



CARMEL
Impact

2020
ANNUAL REPORT



Transforming Lives, Building Communities, *Together*

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CHAIR OF THE BOARD REPORT

In 2020, the Carmelites of Australia and Timor-Leste began operating their recently established Public Benevolent Institution (PBI), Carmel Impact Ltd, with the specific purpose of raising funds to support the development of people in impoverished circumstances, especially in Timor-Leste.

The Carmelites, as an 800+ year old international Religious Order of the Catholic Church, have a long history of service to people in need. Over the last 20 years, that service has extended from Australia to Timor-Leste where we recognize that quality education is key to people having more opportunities to build sustainable, meaningful and happy lives for themselves and their children.

Our focus has been on supporting young people to access both formal and informal educational and other life skill opportunities. We have done this by developing schools; by opening a boarding house for children who would not otherwise be able to attend a local school; by offering scholarships at secondary and tertiary levels; and by supporting community building and leadership opportunities for young people. Our programs help them to cultivate the confidence and capacity to manage and develop their own lives productively and to live and work effectively as a community.

We are focused on facilitating young people to manage their own lives and to develop the skills to live and work together peacefully, creatively and productively for the creation of a better future for their whole community.

We are inviting our collaborators and supporters in Australia and overseas to join us in working towards the realisation of this vision.

As a company that has DGR status, Carmel Impact is able to offer people and organizations in Australia tax deductibility for their donations in support of this humanitarian work. We are grateful for and heartened by the generosity of those who have supported our work to date, even before the benefit of tax deductibility. With Carmel Impact now operational, we hope that many others will join in supporting our endeavours so that we can continue to build on the firm foundations already laid to advance the development of the people of Timor-Leste.



Fr. Paul Cahill O'Carroll
Chair of the Board
Prior Provincial



CARMEL IMPACT AT A GLANCE

OUR VISION

Building a future in which East Timorese people have pathways to quality education and more opportunities.

OUR MISSION

Carmel Impact is a Christian Charity working together with communities in Timor-Leste to help them transform their lives through education and youth engagement. Together we build grass roots relationships so we can better serve the people who need it most. We are committed to creating lasting positive change in Timor-Leste.

OUR COMMUNITY

Carmel Impact is a community of like-minded people who believe that everyone deserves a chance for a better life; therefore we work with people who are facing economic and life challenges. We build tomorrow's leaders by creating lasting change together.

We invite supporters, partners and friends to join with us to work with the East Timorese people in practical ways which build stronger relationships and empower them to fulfil their purpose and potential in life.

Throughout our rich Carmelite history over eight centuries, we have inspired people to make a positive difference in the world through tackling adversity and championing justice through prayer, community, and action.

We support the Carmelite Friars of Australia and Timor-Leste in their service of others.



CARMEL IMPACT AT A GLANCE

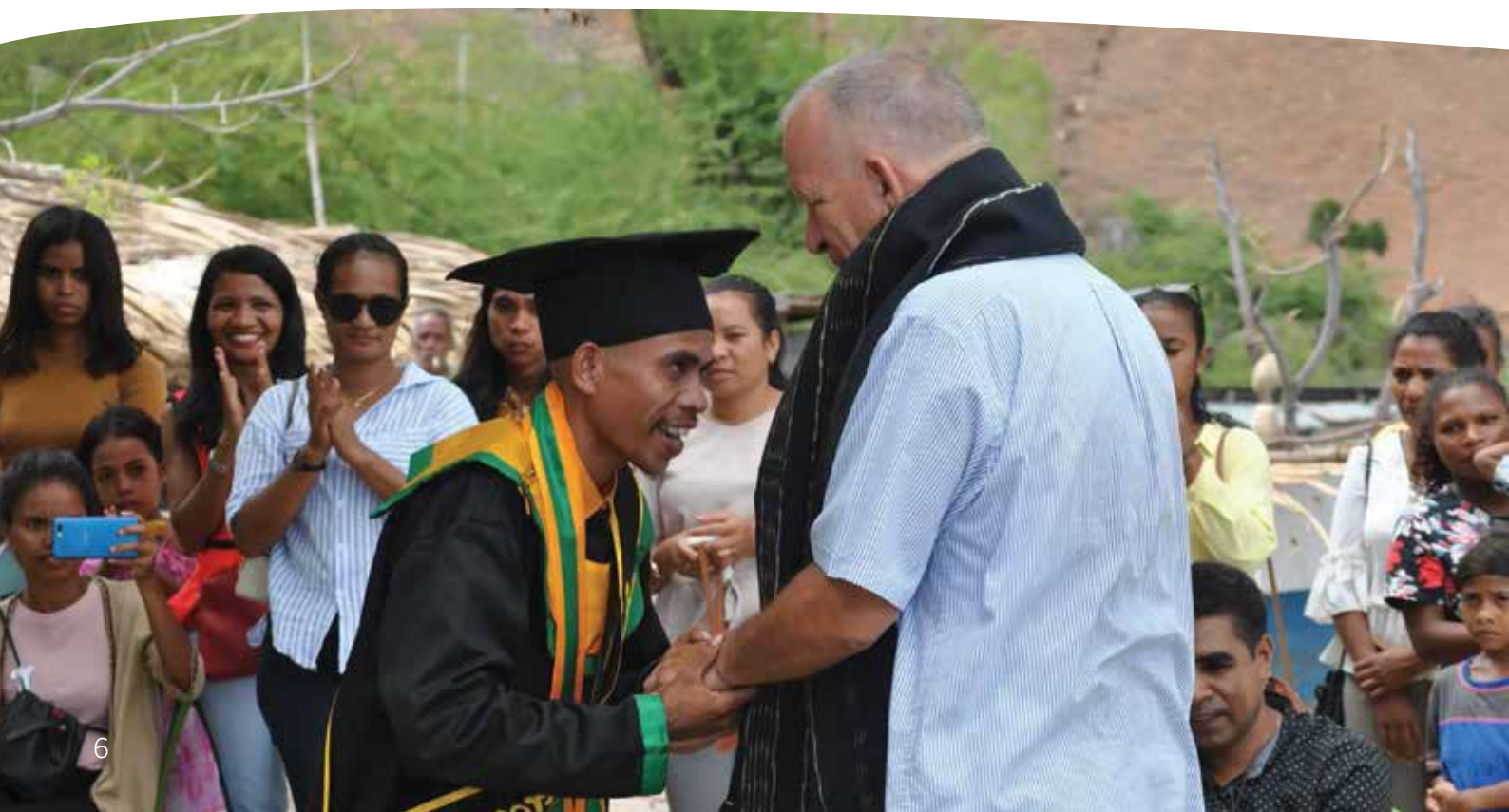


OUR LOGO

Our logo was inspired by the Icon of Mary 'La Bruna' whose origins come from Mount Carmel, the place where the Carmelites were founded. The logo is made up of three key elements; the organic shapes and colours inspired by the icon come together to make a heart and represent Mount Carmel; the stars connect Carmel Impact to the three Carmelite pillars of prayer, community, and service; the hands illustrate God's loving hands, together with ours in giving, supporting and guiding.

OUR DUAL CONNECTION

Carmel Impact is a charity established by The Carmelites of Australia and Timor-Leste to help those in need.



OUR VALUES

Our patron Mary our Mother and Sister, guides us in our service to all of God's people. Through her wisdom we embrace these values:

Humanity: We are a people of mercy and compassion, strong in justice and in our care for all people.

Service: We share our gifts for ministry, and service with our community.

Communication: We engage with people openly fostering a relationship of mutual enrichment, understanding, solidarity, respect and participation.

Integrity: We receive with humility resources entrusted to us and work with communities conscientiously and responsibly.





OUR IMPACT

In 2020, Carmel Impact's education and youth activities achieved significant impact, both on individual peoples' lives and whole communities, in the face of the multitude of challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Timor-Leste recorded its first confirmed COVID-19 case on 21st March 2020. This marked the beginning of disrupted program activities for many months, as the East Timorese government implemented a state of emergency. Due to decisive national public health leadership, there was no significant increase in coronavirus cases in Timor over the year.

Carmel Impact was able to respond flexibly to the emerging situation, diverting program funds from some areas to implement an emergency response. Throughout this year our focus remained on improving access to education and engaging with youth, within the context of the pandemic. It was inspiring and humbling to see how Carmelite Brothers, staff and students in Timor responded creatively and with compassion.

With schools in Zumalai closed for several months, local teachers worked hard to create learning material that students could take home. Several teachers also initiated online classes for students who could access the internet. When schools reopened, teachers introduced new daily handwashing practices using the new water tanks and taps that had been installed.

While some university courses went online, many of our Community Scholarship students were supported to return home to their rural communities where they worked in their family's homes and vegetable gardens. Several also supported their communities, such as Reinha, a public health student who volunteered at her local health centre during the lockdown.

At the Tito Brandsma boarding house, several students had no family to return home to. They were cared for throughout, provided with a safe place to live and play during an uncertain time. These students also volunteered to learn how to use a sewing machine and made masks to donate to local frontline workers.



OUR IMPACT

EMERGENCY COVID-19 RESPONSE

Carmelite Brothers worked throughout 2020 to support program beneficiaries and local community members through the challenges of the pandemic. This work complemented our other programs, as we continued to work with communities with whom the Carmelites have built long-term relationships.

COVID SAFE HYGIENE

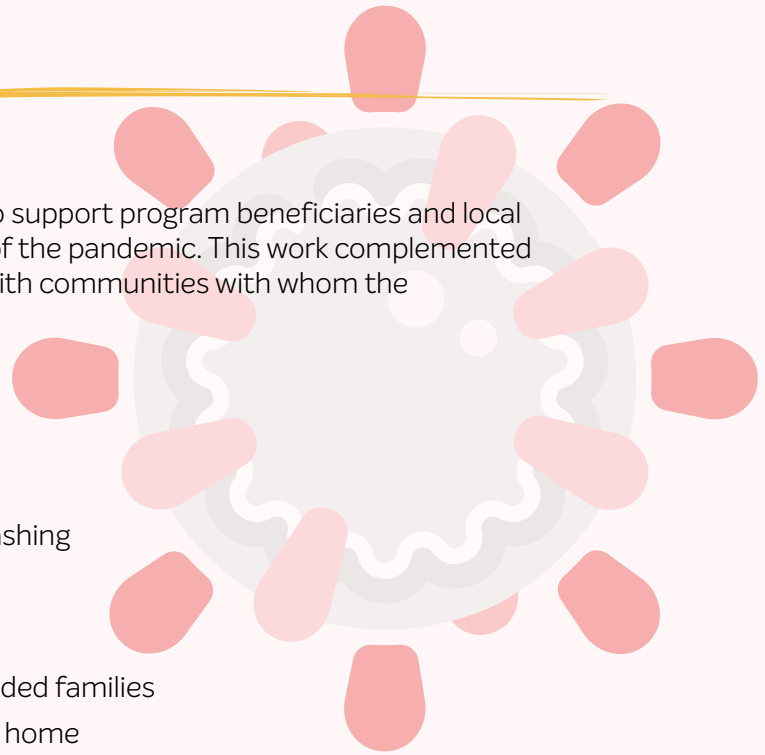
- 800+ masks sewn and distributed
- 9 new tap stands set up at 3 schools
- 500+ students access soap for daily handwashing
- 40+ teachers receive hygiene kits

LOCKDOWN SUPPORT

- 8 staff received additional support for extended families
- 10+ students received travel funds to return home
- 7 students provided ongoing accommodation
- 40+ families received food parcels

LONG-TERM PREPARATIONS

- 3 large chest freezers purchased for long-term food storage at student accommodation
- Seeds, gardening tools, and animals purchased to enable sustainable provision of food for students
- 600kg+ rice purchased for distribution and food security





LA BRUNA SCHOLARSHIPS

The Carmelites have been facilitating the education of East Timorese men in Australia and Timor-Leste for over a decade. This program provides access to schooling and accommodation in a supportive and encouraging environment, with a focus on three specific areas of education:

- A Bachelor of Philosophy degree at a university in Timor-Leste
- A Masters degree at a university in Australia
- An English for Academic Purposes course in Australia

Agedo is enrolled in a Masters in Education degree at the Australian Catholic University.

"The system, curriculum and the way education is implemented here in Australia is really different from Timor. I think the student-centred learning approach is important to understand. The teacher is there to guide the students so they can discover things for themselves."



1 student @
Masters in Education
Degree in Australia



28 students @
Bachelor of Philosophy
Degree in Timor

OUR IMPACT

COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIPS

Carmel Impact supported 12 young women and 15 young men in Timor-Leste to

1. Access basic education (high school)
2. Develop skills for their future livelihoods (vocational training and university)
3. Attend an annual learning workshop and online student group

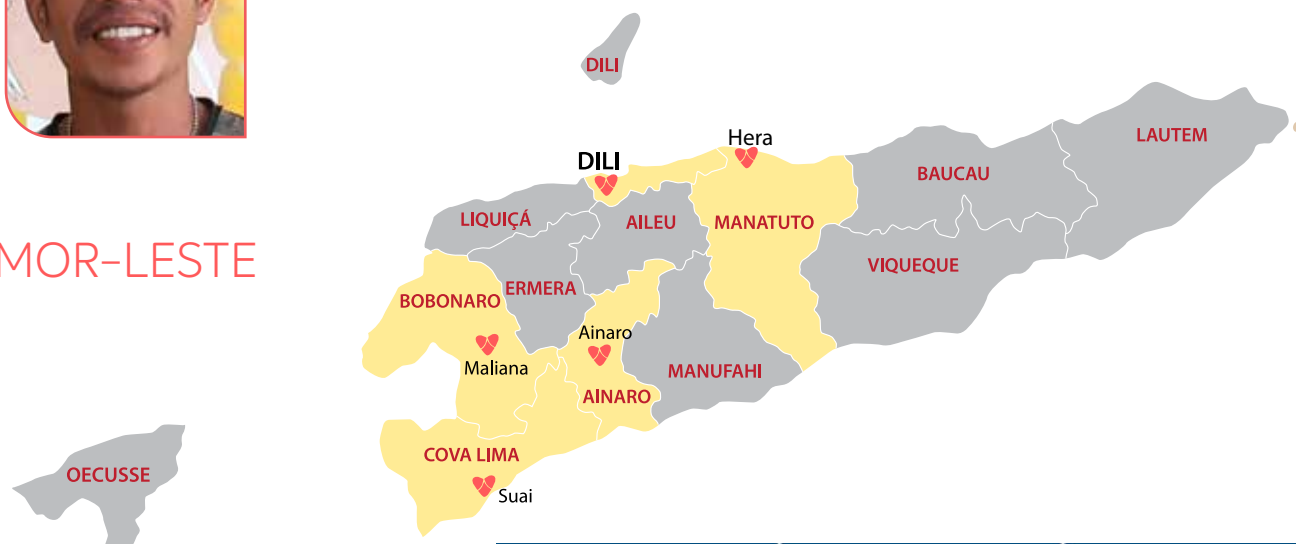
Priority candidates for these scholarships are students from rural communities in Timor-Leste who are poor, orphaned or have special needs.

When Sofia (pictured right) finished Year 9 in Zumalai, the Carmelite Brothers knew that she was a smart and engaged student, but would need support to complete school as both her parents had passed away. She began receiving a Community Scholarship in 2016 to complete high school. In 2020, Sofia continued to excel in her studies, completing her second year of a Bachelor of Nutrition at the National University of Timor-Leste.



Congratulations! In 2020 Julito graduated with a Bachelor of Information Management (ICT) at the Institute of Business and Sabino completed a Bachelor of Petroleum Engineering at Dili Institute of Technology.

TIMOR-LESTE



♥ Locations of study:

- Dili (university and high school);
- Hera (high school);
- Ainaro (high school);
- Suai (high school);
- Maliana (vocational training and high school).





Level of Study	No. of Students in 2020	Age Range
High School	9	12-19 y/o
Vocational Training	2	15-20 y/o
University	16	18-30 y/o

BOARDING HOUSE

While many villages in rural areas have a local primary school that provides education to Year 6 level, students need to move to Sub-District or District centres to continue their education. This presents a challenge for many families. The Carmelite's have responded to this need by establishing the Beato Tito Brandsma College boarding house, situated in Sub-District Zumalai, Timor-Leste.

Managed by the Director, Br. Antonio Olavio Exposto and Assistant Director, Fr. Pedro Amaral, the boarding house provides a nurturing environment for learning and well-being. The students are independent and self-regulating, learning to balance their studies along with daily chores such as gardening, helping with the cooking, and baking bread. They attend school at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School, situated next to the boarding house.

Year Level Students in 2020

Primary School	2	
Year 7	6	
Year 8	9	
Year 9	6	



OUR IMPACT

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Carmelites have been actively supporting a network of Catholic schools in Zumalai Sub-District, Timor-Leste, since 2002. Br. Antonio Olavio Exposto is the school principal for all three schools and works closely with the teachers and families to improve the quality of education being provided.

In 2020, Carmel Impact supported 19 volunteer teachers with monthly subsidy payments. With a shortage of teachers employed by the Ministry of Education in Timor, volunteer teachers contribute enormously to the proper functioning of these schools.

"I started volunteering at the Catholic school in Raimea village in 2017. I teach English to Yr 7 – Yr 9 students. I had some time off when my baby was born, but I'm back teaching again now. As a teacher, I want my students to be successful. For me everything is for the students. We want to see them achieve things in their lives."

Aurelia, Volunteer Teacher



School	Class Range	Location	Students	Teachers
Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic School	Yr 1 – Yr 9	Zumalai Village	274	29
St Francis Xavier Catholic School	Yr 1 – Yr 9	Raimea Village	122	17
Our Lady of Fatima Catholic School	Yr 1 – Yr 6	Beco Village	119	5

We provide a range of modern and contextually relevant teaching resources sourced from both Timor-Leste and Australia that are in-line with the national curriculum requirements. In 2020 the focus was on athletics equipment: shot puts; relay batons; discus; hurdles; team bibs; and storage containers were sent to Zumalai on a container ship.

A big thank you to Paul Mulligan and Retail First in Brisbane who donated 15 desktop computers to Carmel Impact programs in Timor in 2020.

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

There has been a history of youth disengagement in Zumalai, including problems with fighting, drunken behaviour and conflict between martial arts groups. With a median age of 19.5 years, the young people of Zumalai are the largest population group but face some of the toughest challenges with minimal access to community resources.

The Christmas Youth Engagement activities are organized by the youth themselves, with support and monitoring by Br. Antonio. A Youth Organising Committee works together with local leaders to ensure youth from communities throughout Zumalai are able to participate. This project started in 2018 under the Carmelites' Community Development program and in 2020 was incorporated into Carmel Impact.

"In 2020 we have 22 clubs registered. Everyone is so active to get themselves ready. The teams train together and they put in their own money to make sure everyone on the team has soccer boots and socks."

Amau, Local Youth Leader

2018 – 358
young people

2019 – 758
young people

2020 – 492
young people





MEET OUR CARMEL IMPACT FAMILY

While Carmel Impact is a new charity arm for The Carmelites of Australia and Timor-Leste, our supporters have been actively assisting our work in Timor-Leste since 2001. Our diverse family of supporters includes donors, supporters, parishes, schools, support groups, community groups, volunteers, overseas partners, trusts and staff. All are passionate about Carmel Impact's vision of building a future in which the Timorese people have pathways to quality education and more life opportunities.

Meet our beacons of light, who through their passion to make a positive impact in the lives of our East Timorese neighbours, are giving hope to young people to realise their dreams.

FRANK AND EVELYN AIELLO

Frank and Evelyn Aiello were motivated by their desire to start a five year Memorial Scholarship in honour of their son Achille that would give life changing skills to young women.

'We want to bring young women forward in their community, and provide them with a training course which teaches them practical skills. We would like to select two young women each year who are passionate and want to give back to their communities.' Frank said.

Frank and Evelyn understand that empowering young women with the skills and knowledge they need to start a small business or work locally in their own community is life changing and contributes to their local economy while allowing them to break the poverty cycle.



They have a strong belief that when you educate a woman you educate a community. Earning an income allows women to afford proper healthcare for themselves and their families and they become examples for their own children encouraging them to pursue an education.

The vocational scholarship course they chose focuses on sewing, cooking and life skills like managing a budget and improving literacy and numeracy level.

'Even if this course allows these young women to support their own household in their parenting roles, then we feel thrilled that we are contributing to the important role that women have as pillars of their own families. The impact of educating women can be profound and we are thrilled to be involved in this program.'

**Over 800 donors have hit milestone years of giving between
5 to 30 years in support of those we serve.**

GRANTS

Two grants assist our Community Scholarship and Leadership Development Programs

The Carmelite Order worldwide has established organisations that work to uphold actions in the areas of justice, peace and integrity of creation throughout the globe. As part of their global plan for 2019–2025, they have collaborated with the Carmelite NGOs to promote Sustainable Development Goals in Carmelite ministries around the world focusing on education, religious freedom and human rights.



Carmel Impact's partnership with the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Commission, based in the United States has been a blessing. JPIC has a strong focus on human wellbeing inspired by God's love and guidance to prayer and transformative action. It is their belief in transformative action that has an aligned synergy with the work Carmel Impact undertakes in Timor-Leste.

In 2020 we were able to secure two grants of \$10,000 USD each, one to support our Community Scholarship program for local young people, and the other for our safeguarding children project to be implemented in 2021. These grants have made a vast impact on these programs. We are eternally grateful to this on-going partnership and support.

MEET OUR CARMEL IMPACT FAMILY

MAKING A LIFE-CHANGING GIFT



June was a school teacher for her entire professional life, teaching at senior level for most of her career. Her passion for education was unmistakable and even after retirement and in her eighties, she volunteered at a primary school keeping her passion for education alive and guiding the next generation of young inquisitive minds hungry to learn.

It was during this time that June developed a relationship with our then Timor Mission Coordinator and became aware that the children in Timor-Leste don't have the same opportunities as the children in Australia. She wanted to be an instrument of change for these children and she deeply cared about the Carmelites and our work in education. She believed in our work to ensure that young children can continue their education and go to school to realise their own dreams of a better future for themselves and their families.

June wanted to be part of this vision and her generous act of leaving a significant Gift in her Will for the education of the children in the Carmelite school in Zumalai was born from her understanding that poverty impacts the choices children have in developing countries. Through her financial gift and passion for education, she wanted to bring more learning opportunities and equality to those that need it most in Timor-Leste, the next generation of young minds.

Whether you help Carmel Impact through a single gift, regular giving, organising fundraisers, being an advocate by spreading our message, the power of prayer or by leaving a lasting Gift in your Will, the Carmelites and our beneficiaries say 'Thank You'.



Tony describes himself as a humble private man, with a deep love to help children receive and pursue an education.

When Tony was young, his own education journey was challenging. He was told that he was not smart enough to attend a private secondary school but that did not stop his pursuit of his own education pathway. *'No-one should be defined by parameters that limit opportunities'* says Tony.

On leaving school, Tony took up an apprenticeship as a fitter and turner and continued to educate himself across several fields of study to build his knowledge and skills, even while raising his family.

Eventually, Tony became the head operations engineer for one of Victoria's largest companies.

'I understand how crucial education is and that my own maturity in my youth would have been different had I been given a great Christian education. It would have helped me develop a better spiritual and educational balance. Everyone deserves that.'

'It gives me great pleasure, knowing I can assist, children, youth and the young Carmelite men with their schooling. I honestly feel empathy, and love in my heart knowing that I am entrusting their education to "ALL" the Carmelites in Timor-Leste.'

Tony's deep connection to the Carmelites goes back to his childhood, and was further strengthened in 2018 after a period of illness. This has led Tony to include the Carmelites in his Will so that his legacy can continue to promote social justice and equality for the people of Timor-Leste.

(June's name has been changed to protect her privacy)

BR. SEAN KEEFE – A TRUE AMBASSADOR FOR TIMOR-LESTE

The Carmelite family and friends of Sean Keefe were saddened this year by his sudden illness and death on Wednesday 6 January 2021. Sean died peacefully after a short battle with cancer. It was a love for community, education and social justice that brought Sean to Whitefriars College in 2001, where he joined the staff as Chaplain and teacher. And it was that same love that resulted in Sean working tirelessly to raise awareness and much-needed funds for the young people in Timor-Leste, in particular the Carmelite students.

When Sean first visited Timor-Leste in 2004, he was struck by the poverty experienced there everyday, especially in the rural Carmelite parish of Zumalai.

'Many families can't afford to pay for schooling let alone a university education for their children, if we can provide an education for these young people, they can get a job and support their families' he said.

Sean subsequently visited Timor many times and worked tirelessly to support programs there.

Sean was a Carmelite, brother, relative, neighbour, mentor, dear friend and esteemed colleague to many in Australia, Timor-Leste, USA and around the world. As we mourn Sean's loss from our midst, we rejoice in the gift he was to us and the legacy of love he has left behind.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

2020
ANNUAL REPORT

OUR FINANCIALS

I am pleased to present to you this summary of our financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2020. Independent auditor Seward Dawson has audited the financial statements, which were prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

In its first full year of operations, Carmel Impact approved \$347,000 funding for projects. This was largely funded through \$271,000 in donations, overseas trusts & foundations, and bequests. In addition, Carmel Impact received financial support from the Carmelites province of Australia & Timor-Leste, whose contribution funded the cost of fundraising, project management and administration. This enabled 100% of the dollars donated to be utilised for the designated projects in Timor-Leste.



Damien Cairns
Business Manager
The Carmelites Australia & Timor-Leste

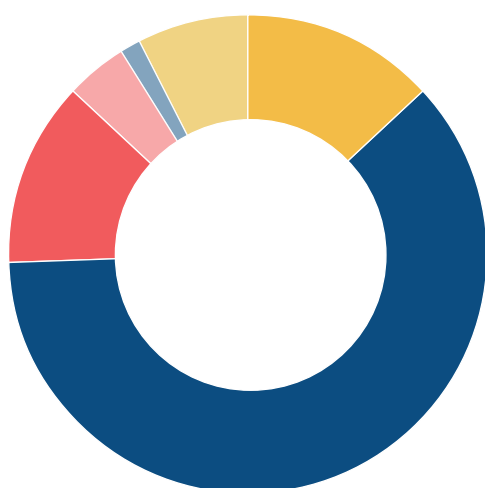


CARMEL IMPACT INCOME

Donations – \$109,688

Trusts, Foundations & Bequests – \$161,287

CARMEL IMPACT PROGRAM



Community Scholarships – 13.14%

La Bruna Scholarships – 61.5%

Tito Brandsma Boarding House – 12.37% (\$36,254)

Catholic Schools – 4.18% (\$12,262)

Youth Engagement – 1.42% (\$4,169)

Covid-19 Response – 7.36% (\$21,569)

Total spent on programs = \$292,970

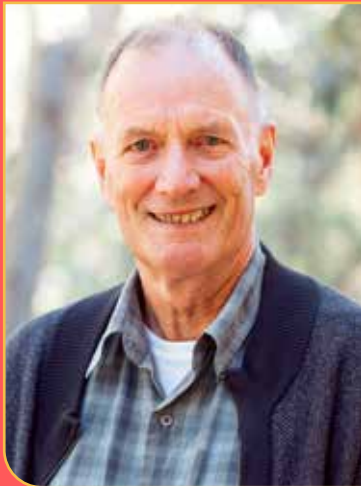
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Carmel Impact Ltd Profit & Loss For the year ended 31st December 2020

	Actual 2020 \$
Income	
Donations	109,688
Trusts & Foundations	161,287
Total Income	270,975
Approved project funding to CFIV	
La Bruna Scholarships (Schooling - Australia)	18,150
La Bruna Scholarships (Re-imburse Community - Students)	36,911
La Bruna Scholarships (Living Expenses - Timor Leste)	125,151
Community Scholarships	38,504
Boarding House	36,254
Zumalai Schools	12,262
Youth Engagement	4,169
Community Development Co-ordinator	36,786
COVID19 - Response	21,569
Audit	4,464
General expenses	294
Capital Costs	12,850
Total Funds Approved	347,364
Surplus/(Deficit)	-76,389



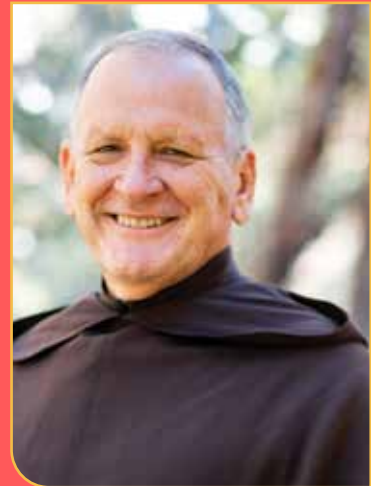
GOVERNANCE



Denis Andrew
Director



Hugh Brown
Director



Bruce Clark
Director



Martinho da Costa
Director



Paul Cahill
Director &
Prior Provincial

Carmel Impact Limited is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC).

Carmel Impact Limited is an incorporated company limited by guarantee.



CONTACT US

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To support the projects contained in this report and more visit us online at: www.carmelimpact.org.au

THANK YOU

Thank you to all our supporters for your generous contributions towards young people and education programs in Timor-Leste.