

**CRISIS SUPPORT
ADULT COMMUNITY
EDUCATION
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2018-19**



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"The lunchtime program that MarionLIFE brings to our school is marvellous, it has been a huge success!!! We appreciate all they do as it helps the children at our school enormously. Everyone looks forward to them coming." – *Pastoral Care Worker, Ascot Park Primary School*

**CONNECT
WITH US**





MarionLIFE Community Services Board Chair Report

Peter Fowler, Chairperson, MarionLIFE Board of Governance

MarionLIFE continues to provide support, practical help and training to those in our community who are in need and seeking help to address the challenges before them. The State Government funded ACE program has allowed us to continue with our Financial Literacy course and the Big Dish Up.

By working with other like organisations, MarionLIFE has received government funding for its Emergency Relief Program and the opportunity to expand its area of coverage to a greater number of southern suburbs.

Substantial progress has been made toward accreditation under the Australian Service Excellence Standard and it is planned to achieve this in 2020. This is a further step in the maturity of the organisation and a demonstration of the commitment to accountability and consistency in service delivery.

With over 100 dedicated volunteers, who are the arms and legs of our service, we are able to deliver over 14 programs. These people generously give of their time with good heart and spirit to help those who are lonely, less fortunate and maybe challenged in a variety of ways. I thank them most sincerely for their precious gift.

We continue to have the support of our State and Commonwealth Governments, Marion City Council, Westpac Bank, Marion Church of Christ and individual benefactors. The Board is most grateful for this support and diligently stewards these grants and gifts.

The need to secure funds to provide services is ever-present and whilst the organisation is in a stable financial situation, the Board is cognisant of the need to regularly review programs for relevancy and explore avenues to increase revenue.

Our Director, Leighton Boyd, and the small employed team have continued to provide outstanding service – the Board recognises this and the high demands placed on them.

A long serving member of the Board, Joy Rodda, has announced her intention to retire from the Board in 2020. Joy has provided stellar service to the organisation and her professional skills in the area of marketing have been of great value. The board has conducted a search for new members and expects to announce two new appointments early in 2020.

It is an honour to serve in an organisation that demonstrates a Christian heart and I look forward to continuing to serve.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Thank you to all the people who make MarionLIFE possible – our staff, volunteers and supporters, without whom MarionLIFE would not exist. At the time of writing, MarionLIFE Community Services has 101 volunteers across 14 different Community Services. In November we welcomed Lauren Bonnet as our new Services Coordinator, bringing our total staff number up to six. Lauren has been a terrific addition to our team, directly overseeing Emergency Relief, Community Meal, Brekky for Blokes, Community Garden, Marion Mugs and a new program called Women Together for all women across our community. We are very grateful for our State MP for Elder, Assistant Minister Carolyn Power, and the SA Liberal Government for the funding that allowed us to hire a Services Coordinator and expand our capacity.

I feel privileged to serve with the Board of MarionLIFE, who are volunteers as well, and thank them for continuing to guide our organisation in achieving our Mission and Vision.

Our Mission: MarionLIFE Community Services is a not-for-profit community organisation that strives to provide meaningful, flexible and responsive care and support to individuals and families in need.

Our Vision: We aim to express the love of God through relationships and services that enrich lives, maximise independence and provide hope.

MarionLIFE Community Services Inc. Board of Governance
Peter Fowler – Chairperson and Compliance
Joy Rodda – Vice-Chair and Public Image
Steve Sherrah – Treasurer
Clare Ashley – Secretary
Janet Turner – Church Relationships
Andy Bertram – Human Resources
Vacant – Partnerships
Leighton Boyd – (Executive) Director

I wanted to share some stories about the impact of our work that have encouraged me this past year.

MarionLIFE Youth Lunchtime Sessions

“Staff have noticed a decrease in yard issues as so many of our students attend the lunch sessions. It gives them a structured format in which to interact. Many of these students are lacking in the skills to resolve conflict amicably, hence play time for them would often result in disagreement and conflict. They are now able to be physical in a controlled environment.

We also have many students with ASD who struggle with play time, these students are engaging successfully with others and interacting in games of basketball, board games and on the Wii U. Two students are from our Special Needs classes and they have limited speech. They both love coming to the hall on Wednesdays because they enjoy the music and get to dance, spin and interact with others. This is wonderful for them and they have even managed to convey to their parents that they come and listen to music on Wednesdays.” Student Wellbeing Manager, Hallett Cove South Primary School

Brekky for Blokes

This Friday morning men’s breakfast has been running for 10 years and earlier this year our Brekky for Blokes volunteers met to check-in about the purpose of the group, agreeing it was “To provide a safe, welcoming and comfortable place for local men who are isolated to start increasing their social connections”. There was a re-commitment to the ‘welcoming’ aspect with a decision to split our volunteer team between the kitchen, and a newly created ‘Front of House’ volunteer team, who would be there specifically to welcome and chat with new men who come. Feedback from participants at Brekky for Blokes included: “It keeps me busy and stops me feeling lonely” and “...a fantastic opportunity for a hot meal and to meet local blokes”.

Student Placements

“Thank you so much for offering these placements. I can’t tell you how much we appreciate the learning opportunities that MarionLIFE offers to our students.” Field Education Manager, Flinders University

One of the connections that has continued to grow in the last year is with Westpac staff who have volunteered their time for working bees at our site, held fundraisers at their office and nominated our organisation for Community Grants. In the past year, this connection led to us receiving an invitation to attend the Westpac Foundational Leader Program. I took up this opportunity and attended the two-day program with representatives of other not-for-profits from across Australia. It was a highly valuable time with practicable takeaways for our organisation, including: The Structure of Change, Drivers of Engagement, Leading in a Flexible Work and Development Planning. I am so thankful for this connection as well as the numerous businesses, community groups and individuals who support our work – thank you for partnering with us to help us live out our vision of enriching lives, maximising independence and providing hope.

Our now annual community and fundraising event, the MarionLIFE Hunger Walk, was held again in 2018 (and will be held again on the first Saturday in November 2019). It's a 4km walk along the Sturt River followed by a fun family-friendly community event and we love being able to connect with our community to fight hunger together. Thank you to the many event supporters and volunteers who make this event possible. Keep an eye out for the 2020 event – we would love to see you there!

In our Annual Report last year, I shared that we were waiting to hear about an Emergency Relief Funding application with the Department of Social Services. MarionLIFE has been without Government Funding for our Emergency Relief Service since 2015 – a full four years without funding. I am pleased to share that this funding application, as part of a consortium with five other organisations, was successful and we have been funded for 4.5 years from January 2019 through until June 2023. We are very grateful for this funding as it will allow us to cover the core elements of our Emergency Relief Service (Food Vouchers, Clothing Vouchers, School Shoe Vouchers, Bus Tickets and Chemist Scripts). Thank you to our passionate staff and volunteers who have continued to deliver the Emergency Relief Service over the last four years with, at times, limited resources. We are very grateful to the number of organisations and individuals who have supported our Emergency Relief Service to allow the doors to remain open over the last four years– thank you! While this is very good news, the funding is half the amount we applied for and less than half of what we were receiving pre-2015 so we still need your ongoing support through donations of finances, food and hygiene items to continue our work.

Thank you again to our volunteers and I hope you are encouraged and inspired as you read our full Annual Report and the richness of connection and teamwork that makes up MarionLIFE Community Services.



Make a tax deductible donation towards our work online here: www.givenow.com.au/marionlife

Learn more about MarionLIFE Community Services Inc. by visiting our website: www.marionlife.org.au

Yours Faithfully,

Leighton Boyd
Director



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BREKKY FOR BLOKES

James Gray,
Brekky for Blokes Team Leader

Brekky for Blokes continues to host men that have few connections outside of their home. We served 489 breakfasts across the year with an average of 23 attendees on each 2nd and 4th Friday morning of the month. We are blessed with great volunteers who faithfully serve at each Brekky. I look forward to another year of serving in my role as Team Leader. We have room for more men, so come join us for good food and good company.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

Lauren Bonnet, Services Coordinator

"Out of gardens grow fleeting flowers but lasting friendships"
Beverly Rose Hopper

Just as the garden changes through the seasons, so too has our garden team seen change over this past year. We have seen new people come, bringing in new skills and enthusiasm for various aspects of gardening. Our garden is one of the most multicultural spaces at MarionLIFE, which makes for rich learning as knowledge and techniques are exchanged, and practises are trialled and adapted to suit Adelaide's weather conditions. One participant from a Chinese background said of her experience in the garden, "I can learn many gardening skills and make friends with people and improve my English",



and another participant simply stated, "I'm happy in the garden". We thank Indra for her dedicated work as team leader, bringing to the garden her love for flowers, and a passion to make the garden space as welcoming and peaceful as possible. As we move forward, we hope to see more people come and enjoy the garden and make friends over morning tea. We are on the lookout for a team leader who brings both a passion for people and gardening, to give two mornings a week (Tuesday & Thursday) to our community.

COMMUNITY MEAL

We have had another successful year at Community Meal and are very grateful for our volunteers and the people from the Community that come along every 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from 6:00-7:30 pm. This past year we had an average of 45-50 participants and 10-15 volunteers each meal. Our community members range in ages, from young families to a range of individuals who live alone in the local area, and enjoy our two-course meal (main and a dessert). We have a great team of Front of House & Kitchen volunteers who do fantastic work engaging with the participants and cooking their hearts out to make delicious food. This year one of the long-serving volunteers, Geoff McIntyre, retired as he moved to his new house. We thank Geoff for 10 years helping us



to make a difference in people's life. We also wish him the best of luck and hope that every now and then he comes to visit us at Community Meal. Our team strives to create a relax and welcoming atmosphere, setting tables with nice decorations and of course the nice conversations that take place around the tables.

MARION MUGS

Trevor Hayley, Marion Mugs Team Leader

Every Monday morning, come rain or shine regulars and visitors and wonderful volunteers come. The aim of Marion Mugs, which meets in the Community Garden, and in the Youth Centre when weather not so good, is as follows:

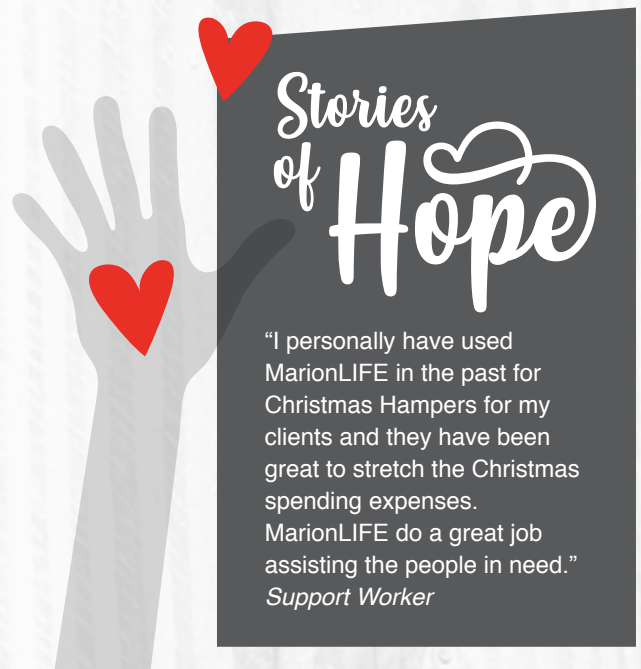
1. Provide a welcoming and inclusive connection point of community.
2. Provide a place where conversation and contributions are valued.
3. To be an additional connection point to current MarionLIFE activities.
4. To provide respite to clients from Emergency Relief activities.

Our average attendance was 15 for the year. The group is alive, chatty, noisy but always engaging. Filled with the very essence of being together in an informal setting, people see Marion Mugs as a safe and welcoming place. I am feeling this group has now progressed past being just a safe place, to becoming almost a second home. Friendships are forming and other gatherings are being planned during the week between the participants themselves. There is care and grace extended to each other, with a real sense of not only coming each week, but doing life together. It is a group, existing within a culture that truly enjoys being together, as well as welcoming new-comers.

We were fortunate to be able to take the group up to Mount Lofty for morning tea in November. It was a special morning for the seventeen of us that attended. Small Change Radio (part of Radio Adelaide) came and interviewed some participants for an on air spot in March 2019. It was great to hear some of our participants interviewed.

I need to pay special honour and thanks to the team of volunteers who have made this group the sanctuary it has become. Marion Mugs would not be able to function without them, and I am extremely thankful for their invaluable contributions. Also, a special thank-you to Lauren, our Service Coordinator, whose insight and wisdom has been very much appreciated.

We have recently found out we are a finalist in the SA Community Achievement (Loneliness Cure) Award, which, to have independent judges decide as such, is very humbling indeed. There will be a 'Gala Award Ceremony' to attend in November. It was wonderful to be able to announce to each member of the group, they are each a finalist, and irrespective of the final result, are already winners.



Stories of Hope

"I personally have used MarionLIFE in the past for Christmas Hampers for my clients and they have been great to stretch the Christmas spending expenses. MarionLIFE do a great job assisting the people in need."
Support Worker

EMERGENCY RELIEF

Lauren Bonnet, Services Coordinator

MarionLIFE's Emergency Relief service gives us a unique opportunity each week to meet and support some of the most vulnerable members of our community. It is a privilege to hear the stories of those who come in for crisis support, whether it be material in the form of food and other basic needs, or information and referrals to more specific services. We are often blown away by the resilience and strength that exists in our community, and our hope is that through this service we are able to meet people where they are at, and in the words of team leader Elsie, "support them in different ways which will make their lives less stressful". We are ever thankful to those who faithfully support this service through their donations of funds, pantry and hygiene items, as well as blankets and other essential goods. We celebrate new funding from the Department of Social Services, which began in January 2019, and has seen us expand our service area to include four council areas.

- Since last year we have seen a 16% increase in need for this service, with 1372 households seeking emergency assistance in the last month, which equals over 2,000 people assisted.
- The most common stressors facing people are:
 - Debts and bills, many of which are utility related
 - Homelessness and housing stresses
 - Changes in income, including unemployment or underemployment
 - Domestic and family violence
- We have connected people over 1085 times to various supports, including financial counselling, mental health support, housing/homelessness support, domestic violence services and referrals to our MarionLIFE community groups which foster social connections.

We are so thankful to the team of volunteers who operate our Emergency Relief service, who are all highly dedicated to doing their best and as Elsie says of her team, "they are very professional volunteers, highly compassionate and empathetic, and as team leader I know that we have a really good service to offer our community".



BUDGET & FINANCIAL COUNSELLING

Dennis Murton, Budget Counsellor

This year Amanda from UnitingCare Wesley Bowden has continued to provide a Financial Counselling service at MarionLIFE on Tuesdays. She is an experienced accredited Financial Counsellor. Many of our clients are referred to her for counselling.

I have been providing budget counselling for our clients on Mondays, dealing with more basic situations than a Financial Counsellor does. This year our catchment area has increased in size, now covering four council areas. However, most of our clients still come from the Marion Council area.

I have seen fewer clients this year, with a total of 28 attending their appointments. I have helped clients with issues such as applications for concessions, dental waiver letters, negotiation of payment plans, and Centrelink issues. The high cost of electricity continues to be a problem for many.

The Confident Budgeting Course, which runs three times a year, has been proved to be very helpful.

TAX HELP

Ed Jackson, Tax Help Volunteer

Each year from late-July through to late-October MarionLIFE offers Tax Help. We had around a dozen appointments per week in 2018. This service provides support for people to have tax completed for free. The Australian Tax Office supplies training and resources for our organisation.



CONFIDENT BUDGETING

Sue Pastro, Adult Community Education Course Facilitator

This has been my first full financial year as a Facilitator of this wonderful Financial Literacy course, Confident Budgeting. We have run three courses in the past year, two were run onsite at MarionLIFE and one was off site at the Forbes Children's Centre. All courses were well attended with an average of 10 people per course over a 7-week period. Thanks must also be given to my volunteers Leanne and Colin. Colin started out assisting and now presents a segment on Wills, Power of Attorney and other legal matters.

The highlights for me are seeing people gain confidence in managing their money as well as seeing them interact socially with others in the group. The Spend Tracker seems to be the

biggest hit with participants. They are asked to write down everything they spend over a 2-week period, then we divide it all into "Needs and Wants". This really seems to invoke a light bulb moment for many as they see where their money goes and what things they can save on. We also do a session on utilities that is very popular with everyone learning about electricity and how to save money.

Participants have told me that this course has changed their lives and they no longer feel scared of money but now feel in charge of it! I love running these courses and look forward to another successful year ahead.



"To me, coming here is just as good as walking along the road and finding a \$100 note on the footpath." *Marion Mugs Participant*

"It's an honour to work with an organisation who is so passionate about assisting the community like MarionLIFE is." *Foodbank SA Staff Member*



COMMUNITY NURSING, HEALTH AND WELLBEING SUPPORT

Elaine Murton, Registered Nurse

As noted in the above heading the name of Community Nursing service for MarionLIFE clients has been changed to a Health and Wellbeing Support. Even though I remain a Registered Nurse, the community nursing emphasis has changed to counselling skills.

Because the number of clients has dropped dramatically, a new naming and purpose will hopefully change the emphasis even though the work application remains the same. This service is about family, personal, health care, parenting and relationship issues. This confidential, non-judgemental, free service is given by appointment, as before and is promoted as a service that is there to listen and support clients through overwhelming, stressed and uncertain times.

I am thankful and grateful for the strength given to me daily to confront the challenges that come during these client sessions and also for the opportunity to make a difference. The hope is

that clients can take more responsibility for changes in their lives and move forward with enthusiasm for change.

In this last year there has been only 10 clients attending their appointments. We have been endeavouring to discern and discover whether the clients are better off after their appointments, whether they are coping better with life and if a referral is successful. As these considerations are difficult to search out without follow up on return visits, the only possible definite answer is that immediate needs and concerns are being met. We need to keep an eye on what the community needs most, for the future. We can only hope that the clients have taken away some tools for positive change and that they are more equipped to cope with their everyday life. It seems that clients are just 'trying to survive' and that new tools given to them and a listening heart will help them make the necessary changes to achieve positive life changes.

BREAD COLLECTIONS

Chris Lightowler, Bread Collections Roster Coordinator

Since the 2018 report bread collection volumes have fallen due to less volunteers. As of June 30 this year we were only collecting from bakeries at Edwardstown Baker's Delight (2 weeks out of 4), Flagstaff Hill Baker's Pantry (3 weeks out of 4) and nothing from Becks Bakery, each month. We thank Becks Bakery for their support in the time we were able to collect from them. We would like to thank our 10 volunteers - most collecting once or twice a month, for their dedication

to their roles, and of course the wonderful support of Edwardstown Baker's Delight and Flagstaff Hill Baker's Pantry. Next year we are hoping we can recruit additional collectors for the bread collection to avoid a further drop off. The collected bread, rolls and sweets are distributed through the Emergency Relief Service and through MarionLIFE functions like Community Meal and Brekky for Blokes.

NO INTEREST LOAN SCHEME

Trevor Hayley,
NILS Volunteer Interviewer

Highlights

- 37 interviews (up from five the previous year)
- 33 of these were approved, 1 was an assist for another agency, 3 too complex for NILS
- \$34,469.34 of funds injected into the local economy of supplied goods and services

Fridges, washing machines, computers, car repairs, medical and dental procedures, furniture and air conditioners. All these items, brand new! What an amazing sense of empowerment a client has when something new comes to their house. This is what makes NILS such an amazing service.

The NILS Scheme is a wonderful solution where those on low income, who may need an essential household item, have their car repaired, amongst other items, can make that purchase. Clients can then select the item that they need, and the supplier receives the funds direct. With a maximum of \$1,500, on interest free terms, clients then pay the loan back, usually over a period of 18 months, as a deduction from their Centrelink Benefit, to Good Shepherd Microfinance, as the scheme administrator.

First of all, my thanks to Good Shepherd Microfinance, who through the 'myNILSapp' has made the NILS process so easy for both the interviewer and the client. Their behind the scenes support was critical. I also want to thank Uniting Communities at Christies Beach for their partnership and support.

Thanks to the suppliers and your understanding when clients came to you for quotes. The Good Guys, Harvey Norman, Fantastic Furniture, Amart, Nick Scali, car repairers, dentists,



hospitals and others. Thanks to the landlords, including Unity, Housing SA and Junction for providing approvals for air conditioning installation.

A very big thank you to Daya and Sneha at Uniting SA at Port Adelaide, for the efficient and compassionate way you assessed our loans. We are privileged to have your support, and so conscious you were 'with me' in all of the interviews. Words are not enough to truly express my thanks.

One client story stand outs – because of NILS they were able to access elective surgery 18 months earlier, to not only alleviate an incredible amount of pain, but to bring a sense of peace to a family. They were involved in a devastating car accident and the initial quote of \$3,000 was dropped to \$1,500 which was all covered through NILS. A truly memorable moment.

AUSTRALIAN REFUGEE ASSOCIATION CONNECTION

Lauren Bonnet, Services Coordinator

Since April 2019 it has been a joy to welcome the Australian Refugee Association (ARA) to MarionLIFE one day a week. ARA is using MarionLIFE as their Southern Outreach to support the growing population of new arrivals in our area, especially those who came as refugees from Syria. We don't simply share an office space however, but are working together to provide holistic support, with the settlement

expertise of ARA working together with our community development and social inclusion work as a community centre. We look forward to seeing where this partnership leads, and especially look forward to engaging further with the many diverse and vibrant multicultural communities that make our community great.

TOOL LIBRARY CONNECTION

Leighton Boyd, Director

We are very pleased to be hosting Junction Australia's Garden Tool Library – an initiative where local residents are able to borrow tools to help them with their gardening and maintenance. This was made possible by a grant from the City of Marion and help from Bunnings.

The Garden Tool Library is located next to our Community Garden at MarionLIFE, 887 Marion Road, Mitchell Park and

is open on Tuesdays. This is a fantastic initiative that enhances opportunities for people to build connections in their community.

Garden tools are available to hire for a small fee. Hiring is open to all via calling 0410 432 425 ahead or dropping in on a Tuesday. If you have equipment to donate to the library, phone Junction Australia's Office on 8275 8700.



CHRISTMAS DAY LUNCH

Leighton Boyd, Director

What a privilege it is to host a lunch on Christmas Day. Thank you our volunteers who make this possible and to Marion Church of Christ for providing the kitchen space and auditorium. We again welcomed 50+ local residents and enjoyed a main meal, dessert, tea/coffee, music and fun!



STUDENT PLACEMENTS

Leighton Boyd, Director

Thank you to the many students who completed their placements with us across the last year. Our organisation values the contributions of each student as they learn from a hands-on experience in the chosen field of study. In 2018-19 students on placement with MarionLIFE were:

- Sharon, Ann, Nathan, Sharon and Jie, Flinders University Social Work students who helped in a variety of roles.
- Jade, Matthew, Tom, Hamish and Abid, University of South Australia Sport and Recreation Management students who assisted with the 2018 MarionLIFE Hunger Walk event.
- Karina, Alfie Community Services student who is assisting with MarionLIFE Youth and other roles.

Stories of Hope

"Thank you very much you all lifted my spirits to fight another day."

Emergency Relief Client

"Thank you so much for offering these placements. I can't tell you how much we appreciate the learning opportunities that MarionLIFE offers to our students."

Field Education Manager,
Flinders University



BIG DISH UP

Rebecca Wu, Adult Community Education Course Facilitator

There have been two Big Dish Up Courses this past year. As part of the aim is to engage people in cooking in a relaxed and fun environment, we format the Course to allow each person to choose what they want to learn. This gives participants the skill building opportunity to use what they learn outside of MarionLIFE. We also took the bus to Tonsley TAFE for a tour in the second Course, for those attendees that had an interest in further study.

What has been lovely is to see the continued connection with past attendees, including three people attending both Courses, allowing them to increase their variety of skills. In addition, an attendee suffering anxiety who dropped out of the first programme returned for the second one - it was lovely to see her progress. We always sit down to eat together so by the end friendships and good connections are made.



Another great outcome of our Course is the continued connection with the wider community. One of the attendees now volunteers at the re-opened Side Gate Café as a barista and, another has joined as a MarionLIFE volunteer for the next Big Dish Up Course. She fills the spot of our previous volunteer who secured full-time employment involving food and diet. We average 10 participants each Course and the engagement is amazing.

We look forward to next year and as a Facilitator my biggest joy is when I see the attendees take over the kitchen. Not to mention, I am continually learning new recipes as everyone has their own style or way of doing things. Next year we aim to include the bus tour as a permanent part of the Course to further everyone's connections and learning pathways in the community.

DREW COURT MEN'S GROUP

Trevor Hayley, Drew Court Volunteer

Drew Court is a housing complex in Oaklands Park. The idea of a Men's Group had been given thought and vision by Housing SA, MarionLIFE Community Services, CareWorks SA and the City of Marion, over a period of months. The vision was to pilot a social connection group to address the isolation of the men who reside there. We co-facilitated an eight week group with CareWorks SA and the power of the Group was its informality and giving people the space to connect and be themselves.

There was a 'launch' as such on 9 July 2018, with a BBQ for the Drew Court residents. Marion Lions cooked the BBQ, and there were representatives from MarionLIFE, CareWorks, City of Marion and Housing SA, with many residents attending. There is a wonderful Community Room on the site, with the Group commencing on 26 October 2018 and running weekly until 14 December 2019. Most of the weeks involved conversation around a game of Uno or Jenga. One of the things we knew was going to be required was food, and between the food donations that both CareWorks and MarionLIFE receives, were able to provide afternoon tea

each week. In fact one of the residents brought Turkish Delight which was very much appreciated by the Group. We averaged half a dozen residents attending each week.

One of our hopes was that some kind of Community Project would emerge. We were not quite sure what this would be but as the weeks went by, and the comfort increased in the Group, the idea for the Community Project, quite naturally started to emerge; a community BBQ on the final week. We planned the activity as a group, residents distributed flyers, and then on the day, the residents took charge, preparing and cooking the BBQ. This result was extremely encouraging to both Geoff Payne (CareWorks SA CEO) and myself with around twenty residents coming to enjoy the festivities.

This BBQ event was a wonderful coming together of agencies. Food provided by MarionLIFE and CareWorks, Seaview Downs Foodland chipping in some bread, the City of Marion providing the BBQ plus fruit and mince pies. With the weather clearing beautifully, it was a great way to finish our time together.

“Always (feel) better when you know you’re going to eat tonight.”
Emergency Relief Client

“Children were really enjoying themselves with the activities provided by MarionLIFE, and I am very appreciative of them.”
Principal, IQRA College

MARIONLIFE YOUTH

Tristan Prentice, MarionLIFE Youth Facilitator

MarionLIFE Youth has consisted of two main strands this year. One our youth drop-in space for 10-17 year olds and two we added Lunchtime Sessions in local schools throughout 2019. Through the support of City of Marion Youth Development, Moriatta Trust and Carthew Foundation Grants we were able to continue running both projects over the last 12 months. The MarionLIFE Youth drop-in space is each Friday during school terms where we have fun activities (like basketball, video games, art and an area for homework too), a healthy light meal and hold a life skills workshop to learn about looking after yourself, skill-building and finding out about relevant youth support services. This year our workshops for each term have been themed as we covered what youth were going to do beyond school years, healthy active lifestyles and stepped into the world of online social media before youth engage with it in an active physical environment training zone. All these workshops for our youth were fun, dynamic and thought-provoking.

The MarionLIFE Youth Lunchtime Sessions allowed local youth to have access to safe hang-out spaces during lunchtime of their school day and this was delivered in connection with school Wellbeing staff, Counsellors or Pastoral Care Workers. We are also thankful for the number of schools that welcomed us to run activities for their participants.

We continue to be a meeting point for local youth and are proud to connect with local schools to support youth who need respite. We are excited about the future of the drop-in service as well as looking at other ways our MarionLIFE Youth team can be a positive impact in the local area.

MarionLIFE Youth Feedback:

- 82% of participants were satisfied and happy with MarionLIFE Youth and the Youth team
- 65% of participants said MarionLIFE Youth was improving their lives
- 63% of participants said MarionLIFE Youth generates confidence in life decisions.
- “Staff have noticed a decrease in yard issues as so many of our students attend the lunch sessions.” Student Wellbeing Manager, Hallett Cove South Primary School
- “We learned how to stay safe in the outdoors, learned self-defence and new moves to help us protect ourselves.” MarionLIFE Youth Lunchtime Sessions School Student



MARIONLIFE HUNGER WALK

Leighton Boyd, Director

Our 2nd Annual MarionLIFE Hunger Walk was held on Saturday 3 November. We had a fantastic time with 93 people joining us for the 4km walk along the Sturt River to raise awareness about those experiencing hunger and raise money to support MarionLIFE's work supporting individuals and families in need. Thank you to our event sponsors: Image Built, Drummer Marketing, Miss Sunday Event Stylist, SA Aquatic Centre. Thank you to our special guests: SA Government Assistant Minister and Elder MP Carolyn Power, Boothby Labor Candidate Nadia Clancy, City of Marion Mayor Kris Hanna and Mayoress Dr Minerva Nasser-Eddine, City of Marion Deputy Mayor Janet Bryam, City of Marion Warriparinga Ward Councillor Raelene Telfer and Warriparinga Ward Candidate Kym Mercer. We loved sharing the day with

stallholders and caterers from Foodbank SA, Uniting Care Wesley Bowden, Once & Again Café and the Lions Club of Edwardstown. 2018 Event Feedback:

- 100% were likely to attend this event again
- 90% felt more connected to their community as a result of the event
- 75% increased awareness of hunger in Marion area
- 100% of stallholders said this was a worthwhile day for their organisation
- “Well organised. A great event.”
- “It took my mind off my own problems for a while. Love the breakfast and the music.”
- “A lovely idea and even mums with prams can attend, which is great.”



FINANCE REPORT

Steve Sherrah, Treasurer

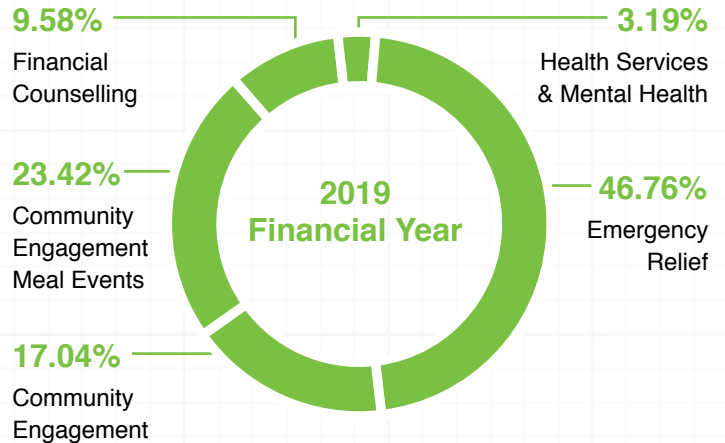
The Income of MarionLIFE is a combination of Gift Deductible Donations, and funding from both Private Trusts and Government Funding. This Income is then applied to the programs and running costs of the organisation to facilitate the positive outcomes in people's lives.

The resources available to MarionLIFE are finite and are acquitted within program/grant guidelines and a budget. We welcome the Emergency Relief Government Funding and we wish to acknowledge and thank the Carthew Foundation, Westpac and individuals who donate to this service which enables us to meet the needs of our community.

We welcome opportunities to discuss additional funding for our programs and note we are able to provide a tax deductible receipt for funds received. Our Financial Statements were audited in the 2018/19 Financial Year by Tony Boys.

We thank the Morialta Trust, Marion Council, the State Government of South Australia and Federal Government of Australia for their continued support.

MarionLIFE Expenditure Chart



MarionLIFE Receipts Chart





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