



ANNUAL REPORT : 2006-2007

centre for advocacy, support and education for refugees

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“Dear Anne, I hope that you and all the CASE members are well and healthy. Thank you so much for all that CASE for Refugees has done to help me”

Quote from a refugee client, May 2007

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THE CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT AND EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC.

The Centre for Advocacy, Support and Education for Refugees Inc. (CASE for Refugees) is currently the only Community Legal Centre in Western Australia providing specialist legal assistance to refugees. The Centre is committed to working towards the protection and promotion of human rights of refugees and asylum seekers. The strength of our organisation lies with the solid support of the many volunteers who work in all areas of the organisation.

OUR VISION

Our vision is a society characterised by equality, access to justice and a commitment to human rights.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide legal assistance to asylum seekers, refugees, humanitarian entrants, their families and education to our clients and the broader community.

OUR VALUES

Human Rights

We believe in the right of any person to seek and obtain protection from persecution and the right to representation in the pursuit of that protection.

Compassion

We believe in affirming the dignity of each individual.

Professionalism

We believe in attaining standards of excellence in all we do.

Community

We believe in an inclusive community.

CONVENOR'S REPORT



When Graham Castledine approached me in October 2006 to take over from him as Convenor of the Board of CASE for Refugees, it was an opportunity I could not pass up.

My first contact came when I started volunteering with CASE in 2002 when it was first established. I quickly realized that, through the passion and expertise of its original founders, among them the inimitable Mary Anne Kenny, CASE was a highly professional organization intent on achieving what would have been in any other hands an insurmountable task.

CASE is a stand-out organization on so many levels. From the number of clients it has managed to help through an often difficult migration process, to its current commitment to reuniting families kept apart by this process and by the circumstances facing them in their country of origin, CASE is an organization with its heart in the right place and the ability to realize its vision.

The question is: how does CASE do it?

There are many key members of the CASE team whose contributions make this possible. In particular, these include our staff, our volunteers, our Board and our donors.

Taking over from Vanessa Moss in 2006, Anne de Soyza quickly established herself in the role of Principal Solicitor with real aplomb, making significant progress in the areas of forging stronger relationships with stakeholders and identifying new funding sources through the Commonwealth government, establishing and implementing new operational systems and processes, and preparing CASE to expand its mandate and meet its next challenge beyond the successful Temporary Protection Visa Project. While Anne has since decided to pursue new endeavours beyond CASE, her work has provided a solid foundation from which to plan the future and we are deeply grateful for her contribution.

The iconic Bill Thomas, our longest serving staff member and resident Migration Agent, is perhaps best known to CASE's many clients. What astounds us all is the passion which he applies to his work and his willingness to volunteer so much of his time to CASE outside of working hours. Bill has weathered many storms with CASE and his faithfulness and generosity of spirit is so important to its continued success.

In 2006, the role of Office Administrator has gone through a number of transitions, recently resolved in the appointment of Holly Greenwood to the role earlier this year. Holly's warmth, energy and enthusiasm has been quickly perceived by staff, volunteers and clients alike and we look forward to having her on board as part of the CASE team. Prior to Holly's appointment, Louise McLeod graciously offered her expertise, initially as a volunteer and subsequently as an employed staff member for several months, as Office Administrator, and we are very grateful for her support and ongoing work with CASE. Our thanks also go to long-term volunteer and recent recipient of a Harmony Week Award, Gwynneth

Ife, who also stepped into the role during our recruitment process and to provide essential handover to Holly. I would also like to thank Adie Wilmot and Kate Castledine for also assisting in this role when needed over the past year. The recent addition of Pam Bryant as Volunteer Coordinator has also provided much needed assistance in monitoring and organizing our many volunteers and her work is greatly appreciated.

The generosity of our many volunteers, from our team of lawyers and law students to our migration agents and administration personnel, is truly humbling. CASE could not have reached its past goals with the Temporary Protection Visa project, assisting over 1000 refugees and humanitarian visa applicants, without their continued commitment, nor be able to plan for its future expanded role in the Western Australian community.

I would like to pay tribute to the Board, whose wisdom, ethics, expertise and humour make it a pleasure to work for CASE. The Board truly works as a team, with the ongoing involvement of the Principal Solicitor, donating many hours to the support and guidance of the organization, all of whom have generously done so for a number of years. Each of them deserves particular mention and my deepest thanks: Assistant Convenor Rosemary Hudson-Miller, Lyn Levy, Peter Creighton, Kevin De Souza, Katrina Williams, Sohail Mohideen, Joanne Atkinson, our Treasurer Julie Beus and our Secretary, Sarah Kemp. As a number of our Board members will be departing following our 2007 AGM, I know that all of CASE's members will join me in wishing them the very best in their future work. I look forward to welcoming on board our new members of the team and planning for what I trust will be a bright future for CASE.

I must also thank our members and donors for their ongoing financial support and generosity, without whom, CASE would not have been able to achieve all it has.

Looking to the future, we have taken a critical look at the needs of the community and have arrived at the conclusion that CASE's expertise and focus on the needs of refugees and humanitarian visa applicants is still needed. In response to that need, at the end of 2006, the Board resolved to expand the focus of CASE's work to providing broad support for all refugees and humanitarian visa applicants, targeted assistance to vulnerable members of refugee communities, in particular women and children, reuniting refugee families through our Family Reunion Project and providing assistance with citizenship applications and referrals. This will allow CASE to address the needs of refugees and humanitarian visa applicants, both in a specialist capacity and in partnership with other key service providers, across the lifecycle of their reception and integration into the Australian community. It is only in this way that CASE can most effectively play a role in achieving its vision: a society characterized by equality, access to justice and a commitment to human rights.

In closing, this year, I have felt that I was not just taking on a new role, but following the extraordinary example of Graham Castledine who so ably led the organization as Convenor in his three years in the position. I will always be grateful for Graham's support and friendship, particularly over the past year.

Maria Lamattina
Convenor
CASE for Refugees

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Convenor

Ms Maria Lamattina

Vice Convenor

Ms Rosemary Hudson-Miller

Board Members

Ms Julie Beus (Treasurer)

Ms Lyn Levy (outgoing
Secretary)

Mr Peter Creighton

Mr Kevin de Souza

Ms Jo Atkinson

Ms Sarah Kemp (incoming
Secretary)

Mr Sohail Mohideen

Ms Katrina Williams



Governance

In 2006, CASE for Refugees received funding from Lotterywest to strengthen the capacity of the organisation by increasing the management and leadership skills of staff and Board members. CASE for Refugees Board has since completed work with an external consultant to:

- develop a 5-year strategic plan
- review and update existing policy and procedures to ensure that the service complies with all relevant acts and legislation
- provide Governance training, and
- develop a whole of organisation occupational safety and health risk management plan

Strategic Plan

In July 2007, the Board of Management finalised and approved the CASE for Refugees Strategic Plan 2007-2011. In particular, the Plan reflects CASE's mission, vision and key results areas for the future of the organization. The four key results areas that CASE will be focusing on for the next five years are:

PEOPLE - We value the contribution our people make in helping to improve the lives of others and are committed to creating a safe, supportive and nurturing environment.

FINANCE – We will achieve secure, broad-based, independent sources of funding sufficient to meet our objectives.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – Through targeted programs designed to complement our core legal services, we will educate the wider community about the refugee situation, and we will create a more compassionate community for refugees.

OPERATIONS – We will strive to develop and maintain a harmonious, professional and efficient work place.

GOVERNANCE

Induction and Training for Volunteers

In November 2005, CASE for Refugees, in conjunction with ASeTTS, Edmund Rice Centre and the Women's Health Service launched a comprehensive training manual for volunteers working with refugees. This manual includes an overview of the Refugee and Humanitarian Visa classes, cultural awareness and self care for volunteers. The manual is updated on a regular basis and given to all new volunteers when they commence work with CASE.

In addition to this training, in 2006 CASE for Refugees developed a comprehensive induction and training program for all new staff and volunteers. Training is offered approximately three to four times a year and covers:

1. An overview of the structure and services of CASE for Refugees
2. An overview of the legal framework of refugee claims including international conventions, treaties and protocols and relevant domestic legislation.
3. Advanced interview skills
4. The effects of torture and trauma with particular reference to its impact on interviewing and the refugee determination process
5. Working with interpreters and cross cultural interview skills
6. Historical and cultural overview of Afghanistan and Iraq, and relevant African cultures.

Specialised family reunion training is also offered to volunteers and staff, which covers the various visa types available for family reunion applications and offers tips for the application process based on the client's country of origin (predominantly various African countries, Afghanistan and Iraq at present).

PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR'S REPORT

I commenced working as Principal Solicitor with CASE for Refugees in June 2006. At that time CASE had already been going through a transition in its work. The original work of the organisation had been assisting Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) holders obtain Permanent Protection Visas (PPVs). By 2006 most of CASE's TPV clients had been granted PPVs and the bulk of the workload had already shifted to assisting CASE's former TPV clients with applications to have family members whom they had left behind, often in difficult circumstances, join them in Australia. Also in 2006, the CASE Board approved an expansion in the work of the organisation which included, amongst other things, extending the family reunion programme to include assistance to any person who had entered Australia on a protection or humanitarian visa (not just CASE's former TPV clients).

In July 2006 CASE entered into the Immigration Advice and Assistance Scheme (IAAAS) Agreement with the Commonwealth. CASE is now an IAAAS provider along with the Catholic Migrant Centre, Legal Aid and SCALES. The agreement will run 2009. Under the IAAAS Agreement the Commonwealth pays non-government organisations and private practices for certain work undertaken in representing individuals who satisfy the criteria of a "disadvantage test". The IAAAS arrangements do not compromise CASE in its solicitor/Migration Agent – client relationship. It simply means that CASE can invoice the Commonwealth for a proportion of the work it performs. The work that can be invoiced under the IAAAS forms only a subset of the total work undertaken by CASE.

Entry into the IAAAS Agreement with the Commonwealth as well as the expansion of the family reunion programme necessitated new procedures and processes, mainly around client intake and IAAAS eligibility assessments, file management and archiving. The implementation of new procedures and processes in a busy practice is difficult however, we did accomplish this feat and I would like to that Gwynneth Ife in particular for her assistance and input.

Funding and other issues that arose during the year meant that we had to rely on a number of people stepping in from time to time to assist in filling the Office

PRINCIPAL SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Administrator position. I would like to acknowledge the assistance of Louise McLeod who filled the position for much of the last year, Adie Wilmot who was there briefly (and who moved to CARAD) and also Kate Castledine, Angus McLeod and Gwynneth Ife. In June 2007 Holly Greenwood commenced as Office Administrator. Holly came to CASE with an impressive record of work with people from refugee backgrounds and, as expected, very quickly established herself as a valuable member of the office.

Another appointment during 2006 was that of Pam Bryant who volunteers as our Volunteer Coordinator. CASE for Refugees relies heavily on the work of volunteers to accomplish its work. Pam's appointment as Volunteer Coordinator means that the identification, training and support of volunteers can now be undertaken systematically. Pam's work also makes it possible for to take on some new projects. One interesting new project that became possible because of Pam's assistance was that the office took on a number of students from Murdoch University who assisted with client work, under supervision from a Migration Agent, as part of their university assessment. The project, while it took a little organisation, was ultimately of benefit to CASE as well as the students, as the office had the assistance of bright, enthusiastic and hard working students for a few weeks.

While there were many changes in the office this year some things never change: during the 2006-07 year the CASE office continued to be a hive of activity, and we also continued to have many successes along the way. In concluding I would like to acknowledge the work and commitment of Bill Thomas, CASE's long serving Migration Agent, our many volunteers and in particular Gwynneth Ife and also the hard work and dedication of the CASE Board.

Anne De Soyza
Principal Solicitor

STAFF 06-07

Staff

Ms Anne De Soyza – **Principal Solicitor**

Mr Bill Thompson – **Migration Agent**

Ms Holly Greenwood – **Office Administrator**

Incoming staff

Ms Holly Greenwood – **Office Administrator**

Farwelled

Ms Anne De Soyza – **Principal Solicitor** (July 2007)

Mr Peter Gaughwin – **Principal Solicitor** (September 2007)

Ms Louise McLeod – **Office Administrator**

Ms Adie Wilmont – **Office Administrator**

Mrs Kate Castledine – **Office Administrator**

THE CENTRE

CASE celebrated its first year in the new premises in March 2007 which we share with CARAD (the Coalition for Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Detainees). We continue to extend our gratitude to the Uniting Church for their generosity in providing these premises. The premises is in close proximity to public transport, and is only a short walk from ASeTTS where many of our clients receive counselling in respect to their experiences of torture and trauma.

Backyard Blitz

We could like to give a special thank you to the Lucca Leadership Trust, a charitable organization which aims to provide leadership training to young people, whose members volunteered over two weekends to conduct a backyard blitz for the Trinity Refugee Centre. The volunteers cleaned out, mulched and planted the garden area, and restored and painted the garden furniture.





FOR ADVOCACY

Political and Legal Context

CASE for Refugees has met its initial goal of providing legal assistance to people living in WA on Temporary Protection Visas however there still remains a significant need for services for refugees. CASE for Refugees current project is aimed at providing assistance to refugees in Western Australia with their applications for reunion with family members living overseas. We have also identified a number of other areas where there are no specialist community legal services being provided for refugees in the area of migration law and we are working towards expanding our services so that we can cater for this in the coming year.

Current and future services include:

- Assistance to holders of temporary protection visas in putting forward their claims for continuing protection
- Family reunion work in respect of former temporary protection visa holders and existing/former humanitarian visa holders
- Assistance to people within Australia (ie onshore applicants) seeking to lodge protection visa application
- Assistance in relation to any other migration issue (including but not limited to visa cancellation and deportation on character grounds) where exceptional humanitarian issues are raised
- Representation in relation to visa issues for victims of domestic violence who are on temporary spouse visas.

FOR ADVOCACY

Family Fundraising Day

In November 2006, CASE for Refugees Board of Management held a Family Fundraising Day at the Redcliffe Park Community Centre. The Day involved a showing of a documentary film on refugees living in Australia, a Halal sausage sizzle and activities for children including a bouncing castle. The event was an opportunity to advocate the work of CASE for Refugees, and in particular to network for new community partnerships as CASE relies on public funding and donations in order to carry out its operations. The event was a huge success, with many clients of CASE and their families attending, as well as new supporters and community members.

The event raised approximately \$3000 in donations from individuals and organizations for CASE. Thank you to all who volunteered and attended on the day, and in particular, a huge thank you to Kevin de Souza and his family and friends, in particular Lee Lin Mah and Hang Luan Chua for coordinating such a creative and fun fundraising event for CASE.



FOR ADVOCACY

Temporary Protection Visa Project

Between 2002 and 2007 the work undertaken in the Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) Project assisted approximately 850 (including family members and dependant children) TPV holders to establish their claims for further protection in Australia. Approximately 85% of the clients assisted under the TPV project were found to be victims of torture or trauma. To date, CASE has been successful in assisting over 500 clients in securing permanent residency in Australia. The overwhelming majority are refugees from Afghanistan and Iraq, with small numbers from Palestine, Kuwait, Iran and Vietnam. Most are members of persecuted minority groups such as Hazaras, Bedouins or Kurds.

Family Reunion Project

As a result of the successful outcomes CASE has achieved for its clients there has been a strong demand for assistance with family reunion applications. It became apparent that there was little or no assistance available to our clients from other agencies. In response to that demand CASE began a Family Reunion Project at the beginning of 2005 and that project continues to date. It is the Family Reunion project that is now the focus of the majority of our volunteers' time. The United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (UNVFVT) funding was also available for the Family Reunion project for 2007 and this meant that CASE has been able to offer family reunion assistance to clients on weekdays using the services of our employed registered migration agent, Bill Thomas, and four dedicated volunteers. The importance of family reunion to successful settlement is absolute. CASE's long waiting list for family reunion assistance bears testament to the fact it offers a unique and much-needed service. At any one time in 2007, CASE had approximately 50 to 60 clients on the waitlist for family reunion awaiting an initial appointment with a migration agent.

Family Reunion Clinics are held most Saturdays at CASE, with approximately four to six new Saturday clients being assisted each month with family reunion matters. The Family Reunion project success relies primarily on the hard work, dedication and support of our volunteers, including volunteer migration agents, and staff at CASE.

FOR ADVOCACY

Why is CASE so important? A case study

CASE for Refugees has been involved in test cases and thus advancing the examination given to application of the *Migration Act 1958 (Cth)*. For example, in 2005, an applicant for further protection was granted a further temporary visa rather than a permanent visa on grounds of the 'seven day rule'. The seven day rule provides that in respect of applications made after 27th September 2001, if an applicant has spent seven days or more in a country en route to Australia where the applicant could have accessed effective protection, he/she will be granted a temporary rather than a permanent visa. An application for review of this decision was lodged with the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT), requesting that the RRT seize jurisdiction and determine the application for review. CASE for Refugees is unaware of any other application of this nature having been made previously to the RRT, which has jurisdiction in respect of visa refusals. The CASE for Refugees submission to the RRT is that although a visa has been granted, the applicant has been refused a permanent visa, and on that basis the RRT ought to consider that it has jurisdiction.

This case was won and was a major victory. It was the first time a review had been permitted when a visa had been granted – though not the visa that was sought. This has major implications not only in the RRT, but also in the Migration Review Tribunal (MRT), which has almost identical wording in the section of the Act defining its jurisdiction. It had been expected that the Commonwealth might appeal, but they did not. The RRT does not create a binding precedent and it will probably be tested in the Federal Court.

Secondly, in CASE for Refugees RRT cases, it was accepted that families could be recognised as a consequence of changes to them while they have been in Australia, rather than by reference to circumstances in Iraq. Specifically, it was accepted that the acquisition of liberal democratic values by young girls in Australia made the, almost certain, prospect of arranged marriage on return to Iraq abhorrent to them and a form of persecution for purposes of the Refugees Convention. They were recognised as refugees and their father was included as a member of their family which is the reverse of when they first came to Australia.

SUPPORT



Total clients since commencement (including dependants).....**1280**

New clients for 06/07.....219

Active clients registered for assistance under the Family Reunion program.....**270**

Our volunteers and staff are currently assisting clients from nineteen different countries including Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iraq, Sierra Leone, Kuwait, Iran, Sudan, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Guinea, Liberia, Somalia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Nigeria, Burma, Burundi, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Uganda

Data for CASE clients as of June 2007

DIMIA Decisions for CASE for Refugees' Visa Clients					
Total number of decisions			406		
Approved		Refused		Other	
194	48%	146	36%	66	16%

Refugee Review Tribunal Decisions for CASE for Refugees' Clients					
Total number of decisions			168		
Approved		Refused		Other	
158	94%	8	5%	2	1%

SUPPORT

The Office

The case office has experienced numerous changes over the past year. 2006 Office Manager Louise McLeod resigned in March 2007 to concentrate on her university studies, and Principal Solicitor Anne De Soyza also resigned in July 2007.

The main focus of CASE's work over the past year has been Family Reunion clients, and Saturday's Family Reunion clinics. Our Migration Agent Bill Thomas carries the bulk of the weekday appointments with clients for Family Reunion. CASE also continues to work with several clients on Temporary Protection Visas (TPV's) seeking Permanent Protection Visas, as well as clients who are on student/business visas from countries such as Iraq and are now seeking asylum.

CASE now has a new Volunteer Coordinator, Pam Bryant, who has been assisting with the development of a new volunteer database, as well as coordinating the training and allocation of roles amongst our many new and established volunteers.

A big thank you to all of our office volunteers and hard working staff, in particular: Holly Greenwood, Pam Bryant, Gwynneth Ife, Angus McLeod and Louise McLeod. Our staff and volunteers do a brilliant job co-ordinating and booking interpreters, on top of providing a professional service to clients, managing files, assisting solicitors and training new volunteers in order to ensure the service runs effectively and smoothly. A special congratulations to Gwynneth Ife who this year was the recipient of a Harmony Week Award.

AND EDUCATION

United Nations World Refugee Day

'The Voice of Young Refugees'

CASE for Refugees has been involved in a number of educational events this year including World Refugee Day 'The Voice of Young Refugees'. The event was a collaboration with other human rights and refugee community organisations such as Amnesty International Australia, ASeTTS, Uniting Church, CARAD, the Edmund Rice Centre and CASE. The event was held at Curtin University on 20 June 2007, and included a talk by Professor Linda Briskman, Chair of Human Rights Education at Curtin University and Convenor of People's Inquiry into Detention, as well as personal perspectives of Australian refugee youth from around the world. The event was well received by students, academics and community members and the event provided an opportunity to promote human rights and give attendees a greater understanding of the plight of young refugees, and their hopes for the future in Australia.

Orientation Days (UWA and Murdoch)

CASE for Refugees held a stall at the Orientation Open Days for both the University of Western Australia and Murdoch University. CASE recruited new members, and disseminated information regarding the organization to students in an effort to raise awareness of issues facing our clients and to engage student's interest in volunteering at CASE. Currently, a large number of CASE volunteers for the Family Reunion Project and office volunteers are university students. The information stalls generated a lot of interest in the work of CASE for Refugees, and our base of student volunteers and supporters continues to grow.

AND EDUCATION

Julian Burnside QC Fundraiser

A very successful lunch time event was held when Julian Burnside donated his time to CASE for Refugees to help us raise funds for the organization in May 2007, with sponsorship from WACOSS. The event commenced with a short address by Lisa Baker, Executive Director, WACOSS, on the proposed Human Rights Bill for Western Australia. Julian was then introduced by Professor David Malcolm AC QC, Professor of Law, Notre Dame University. Julian shared his thoughts on terrorism and the threat to the rule of law in Australia, the Australian government's treatment and response to asylum seekers and the David Hicks fiasco, the benefits of a Human Rights Bill both in Australia and in Western Australia, and the role that the media and politics play in shaping Australian society's lack of concern about human rights and social justice issues.

The event raised approximately \$900 for CASE for Refugees. CASE extends sincere thanks to Julian Burnside, Lisa Baker, WACOSS and Professor David Malcolm for their time and ongoing commitment to furthering social justice in this country.



MEMBERS/VOLUNTEERS

Adele Maloney
Ainsley Reid
Alexis Garnett
Ali Collier
Amanda Sapienza
Amy Hardy
Amy Hilhorst
Angus McLeod
Beverley Noakes
Bradley Jeffries
Callum Hair
Caro Nye
Coralie Horsfall
Eden Winnacott
Edmund Rice Centre
Elaine Kemp
Elsie Ekstrom
Emily Wong
Emma Geary
Florence Seow
Georgina Atkinson
Geraldine Wooller
Graham Castledine
Gulshaw Price
Gwynneth Ife
Hana Geha
Helen Leeder
Jacob To
James Day
James Hulmes
Jason Carr
Joanne Forman
Joanne Day
Joanne Fuhrmann
Joanne McLeod
Jonathan Richards
Jonelle Fuller
Julie Beus
Karen Sigley
Katherine Kloeden
Kathryn Choules
Katherine Wake
Katrina Williams
Kevin de Souza
Kim Jennings
Laine McDonald

Leah Summers
Liis Kirk
Liz Hardwick
Louise McLeod
Lucy Fiske
Lyn Levy
Madeleine Oliver
Maria Lamattina
Mary Anne Kenny
Mary Anne Lee
Mary Henderson
Maryllis Green-Armytage
Matt Porter
Melissa Forbes
Melissa O'Donnell
Melissa Ross
Michael Crouch
Michelle Watson
Myrna Tonkinson
Nicole Forster
Nour Huneidi
Pamela Bryant
Pamela Panton
Peter Creighton
Philip Keirle
Prissha Balakrishnan
Richard O'Keefe
Rosa Sierra
Roseline Lee
Rosemary Hudson-Miller
Samer Aljanabi
Samuel Millett
Sarah Kemp
Sean Monahan
Shaheer Tarin
Shahen Wheatley
Shannon Thompson
Stephanie Beard
Sultana Shamshi
Sunissa Brown
Syvi Boon
Tse Chee Loo
Vanessa Moss
Yingzhen Lin

OUR SUPPORTERS

CASE for Refugees wishes to formally thank the following people for their support during 2006/07:

Major Supporters:

- Uniting Church
- United Nations Victims of Torture and Trauma Fund
- Public Purposes Trust
- Lotterywest
- Julian Burnside
- Nido Petroleum Limited
- WACOSS
- Minter Ellison

Special thanks to:

- CARAD
- Professor David Malcolm
- SCALES Community Legal Centre
- ASeTTS
- Edmund Rice Centre for Social Justice
- All CASE volunteers and members



CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

30 JUNE 2007

DRY KIRKNESS
Chartered Accountants
West Perth

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

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CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

STATEMENT BY THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

The Board of Management has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The Board has determined 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 financial report as set out on pages 4 to 14 presents fairly the financial position of Centre for Advocacy, Support & Education for Refugees Inc. as at 30 June 2007 and its performance for the period ended on that date, in accordance with the basis of accounting as described in Note 1 of the Financial Statements.

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

.....


BOARD MEMBER

.....


BOARD MEMBER

Dated this 26th day of September 2007



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
To the members of Centre for Advocacy, Support
and Education for Refugees Inc.

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Centre for Advocacy, Support and Education for Refugees Inc (the 'Association'), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2007, and the income statement, statement of recognised income and expense and cash flow statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, and other explanatory notes.

The Responsibility of the Board of Management for the Financial Report

The Board of Management of the entity is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the financial reporting requirements of the constitution and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The Board of Management's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Board of Management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Board of Management's financial reporting requirements under the constitution. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

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

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the Australian professional accounting bodies.

Basis for Qualified Auditor's Opinion


Gifts and donations are a significant source of revenue for the Association. The Association has determined that it is impracticable to establish control over the collection of gifts and donations prior to entry into its financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding revenue from this source was limited, our audit procedures with respect to gifts and donations had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We therefore are unable to express an opinion whether gifts and donations the Association obtained are complete.

Qualified Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial report of such adjustments, if any, as might have been required had the limitation on our audit procedures referred to in the qualification paragraph not existed, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Centre for Advocacy, Support and Education for Refugees Inc as of 30 June 2007 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.


DRY KIRKNESS
Chartered Accountants

Dated: 26 September 2007
West Perth


J LAMPRELL-JARRETT
Partner

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2007

	NOTES	2007	2006
		\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	82,910	48,157
Receivables	5	21,629	2,176
		-----	-----
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		104,539	50,333
		-----	-----
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Plant & Equipment	6	24,582	36,015
		-----	-----
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		24,582	36,015
		-----	-----
TOTAL ASSETS		129,121	86,348
		-----	-----
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	7	8,589	6,764
Provisions	8	11,947	3,984
Grants Received in Advance	9	39,522	0
		-----	-----
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITES		60,058	10,748
		-----	-----
NET ASSETS		69,063	75,600
		=====	=====
 ACCUMULATED FUNDS		 69,063	 75,600
		=====	=====

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	NOTE	2007 \$	2006 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	2	152,933	191,061
Less:			
Employee expenses		(107,814)	(102,945)
Depreciation		(12,223)	(13,651)
Other expenses from ordinary activities		(39,433)	(56,845)
Operating Surplus/ (Deficit)		\$ (6,537) =====	\$ 17,620 =====

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	NOTE	2007 \$	2006 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Grants received		127,458	169,387
Interest		242	198
Other receipts		52,380	19,776
Payments to suppliers and employees		(144,471)	(148,411)
		-----	-----
Net Cash from operating activities	11(a)	35,609	40,950
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of Plant & Equipment		(856)	(29,200)
		-----	-----
		(856)	(29,200)
		-----	-----
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		34,753	11,750
Cash at the beginning of the year		48,157	36,407
		-----	-----
Cash at the end of the year	11(b)	82,910	48,157
		=====	=====

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED INCOME AND EXPENSE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2005	57,980
Surplus/(Deficit) attributable to equity holders	17,620

Balance at 30 June 2006	\$ 75,600
Surplus/(Deficit) attributable to equity holders	(6,537)

Balance at 30 June 2007	\$ 69,063
	=====

This statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the reporting requirements of the Association's constitution and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act WA and to fulfil the Board of Management's accountability requirement to its principal funding bodies. The Committee has determined that Centre for Advocacy, Support & Education for Refugees (Inc.) is not a reporting entity as defined in the Statement of Accounting Concepts 1 "Definition of the Reporting Entity." Therefore, there is no requirement to apply concepts or standards in the preparation and presentation of these statements.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the following Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory, professional reporting requirements:

AASB 101	Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 116	Property, Plant and Equipment
AASB 107	Cash Flow Statements
AASB 108	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 119	Employee Benefits
AASB 1031	Materiality

No other Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

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

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

(a) *Income Tax*

The Association is exempt for Income Tax under Section 50-5, of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. The Association is recognised as a Public Benevolent Institution by the Australian Taxation Office.

(b) *Plant & Equipment*

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by Board to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated on a diminishing value basis over their useful lives to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

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

<u>Class of Fixed Asset</u>	<u>Depreciation Rate</u>
Computer Equipment	37% to 40%
Furniture and fittings	11.25% to 37.5%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at each balance date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the income statement.

(c) Revenue

Revenue other than grant income is brought to account when due.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

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

(d) Grants Received

Grant income is brought to account as revenue in the year in which it is expended. To the extent that such grants remain unexpended at year end they are carried forward to future accounting periods.

(e) Capital Expenditure Grant Income

Grants received for capital expenditure are recognised as non recurrent income when the asset is acquired. Assets acquired by means of such grants are expended and treated as non recurrent expenditure. The balance of the unspent grant is carried forward to future financial years to be matched against the costs associated with the applicable capital expenditure.

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

(f) *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 Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the Balance Sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

(g) *Impairment of Assets*

At each reporting date, the association 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.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the association estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

(h) *Employee Benefits*

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee benefits that are expected to be settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs. Employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

(i) *Cash and Cash Equivalents*

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the balance sheet.

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
NOTE 2: REVENUE		
OPERATING		
Grant Income	102,389	171,087
Fundraising	1,264	3,064
Donations	43,829	15,630
Other	5,451	1,280
	-----	-----
Total Revenue	152,933	191,061
	=====	=====

NOTE 3: OPERATING PROFIT

The operating profit is arrived at after charging the following specific items:

Depreciation	12,223	13,651
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	66	9,107
Auditors remuneration		
For auditing services	3,000	1,250
Other services	0	250
	-----	-----
	\$ 3,000	\$ 1,500
	-----	-----

NOTE 4: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash at Bank	82,809	48,053
Petty Cash	101	104
	-----	-----
	\$ 82,910	\$ 48,157
	-----	-----

NOTE 5: RECEIVABLES

Debtors	21,629	2,176
	-----	-----
	\$ 21,629	\$ 2,176
	-----	-----

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

NOTE 6: PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Computer Equipment – cost	62,583	62,661
Accumulated depreciation	(43,460)	(32,312)
	-----	-----
	19,123	30,349
Furniture & Fittings – at cost	7,250	6,694
Accumulated depreciation	(1,791)	(1,028)
	-----	-----
	5,459	5,666
	-----	-----
Total Plant and Equipment	\$ 24,582	\$ 36,015
	-----	-----

	Computer Equipment \$	Furniture & fittings \$	Total \$
Written down value 1 July 2006	30,349	5,666	36,015
Additions	300	556	856
Depreciation	(11,460)	(763)	(12,223)
Disposals	(66)	(0)	(66)
	-----	-----	-----
Written down value 30 June 2007	\$ 19,123	\$ 5,459	\$ 24,582
	-----	-----	-----

NOTE 7: PAYABLES

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Creditors & accruals	8,589	6,764
	-----	-----
	\$ 8,589	\$ 6,764
	-----	-----

NOTE 8: PROVISIONS

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Annual leave entitlement	9,480	3,984
Long service leave provision	2,467	0
	-----	-----
	\$ 11,947	\$ 3,984
	=====	=====

NOTE 9: GRANTS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
Grant from United Nations	39,522	0
	-----	-----
	\$ 39,522	\$ 0
	=====	=====

NOTE 10: REVENUE IN KIND

The association receives an in kind benefit for the use of premises for which no charge is made, the market value of which is estimated to be \$23,400 per annum.

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

NOTE 11: CASH FLOW INFORMATION

	2007	2006
	\$	\$
a) The operating profit/(loss) for the year is reconciled to the net cash flows from operations as follows.		
Operating profit/(loss)	(6,537)	17,620
Grants received in advance	39,522	0
Non cash items		
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	66	9,107
Depreciation	12,223	13,651
Provision for employee benefits	7,963	(1,109)
Movements in assets/liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in receivables	(19,453)	(2,176)
Increase/(decrease) in payables	1,825	3,857
	-----	-----
Net Cash flows from operations	\$ 35,609	\$ 40,950
	=====	=====
b) Cash comprises the following		
Petty Cash	101	104
Bank Accounts	82,809	48,053
	-----	-----
	\$ 82,910	\$ 48,157
	=====	=====

CENTRE FOR ADVOCACY, SUPPORT & EDUCATION FOR REFUGEES INC

DETAILED STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2007

	NOTE	2007 \$	2006 \$
INCOME			
Donations		43,829	15,630
Grants		102,389	171,087
Fundraising		1,264	3,064
Membership Fees		736	450
Miscellaneous		4,473	632
Interest		242	198
		-----	-----
		152,933	191,061
EXPENDITURE			
Administration		5,188	4,440
Advertising		2,110	1,831
Audit fees		3,000	1,500
Bank Charges		620	541
Books & Reference material		1,116	1,113
Consultants - strategic plan		1,820	7,280
Consultants - website development		5,940	0
Depreciation		12,223	13,651
Employee Expenses		99,686	90,391
Fundraising		984	3,042
Insurance		1,007	753
Interpreters expense		5,113	5,905
Internet		1,618	935
IT/Computer support		638	2,640
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		66	9,107
Membership & Subscriptions		1,403	2,060
Miscellaneous expenses		437	1,758
Office overheads		1,636	8,657
Superannuation		8,128	8,139
Telephone		5,685	5,304
Training & development		1,052	885
		-----	-----
		159,470	173,441
		-----	-----
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		\$(6,537)	\$17,620
		=====	=====