



ANNUAL REPORT

FINANCIAL YEAR 2024



St. Merkorius
Charity



TACKLING POVERTY AT ITS ROOTS

OUR VISION

Our vision is to address poverty at its root. While tackling food insecurity is often the first step, we understand that poverty creates a harmful domino effect. That's why we strive to create lasting change in the lives of those facing hardship — by not only meeting urgent needs but also empowering individuals to break the cycle of poverty for good.

OUR MISSION

At St. Merkorious Charity, our mission is simple: to relieve hunger and poverty by providing access to nutritious food, clothing, and essential everyday items. Beyond meeting immediate needs, we also offer advice and referrals to support people on their journey toward long-term stability and independence.

- Provide over 4,000 nourishing meals each week to community members in need
- Collect donations of food and essential items
- Promote community development through events, fundraisers, and workshops
- Offer a welcoming environment with support and companionship
- Support marginalised and vulnerable groups, including migrants, refugees, asylum seekers, people experiencing or at risk of homelessness, victims of crises, and individuals with disabilities

OUR GUIDING VALUES

Respect, Compassion, Duty, Action.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on this financial year, I am deeply grateful for the progress, partnerships, and community spirit that have defined our journey. St. Merkorious Charity (SMC) has grown in its mission to combat food insecurity, foster social inclusion, and empower the vulnerable.

This year's milestones, including events like Day at the Bay 2023 and the Harbour Cruise Fundraiser, have been vital for raising funds and awareness. The success of these initiatives is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our volunteers, donors, and partners. Highlights such as the "2000 Meals a Week" initiative and our international projects, like the International Blanket Project, demonstrate our global reach and compassion.

Securing \$8.69 million from the NSW Government's Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program has been transformative. This funding will enable us to establish a state-of-the-art Food Distribution Centre and Sustainable Community Garden in Strathfield South, revolutionizing how we tackle food insecurity across Greater Sydney.

Our achievements reflect the generosity of our community. Your support has turned challenges into opportunities and expanded our impact. As we look to the future, with the opening of our new centre, we are ready to deepen our connections and enhance our programs.

Thank you for your belief in our mission. Together, we will continue spreading hope, compassion, and dignity to those who need it most.

Paula Nicolas

Paula Nicolas

President and Founder



**“WHEN A POOR PERSON DIES OF HUNGER,
IT HAS NOT HAPPENED BECAUSE GOD DID
NOT TAKE CARE OF HIM OR HER.**

**IT HAS HAPPENED BECAUSE NEITHER YOU
NOR I WANTED TO GIVE THAT PERSON
WHAT HE OR SHE NEEDED.”**

MOTHER TERESA

BOARD



Paula Nicolas
Founder & President



Dorian Sarkissian
Vice President



Patrick Chow
Treasurer



Wally Mehanna
Secretary

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE



Daniel Nicolas OAM



Diah Shaker



Michael Malak

ADVISORY COMMITTEE



Colette Assaf



Fadia Ghossayn



Lara Nicolas



Nelly Mawad



Hala Shashati



Rosa Hanna

OFFICE STAFF



Amira Fanous
Office Manager



Jackie Malak
Office Administrator



Joya Nicolas
Sports Ambassador



Morad Wasile
Development Manager

SUPPORT TEAM



Christie Nicolas
Social Media



Mike Dalzell
Risk Management Officer

YEAR IN REVIEW

The past year has been a remarkable period of growth and impact for St. Merkorious Charity (SMC). Through a combination of strategic events, innovative initiatives, and dedicated outreach services, SMC has continued its mission to address food insecurity, foster social connection, and uplift vulnerable populations.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the unwavering support of volunteers, donors, and corporate partners. This report highlights the charity's key milestones, achievements, and future plans.

OUR FOOD RELIEF

St Merkorious Charity's primary service is our Food Relief program. What began in 2013 with our founder, Paula Nicolas, preparing meals from her home kitchen to support local families has expanded significantly. Today, we deliver a range of food services to the community, providing over 4,000 meals each week to those in need across Sydney.

FRESH & DRY HAMPERS

Thanks to the support of our partners—Woolworths, OzHarvest, SecondBite, and Foodbank—we receive generous donations of fresh produce and essential goods from local grocery stores. These contributions enable us to distribute fresh and staple food hampers to hundreds of hungry Sydneysiders across Greater Sydney each week.

FRESH MEALS

Using our commercial-grade kitchen, our charity prepares nutritious meals every week, delivering them fresh to families and individuals in need.

SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUBS

By supporting local schools, our charity supplies ingredients to dozens of schools, enabling students to prepare delicious and nutritious breakfasts for their peers.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND MILESTONES

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

SMC organized impactful events that brought communities together while raising vital funds to support its mission:



DAY AT THE BAY - SEPTEMBER 2023

Held at Leichhardt Oval, this annual event celebrated unity and compassion, featuring food, entertainment, and family-friendly activities. Over \$288,000 in sponsorships was raised, with contributions from major sponsors, cementing its success as a community cornerstone.



NCPA TRADE SHOW AND GALA DINNER - OCTOBER 2023

SMC participated in this high-profile event at the ICC, generating \$160,000 through sponsorships and raising awareness about its initiatives. Terra Ferma's sponsorship and the booth showcasing SMC's work played a pivotal role in connecting with childcare operators, businesses, and potential long-term supporters.



HARBOUR CRUISE FUNDRAISER - NOVEMBER 2023

A highlight of the year, this exclusive event on Sydney Harbour aimed to promote SMC's "2000 Meals a Week" initiative. Sponsored by Terra Ferma, the cruise brought together high-profile guests, corporate leaders, and sponsors, creating a platform for engagement and awareness. The evening featured speeches, videos showcasing SMC's impact, and networking opportunities. The cruise demonstrated SMC's ability to attract key stakeholders and secure critical funding to sustain its outreach programs.



STREET FEASTS - NOVEMBER 2023

Partnering with Payce Foundation and Paynter Dixon, the Sydney Catholic Archdiocese, the Justice of the Peace Office, and the Parramatta Catholic Diocese, SMC hosted events in Parramatta and Sydney, providing meals, entertainment, and support to disadvantaged individuals.



CHRISTMAS APPEAL - DECEMBER 2023

This annual campaign rallied schools, businesses, and individuals to collect and distribute hampers filled with food, hygiene products, and other essentials. Notable contributors included Liverpool Boys High, St. Brendan's Catholic Primary School, FedEx, Nestlé, and Montessori Academy. Volunteers worked tirelessly to pack and deliver the hampers, ensuring families in need experienced the joy of the season.



INTERNATIONAL BLANKET PROJECT - APRIL 2024

In collaboration with our valuable partner Rotary International who donated 14,000 blankets, SMC facilitated the folding of the blankets aimed to be shipped to Egypt, Lebanon, and Zimbabwe. Approximately 200 volunteers contributed to this global outreach effort, ensuring warmth and comfort for those in need.



11-YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - JUNE 2024

Celebrating over a decade of service, this event featured live performances, auctions, and heartfelt reflections from volunteers, donors, and sponsors. It provided an opportunity to reflect on SMC's achievements and to secure additional support for future initiatives.

ONGOING OUTREACH SERVICES

SMC's regular outreach programs remain the foundation of its operations, consistently serving vulnerable individuals across Greater Sydney.



Adam Doeuhi from NRL Wests Tigers

PARRAMATTA OUTREACH - MONDAY EVENINGS

Weekly distribution of approximately 80 hot meals and care packs, coupled with warm fellowship, fosters a sense of belonging for those in need.



FAIRFIELD SERVICE - MONDAY LUNCHTIMES

Focused on culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) communities, this program serves approximately 70 locals with meals, morning tea, and opportunities for social connection.



WOOLLOOMOOLOO OUTREACH - FRIDAY EVENINGS

Volunteers provide hot meals, hygiene products, and clothing to approximately individuals weekly, creating a safe and welcoming environment.



RHODES OUTREACH SERVICE - MONTHLY

A monthly sit-down meal service for approximately 80 rough sleepers, including free haircuts, clean clothing, and takeaway hampers, promotes dignity and connection for vulnerable individuals.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND GRANTS

This year marked significant progress in expanding SMC's capacity to serve the community:



NEW DISTRIBUTION CENTRE – A MASSIVE MILESTONE FOR ST. MERKORIOUS CHARITY **Funded by the NSW Government's Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program**

We are proud to share a landmark achievement for St. Merkorious Charity (SMC). Through the support of the NSW Government and the Western Sydney Infrastructure Grants Program, SMC was awarded \$8.69 million in February 2023, to establish a new Food Distribution Centre and Sustainable Community Garden at 121 Cosgrove Rd, Strathfield South.

This significant investment represents more than infrastructure—it represents a strengthened commitment to food security and social support for vulnerable individuals and families across Greater Sydney. With the capacity to provide up to 15,000 meals per week, the new centre will enhance our operational efficiency and expand our reach to those most in need.

The project will also serve as SMC's central headquarters, referral programs, and volunteer coordination. In addition, the integrated community garden will support long-term sustainability through fresh produce cultivation and community engagement initiatives.

We extend our sincere thanks to the NSW Government for recognising the value of our work and investing in its growth. Their support is instrumental in helping us build a more resilient, inclusive, and compassionate community.

GRANTS

BURWOOD COUNCIL – COMMUNITY GRANTS 2022–2023 (\$5,000) 29/6/23

St. Merkorious Charity extends our heartfelt thanks to Burwood Council for awarding us a \$5,000 Community Grant as part of their 2022–2023 funding round. This generous support has enabled us to continue our partnership with Burwood Community Corrections, where we provide freshly prepared, nutritious meals and ongoing assistance to individuals working to reintegrate into society. The funding has strengthened our ability to deliver care with dignity, and we are truly grateful for the Council's ongoing commitment to creating a more inclusive, supportive, and compassionate community.

SISTERS OF CHARITY FOUNDATION (\$15,000) 26/7/23

With deep appreciation, St. Merkorious Charity acknowledges the generous \$15,000 grant from the Sisters of Charity Foundation. This crucial funding powers our “Bringing Hope” initiative, which connects vulnerable individuals with the dedicated support of a social worker. Through this program, we can assist people in crisis not only with meals and basic necessities, but with long-term pathways toward stability, healing, and independence. Thanks to the Sisters of Charity, we are not just meeting needs—we are restoring dignity and renewing hope in the lives of those we serve.

COOPERS FOUNDATION (\$30,000) 28/6/23

St. Merkorious Charity is proud to acknowledge the Coopers Foundation for their generous grant of \$30,000. This funding has gone directly towards the purchase of essential food supplies, enabling us to prepare and deliver nourishing meals and hampers to families and individuals across our service areas who are facing food insecurity. In a time when demand continues to rise, this support has made a significant difference in our capacity to care for those most in need. We thank the Coopers Foundation for standing with us in our mission to feed the hungry and uplift the vulnerable.

CLUB GRANT – LIVERPOOL COUNCIL (\$15,000) 8/8/23

We are deeply thankful to the Liverpool Council Club Grant program for their generous grant of \$15,000. This funding has been instrumental in delivering our Breakfast Club to local schools across the Liverpool LGA. Through this initiative, students receive a nutritious start to their day, which is vital for learning, concentration, and wellbeing. By addressing hunger in schools, we are supporting not just physical health, but educational engagement and community growth. We are proud to work alongside Liverpool Council in fostering a brighter future for young people.

GRANTS

CLUB GRANT – CANTERBURY LEAGUE CLUB (\$5,000) 14/7/23

St. Merkorious Charity gratefully acknowledges the support of the Canterbury League Club for their generous \$5,000 grant through the Club Grant program. These funds have contributed directly to the expansion of our Food Relief Program within the Canterbury region. With this support, we have been able to increase the number of families and individuals we reach, offering consistent access to food and basic supplies for those doing it tough. The Canterbury League Club's investment has strengthened our ability to serve with compassion and care.

COMMUNITY GRANTS HUB – LOCAL MULTICULTURAL PROJECTS (\$100,000) 8/9/23

We are honoured to receive a significant \$100,000 grant from the Community Grants Hub through the Local Multicultural Projects initiative. This funding has allowed us to begin vital upgrades at the St. Mary & St. Merkorious Coptic Orthodox Church Hall, which serves as a central hub for many of our outreach activities. These improvements ensure a safe, welcoming environment where individuals in need can access hot meals, care packs, clean clothing, haircuts, and the warmth of human connection. With this grant, we are not only feeding bodies—we are nourishing souls and building a stronger, more inclusive community.

CLUB GRANT – CUMBERLAND COUNCIL (WENTY LEAGUES & DOOLEYS LIDCOMBE) (\$15,000) 23/8/23

St. Merkorious Charity sincerely thanks Club Grant – Cumberland Council, in partnership with Wenty Leagues and Dooleys Lidcombe, for their impactful \$15,000 grant. This funding enabled us to assemble and distribute food and hygiene hampers to struggling families and individuals across the Cumberland LGA, with a special focus on supporting women affected by domestic violence. The assistance provided goes beyond physical items—it offers safety, dignity, and a reminder that these women are not alone. We are deeply grateful for the opportunity to extend this lifeline with the Council's support.

COMMUNITY GRANTS – CANADA BAY COUNCIL (\$2,500) 1/9/23

We are delighted to have received a \$2,500 grant from Canada Bay Council's Community Grants Program. This funding has made it possible for us to launch "Art for All – Empowering Through Creativity," an art course designed for individuals facing hardship in the local LGA. This program offers a unique space for participants to explore self-expression, build confidence, and find healing through creativity. It is more than just an art class—it's a platform for connection, emotional support, and empowerment. We thank the Council for believing in the transformative power of the arts.

GRANTS

CLUB GRANT – BURWOOD (\$8,000) 28/8/23

St. Merkorious Charity gratefully acknowledges the support of Club Grant – Burwood for their generous \$8,000 contribution. This funding has played a crucial role in enabling us to continue delivering nutritious meals and food hampers to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity within the Burwood LGA. With this support, we were able to reach more people and ensure no one in the community goes hungry.

CANTERBURY BANKSTOWN COUNCIL – 2023–24 COMMUNITY GRANTS & EVENTS SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM (\$7,500) 21/9/23

We extend our sincere thanks to Canterbury Bankstown Council for awarding us a \$7,500 grant through their 2023–24 Community Grants and Events Sponsorship Program. This funding was directed towards our Breakfast Club initiative and community hampers, helping us provide morning meals to students and essential supplies to struggling households. It has been instrumental in supporting both children's health and the wellbeing of vulnerable residents in the local area.

NATIONAL AUSTRALIA DAY COUNCIL (NADC) – 2024 COMMUNITY GRANT (\$15,000) 30/11/23

St. Merkorious Charity was honoured to receive a \$15,000 grant from the National Australia Day Council. This funding supported our “The Spirit of Giving – Australia Day 2024” project, which provided food and hampers to those doing it tough. On this National Day of Unity and reflection, we were able to bring warmth, nourishment, and a sense of community to many who needed it most.

AUSTRALIAN CHINESE CHARITY FOUNDATION (\$10,000) 15/12/23

We are deeply thankful to the Australian Chinese Charity Foundation for their \$10,000 grant in support of our Rhodes Homeless Outreach Program. This generous contribution enabled us to extend our outreach to people experiencing homelessness, offering them not only meals and hygiene items, but also compassion, connection, and dignity. The funding was crucial in strengthening our response to homelessness in our community.

GRANTS

AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES – VOLUNTEER GRANT (\$2,580) 20/5/24

St. Merkorious Charity gratefully received a \$2,580 Volunteer Grant from the Department of Social Services. This grant allowed us to invest in resources and tools to better equip our team of dedicated volunteers. With these improvements, our volunteers were able to stay focused on their mission—serving the community with empathy and efficiency.

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL – COMMUNITY GRANTS (\$2,500) 26/10/23

We thank Strathfield Council for their generous \$2,500 grant, which helped us purchase important kitchen equipment to enhance the efficiency of our food preparation processes. This upgrade has allowed our team to prepare and distribute a greater volume of meals more quickly, ensuring that we meet the growing needs of those facing food insecurity in the community.

OFFICE OF RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING (\$77,383.63) 20/3/2024

St. Merkorious Charity expresses its heartfelt appreciation to the Office of Responsible Gambling for their outstanding support through a \$77,383.63 grant for the first year. This substantial funding enabled us to prepare and distribute meals and hampers to individuals and families facing hardship. It significantly boosted our capacity to support the community with consistent, high-quality food relief during a time of increasing need.

SEASONAL CAMPAIGNS AND CELEBRATIONS



RHODES CHRISTMAS PARTY- DECEMBER 2023

We celebrated the festive season with our clients in an inclusive atmosphere where they enjoyed amazing food, haircuts, and care packs and gifts.



ST. MARK'S CHRISTMAS CAROLS

SMC raised over \$15,000 for St. Bishoy Hospital in Egypt requiring much needed medical equipment, underscoring SMC's global impact.



EASTER APPEAL - MARCH 2024

SMC collaborated with schools such as Homebush Boys, Bass High, and St. Brendan's Bankstown to provide essential items, demonstrating the power of collective giving.

VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

SMC'S SUCCESS IS ROOTED IN THE DEDICATION OF ITS CORPORATE AND SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers from KPMG, Westpac, Montessori Academy, and schools like Santa Sabina College and St. Patrick's College played pivotal roles in supporting outreach programs and events.



PICTURED: NESTLE STAFF VOLUNTEERING SEP 2023



PICTURED: KPMG STAFF VOLUNTEERING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

SKILL-BUILDING PROGRAMS

ART COURSE – MAY TO JULY 2024

Fostered creativity and connection in collaboration with Canada Bay Council who granted us \$2,500. The course was conducted by the famous artist Safaa Shaker.



PICTURED: AMAZING ART WORK DONE BY SOME OUR CLIENTS

HOSPITALITY COURSE - JUNE 2024

Empowered women with employable skills in collaboration with the NSW Government.



PICTURED: STUDENTS IN OUR HOSPITALITY COURSE

UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS



ROTARY GRANVILLE SUPPORTED KEY INITIATIVES LIKE BLANKET DONATIONS AND MEAL SPONSORSHIPS.



TERRA FERMA'S INNOVATIVE FUNDING STRATEGY OF A 1% SUBCONTRACTOR CONTRIBUTION HIGHLIGHTS THE VALUE OF CREATIVE PARTNERSHIPS IN SUSTAINING SMC'S MISSION.

IMPACT AND VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Over the past year, SMC has demonstrated its ability to address food insecurity, promote social inclusion, and empower vulnerable populations. With the upcoming Food Distribution Centre, expanded partnerships, and strategic investments in operational efficiency, SMC is poised to amplify its impact in the years ahead.



CONCLUSION

The period from July 2023 to June 2024 reflects St. Merkorious Charity's unwavering commitment to compassion, collaboration, and service. From high-profile events like the Harbour Cruise and NCPA Gala to transformative initiatives like the Food Distribution Centre, SMC has made a lasting difference in the lives of thousands. As SMC moves forward, it remains steadfast in its mission to address food insecurity, foster dignity, and inspire hope. With the continued support of volunteers, corporate partners, and the broader community, the charity is poised to achieve even greater milestones in its journey of service and compassion.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Together we can achieve so much more, so we thank those who have generously given their funds for this financial year.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

DAY AT THE BAY: SEPT 2023

- Net amount raised: \$292,387.40

SPONSORS:

MAJOR: \$50,000 +

- DASCO Australia
- Sylife Foundation
- PAYCE Foundation

PLATINUM: \$10,000

GOLD: \$5,000

SILVER: \$3,000

CORPORATE: \$1,000

Company Name	Sponsorship Package
Montessori Academy	Platinum
Oxford Electrical Group Pty Ltd	Platinum
Auswide Corp	Platinum
First Quadrant	Platinum
Terra Ferma	Platinum

Company Name	Sponsorship Package
Paco Jaanson	Gold
Ground King Civil	Gold
Arc Energy Group	Gold
Ghossayn Group	Gold
Whome Group	Gold
Chalouhi	Gold
Harco	Gold
AK Plumbing Group	Gold

Company Name	Sponsorship Package
J&J Metro Air Conditioning	Silver
WB Plaster Pty Ltd	Silver
Corben Constructions Pty Ltd	Silver
Ausco Glass & Aluminium Pty Ltd	Silver
All Stop Fire Systems Pty Limited	Silver
Top Spring	Silver
PricewaterhouseCoopers	Silver
Green Fern Landscaping	Silver
JSBC Consulting Pty Ltd	Silver
Patrick Nader Fine Jewels	Silver
Scion	Silver
Wardan Group	Silver
Switch Australia	Silver

Company Name	Sponsorship Package
Fluid Building Services	Corporate
Engineering Services Group	Corporate
Link Realty International PTY LTD	Corporate
Lanistsu Pty Ltd	Corporate
Landcon PL	Corporate
DCK Constructions PL	Corporate
Elephants Foot Waste Compactors Pty Ltd	Corporate
Hanson	Corporate
BADRAN CIVIL P/L	Corporate
SFR Construction Pty Ltd	Corporate
Ionic Management	Corporate
Mike Dalzell Pty Ltd	Corporate
N. Mina Constructions	Corporate
Prolink Business Solutions	Corporate
East Group Projects	Corporate
ATS Land and Engineering Surveyors PL	Corporate
ILVE Appliances	Corporate
GSG Steel Fixing & Reinforcement	Corporate
JAPM	Corporate
Spartan Steel	Corporate
Infocus Legal	Corporate
Futuroscope Enterprises	Corporate
Tradelink	Corporate
CT Tile	Corporate
Ultralift	Corporate
MJ Maintenance	Corporate

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

2000 MEALS A WEEK INITIATIVE

Sponsors who dedicated quarterly to our initiative of \$10,000 for 2,000 meals which took place over the following 2 events:

- Reo Steel: **\$10,000**
- El Australia: **\$20,000**
- Rise & Shine: **\$20,000**
- Terra Ferma: **\$20,000**
- Digidirect: **\$30,000**
- Terry White Chemist Erskine Park: **\$40,000**

ICC NATIONAL CHILDCARE PROVIDERS ALLIANCE 2ND ANNUAL NETWORKING EVENING: 28 OCT 2023

SMC were honored to attend the Childcare Providers Alliance 2nd Annual Networking Evening on the 28th of October 2023 at the ICC and we would like to express a special thank you to TerraFerma for helping to launch our new initiative of \$10,000 and Suzy Michael for their unwavering support. Congratulations to the organisers for an amazing and successful evening.

SMC CRUISE 1 NOV 2023

SMC were very fortunate to be able to host a charity event cruise sponsored by Terra Ferma Pty Ltd to launch our initiative to Sponsor 2,000 meals a week for \$10,000. A great night was had by all with amazing entertainment by Violin by Mel and a chance to network with incredible businesses. Thank you to Suzy Michael who MC our event in the evening and all the businesses who supported SMC by giving back.

11-YEAR ANNIVERSARY: APRIL 2024

- Net amount raised: **\$203,924.99**
- Montessori Care was our Community Partner (**\$20,000**)
- Event Sponsor: PAYCE Foundation (**\$50,000**)
- Platinum Sponsor: **\$20,000**
 - Deemahstone
 - Skylife Foundation
- Gold Sponsor: **\$10,000**
- Silver Sponsor: **\$5,000**

Company Name	Sponsorship Package
Oxford Electrical Group Pty Ltd	Gold
WB Plaster Pty Ltd	Gold

Company Name	Sponsorship Package
JSBC Consulting	Silver
Energex Group	Silver
Chalouhi	Silver
Arc Energy Corporation Pty Ltd	Silver
Arcorp Pty Ltd (Paco Jaanson)	Silver
Landcon	Silver

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS AND PARTNERS

OUR DONORS

OzHarvest
Strathfield Council
Canterbury Bankstown
Chamber of Commerce (CBCC)
Share the Dignity

Holy Cross College Ryde
Montessori Academy
Ryde-Gladesville Catholic
Parish SecondBite

OUR PARTNERS

Prolink Business Solutions
Infocus Legal

FOOD PARTNERS

Food Bank
Secondbite
OzHarvest
Woolworths
Gift of Bread

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

Our cause has successfully attracted funding from various funding bodies, of which we are grateful for the opportunity to serve our community more. Thank you for enabling us to help those in our community!



OUR FUNDERS

Sisters of Charity Coopers
Foundation Liverpool
Clubgrants Canterbury
Leagues Clubgrants
Community Grant Hub
Cumberland Clubgrants
Canada Bay Council

Burwood Clubgrants
Canterbury-Bankstown Council
Australia Day Council
Australian Chinese Charity Foundation
Strathfield Council
NSW Office of Responsible Gambling

**We give our biggest
thanks to your
generosity!**

JOIN OUR CAUSE

FUNDS PARTNER

Your donations directly support our Food Relief Service, homeless outreach, and training programs. Contributions over \$2 are tax-deductible. You can donate through our website or by giving us a call.

FOOD

Interested in donating food, sponsoring us, or need help salvaging surplus or imperfect food? We're ready to turn your contributions into nutritious meals for those in need. Contact us today!

VOLUNTEER

Our work wouldn't be possible without our amazing volunteers. Join our community of over 600 volunteers and make a difference in Sydney! Register your details on our website or give us a call — we'd love to hear from you.

SPONSORSHIP

There are many ways to support St Merkorious, and sponsorship is one of them! Whether you offer financial sponsorship, in-kind venue support, or volunteer programs, we'd love to hear from you. Please feel free to get in touch with us!

ORGANIZATION

If you're an organization looking to make a difference, let's discuss partnership and sponsorship opportunities. We take pride in fostering strong community relationships, and together, we can achieve more. Call us today, and let's create positive change in the year ahead.

GET INVOLVED TODAY



Give us a call at **+61 (02) 9799 9954**
or **+61 0478 760 450**
or visit our website at **stmerkorious.org.au**

Prefer email? Reach out to us at
charity@stmerkorious.org.au to learn
how you can help us support the community.

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
ABN 32 146 235 527

FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
30 JUNE 2024

Prepared by
Prolink Business Solutions
Chartered Accountants

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
ABN 32 146 235 527

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**ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
COMMITTEE'S REPORT**

Your committee members submit the financial report of the ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

Committee Members

The name of each member of the committee during the year and if different, at the date of the report;

Paula Nicolas
Patrick Chow
Dorian Sarkissian
Wally Mehanna

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:

Providing nutritious meals to elderly sick disabled homeless and disadvantaged people.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The Profit of the association amounted to \$200,484.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

**Committee
Member:**

DocuSigned by:
Paula
72741215-102014-1

Paula Nicolas

**Committee
Member:**

Patrick Chow

Patrick Chow

**Committee
Member:**

DocuSigned by:
Dorian
67A70E42F8B26A8

Dorian Sarkissian

**Committee
Member:**

DocuSigned by:
Mehanna, Wally
87036424E6A704E7

Wally Mehanna

Dated this 25 day of November 2024

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

	2024	2023
Note	\$	\$
SALES		
Event Proceeds	851,696	292,219
LESS: COST OF GOODS SOLD		
Event Expenses	122,673	19,759
GROSS PROFIT FROM TRADING	729,023	272,460
OTHER INCOME		
Donation	162,819	314,220
Grants Received	284,178	262,286
	446,997	576,506
	1,176,020	848,966

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
EXPENDITURE			
Advertising		935	-
Bank Charges		1,972	1,503
Bus Hire		5,940	5,300
Cleaning		916	1,172
Computer Expenses		675	-
Consultancy Fees		1,662	-
Client Disbursements		300	3,900
Depreciation		46,518	3,622
Doubtful debts		9,299	-
Electricity		31,617	24,252
Employees' Amenities		-	8,017
Filing		310	-
Fine		93	-
Gas		6,025	3,713
Insurance		36,166	29,714
Land tax		5,154	-
Long Service Leave provision		20,746	-
Motor Vehicle Expenses		13,222	13,586
Office Expenses		42	-
Pest control		1,291	-
Printing & Stationery		15	2,772
Rates & Taxes		4,598	-
Registration		(386)	-
Recruitment		610	-
Rent		88,500	91,333
Repairs & Maintenance		3,269	11,403
Salaries & Wages		484,890	340,936
Supplies		117,517	106,704
Security cost		614	-
Staff Training & Welfare		350	-
Subscription		4,588	5,363
Subcontracting Expenses		21,917	59,422
Superannuation Contributions - Employees		52,409	34,485
Telephone		5,924	4,555
Tolls		4,818	3,709
Travelling Expenses		227	-

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Waste Disposal		2,793	13,137
Web Design		-	5,909
		975,536	774,507
Profit/(Loss) before income tax		200,484	74,459
Profit/(Loss) for the year		200,484	74,459
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year		211,400	136,941
Retained earnings at the end of the financial year		411,884	211,400

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2024**

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	691,331	224,805
Trade and other receivables	3	69,379	10,400
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>760,710</u>	<u>235,205</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	4	5,466,435	7,129
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>5,466,435</u>	<u>7,129</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>6,227,145</u>	<u>242,334</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	5	64,515	30,934
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>64,515</u>	<u>30,934</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	6	20,746	-
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>20,746</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>85,261</u>	<u>30,934</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>6,141,884</u>	<u>211,400</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Capital Grant	7	5,730,000	-
Retained earnings	8	411,884	211,400
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		<u>6,141,884</u>	<u>211,400</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING		
Receipts from operating activities	1,285,671	848,725
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,027,133)	(732,571)
Net cash provided by operating activities	258,538	116,154
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING		
Payments for plant and equipment	(5,522,012)	(3,216)
Grant received	5,730,000	-
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	207,988	(3,216)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING		
Payment of Borrowings	-	-
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	-	-
Net increase in cash held	466,526	112,938
Cash at beginning of financial year	224,805	111,867
Cash at end of financial year (Note 2)	691,331	224,805

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report and it has been prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act NSW. The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 101:	Presentation of Financial Statements
AASB 107:	Cash Flow Statements
AASB 108:	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
AASB 110:	Events after the Balance Sheet Date
AASB 116:	Property, Plant and Equipment
AASB 1031:	Materiality
AASB 1048	Interpretation and Application of Standards

No other applicable Accounting Standards or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the association in the preparation of this report. Unless otherwise stated, the accounting policies are consistent with the previous period.

Property, Plant and Equipment

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

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 asset is estimated.

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

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

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.

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.

Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the association and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method.

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be estimated reliably. If the outcome can be estimated reliably then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period. If the outcome cannot be reliably estimated then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

If the outcome cannot be reliably estimated then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

Revenue from training services is generally recognised once the training has been delivered.

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
2 Cash and Cash Equivalents		
Aust. Post Mastercard #7340	3	9,291
Cash at Bank - Westpac Operating Account	182,570	16,209
Cash at Bank - Westpac International Fund	16,888	654
Aust. Post Mastercard #9197	-	1
CBA WSIG Account #0075	300,989	-
Westpac Cash at Bank - Grant Account	190,881	198,650
	<u>691,331</u>	<u>224,805</u>
Reconciliation of cash		
Cash and Cash equivalents reported in the statement of cash flows are reconciled to the equivalent items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents	691,331	224,805
	<u>691,331</u>	<u>224,805</u>
3 Trade and Other Receivables		
Current		
Trade Debtors	45,323	10,000
Less: Provision for Doubtful debts	(9,299)	
Rental Bonds	400	400
GST Receivable	32,955	-
	<u>69,379</u>	<u>10,400</u>

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
4 Property, Plant and Equipment		
Land and Buildings		
Land and building – Cosgrove Road	5,461,016	-
	<u>5,461,016</u>	<u>-</u>
Leasehold Improvements	253,136	253,136
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(253,136)	(253,136)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Land and Buildings	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Plant & Equipment	46,208	-
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(46,208)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Kitchen Plant & Equipment	300,866	297,502
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(300,717)	(297,315)
	<u>149</u>	<u>187</u>
Motor Vehicles	139,218	139,218
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(135,017)	(133,616)
	<u>4,201</u>	<u>5,602</u>
Office Furniture & Equipment	39,441	28,018
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(38,372)	(26,678)
	<u>1,069</u>	<u>1,340</u>
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	<u>5,466,435</u>	<u>7,129</u>
5 Trade and Other Payables		
Current		
Other Creditors		
Superannuation Payable	12,924	9,117
PAYG Withholding Tax Payable	51,591	18,353
GST Payable	-	3,464
	<u>64,515</u>	<u>30,934</u>

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024**

		2024	2023
		\$	\$
6	Provisions		
	Provision for Long Service Leave	20,746	-
7	Capital Grants		
	Grant Received	5,730,000	-
8	Retained Earnings		
	Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	211,400	136,941
	Net profit/(loss) attributable to the association	200,484	74,459
	Retained earnings at the end of the financial year	411,484	211,400

9 Donation of Goods and Services

During the 2024 financial year, the association received \$13,000 worth of fruit and vegetables by way of donations. The value of the donations was recognised as income. The goods were used in the operations, therefore an equivalent value of fruit and vegetables was included in expense.

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

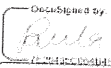
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED as at 30 June 2024 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

President: 
Paula Nicolas

Treasurer: 
Patrick Chow

Dated this 25 day of November 2024

**COMPILATION REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED
ABN 32 146 235 527**

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of ST. MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED A.B.N. 32 146 235 527, which comprise the statement of financial Position as at 30 June 2024, income statement and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in note 1.

The Responsibility of the committee

The committee of St. Merkorious Charity Association Inc are solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the financial reporting frame work used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the committee, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting framework as described in Note 1 to the financial statements and APES 315 Compilation of Financial Information.

We have applied our expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting framework described in Note 1 to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants including Independence Standards.

Assurance Disclaimer

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the committee who are responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. Accordingly, these special purpose financial statements may not be suitable for other purposes. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

Name of Firm: **Prolink Business Solutions**

Chartered Accountants

Name of Principal: _____

Patrick Chow, CA

Address: Suite 2 Level 1, 80 Phillip Street, Parramatta NSW 2150

Dated this 25 **day** of **November 2024.**

**ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

ABN 32 146 235 527

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of
St Merkorious Charity**

**Independent Audit Report to the members of St Merkorious Charity Association
Incorporated Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of St Merkorious Charity Association Incorporated (the Organization), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, 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 directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012*, including:

(a) Giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and

(b) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards – reduced Disclosure Regime and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act)* and the ethical requirements of the *Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Regime and the *ACNC Act* and for such internal control as the directors 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 directors are responsible for assessing the Company's 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 directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

ABN 32 146 235 527

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of
St Merkorious Charity**

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our 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 our 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.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY
ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

ABN 32 146 235 527

**Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of
St Merkorious Charity**

We also provide the directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the financial report of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.



JAYANT GULWADI
JAG BUSINESS ADVISORY
BANKSTOWN

26th November 2024

Auditor Independence Declaration

Under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001

To the Directors of St Merkorious Charity Association Incorporated

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2024, there have been:

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



JAYANT GULWADI
JAG BUSINESS ADVISORY
BANKSTOWN

Dated: 26th November 2024

ST MERKORIOUS CHARITY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED


CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

I, Paula Nicolas of 103 The Boulevard Strathfield, certify that:

- (a) I attended the annual general meeting of the association held on 12 December 2024.
- (b) The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

Dated this 12 day of December 2024

**Committee
Member:**



Paula Nicolas



**St. Merkorious
Charity**

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