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St Kilda Mums

Annual Report 2012-2013









St Kilda Mums volunteer their time to rehome new and pre-loved baby goods and nursery equipment to families in need.

Our entire operation depends on the good will and generosity of members of our broader community. From the the dad who fixes a pram tyre, to the granny who hand knits cot blankets, and the kids who pass on their toys.

On behalf of everyone at St Kilda Mums, we want to thank you for your support - we wholeheartedly appreciate it.

Thank you!



#### St Kilda Mums

St Kilda Mums Inc #A0054484X

St Kilda Mums was endorsed by the Australian Tax Office as a Public Benevolent Institution in February 2012.

Our ABN is 11 296 752 873.

5 Vale Street St Kilda Vic 3182 PO Box 356 Balaclava Vic 3183

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# **Public Officer's Report**

Welcome to our first Annual Report for the financial year ending 30th June 2013.

Over the last twelve months, we have made some large leaps at St Kilda Mums and this has been possible because more and more people share our vision. We have rehomed as many prams, cots, highchairs and other essential nursery gear in the last 12 months as we did in the previous three and a half years.

In June we moved our operations from our front porches and back yards to a leased 300 square metre warehouse in Vale Street - the heart of St Kilda. A special thanks to Kelly and David Latham whose incredible generosity through the donation of their garage enabled St Kilda Mums to have a small storage facility for the previous three years. We wouldn't be where we are today if they hadn't provided the space for us to grow and flourish.



Jessie Macpherson

In March 2013 when we found the warehouse we asked our network of supporters to help pay our rent. Hundreds of people contributed, once again demonstrating the huge support we have from our community.

We would like to thank all the tireless social workers and maternal child health professionals who deliver the gifts we prepare to the families that need them the most. These people are our partners, and everything we do is to serve them and the vulnerable families they support. The number of organisations we partner with has grown to 156 and there are nearly 1000 individual social workers that access our service. Although we are based in St Kilda, case workers come from as far and wide as Sunbury and Pakenham.

We have also been supported in our work by many local businesses who have provided services and materials free of charge. There have been so many people, families, businesses and organisations who have given so much - both in time and in goods and services in kind. Please accept our thanks and gratitude for what you give and what you do. The success of St Kilda Mums is due to you.

Although we have been busy this year, our future plans are equally ambitious. This year we started Geelong Mums to help us expand the service we provide. Next year, we hope to establish a delivery service for those case workers that cannot access us themselves, we hope to build our network of business partnerships, and to ensure continuous improvement of our services by consulting with both our volunteers and the agencies we support.

Again, thanks to all of you who have made St Kilda Mums' growth possible and we look forward to seeing you again at Vale Street, St Kilda or in Geelong in the near future.

Warmest regards

Jenica Mar her

Jessica Macpherson Public Officer

# Who We Are



Cameron Gilby and Chloe Roberts - Case workers with The Australian Red Cross

#### **Our Mission**

St Kilda Mums aims to share the joy of motherhood and save the earth's precious resources by joining with support agencies throughout Melbourne to meet the material needs of families with young children. We collect, sort and redistribute essential nursery equipment, clothing, books and toys for babies and children.

#### **Our Guiding Principles**

- We will work with and support existing social services and maternal child health workers;
- We will not duplicate the work of these existing social services but endeavour to add value to these services;
- We will not profit from the delivery of this service;
- We will ensure that the criteria for recipient eligibility is determined by social service agencies and not by St Kilda Mums;
- We will ensure that all goods donated are of a good quality and working condition and adhere to Australian safety standards and;
- We will work with partners and supporters who share our values and goals.

## **Our Beginnings**

In early 2009, a group of five mums were at the St Kilda Maternal and Child Health Centre on Chapel Street. There, the photocopying room was stacked high with baby goods donated by kind local parents.

Jessica Macpherson, one of the mums, saw a need and volunteered to sort, launder and package the pre-loved goods for rehoming to families that might need them.

The presentation of the goods to be rehomed was very important – Jess and the other mums wanted to be respectful of the dignity of the recipients, and wanted them to feel these items were from loving homes. The items were then given to Sarah Pitney, the Enhanced Care Nurse, to give to families in need in the local area. Sarah mentioned this to other case workers from local social service agencies and demand began to grow.



St Kilda Mums, which had started as a small seed of community good will, was born. The concept was so simple and the outcome so immediate.

Often near-new items, instead of being discarded, could provide many more families with years of use.

Jess and Peta, two of the original mums, started receiving donations at their homes through word of mouth referrals. Local mums loved the idea of passing on their baby's items for others to use. St Kilda Mums continued to grow. More mums wanted to get involved and do whatever they could to help. In November of that year, St Kilda Mums had their first volunteer meeting at a local pub, the Grosvenor Hotel. Six volunteers attended that meeting and in subsequent months, many more offered to help.



Soon, it became obvious St Kilda Mums needed a bigger storage space than front verandahs. After a call for help in the local paper in mid 2010, a generous Elwood family donated their double garage which became the St Kilda Mums warehouse for three years.

In the meantime, volunteer numbers increased as did the number of agencies requiring support. Supply and demand grew exponentially and in early 2013 a Rent Appeal secured the funds to move to a bigger space. In June 2013 St Kilda Mums moved into a 300 square metre warehouse in St Kilda.

Throughout its growth, St Kilda Mums has always been 100% volunteer run. Volunteers have worked during whatever free time they have, often from their own homes, and often juggling paid work and their own family commitments. From the grandmas who knit to the dad that designs the website, St Kilda Mums is a community-driven organisation.

Key to our growth and service quality is our ongoing dialogue with case workers from the agencies we support. We have been able to identify the greatest areas of need and continuously improve our service because of their professional advice, support and counsel.

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IN CONTRACTOR OF STREET

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## Who We Support

4C's (Cardinia Combined Churches Caring)

#### Abracadabra

**Albert Park College** 

Alfred Health

AMES

**Anglicare Victoria** 

**Ardoch Youth Foundation** 

**Asylum Seeker Resource Centre** 

**Austin Hospital** 

**Banyule Community Health** 

**Baptcare Colac Area Health** 

**Connecting Home** 

Connections

Council of Single Mothers and their Children Vic

**Department of Business and Innovation** 

**Department of Human Services** 

**DHS Child Protection** 

**Dianella Community Health** 

**Drummond Street Services** 

**Duotta Galla Community Health** 

#### **Eastern Health**

Edmund Rice Education Flexible Learning Centres

**Emerge Family Care** 

**Family Life** 

**Fiji Single Mothers** 

First Step Program

**Foundation House** 

Immigrant Women Domestic Violence Service

Inner South Community Health Service

International Student Care Service

**Isis Primary Care Jesuit Family Services** Jewish Aid Australia **Mercy Hospital for Women Merri Community Health Service Migrant Resource Centre North-West Region Inc. Mind Australia Mirabel Foundation Mission Australia MOIRA Disability and Youth Services MOSS Inc - Merri Outreach Support Service Mums for Mums** NEAMI **New Hope Foundation** Noah's Ark **North Yarra Community Health** Northern Health **Odyssey House Open Family Peter Mac Playgroup Victoria Plenty Valley Community Health** Port Melbourne Primary School **Port Phillip Community Group Prahran Community Learning Centre** Prahran Mission **Project Respect** OEC Red Cross

**River Nile Leaning Centre** 

**Robinson Reserve Neighbourhood House Royal District Nursing Service** Sacred Heart Mission **Salvation Army Semba Little Ones** SKYS **Smiles Across Nations Social Ventures Australia** South Eastern Region Migrant Resource Centre **South Port Community Housing** Southern Health **Spectrum Victoria** St Kilda Gatehouse **Sunbury Community Health Centre Sunshine Youth Housing Tamil Refugee Council** Thai Information and Welfare Association **The Babes Project** The Royal Children's Hospital The Royal Women's Hospital **UnitingCare Harrison** UnitingCare Kildonan Collingwood **UnitingCare Lentara UnitingCare Moreland Hall** 

UnitingCare Werribee Support and Housing

VCMS - Victorian Case Management Services

VCOSS - Victorian Council of Social Service

#### Vicdeaf

Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency

Victorian Aboriginal Health Service

Victorian Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders

> VincentCare Victoria WAYSS

WCIG Goldmark College

-

Wellspring for Women

Wesley Mission Victoria

Western Health

Whitelion

Whittlesea Community Connections

Windana: Drug and Alcohol Recovery

Windemere

**Wombat Housing & Support Services** 

Women's Health West Inc.

**Women's Liberation Halfway House Home** 

Yarra Community Housing

**Youth Connect** 

**Youth Express** 

Youth Support and Advocacy Service

and

Maternal Child Health Nurses

and Family Services

from many Local Government Areas

## **Our Social and Environmental Principles**

# St Kilda Mu

www.stkildamums.or

#### **Relationship Principles**

- St Kilda Mums places importance on creating strong, respectful internal and external relationships focused on enhancing our growth and service delivery. We support each other, work together and recognise that we all play a vital role.
- We depend on one another to carry out the work we do and to fulfil our purpose, and we also fill in for each other when someone is away or unavailable.
- We avoid hierarchy and we think everyone's ideas should be heard.
- We actively build relationships based on trust, honesty, respect, integrity, compassion, understanding, recognition, participation, fairness and equity and acknowledge that building relationships takes time and requires hard work, resources, effective communication, reflection and active engagement.

#### Volunteer principles

Volunteers have been involved with St Kilda Mums since it began in 2009 and have been the foundation of the service we provide.

St Kilda Mums has always been dependent on volunteers and we remain so. Our volunteers work during whatever free time they have, often from their own homes, and often juggling paid work and their own family responsibilities.

As such, the support of our volunteers is paramount.

We have developed a manual for our volunteers outlining key areas of focus, our policies (including our support of Equal Opportunity,and Anti-Discrimination) and our commitment to providing a safe and enjoyable workplace.

Volunteers are also required to undertake a one hour training session on these policies and procedures when they commence their volunteering. Training is currently offered fortnightly.

We seek continuous improvement in our volunteer management with a six-monthly survey and through informal anecdotal feedback from all volunteers. We communicate with our volunteers via email, face-to-face, on a closed Facebook group and a monthly newsletter. With all St Kilda Mums news, we have a 'volunteers first' policy so that we tell our volunteers before anyone else. We also adhere to the Model Code of Practice for Organisations Involving Volunteers as specified by Volunteering Australia.



## Safety Principles

St Kilda Mums is committed to ensuring a healthy and safe work place for staff, volunteers, visitors and contractors. All volunteers are encouraged to regard accident prevention as a collective and individual responsibility. Detailed Occupational Health and Safety information is available in the Volunteers Policies and Procedures manual.

All volunteers are asked to fill in the 'Volunteer Sign In book' to indicate their presence at the St Kilda Mums warehouse. This is essentially in case of an evacuation.

We have a zero-injury target.

St Kilda Mums also has a thorough evacuation, break-in and fire plan and all volunteers are trained in these procedures, as well as Fire Wardens.

A risk assessment was undertaken on the St Kilda Mums warehouse and all areas identified as risks are currently being addressed.

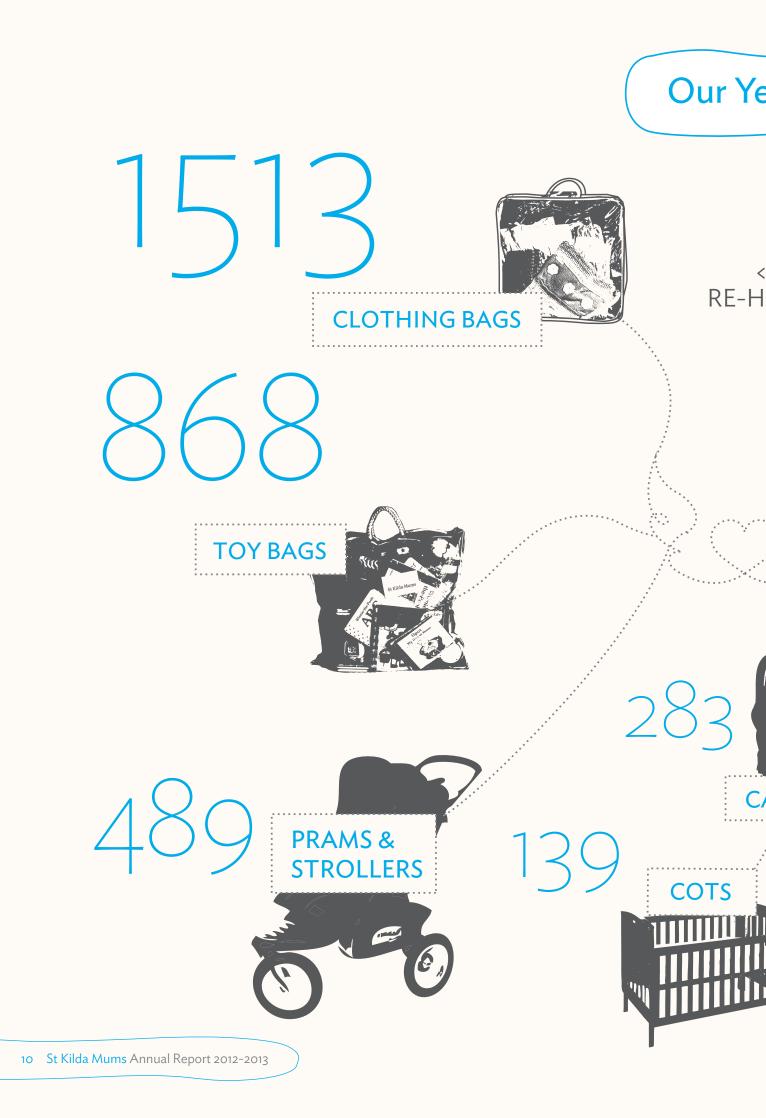
St Kilda Mums adheres to all national and state government mandatory and voluntary safety standards for nursery equipment and is guided by the recommendations of maternal child health nurses.

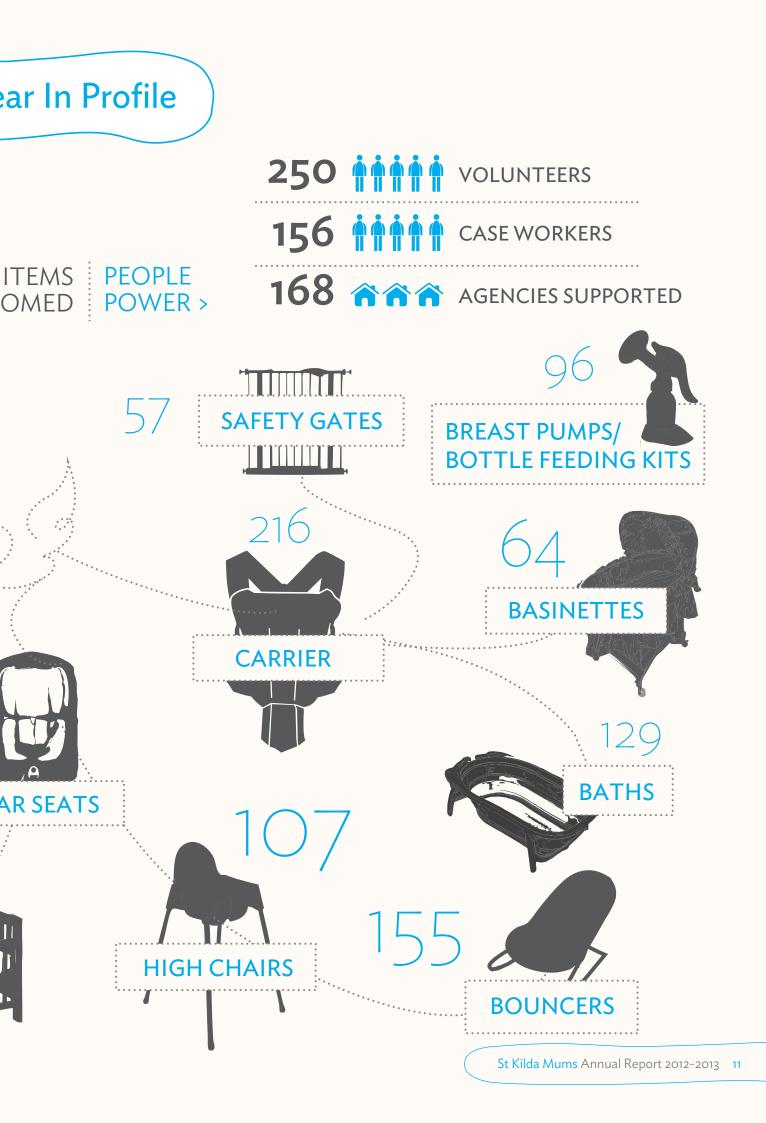
## **Environmental Principles**

St Kilda Mums believes that by reusing and recycling nursery gear we can save the earth's precious resources. This principle is also reflected in our everyday operations. We try to minimise waste in all our processes.

Some examples include:

- We repair and restore old prams. Nearly a quarter of our stock comes from hard rubbish and we collect parts and spares for future 'pramsformations''
- We recycle all our cardboard boxes and polystyrene packaging at the City of Port Phillip Resource Recovery Centre.
- We salvage scrap metal from prams and highchairs.
- We reuse the zip lock bags that clothing is packed in for packaging jigsaw puzzles.
- We place our plastic bags for recycling in the Coles green bins.
- Clothing, linen, toys and shoes that do not meet our very high standard are recycled with Southern Cross recycling.
- Saleable donations not suitable for rehoming are given to local op shops.
- We regularly pick up nursery items from the Brotherhood of St Laurence and the Resource Recovery Centres of the City of Port Phillip and City of Yarra, items that are otherwise destined for landfill.





# What We Do - Meet our Support Teams

### **Pram Wranglers**

The Pram Wranglers meet with maternal and child health nurses and case workers three time each week. These are known as 'giving' shifts. They also provide advice and guidance on what nursery items are suitable and appropriate for each family.



#### **Donation Day Volunteers**

These volunteers attend the Donation Day working bees at the St Kilda Mums warehouse or in our homes. They undertake rigorous quality control and ensure that all donations meet St Kilda Mums donation guidelines and national safety standards where applicable.

#### **Tinker Fairies**

The Tinker Fairies play a critical role in ensuring all nursery equipment is safe and of a high standard. They check, clean and refurbish prams and other nursery items that have mandatory safety standards so that they are ready for rehoming to families in need.

#### **Staging Posts**

We have a number of volunteers that open their homes to accept donations in their local area. They check and sort everything before transporting to St Kilda. They also host donation day collections from time to time. We have posts in Pakenham, Frankston, Eltham, Point Cook & Heathmont.

## **Beautiful Bundlers**

The Beautiful Bundlers are responsible for the exquisitely packed parcels that get distributed to families in need. Every package of baby and children's clothing and linen is packed with much love and care ensuring that a baby or young child will have everything they need to keep them warm and clothed. The Beautiful Bundlers volunteer on site or in their own homes.

### Sorters

Each week hundreds of items are donated to St Kilda Mums by the community. The sorters are the first port of call for all donations and they sort the mountains of clothing and linen by size and gender so that bags can be distributed to the Beautiful Bundlers for packaging.



## **Toy Bag Bundlers**

Toy Bag Bundlers focus specifically on toys, sorting them into age-appropriate presentation bags making sure there is a good selection of interactive, educational and fun items. The also check for cleanliness and safety.

## Special Item Bag Packers

Part of our support includes providing new mothers with a range of special items such as breastfeeding and bottle feeding kits (including breast pumps, bottles, and nappy change bags), toiletry bags for mums and newborn babies. The Special Item Bag Packers expertly pack these items and many other items that are donated in bulk and need packing for distribution.



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#### **Digital Divas**

The Digital Divas collate data captured from various digital sources to produce reports that measure and improve the delivery and impact of our service.

#### **Professional Volunteers**

St Kilda Mums is fortunate to have a large network of skilled, talented and professional volunteers who generously offer their professional expertise as required. This can be anything from graphic design, to health and safety assessments, strategic planning facilitation, legal advice, marketing, communication, accounting and auditing services.

#### **Public Speaking Volunteers**

Spreading the word to local community groups and corporate organisations is one of the ways we raise awareness and support for our work. Our volunteers speak about St Kilda Mums at events such as Rotary meetings, school functions and a wide range of business and social networking events.

## SPECIAL TALENT OR SKILL?

If you have a special talent or skill that you think could benefit St Kilda Mums – please let us know. Email **donate@stkildamums.org**.

#### **Transport Team**

Our Transport Team fulfills an important role for St Kilda Mums by ensuring goods from Donation Days at homes around Melbourne are transported back to the St Kilda Mums warehouse. They are also called onto collect and deliver donated items outside of Donation Days.

#### Craft Mammas

The Craft Mammas work from their own homes and use their creative talents to make and repair items such as highchair covers and pre-loved clothing and nursery goods when needed. Their special brand of creativity cleverly recycles items to be rehomed.

## **Special Project Volunteers**

This team manages and coordinates specific projects such as the Christmas toy drive and emergency labour bags.



# **Geelong Mums**

From little things big things grow!



# This year we established Geelong Mums, expanding the service to that region.

Utilising the processes and policies developed by St Kilda Mums, along with ongoing support from the wonderful Jessie Macpherson and team, we have hit the ground running to help the many families facing hardship in the Geelong region. As a 'branch' of St Kilda Mums, Geelong Mums operates under its incorporated organisation, and therefore its legal entity, financials and insurance.

We are so heartened by the level of support we have already received. Thanks to a generous grant from StreetSmart Australia and private financial donations, we set up our storage facility and held our 1st collection event on June 2013.

We have quickly developed a large network of supporters including 1500 plus Facebook followers, 70 volunteers and have held seven collection events with more than 200 individuals donating goods.



The G-Team - volunteers and committee members of Geelong Mums

Most importantly, a growing network of maternal health nurses and agencies are connecting with our service. So far we have met 30 case workers and helped 44 families in the City of Greater Geelong, City of Wyndham and Colac Otway Shire with nearly 200 items.

We are so grateful for the inspiration, spirit and ongoing generosity that St Kilda Mums shares with us, and the platform they have provided to create Geelong Mums. We can only hope to build our impact in the Geelong region in the same way that St Kilda Mums has positively impacted the Melbourne community since 2009.

Kate Betts, Bianca Clair, Clare Dowling, Kate Kent and Christine Whelan Geelong Mums Committee

> Geelong Mums committee member Kate Kent

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# **Committee of Management**

The Committee of Management was formed in 2009 and is responsible for the strategic direction of St Kilda Mums as well as significant operational decisions. Meeting every six weeks, the Committee oversees governance, financial management and accountability, policies and procedures, volunteer recruitment and communications. The Committee of Management is 100 per cent volunteer run.

#### Meet our Commitee members



### Maya Donevska Chair

Maya Donevska first joined St Kilda Mums as a volunteer in October 2009 and then as a committee member in November 2009. Initially, Maya was involved in setting up policies and safety checklists, as well as running donation days from her home.

More recently Maya has managed the media relations for St Kilda Mums and continued to assist with policies and procedures. She also runs a weekly donation day at the St Kilda Mums warehouse.

Maya has over 15 years experience in communications including corporate social responsibility (CSR). She currently works for Holden as Internal Communications Manager and General Motors International Operations as a CSR Engagement Manager.

Maya lives in Elsternwick with her husband David and two children Mila, six, and Bernard, four years old. She likes to bake (mostly cakes and slices), read (mostly fiction) and is partial to a Christmas Toy Drive.



## Jessica Macpherson Public Officer

Jessica is a founding committee member of St Kilda Mums. For the first four years of St Kilda Mums, Jessica hosted weekly collections at her home while also serving as Public Officer.

Today, she manages the St Kilda Mums volunteer team, liaises with St Kilda Mums supporters and is the St Kilda Mums social media guru. She also continues to be involved with every aspect of St Kilda Mums and continues to take part in many weekly shifts at the warehouse, welcoming and inducting new volunteers. She is widely recognised as the face of St Kilda Mums.

Jessica has 15 years experience in sales and marketing in the wine trade and works as a consultant in her own small business. Jessica lives in Balaclava with her husband Ben and two children, Carolina, seven, and Mario, four years old. She likes taking before and after photos of the prams she repairs with Instagram, riding her bike to work and eating Maya's cakes.



## Michaela McIntosh Treasurer

Michaela McIntosh is a founding member of St Kilda Mums and has served on the committee since inception in the capacity of Treasurer.

A Chartered Accountant with 17 years experience in assurance, internal audit and financial management, she is the Finance Manager for Sacred Heart Mission.

Michaela also serves on the fundraising sub-committee looking at ways to increase funding, ensuring St Kilda Mums is financially sustainable.

Michaela is married to Andrew and they live in Elwood with their three children, Aaron, seven, Holly, five, and Bianca, three years old.

Michaela and her family enjoy camping and travelling to remote parts of Australia.



## Peta Magick Secretary

Peta is a founding committee member of St Kilda Mums and volunteers regularly. She is one of the primary contacts with the case workers and co-ordinates the 'giving' shifts with fellow committee member Helen Young. It is during these shifts St Kilda Mums distributes material aid to families in need.

Peta has over 10 years experience working in the not-for-profit sector, mainly in the area of corporate community partnerships. She currently works as a facilitator for the Australian Business and Community Network, a coalition of businesses working with high needs public schools to improve educational opportunities for young people.

Peta lives in St Kilda East with her husband Rob and two girls, Billie, six and Eve, four years old. She loves camping trips, bushwalking and wishes she had more time for craft projects.



## Helen Young Committee Member

Originally from Scotland, Helen first volunteered with St Kilda Mums in November 2009 and became a committee member soon after. She has been actively involved in operations since then, in particular meeting with caseworkers to pass on material aid during the 'giving' shifts.

Helen shares the administrative position with Peta Magick liaising with case workers, managing stock and managing wait lists to ensure efficient stock turn.

Helen previously worked in medical research in Juvenile Diabetes. She is now at home full time, living in Elwood with her husband Ben and looking after their three children, Abbie, six, Billie, four, and Thomas, nine months old. Helen enjoys travel, yoga and expanding her knowledge on holistic health and nutrition.

# Fundraising Sub-Committee

The fundraising sub-committee was established in 2012 to support the committee of management and to develop fundraising so that St Kilda Mums can significantly increase the number of families we can support. The fundraising sub-committee is a volunteer group of professional women who meet every six weeks. The fundraising sub-committee aims to increase the financial sustainability of St Kilda Mums. Committee of management members Jessica Macpherson and Michaela McIntosh are also members of the fundraising sub-committee.



#### Lorelle Lake

Lorelle joined the St Kilda Mums fundraising sub-committee in 2012. Lorelle has a history in graphic design and project management in small and mediumsized businesses. During the last 13 years she has completed a Masters in Marketing and found herself very happy in fundraising and marketing roles within the not-for-profit sector.

Lorelle currently works part time for the Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation generating income through philanthropic grant submissions. Her role with St Kilda Mums supports the fundraising and sustainability strategies of the organisation. She also juggles a family that includes two young daughters, Erica who is five years old and Juliet aged four.



#### Kim Sullivan

Kim joined the St Kilda Mums fundraising sub-committee in 2012 after volunteering with St Kilda Mums and being inspired by both the social and sustainability principles that underpin the work of the organisation.

Kim has a background in marketing, communications and events and is currently working in the philanthropic sector as a Grants Program Manager. She has a Master of Communication and Media from Deakin University is now studying for a Master of Marketing.

Kim is the mother of a beautiful, bright and occasionally challenging eight year old son named Joshua and also squeezes in a position as one of the fundraising coordinators for his school, Ripponlea Primary School.



#### Jo Cannington

Jo first became aware of St Kilda Mums in 2009, talking to her neighbour over the fence about practical ways of being involved in the local community. Initially she volunteered washing prams and sorting and cleaning clothes. In 2012, she joined the fundraising sub-committee to assist with building awareness and improving the financial sustainability of the organisation.

Jo lives with her very supportive husband David and their three active and curious sons, Archie, six, Ned, four, and Jack, two years old. Jo loves meditating to balance her busy life.

She works professionally in social planning and is currently completing her Masters in Planning. She continues to be very impressed by the practical ways St Kilda Mums is making a difference to people's lives every day.

197,975

#### for 1st July 2012 - 30th June 2013

#### (1) Statement of Income & Expenditure

| Income:               |         |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Donation - Business   | 19,395  |
| Donation - Individual | 81,570  |
| Grants Received       | 140,200 |
| Bank Interest         | 94      |
| Fundraising Revenue   | 4,180   |
| TOTAL INCOME          | 245,438 |

#### **Expenditure**:

| Bank Fees                               | 5      |
|---|--------|
| Clothing Bags                           | 4,000  |
| Cots                                    | 14,136 |
| Fit Out                                 | 2,231  |
| Fundraising Cost                        | 1,104  |
| Insurance                               | 3,491  |
| Operating Expenses                      | 1,796  |
| Rent                                    | 12,721 |
| Spare Parts – cots, prams etc           | 5,369  |
| Stationery Costs - labels, printing etc | 2,007  |
| Vehicle Expenses                        | 603    |
| TOTAL EXPENDITURE:                      | 47,463 |
|   |        |

#### (2) Statement of Receipts & Payments

| 19,395  |
|---------|
| 81,570  |
| 140,200 |
| 94      |
| 4,180   |
| 245,438 |
|         |

| Cash Payments                           | -      |
|---|--------|
| Bank Fees                               | 5      |
| Clothing Bags                           | 4,000  |
| Cots                                    | 14,136 |
| Fit Out                                 | 2,231  |
| Fundraising Cost                        | 1,104  |
| Insurance                               | 3,491  |
| Operating Expenses                      | 1,796  |
| Rent                                    | 12,721 |
| Spare Parts – cots, prams etc           | 5,369  |
| Stationery Costs - Labels, printing etc | 2,007  |
| Vehicle Expenses                        | 603    |
| TOTAL CASH PAYMENTS                     | 47,463 |

| INCREASE (DECREASE) FOR THE YEAR: | 197,975 |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| CASH AT BEGINNING OF THE YEAR:    | 12,412  |
| CASH TOTAL AT THE END OF YEAR     | 210,387 |

#### (3) Statement of Assets & Liabilities

SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR YEAR:

| 142,737 |
|---------|
| 50,050  |
| 17,600  |
| 210,387 |
| -       |
|         |
|         |

#### NET ASSETS: 210,387

Stock held has mostly been donated and no value has been attributed to these donations of goods in kind.

The storage and other equipment purchased has been expensed.

#### (4) Mortgages & Securities

The association has no mortgages, charges or securities over any of its assets.

Date: 12/9/13

Jewica Marshern

Jessica Macpherson Public Officer

# Thank you

St Kilda Mums sincerely thank all our supporters and donors. Here are just a few.

**6a Foundation Mountain Buggy** AHSA **Perpetual Trustees** Baby Second Heaven phil&teds Most Excellent Buggy Co **Barbara Allen** Ross Donnan - Graphic Designer **Barry & Jan Fagg Rotary Club of Bentleigh Moorabbin** Central **Barry Fink Family Rotary Club of Prahran** Britax Australia **Rotary Club of St Kilda Brotherhood of St Laurence** Second Childhood Canvas **Sentinel Foundation CNP** Brands **Spoilt Gift & Homewares Complete Plumbing Contracting P/L** StreetSmart Australia **Elizabeth King SWAP Electrics Pty Ltd** Foundation of Graduates in Early **Childhood Studies** The Amazing Baby Company **Fouress Foundation** The Chrysalis Foundation **Kids Business The City of Port Philip** knit one give one The Jack Brockhoff Foundation Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation **Treehouse St Kilda Michael Westaway - Partner HWL** Valco Baby **Ebsworth Lawyers** Veg Out St Kilda **Minter Ellison** 

## A volunteer's story

Volunteers are the driving force of St Kilda Mums. We have been able to grow solely because of their generosity and support. Here, volunteer Maya Donevska talks to volunteer Pip Taylor about her St Kilda Mums experience and why Pip thinks it's the "Best. Job. Ever."

# Maya: Pip, before we get into the volunteering, can you tell me a little about yourself?

**Pip:** I'm a full-time, stay at home mum, in my midthirties, from New Zealand. I moved to Australia with my husband Dan, daughter Catherine (now four) and cat Pretti almost three years ago. Since then we have had daughter number two Georgia (now two and half years old). We live bayside, and all our family are back in New Zealand.

## Maya: Can you outline how you came to know about St Kilda Mums?

**Pip:** Through social media. I first saw a mum from my mother's group commenting on Facebook about St Kilda Mums. I was curious so I read up on what the group was about, and I was hooked from there.

# Maya: What was it about St Kilda Mums that prompted you to get involved?

**Pip:** St Kilda Mum's purpose was close to my heart and aligns with many of my own beliefs – supporting others who are doing it tough, and reusing and reducing waste. And also, it was so easy to help. I think that's one of the many brilliant things about the organisation. They make it easy to give as much or little as you want – whether it's a one-off pram pick up, helping out from your own home, doing just two hours each week in the warehouse or much, much more.

# Maya: From there, Pip, how did you become a regular volunteer?

**Pip**: I started responding to requests to go and check out a pram in hard rubbish or pick up a repaired pram. Then I helped out at a couple of collection days at other volunteers' houses, and not long after that St Kilda Mums were looking for volunteers to take on regular shifts, so I signed up for a regular Pram Wranglers spot each week, and also started taking clothes bundling away to do at home – which I love!

# Maya: What is it you enjoy most about volunteering?

**Pip:** Giving. I came away from my first shift and posted on Facebook "Best. Job. Ever." That first day, I was privileged to meet a case worker who

was supporting a young mum who had planned to put her baby up for adoption, but during the adoption counselling changed her mind.



Until the baby was born this young woman

had never considered the possibility that she would raise the child, so she literally had no baby gear for her newborn. I was able to give the case worker a beautifully bundled bag of clothes to last from birth to one year, linen, nappies, a baby bath, a pram, baby toys, a cot and a brand new car-seat. It was both humbling and fulfilling.

# Maya: Have you met many new people through volunteering?

**Pip:** I've only been volunteering for a few months but have already met lots of like-minded people – in fact, I suspect in time I'll look back and realise some of my closest Melbourne friendships grew out of my work with St Kilda Mums. It's great to be meeting people who share the drive to help others in our community.

## Maya: Is there such a thing as a 'typical' volunteer?

**Pip:** Not that I know of. Everyone I've met are mums or grandmothers, though. But I actually haven't got to know people really well yet – because when we're at the warehouse we're all focused on making the best of our time there, so there's not too much chit-chat!

# Maya: One last question, what advice would you have for anyone considering becoming a volunteer?

**Pip:** Please do! It's so easy to help out and it's very rewarding – it's been such a positive experience for me – I only wish I'd known about St Kilda Mums when I first moved to Melbourne.

If you would like to get involved and join our volunteer team please check out our website or email us at mums@stkildamums.org

## Testimonials

"I just dropped off a clothes pack to a mother of 6 children. She was very grateful and the kids were very excited trying on new shoes and looking at some Ben 10 toys that were in the bag. The mother informed me she had had some of her children's clothes stolen from the communal laundry at her home. She was very sad the clothes being stolen, but when she saw the great quality and variety of children's clothes from St Kilda mums, she was very grateful. So thanks so much! Your work makes such a difference!"

#### Alexandra Larsen, Connections UnitingCare

"St Kilda Mums provides a valuable service to the community. When a client within the Maternal and Child Health Service is identified as needing resources, St Kilda Mums is approached for assistance, with everything from breast pumps and prams to clothing. These resources are promptly provided for the family, usually within a week. St Kilda Mums takes a great deal of care with the quality of the items provided and the Maternal and Child Health Service is appreciative of the service they provide to the community."

#### Cathie Arndt, City of Port Phillip Maternal Child Health

"Just wanted to let you know that the stroller I collected for one of my clients recently was the only positive thing that has happened to her in the last few months. So to you all, on behalf of the people who need that little something extra...thanks. Again!!"

Kim Billington, Women's Health West Inc. "I am a social worker that accesses St Kilda Mums to help the families I work with. St Kilda Mums provides my clients with everything they need for their babies without questions, without judgment, without fuss. I am proud to pass on the items that I receive from St Kilda Mums. The volunteers at St Kilda Mums do what they do out of love so I know that's what I'm giving to my clients. I cannot thank St Kilda Mums enough for the tremendous work and commitment to what they do. Even paid organisations cannot do what St Kilda Mums are doing. Keep up the great work ladies!!!"

#### Phuong Vo, ISIS Primary Care

"I just wanted to say that I am so impressed that an organisation like yours exists. I think it is such a wonderful and necessary organisation! The work that you do is very inspiring and I'm sure it brings much relief to families throughout Melbourne."

Moira Fallon, AMES Case Manager "Just a quick email to say thankyou so muck for all the items you have donated to our ASAS program. Your team of volunteers do an amazing job and we rely heavily on all your donated baby goods."

Joanna Coussins, Asylum Seeker Assistance Scheme, Red Cross

"I have seen children get their bundles of beautiful well presented clothes and the children open them up as if it was Xmas. Having some clothes or toys helps parents to nurture their children, and children can present well at school or kindergarten which ultimately helps with their learning process and integration."

Gina Rennie, Uniting Care Connections "What you do really makes a difference in the lives of others. The vulnerable clients I work with are so grateful for the assistance provided and it so amazing to see the excitement, happiness and relief in their faces when forwarding the goods needed to care for their babies/toddlers."

#### Vanessa Dhondee, Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies

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