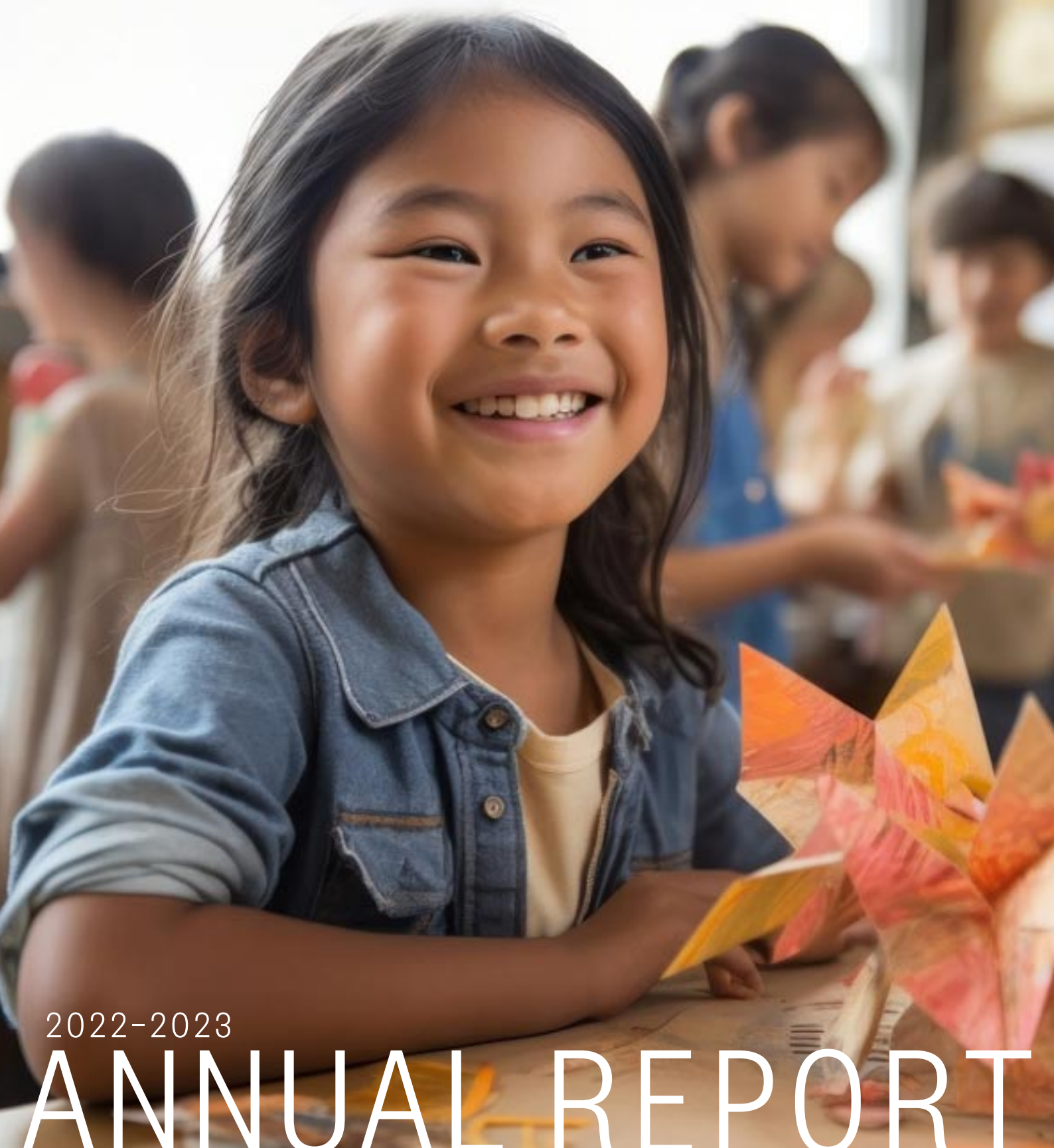




Clients from
22 countries

Bridge costs
kept to 0.57%



2022-2023

ANNUAL REPORT

The financial year 2022-23 was very challenging for people seeking asylum and with no or very limited means. Soaring rents and increasing costs of living meant many were in danger of homelessness and/or malnutrition. The demand for financial assistance from Bridge for Asylum Seekers (Bridge) was very high and a record amount was spent on client support.

Sadly, while helping many, Bridge was unable to assist all in need.

Bridge is very grateful to our donors: individuals, philanthropic organisations and the NSW ClubGRANTS program*. Thank you for your generous support. It allowed us to provide a critical lifeline to those seeking asylum who had no or insufficient other means of support.

NSW's Coalition Government continued Multicultural NSW (MNSW) funding (designed to support temporary visa holders, including many but not all asylum seekers) but this ran out before financial year end and was not renewed by the Labor State Government in their 2023 budget.

Nevertheless, while it was available the MNSW funding took pressure off Bridge, allowing us to maintain support for those unable to work (no work rights, physical or psychological ill health, no child care, no language skills) but ineligible for MNSW funding.

Disappointingly, the hoped-for increase in Federal Government funding for those seeking asylum did not occur in the 2023 budget. People continued to be released from detention/community detention but, without any on-going financial support from governments, many needed support from Bridge while they found accommodation and employment.

* The ClubGRANTS scheme is a shared State Government Club Industry program, funded by a 2.25% gaming machine tax rebate provided by the State Government to registered clubs with gaming machine profits in excess of \$1 million per annum.

*99.43% of Bridge's expenditure directly supports clients**

**The hoped-for increase in Federal Government
2023 funding for those seeking asylum did not occur**

*Includes Safe Homes

Bridge's Key Achievements 2022-2023

Assisting 139 households representing 207 clients, of whom 67 were children, with \$507,483 [\$397,845 in 2021-22] for living and rental allowances

Assisting 34 people, including 16 children into leased accommodation through the pilot Safe Homes program, with bonds and rent-in-advance totalling \$24,874

Submitting 11 grant applications and completing 11 acquittals

Receipt of 12 grants, some of which had been applied for in the previous financial year

Maintaining low operational costs of \$3044.46, representing 0.57% of total outgoings

Raising a total grant /donation income of \$528,148—comprising:

\$67,545 Regular and ad hoc donations from individual donors [\$80,515 in 2021-22]

\$8,000 Grants from philanthropic organisations received in 2021-22 for use in 2022-23

\$8,000 Perpetual's IMPACT philanthropy (Clark Family Foundation) [for Safe Homes]

\$400,000 Grants from philanthropic organisations

\$200,000 The Scully Fund (\$100,000 grant-in-advance for 2023-24)

\$20,000 Bank Australia

\$20,000 Mercy Foundation (for Safe Homes)

\$25,000 Albert and Barbara Tucker Foundation

\$35,000 Collier Charitable Fund

\$100,000 IMPACT 100 Sydney North (multiple grantmakers)

\$100,000 Jan de Voogd Peace Fund

\$60,550 ClubGRANTS

\$24,960 Wests Ashfield Leagues Club

\$10,500 Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club

\$5,090 Hornsby RSL

\$20,000 Bankstown Sports Club

On behalf of our clients, Bridge thanks these donors for making our work possible:

**The Scully
Fund**



**Jan de Voogd
Peace Fund**

**Collier
Charitable
Fund**



mercy foundation



**The Clark Family
Foundation**



BankstownSports



Numbers of clients assisted

In 2022-23, \$507,483 (\$397,845 in 2021-22) was spent on client support, specifically living allowances and/or rent assistance, for 207 (155) people seeking asylum including 67 (47) children, in 139 (79) households.

Distribution of Bridge Funds

In 2022-23 with the borders opened, there were new arrivals of people seeking asylum. However Bridge's focus remained on those with no work rights or those unable to work—trauma (either physical or psychological), ill health, child care needs, language—or those earning insufficient to prevent hunger or maintain a roof over their heads. Many clients also had high and complex needs, requiring greater levels of support over long periods. With no federal government assistance available for any of Bridge's clients, our allowances were essential to prevent people becoming destitute and consequently homeless.

Where do our clients come from?

In 2022-23 our clients came from 22 countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cambodia, Egypt, Fiji, India, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, New Caledonia, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic and Tonga.

Safe Homes

The Safe Homes project, initiated in 2021-22, supported people seeking asylum who needed financial assistance specifically to enter into rental leases.

The grant from Mercy Foundation, received in two tranches in both 2021-22 and again in this financial year 2022-23, assisted single women and women with children. An additional grant from Perpetual (The Clark Family Foundation), also received late 2021-22, provided support for men, women and children. With total Safe Homes expenditure of \$24,874 over the financial year, 34 people including 16 children were assisted into their own rented accommodation, helping them making a step towards safe housing and longer term stability.

Bridge supported asylum seekers from:
**Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Brazil,
Cambodia, Egypt, Fiji, India, Iran, Iraq,
Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mongolia,
Myanmar, Nepal, New Caledonia, Pakistan,
Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka,
Syrian Arab Republic, Tonga**

During the financial year, Ruth Kestermann resigned from the Committee. Bridge would like to thank her for her invaluable contributions to Bridge's operations and offer her our warmest wishes for the future.

The Bridge Management Committee at the end of the financial year 2022-23 comprised: Janet Castle (Chair), Rebecca Ding (Treasurer), Felicia Tesoriero (Secretary), and general committee members Janice Thompson and Brent Sheridan (joined the committee during 2022-23).

All members of the Bridge Committee worked in a voluntary capacity.



Janet Castle

Chair

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Foundation

Bridge would be unable to keep its costs to 0.35% without the amazing support of those providing us with pro-bono services:

Rod Sharples of Datadiction with his ongoing development and maintenance of a donor database that supports our operations

Craig Stokoe of CS Consultancy for developing much of Bridge's messaging, content and design for a range of communications

Michael Garcia of Garcia Group Advisors who, for a peppercorn fee, provides us with audit services

Bartier Perry for their legal advice with regard to our collaboration agreement with the Asylum Seekers Centre (ASC).

Bridge continues to work in close collaboration with the ASC who provide frontline services for NSW asylum seekers. We thank ASC for their continued collaboration with Bridge.

Volunteers also made wonderful contributions and we want to thank John George, Sam George and Noelle Perera.

*20 years on, Bridge has helped 2,808 people***

**With no government assistance available
to Bridge clients, our allowances are essential**

**Excludes Safe Homes

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc

Contents

Responsible Persons' Report	2
Auditor's Independence Declaration	3
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income	5
Statement of Changes in Equity	6
Statement of Cash Flows	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8
Responsible Persons' Declaration	14
Chairperson's Declaration under the Charitable Fundraising Act	15
Independent Audit Report	16

**Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Responsible Persons' Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

Your Committee submit the financial report of Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc ("the Association") for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Responsible Persons

The names of Responsible Persons at the date of this report are:

- Janet Castle - Chairperson
- Rebecca Ding - Treasurer
- Felicia Tesoriero - Secretary
- Janice Thompson
- Brent Sheridan

Principal Activities

The principal activity of the Association during the financial year was to raise funds to help asylum seekers who have been assessed eligible by the facilitating organisations we have contracted in service agreements, such as the Asylum Seekers Centre in Newtown.

Significant Changes

No significant changes in the nature of the principal activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The surplus for the year was \$100,516 (2022: \$83,758 deficit). The Association is exempt from income taxes pursuant to subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Responsible Persons.



.....
Janet Castle
Chairperson

Dated: 15th November 2023

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Responsible Persons
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

In accordance with Subdivision 60-C of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as the audit principal for the audit of the financial statements of Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc for the year ended 30 June 2023, we declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of:

- (a) the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (b) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Garcia Group Advisors
Chartered Accountants



Michael Garcia
Principal

Registered Company Auditor: 435105

OATLEY NSW 2223

Dated: 15th November 2023

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Current Assets			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	3	214,347	116,961
Prepayments	4	19,505	16,375
Total Current Assets		233,852	133,336
Non-Current Assets			
Total Non-Current Assets		0	0
Total Assets		233,852	133,336
Current Liabilities			
Total Current Liabilities		0	0
Non-Current Liabilities			
Total Non-Current Liabilities		0	0
Total Liabilities			
Net Assets		233,852	133,336
Association Funds			
Reserves	5	110,636	6,820
Accumulated Surplus		123,216	126,516
Total Association Funds		233,852	133,336

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue from Ordinary Activities	2	628,290	318,695
Client Support		(525,730)	(401,025)
Other Administration Expenses		(2,044)	(1,428)
Surplus (Deficit) before income tax		100,516	(83,758)
Income Tax Expense		0	0
Surplus (Deficit) after income tax		100,516	(83,758)
Other Comprehensive Income		0	0
Total comprehensive income attributable to the Accumulated Surplus		100,516	(83,758)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Accumulated Surplus \$	Reserves \$	Total Association Funds \$
Balance at 1 July 2021	67,094	150,000	217,094
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(83,758)	0	(83,758)
Transfers from reserves	150,000	(150,000)	0
Transfers to reserves	(6,820)	6,820	0
Balance at 30 June 2022	126,516	6,820	133,336
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	100,516	0	100,516
Transfers from reserves	6,820	(6,820)	0
Transfers to reserves	(110,636)	110,636	0
Balance at 30 June 2023	123,216	110,636	233,852
		2023	2022
		\$	\$
Reserves			
Restricted Grants Reserve	5	110,636	6,820
Balance at 30 June		110,636	6,820

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Receipts from donors and grants	628,095	318,564
Interest received	195	131
Payments to clients and suppliers	(530,905)	(408,703)
Net cash generated by operating activities	97,385	(90,008)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities		
Funds received from Incorporation of Foundation	0	0
Net cash used in financing activities	0	0
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash held	97,385	(90,008)
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	116,961	206,969
Cash at the end of the financial year	214,347	116,961

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements cover Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc (“the Association”) as an individual entity. Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc is an Association incorporated in New South Wales under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The entity is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 15th November 2023 by the Responsible Persons of the Association.

Revenue in the Current Year

Operating Grants, Donations and Bequests

When the Association receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance to AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Association:

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

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

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

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

Donations and bequests are recognised as revenue when received. The Association has implemented systems of control to ensure the monies received at its offices are properly recorded in the accounting records.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

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

All revenue is stated net of the amount of GST.

Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Association is exempt from income tax under Subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Financial Instruments

The Association's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, short-term investments and accounts receivable and payable.

Initial Recognition & Measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Association becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument.

Financial instruments (except for trade receivables) are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs, except where the instrument is classified as "at fair value through profit or loss", in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

Financial assets

Financial assets are subsequently measured at:

- amortised cost;
- fair value through other comprehensive income; or
- fair value through profit or loss.

Cash & 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 overdraft.

Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Restricted & Unrestricted Funds

Restricted Funds are funds received or reserves held that must be spent on the purpose for which they were received or are held.

They comprise:

- Government funding and related interest that must be spent in accordance with the terms of a funding agreement.
- Donations and bequests where the donor indicates a preference for the use to which the funds are to be used.
- Donations received in response to specific purpose appeals.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note 1 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Unrestricted Funds are set aside for future capital expenditure of the Association and for the purpose specified by the Responsible Persons. These amounts can be returned to the Accumulated Funds at any time.

It is considered that all funds are externally restricted funds to be spent on the furtherance of the objective of the organisation.

Fundraising Activities

Charitable Fundraising Act 1991

This Act and supporting Charitable Fundraising Regulation prescribe the manner in which fundraising appeals are conducted, controlled and reported in NSW. The amounts shown in Note 6 are in accordance with Charitable Fundraising Authority Conditions issued by Fair Trading NSW.

Donations and bequests

Returned as income as and only when received at the Association's administration offices or deposited to the Association's bank account. As specified in the Act, unsolicited donations, members' donations and bequests are not treated as fundraising income when determining information required under the Act. They are treated as gifts under the tax legislation.

Key Judgements

Performance obligations under AASB 15

To identify a performance obligation under AASB 15, the promise must be sufficiently specific to be able to determine when the obligation is satisfied. Management exercises judgement to determine whether the promise is sufficiently specific by taking into account any conditions specified in the arrangement, explicit or implicit, regarding the promised goods or services. In making this assessment, management includes the nature/ type, cost/ value, quantity and the period of transfer related to the goods or services promised.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Note 2 – Revenue			
Operating Revenue			
Donations Received		67,545	161,949
Grants Received		560,550	156,615
Interest Received		195	131
		628,290	318,695
Note 3 – Cash & Cash Equivalents			
Cash at Bank			
Bank Accounts		214,347	116,961
		214,347	116,961
Note 4 – Prepayments			
Current			
Prepayments		19,505	16,375
		19,505	16,375
Note 5 – Reserves			
Reserves have been set aside for restricted purposes. Restricted funds must be spent on the purpose for which they were received or are held.			
Unrestricted funds are set aside for future capital expenditure of the Association and for the purpose specified by the Responsible Persons. These amounts can be returned to the Accumulated Funds at any time.			
Reserves have been set aside for the following purposes:			
a) The Scully Fund – Restricted			
• Funding received on 29 June 2023 to be expended in the financial year commencing 1 July 2023.		100,000	0
b) Mercy Foundation – Restricted			
• Remainder of funding received to be expended on Safe Homes project in the next financial year		10,636	6,820
		110,636	6,820
Total Reserves		110,636	6,820

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Note 6 – Fundraising and Donations Income and Expenses		
(i) Details of Aggregate Gross Income		
Gross Proceeds from Fundraising and Donations	64,346	158,662
Less: Cost of Fundraising and Donations	0	0
Net Surplus of Fundraising and Donations	64,346	158,662

(ii) Application of Funds for Charitable Purposes

During the year the Association achieved a net surplus of \$64,346 (2022: \$158,662) from fundraising and donation activities defined under the Charitable Fundraising Act.

(iii) Fundraising Conducted Jointly with Traders

No appeals were conducted jointly with traders in the year ended 30 June 2023.

(iv) Fundraising Appeals as Classified by the Charitable Fundraising Act Conducted during the year

The Association conducts general appeals for donations through standard communications channels, being newsletters, website and social media. No other specific appeals were conducted during the year ended 30 June 2023.

(v) Gross Comparisons including fundraising not covered by the Charitable Fundraising Act (includes unsolicited and member's donations and bequests)

	Receipts	Costs	Surplus	2023	2022
	\$	\$	\$	%	%
Total cost of all fundraising / Gross proceeds from all fundraising	67,545	0	67,545	100.0	100.0

Note 7 – Related Parties

The Responsible Persons are not entitled to and did not receive benefits during the year. There were no loans in existence during the year or at balance date that were made, guaranteed or secured by the Association to the Responsible Persons, their partners, relatives or entities under their control or significant influence.

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

During the year there were no transactions with related parties.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
--	------	------------	------------

Note 8 – Key Management Personnel Compensation

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity, directly or indirectly, including any Responsible Person (whether executive or otherwise) of that entity is considered key management personnel.

The totals of remuneration paid to key management personnel (KMP) of the Association during the year are as follows:

Key management personnel compensation	0	0
---------------------------------------	---	---

Compensation includes salary and wages, superannuation and fringe benefits.

Note 9 – Financial Risk Management

The Association's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, short-term investments and accounts receivable and payable, and leases.

The carrying amounts of each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 9 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

Financial Assets

Cash & Cash Equivalents	3	214,347	116,961
Total Financial Assets		214,347	116,961

Financial Liabilities

Total Financial Liabilities		0	0
-----------------------------	--	---	---

Note 10 – Events After the Reporting Date

The Responsible Persons are not aware of any significant events since the end of the reporting period.

Note 11 – Association Details

The principal place of business of the Association is:

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
49 Michigan Avenue
ASQUITH NSW 2077

Note 12 – Auditor's Remuneration

Auditing or reviewing the financial statements	100	100
Taxation services	0	0
	100	100

**Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Responsible Persons' Declaration
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

The Responsible Persons declare that, in their opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and:
 - (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*, and
 - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of the performance for the year ended on that date.
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association is able to pay all of its debts as and when they become due and payable

This declaration is signed in accordance with Subs 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.



.....
Janet Castle
Chairperson

Dated: 15th November 2023

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Chairperson's Declaration under the Charitable Fundraising Act
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

This declaration is made in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Authority Conditions issued by Fair Trading NSW.

I, Janet Castle, Chairperson of Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc declare that in my opinion:

- (a) the Statement of Comprehensive Income gives a true and fair view of all income and expenditure of Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc with respect to fundraising appeals; and
- (b) the Statement of Financial Position gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs with respect to fundraising appeals; and
- (c) the provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991, the Regulations under the Act and the conditions attached to the authority have been complied with; and
- (d) the internal controls exercised by the Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received and applied by the Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc from any of its fundraising appeals.



.....
Janet Castle
Chairperson

Dated: 15th November 2023

**Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Independent Audit Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

Audit Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc (“the Association”), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss, statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Responsible Persons’ Declaration.

In our opinion, the financial report of Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc has been prepared in accordance with Div 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Association’s financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its performance for the period ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*,

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board’s APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor’s Report Thereon

The Responsible Persons are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Association’s annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023, but does not include the financial report and our auditor’s report thereon. Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Responsible Persons for the Financial Report

The Responsible persons of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the Responsible Persons determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Independent Audit Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

In preparing the financial report, the responsible persons are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the responsible persons either intend to liquidate the registered entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

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

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

**Bridge for Asylum Seekers Inc
Independent Audit Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2023**

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

Garcia Group Advisors
Chartered Accountants



Michael Garcia
Principal

Registered Company Auditor: 435105

OATLEY NSW 2223

Dated: 15th November 2023



Seeking asylum is a
basic human right

Our allowances are
essential to prevent
people becoming
homeless

*Thank you for
supporting Bridge*

