



# *National Assembly III*

Marist Association of Saint Marcellin Champagnat

7 JUNE | 27 JULY | 26-28 AUGUST 2022

## Ministry Reports



**Marist Association of  
Saint Marcellin Champagnat**

**National  
Assembly  
Report**

## Introduction

Since the last Association Assembly in 2019, there have been important developments in governance for the Marist Association of Saint Marcellin Champagnat and subsequently for Marist Schools Australia. In this report a brief overview is provided for Association Assembly participants and all Association members.

## Formation and Coresponsibility

The Association evolved at grass roots after three decades of the Marist Brothers prioritising sustained, strategic, and well-resourced formation among lay Marists, particularly those who worked in Marist schools. Today the Association is a contemporary expression of the Marist spiritual family and a true exercise in co-responsibility for the many and varied Marist ministries. The Marist Association is now approximately 1000 people strong and has the formal support of the Australian Catholic Bishops.

## Formalising shared governance responsibilities – the Association Council

With the establishment of the Marist Association in 2015, the Provincial Council delegated the Association’s governing Council with leadership responsibilities for all Marist schools and ministries. From its inception, the Association Council committed to two goals concerning governance. First was to gain Canonical recognition for the Association, as a new Marist entity in the Church. Second was to gain civil recognition in Australia by becoming a company under the Australian Corporations Act. After much work here in Australia and in Rome, the quest for Canonical recognition continues. In 2021 the creation of the new company, Marist Association of Saint Marcellin Champagnat Limited (MASMC Ltd) was realised.

The Councillors for MASMC Ltd are “Directors” in the language of the Corporations Act. The Councillors are responsible for the life of the broader Association with emphasis on nurturing the spiritual family that is the heart of the Association. *Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat Limited* continues to lead and steward the core mission of the Marists of *making Jesus Christ known and loved, in the way of Mary*, through evangelisation, education, and other apostolic works. The members of this company are the Provincial, three Provincial Council members, and two Marist lay people. Canonical oversight is exercised and facilitated through this structure.

## MASMC Ltd Members/Trustees



MASMC Ltd Members/Trustees: Brother Peter Carroll FMS (Chair), Brother Darren Burge FMS, Brother Graham Neist FMS, Brother Dennis Cooper FMS, Ms Gail Coates, Ms Carole Wark

### MASMC Ltd Constitution

The preamble to the MASMC Ltd is instructive. This is a public document, available on the relevant regulatory authorities' websites, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), and Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission (ACNC). Consistent with the founding principles of the Association, the Constitution states:

***The Marist Association is a faith-based community whose members identify as Marists, provide spiritual support for one another and desire to share responsibility for the vitality and integrity of Marist life and mission. They take their inspiration from St Marcellin Champagnat as they continue the work that was begun by the Marist Brothers in Australia and take on new responsibilities. The Company is formed to continue many of the works of the Trustees of the Marist Brothers and the Association and, in particular, to assume the governance, management and conduct of the Association and other apostolic work.***



MASMC Ltd Council Members: Brother Peter Carroll FMS (Chair), Ms Jennifer Elvery, Ms Jasmine Brown, Ms Madeline Forde, Brother Michael Green FMS, Professor Brother David Hall FMS, Ms Julia Lederwasch, Mr Daniel Lynch, Ms Donna McLaughlin, Ms Marcelle Moggs

### *The evolution of Marist Schools Australia*

In 2011 the Marist Brothers established Marist Schools Australia. This new entity was designed to provide appropriate expertise in governance, leadership, professional learning, spiritual formation and youth ministry for Marist schools governed by the Province and those Marist schools governed by various Catholic education offices in 19 different Dioceses across Australia. An important role of Marist Schools Australia has been to foster the important relationship and partnership the Marists have enjoyed with each Diocese and Archdiocese in which the Marists are present.

In 2019 the Association Council established a new Committee, named the *Marist National Schools Council*. Chaired by Professor Brother David Hall FMS, the National Schools Council comprised of leading Australian Catholic educators with backgrounds in school, system, and tertiary leadership. The creation of the National Schools Council provided additional capacity for the Association Council in regard to school governance, whilst also positioning a strategic contingency in the dynamic school regulatory environment in jurisdictions across Australia.

In light of developments in regard to the incorporation of MASMC Ltd during the first 6 months of 2021, important issues associated with education regulators were identified and discussed by the Association and Provincial Councils. With appropriate legal counsel, both Councils supported the creation of MSA Ltd, with MASMC Ltd as the sole member, in order to strengthen, and make more robust, a governance structure suited to the new and emerging regulatory environment for schools in Australia. These two Companies became operational on 1 January 2022.

With the creation of MSA Ltd, the majority of the members of the National Schools Council were appointed by the Association Council as Directors of MSA Ltd. The incorporation of Marist Schools Australia has been widely recognised as a natural evolution consistent with best practice in Catholic school governance as evident throughout the country in recent times.

### *The Constitution of MSA Ltd*

The preamble to the MSA Ltd briefly describes the evolution of Marist governance before incorporation and is a public document, available on the relevant regulatory authorities' websites, the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC), and Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission (ACNC). The Constitution states:

***The Company is formed to continue the Education Ministry previously conducted by the Trustees of the Marist Brothers ... The Company will continue the work of the office of Marist Schools Australia, previously conducted by Trustees of the Marist Brothers, in providing support to the Colleges (of the Trustees) and services to the Marist member schools.***

***Prior to the incorporation of the Company, Marist Association of St Marcellin Champagnat Limited (MASMC Ltd) was formed by the Association and Trustees of the Marist Brothers to continue many of the apostolic works, activities and operations of the Association and Trustees of the Marist Brothers ... MASMC Ltd has as its primary object and purpose the continuance of the core mission of the Province of making Jesus Christ known and loved, in the way of Mary, through evangelisation and education.***



#### **MSA Ltd Board of Directors:**

Professor Brother David Hall FMS (Chair), Emeritus Professor Tania Aspland, Dr Michael Bezzina, Ms Elizabeth Denny, Mr Peter Grace, Ms Sandra Harvey, Brother Daniel Hollamby FMS, Mr Noel Kennedy, Mr Ross Tarlinton, Mr Peter Turner

## *Organisational considerations for the Association and Marist Schools Australia*

### *i. Dual roles - the Executive Officer of the Association and the National Director of Marist Schools Australia*

The dual role of the EO of the Association Council and National Director of Marist Schools Australia was instituted due to the size of the education ministry for the Marists in Australia as well as the natural synergies evident with associated ministries. The dual role is to continue in these initial iterations of MASM Ltd and MSA Ltd with a clear timeframe established for review. This strategy allows the new companies to be consolidated in an establishment phase. Discernment and decisions in regard to restructuring are to be undertaken at a future stage.

### *ii. The MSA Leadership team's demonstrable capacity as the Executive of MSA Ltd*

Discerned in the decision to create MSA Ltd, was the emerging exacting education governance requirements by government regulators. In order for MSA Ltd to exercise its responsibilities, the MSA Executive (the Leadership Team) is required to be appropriately resourced professionally in key areas such as educational leadership, business and finance management, as well as child safety and compliance. The size of the schools' ministry with 16,000 students in the governed schools, close to \$400 million turnover per annum, and managing assets worth many hundreds of millions of dollars, illustrates in some basic terms the importance of an appropriately resourced MSA Executive. In addition to this are the 34,000 students in our Marist schools currently governed by Diocesan education offices.

### *iii. Shared roles across the Association and Marist Schools Australia*

Currently, the employees in the positions of Association/MSA Head of Business and Child Safeguarding and Compliance have been identified, appointed and employed with the necessary skill sets for work directly associated with the schools. Importantly both positions report to the MSA National Director in this regard. It is estimated approximately 80% of the Business Manager's time is devoted to MSA.

The Child Safeguarding and Compliance Officer's work similarly is designed to support the schools first and foremost. The fact that the current employee assists the Association in the role of Company Secretary has been a more recent development. It is estimated 80% of the Child Safeguarding and Compliance Officer's time is normally devoted to MSA.

The Association and MSA senior executive structure, including existing lines of reporting and accountability to the Association EO and MSA National Director, remain unchanged with the creation of MASM Ltd and MSA Ltd.

### *iv. Formation*

A key issue for the Province, the Association and MSA is formation. Placing the MLF most appropriately in the organisational structure has been vital. Historically the MLF predates MSA and reported to the leadership of the Province's education ministry. When MSA was formed, naturally the MLF moved to that same line of reporting. As the Association evolved, the brief for the MLF expanded to other Marist ministries and then with the integration of the Association Pastoral Team in 2020, the brief of the MLF broadened further to include the life of the Association, and the formation of all members. In the midst of these developments, the lines of reporting gradually changed. The Director of the MLF formally reported to the position of Association EO for the non school areas of activity and to the position of National Director, MSA for school related areas of activity. It is an important distinction when explaining ourselves to various government regulatory authorities, particularly in light of expenditure of government funding for education purposes.

The current reporting and accountability structure for the Director of the MLF to the Association EO/MSA National Director is maintained with the establishment of the new companies.

*v. Income and expenditure MASMC Ltd and MSA Ltd*

The education regulators have focussed carefully on the constitutions of the two companies. The directors of the companies, as well as the real business of the companies and their respective board activities must be clearly represented in the agendas, minutes, and financial records. Income and expenditure of MSA Ltd are important considerations.

MSA income is derived from funding by the Province through the Association, service fees from the governed schools, and membership fees of the Diocesan governed MSA schools for which a host of services are provided, most importantly formation. The MSA membership fees and the benefits of membership are carefully spelt out in current MSA agreements with Diocesan Directors of Catholic Education and in some cases directly with the Provincial and local Bishop.

Expenditure is for the most part on salaries and hence the place of different employees within the company structures is important to delineate for regulators. As the major service provider through MSA to the schools, the MLF Team is best placed at this point in time as employees.

*MSA Ltd Strategic documents*

Our Mission

We exist to support the Catholic Church's evangelising mission to make Jesus Christ known and loved and to ensure quality education in the Marist tradition through our schools.

Our Vision

Our vision is that our schools are faith filled communities of high quality, contemporary evangelisation in the way of Mary, with proven excellence in achievement for all young people.

MSA Ltd Strategic Priorities 2021 – 2024

1. Catholic Identity and Marist Spirituality
2. Learning and Teaching in the Marist Way
3. Governance and Strategic Leadership
4. Student and Staff Wellbeing

[MSA Ltd Strategic Plan 2021-2024](#)

The MSA Ltd Vision and Strategic Plan was developed in collaboration with Principals, MSA Executive and the MSA Board of Directors. Each year an annual plan is derived from this document and a subsequent report presented to the Board on the work achieved.



# Marist

MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY

## 2022 National Assembly - MYM Report

**21** schools involved in Game Changers  
**36** schools attend Connect Nights  
**43** schools attend Student Leaders Gathering / Summit

*Number of students involved in...*

**Game Changers = 1,000 (across 80 youth groups\*)**

**Marist Connect Nights = 300+ (across 16 events)**

**Student Leaders Gathering/Summit = 300+ (across 4 events)**

*\*projected numbers as of 1 January 2022*

### **Number of MYM Staff**

*Full Time = 3 (BNE, SYD, MEL)*

*Part Time = 10 (BNE, SYD, MEL, ADL, PER)*

## **OVER 65 EVENTS ACROSS AUSTRALIA**

*including events scheduled for Terms 3 and 4*







# GAME CHANGERS

## Game Changers

Game Changers is a comprehensive Catholic youth ministry program for students in Marist Schools from Years 7-12. It seeks to form Christian leaders by making Jesus Christ known and loved among them. Highlighted by a strong sense of family spirit and community, regular meetings, faith formation experiences and service opportunities, students are invited to become game changers through their participation in the youth group.

During the three two-year tracks (Le Rosey, La Valla and The Hermitage), students engage in meetings on various topics (Jesus, Mary, Marcellin, Identity, Community, Ministry, Indigenous Spirituality, Vocations and Laudato Si).

In 2022, twenty-one Marist schools across Australia were engaged in Game Changers. The projected number of students involved was around 1,000, in 80 youth groups. However, due to COVID's impact on our school communities, it is expected that these numbers will be considerably lower.

Reflections from Marist Principals regarding the Game Changers' impact on their school community:

*"A wonderful, authentic Catholic Identity formation program, helping students be actively involved with the faith life of the school community".*

*"Students tend to emerge as leaders in their year level and the College".*

*"A sense of positivity and involvement ripples through the community from the students".*

*"The development of mentors and students is evident as the program evolves".*

This year has been about re-assessing how Game Changers can grow in our Marist school communities. The MYM team has developed additional meetings for the program furthermore, the meetings have been reviewed and adjusted to ensure examples, activities and stories are relevant and engaging to the students. A revised edition will be made available to the schools by the end of Term 4.

Though COVID has been identified as the main challenge school communities are facing to successfully implement Game Changers, students', Mentors' and Principals' support to the program has been inspiring and encouraging to MYM staff.

## ***Game Changers Projects***

Game Changers Projects serve as a template for primary schools to execute a specific social justice campaign in their community. Through Game Changers Projects, students build a sense of family spirit and solidarity over a school term by engaging in seven lunchtime or after school meetings. In these meetings, students will plan and execute a specific social justice campaign designed to meet a need within the local or wider Marist community.

MYM offers four different themed GC Projects (Water, Air, Earth, and Fire) aimed at Year 5 and Year 6 Students.

In 2022 three schools commenced GC Projects: St Patrick's Primary School (Kilmore, VIC), Newman College (Churchlands, WA), and St Joseph's School (Northam, WA).

## ***The GC Mentors Pathway***

The Mentors Pathway serves as the main platform for providing formation, skilling and equipping of school staff involved in the Game Changers program. The Mentors Pathway aims to build the capacity of faith leaders by assisting GC Mentors to implement Game Changers in Marist schools through moments of connection, reflection, formation, and application. For two years, Mentors will participate in twelve accredited modules, delivered in a Masterclass style by engaging professionals.

These Masterclasses are presented during the MYM Formators Conference (Term 1 and MYM Formators Workshops (Term 2, 3 and 4).

The 2022 MYM Formators Conference was attended by 73 Marist educators (compared to 54 in 2021 and 48 in 2020). A survey indicated that 94% of respondents acknowledged the Conference helped them grow as a Marist educator and 93% acknowledged the Conference inspired them on their personal spiritual journey.

**Reflections from GC Mentors regarding the 2022 Conference and Term 2 Workshop:**

*"A moment to reflect on my own spirituality, and explore how to encourage others on their journey in a healthy way".*

*"An inspiring workshop that challenged me to think deeply about where I am at on my faith journey".*



## ***MYM Forums***

The MYM Forums are a newly developed one-day MYM program to address one of the most critical needs for young people today: providing a space where students can gather and discuss matters of life and faith. Students are invited into a shared space of encounter and engagement, allowing them to dialogue with and consider the viewpoints of peers, facilitators, and guest presenters, as well as reflect on their commitment to being Marist in the way of Jesus, Mary and St Marcellin Champagnat.

The MYM Forums are hosted at various year levels for students in NSW, ACT and QLD but can be provided to each school to integrate in the schools' year level retreat days (PowerPoints, handbook, and journal). Each MYM forum has a theme, and presentations are embedded with the current Marist theme.

## ***Marist Connect Nights***


Marist Connects occur across Marist Schools in Australia. They are held once a term for both Year 11 and 12 students. Organised by the regional Marist Youth Ministry team, Marist students from a similar geographic location gather in the community and participate in faith formation and social justice opportunities. These gatherings allow students to meet other students from the wider Marist family in a fun and engaging way.

## ***Student Leaders Gathering/Summit***

The Marist Student Leaders Gathering is an annual event hosted by the Marist Youth Ministry on behalf of Marist Schools Australia. It provides a unique environment for student leaders to come together over a 3-day camp to explore the characteristics of leadership, in particular 'leading in the Marist way'. Gatherings are hosted in Perth, Sydney, Brisbane, and Melbourne.

## ***MYM Around the Well***

During the height of the Pandemic, the MYM Leadership Team decided to host regular moments of connection between MYM Regional Assistants and several youth ministers at schools. Presenters would facilitate workshops on relevant themes in a fun and engaging way, p. This was a great instrument to support the young people throughout the extensive lockdown periods. Now lockdowns are a thing of the past the MYM LT, is re-evaluating the how these Around the Well moments could assist Marist youth ministers across Australia.





## **Young Marists**

Young Adults are actively engaged in Adelaide through a variety of social, formation, and ministry activities and in Melbourne through the Bread Run collaboration with the Exodus Community. The success of the recent Marist Young Adult Retreat at Mittagong has provided a refreshed momentum in this space, and we look forward to welcoming young adults to our upcoming events.

## **YA Retreat 2022**

Eighteen Young Marists gathered from 1-3 July at the Hermitage in Mittagong for the annual Marist Young Adult Retreat. The Young Marists enjoyed a weekend of Marist hospitality and spirituality, with Justin Goulding providing thought provoking, insightful and engaging sessions. The feedback from the young adults has been encouraging and hopefully has set the scene for further locale initiatives.

Of those who responded to the survey about the retreat, 86% agreed, the retreat helped strengthening their faith, while all responded agreed the retreat helped them value their Marist identity more.

Some further reflections from the young Marists about the retreat:

*"Profound thought-provoking and engaging sessions."*

*"They allowed opportunities for true connection, vulnerability, and growth."*

*"Knowing that I was surrounded by like-minded young people - made me feel less alone and gave me hope!"*

*"My takeaway is that God is all around us, and not distant AND that mission has a church, and everyone can contribute to this mission."*

*"I feel renewed in my passion and commitment to my faith journey!"*





## ***What will 2023 bring?***

The plan is to see additional schools engage with the Game Changers program, so more students can experience the beauty and richness of the Marist spirituality. Furthermore, we aim to see an increase in the number of students on Marist Connect nights, the GC Projects and the MYM Forums. Besides ongoing local opportunities to engage young Marists, the MYM Leadership Team is planning another Young Adult Retreat in July 2023, considering how to young Marists can be involved in the World Youth Day (August 2023), and hoping to re-imagine an overseas Young Adult Immersion.

## ***Thank you***

On behalf of the MYM Leadership Team, the MYM staff and volunteers, I would like to thank the Marist Brothers for this unique opportunity to be engaged with the young people of Australia. Furthermore, I would like to thank the Marist Schools Australia Leadership Team, and staff, school Principals, teachers, and support staff for their ongoing support to the work we do with their students. Finally a word of thanks to all Marists who support us in prayers or any other way as we journey with our young people.

Kind regards,

**Edwin Bakker**

*MYM National Coordinator*

**Marist**

MARIST YOUTH MINISTRY



## Marist180 – National Assembly Report

### What has been happening in Marist180

Over the last three years Marist180 has continued to implement and grow its footprint of services across NSW. It now runs 9 program areas over 19 different service streams with a team of over 500 operating from close to 60 locations (residential homes, offices, construction sites) in NSW, QLD, and the ACT. Every year we work with more than 600 young people, vulnerable clients, and their families.

Operating 24/7, the Marist180 team has delivered 437,000 direct care hours to young people in residential care, supplied close to 55,000 meals, and provided 7,500 hours of training to direct care staff over the last 12 months. The additional complexity of COVID meant the Marist180 team also managed 890 incidents since June 2021. Whilst a small number of corporate support staff worked from home during COVID lockdowns, all residential care homes remained open and staffed. Omicron saw at least a third of our team isolating at any given time over the Christmas New Year period. As always, the team pulled together as a whole with team members doing longer and extra shifts to ensure our young people never went without necessary supports. We also became quite adept at doing thorough house cleans when young people or team members tested positive.

We hear and quote often from St Marcellin Champagnat, *“To raise children, we must love them and love them equally.”* What does this look like in Marist180 when dealing with some of the most traumatised and vulnerable young people in society. Young people who have been abandoned by family, society, and the system. The behaviours these young people display can be confronting, violent, and at odds with the law. Not always those we would naturally gravitate to with love. However, if we look at the scriptural use of ‘agape,’ this love refers to a pure, willful, sacrificial love that intentionally desires another’s highest good, then this is what every team member at Marist180 models each day. They may not use the language of love – they live it.

The aspiration for all vulnerable people that are supported through Marist180 is to create hope for the future, create positive change. There have been numerous positive stories of children, young people and vulnerable clients doing 180’s and moving into independent living, stable employment, higher education and living their best lives. This takes persistence, commitment of time and an audacious belief in the least, lost and forgotten. It is not always straightforward and can be full of obstacles but the Marist180 team continue to witness to the mission of the Church simply by how they engage and support the many orphans and disadvantaged persons that come into our services. It is closely aligned to the healing ministry of Jesus and his love for the poor and outcasts.

Like Mary, we journey and stand by with the children, young people, and vulnerable clients in our care. Even in the darkest of hours we are there. The many images of Mary cradling Jesus at birth and in death and being a constant through his ministry, at the cross, and in the post-resurrection Church is akin to how our Marist180 team is present to those who need protection and refuge. Whether it is supporting clients at court, in prisons, in hospitals, and in workplaces to advocating to government, communities and neighbours to change their attitudes and responses to our clients, as Marists we draw on our audacious hearts and a daring spirit to say YES in responding to the most urgent needs of our children, young people, and those at the margins. (Guiding Principle 6)

## Marist180 Programs

### Daramu Aboriginal Youth Service

The Daramu program provides a range of culturally responsive, early intervention services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth who may be either at risk of involvement in criminal behaviour or have been in recent contact with the police, courts, or Juvenile Justice NSW.

Through intensive case management and culturally specific programs, young people are supported to choose positive, pro-social pathways and to address the specific issues which may be influencing their propensity to offend. Young people are also assisted to access services such as educational and/or vocational training, youth health services, counselling, accommodation providers, as well as to enhance their knowledge and connection to traditional culture. Daramu assists 40 young people and their families every year.

### Mudjin Byala Family Yarning Circles

Mudjin Byala Family Yarning Circles is a unique family support initiative which utilises the dynamics of the yarning circle to engage vulnerable Aboriginal families and young people in an inclusive, culturally responsive problem-solving process with local Elders and/or respected community members, as well as with appropriate local service providers. Through this collaborative problem-solving process, social inclusion and social participation is promoted, connections and linkages are made and maintained and skills and resilience are developed. Mudjin Byala assists 20 young people and their families every year.

### Marri Ba Vocation, Training and Employment Centre

Our Marri-Ba Vocational Training and Employment Centre (VTEC) provides employment opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients across Sydney and helps them build up their professional skillset. We partner with organisations that are passionate about achieving cultural diversity in their workforce and connect our clients to employment opportunities, in a variety of industries.

The Marri-Ba VTEC program is delivered by a skilled, experienced, and passionate Aboriginal team. Our cultural support isn't delivered in one session, it forms part of our casework practice and is evident in daily conversations, family connections, personal barrier management, career planning, health, language, literacy and numeracy support and training support. Marri Ba VTEC supports 90 people every year to find employment opportunities.

### Time to Work

Time to Work supports Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults exiting custody to prepare them to find employment and reintegrate into the community upon their release. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adults who are within three-to-four months of their release from prison receive support from a Marist180 Caseworker. Marist180 completes a comprehensive assessment of the client's employment barriers, and helps develop a detailed transition plan, and a facilitated transfer from their in-prison service provider to their post-release employment service provider, where possible. The Time to Work program support 40 people leaving prison each year.

### Specialist Homelessness Services

Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) provides accommodation and/or casework support to clients at risk of homelessness and currently experiencing homelessness. The program supports to remain safely in their existing housing, or to secure and maintain stable housing.

SHS includes:

- The HYAP (Homelessness Youth Accommodation Program), a program that supports client and families before family breakdown.
- The Juvenile Justice crisis bed (located at Maggie's Place), which supports young people released on bail who cannot return to their family home.
- Going Home Staying Home, a program that provides refuge accommodation (Going Home) and outreach support and transitional housing (Staying Home).

### Homeless Youth Assistance Program (HYAP)

HYAP supports children aged 12–15 who are experiencing difficulties in their family home, using a trauma-informed and therapeutic approach. Our Caseworkers aim to maintain each Client's placement in the family home by providing early intervention through Outreach, and in some cases providing temporary accommodation, with the focus of restoring the Client back into the family home.

If returning to the family home is not a safe option, the Caseworker will help the individual find alternative long-term accommodation. HYAP is a program run in conjunction with Mackillop Family Services who hold 60% of the contract and

Marist180 hold 40% of the contract. HYAP can only have two Clients at one time for the accommodation component of the program, however Outreach endeavours to assist approximately 20 Clients per year.

### Juvenile Justice Crisis Accommodation

Marist180 closely works with Juvenile Justice NSW to support young offenders who are on supervision orders and require crisis accommodation. Our accommodation service ensures Juvenile Justice NSW Clients have access to accommodation during times of crisis when they are close to being without a home, have recently been discharged from custody or are in a placement that has broken down.

We accommodate Clients for 28 days while our caseworkers help them find stable, long-term accommodation or restore the Client to their family home.

### Going Home Staying Home Program

The Going Home Staying Home Program is covered under the one contract however Marist180 has separated the program into two service delivery factions. Going Home comprises of a Crisis Refuge and ensuring the Client is restored back with their family or a safe environment, while Staying Home comprises of Outreach support, to ensure the Client remains at home in a safe environment or resides in the Transitional Independent Living Program.

Marist180 currently has three locations for Crisis Accommodation, The Siding, Maggies House, and HAYS. The Siding House will accommodate Clients for up to two weeks. Maggies and HAYS will accommodate Clients for up to 3 months.

Hebersham Aboriginal Youth Service (HAYS) provides a culturally responsive, supported accommodation service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people aged 16-18 years who are homeless or at risk of homelessness

### Staying Home – Transitional Independent Living

Developing the skills needed to live independently is an important step for people looking to build their future. This program helps individuals, couples and young families who are ready to live independently but may need some support. We give them the opportunity to learn the skills they need in a safe and supportive environment.

Marist180 caseworkers help our Clients develop the confidence to live independently through a trauma-informed and therapeutic approach. Marist180 offers accommodation in Guildford, Granville, and Girraween for 3 to 12 months, depending on the Client's needs. During this time, Marist180 caseworkers will help Clients enhance their ability to live independently. They'll also encourage Clients to engage in education and employment, which will ultimately help secure longer-term accommodation. Marist180 partners with Evolve and Community Housing Limited to manage lease signing.

### Targeted Earlier Intervention [TEI]

Targeted Earlier Intervention [previously known as Getting It Together Scheme] is an early intervention program funded by the DCJ to empower clients who are and/or have been affected by alcohol and/or drugs.

The program provides services and support for Clients to transition to or resume self-sufficient living, free of dependence on alcohol and/or drugs. Marist180 offers TEI via brokerage, connecting clients with DCJ funding to support income, health, mental health, social support, housing, justice, education, and employment and training needs e.g., purchase of a new laptop to enable return to school.

### Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minors:

The Unaccompanied Humanitarian Minor (UHM) Program provides care to non-citizen children who have been assessed by the Department of Home Affairs as entering and residing in Australia without a parent or legal guardian. Clients aged 3 – 18 years old, granted an eligible protection or humanitarian visa will generally be referred to the UHM Program.

Clients receiving services under the UHM Program are broadly categorised as either:

- an 'IGOC minor' (the policy term for a minor for whom the Minister is their legally recognized guardian under the Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946 [IGOC Act]); or
- a 'non-IGOC minor' (the policy term for an unaccompanied minor who entered Australia in circumstances that are not specified in the IGOC Act and are therefore not under the Minister's guardianship). Whether these minors are eligible for the UHM Program is considered on a case-by-case basis by the department.

### Permanency Support Program

Children and young people enter the Permanency Support Program when they can no longer remain in their family home, and they are at risk of entering or have already entered the care of the Minister of the Department of Communities and Justice [DCJ], whom the courts assign legal parental responsibility via care orders.



When a child or young person can no longer remain in their family home, they will be referred to one of the other services of the PSP. These services are:

1. Relative/Kinship Care, Foster Care and Aboriginal Foster Care
2. Intensive Therapeutic Care [ITC]
3. Supported Independent Living [SIL]

Marist180 provides ITC and SIL services under this contract. Intensive Therapeutic Care services aim to provide a holistic, individualised, multidisciplinary approach to address the complex impacts of trauma.

The ITC program encompasses 5 services:

1. Intensive Therapeutic Transitional Care [ITTC]
2. Therapeutic Sibling Option Placement [TSOP]
3. Therapeutic Supported Independent Living [TSIL]
4. Intensive Therapeutic Care Home [ITCH]
5. Therapeutic Home-Based Care [THBC]

### Intensive Therapeutic Transitional Care [ITTC]

An Intensive Therapeutic Transitional Care Assessment House provides young people with a safe environment for a period of intensive care and clinical assessment lasting up to **13 weeks**. During this time, the therapeutic specialists and multidisciplinary specialist team assess the young person's baseline behaviours and individual needs, identify the best placement options for them, identify future step-down options that may work for them, and begin implementing interventions and case planning. The Marist teamwork with DCJ and other service providers to successfully transition the young person into the most appropriate placement for them. An ITTC can have four young people staying at a time, who are 12 years or over, with complex and high support needs, and a CAT score of High.

### Intensive Therapeutic Care Home [ITCH]

The Intensive Therapeutic Care Home placement provides a safe and home-like environment, and day-to-day intensive therapeutic support from qualified, trained, and consistent Direct Care Staff. This is a long-term placement with the aim of transitioning young people to a less intensive placement type and a permanent home within **two years**.

Staff provide consistent and planned daily interactions and routines, casework support, access to specialist services, transport, supervision, support, and regular reviews and assessments of young people's changing needs. An ITC Home houses a maximum of four young people, who must be 12 years or over, with a CAT score of High.

### Therapeutic Sibling Option Placement [TSOP]

The Therapeutic Sibling Option placement delivers full-time, live-in care by a consistent authorised Carer in either their own home or a home provided by Marist180. Marist provide the young people with ongoing casework support, respite, and access to specialist therapeutic services. This placement option is for siblings or related groups of young people and is designed to support sibling groups to live together as a family unit.

To enter TSOP, young people must be part of a group of three siblings/relatives at a minimum, at least one of whom requires Intensive Therapeutic Care and has a CAT score of High. Children under 12 years can be placed in TSOP to keep a sibling/relative group together.

### Therapeutic Home-Based Care [THBC]

The Therapeutic Home-Based Care placement delivers full-time, live-in care by a consistent authorised Carer in either their own home or a home provided by Marist180. The carer's primary role is to look after the young person. This is primarily an individual, 1:1 placement, but may apply to related groups in special circumstances. THBC differs from foster care in that the young person receives the therapeutic specialist services offered as part of Intensive Therapeutic Care.

Young people must be 12 years or older, have completed a Trauma Treatment Service, and have a CAT score of High.

### Therapeutic Supported Independent Living [TSIL]

The Therapeutic Supported Independent Living program is a 24-month, time-limited placement that aims to prepare young people for independent living and self-reliance by providing furnished accommodation, casework support, life skills programs, specialist services, and therapeutic care.

This program aims to

- prevent young people from transitioning out of ITC into homelessness services
- to maximise a young person's capacity for independent living
- and to improve social, economic, and health outcomes for young people leaving care.

TSIL exists for young people who demonstrate a preference for living on their own, and/or where other permanency options do not exist. Young people must be 16 years or older, with a CAT score of High, and must be able to demonstrate a basic capacity to care for themselves, as assessed in interview and through independent living assessments. The young person contributes towards the rent and utilities for their share of costs.

Housing arrangements may include:

- Supported shared housing – 3-4 young people, who do not require daily supervision, live in a share house.
- Lead tenant households – 2-4 young people, requiring daily supervision, have a live-in or volunteer Authorised Carer. The carer receives free rent and utilities to oversee the day-to-day running of the home and provide positive role modelling and receives 24-hour support. Marist180 provides casework support.
- Supported tenancies – 1-2 young people, who are not yet ready for a shared living situation, are not suitable for lead tenant arrangement, and require daily casework support.

This service is like Supported Independent Living [SIL], but is considered an ITC Service, as it is designed for young people with more complex needs, who require intensive therapeutic support and has a therapeutic specialist attached.

### Supported Independent Living [SIL]

This service is like Therapeutic Supported Independent Living [TSIL] but is not a part of the Intensive Therapeutic Care services as it is designed for young people with less complex needs, who require less intensive therapeutic support.

The Supported Independent Living placement is a 24-month, time-limited accommodation and support program that aims to prepare and support young people for independent living and self-reliance before they exit care, or to support them after leaving care. SIL exists for young people who demonstrate a preference for living on their own, and/or where other permanency options do not exist. Young people must be 16 years or older, with a CAT score between 1 and 4, and must be able to demonstrate a basic capacity to care for themselves, as assessed in interview and through independent living assessments. The young person contributes towards the rent and utilities for their share of costs. The program aims to:

- prevent young people from transitioning from residential care into homelessness services
- maximise a young person's capacity for independent living
- and improve social, economic, and health outcomes for young people leaving care

### Family Preservation:

The Family Preservation Program (FPP) is contracted by DCJ to work with

- Families who are at risk of having their children removed due to a risk of significant harm;
- Authorised carers of children in OOHC at risk of placement breakdown; and
- A family working towards restoration following a child's entry into OOHC.

With a child/young person between the ages of 0-15 years placed in Out of Home Care.

The FPP supports families within the Metro West Regional area (Lithgow, Blue Mountains, Penrith, Hawkesbury, Blacktown, Parramatta, Holroyd, and Auburn).

The program is 12-24 weeks long and includes assessing a family's strengths and areas that require additional support and uses a strengths-based approach to support families to learn new parenting skills. This work occurs inside the family's home or within their local community.

## Marist180 – National Assembly Report

### The road ahead for Marist180

Marist180 has recently completed its Strategic Plan for 2022 to 2025 which will officially launch on 1 July to coincide with the new financial year. The planning process commenced with our Board retreat in June 2021 and involved many levels of the organisation reflecting on the last few years and discerning our call to imagine a positive future and where the impact of Marist180's mission should be focused. Marist180 remains hopeful about the future and dares to dream with ambition that we will build a positive future for all people in our communities.

Marist180's approach in the next three years will centre around five strategic pillars - Integration, Our People, Our Capability, Our Clients, and Impact. Our Mission remains to create hope in the lives of young people at risk and their families and Our Vision, in the spirit of St Marcellin Champagnat, is to create an inclusive community where young people at risk, and their families, are inspired and equipped to live fulfilling lives and contribute to the common good.

Drawing on our five Marist characteristics, the values we will live are:

- **Respect:** We support people's rights, encourage diversity and seek inclusiveness.
- **Belonging:** We value relationships built on trust, fairness and lasting connections.
- **Presence:** We are there for each other and those we support.
- **Compassion:** We are committed to support those who are vulnerable and in need.
- **Simplicity:** We say what we believe and show it.

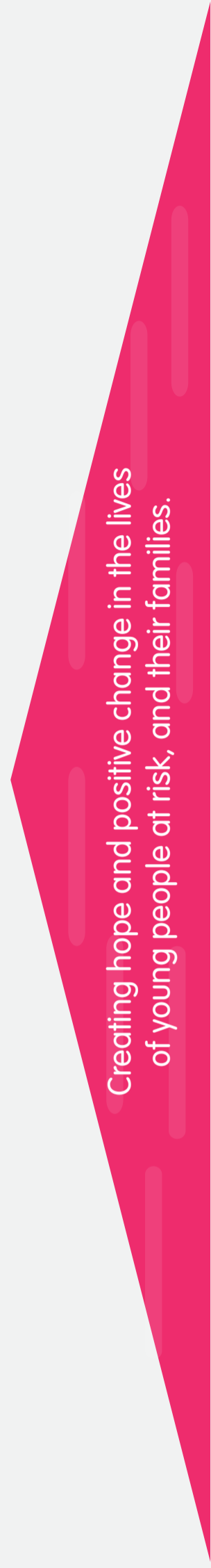
We will continue to be a disruptive edge by pursuing the following agenda:

- Agitating governments to raise the age of young people being supported in out of home care from 18 to 21 (The Home Stretch)
- Changing community attitudes and stereotypes of young people in care
- Working collegially across communities to address the overrepresentation of Aboriginal young people in out of home care and juvenile justice
- Seeking better support for those at risk of, currently experiencing, or transitioning from homelessness (From Street To Home)
- Supporting the increasing number of unaccompanied humanitarian minors seeking asylum and refuge in Australia.

Whilst we operate in a complex and rapidly changing landscape, and navigate complicated legislative and regulatory environments, our inspiration draws from our "anchor of hope that will open new horizons, making us capable of dreaming what is not even imaginable." Pope Francis also pointed to "Mary as the great icon of hope, transformed to her very depths and this hope is similar in that it changes us within, it changes our attitudes." (Pope Francis, Hope the hidden virtue, 2013) I would ask the Association to keep all the Marist180 team in their prayers asking for the grace to be people of hope.

# Our strategy

## 2022-2025



Creating hope and positive change in the lives of young people at risk, and their families.

### Our mission

An inclusive community where young people at risk, and their families, are inspired and equipped to live fulfilling lives and contribute to the common good.

### Our vision

Integration ..... Capability ..... Our people ..... Our clients ..... Our impact .....

Our organisational integration enables efficient growth of capability, service excellence, and social impact.

Our organisational innovation capability helps Our People to exceed expectations.

Our workplace is led by love, nurtures learning and connection, enabling Our People to be the best they can be.

Our commitment to research and evidence based practice enhances our client outcomes.

We are a trusted, respected, and influential leader, that inspires hope and makes a positive impact.

### Our strategic pillars

Respect

Belonging

Presence

Compassion

Simplicity

### Our values



Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) is the international aid and development agency of the Marist Brothers ministries in Australia. Our vision is a world where young people have hope and the opportunity to access education. Our mission is to partner with communities in the Asia-Pacific region to facilitate access to education for young people in need.

AMS has developed from a long history of aid and development activities by the Marist Brothers Province of Australia. The Brothers started financially supporting and managing overseas aid and development programs in the Solomon Islands in 1938.

In 2021, we worked in 18 countries and delivered more than \$2.2 million to support 41 different locally led projects.

Our work can be understood through the three categories for our programming



**1. Access for All** – assisting young people to engage with formal and/or vocational education. 16 projects.

**2. Facilities for the Future** – investing in infrastructure to ensure safe and sustainable places for learning. 17 projects.

**3. Resilience and Readiness** – providing young people with specific vulnerabilities the supports they need to be able to access education and learning. 9 projects.



We believe local people are the experts on the challenges facing their communities. By working directly with these community partners, we help them access the skills and resources needed to develop quality education and leadership wherever they need it the most.

We do this by working in the Marist way: practising simplicity, offering genuine presence, promoting a family spirit,

modelling love of work and following in the way of Mary.

Together, we build solidarity, hope and dignity.



# OUR YOUNG PEOPLE

## Samnang

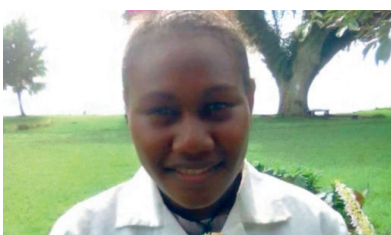


Samnang is 22 years old and grateful that she has been able to gain an education through LaValla, Cambodia.

She has nine siblings and comes from a poor rural farming family. Samnang was born with a full right arm, a half left arm and two half legs, but she can walk and requires no assistive devices for her movement. She left school in Grade 3 after facing discrimination and accessibility problems. Fortunately, she was selected and enrolled at LaValla School to recommence her studies in 2015.

Samnang is now studying in Grade 10 at Hun Sen Takhmao High School. She receives all the support she needs for her living and study from LaValla, and has also received extra classes in mathematics, English and computing. She intends to continue to university so she can become an accountant.

## Felicity



Felicity is a 15-year-old student who boards at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs School, Solomon Islands.

She's in form 3, the equivalent of year 10 in Australia. Felicity's favourite thing about school is "learning" – she enjoys all her classes, particularly social studies.

Felicity is determined to improve her English skills as she feels communicating with other cultures is very important.

Her dream job is to be a tour guide, and she would love to travel to Australia as part of that

## Tomás



Tomás dos Santos Moreira comes from Malia, a small village in the Baucau Municipality in Timor-Leste. He is the third sibling in his family to study at ICFP and enrolled as an English teacher.

During his three years of study, Tomás did not find learning English easy but by the end of his studies in 2021 he not only gained his Bachelor of Teaching degree but had a distinction average and was ready to continue to begin an extra year of study to obtain a Bachelor of Education degree.

As part of his studies, he had to return home to do an internship of three months. It was while teaching here that he noticed young children in his village were very shy, did not want to go to school, and often cried when they had to go to class. He and another sister, Sara, decided that they wanted to open a

community pre-school for 4 and 5 year-olds, to help them get ready for primary school. They have worked with the local community to find a safe place for the children, and already have more than 40 attending each week.

They provide very basic materials – paper, coloured pencils, and water for the children to drink.

He and Sara and two other volunteers don't receive a salary, but are happy because the children want to come to class each week.

## Basant



Basant is a 16-year-old student at Chetana, India. He has lived at the hostel for five years.

Basant is in class 12 at school and is preparing for his HSC exam. His favourite subject is English, and he would like to be a teacher when he finishes school.

Basant comes from a village two hours away from Chetana. He is an only child, and doesn't have a father.

Because of this, he said he loves the care the Brothers have for the students, and the structure and discipline of the hostel.

Basant enjoys the extracurricular activities on offer at Chetana, especially the English lessons and learning to cook. He also loves playing chess and football..

# 2022 UPDATE

Australian Marist Solidarity has recently finalised its Strategic Plan for 2022 to 2024. The process included deep dive conversations with our staff, Board and Board Sub-Committees, reflecting on the challenges and opportunities for AMS over the coming years. Our organisational values of solidarity, hope, dignity and working in the Marist Way will guide our work as we seek to build a world where young people have hope and the opportunity to access education. The Strategic Plan identifies the following priority areas for the organisation:

1. Access to education for young people in need through strong relationships with our program partners.
2. Sustainable impact through collaboration with AMS supporters.
3. Ensuring organisational sustainability.

There are a range of challenges for AMS as we continue our work partnering with communities in the Asia-Pacific region to facilitate access to education for young people in need.

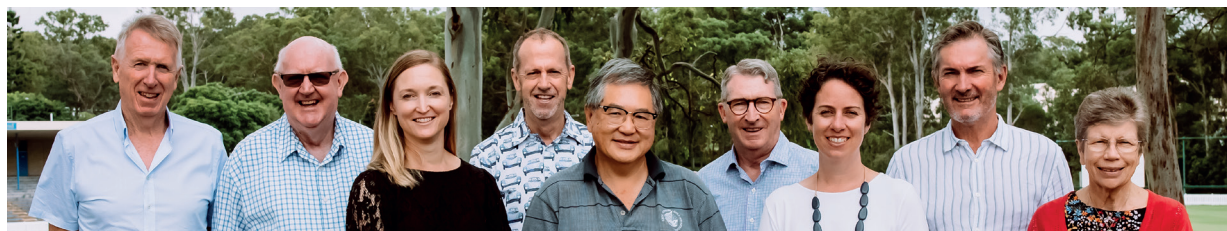
The compliance landscape is complex and its obligations heavy for a small team working with a high number of host communities and countries. We are committed to sending the maximum possible contribution to our partners on the ground but also have to balance this with the need for strong staff and investing in adequate systems to maintain the high quality of our work and programs. We also need to be innovative in working with supporter communities who have many competing calls on their time and resources.

While we navigate these complexities we are continuously inspired by the energy and commitment of our partner communities in Australia and in the communities we support. Some of the opportunities that we look forward to exploring further include:

- Working increasingly closely with other Marist ministries, for example the Marist Youth Ministry team and their Senior Leaders Gathering programs.
- Developing and hosting with the Marist Mission and Life

Formation team the Fratelli Tutti program, bringing together Marists from diverse communities to share in prayer, reflection and mission with Pope Francis' latest encyclical as a guide.

- Wonderful Australian Marist schools who are committed to their partner communities and/or determined to make a lasting contribution to access to education for vulnerable young people in our region.
- The joy that comes from connecting Marist school alumni with AMS projects that enable them to continue living their Marist identity while contributing to the provision of Marist education in disadvantaged communities.
- Connecting Marist Association members and groups with the inspiring work taking place in Marist communities and programs across the region.
- The infinite opportunities for relationship and reciprocal learning with the upcoming inauguration of the Star of the Sea Province.



Left to Right. Br Paul Kane, Br Jeffrey Barrington, Allison White, Peter Sheehan, Norman Chan, Michael Sinclair, Susan Slattery, Jim Whiting, Sr Pamela Molony, Mark Elliott (absent)



Left to Right. Rebecca Bromhead, Anna Mosbauer, Kristean McLean, Debra Hudson (past), Nigel Sydney, Deirdre Looney, Christopher Boevink, Kate Slesarewich (past), Lexie Jones (absent), Rachael Long (absent)

# OUR WORK AND PARTNERS

## Bangladesh – 3 projects

- Anondo Neer: running costs for school for children living with disabilities
- Anondo Neer candle-making: vocational training for students' families
- St Marcellin School: for children of tea garden workers

## Bougainville – 2 projects

- St Joseph's College Mabiri: construction of a building to expand into senior secondary school
- St Raphael Elementary School: construction of classrooms
- Hantoa Primary School: construction of a 4-1 classroom block

## Cambodia – 3 projects

- Pailin Hostel: accommodation for male students
- Pailin Girls' Hostel: accommodation for female students
- LaValla – primary school for children living with disabilities – see story page 16

## Cameroon – 1 project

- Marist Fathers Poultry Farm: income generation to support community

## Fiji – 1 project

- St John's College, Cawaci: rebuilding the girl's dormitory

## India – 2 projects

- Operation Rainbow: HIV/AIDS support program for local families
- Chetana Migrant Boys Hostel: program costs for school and accommodation – see story page 19

## Kiribati – 1 project

- St Louis High School: construction of bathrooms and administration buildings

## Myanmar – 1 project

- Anti-Human Trafficking Sewing Project: sewing initiative for income generation

## Philippines – 4 projects

- Kuya Centre: support for street children
- Balay Pasilungan: shelter for homeless and abused children
- Women's Ecological Sanctuary: protection and rehabilitation of abused women
- Balay Banaag: education and accommodation for children of women in prostitution

## South Africa – 1 project

- Bosele House: hostel for disadvantaged children to attend school

## Samoa – 1 project

- Chanel College: co-educational high school

## Solomon Islands – 5 projects

- San Isidro Training Centre Kitchen: construction of a kitchen block
- St Dominic's Rural Training Centre: vocational training for male students
- DIVIT Women's Refuge Building: shelter for women and children affected by violence
- Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Secondary School – construction of classroom building – see story page 18
- St Martin's Rural Training Centre: vocational training for male and female students

## Sri Lanka – 1 project

- St Joseph's College: high school for male students

## Thailand – 1 project

- Marist Asia Foundation: education programs for the Burmese migrant children

## Timor-Leste – 11 projects

- Education Support Timor: supporting primary school education
- ICFP Bursary: annual grant for teacher training studies at ICFP
- KATILOSA Operating costs: running expenses for centre supporting people living with disabilities
- KATILOSA vehicle: purchase of a new van for student transportation
- KATILOSA Inclusive Education Pilot: one-year pilot
- Ponta Leste: ongoing costs for centre that runs after school classes and training
- Marist Foundation Timor-Leste: support for education in Timor-Leste
- ICFP program – scholarships for teacher training studies at ICFP – see story page 21
- CTUF Uai Lili: computer training program for young people
- St Teresinha Primary School Quelicai: rebuilding the school

## Tanzania – 1 project

- Buhangija Secondary School: support for school expenses

## Vanuatu – 1 project

- St Michel Technical College – reconstruction and recovery work following damage of TC Harold Recovery

## Vietnam – 2 projects

- Training & Rehabilitation Centre for the Blind: massage training for visually impaired people to become self employed
- Blue Dragon: anti-child and women trafficking



**Connect with us  
to find out more.**