



Good Samaritan Industries (GSI)

<i>Chairperson</i>	Trent Bartlett
<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>	Mrs Melanie Kiely
<i>Members appointed by Synod</i>	Mr Christopher Walker (Deputy Chairperson)
	Dr Sue Ulreich (Chair Audit & Risk Committee)
	Mrs Elisa Fear (Chair Investment Committee)
	Mr Michael Patchell
	Mr Steve Price
	Mrs Tamsin Eldridge
	Mr Dom Del Borrello
	Mr Ian Thurbron

We create opportunities for work and independence for people with disabilities

The Constitution requires there be not less than eight nor more than twelve people on the Board, therefore the Good Samaritan Industries (GSI) Board meets this criteria.

During this year, Board Members bade farewell to the CEO, Mr John Knowles, and welcomed on board Mrs Melanie Kiely. We also said goodbye to Rev Craig Collas who stepped down from the Board after three years. We thank him for his very valuable contribution in that time.

It was a significant year for GSI as we celebrated our 60th year in operation with the publication of the book 'A Chance, not Charity' covering the history of the first 35 years of GSI. Staff and the Community celebrated with a service held at Uniting Church in the City attended by over 100 persons and a celebratory staff morning tea in Canning Vale and all retail stores.

We celebrated the International Day of Disability in December 2018 with our Patron, His Excellency the Honourable Kim Beazley AC and The Moderator, Rev Steve Francis, presented the Santos Energy and Sarah Potter Awards to people with disabilities. In all, forty \$1,000 scholarships and awards will assist young people to further their career aspirations.

The Board of GSI was busy during the year discharging its obligations for the responsible and effective governance of GSI:

- *Ensuring sustainability of GSI services.* Through the appropriate management of risk and the effective stewardship of its human and physical resources - GSI net assets have increased by 47% over the last five years - underpinned by another unqualified finance audit by Grant Thornton.
- *Ensuring our services are of high and appropriate quality.* SAI Global conducted an audit on the quality of our services measured against the National Disability Services Standards and we were accredited, as we have been since the inception of these audits in the 1990s.
- *Refining our Strategic Goals.* The Board worked diligently to refine and develop our strategic goals to ensure the appropriate focus on the key capabilities to provide services to people with a disability.
- *Refreshing our brand to improve our reach and impact.* We have commenced a rebranding project to refresh our brand in both our Good Sammy and Options brands and have rebranded four of our stores with the rest to follow this year.
- *Advancing advocacy on national social policy strategy.* To this end, Board members attended the Leaders Forum of UnitingCare Australia in Canberra and continue to contribute through the peak bodies and Uniting Care forums.



- *Working on common areas of focus with other agencies through the UnitingCare WA Forum.* Chaired by Robert Watson, the Chairs and CEOs of UnitingCare West and Juniper have met quarterly to discuss areas of concern.

We continued active participation as an agency of the Uniting Church through:

- *Continued financial support for the Uniting Church Multicultural Ministry* to assist with the good work, bringing people of all backgrounds together in their faith. This is an area we hope to extend in the next year to include closer collaboration around areas of mutual benefit.
- *Financial support for the operations of the Uniting Church WA and Uniting Care Australia* with a financial contribution to their operations.
- *Direct assistance to individuals and communities in need* e.g. The Big Issue, Police & Community Youth Centres for Circus Quirkus tickets for local Special Needs Children and Lions Cancer Institute for tickets to their Special Needs Children's Christmas Big Day.
- *Supported UnitingCare West's Christmas Appeal.*
- *Maintained strong affiliations with Uniting Church congregations, schools, UnitingCare West and Juniper.* We undertook numerous school donation drives and are extremely grateful to the Uniting Churches and fellow agencies that accommodate our donation bins. We currently are trialling a number of initiatives with Rev Alison Gilchrist with local congregations around using recycling drives to bring communities into the congregations.

We continue to positively impact the lives of our employees and clients with disabilities by supporting them to be actively included in their community through work, skills development and support:

- *We helped a total of 786 people with disabilities:*
 - Employing 291 people with disabilities at GSI.
 - Assisting 495 people with training, work experience, scholarships or support to achieve employability and independence goals.

The last year was an exciting and busy time for GSI Operations:

- *We opened new stores in Butler and Wanneroo.* All stores are proving successful while employing many people with disabilities and delivering valuable and affordable retail services to local communities.
- *We continued to support our clients* as they transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.
- *We grew our School to Employment Program* for young people with a disability, with 139 students participating. Feedback from graduates continues to be very positive. Two complimentary school training programs were also provided to 200 Year's 10 to 13 students with disabilities from a range of metropolitan public and private schools.
- *We built on the generous support of our private sector partners and benevolent funds.* We were greatly assisted during the year by Santos Limited and Smartfleet who all provided significant financial support for GSI during the year. These relationships are very important as they profile the work of GSI and allows GSI the opportunity to be open about and proud of our belonging as an agency of the Uniting Church.
- *Celebrated the WA Disability Enterprises* now delivering \$65m in State and Local Government contracts since 2012, providing quality work and a positive impact for people with disabilities.
- *Took part in National Volunteer Week* by acknowledging our 200+ volunteers with a morning tea at their place of work where they also received a small gift.
- *Conducted our annual staff Christmas Ball* with the highlight being the celebration of our two Employees of the Year – William Holland and Carol Kennedy – Canning Vale and our Volunteer of the Year – Carol Scothern – Kwinana Good Sammy Store.

- *Training for staff and volunteers remains a high priority* for GSI with over 600 attendances at a variety of staff training sessions throughout the year.

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In achieving all this, we would like to acknowledge the support everyone that makes our impact possible:

The Commonwealth Department of Social Services, the Education Department, the Department of Communities, the National Disability Insurance Agency, WA Police Force and Waste Authority for providing significant funding that has allowed us to achieve our mission and deliver quality services to that meet the needs of people with disabilities, their families and carers.

Finally, GSI thanks all its board members, staff, volunteers, congregations, sponsors and donors throughout Western Australia who have supported us in the last year. With their support, we aim to ensure GSI continues to make a positive difference to the lives of people with a disability.

Melanie Kiely
Chief Executive Officer
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