



CARMEL
Impact

2022
ANNUAL REPORT



Transforming Lives, Building Communities, *Together*

CONTENTS

Chair of the Board Report	page 4
At A Glance	page 5-7
Our Impact	page 8-17
Meet Our Family	page 18-23
Financial Overview	page 24-25
Governance	page 26



CHAIR OF THE BOARD REPORT

It is my pleasure to be introducing the Annual Report for the first time as Chair of the Board for Carmel Impact, and sharing news about the life-changing work made possible by our community of supporters,

Having myself spent 11 years living in Timor-Leste I have seen the development that has taken place as a result of Carmel Impact's presence. The parish schools in Zumalai and Raimea have grown in size in terms of the number of students as well as the resources available to them. The Titus Brandsma boarding house is full of enthusiastic students willing to learn and being prepared for a positive future. We have also celebrated great moments such as seeing our Community Scholarship students graduate from their studies.

I am pleased to inform you that in 2022, \$277,000 was used to continue Carmel Impact's important programs, including the La Bruna Scholarships, Community Scholarships, Titus Brandsma Boarding House and the three Catholic schools that Zumalai parish is responsible for. In addition, we continued to provide COVID-19 relief and ongoing support of the Leadership for Development program.

Another exciting development is the Carmelite Sisters' Kindergarten in Zumalai, which started in a re-purposed hut and has been enthusiastically supported by the local families in Zumalai. It warms the heart to see these little children in their uniforms being so happily involved in their learning activities.

In November 2022, following our triennial Carmelite Chapter, the Carmel Impact Board experienced some changes. I would like to thank the outgoing board members, Fr Paul Cahill who was Prior Provincial and Chair of the Board, as well as Fr Hugh Brown, Fr Denis Andrew and Fr Martinho Da Costa.

I would like to welcome to the board Fr Wayne Stanhope, Fr Januario Pinto, Fr David Hofman and Fr Carlito Da Costa, with myself as Prior Provincial and Chair of the Board.

On behalf of the Carmelites Australia and Timor-Leste, we are grateful to our valued donors and staff who enable us to continue to support the people of Timor-Leste through the work and ministry of Carmel Impact.



Fr. Bruce Clark O'Carroll
Chair of the Board
Prior Provincial



CARMEL IMPACT AT A GLANCE

OUR VISION

Building a future in which East Timorese people have pathways to quality education and more opportunities.

OUR MISSION

Carmel Impact is a Christian Charity working together with communities in Timor-Leste to help them transform their lives through education and youth engagement. Together we build grass roots relationships so we can better serve the people who need it most. We are committed to creating lasting positive change in Timor-Leste.

OUR COMMUNITY

Carmel Impact is a charity established by The Carmelites of Australia and Timor-Leste. We are a community of like-minded people who believe that everyone deserves a chance for a better life; therefore, we work with people who are facing economic and life challenges. We build tomorrow's leaders by creating lasting change together.

We invite supporters, partners and friends to join with us to work with the East Timorese people in practical ways, which build stronger relationships and empower them to fulfil their purpose and potential in life.



CARMEL IMPACT AT A GLANCE

OUR VALUES

Our patron Mary our Mother and Sister, guides us in our service to all of God's people. Through her wisdom we embrace these values:

Humanity: We are a people of mercy and compassion, strong in justice and in our care for all people.

Service: We share our gifts for ministry, and service with our community.

Communication: We engage with people openly fostering a relationship of mutual enrichment, understanding, solidarity, respect and participation.

Integrity: We receive with humility resources entrusted to us and work with communities conscientiously and responsibly.



687 people directly benefited from the Education and Leadership Programs

4 program areas:
Education = freedom
Youth engagement
Leadership for Development
Critical pandemic response

\$277,000 total funds spent on programs

430 people participated in Youth Engagement activities

8 community organisations supported



OUR IMPACT



In 2022, our commitment to education in Timor-Leste continued to strengthen. Our Community Scholarship recipients grew from 23 to 31 students, with a particular focus on young women from rural communities studying health degrees.

We are also proud to have begun supporting the Carmelite Sisters kindergarten, the first of its kind in Zumalai.

Finally, with the impact of the pandemic still reverberating through communities, our COVID-19 Safe Kits provided much needed resources to continue to keep communities healthy.



OUR IMPACT

CRITICAL RESPONSE: COVID-19 PROJECT

The COVID-19 virus has continued to put pressure on the health system in Timor-Leste, causing challenges right across the community. Rural schools, kindergartens and orphanages with limited resources continue to be affected, along with rural health centres where frontline workers are leading the public health response.

Our COVID-19 Safe Kits provided much needed materials, including soap, hand towels, reusable masks, disinfectant products, washing detergents, a cleaning bucket and a handwashing poster. Health centres also received oximeters and digital thermometers, and flood victims received additional food supplies.

Safe Kits were delivered to:

29 rural households

4 schools and kindergartens

1 orphanage

3 rural community health centres

Thank you Livonia - a recent graduate of the Community Scholarships Program - who sewed hundreds of reusable masks in adults and children's sizes for the Safe Kits.



EDUCATION: LA BRUNA SCHOLARSHIPS

Br Antonio is from a small village in Balibo where he grew up helping his parents in their vegetable garden and attending the local primary school that his father taught at. The youngest of five siblings, he is the first in his family to attend university.

Through the La Bruna Scholarship program, Br Antonio has reached the final stage of a Bachelor of Philosophy degree. He is currently working on a thesis about the philosophy of education, which he is writing in Portuguese.

“I like studying philosophy, but I also try to be practical. I always try to put into practice what I’ve learnt here. For example, when I leave our student accommodation to do work in the community, I try to treat everyone with respect and love. I really endeavour to be a good person in the community.”

La Bruna scholarships support the general education of young men preparing to live their lives as Carmelites. After their La Bruna scholarship concludes, some go onto further studies as a Carmelite priest, but all go on to make a difference to their communities across Timor-Leste.

In 2022, 23 young East Timorese men like Antonio have had access to Undergraduate studies in Timor-Leste through this program, which provides accommodation, meals, study resources, university tuition and pastoral support.



OUR IMPACT

EDUCATION: COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Young people from rural communities around Timor-Leste receive scholarships to assist with their education, which cover school fees, accommodation, study resources and additional support for work experience programs or thesis research projects. In 2022, we provide Community Scholarships for:

1 Primary School student

8 High School students

2 students in Vocational Training

20 University students

Esmeralda is from a village in Hera and is one of seven siblings. After her father died when she was young, Esmeralda made a commitment to help her mother however she could. Receiving a Community Scholarship means she can complete Year 12 at a local vocational high school this year. Esmeralda is in the computer studies stream at her school and wants to apply for a place at university next year.

The student workshop in Hera was a highlight of the program this year. 22 students spent the day together, shared a meal and participated in wellbeing sessions on self-care, stress management and meditation techniques.



EDUCATION: BOARDING HOUSE

The Beato Tito Brandsma Boarding House is located in Zumalai, a rural community on the south-coast of Timor-Leste. The 25 students who live there come from rural communities around the region and are supported with accommodation, nutritious meals, study support, extra-curricular activities, and are involved in community activities.

Julindo is in Year 8 at the local Catholic school in Zumalai and started living at the boarding house in 2021. That was a difficult year for his family as his Dad died at just 59 years old. Julindo's mum supports her six children by running a small shop out the front of their house, selling basic necessities such as noodles, salt, shampoo and water.

“My favourite subject at school is Portuguese because the teachers are really good. It's easy to understand when they explain things. At the boarding house, my favourite thing is my friends and extra activities we do together, especially playing soccer.”



OUR IMPACT

EDUCATION: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Teaching Resources: This year we were happy to respond to a specific request for biology-related educational posters from Australia for three schools in Zumalai and provide a series of posters about amphibians, mammals, vertebrates, fish, marsupials, reptiles and birds.



Volunteer Teachers: Schools in Zumalai rely on the support of volunteer teachers. We are proud to support 18 teachers with subsidies and congratulate five of those teachers who received government contracts with the Ministry of Education at the end of 2022.



Education Infrastructure: Ensuring a stable water supply for the school, boarding house, kindergarten and local community in central Zumalai has been an ongoing challenge. The installation of water pipes and pumps for a new extra-large water tank means a back-up water source is now available.

EDUCATION: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Kindergarten: The Mount Carmel Kindergarten is situated in the centre of Zumalai. Established and run by the Carmelite Sisters, it is the first ever kindergarten in Zumalai. With 30 children enrolled in 2022, Sister Mailyn said Carmel Impact's funds facilitated the purchase of coloured paper, crayons, a white board, scissors and even toothbrushes and toothpaste, which are used to teach good oral hygiene practices.

"Thank you for supporting our project here in Zumalai. We love teaching these children and seeing them grow and develop while they are in our care. When they first come they are shy and nervous, and by the end of the year they are confident and have learnt many new skills that prepare them well for primary school."



OUR IMPACT

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

In Timor-Leste 60% of the population are under 25, and yet the extra curricular activities for this group are very limited, particularly in rural areas. Our program endeavours to engage young people in sport and social activities that build skills and community connections.

430 young people and children participated in our activities in 2022.

Hera Youth Festival

70 soccer players in 7 teams

70 volleyball players in 7 teams

12 kids participated in 4 quiz teams

Zumalai Youth Soccer Tournament

30 young people participated

Children's Quiz Competition

8 Catholic schools involved

Over 200 children participated

In the final round, each school sent a team of three students to compete in Hera, where hundreds of students, staff and community members gathered to support them.

Online Youth Seminar

50 young people gathered to participate in an online international youth seminar







MEET OUR CARMEL IMPACT FAMILY

The dedication, compassion and generosity of our Carmel Impact family is truly inspiring. Your love, compassion, prayers and giving from the heart is making a significant impact on the lives of the East Timorese people, and we are immensely grateful for your support.

With your help, Carmel Impact is working towards a future where quality education and opportunities are accessible to the people of Timor-Leste. Your commitment to our vision is bringing positive change to the lives of many, and we want to express our heartfelt thanks for being an essential part of this transformational journey.

Together with our compassionate donors and volunteers, we are building a brighter future and creating pathways for the East Timorese people to thrive. Your selflessness and belief in our mission are what make all the difference, and we couldn't do what we do without you!

A COMMITMENT TO IMPROVING LIFE THROUGH EDUCATION

MEET JULIE STUART

Julie grew up in a Catholic family and her local parish held a significant place in community life. She received her primary education from the Mercy sisters and, at the age of four, was gifted a brown scapular by her Aunty Anne, who remained actively involved in her education and supported her family in various ways. It was later revealed that Julie's Aunt Anne had once been part of the Carmelite convent. This was probably Julie's first connection with the Carmelites.

*"Early in my married life, we lived in Surabaya, Indonesia, where I was exposed to the harsh realities of life in a developing country. I was touched by the stories and struggles shared by our Javanese wash lady, Bu Ratina, to secure a better life for her grandson through education. **This gave me an appreciation of how much she valued education while she had none herself.** This experience reinforced the deep appreciation of how learning opportunities drive positive change and are so important in our modern world, particularly in today's digital era."*



After returning to Brisbane the family eventually became parishioners of Mount Carmel Church, Coorparoo in 1985. Here, Julie joined the 'Friends of Zumalai' support group which was established to inform the local parishioners of the Carmelites' mission in Zumalai, and to raise funds to support the Carmelites mission to improve life for the people in Timor-Leste especially through education.

Julie was confident with the Carmelites' ability to build strong relationships on the ground in Timor-Leste and joined the committee so she could make a contribution to this work. Without the assistance of volunteers, Carmel Impact would not have community fundraising. Our dedicated volunteers give their time and energy, to support a cause they believe in. We would like to give a shout out to them all and thank them for the tireless efforts.

"Having lived in Surabaya, I was familiar with the poverty prevalent in Zumalai, where numerous children cannot attend school due to their families' financial limits. My involvement with Carmel Impact, both personally and as a volunteer, offered me a chance to provide the people in Timor-Leste with educational opportunities and, in turn, a better life."

My hope is that all Christians seek to build a more meaningful relationship with our close neighbours, the East Timorese people, by respecting their dignity and assisting them to meet their needs. Understanding the stark contrast between their daily hardships and our lives of relative luxury, I am committed to giving in whatever capacity I can to assist them to improve their standard of living through the compassionate efforts of Carmel Impact.'

MEET OUR FAMILY

AN ENDURING GIFT OF EDUCATION

MEET JOHN MOLNAR



“Leaving a Gift in my Will feels right, as education is a powerful means to break the cycle of poverty in Timor-Leste.”

John’s connection to the Carmelites has been lifelong.

“I’ve been under the care of the Carmelites for most of my life. Fond memories of Christmas and Easter midnight Masses, along with parties in the parish hall, remind me of the wonderful times spent in the Middle Park community where the Carmelites serve.

After moving back to the parish over two decades ago, I rejoined the Carmelite family and witnessed their mission expand to Timor-Leste. It has been heartening to see the progress they’ve made, helping this impoverished nation, especially the children living in rural and remote areas.

Supporting community resilience and development through Carmel Impact has been deeply fulfilling.

I’m proud to contribute to the transformational change occurring and appreciate the Carmelites’ commitment to addressing challenging issues like ‘safeguarding children.’

Watching the young Carmelites in our parish take on ministry roles and grow through their educational journey has been inspiring. These young men are already making a significant impact in both Australia and Timor-Leste.

Ramos-Horta once said, “Give education to the Catholic Church,” and the Carmelites have wholeheartedly embraced this in Timor-Leste, going beyond by assisting with water, health and building projects over the past two decades. The Carmel Contact newsletter showcases motivating stories that further encourage my support for Carmel Impact’s fantastic work.

Leaving a Gift in my Will feels right, as education is a powerful means to break the cycle of poverty in Timor-Leste. I believe this decision will ensure the growth of scholarships, education projects, and other initiatives by Carmel Impact, fostering the development of the country and its people.

While this is a personal decision, I hope others will join me in leaving a Gift in their Will to support this life-enhancing and community-building work in Timor-Leste. Meeting the young Timorese Carmelites in our community has been inspiring, and I believe my decision will enable Carmel Impact to continue pulling young people out of poverty and nurture the next generation of Carmelite leaders in Timor-Leste.”

GRANTS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Bringing about change requires the support of a dedicated and compassionate community. Last year, we received a grant from the Pure Heart of Mary Province Mission Office, enabling us to purchase a new motorcycle for the Zumalai community. Witnessing the global Carmelite Order's generosity is heartwarming. Br Antonio, as the School Principal, uses the motorbike to visit schools in remote areas like Raimea and Beco, as well as the new kindergartens, facilitating essential work in these remote areas.

Our parish support groups and local schools played a significant role in raising over \$22,000 through various fundraisers for our development projects. Their involvement also fosters an understanding of Timorese culture in their local communities, which enhances engagement.

Last year, our peer-to-peer initiative united individuals, schools, and parishes in supporting Timor-Leste projects. The event became a platform for sharing food, stories, singing, and dancing, all in the spirit of empowering young people's dreams through education and raised almost \$10,000.

Through the collective efforts of our compassionate community, we continue to make significant progress in supporting the people of Timor-Leste and providing better educational opportunities. The spirit of unity and collaboration witnessed throughout our Carmel Impact family is inspiring, and we're grateful for the continuous support fuelling our mission. Together, we can continue to create positive change and transform lives.



MEET OUR FAMILY

KATE SWINFIELD

SHARING HER KNOWLEDGE

Kate first visited Timor-Leste in 2015 as a recently retired teacher from Kent, England. Being a member of a Carmelite parish, she connected strongly with our Carmelite community, saying *'arriving in Hera felt a bit like a homecoming.'*

Kate taught English to Carmelite students in Hera for two years, followed by several six-month periods. Of course, in reality she did much more than teach language skills. Kate shared her knowledge of the world, built strong relationships and fully participated in the life of the community.

'Over time I've got to know everyone really well. In the morning I would take group classes, then in the afternoon, I'd do one-to-one reading or comprehension sessions. The students were so engaged and so respectful ... Some of them hadn't learned to read until they were 10 or 12 years old, so through the English classes they were also building up their fluency in reading generally ... Now,

years later, these students are writing their final thesis for their philosophy degrees in English and we work together to check they have used the language to express their ideas effectively.'

When asked what her favourite things have been about living in Hera, Kate said

'the rhythm of the community is beautiful, the chapel being at its centre. Praying together three or four times a day is extremely uplifting. Being in the midst of the Brothers, chanting the Divine Office, is very powerful. I loved how they could sing in spontaneous harmony. The Brothers would take turns to accompany us on the keyboard, often playing and harmonizing by ear, giving Gregorian chant another dimension. It was an extraordinary privilege to be part of such a wonderful experience, in fact, it has been life-changing.'

Carmel Impact thanks Kate for her many years of volunteer service with the students in Hera, Timor-Leste.





Transforming Lives, Building Communities, *Together*

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

I am pleased to present to you this summary of our financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2022. Independent auditor Saward Dawson has audited the financial statements, which were prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

In its third year of operations, Carmel Impact approved \$277,000 funding for local development projects. This was largely funded through \$348,000 in donations, overseas trusts & foundations, and bequests.

I am pleased to report that the Carmelites were able to continue their support for Carmel Impact's operating expenses, allowing our administration and fundraising costs to be capped at 10% of income (\$36,952). This makes Carmel Impact a highly efficient charity to support.

The surplus of \$37,000 was applied to our reserves which at the end of the year were

\$87,000. As a new and small charity these reserves provide us with an important buffer that allows us to be more confident in allocating funds to projects without being entirely dependent on current year fundraising.

I was fortunate to visit Timor-Leste recently and I was impressed to see the work of Carmel Impact being delivered "on the ground" by the local Carmelites. I thank you for your partnership which enables this important work.

Joe Konyneburg

Joe Konyneburg
Business Manager
The Carmelites
Australia & Timor-Leste

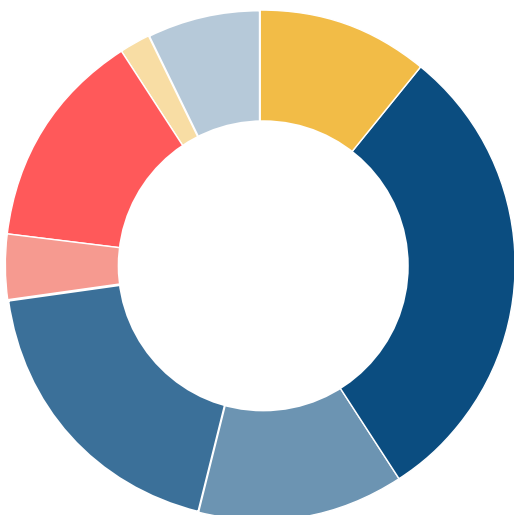


CARMEL IMPACT INCOME

Donations – **\$308,867**

Trusts, Foundations & Bequests – **\$39,829**

TOTAL INCOME



- 30% - La Bruna Scholarships - \$105,705
- 13% - Community Scholarships - \$44,972
- 19% - Zumalai Programs - \$65,163
- 4% - Other Programs - \$13,591
- 14% - Program Co-ordination - \$47,440
- 2% - Admin - \$8,831
- 7% - Fundraising - \$26,037
- 11% - Surplus (to reserves) - \$36,951

Carmel Impact Ltd

Profit & Loss

For the year ended 31st December 2022

Actual
31st Dec 2022
\$

Income	
Donations	308,867
Trusts & Foundations	18,640
Bequests	20,852
Interest	337
Total Income	348,696
Direct Development Expenses	
La Bruna Scholarships	105,706
Community Scholarships	44,973
Zumalai - Schools	22,963
Zumalai - Boarding House	35,311
Zumalai - Community Capital	6,889
Youth Engagement	5,386
Governance	909
COVID19 Response	7,297
Community Development Co-ordinator	46,205
Program Management Expenses	1,236
Total Direct Development Expenditure	276,875
Administrative & Fundraising Costs	
Audit	3,750
Annual Report	3,925
Bank Charges	474
Website	683
Direct Fundraising Costs	26,037
Total Administrative & Fundraising Costs	34,869
Surplus/(Deficit)	36,952

These figures are extracted from the formal audited accounts which are available from the Carmel Impact website, as well as acnc.gov.au



GOVERNANCE

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS



Denis Andrew
Director



Hugh Brown
Director



Bruce Clark
Director



Martinho da Costa
Director



Paul Cahill
Director &
Prior Provincial

INCOMING BOARD MEMBERS



Carlito da Costa Araujo
Director



David Hofman
Director



Wayne Stanhope
Director



Januario Pinto
Director



Bruce Clark
Director &
Prior Provincial

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CONTACT US

Address: 75 Wright St, Middle Park VIC 3206 Australia

Phone: +61 (03) 9699 1922

Website: carmelimpact.org.au

ABN: 72626911377

To support the projects contained in this report and more visit us online at: www.carmelimpact.org.au

THANK YOU

Thank you for being the driving force behind the positive transformation in Timor-Leste. Your efforts are truly making the world a better place. Let's continue this journey together and bring even more positive change to the lives of those in need.

