



Our Vision

To invest in direct programs that support the particular needs of children in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula who are in *out of home care*, at risk of being in *out of home care* or transitioning from *out of home care*.

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Our Mission

To support young people who can no longer live with their families to be safe, educated and lead fulfilling lives.



President's Report

The Menzies Committee of Management (COM) greatly values the personal reward derived from being involved in an organization that has endured for 150 years.

In a year of transformation for Menzies, I am reminded and inspired by the insights of Sociologist, Margaret Mead, who said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has". Over its 150 year history Menzies has evolved many times to fulfil the needs of the community.

In last year's report we signalled that the COM had an ambitious plan to position Menzies as a philanthropic organization supporting services and programs for young people who can no longer live with their families to be safe, educated and lead fulfilling lives in Frankston and on the Mornington Peninsula. On behalf of the Menzies Committee of Management I am proud to report that we have successfully embarked on this new chapter.

The sale of properties in Frankston, including the head office on the Nepean Highway, has freed up the COM's time and resources. This has enabled us to engage with a number of organizations who made submissions to Menzies as part of our exhaustive environmental scan conducted by a specialist consultant from Dench McClean Carlson Consulting.

From this process, we agreed to fund three very significant projects that address our mission and show enormous promise in improving the lives of young people in our area in the long term. The projects involve organizations, already well established in their work with young people and who characterize what Menzies has stood for over its 150 year long history. The three projects funded are:

- The Menzies Caring for Kids Bus has been provided to the Victorian Police Youth Resource Officers in Frankston to allow the Police to take young people who have disengaged with their community, family and education to participate in recreational, sporting and educational activities.

- The Coalition of Frankston North Schools includes Mahogany Rise and Aldercourt Primary Schools and Monterey Secondary College; Menzies is funding the attendance of a Paediatrician, Fellow GP and Occupational Therapist at the schools, allowing children and parents access to timely and effective diagnosis and treatment.

- Create Foundation provides support and promotes the voices of children and young people in care. Create Your Future, an alternative education program for young people who have been in out of home care are being established in Frankston with our support. Young people will be provided with workshops on life skills, housing, health, finances, relationships, education, and employment and training.

We are confident that these projects will create more opportunities for some of the most disadvantaged young people in our local communities. Importantly, these projects also continue Menzies heritage.

A very exciting partnership has begun this year with Mainline Developments and Buy Property Direct to construct and develop a property in Langwarrin as a means of raising funds. The property will be auctioned in February 2016 with proceeds being directed to a project in the community benefiting children who can no longer live with their natural families.

President's Report

...continued

Heartfelt thanks to the supporters and members of Menzies who have continued their involvement in Menzies and offered their support to make a difference. I hope you are filled with promise that we will create positive change in the lives of these children and young people. A special mention to Menzies Home Association that remains a valued part of Menzies and reminds us of Menzies roots in the community.

The commitment of the Committee is unwavering and I would like to thank each of the members for their time and expertise, which they give voluntarily. Each of our Committee members is a leader in their field and strongly involved in the local community. Thank you to Denis Hildebrand, Kevin Johnson, Greg Lacey (Vice President), Anne Ridgeway, Alan Splatt and Mike Tonroe (Treasurer) for your dedication and hard work.

The COM would like to thank the tremendous efforts of our Secretary, Kirsten Norman; we recognize that her contribution has helped us realize this new chapter for Menzies.

I feel deeply honoured to have served as President of Menzies for the past two years of change and renewal and look forward to welcoming a new president and continuing the valuable work of Menzies.

Looking forward, Menzies will continue to develop its strategic direction and by working with and through others continue to have the greatest impact in our local communities.



Georgia Symmons

President

Treasurers Report

We've overcome the challenges facing us at the end of last year of changing our operation. All of our obligations to our staff were properly settled without adversely affecting the kids that were in our out of home care programmes.

The change in our operations from being a provider of out of home care to one of philanthropy has enabled us to commit to funding three new exciting projects. These are continuing the Menzies values and traditions but on a significantly lower operating cost base.

This financial year our administrative costs were approximately one tenth of the previous year: \$372,462 compared to \$3,695,842 in 2014. This reduction was mainly due to Menzies no longer having any full time staff. We expect that in the 2016 financial year our total overhead costs will reduce further to approximately \$300k.

The surplus for the year of \$1,563,222 (2014: loss of \$228,065) included a gain on disposal of properties of \$1,708,499. This gain arose following the sale of three properties that were no longer required by our changed and leaner operations. Investment income and interest received on our term deposits during the year was \$71,714 (2014: \$60,116), assisted by having higher cash balances during the year following the property sales.

Due to our operational changes we did not receive grants from DHS that had been used to fund our out of home care services (in 2014 these were \$3,227,129). Included in other income of \$121,532 (2014: \$156,172) is rental income for two of our properties that continued to be used to look after kids in out of home care by other agencies. This continuation helped to minimise disruption to the kids in our care.

With net assets of \$5.5 million and cash in bank of \$2.4 million, we are in a good position to fund activities and programmes that improve the lives of kids in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula.



Mike Tonroe

Treasurer

In the 1930's the Home on the hill in Frankston, was called the Minton Boys home, in the early 40's, the name was changed to the Menzies Boys Home, when the late James Menzies arrived as President, the home accommodated approximately sixty to seventy boys, in the early sixties the home was closed down because lack of funds, homes were then purchased in Frankston, Mt Eliza, and Seaford, then became homes for boys and girls.

The Association was formed by some of the ex-Menzies boys, their aim was to raise funds, so they could give support to the children in the homes, with on going activities, and to give financial support to their Members who were in need.

Around about the 9th of August, we celebrate The Associations birthday party at the International Motel in Frankston, on the 9th it was the birthday of the late James Menzies, also the boys celebrated on that day, as their was no individual birthdays.

Many thanks to Phil and Lynda Jones and Staff at the International for the great service they provide each year, also many thanks to our member in England, Geoffery Inniss, who sent money to help those who attended for the cost of the meals.

At end of March we have the MHA Reunion at the property of Don and Trinetta Callander's, start off with a meeting, then have the election of the Committee for the next term, next on the agenda is a barbecue lunch, with music played by the talented Denis Bugat, followed by a huge raffle, in which the Menzies children took home many of the prizes, also hired a Jumping Castle.

For the last thirteen years, we have been invited to the Blue Scope Steel Christmas celebrations, at Hastings, and the children were able to go on the many carnival rides, also ice-creams and soft drinks were provided, whilst the children were on the rides, we took care of the carers with tea and coffee, and later on we had a barbecue tea, the children had a great time even when it was raining, and they were drenched, but at the end of the day they were very grateful for the great time they had and that made our day, and many thanks to the Blue Scope Steel Committee, for their support

On behalf of the Menzies Homes Association Committee, and Members, I would like to thank the staff that were at the Menzies Office, for their support over many years, and the staff who were at Sages Cottage Farm, also special thanks to the Committee of Menzies Caring For Kids, for their ongoing support, it is very much appreciated.

Raymond C Fordham

Secretary

Youth Mini Bus Project

**Funding Provided: \$60,000-
bus and running costs**
Project Term: 3 years

Over the past five years Police Youth Resource Officers have been involved in the delivery of numerous programs aimed at re-connecting young people with the community, family and education. These programs have a variety of target groups including victims, offenders, and those at risk of entering any form of out of home care.

The Police YRO's have identified transport as a major limiting factor of community engagement amongst young people in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula. On frequent occasions, youth give lack of transport and/or lack of Myki credit as their reason for non-attendance at pre-arranged activities.

Community volunteers, police and other youth services collaboratively provide this engagement opportunity for offenders from Frankston Children's Court, residents of DHHS residential accommodation and other disengaged youth. Residents from DHHS are regularly invited to engagement activities and express their intent to attend, but rarely attend. When asked about the reasons, they say that no carer was available to drive them, and/or it's too hard to get to events and activities by public transport. As a result, they are not successfully engaged.

The proposal put to the Menzies CoM was that if YRO's and partner youth agencies had access to a mini bus they could collect young people to ensure their involvement in activities.

Menzies agreed to purchase a minibus that can be driven on standard licence and agreed to finance the running and maintenance costs for a period of three years. The bus is used by Victoria Police Youth Resource Officers and partner agencies jointly and individually, for the transport of disadvantaged youth living in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula to community activities, events and programs.

The bus is also used for a range of other purposes that support disengaged youth and, in particular, youth in out of home care. Other uses include the following:

- Police intelligence is utilised to identify youth hot spots and transport is available for multi-agency outreach/patrols to attend high-risk community locations in peak times.

- YRO's use the bus to conduct missing person patrols for youth missing from out of home care.

- General police operations involving youth.

- Pro-active youth engagement.

The program is in its infancy, but Youth Resource Officers envisage that the bus will be used daily in a variety ways. In a typical week, police envisage support for upwards of 150 disengaged youth through:

- Youth Engagement and Bail checks
- Out of home care police youth visits
- Blue Light Basketball
- Police Youth Bail Compliance Checks
- Rec Link football Frankston
- Rec link Football Rosebud
- Missing Youth Patrol 8
- Frankston Children's Court transport
- DHHS top 10 Youth At Risk – Home Visits
- Maori Warden Patrols
- Blue Light Disco transport
- Community Hot Spots
- Police Youth Operations
- Community Events
- Hot Spot Patrols

The bus will be a key to early intervention and engagement of young people to prevent exposure to the criminal justice system and placement in out of home care. It will allow a collaborative multi-agency approach to youth issues in Frankston and the Mornington Peninsula thus providing the best opportunity for positive outcomes.

After a few short months, Menzies is delighted to see the immediate and positive impact the bus is having on disengaged youth in our area, particularly those in out of home care or as a proactive protective measure, preventing the need for out of home care placement.



VICTORIA POLICE

Allied Health Project

Coalition of Frankston North Schools

Funding Provided:

\$30,000 per year

Project Term: 3 years

Three government schools in Frankston North (aka 'The Pines') - Mahogany Rise Primary School, Aldercourt Primary School and Monterey Secondary College have come together in recent years to form a coalition to work together to provide for a far more structured, organised and concerted effort to meet the wide ranging educational, physical and psychological well-being needs of children and families in Frankston North.

The CoM was shown data on the 'risk factors' associated with the level of disadvantage being experienced by students and the challenges that are inherent in such data. The educational needs are being met as best as well as possible by education providers within the current level of resourcing provided by the Department of Education and Training. However, it is clearly evident that a significant gap exists in the area of allied health support and servicing for this community of schools.

The complexities of children's lives, their backgrounds and the ability to assess and provide for their needs above and beyond their educational requirements is severely compromised because of a lack of access to medical, clinical services and allied health services. Access to general practitioners, occupational therapy, social work professionals, speech pathology and physiotherapy is severely lacking.

The gap in service delivery is acute and students and families are unable to access services. It is proposed that the provision of these services will significantly enhance life outcomes for students and families in the Pines.

Following consultation with Peninsula Health, the final proposal included funding for a Paediatrician, Fellow (GP in training) and an Occupational Therapist for one day each week of the school term. It was identified that having a Paediatrician would enable access to a broader range of services for children.

The partnership has been made possible with the support of Frankston Peninsula Health and Biala who are providing the practitioners.

The school's Principals have agreed to provide space for these services and to set about internal policies and procedures to manage the referral process. They already have well-developed multidisciplinary student wellbeing teams that look at and case manage individual children and families.

This program represents a model of care that has never been trialled before. It is also a model that can be easily replicated across other severely disadvantaged areas.

Within a very short period of time, the project has been an outstanding success. Parents, students and staff are all benefiting from having access to this suite of professionals and the early intervention for the students is making a significant difference to their health and wellbeing. The collaborative nature of this project is setting new standards for how agencies such as Menzies can interact with the education sector. It is a fantastic opportunity that is being grasped with both hands.



Create Foundation

Create your Future Program

Funding Provided:

\$80,000 per year

Project Term: 3 years

CREATE Foundation provides support, and promotes the voices of the 42,000 children and young people currently in care who are arguably the most disadvantaged in Australian society. Approximately 7000 of those children and young people live in Victoria. CREATE identified, from both research and consultation with young people, that many of them were not "ready" or not in a position to be able to acquire and maintain a job. Many find themselves homeless or in unstable accommodation. CREATE's Report Card found:

- 30% of young people report that they were homeless in the first year of leaving care
- 46% of boys stated that they were involved in the juvenile justice system
- 35% of young people completed Year 12
- 29% identified as unemployed (compared to the national average which is 9.7%)
- 64% of young people have no leaving care plan – which means no plan for their future
- 28% were already parents themselves

CREATE's priority is to provide alternative education programs to assist young people become valuable members of society, specifically to bridge the gap between young people in mainstream Australia and young people with a care experience. CREATE offered for consideration, a program model called CREATE Your Future (CYF) that encompasses four gateways to support young people transitioning from the care system to independence (from age 14-25 years). The gateways include access to:

- 1 CYF website (transition planning and information)
- 2 CYF grants program (corporate donations annually)
3. Go Your Own Way transitional care planning package
- 4 A series of "Create your Future" Workshops and Camps.

These workshops have been developed from the seven life domains of the "(LAC) Looking After Children" – a child protection tool used to address the needs of children and young people in care. Workshops have been developed over two levels beginners and advanced.

The workshops contents are: Life skills, Housing, Health and well-being, Finance, Relationships, Education, Employment and Training, Identity.

Menzies has agreed to fund CREATE Foundation to deliver 'CREATE your Future' (CYF) workshops for to up 100 young people aged 14-25 in Frankston Mornington Peninsula as well as 2 camps for 36 further young care leavers per year. The funding includes a shared office in Frankston and a staff member 3 days a week enabling a permanent presence on the Peninsula.

The programs are set to launch in the New Year with excitement already building amongst young people in the area.

Menzies is confident that these workshops and camps will enable young people leaving care to reach their full potential.



Committee of Management

President

Ms. Georgia Symmons

Georgia has held senior positions in Philanthropy, Community Investment, Diversity and Corporate Responsibility with Telstra and Australia Post and is now the Director of Development at Toorak College in Mount Eliza. Joined the Committee of Management in 2011. President since 26 November 2013.

Vice President

Mr. Greg Lacey

Vice President – Menzies Inc CoM
Principal, Lyndhurst Primary School
Committee Member - Victorian Early Years Foundation
Bachelor of Education
Graduate Diploma Computer Education
Joined Committee of Management in 2008

Treasurer

Mr. Mike Tonroe

Chartered Accountant and Australian Institute of Company Directors member with over 20 years of financial and business management experience, 15 years as a CFO. A wide range of senior executive experience gained in the UK, North America, Asia and Australia. Joined the Committee of Management as Treasurer in May 2013.

Members

Mr. Denis J Hildebrand

Pharmacist Ph C Domain Road Pharmacy.
Joined Committee of Management in 1985.
President of Menzies Inc from 1999 to 2011.

Mr. Alan Splatt

Partner Taylor Splatt & Partners Lawyers.
Past President Mornington Peninsula Solicitors Association. Convenor and past Chair Dandenong Family Court Family Law Chapter from 1991 to 2010. Past Chair and member for 12 years of the Family Law Advisory Committee of the Law Institute of Victoria. Joined Committee of Management in 2007 having been the Honorary Solicitor for Menzies from 1992.

Mr. Kevin Johnson

Recently retired Australian CEO of a Swiss/American Multi-National.
Founding Member and Secretary of Proudly Frankston.
Member of the Frankston Wranglers Charity Club for over 35 years.
Committee Member Of Lords Taverners Victoria for more than 10 years "Giving the Young and Disadvantaged a Sporting Chance".
Chairman of the Frankston Wine & Food Society
Joined Committee of Management in 2010.

Mrs. Anne Ridgway

Anne holds a Masters of Management (Human Resources) from Monash University and has qualifications in education and training. She is an accomplished executive with 20 years' experience working in Human Resources. Anne has worked for education, media, engineering, science and construction organisations across not for profit, government and corporate sectors including Australian Synchrotron Company Ltd, Sensis and Bayside Group.
Anne joined RMIT Training in July 2013 as Director, Human Resources.

Patron

Stan Alves OAM

AFL coach, elite athlete, media personality entrepreneur and successful businessman, Stan Alves is one of those rare individuals whose multifaceted ability has taken him from the sporting arena, into that of business management. Patron since 2010.

Supporters

Corporates

360 Degrees Meat
Aquinas Foods
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Dench McClean Carlson
Digital Reprographics
Dunsford Financial Planning
First Choice Liquor Frankston
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Ozanam Enterprises
Ritchie's Super IGA
Reidell Agencies
Rosebud Rockers
Ray White Frankston
Rampage Systems
Taylor Splatt and Partners
The Peninsula Country Golf Club

Community

Edithvale Aspendale Sporting Club
Proudly Frankston Campaign Inc.
Frankston Wranglers Charity Club
The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc.
Pines Community Men's Shed
Menzies Homes Association

Trusts & Foundations

Andrews Family Charitable Fund
Daniel Trust Fund
Owenlaw Trust
William Angliss
George Warman Estate

Schools

Somerville Rise Primary School

Vale

Menzies Caring for Kids sadly acknowledges the passing of Dulcie Richards. We are thankful for the financial support and ongoing membership that Dulcie contributed towards Menzies Inc.

Major Donors



Individual Donors

B Greenman
Ken Jungwirth
Lilian Marie Caton
Liz Roylance
Kevin Johnson
Jacinta Larkins
Greg Lacey
Denis Hildebrand

Life Members

Broome, Mr V
Burge, Mrs H
Byrne, Mr AW
Davies, Mrs S
Forster, Mrs N
Hildebrand, Mr D
Jones, Mr P
Luby, Mr A
Luby, Mrs J
McLeod, Mr R
Menzies, Mr G
Read, Mr D

Donating to menzie's CARING FOR KIDS

As you will have seen in this Annual Report, many people support the work of Menzie's Caring for Kids. There will always be the need for generous financial support, such as yours, for the benefit of some of the most disadvantaged children in our community.

Many methods exist to show support:

- Make a tax deductible donation.
- Become a Member of Menzie's Caring for Kids.
- Workplace Giving
- Donate in lieu of flowers in memory of your loved ones
- Support fundraising events held by Menzie's.
- Make a bequest in your Will.*

To make a bequest, the following wording may be added to your Will:

"I devise and bequeath unto Menzie's Caring for Kids the sum of \$ _____ (or percentage or residue of my estate as appropriate) to be used for its work amongst children and families in necessitous circumstances."

The young people and Committee of Management express their gratitude to each person who has assisted us during this financial year.
Thank you very much.

**To make a donation or discuss other means of giving,
please phone Menzie's Caring for Kids on (03) 9784-9700
or visit the website at
www.menzies.org.au**