

Housing. Support. Recovery.

Annual Report

FY 2022-23



B Miles
Women's
Foundation

bmiles.org.au



The B Miles Women's Foundation is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and is endorsed with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. We would like to extend our gratitude to the NSW Department of Communities and Justice for funding received under the Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) Program to support people facing or experiencing homelessness in NSW.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN 31 323 982 619

Our commitment

We are committed to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, LGBTIQA+ People, and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse People.



B Miles Women's Foundation holds Certificate level Australian Service Excellence Standards accreditation. This independent accreditation process provides our stakeholders assurance that a commitment to quality underpins every level of our service.



B Miles Women's Foundation is a registered community housing provider with demonstrated compliance to the standards set by the National Regulatory System of Community Housing.

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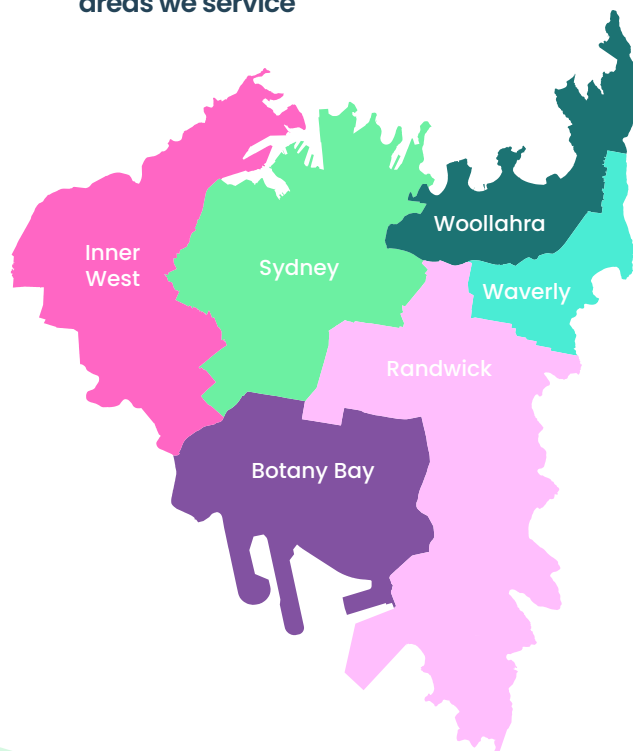
Our purpose

We help women in inner Sydney prevent or resolve homelessness through tailored support, and access to safe, secure and affordable accommodation.

Working in collaboration with a range of services and housing providers, we offer an integrated, client-centred approach to homelessness recovery and prevention.

The women we support are often dealing with complex challenges, including experiences of mental ill-health, trauma, family and domestic violence, abuse and substance dependency.

The local government areas we service



Acknowledgement of Country

B Miles Women's Foundation acknowledges Aboriginal people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live and work. The Foundation pays respects to Elders past, present and future, and recognises their continuing connection and contribution to the land and waters. We are committed to truth-telling and listening to Aboriginal voices on the matters that affect them.

About this report

This report presents the activity of the B Miles Women's Foundation over the course of the financial year 2022 to 2023. This report showcases our goals, outcomes, achievements and quality improvement processes. The target readership of this report are stakeholders, funders, participants in our services and the wider community.

Our Strategic Plan 2023 to 2025

Our strategic planning process is a whole-of-organisation approach that is inclusive of the perspectives of the Board of Management, staff, partners, stakeholders, and service users. At the beginning of 2023, we confirmed our vision, determined our objectives, set our priorities, and defined our key indicators of success.



1. People

Australia's housing and health sectors are currently experiencing workforce shortages and elevated rates of worker burn-out. Investment in the capability, capacity, retention, and wellbeing of our team is a key priority. We are proud of our commitment to prioritising the cultivation and maintenance of a positive workplace culture that maximises learning opportunities, professional development and workers' safety, health, and wellbeing.



2. Services

Our purpose is to ensure that women in need have access to affordable, safe housing and support services to enable recovery. We commit to providing sustainable programs that are responsive to community need, and to continually reviewing our services and how they are delivered to ensure that the needs of our clients are met effectively and through contemporary best practice.



3. Funding

Diversification of funding is a long-standing goal of ours. To date, progress has been made in obtaining funds for special projects from sources other than the NSW Department of Communities and Justice. Access to alternative funding streams remains a priority because it enables us to:

- deliver projects that address unmet needs of our core client group, and
- access resources needed for projects that will deliver on strategic priorities e.g., community engagement, cultural inclusion, and social inclusion programs.



4. Advocacy

We will leverage our reputation and strength to advocate for sufficient resourcing of the Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) sector, and for societal change, including adequate social housing, an end to women's homelessness, and for access to housing, support and health care for women.



5. Partnerships

Strengthening and expanding our partnerships has the potential to enhance our capacity to meet the needs of the women we serve, and leverage to advocate for the sector, our workers and for women. We will prioritise our engagement with existing and potential partners and will support those relationships to deliver excellent services and to advocate more broadly.

These priorities are aligned with our vision and will be achieved with the support of our financial, administrative and governance systems.

Our strategic priorities for 2023 to 2025

CEO's introduction

It is with great appreciation and a sense of pride that that we present to you the B Miles Women's Foundation Annual Report for 2022-23.

Throughout the report we've endeavoured to demonstrate the impact our organisation, partners and team members have had throughout the year. And, to celebrate their continued and tireless contributions to addressing and ending homelessness in Sydney and more broadly across NSW.

Strategic planning & consultation

In November 2022, after the end of our last strategic planning cycle in July, we began to develop a new three-year Strategic Plan for the Foundation.

We spent several months undertaking broad consultation on the plan to gather feedback and input from key stakeholders, including community partners, service users, women with lived experience, staff and management.

Together, we confirmed our vision, determined our objectives, set our priorities, and defined key indicators of success which will drive the organisation over the next three-year planning cycle.

Our final plan was released in March 2023 and set out five priority areas:



Our annual community engagement day in March 2023 presented an excellent opportunity to consult women in our service on our draft strategic plan and to seek feedback on our service.

No feedback is more valuable than that received from women who have lived experience of homelessness and accessing our service. We have implemented suggestions and taken on feedback. Thank you to everyone who attended and provided feedback. And thank you to Belma Torres (Senior Case Manager) who provided Spanish interpretation throughout the day, allowing women to participate in their first language.

Cost of living crisis & housing affordability

We have long been sounding the alarm about the housing affordability crisis across Sydney. This work has become even more important over the last few years as pressure on affordable housing has hit all-time highs and homelessness in NSW has continued to increase.

Across NSW:



Over
57,000

households are on social housing wait lists (many of them will wait more than 10 years to access a safe place to call home)



60,000

people are being supported by specialist homelessness services



35,000

people are experiencing homelessness

This situation has passed crisis point.

In August 2023, Homelessness Australia released a report titled, *Overstretched and Overwhelmed: The strain on homelessness services*. The report cross-referenced Australian Institute of Health and Welfare data against service costs as outlined in the *Productivity Commission Report* on government services to reveal that an additional \$450 million in homelessness support is needed to respond to new people needing homelessness assistance and people currently being turned away.

In only four months, from December 2022 to March 2023, the number of people seeking homelessness assistance across the country spiked to 7.5 per cent, which is an additional 6,658 clients.



6,658

additional people sought homelessness assistance across Australia from December 2022 to March 2023

CEO's introduction

The overwhelming majority of people seeking homelessness help is due to financial stress and the housing crisis. Of the 95,767 people seeking assistance in March 2023, 83 per cent of them (79,244) needed help due to issues with their housing or financial stress.

It is now more common for our service to see women who have been in the workforce, who can no longer keep up with the cost of living.

Over the last 12 months we have seen women who are cycling into debt as a result of the increased cost of living. Quite simply, they can no longer afford the inflated cost of housing.

While we know that unemployment in NSW is low, we must consider the number of people in casual or part-time employment in addition to low-income earners when we look at housing affordability. Of the 35,000 people experiencing homelessness, almost 10,000 of them have some sort of employment.

While the cost-of-living crisis is impacting everyone in NSW, it is having significant impacts on people who are employed on a casual or part-time basis as well as low-income earners and people who are not able to participate in the workforce.



71,962

**people are turned away from
homelessness services in
Australia every year**

Some of those women are experiencing housing instability or homelessness for the first time much later in life. We are housing women in our emergency accommodation program who are over the age of 80; these are women who would otherwise be sleeping rough.

The homelessness sector is unable to keep up with demand. Across the country, 71,962 people are turned away from homelessness services each year. If the cost-of-living crisis continues, Homelessness Australia expects the number of people who are seeking help from homelessness services who are turned away will likely increase to 91,936.

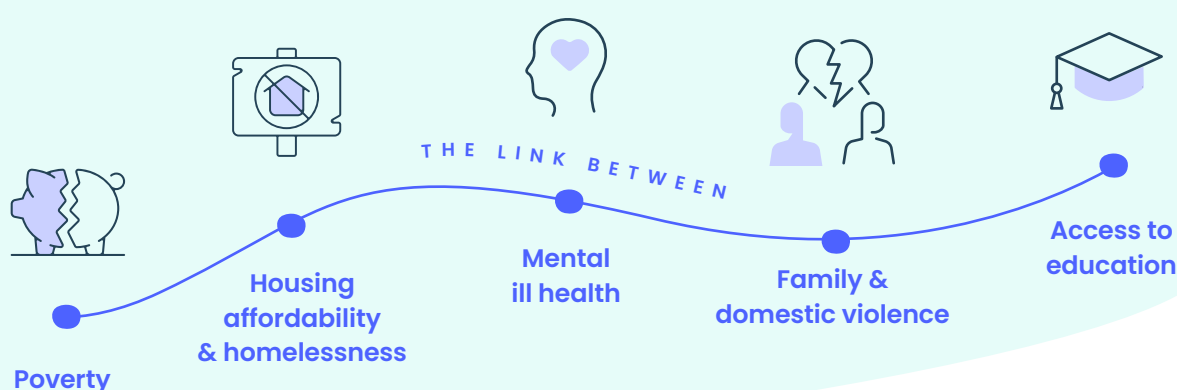
It is these bleak facts that make advocacy such an important part of the work we do. We continue to work with media, the NSW and Commonwealth governments to address the root causes of homelessness, and to make it a priority in their policies and platforms.

Advocacy

Housing insecurity is impacting many in the rental market and our service is seeing more and more women seeking assistance from a homelessness service for the first time in their lives, including some women over 80 years of age.

Underpinning all of our advocacy work is the fact that everyone deserves a safe place to call home. Housing is a basic human right.

Our advocacy work focusses on bringing about change that addresses the systemic issues that contribute to homelessness including:



Key areas of our advocacy work this year have been:

1. Aboriginal community engagement
2. Specialisation in homelessness service models
3. NSW state election, housing and homelessness campaigns
4. Contributions to state-based homelessness and housing plans that are under review
5. The National Housing and Homelessness Plan
6. Consultation process relating to the recommissioning of specialist homelessness services across NSW

Aboriginal community engagement

Aboriginal women are overrepresented in homelessness data. We know more Aboriginal women experience homelessness due to systemic issues relating to injustice, discrimination, and social and economic disparities.

In November 2022, as a part of our strategic planning process, we made commitments to improve our service provision to the Aboriginal community.

In January our management team attended training presented by Ngaramanala, which was focussed on 'Responding to Indigenous Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Data Governance – Lessons from Ngaramanala'.

The word Ngaramanala means, in Gadigal language, 'let's see, hear, think and gather Indigenous Knowledge'. Ngaramanala is a collaborative project between Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes (TOA) and Family and Community Services Insights, Analysis and Research (FACSIAR), which uses the knowledge, expertise and strengths of both units.

CEO's introduction

One of the key learnings we heard from Ngaramanala, was about the importance of recognising and understanding the historical and sometimes current, misuse of data about Aboriginal people/s and understanding the historical, political, social and cultural context of data.

Between our Strategic Plan and this training, we started to realise how much work and learning we needed to undertake as an organisation. We made the decision to engage an Aboriginal consultancy firm named Blakworks run by Lindsay Stanford, a proud Gamillaraay woman, to help train and guide our work on this important priority.

Our Board and staff have both taken part in in-housing training run by Blakworks focusing on cultures, disadvantage, and discrimination.

We have also worked closely with Blakworks on providing public support and advocacy for the Voice to Parliament referendum, developing inclusive language, our approach and use of Aboriginal data, building our community profile and culture learning.

Working with and learning from Blakworks has been an excellent and critical opportunity for our team. Thank you to both Lindsay and Belma Torres (Senior Case Manager) for their commitment to making meaningful changes and guiding our team through this work.

We are acutely aware that there have been many broken promises to Aboriginal communities and people over many years. As an organisation, we are committed to doing more to prioritise equality and equity to Aboriginal people.



Our team attended Blakwork's Cultural Awareness Workshop on 9 May 2023. Back row from left: Lindsay Stanford (facilitator, Blakworks), Michelle Delamotte, Ellie Hickson, Sharlene Harkness, Kara Holmes & George Quinn. Front row from left: Lok Chen, Belma Torres & Kerry McCarthy.

Contributing to state-based plans & reviews

Earlier this year, the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) and NSW Health invited comment on the frameworks to support the implementation of the NSW Housing and [Mental Health Agreement 2022 \(HMHA 22\)](#).

HMHA 22 is a formal agreement between NSW Health and DCJ. It is a commitment that all levels of agencies will work together with key stakeholders to ensure that people with living with mental health diagnosis or disorders have timely access to safe, secure, appropriate housing, and the mental health supports they need, to sustain their housing, live well in the community and succeed in recovery.

The agreement outlines the overarching aims, objectives and commitments for DCJ and NSW Health to support the shared client group.

We were disappointed to see that despite high ambitions, there does not seem to be additional funding allocated to this work. We did however use the opportunity to write a submission, highlighting the value of this work and the need to allocate funding to ensure that people who have complex health and housing needs can be properly resourced to receive the help and support they require.

This work is just starting as we publish this report, and we look forward to working with other agencies to meet the community need.

NSW state election

In February, we attended a summit hosted by the Community Housing Industry Association and Homelessness NSW for a pre-election town hall gathering. The event called for strategic and collaborative action from government, to end homelessness and confront the housing crisis, unfolding in NSW.

In the last 18 months, we have seen a change of government at both the state and federal levels, and with that, we have started to see a shift in approach, priorities and policies. We look forward to seeing and engaging with further progress.

Increasing homelessness amongst older Australians

Throughout 2022 the NSW Government held an inquiry into the rapidly growing cohort of older people who are experiencing homelessness.

Our submission to the inquiry outlined the evidence we see every day in relation to older people experiencing housing instability and homelessness. We spoke about responding to a significant influx of women who are experiencing homelessness for the first time in their 70s and 80s.

We also highlighted that older women experiencing homelessness don't often identify as experiencing homelessness because they are not sleeping on the streets. Instead, they may be living temporarily with friends, acquaintances, or family, or living in their cars, or in unsafe and/or inadequate dwellings. This means they're not often well represented in terms of housing solutions.

Responses and solutions to the increase in older people experiencing homelessness must recognise the multitude of risk factors that make older women particularly vulnerable to homelessness, including:

- experiencing a lifetime of lower income than men (lower wages, lower salaries, less savings and less superannuation),
- a history of completing unpaid work (parenting and caring responsibilities),
- experiencing family and domestic violence in the home,
- age discrimination in the workplace, and
- reduced working hours, retirement or loss of employment.

Women are often experiencing homelessness as a result of hardship and poverty that has accumulated over a lifetime.

The Inquiry made 40 specific recommendations in relation to how to prevent and respond to homelessness and we will continue advocacy for older women in 2024.

Housing Australia Future Fund

On a national level, after many months of negotiation, we saw the Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF) passed through Federal Parliament. This \$10 billion investment aims to pave the way for new social and affordable homes to be built across the country. It is a step in the right direction, but it is not enough to even begin to meet demand.

In NSW alone, the overall number of households on the social housing waiting list grew to 57,550 households in 2022, up 13 per cent since 2021.

The HAFF is however, the single biggest investment to support social and affordable housing in more than a decade. It will help deliver 30,000 new social and affordable rental homes across the country in the fund's first five years, providing a secure funding source for new homes. The plan confirms that fund returns within the scheme will deliver the Government's commitments to help address future and continued housing needs across the country.

Federal Government housing plans

In addition to the HAFF we have also seen the Federal Government outline the National Housing Accord, which includes federal funding to deliver 10,000 affordable homes over five years from 2024 (to be matched by up to another 10,000 by states and territories).

There has been a range of consultations in relation to the development of a new National Housing and Homelessness Plan. We have participated in consultations and provided feedback to Homelessness NSW to support a submission that called on the Government to include the following priorities in the National Plan:



A visit from our Federal MP Allegra Spender, to hear about our work and be informed about the housing crisis challenges across Sydney in March 2023
From left to right: Kate Timmins, Allegra Spender MP

- A focus on a human rights-based approach to housing and homelessness and addressing the structural drivers of homelessness (particularly poverty and discrimination).
- Increased funding to the specialist homelessness sector.
- Lived experience to guide the changes.
- Evidence-based policy and practice.
- Flexible systems, localised solutions and noted importance of specialisation in the homelessness sector.
- Addressing systemic discrimination.
- Person-centred systems and services.
- Cultural safety and self-determination.
- Trauma-informed and trauma-preventative systems and services.
- Advocacy for a dedicated First Nations Housing and Homelessness Plan was included in the submission with clear and measurable targets and an independent Advisory Council to govern the plan's design and implementation.

National Housing & Homelessness Agreement

In March 2023 the CEO of Homelessness Australia, Kate Colvin, asked us to present to a number of Federal MPs, in the lead up to the Federal budget announcements in relation to a pending \$55 national funding cut to homelessness services. This specific portion of funds is called the Equal Remuneration Order, and the loss of the Commonwealth portion of those funds would result in funding cuts to every specialist homelessness service in NSW.

At the joint government briefing, we presented on what the cuts would mean to services on the ground, particularly to those services that support women who may require a 24/7 response.

We were pleased to see that this piece of advocacy work was successful, however the funding was only secured for 12 months. We have been informed that there is a possibility that this cut to homelessness services will be on the table again when the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA) is reviewed in 2024.

Violence Against Women

Over the last 12 months, we have been involved in a number of advocacy campaigns and consultation processes, that work towards ending violence against women.

One of the overarching principles has been to have a coordinated, whole-of-government approach to sexual, domestic, and family violence policy. In addition, we have highlighted the need for people who are experiencing family and domestic violence to have access to safe and appropriate housing.

In October 2023, Federal Parliament passed two significant pieces of legislation to make Australia's family law system simpler, safer and more accessible for separating families and their children.

Previously, there was a focus on 'equal shared parental responsibility'. Under the new laws, parenting decisions will have to be based solely on what is 'in the best interests of the child'. Family Law specialists have advised that these changes will have a significant impact on women and children who are escaping family and domestic violence.

NSW Ombudsman's Report on Specialist Homelessness Sector

Throughout 2022, the NSW Ombudsman's office ran an investigation into the many challenges that people living with complex needs often experience when attempting to access the Specialist Homelessness Sector.

As a service provider, we understand the pressures in relation to risk management, as well as the limitations in terms of resourcing. Our submission to the investigation identified the multiple challenges people experience in relation to access and equity and highlighted three main concerns:

1. Access for women who are currently using methamphetamines: There is a gap in service provision for these women. They are significantly vulnerable to physical and sexual violence and there is a need for adequate resourcing to support this client group to ensure their safety as well as safety in service provision.
2. Life long supported accommodation models for women who are impacted by severe and ongoing mental health diagnosis or disorders, who require 24/7 supported accommodation long term.
3. Non- purpose-built accommodation sites, where people need to share bedrooms and where accommodation is located upstairs, making it inaccessible for people living with reduced mobility.

The NSW Ombudsman interviewed services across NSW in relation to their Access and Equity policies and procedures and then in August 2022 the Ombudsman released a report on *Specialist Homelessness Services helping people with high or complex needs*.

The report delivered key recommendations to NSW DCJ to improve outcomes for people excluded from accessing services, including recommendations about the physical layout of properties.

We are reviewing the recommendations to identify how we could apply them in our own service and investigating crisis accommodation options that may be more accessible.

Recommissioning of Specialist Homelessness Services across NSW

The NSW Government is in the process of reviewing and consulting in relation to the way in which specialist homelessness services are funded.

It is the biggest shake up in funding that the sector has faced since the Going Home Staying Home reform in 2014.

While participating in DCJ's pilot project we raised our concerns about the formula that was being used to calculate expenses of homelessness service provision.

To achieve long-term and sustainable outcomes for women with complex needs, providers must focus on quality service provision, rather than on the cheapest model.

We took up the opportunity to participate in the Unit Costing Pilot Project that was undertaken by FACSIA and provided feedback on a number of issues about the pending cost calculations for homelessness services.

We hope to meet with the Minister for Homelessness and Housing Hon Rose Jackson to highlight our concerns soon.

NSW Anti-Slavery Commissioner

In August 2022, we welcomed the appointment of Dr James Cockayne as the NSW Anti-slavery Commissioner for a five-year term. He is the first full-time state Anti-slavery commissioner to be appointed in Australia. This is important recognition of the critical work that is needed to end modern day slavery.

It is important to understand that modern day slavery is something that can easily go undetected, even in the homelessness sector.

Many years ago, our Client Service Manager Sharlene Harkness, and a team of committed colleagues from other women's services across inner Sydney connected to the Sydney Women's Homelessness Alliance (SWHA), worked together

to host training for case managers in women's services, to assist women's services to assess and identify women who have escaped slavery.

Women are overrepresented in relation to modern day slavery when we look at forced marriages, domestic servitude in urban households as well as sex slave trafficking.

In February this year, we attended the Paul Ramsay Foundation to hear Commissioner Cockayne speak about the estimated 16,400 people in NSW who are living in modern day slavery.

16,400

people in NSW live in modern day slavery

In June 2023, the Commissioner released a three-year strategic plan for NSW 'Working Together for Real Freedom'. The strategic plan outlines concrete steps for NSW to become a place where everyone's human right to live free from slavery is realised.



Kate Timmins and Belma Torres listening to the new NSW anti slavery commissioner promoting awareness of modern day slavery



Accreditation & quality assurance

In June 2023, we undertook a new round of Australian Service Excellence Standards (ASES) Accreditation as our previous accreditation was due to expire.

We are delighted to report that we not only passed certificate level ASES accreditation via an external audit, but also passed with the honour of the independent auditor making 'no recommendations for improvement'. We are particularly proud of this achievement and the feedback that the auditor provided after meeting with our stakeholders, board, staff and partners.

Thanking & farewelling our Chairperson

It is with deep gratitude and appreciation that we say farewell to our Chairperson and long-serving board member, Robyn Fortescue, who is stepping away from the board after more than 20 years of exceptional voluntary service.

Robyn first joined the Board 20 years ago at a time where there was instability in the organisation. She has provided consistent support to staff and the organisation in relation to industrial matters and has undertaken fearless advocacy and campaigning whenever there are funding or justice issues to contend with.

Our team, past and present, are grateful for her many years of consistent and dedicated support and, for holding their best interests at the heart of all her decision making.

I am personally grateful for the strong working relationship we have held for so many years. A relationship strengthened by our shared values of service and sector sustainability, governance, and quality responses to women in a time of need.

Robyn is a leader that understands the importance of community work, marginalisation in relation to mental health and homelessness. She is fearless when it comes to improving options and outcomes for women who experience disadvantage.

During Robyn's service the Foundation has changed the lives of thousands of women. Each and every one of them has benefited from Robyn's dedication, hard work and tireless advocacy. Thank you, Robyn, for the incredible difference you have made to so many lives.

Thank you

In 2023 we welcomed Dr Sarah Michael to our Board. Sarah's skills and long-term clinical experience at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney are incredibly valuable to the Foundation and we look forward to working with her in the future.

My sincere thanks to all the members of our Board for your continued contributions to the Foundation through your invaluable leadership and expertise.

I'd also like wholeheartedly thank our incredible team members, whose passion, skills, care and commitment have been instrumental to our continued delivery of quality services and outcomes to women in need.

In particular, I'd like to thank Sharlene Harkness and Belma Torres for their leadership of the team throughout the year as Client Services Manager and Acting Client Services Manager respectively. Sharlene returned to the role during the year, bringing her 'get things done' approach with her and has already overseen a significant number of women moving into long-term stable housing. We're so appreciative of having her skill and expertise back on the team. In her absence, Belma provided steady and valued leadership. The team and clients alike valued Belma's approachable and caring nature. Thank you for your contributions in this senior role throughout the year.

On behalf of all our team, special thanks to our Clinical Supervisor Victoria Hill. Victoria's support and guidance over what is now more than 18 years, has always assisted our team to enhance skill, navigate ethical dilemmas, and reflect on professional development and practice. Our service couldn't provide the expertise that we do without Victoria's ongoing commitment to our team's wellbeing as well as our professional learning and growth. A big thank you for so many years of supporting team development.

Special thanks as always goes to Kara Holmes, who we engage to run the Clinical Support Program. This program provides women with access to therapy, to support recovery from trauma as well as recovery from mental health diagnosis and disorders. Feedback from the women who access this program is always excellent. Kara also oversees regulation compliance within the organisation and the organisation continues to benefit from Kara's dedication, patience and tenacity!

Thank you also to the women who arrive at our service often at what must be one of the most difficult times in their lives. Thank you for trusting us, for working with us, and for teaching us about how to learn from your experiences and work towards service improvements for the women who have not yet accessed our housing and support programs.

Last, but certainly not least, a heartfelt thank you to our generous network of donors and supporters. We would not have the same impact without each and every one of you.



Kate Timmins

CEO

Chairperson's message

As I reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the remarkable journey we've undertaken at B Miles Women's Foundation. It is with a mix of emotions that I announce my resignation from the Board after over two decades of dedicated service to this incredible organisation.

When I first joined the Foundation, we faced numerous challenges, from funding instability to governance and industrial issues. Today, the organisation is in a sound and strong financial position and is under the guidance of sound and experienced leaders.

Before stepping into the role of Chairperson, I served as Secretary for close to 15 years. Throughout my tenure, my focus has always been on ensuring good policies and responses to support staff wellbeing, particularly in a sector where vicarious trauma must always be considered.

Working alongside our CEO, Kate Timmins, has been a privilege. I have always admired her values and passion for equity, human rights, and quality service for the disadvantaged. Our partnership has been marked by mutual respect and shared values, and I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked alongside her for two decades without a single disagreement.

Throughout the years, we have undertaken public advocacy on various crucial issues, including the campaign around the 2014 closure of multiple services across NSW. Our efforts led to the reversal of many of those decisions, and I am proud of the impact we have made.

As I step down from my role, I am confident in the Foundation's future. Our recent Australian Service Excellence Standards accreditation audit, where the independent auditor made 'no recommendation for improvement,' is a testament to the excellent governance and leadership in place. I leave knowing that the current board comprises committed individuals with outstanding skill sets, and the organisation is in a strong and sustainable financial position.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff, service users, partners, donors, and supporters who have been instrumental in our accomplishments. Your unwavering support has been the driving force behind our success.

Despite rising homelessness, domestic violence and cost of living, as we look to the future of the Foundation I am filled with optimism. I have no doubt that the organisation will continue to thrive, ensuring longer-term safe and affordable housing for women experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Thank you for allowing me to be part of this incredible journey.



Robyn Fortescue
Outgoing Chairperson

A message of thanks from our Client Services Manager

Our work & impact

B Miles Women's Foundation has continued to provide a range of high-quality support programs to women experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.

This year has seen our case management team provide in person support with a hybrid model of staff working in the community, in our head office and from home. We have been flexible and adaptable to the changing needs of our clients and staff while holding safety and wellbeing as our utmost priority. As the world adapts to a post-pandemic environment, we acknowledge the mental toll this past few years has taken on our communities and the homelessness sector in NSW.

Post pandemic, priorities for many of us shifted and we sadly lost two of our long-term employees who returned to their families in Ireland. This unexpected movement on the team opened up staff vacancies. After a successful recruitment process we welcomed Ellie Hickson, Michelle Delamotte and Monique Taylor to join our case management team. All three case managers bring their individual areas of expertise in areas such as domestic and family violence, recovery from alcohol and other drug use, as well as youth. They had an extremely busy year training and adapting to their new roles while working alongside our senior case managers Lok Chen, Kerry McCarthy and Belma Torres.



Our team enjoying some down time and some of Belma's fabulous baking! From left: Sharlene Harkness, Belma Torres, Michelle Delamotte, Ellen Hickson, Lok Chen

I would like to thank each of the case managers for their hard work, adaptability and dedication while providing support to 172 individual women this year.

We have seen a significant increase of homelessness this year with many people sleeping in cars and couch surfing due to the rising cost of living. Low wages and an increase in rent has forced people into homelessness across NSW.

Our intake line has been inundated with demand for accommodation and support. While our accommodation program is limited, our case management team prioritise assisting women with their housing and health needs. This includes assistance to complete DCJ Housing applications, NDIS applications, referrals to community mental health teams, GP's and access to services in local communities.

This year has seen us reintroduce our social inclusion program to assist women to feel connected and reduce social isolation. We have continued to provide our internet program to ensure women can connect with telehealth services and participate with a range of online programs.



Three fabulous Case Managers from left: Belma Torres, Ellen Hickson, Michelle Delamotte after hosting a lovely lunch for the women in our service at the new Oz Harvest enterprise Refettorio in Surry Hills

Our team have had a strong focus on building our existing partnerships with St. George Community Housing, Bridge Housing and St. Vincent's Mental health. Working in the community has provided us with an opportunity to network, build connections and engage with a wide range of local services.

It has been refreshing to attend in person meetings, trainings and workshops once again.

I would like to thank the B Miles Women's Foundation's Board for their valuable time, dedication and expertise and Kate Timmins our CEO who provides strong leadership, advocacy and a workplace culture that is supportive while promoting staff wellbeing. This allows the case management team to learn and flourish within their roles while providing best practice, high quality services to the women we support.

Our team are incredibly inspired by the strength and resilience women who access our services show. We thank you for allowing us to support and walk beside you while navigating your housing and health needs.

Sharlene Harkness

Sharlene Harkness

Client Services Manager

Our Impact



Who we helped

No one is immune to a change in circumstances that can leave accommodation unaffordable, unsuitable or unstable. We help women living with mental ill-health prevent or resolve homelessness through tailored support, and access to safe, affordable housing and recovery.

Over the financial year 2022–23, we supported 172 individual women who were experiencing homelessness, or housing instability, and were impacted by mental ill-health. More detail about who we helped and the services we provided can be found on page 54.

57%

of the women we supported were over 45 years old

42%

of women who participated in case management support were from **culturally and linguistically diverse communities**

How we helped

We provide specialist service responses to women to assist their access to safe, affordable housing and recovery. We provide trauma-informed services to women who are contending with complex challenges, including experiences of mental health challenges, trauma, family and domestic violence, abuse and substance dependency.

We provide a spectrum of service responses, including;

- supported accommodation
- transitional housing
- outreach support services, and
- clinical services.

Support through our hotline

Many of the women we supported were helped by Case Managers through our hotline. This support included comprehensive needs assessments with callers followed by the provision of information, support, advice, and assistance with referrals to other services appropriate to their needs.

Providing tailored support through case management

65

women engaged in our Case Management Program

There is no 'typical' type of situation that leads to homelessness or a housing crisis. That's why it's critical that our specially trained team works with each woman on an approach that meets her individual needs.

We support women to navigate 'the system' and to gain access to the right services for their needs. This involves working in collaboration with clinicians (e.g. General Practitioners, psychiatrists, community health Case Managers, psychologists, social workers) and other service and housing providers.

The amazing support from my Case Manager has been outstanding. My overall health, well-being and safety concerns have been met with professional understanding, kindness and care. Because of this, my future prospects of a happy and healthy life are positively imagined, moving forward.

53

women were helped to complete the complex and time intensive process of applying for long-term housing

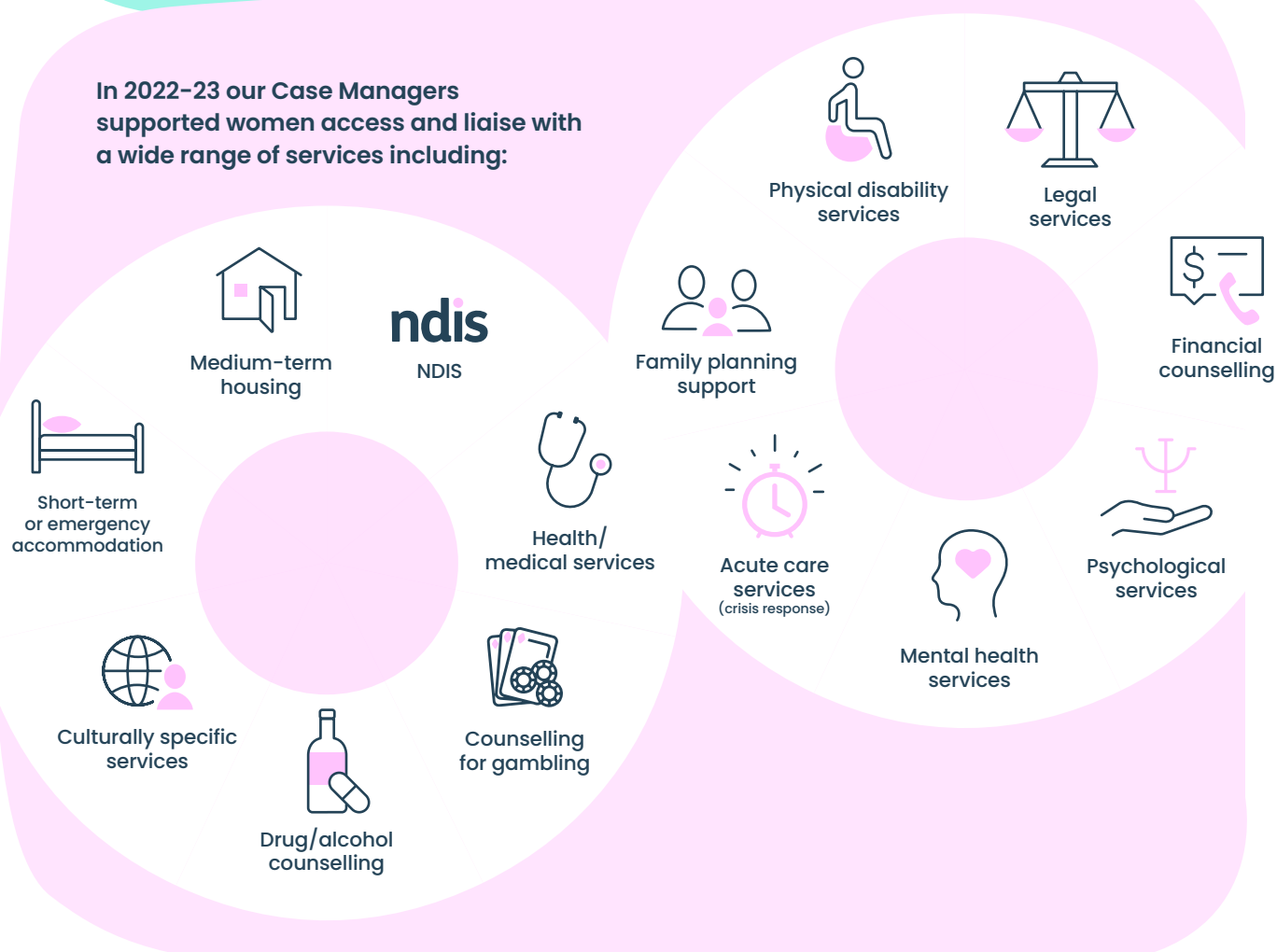
Throughout 2022-23 our Case Managers supported women to:

- apply for affordable long-term housing
- retrieve and store personal belongings
- connect with health care providers
- engage in therapy and treatment to support their recovery goals
- sustain tenancies or prevent tenancy failure or eviction
- obtain/maintain government allowance
- apply for and gain employment
- identify and enrol in vocational training and study programs
- increase community participation through familiarisation with local areas and transport, and
- develop living skills to enhance quality of life.

My Case Manager has been wonderful checking in on me on a regular basis assisting with multiple support tasks, attending doctors appointments with me. And having regular meetings on a weekly basis. She has been very helpful. Thank you, B Miles, for your support in my crisis situation.

Many women participated in outreach case management support to maintain their existing tenancies, to stabilise mental health and/or circumstances, or to transfer to more suitable housing

In 2022-23 our Case Managers supported women access and liaise with a wide range of services including:



My case manager was incredible I would not be where I am today without B Miles. Thank you, it literally saved my life.

Providing accommodation

Throughout 2022–23, 24 women were accommodated in our Rapid Re-housing Accommodation Program and Transitional Housing program. Almost one third of these women transferred into our accommodation programs from mental health units indicating the need for specialised pathways inclusive of mental health support for women engaged with our service.

Case Manager Ellen Hickson gathering all the essential items to set up a new property



Belma Torres in the Relove Warehouse, helping to pick out furniture for a woman who (thanks to Relove) will be moving into a fully furnished home!

35%

of women experienced homelessness for more than six months prior to their accommodation with us

75%

of women accommodated in the B Miles Transitional Housing Program exited into new tenancies with social and community housing providers

Nowhere to live

The unfortunate combination of the rising cost of living, lack of affordable housing and a decade of underinvestment in social housing has resulted in a profoundly detrimental effect on low-income earners. Housing affordability is defined as a low-income household spending no more than 30 per cent of income on housing. Yet, we are now seeing people spending up to 80 per cent of their income just on housing alone.

Community housing partnerships

Through partnerships with St George Community Housing (SGCH) and Bridge Housing, we're able to provide short and long-term accommodation to women on low to moderate incomes.

SGCH are also the nominated housing provider to several other properties attached to our contract with the NSW Department of Communities and Justice. Our partnerships are highly valued and ensure that women recovering from homelessness and housing instability have access to safe and affordable tenancies.

Making psychological therapy accessible

We know from research that women experiencing homelessness tend to:

have inadequate access to preventative health services

have difficulty engaging in, and maintaining engagement in, health care treatment plans

experience a lack of continuity of care

have experiences of stigma and discrimination in health care contexts

However, for years Specialist Homelessness Service providers have been confronted by the inaccessibility of mental health treatment and psychological therapy for women engaged in their accommodation and support programs.

Prior to the increased stressors on the mental health system during the pandemic, the reduction in public mental health services and the privatisation of psychological services created a gap that rendered psychological therapy inaccessible and unaffordable for women experiencing financial hardship while in the process of rebuilding their lives after homelessness and trauma.

35

women accessed psychological therapy through the program in 2022-23

Accessing therapy through our Clinical Services Program

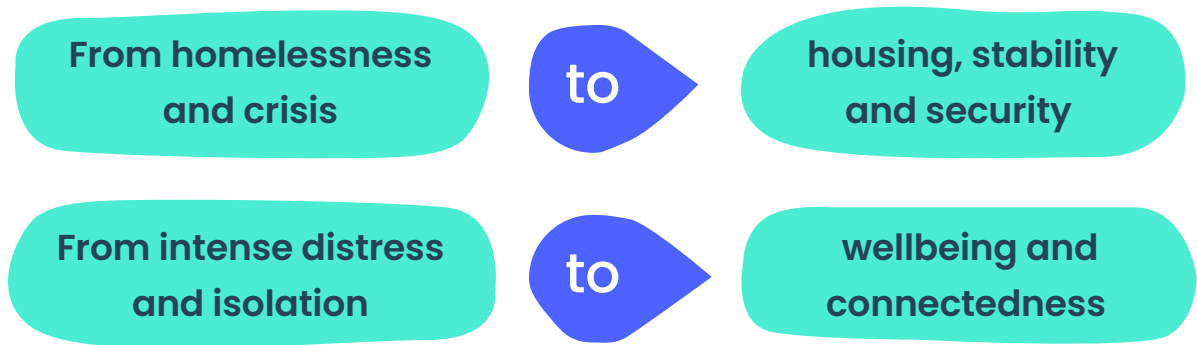
With the support of generous donors, we've been able to offer psychological therapy to women involved in Specialist Homelessness Services and women residing in social and community housing properties in inner Sydney through our Clinical Services Program.

The Program provides therapy using a flexible trauma-informed and person-centred approach. Women can be easily referred through Case Managers and GPs. The design of the program removes barriers to access for women in recovery from experiences of homelessness and instability.

Preventing a return to homelessness

The regular therapy provided through our program enables women to develop the skills they need to recover and to protect themselves from re-experiencing homelessness by maintaining wellbeing and psychological functioning. These skills include emotion regulation, building distress tolerance, interpersonal effectiveness, relaxation, self-care strategies and mindfulness. Benefits include stability, reduction in harmful behaviours, increased confidence in self-efficacy, reductions in anxious and depressive symptomatology, as well as healing from the impact of trauma.

In combination with safe and affordable housing and effective Case Management, our program produces remarkable transformations in women’s lives:



The Clinical Services Program supports women to recover from experiences of homelessness, housing instability, family and domestic violence, trauma and distress.

In 2022–23, the Clinical Services Program:

- Provided over 800 individual psychological therapy consultations
- Coordinated with SHS case managers, acute care teams, psychiatrists, GPs, NDIS support coordinators, NDIS service providers, aged care assessment teams, addiction specialists and sponsors to provide integrated care
- Supported women with psychosocial disabilities navigate and access NDIS supports
- Helped women apply for and access drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs and detox facilities
- Provided medical assessment forms and reports to Housing NSW advocating for women to be prioritised for social and community housing properties
- Advocated to Housing NSW for women who required transfers out of unsafe properties
- Advocated to the Courts for women with mental health conditions facing criminal charges, thereby engaging women in treatment and support in their communities, while avoiding conviction and sentencing by the criminal justice system
- Supported women to report incidents of violent crimes to police including sexual assault and assisted women to make applications to the National Redress Scheme and Victims Support Scheme for recognition and support
- Undertook assessments and provision of clinical reports to the Department of Immigration and Home Affairs for women with immigration and residency issues
- Sponsored women to re-pay state revenue fines via work development orders through participation in treatment
- Liaised with job network members, EAP, and university and TAFE disability services to support women's engagement in employment, vocational training and study programs, and

Since 2015, more than 450 women have been referred to the Clinical Services Program by Sydney's inner city Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) and General Practitioners. Demand has been consistent with many new referrals being made every year. The program has been operating at full capacity throughout the year and has provided individual treatment to 35 women in the last 12 months.

Many of the women referred to the Clinical Services Program are in recovery from experiences of homelessness, housing instability, family and domestic violence, trauma and distress. It's a privilege to be able to provide therapy to support the healing and recovery goals of women in recovery from homelessness.

For many women, this program has enabled continuity of care and treatment throughout their transitions from homelessness to housing.

I hope that we can continue to provide this vital program for women engaged in Sydney's homelessness sector. Many thanks to B Miles Women's Foundation and their generous donors for their ongoing commitment to enabling women's access to psychological therapy.



Kara Holmes
Clinical psychologist

Building social connections & a sense of belonging

This year allowed for an exciting return to in-person social events hosted by our team of Case Managers.

We kicked off the year with a celebration for International Women's Day held on 8th March. Our celebration included an all-abilities inclusive session of trauma-informed yoga followed by a three-course lunch at the social enterprise Refettoria OzHarvest.

As we eased our way back into social groups, our team supported women accessing our programs to explore new and alternative self-care activities.

Over the following months, our social events included:

- going to the cinema
- participating in group yoga classes
- seeing on-stage theatre performances, and
- having meals together in cafes and restaurants.

By covering the cost of these events each month, our Social Inclusion Program has combated the social isolation that can arise when financial stress limits a person's access to activities in the community. We are looking forward to hosting many more events over the year ahead.

Philanthropic Funded Projects

Each year, we identify the unmet needs in the lives of the women we support, design projects to meet those needs, and then apply for funding from philanthropic sources to run the projects.

In 2022-23, we were able to offer two main projects.



Essential Health Care

The Essential Health Care Project enabled our clients to access dental and medical treatment that was otherwise inaccessible due to financial hardship.



100%

of participants rated their experience of engaging in the project 'very positive'.



100%

of participants said they wouldn't have been able to access the essential health care without the support of this project.

I was able to get physiotherapist for my ankle and back problems. I would not have been able to afford it otherwise. It has been very helpful. Now I can start doing the things I like doing again.

I wouldn't have been able to get an appointment if it wasn't for help from B Miles to have my medical issues looked at and treated.

My case manager has been very helpful with organising the funding of my treatment and I am very grateful for the funding.

It was helpful to access medical help when I did, before the pain got any worse.

Healthy & Active Lifestyle Support

The Healthy and Active Lifestyle Support Project enabled our clients to access gyms, pools, fitness and wellbeing classes, and to purchase equipment to exercise safely.



100%

of participants rated their experience 'very positive'



80%

of participants said that the project has improved their health and wellbeing significantly

The project has improved my routine, health, mental health... and given me opportunity to socialize. The benefits are immeasurable.

Exercising is great for my anxiety and overall wellbeing.

I feel stronger, more organised, and my mental health has improved enormously since starting the gym program. I feel more confident and chronic pain has improved. I am now looking at rejoining the work force as my mental health [has] improved.

The project has aided me in the support of my overall mental health and wellbeing... and in helping my everyday progression toward a bright and healthy future... and making it possible financially for me to have access to a gym facility where I am able to help address my ongoing challenges regarding physical health issues.

Thank you to the generous donors who made these projects possible, and thank you to the project participants who provided helpful feedback about the benefits of the projects and ideas about what we can do to make access easier and more streamlined in the future.

Senior Case Manager Belma Torres purchasing new shoes for women in our service to enable them to stay active



Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs (ICSWCN)

Leading the Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs

Through our role as the Lead Agent for the Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs (ICSWCN) package – a NSW Department of Communities and Justice funded initiative under the Specialist Homelessness Services Program – we contract other agencies to provide a range of specialist service responses for women:

- experiencing mental ill-health
- impacted by the criminal justice system, and
- recovering from substance dependency.

Our contributing agencies include Community Restorative Centre and Detour House Inc. Together, we provided:

353

women with complex needs
were supported in FY22-23

371

support periods were provided
to women with complex needs in
FY22-23



Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs (ICSWCN)

Within the support periods provided, client needs were identified and support was either provided directly by ICSWCN or referrals were made by ICSWCN to external agencies to meet the clients' support needs. The table below shows the extensive work undertaken by ICSWCN to meet the needs of women accessing our services.

Need identified	Number of times support provided by ICSWCN	Number of times referral arranged by ICSWCN to meet support needs identified
Short term or emergency accommodation	33	50
Medium-term/transitional housing	29	58
Long-term housing	0	73
Assistance to sustain tenancy or prevent tenancy failure or eviction	176	33
Assistance to prevent foreclosures or for mortgage arrears	2	0
Assistance for family/domestic violence – victim support service	41	32
Assistance for family/domestic violence – perpetrator support service	2	1
Assertive outreach for rough sleepers	0	0
Assistance to obtain/maintain government allowance	34	24
Employment assistance	9	23
Training assistance	4	15
Educational assistance	65	16
Financial information	63	28
Material aid/brokerage	98	54
Assistance for incest/sexual assault	34	6
Family/relationship assistance	109	28
Assistance for trauma	169	37
Assistance with challenging social/behavioural problems	159	27
Living skills/personal development	134	30
Legal information	33	44
Court support	29	7
Advice/information	312	31
Retrieval/storage/removal of personal belongings	37	22
Advocacy/liaison on behalf of client	221	57
School liaison	2	2
Child care	2	4
Structured play/skills development	41	2
Child contact and residence arrangements	13	8
Meals	50	23

Need identified	Number of times support provided by ICSWCN	Number of times referral arranged by ICSWCN to meet support needs identified
Laundry/shower facilities	54	14
Recreation	26	22
Transport	70	21
Other basic assistance	214	12
Child protection services	0	4
Parenting skills education	0	6
Child specific specialist counselling services	0	3
Psychological services	41	61
Psychiatric services	0	33
Mental health services	93	38
Pregnancy assistance	0	1
Family planning support	2	9
Physical disability services	6	5
Intellectual disability services	0	4
Health/medical services	25	90
Professional legal services	0	33
Financial advice and counselling	4	14
Counselling for problem gambling	0	2
Drug/alcohol counselling	96	44
Specialist counselling services	26	24
Interpreter services	5	5
Assistance with immigration services	7	10
Culturally specific services	47	19
Assistance to connect culturally	23	18
Other specialised service	76	47
	Total number of individual support types provided by ICSWCN for identified needs = 2716	Total referrals made by ICSWCN to meet identified needs = 1274



Outreach & advocacy

A critical pillar of our strategic plan is our commitment to community engagement, advocacy and building and sustaining successful partnerships.

Throughout the year, we've worked closely with colleagues across the sector to share best practice, learn from each other, work on projects, build advocacy and to raise awareness of issues amongst the community, including colleagues from:

- Industry Partnership & Homelessness NSW
- Health Network Meetings
- Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs Consortium
- SSESNSD SHS District Forum
- SHS Sector Network Meetings
- SHS Sector Health & Wellbeing Program Pilot Project Working Group
- Sydney Women's Homelessness Alliance
- St Vincents Mental Health Service
- Together Home Program
- Bridge Housing partnership meetings
- St George Community Housing Partnership Meetings



From left to right: Belma Torres (Senior Case Manager), Trina Jones (CEO Homelessness NSW), Kate Timmins (CEO B Miles Foundation)

Feedback from those we've helped

Feedback and consultation with the women we support are a fundamental part of continuous quality improvement and service development. We regularly seek and review feedback from our service-users to inform and adapt our practices.

Client Consultation Meeting

In March 2023, we hosted a client consultation meeting. It was great to see so many of our service users in attendance which gave us the opportunity to:

- consult with services users about our strategic priorities and indicators of success
- hear feedback about service users' experiences of participating in our programs, services and events
- provide information about the Australian Service Excellence Standards (ASES) and what it means when a service meets ASES Certificate Level accreditation
- describe the advocacy work that we are undertaking, and
- communicate and receive feedback about our organisational values, website, marketing strategy, cultural competency, and privacy and confidentiality practices.

Over the course of the meeting, many helpful ideas were generated. To date, we have actioned several suggestions for improving our services. We look forward to reporting back to our service users in next year's consultation meeting.

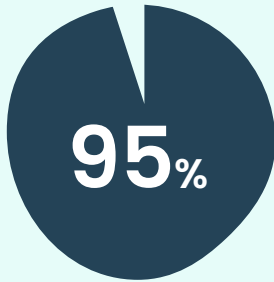
Thank you to the women who participated this year – we appreciate your time and input into supporting us to be the best service we can be!



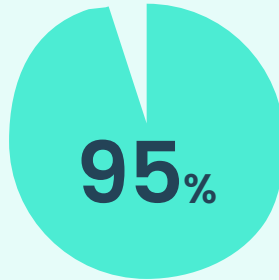
**Belma Torres and CEO Kate Timmins
hosting 'Tell us what you think'**

Client survey results

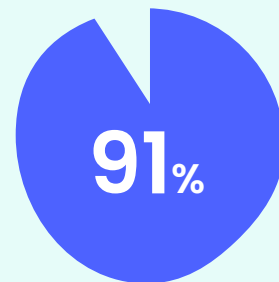
We surveyed women who accessed our programs and services throughout 2022 to 2023 so that we could learn about their experiences, to discover what we did well, and to identify areas we could improve on. This is what they told us:



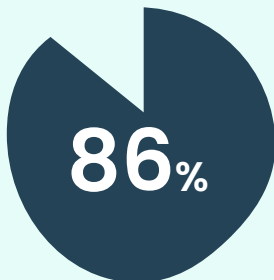
of respondents reported that they were given clear information about our services and programs.



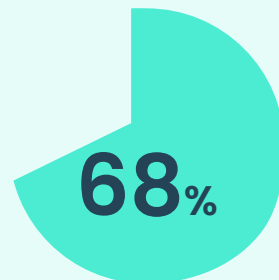
of respondents reported that we understood and responded to their needs.



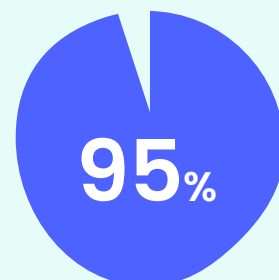
of respondents reported that they felt 'a lot' or 'a great deal' safer since engaging with us.



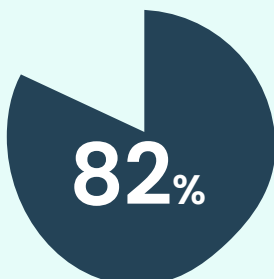
of respondents reported that they had made progress in addressing their housing needs since engaging with us.



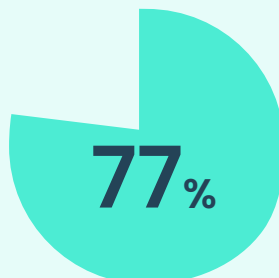
of respondents reported that they feel more connected to their communities since engaging with us.



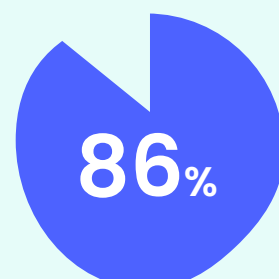
of respondents reported that our staff were friendly and helpful.



of respondents reported that their wellbeing has improved since engaging with us.



of respondents reported that their ability to tackle challenges increased with our support.



of respondents reported that we have good feedback and complaints processes in place.

Respondents described their experience of engaging in our Case Management Program:

It was fantastic having a Case Manager support me with my goals. An overall great experience.

Without B Miles I wouldn't have been able to do it on my own.

The staff are amazing. I can see how the warm staff culture of B Miles Women's Foundation has made me feel heard, seen and respected. They have exceeded my expectations as I have had many disappointments engaging personally with hospitals and mental health services in the past. I am grateful that I have had the opportunity to be engaged with the service.

Easy, complementary, professional, organised, efficient, safe.

I have found it very helpful to have a Case Manager that checks in with me regularly. My experience with B Miles staff has been that they are kind, attentive, friendly and approachable. I have had 2 Case Managers and both have been very helpful and professional. They take the time to listen and are patient and understanding.

Thank you to my Case Managers and the B Miles Women's Foundation for giving me this wonderful opportunity to access needed support. The B Miles Women's Foundation program has allowed me to feel safe and secure in the knowledge that I am not alone and that help and care is there supporting me moving forward and staying connected in my everyday life.

Growing & supporting our online community

Over the last year, we've continued to leverage social media to help us raise awareness of our services amongst the social and health sectors, and friends and family of women who may be in crisis. Since launching our LinkedIn page in 2021, we now have 474 followers and our posts have been seen by thousands of their connections.

Since December 2021, we've also recruited more than 1,100 Facebook followers (almost half of them in FY22-23), gained many new donors through our online fundraising campaigns, and reached more than 90,000 people through our posts and engagement activities.

The use of both these platforms has also allowed us to raise awareness around important community issues and keep in touch with women who are part of our community.



Connect with us

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2020/21, **114,000 people** were turned away from homelessness services due to a lack of resources.

WHAT DO OUR CASE MANAGERS DO?

- ✓ Provide tailored support
- ✓ Arrange meetings with you and your support
- ✓ Connect you with other services
- ✓ Keep you in the loop

Asking for help is hard

We're here to make it easier

”

It changed my life having someone who genuinely listened and cared for what I was going through.

“

“

It has taken immense pressure off knowing that my Case Manager is in my corner and knows the intricacies of the system and how to navigate them.

Accessing temporary accommodation in NSW just got a bit easier.

NO MORE:

- ✗ 28-day annual cap
- ✗ Rental seeker diaries
- ✗ \$1,000 financial cap for people experiencing domestic & family violence



"I don't think I would have coped without the support I received"

SHS Client Satisfaction Survey Results 2023

This external survey was prepared by Community Housing Industry Association NSW and was open from May to June 2023. We invited our clients to complete the survey online and participation was voluntary. Specialist Homelessness Service (SHS) industry benchmarks were generated from the results of participating services (n=34). The aims of this survey were to;

- Establish levels of well-being of service users and their experiences
- Benchmark the results for each service provider
- Inform future service delivery improvements

Top and Bottom Performing Areas

We have identified the top three scoring items for B Miles Women's Foundation, and alongside them the items with the lowest scores.

Staff treated me with respect

100%
POSITIVE

Staff sensitive to ethnic and cultural background

100%
POSITIVE

Emotional state improved

100%
POSITIVE

Staff understood my needs

91%
POSITIVE

Your employment opportunities improved

43%
POSITIVE

Safety of my current accommodation

73%
POSITIVE

Source: Community Housing Industry Association 2023

The table below compares the scores received for B Miles Women's Foundation to the client aggregated dataset for the key indicators. Here are the findings of the independent client satisfaction survey for B Miles Women's Foundation prepared by the Community Housing Industry Association;

Benchmarking	B Miles Women's Foundation	Benchmark	Difference
Financial situation improved	90%	55%	35
Confidence in dealing with changes improved	100%	76%	24
Educational opportunities improved	62%	40%	22
Staff explained how to make a complaint against this organisation	100%	81%	19
Connection with the community improved	80%	61%	19
Emotional state improved	100%	82%	18
Connection with others improved	70%	56%	14
Staff sensitive to ethnic and cultural background	100%	87%	13
Staff referred me to other services to support my other needs	100%	90%	10
Privacy in my current accommodation	82%	73%	9
Staff told me about my accommodation options	100%	92%	8
Cost of my current accommodation	82%	76%	6
Satisfaction with current accommodation	82%	76%	6
Staff treated me with respect	100%	98%	2
Overall satisfaction services provided	91%	89%	2
Security of accommodation into the future	64%	63%	1
I have participated in setting my case plan goals	91%	92%	-1
Your employment opportunities improved	43%	47%	-4
Staff understood my needs	91%	95%	-4
Safety of my current accommodation	73%	78%	-5
Staff have made me feel accepted for who I am	91%	96%	-5

Thank you to our partners & contributors

We work in partnership with various supporters and providers, including corporate, private, government and non-government agencies to provide housing, support, case management and clinical treatment to women.

We wouldn't be able to go the extra mile to address unmet needs without our generous supporters and providers. Thank you for helping us to change lives.

- Allianz Australia Insurance – cyber and information security team
- Bridge Housing
- City of Sydney Council
- Clubs NSW
- Commonwealth Bank
- Community Restorative Centre
- Detour House Inc.
- Dykes on Bikes
- Inner West Council
- Private donors via the Give Now platform
- NSW Department of Communities and Justice
- Randwick City Council
- Re-Love
- St George Community Housing
- St Vincent's Hospital Mental Health Service



**We'd also like to
acknowledge our
generous private donors
who have continued to
support.**

People & culture



Our Board

We are governed by a Board of Management who are formally elected in accordance with our Constitution. The Board oversees and monitors:

- Governance
- Risk Management
- Finance
- Performance against plans and budgets
- The organisation's values, vision and purpose



Robyn Fortescue
Chairperson

Robyn (she/her) has held executive positions on B Miles Women's Foundation's Board of Management for many years including the positions of Secretary and Chairperson.

Robyn has a background in industrial relations and is the Assistant State Secretary for the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union.



Brendan Dunne
Treasurer

Brendan (he/him) has a Bachelor of Accounting from the University of Technology Sydney and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.

He has held senior roles within Australia and internationally with a background in Finance, Risk, Strategy and Transformation and is employed by Allianz Australia as Chief Customer and Operations Officer.



Renée Bianchi
Secretary

Renée (she/her) is a barrister with a diverse practice in common law, commercial and equity matters, including the areas of professional negligence, product liability, insurance, general commercial and succession law.

Renée has a Bachelor of Law and a Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Hons) from the University of Newcastle. Renée was the President of NSW Young Lawyers in 2016 and is currently the Chair of the Law Council of Australia's Young Lawyers Committee. Renée is also an active volunteer with Girl Guides Australia and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, having been involved for over twenty years.



Simon Chapple
Ordinary Member

Simon (he/him) is a barrister with a practice in succession law, elder law, property law, general commercial law, corporations' law, consumer protection law and administrative law.

Simon graduated from the University of New South Wales with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) and a Bachelor of Law. In 2010 Simon was awarded a PhD from the University of New South Wales. He is an adjunct Fellow in the law faculty at University of Western Sydney.



George Quinn
Ordinary Member

George (he/him) is a registered nurse and has a Master's Degree in Public Health from University of Sydney and an Arts Degree (Hons) with a Philosophy major from the University of New South Wales.

He is currently the Secretary for Bushwalking New South Wales. He is the former President of the Coast and Mountain Bushwalking Club. Through his former clinical, senior and team management positions with St Vincents Mental Health Service he had an association with B Miles Women's Foundation spanning twenty years.



Kate Dennis
Ordinary Member

Kate (she/her) is a corporate communications and public relations practitioner with twenty years' experience in the corporate, government and education sectors.

Kate holds a Master's in Business (Marketing) from UTS, a Graduate Certificate of Change Management from the University of NSW and a Bachelor of Arts in Organisational Communications from Charles Sturt University.



Dr Sarah Michael

Ordinary Member

Sarah (she/her) is an integrated adult psychiatrist with interests in severe mental illness, ensuring equity in physical health outcomes for those with mental illness, and clinician wellbeing.

Sarah holds a Masters of Public Health from UNSW and an Executive MBA from the University of Sydney, and has previously worked with the World Health Organisation, as well as in medical education and administration roles. She currently holds a clinical position at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney as well as the position of Director of Psychological Wellbeing at Sydney Local Health District.

Our team



Kate Timmins

Chief Executive Officer

Kate (she/her) has more than twenty years' experience in social services, including women's homelessness, family and domestic violence, trauma-informed care and mental health.

Kate has been the Chief Executive Officer of the B Miles Women's Foundation since 2015 and has experience in leadership, NGO management, coaching, policy and planning in the community services sector. She also has qualifications in communications and counselling as well as family dispute resolution.

Kate is a passionate advocate for the specialisation of women's services and was the spokesperson for the SOS Women's Services campaign in 2014, which successfully saw funding to women's refuges across Sydney extended and other women's services provide a 24-hour service response.

She's also passionate about helping women experiencing homelessness, trauma or domestic violence and is committed to innovation and policy change in these areas.



Sharlene Harkness

Client Services Manager

Sharlene (she/her) has more than a decade of experience in social services and has been with B Miles Women's Foundation since 2011. She comes from a community services background and is a strong advocate in the psychosocial issues that women experience. Sharlene is passionate about social justice, particularly for women who experience psychiatric disability and lack access to long-term housing and mental health support.

Sharlene works from a trauma informed care and recovery-based framework and believes that recovery and living a meaningful life is possible for everyone.



Belma Torres

Acting Client Services Manager
and Senior Case Manager

Belma (she/her) has worked within social services for over ten years across a variety of sectors, including mental health, addictions, community health and case management. She obtained her Master's in Social Work in 2012 which included a specialisation in alcohol and other drug counselling.

Belma has been a case manager with B Miles Women's Foundation since 2018 and has relished the opportunity to engage with an organisation that shares her passion for assisting women in a holistic manner that addresses the need for advocacy within larger systems and celebrates the diversity of those accessing the homelessness sector.



Kerry McCarthy

Senior Case Manager

Kerry (she/her) has worked at B Miles Women's Foundation since 2016. She has over ten years' experience in social services and holds a degree in psychology. After university Kerry went on to work in mental health rehab for males with complex mental health needs with a forensic background.

Kerry is passionate about raising mental health awareness, social justice and building a more equal and inclusive future for all. And, she loves that in her role she gets to work with so many amazing, compassionate and resilient women.

People & culture

Our team



Lok Chen

Case Manager

Lok (she/her) has worked for B Miles Women's Foundation since late 2016. She has more than a decade of experience in the community services sector across specialised case management, supporting women impacted by mental ill health and domestic/family violence, commonwealth programs for people aging in their own home and occupational rehabilitation for injured workers.

Lok holds a Master of Social Work (Qualifying) as well as a GradDip in Rehabilitation Counselling. She loves making a little difference every day, sharing the joy when clients receive housing offers and moments when they celebrate their achievements.



Michelle Delamotte

Case Manager

Michelle (she/her) joined B Miles Women's Foundation in 2023. She has more than three years of experience working in social services and has primarily supported women impacted by substance abuse, mental ill health and domestic/family violence.

Michelle is passionate about social justice, equity and helping women access the appropriate supports to assist them in making positive changes in their lives.



Ellen Hickson

Case Manager

Ellen (she/her) comes from a community services background and brings four years of experience within the homelessness sector to the team. She is experienced in providing case management support and advocacy to women impacted by homelessness, domestic and family violence and other co-existing needs.

Ellen is a strong advocate for social justice and equality and is passionate about working towards equal access to safe and secure housing for those with experiences of homelessness, domestic and family violence and mental health. Ellen is devoted to being part of a dedicated support network to provide positive change within the community.



Monique Taylor

Case Manager

Monique (she/her) joined B Miles Women's Foundation in 2023. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Medical Science, with a major in neuroscience and is continuing her education in Nursing specialising in Mental Health. Monique is committed to making a positive impact on the lives of individuals impacted by mental ill health. Over the past five years, she has worked in diverse community service settings providing support to young people and individuals experiencing homelessness, substance use and mental ill health.

Throughout her career, Monique has demonstrated a commitment to advocacy for mental health. She firmly believes in eliminating stigma and raising awareness about mental health issues, fostering empathy and understanding in society.

Psychologists/ Consultants



Victoria Hill

Victoria (she/her) has provided clinical supervision to the team at B Miles for close to 20 years. Her wealth of experience and practice wisdom, supports our team to navigate important issues such as: vicarious trauma, reflective practice, ethical dilemmas, risk management and potential harm, skill building and professional development.

Additionally, she offers best practice when supporting women who have experienced; domestic violence, trauma, mental health diagnosis/ disorders and other complex problems.

Victoria's reliable and sound support, enables our team, to navigate complexity in a framework guided by ethical principles .



Kara Holmes

Kara (she/her) has worked with B Miles Women's Foundation in various roles since 2007. In 2015, she completed a Master of Psychology (Clinical) and established a private psychology practice that primarily works with women engaged in Sydney's specialist homelessness sector. Kara's approach to therapy is relational and skills-based (Mindfulness, DBT, ACT, CBT). Kara is a member of the Australian Psychological Society and the APS College of Clinical Psychologists. Kara is passionate about enabling access to psychological therapy for women who are in recovery from homelessness/housing instability via B Miles' Clinical Services Program.

The following team members worked with us during Financial Year 2022–23:

Eleanor O'Donovan
Case Manager

Helen Ascott
Case Manager

John Ferguson
Finance Manager

Lucia Henao Urrego
Case Manager

Sarah Casserley
Case Manager

Our culture

Our staff are frequently called upon to respond to crises, distress and complex situations. We prioritise the maintenance of our supportive workplace culture because it is integral to workers' health and wellbeing, and to the continuation of high quality service responses.

We are committed to ensuring that our staff receive support, participate in clinical supervision and have access to debriefing and professional development opportunities.

Yabun Festival 26 January 2023



This year we hosted a stall at the Yabun festival on 26 January at Broadway. The Yabun festival is a celebration of Aboriginal culture and resilience and it was a great opportunity to talk with and listen to Aboriginal Community. (Belma Torres pictured)

Workforce development

We recognise that ongoing professional development is an integral component of continuous quality improvement. We strive to stay contemporary in our uptake of evidence-based practices. By participating in staff training, events, workshops, seminars and conferences, we continually learn and our practices evolve.

Over the last 12 months, our Case Managers and the management team participated in the following networking and professional development opportunities:

Aboriginal Cultural Awareness

(Blakworks)

Breaking the Silence; Inclusive Practice for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and LGBTIQ+ People (MHPN)

Immediate Response to Mental Distress

(CCWT)

Information and Security

(DCJ)

CIMS SHS Client Outcomes Survey Training

(DCJ)

Coercive Control

(Women's Legal Service)

Cultural Inclusion & Diversity

COVID-19 Infection Control Training

Cyber Security Policy and Guidelines

(DCJ)

Cyber Security and Information Management (Allianz Finance)

Dialectical Behaviour Therapy Workshops

Information Security Forum for ACWA members

(DCJ)

DSC Support Coordinator 2-Day Intensive training

(DSC)

Family & Domestic Violence Leave
(Domestic Violence NSW)

First Aid

(St Johns Australia)

Help! My Client has Problem Debts: External Dispute Resolution (Redfern Legal Centre)

**Motivational
Interviewing**
(DCJ)

**My Family
and My Work;**
Discrimination Law &
Protections Fair Work
Act (Women's Legal
Service)

**National
Homelessness
Conference**

**Our Words
Matter –
Language Guide**
(Mindframe)

**Respectful
Workplaces
Program**
(Blakworks)

**Responding
to Indigenous
Data Sovereignty
and Indigenous Data
Governance; Lessons
from Ngaramanala**
(FASCIAR)

**SSESNSD
SHS District
Forum**

**SHIP
Advanced
Webinar
Training**
(AIHW)

**SHS
Validata
training**
(AIHW)

**Steering
Committee for
SHS Worker Health
and Wellbeing**
(Industry
Partnership)

**Support
Coordinator
Practice
Training**
(DSC)

**Sydney
Women's
Homelessness
Alliance**

**Managing
Aggressive and
Violent Behaviour**
(DCJ)

**Modern
Slavery**
(Paul Ramsay
Foundation)

**TheMHS
Conference
Sydney 2022:
Navigating
Complexity**
(THEMHS Learning
Network)

**Work
Development
Order Sponsor
Training**

2023 Data

Summary of results

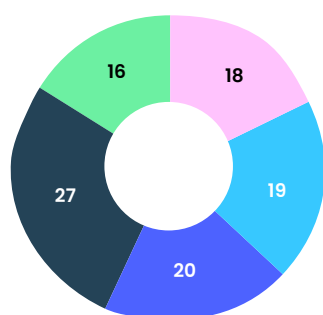
In the financial year 2022–2023, B Miles Women's Foundation provided 177 support periods to 172 individual women.

Of the 177 support periods;

- 37% were supported by the Case Management Program (n = 65).
- 18% of the total support periods provided included Going Home support via crisis accommodation in BMWF's Rapid Re-housing Emergency Accommodation Program (n = 8) and BMWF's transitional housing properties (n = 24).

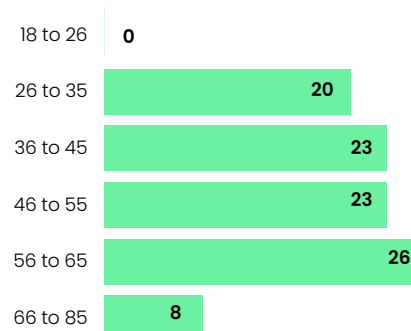
- Outreach Case Management support was provided to 33 women and included both Going Home and Staying Home categories. These women were supported in an outreach capacity to maintain their tenancies, stabilise mental health and/or circumstances, and/or to transfer to more suitable housing (i.e. a mixture of Going Home and Staying Home).
- BMWF provided 29 comprehensive needs assessments for women who were not accommodated nor case managed by BMWF. These women were supported to access appropriate services and programs to meet their needs.
- Many women were supported with brief interventions via contact with our hotline; provision of access options, information, advice and referrals to other services.
- Our Clinical Support Program provided individual psychological therapy to 35 women.
- Case Managers supported 53 women to apply for social and community housing (DCJ Housing) (82% of women supported via the Case Management Program).
- 66% of women supported via the Case Management Program had experiences of family and domestic violence.

Support Periods Provided (%) (n = 177)



- Accommodated (Accommodation & Case Management)
- Outreach Case Management
- Clinical Services Program
- Brief Intervention via Hotline
- Comprehensive Needs Assessment and Referral Service

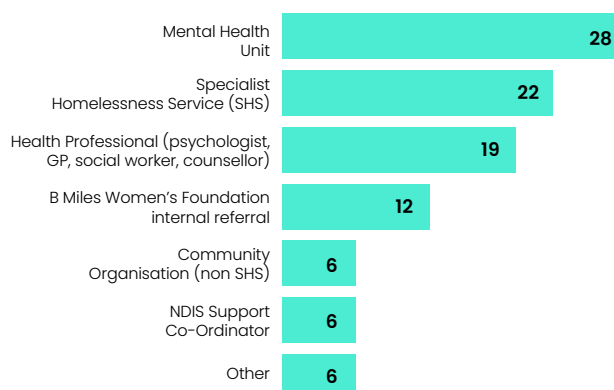
Age (yrs)(Case Management Clients)(%)



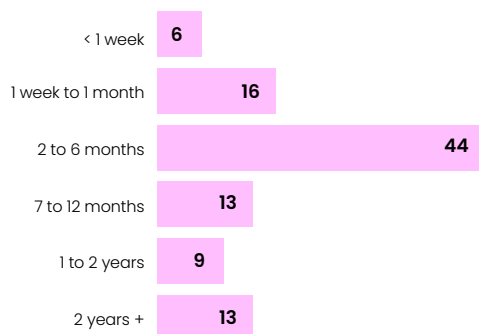
How were women referred into B Miles Outreach Case Management Program? (%)



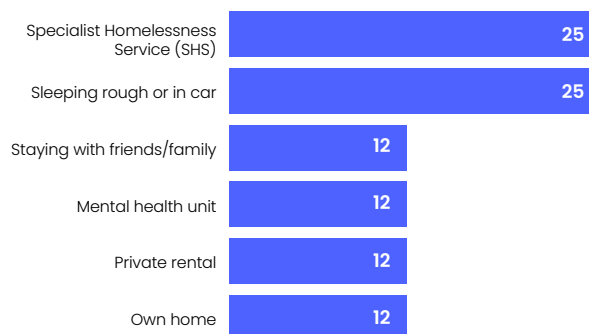
How were women referred into B Miles accommodation programs? (%)



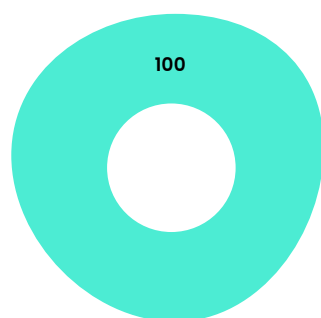
How long were women experiencing homelessness prior to their accommodation with B Miles Women's Foundation? (%)



Where were women staying immediately prior to their stays in B Miles Response Emergency Accommodation Program? (%)

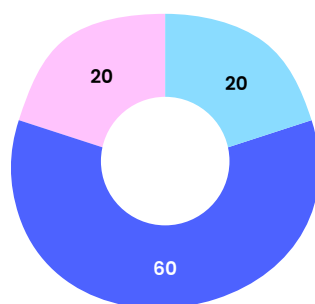


How long did women stay in B Miles Rapid Response Emergency Accommodation Program? (%)



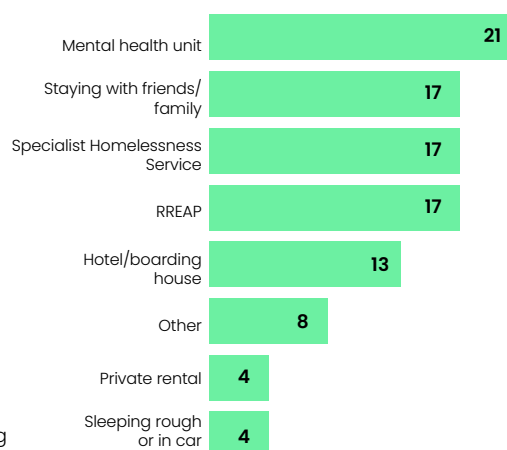
0 to 6 months

Where did women move to after their stays in B Miles Rapid Response Emergency Accommodation Program? (%)

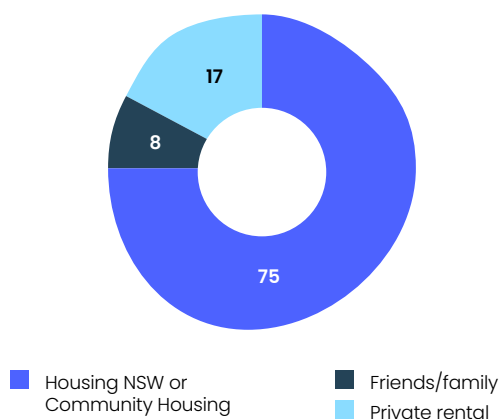


BMWf transitional housing
Housing NSW or Community Housing
Private rental

Where were women staying immediately prior to their stays in B Miles Transitional Housing? (%)

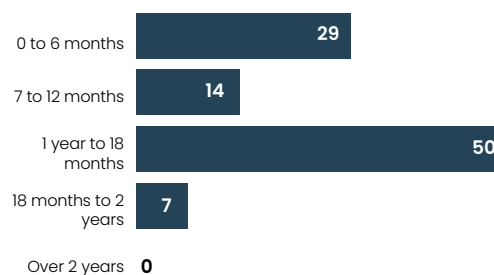


Where did women move to after their tenancies with B Miles Transitional Housing? (%)



Housing NSW or Community Housing
Friends/family
Private rental

How long were women's tenancies with B Miles Transitional Housing? (%)



Financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2023

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B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Treasurer's report

The Foundation continues to successfully operate with modified service provision to ensure employee and client safety, whilst continuing to provide critical support to women in need. As we look forward, there is a strong requirement and opportunity for further government action around housing availability and affordability and to better support the client groups we serve.

The Foundation is primarily funded by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) under the Specialist Homelessness Services Program, delivering important services and support to vulnerable women. While the recurrent funding from the DCJ is currently secure, it is crucial for the Foundation to continue to deliver on key service and quality measures, to maintain our expenditure within budget, and to execute on our Strategic Plan with a focus on sustainable funding.

In addition to the funding provided by DCJ, we have had a continued focus over the last 12 months to further develop our marketing and communication strategies. We would like to thank and acknowledge the support received via donations and grants received from a range of contributors, including Inner West Council, Clubs NSW, Dykes on Bikes, and private donors via our Give Now platform.

The work of the Foundation is valued by a range of providers and members of the community and we are grateful for their financial contributions which enable us to fund the Clinical Support Program (Clinical Psychologist) and other client related expenses such as removalists, storage, furniture, home internet, essential dental and medical treatment, and healthy lifestyle support.

I would like to thank the B Miles Women's Foundation staff and the Board members for their hard work, professionalism, support and resilience. The CEO and Finance Manager have provided detailed and timely information and ensured an effective financial management system to comply with the Government's policies, reporting requirements and accounting standards.

I recommend our audited 2022-23 financial statements to B Miles Women's Foundation staff and management.



Brendan Dunne
Treasurer

Committee's report

Your committee members submit the financial report of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

Committee members

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Robyn Fortescue (President)
Renee Bianchi (Secretary)
Brendan Dunne (Treasurer)
George Quinn
Kate Dennis
Simon Chapple
Sarah Michael

Principal activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were the provision of affordable accommodation, case management, emotional and social support to women at risk of homelessness and living with a mental illness.

Significant changes

The organisation has undertaken a range of service provision changes and adaptations to manage risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Operating result

The profit of the Association for the financial year after providing for income tax amounted to 16,460.

Significant changes in state of affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the association during the year.

Events after the reporting date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

Environmental issues

The association's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulations under a law of the commonwealth or of a state or territory of Australia.

Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED.

Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, for the year ended 30 June 2023 has been received and can be found on page 3 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee:



Robyn Fortescue
Chairperson



Brendan Dunne
Treasurer

Dated 5 September 2023

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Interest	4	21,408	267
Other income	3		
Donations		37,144	115,636
Other Income DCJ		617,331	637,414
Grants		1,660,139	1,735,119
Other Income		41,865	5,171
		2,356,479	2,493,341
		2,377,886	2,493,608
Expenses			
Other expenses		736,191	814,553
Wages		939,884	929,817
Staff expenses		68,021	60,851
Transfer Funds		617,331	637,414
		2,361,426	2,442,636
Profit for the year		16,460	50,972

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Income statement

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Income		
Bank Interest	4,486	63
Donations	37,144	115,636
Grants	1,660,139	1,735,119
Interest on Term Deposit	16,922	204
Other Income	41,865	5,171
Other Income DCJ	617,331	637,414
	2,377,886	2,493,608
Expenses	2,377,886	2,493,608
Accreditation	7,000	-
Accrued Maternity Leave	-	20,700
Accrued Maternity Super	-	3,330
Advertising & Promotion	150	-
AGM Expenses	4,199	3,605
Annual Leave Acc	(16,945)	15,257
Audit Fees	4,400	3,600
Bank Fees	1,130	1,266
Bookkeeping Fees	27,196	26,000
Cleaning	681	307
Client Equipment/Furnishings	8,807	24,969
Client Expenses	24,616	14,276
Client Expenses - Dental & Medical	26,990	28,000
Client Expenses - Healthy Lifestyles	5,003	-
Client Expenses - Internet	7,248	21,687
Community Engagement	10,274	69,233
Computer Exps	2,746	2,037
Consultants	82,789	98,564
Couriers	253	419
Depreciation	10,000	-
Donations	500	-
Electricity	1,588	1,591
Food & Household Supplies	200	1,038
Furniture BMiles	4,111	3,550
Garden Maintenance	1,380	5,200
Household Equip & Furnishings	1,125	547
I T	6,370	4,661
Insurance	11,224	8,872
Insurance - Vehicles	5,225	4,326
Internet Expense	5,259	1,740
Lease Termination	-	895
Legal	(1,033)	9,952
Locksmith	180	-
LSL Accrued	34,596	6,649
Maternity Leave	35,936	3,700
Meeting Exps	-	935

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Income statement

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Personal Prot Equip	-	33,071
Planning Day Expense	2,500	-
Postage	867	1,465
Printing, Postage & Stationery	1,609	1,456
Program Co-ordination	1,182	-
Removalist	2,513	4,668
Rent - Edgecliff	117,629	121,124
Rent/Bond/Housing Expense	6,614	2,954
Repairs & Maintenance	814	610
Resources	1,517	318
RREAP	182,408	195,296
Security Exps	2,120	1,123
Staff Development & Training	24,796	15,100
Staff General Expenses	1,409	2,374
Staff Recruitment	255	13,900
Staff Supervision	14,203	17,888
Staff Travel Exps	27,359	11,589
Stationery	975	1,667
Storage	4,140	3,166
Structure Review	75,750	-
Subs/Memberships	5,933	4,957
Superannuation	85,073	77,800
Telephone	10,631	15,068
Trans to CRC ERO Funds	11,377	23,295
Trans to Detour ERO Funds	11,832	24,226
Transfer CRC DV Funds	-	25,229
Transfer to CRC	291,238	263,942
Transfer to Detour	302,883	274,496
Transfer to Detour DV Funds	-	26,227
Travel /Mileage Reimb	4,612	2,022
Treatment/Medical/Psychological	55,134	78,427
Vehicle Expenses	1,492	-
Vehicle Insurance	2,492	-
Vehicle Lease	1,620	9,768
Video Conferencing	425	420
Wages - Casual / Relief	-	9,320
Wages & Salaries	775,170	779,946
Wages Accrued	7,606	-
WHS and Wellbeing	(1,785)	683
Workers Comp Insur	13,836	11,093
Working from Home - Equip	-	1,042
	2,361,426	2,442,636
Net profit	16,460	50,972

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Appropriation statement

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Net profit	16,460	50,972
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	424,573	373,600
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	441,033	424,573

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Balance sheet

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	974,609	959,850
Trade and other receivables	6	37,189	34,910
Total current assets		1,011,797	994,761
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	7	17,493	27,493
Total non-current assets		17,493	27,493
Total assets		1,029,290	1,022,253
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9	173,955	57,578
Provisions	10	92,548	109,493
Other current liabilities	12	128,337	271,788
Total current liabilities		394,840	438,860
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	10	193,417	158,821
Total non-current liabilities		193,417	158,821
Total liabilities		588,257	597,681
Net assets		441,033	424,573
Members' funds			
Retained earnings		441,033	424,573
Total members' funds		441,033	424,573

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Statement of changes in equity

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Retained earnings		
Opening retained earnings	424,573	373,600
Net profit	16,460	50,972
	441,033	424,573
Total equity	424,573	373,600
Balance as at 01 July 2022	16,460	50,972
Profit	441,033	424,573

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Auditor's independence declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 to the trustee of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2023, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Rolf Garda FCA

Rolf Garda, Reg Company Auditor 4414

5 September 2023

13 Tulip St, Springfield NSW 2250

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Notes to the financial statements

The financial statements cover B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED as an individual entity. B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED is a not-for-profit association incorporated in New South Wales under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 ('the Act').

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were the provision of affordable accommodation, case management, emotional and social support to women at risk of homelessness and living with a mental illness.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial statements 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 financial liabilities.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

2 Summary of significant accounting policies

Income tax

The association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Revenue and other income

Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

Grant revenue

Grant income is recognised when received, unless it is matched to a specific program, then income is brought to account when the program is completed.

Donation revenue

Donations recorded as income when received.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Notes to the financial statements

Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all of the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term. AASB 16 has not been adopted by the client.

The rental expenses for the serviced office at Edgecliff is expenses as incurred.

Lessee accounting

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

The association has chosen not to apply AASB 16 to leases of intangible assets.

At the lease commencement, the association recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the association believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the association's incremental borrowing rate is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the association assessment of lease term.

Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or is recorded profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Notes to the financial statements

Exceptions to lease accounting

The association has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. The association recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Leases

At inception of a contract, the association assesses whether a lease exists.

Lessee accounting

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

At the lease commencement, the association recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the association believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

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Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Exceptions to lease accounting

The association has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. The association recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

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Notes to the financial statements

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

Employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits, those benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high-quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period, the association determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where this indicator exists and regardless for goodwill, indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the assets is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss, except for goodwill.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Notes to the financial statements

	2023 \$	2022 \$
3 Revenue and other income		
Other income		
Donations	37,144	115,636
Other Income DCJ	617,331	637,414
Grants	1,660,139	1,735,119
Other Income	100,416	121,075
	2,356,479	2,493,341
4 Finance income and expenses		
Finance income		
Bank Interest	4,486	63
Interest on Term Deposit	16,922	204
	21,408	267
5 Cash and cash equivalents		
BMWf Cheque #238	17,291	23,097
BMWf On Line Saver #911	305,872	390,348
BMWf Debit Card #235	10,253	9,289
BMWf Debit Card CMI Belma	6,106	6,878
BMWf Debit Card CM2	9,534	6,663
BMWf Debit Card CM3	6,172	4,195
Term Deposit 11/09/22 3.50%	604,391	504,391
Rental Bond	14,991	14,991
	974,609	959,850
6 Trade and other receivables		
Current		
Trade Debtors	-	12,570
Accrued Income	3,479	8,300
Bank Interest Accrued	16,922	-
Prepaid Rent	-	12,139
Prepaid RREAP	16,064	-
Prepaid Expenses	724	1,902
	37,189	34,910

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Notes to the financial statements

	2023 \$	2022 \$
7 Property, plant and equipment		
Motor vehicles		
Mazda Car at Cost	27,493	27,493
Depreciation Mazda	(10,000)	-
	17,493	27,493
Office furniture and equipment		
Office Equipment at cost	15,255	15,255
Office Equip Accum Depn	(15,255)	(15,255)
	-	-
Furniture and fittings		
Furniture & Fixtures at cost	65,048	65,048
Furn & Fittings Accum Depn	(65,048)	(65,048)
	-	-
Household equipment		
Household Equipment at Cost	10,351	10,351
Household Equipment Accum Depn	(10,351)	(10,351)
	-	-
	17,493	27,493

8 Leases

The association as a lessee

The association has a lease over a serviced office in the Edgecliff Business Centre. These payments are all expensed as rental expense as incurred,

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Notes to the financial statements

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
9 Trade and other payables		
Current		
Accrued Expenses	122,471	1,463
Accrued Audit Fees	4,000	3,600
Accrued Wages	17,926	10,320
Accrued Maternity Wage	-	21,360
Trade Creditors	5,912	17,304
GST Liabilities	23,646	3,531
	173,955	57,578

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

10 Provisions

Current

Provision for Annual Leave	92,548	109,493
	92,548	109,493

Non-current

Provision for LSL	193,417	158,821
	193,417	158,821

11 Employee benefits

Current liabilities

Provision for Annual Leave	92,548	109,493
	92,548	109,493

Non-current liabilities

Provision for LSL	193,417	158,821
	193,417	158,821

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Notes to the financial statements

	2023 \$	2022 \$
12 Current		
DCJ - Comm ERO 22/23	58,605	-
DCJ DV Funds	-	97,836
DCJ SSSF 3 (Nov 21 \$150k)	-	104,790
Thyne Reid Donation	53,655	53,655
Inner West Council - Removalists	-	332
PAYG Tax	12,146	14,162
Superannuation Payable	377	377
Superannuation Returned	3,553	636
	128,337	271,788

13 Contingencies

In the opinion of the trustee, the association did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2023 (30 June 2022: None).

14 Events occurring after the reporting date

No matter or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

15 Retained earnings

Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	424,573	373,600
Net profit	16,460	50,972
	441,033	424,573

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Statement of cash flows

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Grants recieved	2,176,151	2,794,174
Fundraising (no GST)	342,040	69,623
Payments to suppliers and employees	(2,507,918)	(2,705,777)
Interest received	4,486	264
Other income	-	2,501
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	14,759	160,785
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of plant and equipment	-	(30,150)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	-	(30,150)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	14,759	130,635
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	959,850	829,215
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	974,609	959,850

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Statement by members of committee

The committee declares that in its opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes for the year ended 30 June 2023, are in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and:
 - a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures; 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 of the association.
2. In the members' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee.



Robyn Fortescue
Chairperson



Brendan Dunne
Treasurer

Dated 5 September 2023

Independent audit report to the members of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the trustee's declaration.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of the association is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure Standard and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of my report. I am independent of the association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the trustee of the association, would be in the same terms if given to the trustee as at the time of this auditor's report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the trustee for the financial report

The trustee 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 Disclosure Standard and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as the trustee 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.

In preparing the financial report, the trustee are responsible for assessing the trustee 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 trustee either intend to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Independent audit report to the members of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My 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 my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with 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 the financial report.



Rolf Garda Registered Auditor 4414

13 Tulip St, Springfield NSW 2250

Dated – 5 September 2023

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

Certificate by members of committee

Annual statements give true and fair view of the financial position of incorporated association.

We, being the members of the Committee of the B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED, certify that -

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2023.



Robyn Fortescue
Chairperson



Brendan Dunne
Treasurer

Dated 5 September 2023

Notes

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Notes

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B Miles Women's Foundation

PO Box 729 Edgecliff NSW 2027

B Miles Women's Foundation hotline:

Ph: 1800 274 984



**B Miles
Women's
Foundation**

bmiles.org.au