symptoms of anxiety, building self-esteem, and provides the skills needed to control behaviour and promote social awareness. Evan loves it.

William was referred to an Occupational Therapist who has been assisting him with meeting age-appropriate developmental milestones using sensory experiences. William has also been linked with an audiologist and is on the waiting list for a speech pathologist. Leonie and the boys are currently meeting with a psychologist who specialises in family counselling.

*Names changed

Material aid programs



Toiletry Packs
donated by
Our Father's
Church

Crisis Programs. When women and their children first become clients of Kara House, they often have left behind basics like clothing, toiletries and toys having fled an abusive situation. Whether we are visiting a client staying in Motel or a client is moving into refuge, it's important that we respond effectively to their immediate physical needs and give them a sense of comfort.

Welcome Packs for Women

These packs include luxury items to make the client feel comfortable. Items include sleep mask, water bottle, note book, ear plugs, colouring book, moisturisers and lip balm.

Welcome Packs for Children

For children we like to provide a few basics like toothbrushes and toothpaste and well as colouring book, craft project, toys and colouring pencil. As we get to know them we have many toys and games on hand.

Toiletry Packs

Toiletries are an immediate need. These packs include, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo conditioner, hair brush, basic makeup and hygiene products.

Crisis Clothing Packs

We provide mothers and children clothing packs which include basics like tracksuits, hoodies, underwear, t-shirts and socks to keep them warm and comfortable.

Basic Food Packs

Everyone receives a box filled with staples enabling them to make a meal immediately for their children. We also have food on hand in the refuge as well as food vouchers.

Re-establishment Programs. A safe and secure home is fundamentally linked with wellbeing. It's an isolating and distressing time, further impacted by the loss of financial security. For those who have experienced homelessness and displacement due to family violence, relocating to new, more stable accommodation is an important step in moving forward. To relieve the financial burden we provide the women and their families with Program Packs allowing them to re-direct their energy into providing a stable home for their children.

Linen
Pack
Program

Linen can be an expensive outlay so we provide separate packs for each family member that include, pillow, doona, sheets, towels, face washer, and mattress protector.

Home
Pack
Program

Setting up a new kitchen from scratch is a huge undertaking so these packs include a dinner set, cutlery, toaster, kettle, cups, small microwave, vacuum cleaner, pots and pans.

Cleaning
Pack
Program

To keep the new house clean and tidy we supply pegs, dishwashing detergent, bucket, broom, dustpan and brush, multipurpose spray and laundry detergent.



Above:
Home Pack
Program
Left:
Linen Pack set
up to welcome
clients to refuge

Community support

Each year we rely on the generosity of the community organisations to help us provide the best possible environment for the mothers and their children staying at Kara House.

DuluxGroup volunteer to repaint the bedsit apartment

In mid-March the wonderful **DuluxGroup** Volunteer Group repainted the separate bedsit apartment at Kara House. The bedsit is a stand-alone unit which provides safe accommodation, particularly for women with young babies and toddlers so was in need of some upkeep.

We were delighted to receive the email from the **DuluxGroup** to say we had been chosen as a community project this year. Team leader Samodha Dharmasiri was on board from day one, understanding the difficulties of executing such a project as the refuge must remain private as well as appreciating our organisational commitment to uphold the least possible disruption to our clients in the refuge.

The transformation to the bed-sit is amazing! The team of six volunteers worked right through the day to create a beautiful and fresh space ready for the current occupants, a mum with two children, to move back in the very next day. The best surprise was that not only did they repaint the bedsit but also repainted the outside courtyard creating a tranquil space for all our clients take some much needed time out.

"We had the fantastic opportunity to give back to our community by redecorating one of the temporary residence units at the Secure Accommodation Refuge of Kara House. A massive thank you to my team who worked tirelessly with such great enthusiasm converting the house to a home in one day. We are humbly proud to be able to make a small difference in someone's life who is going through such a traumatic experience."

Samodha Dharmasiri – Volunteer Team Leader
– IT Project Coordinator DuluxGroup



Above and below:
The DuluxGroup volunteer team hard at work



New garden at the refuge

The garden at the refuge is an important place for kids to play and mum's to take time out from the busy refuge environment. The Rotary Club of Mont Albert and Surrey Hills assisted us to put in a new retaining wall and garden. The improvement is incredible and we look forward to planting it at the beginning of Spring. It has really opened up the area and improved the outlook from the refuge. Thank you to Anne, Nicole and Mick and all the Members of Rotary MASH.



Above and right: Before and after images of the new retaining wall in the refuge garden.



Upcoming projects

New bathroom:

Installation of a new family bathroom with the compliments of Sally Feeney Design and Reece. This has been a long-term project for Kara House, and again gives the residents of the refuge much more flexibility and independence while living in a shared space.

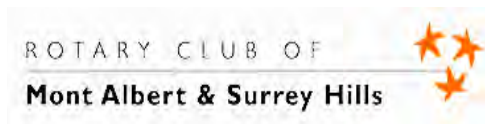
Washer/dryer in bedsit:

Thanks to a donation from Lions club of Box Hill we will be able to install a separate washer dryer in the bedsit apartment. Currently bedsit client share the laundry with the main house clients.

In the current crisis this will allow clients to remain isolated and long run provide a greater level of privacy.

Major donors

We would like to thank our Major Donors who have supported special programs and projects over the last year.



Individual, business and organisational donors

We would like to thank the many individuals, businesses and organisations that have supported Kara House. Their generous donations and support have enabled Kara House to provide additional programs, services and resources to the women and children in our care.

- James Maurer
- Justice Victoria
- Stephen Crosby
- Andrea Dillion
- Knitting for the needy
- Ferntree Gully View Club
- Doncaster View Club
- Waverley Day View Club
- June Andrews
- Full Gospel Assembly Melbourne
- Lucy Walsh and Alex
- Mums supporting families in need
- The Thornbirds
- Halal Food Bank
- Probus Club of Mont Albert North
- Forest Hill College Leo Club
- Susanne Goldie
- Echelon Planning
- George Carmen
- Bethany Whitcher
- Margaret Morrissey
- Monash Blues Football Club
- The Lions Club of Blackburn
- The Lions Club of Box Hill
- The Lions Club of Nunawading

Partner acknowledgment

DHHS

Kara House Board and Staff would like to thank the Department of Health and Human Services who provide our operational funding under the Funding and Service Agreement and to the Staff of the Department in the Eastern Region who have assisted with their donation collections and ongoing support.



Safe Steps

Kara House Board and Staff would like to thank Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre who partner with us to support vulnerable women and children residing in motel while they await a refuge bed. Kara House continues to strengthen its valuable partnership with Safe Steps and associated services.



Our partners

We would like to thank the organisations and services below who we partner with to provide services.

- DD Vic (Domestic Violence Victoria)
- Box Hill CIS
- Community Housing Ltd (CHL)
- Connections UnitingCare
- Anglicare Victoria
- EDVOS
- Eastern Community Legal Centre
- Box Hill Police
- Infoxchange
- Kerrimuir Primary School
- Box Hill North Primary School
- Eastern Access Community Health (EACH)
- Box Hill Medical Centre
- Centrelink
- Uniting Vic.Tas
- YWCA Australia
- Boorndawan Willam Aboriginal Healing Centre
- Burgess Family Centre
- Clota Cottage Neighbourhood House
- Connecting Up Inc.
- Domestic Violence Resource Centre (DVRC)
- Eastern Emergency Relief Network Inc (EER)
- InTouch Multicultural Centre Against Family Violence
- Salvocare Eastern
- The Migrant Information Centre (Eastern Melbourne)
- Women's Housing Ltd (WHL)



Above:
Anne and
Members of the
Ferntree Gully
View Club



Above:
Walk Against
Violence
in central
Melbourne



Left:
International
Women's Day
Breakfast



Above:
Kind donation from
the Blackburn South
Community Bank
for MOVING ON



Left:
Sleepkits thanks
to StreetSmart
and Sheridan
SleepSafe Program



Left:
Delivery of
the wonderful
'Bag of Love' from
Impact for Women



Financial Reports 2019-20

Kara House Inc
ABN: 20 305 139 734
Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734

Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734

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Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Board's Report
For the year ended 30 June 2020

Your board members submit the financial accounts of Kara House Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2020.

Board Members

The names of board members at the date of this report are:

Catherine Lockstone
 Maureen Breen
 Ilsa Evans
 Susan Smith
 Angela Spinney
 Shelley Tung
 Leanne Conrad

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: A family violence service providing crisis supported accommodation to women and children.

Significant Changes

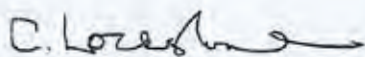
No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The surplus from ordinary activities after providing for income tax amounted to

Year ended	Year ended
30 June 2020	30 June 2019
\$	\$
55,919	(54,235)

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board on: **28 OCTOBER 2020**



Catherine Lockstone



Leanne Conrad

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Income		
Interest received	8,835	11,034
Other income	1,708	2,894
Donations & other grants	76,454	24,924
Grants Received - DHHS		
- DHHS - Crisis Supported Fund	599,342	578,345
- NPAH - Sector Capacity	16,979	16,369
- NPAH - A Place to Call home	69,776	66,907
- Transition Support	313,047	270,764
- Flexible Funding - Case Management	39,537	16,819
- Children Resourcing		45,007
- Non PR	16,000	24,000
- Work Project		13,106
- Covid-19 Capacity Building Funding	30,947	
- QICSA Reimbursement	3,197	
	1,088,825	1,031,317
Grants brought forward	130,784	90,000
Grants carried forward	(115,474)	(130,784)
Profit on sale of property, plant, equip	(186)	(2,231)
ATO Stimulus	19,482	
Total income	1,210,429	1,027,153

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Expenses		
Audit fees	2,500	2,230
Client Expenses	12,697	15,684
Continuous Quality Improvement	21,778	
Depreciation	47,002	21,005
Donations	63,685	20,869
Event Costs	1,687	5,337
Fundraise & development	2,806	2,313
Governance & Management	1,905	1,834
Human Resources	30,126	17,402
Holiday pay	(19,368)	48,390
Housing Establishment Fund	10,171	9,566
Long service leave	(4,927)	12,229
Motor Vehicle Expenses	21,388	15,738
Network & Partnerships	10,414	4,859
Office Expenses	52,937	42,021
Rent		30,973
Refuge Expenses	36,476	59,652
Risk Management & OHS	661	486
Sick Leave	4,635	10,444
Superannuation	64,573	62,952
Worksafe Injury Insurance	30,555	23,506
Wages & Salaries	762,808	673,900
Total expenses	1,154,510	1,081,388
Surplus from ordinary activities before income tax	55,919	(54,235)
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities		
Surplus from ordinary activities after income tax	55,919	(54,235)
Net surplus attributable to the association	55,919	(54,235)
Total changes in equity of the association	55,919	(54,235)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Income and Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Opening retained earnings - Adjusted for the adoption of AASB16	240,911	298,139
Net surplus attributable to the association	55,919	(54,235)
Closing retained earnings	296,830	243,905

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash assets	<u>2</u>	230,433	206,962
Other	<u>3</u>	396,227	395,857
Total Current Assets		<u>626,660</u>	<u>602,819</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	<u>4</u>	107,783	89,922
Total Non-Current Assets		<u>107,783</u>	<u>89,922</u>
Total Assets		<u>734,443</u>	<u>692,741</u>
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Payables	<u>5</u>	29,360	21,692
Financial liabilities	<u>6</u>	18,758	
Current tax liabilities	<u>7</u>	22,543	19,777
Provisions	<u>8</u>	215,293	230,027
Other	<u>9</u>	115,474	130,784
Total Current Liabilities		<u>401,429</u>	<u>402,280</u>
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	<u>8</u>	36,185	46,556
Total Non-Current Liabilities		<u>36,185</u>	<u>46,556</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>437,613</u>	<u>448,836</u>
Net Assets		<u>296,830</u>	<u>243,905</u>
Members' Funds			
Retained earnings		296,830	243,905
Total Members' Funds		<u>296,830</u>	<u>243,905</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Cash Flow From Operating Activities		
Receipts from customers	1,201,780	1,018,350
Payments to Suppliers and employees	(1,135,826)	(943,854)
Interest received	8,835	11,034
Lease Interest Expense	(1,662)	
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (note 2)	<u>73,127</u>	<u>85,530</u>
Cash Flow From Financing Activities		
Repayment of lease liabilities	<u>(30,395)</u>	
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	<u>(30,395)</u>	
Cash Flow From Investing Activities		
Payment for:		
Other Assets	(370)	(1,452)
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(36,891)	(41,038)
Proceeds from disposal of:		
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	<u>18,000</u>	<u>25,500</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(19,261)</u>	<u>(16,990)</u>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	23,471	68,540
Cash at the beginning of the year	<u>596,962</u>	<u>528,422</u>
Cash at the end of the year (note 1)	<u><u>620,433</u></u>	<u><u>596,962</u></u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2020

2020

2019

Note 1. Reconciliation Of Cash

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

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

Cash At Bank - General Account	1,736	2,286
Community Solutions Cash Reserve	171,585	159,320
Donation Account	54,723	42,806
Service Deposit	8	8
Debit Card	1,980	2,142
Petty Cash	400	400
Short term deposits	390,000	390,000
	<u>620,433</u>	<u>596,962</u>

Note 2. Reconciliation Of Net Cash Provided By/Used In Operating Activities To Net Surplus

Operating surplus (loss) after tax	55,919	(54,235)
Depreciation	47,002	21,005
(Profit) / Loss on sale of property, plant and equipment	186	2,231
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Increase (decrease) in other creditors	(7,642)	48,000
Increase (decrease) in employee entitlements	(25,105)	71,063
Increase (decrease) in sundry provisions	2,767	(2,534)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>73,127</u>	<u>85,530</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

Note 1: Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012. In the opinion of the board the association is not a reporting entity because it is not reasonable to expect the existence of users who rely on the association's general purpose financial statements for information useful to them for making and evaluating decisions about the allocation of resources.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Reform Act 2012, the basis of accounting specified by all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of Accounting Standards AASB 101: Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107: Cash Flow Statements, AASB 108: Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors, AASB 1031: Materiality and AASB 1054: Australian Additional Disclosures.

The association has concluded that the requirements set out in AASB 10 and AASB 128 are not applicable as the initial assessment on its interests in other entities indicated that it does not have any subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures. Hence, the financial statements comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards.

The association has not assessed whether these special purpose financial statements comply with all the recognition and measurement requirements in Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial report has been prepared on an accrual basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

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

(a) Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

Leasehold improvements and office equipment are carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all PPE is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

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

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Leasehold Improvements	15.0%
Plant & Equipment	25.0%
Motor Vehicles	12.5%

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

(b) Impairment of Assets

At the end of each reporting period, the entity 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 income statement.

(c) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

(d) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

(e) Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

The association has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15) and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (AASB 1058) using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 July 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: Revenue and AASB 1004: Contributions.

In the current year

Contributed Assets

The association receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (eg. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

On initial recognition of an asset, the association recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer).

The association recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests

When the association receives operating revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15 and accounts for grants in accordance with AASB 120.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the association:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (eg. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138)
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer)
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the association recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Capital Grant

When the association receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

The association recognises income in profit or loss when or as the association satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

Interest Income

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

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

In the comparative period

Non-reciprocal grant revenue was recognised in profit or loss when the association obtained control of the grant and it was probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant would flow to the entity and the amount of the grant could be measured reliably.

If conditions were attached to the grant which must be satisfied before the association was eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue was deferred until those conditions were satisfied.

When grant revenue was received whereby the association incurred an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this was considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue was recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service had been delivered to the contributor; otherwise the grant was recognised as income on receipt.

The association received non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for no or nominal value.

These assets were recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

Donations and bequests were recognised as revenue when received.

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

Rental income from operating leases was recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant leases.

Revenue from the rendering of a service was recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer.

(f) Leases

The association as lessee

At inception of a contract, the association assesses if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the association where the association is a lessee. However, all contracts that are classified as short-term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Initially the lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments still to be paid at commencement date. The lease payments are discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the association uses the incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are as follows:

- fixed lease payments less any lease incentives
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date
- the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees
- the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options
- lease payments under extension options if lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability as mentioned above, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date as well as any initial direct costs. The subsequent measurement of the right-of-use assets is at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset whichever is the shortest. Where a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the association anticipates exercising a purchase option, the specific asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset.

Concessionary Leases

For leases that have significantly below-market terms and conditions principally to enable the association to further its objectives (commonly known as peppercorn/concessionary leases), the association has adopted the temporary relief under AASB 2018-8 and measures the right of use assets at cost on initial recognition.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

(g) 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 (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.

(h) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association remain unpaid at the end of the reporting period. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

(i) Income Tax

The Association is a Public Benevolent Institution and is exempt from Australian Income Tax. It is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient and donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.

(j) New and Amended Accounting Policies Adopted by the Association

Initial application of AASB 16: Leases

The association has adopted AASB 16: Leases retrospectively with the cumulative effect of initially applying AASB 16 recognised at 1 July 2019. In accordance with AASB 16, the comparatives for the 30 June 2019 reporting period have not been restated.

The association has recognised a lease liability and right-of-use asset for all leases recognised as operating leases under AASB 117: Leases where the association is the lessee.

The lease liabilities are measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments. The association's incremental borrowing rate as at 1 July 2019 was used to discount the lease payments.

The right of use assets for equipment was measured at its carrying amount as if AASB 16 had been applied since the commencement date, but discounted using the association's weighted average incremental borrowing rate as at 1 July 2019.

The right of use assets for the remaining leases were measured and recognised in the statement of financial position as at 1 July 2019 by taking into consideration the lease liability, prepaid and accrued lease payments previously recognised as at 30 June 2019 (that are related to the lease).

The following practical expedients have been used by the association in applying AASB 16 for the first time:

- for a portfolio of leases that have reasonably similar characteristics, a single discount rate has been applied
 - leases that have remaining lease term of less than 12 months as at 30 June 2020 have been accounted for in the same was as short-term leases
 - the use of hindsight to determine lease terms on contracts that have options to extend or terminate
 - applying AASB 16 to leases previously identified as leases under AASB 117 and Interpretation 4: Determining whether an arrangement contains a lease without reassessing whether they are, or contain, a lease at the date of initial application and
-

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

– not applying AASB 16 to leases previously not identified as containing a lease under AASB 117 and Interpretation 4.

Initial application of AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

The association has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity as at 1 July 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: Revenue and AASB 1004: Contributions.

The association has elected to apply AASB 1058 retrospectively only to contracts that are not completed contracts at the date of initial application. The adjustment to opening retained surplus on 1 July 2019 was an increase of \$nil with a corresponding decrease in contract liabilities. A classification change occurred which resulted in the deferred income now being classified as contract liability in line with wording used in AASB 15.

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
Note 2: Cash assets		
Bank accounts:		
- Cash At Bank - General Account	1,736	2,286
- Community Solutions Cash Reserve	171,585	159,320
- Donation Account	54,723	42,806
- Service Deposit	8	8
- Debit Card	1,980	2,142
Other cash items:		
- Petty Cash	400	400
	<u>230,433</u>	<u>206,962</u>

Note 3: Other Assets

Current

Short term deposits	390,000	390,000
Other	6,227	5,857
	<u>396,227</u>	<u>395,857</u>

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
Note 4: Property, Plant and Equipment		
Leasehold Improvement:		
- At cost	5,088	5,088
-Less: Accumulated depreciation	(4,402)	(3,642)
	<u>686</u>	<u>1,446</u>
Plant and equipment:		
- At cost	54,847	62,006
-Less: Accumulated depreciation	(35,166)	(33,585)
	<u>19,682</u>	<u>28,421</u>
Motor vehicles:		
- At cost	77,929	78,461
-Less: Accumulated depreciation	(8,977)	(18,406)
	<u>68,951</u>	<u>60,055</u>
Right of Use Assets - Premises		
- At cost	117,706	
-Less: Accumulated depreciation	(99,242)	
	<u>18,464</u>	
	<u>107,783</u>	<u>89,922</u>

Note 5: Payables

Unsecured:		
- Other creditors	29,360	21,692
	<u>29,360</u>	<u>21,692</u>
	<u>29,360</u>	<u>21,692</u>

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
Note 6: Financial Liabilities		
Current		
Unsecured:		
- Lease liabilities - Right of Use	18,758	
	<u>18,758</u>	
	<u>18,758</u>	
	<u>18,758</u>	
Note 7: Tax Liabilities		
Current		
GST payable	34,917	26,224
Input tax credit	<u>(12,374)</u>	<u>(6,447)</u>
	<u>22,543</u>	<u>19,777</u>
Note 8: Provisions		
Current		
Employee entitlements*	215,293	230,027
	<u>215,293</u>	<u>230,027</u>
Non Current		
Employee entitlements*	36,185	46,556
	<u>36,185</u>	<u>46,556</u>
* Aggregate employee entitlements liability	251,478	276,583
There were 10 employees at the end of the year		

Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
<hr/>		
Note 9: Other Liabilities		
Current		
Grants In Advance	115,474	130,784
	<u>115,474</u>	<u>130,784</u>

Note 10: Capital and Leasing Commitments

Operating lease expenditure contracted for at balance date that is not cancellable and is not provided for in the accounts:

Payable:

No later than one year	12,990
	<u>12,990</u>

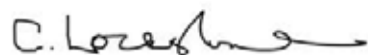
Kara House Inc
ABN 20 305 139 734
Statement by Members of the Board
For the year ended 30 June 2020

The Board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board the Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position, and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Kara House Inc as at 30 June 2020 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:



Catherine Lockstone
Chairperson



Leanne Conrad
Board Member

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Director:
A.R Ager CA, BEc
Registered Company Auditor

Assur Pty. Ltd.
PO Box 987
Level 1, 189 Coleman Parade,
Glen Waverley, VIC 3150
ABN. 78 167 481 834
T: +61 (3) 9561 6311
M: +61 419 541 727
F: +61 (3) 9562 5965
E: tony.ager@optusnet.com.au

Authorised Audit Company
No. 453122

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Kara House Inc (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Board, the Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2020, and summary of significant accounting policies giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2020 and [of] its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with 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 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.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report

The board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as the board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the board 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 the board either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members

Auditor's Responsibilities 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 auditor's 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

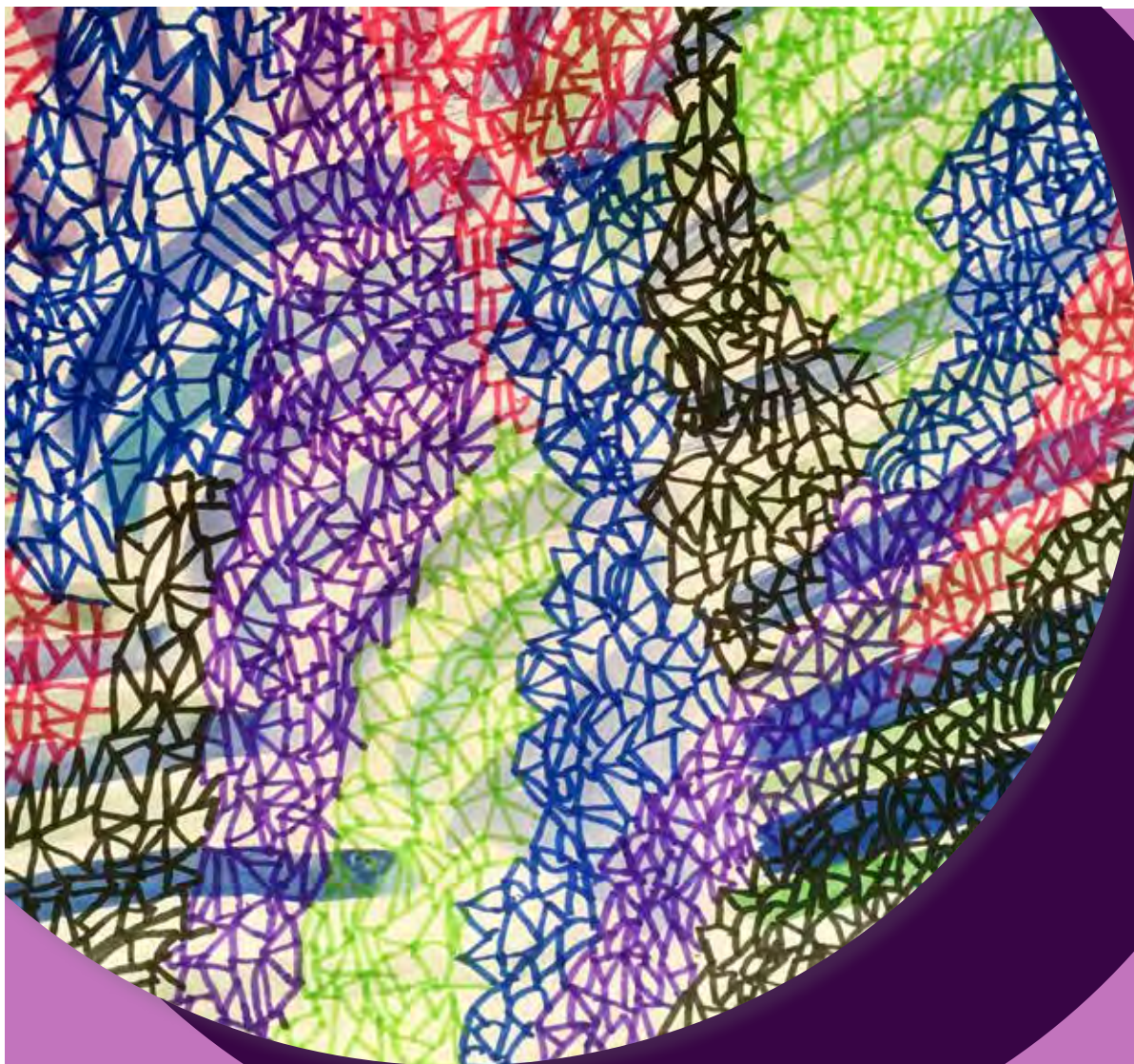
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Signed on: 29 OCTOBER 2020

ASSUR PTY LTD
ASSUR PTY LTD
Authorised Audit Company Number: 453122
Chartered Accountant

Anthony Ager
Anthony Ager - Director Audit & Assurance
Chartered Accountant



Contact details

Kara House Inc

W: karahouse.org.au

P: 1800 900 520

E: admin@karahouse.org.au

H: Monday to Friday 9.00pm – 5.00pm

A: P.O. Box 308 Burwood, VIC 3125

ABN: 20 305 139 734

*Supporting and empowering women
and children impacted by family violence*



Kara House