

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021-22



"Stained Glass" by Quentin Fricke  
Expression Through Art Student  
In Loving Memory 4/3/1969 - 30/8/2022

03 9543 8911  
reception@dixonhouse.org.au  
www.dixonhouse.org.au

2 Dixon Street  
Clayton VIC 3168  
Melbourne, Australia

# MISSION & CONTENTS

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*As a way of experiencing and showing God's love, Dixon House Neighbourhood Centre aims to benefit residents of Clayton and surrounding areas through providing:*

- educational, recreational and welfare programs to foster learning, personal wellbeing and social connectedness*
- community development opportunities for individuals, groups, and organisations to collaboratively address needs in the local area*
- opportunities for volunteers to improve their skills and support their local community*

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Committee of Governance has met on four occasions (electronically via Zoom) this year and has worked together very effectively. There has been good attendance at all meetings although the social cohesion has not been as strong due to the online format. Dixon House has been well served by the current Committee which was elected at the AGM meeting last November.

|                       |               |                |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|
| <b>PRESIDENT</b>      | Vaughan Smith | <b>MEMBERS</b> | Margaret Boccabella |
| <b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> | Vacant        |                | Alison Bunting      |
| <b>SECRETARY</b>      | Rajesh Arja   |                | Milroy De Vos       |
| <b>TREASURER</b>      | Ian Wilding   |                |                     |

The Vicar of All Saints, Charlie Fletcher and our Manager attended all Committee meetings during the year in a non-voting capacity. They continued to provide a valuable link with the parish and the operational aspects of Dixon House.

2021-22 has continued to be very different from previous financial years, and in many ways another challenging year for Dixon House with the lockdowns imposed by the government to battle the coronavirus. This has meant significant curtailment of what services could be offered as well as a very quick development of some on-line programs. The reduced program has given us time to consider future developments and consolidate existing courses that we offer so that we can reopen strongly. Government Covid-19 support has ceased and now we must re-establish ourselves as a viable neighbourhood house in the Clayton area.

Work has slowly continued on our strategic plan and consideration is being given to new programs which meet the needs of the Clayton community. Of critical importance after the lockdowns is addressing social isolation in the local area and encouraging people to again develop social contacts.

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is pleasing to note the activity of our Emergency Relief program this financial year and our important program in partnership with Anglicare. During the pandemic, and now the economic downturn, many family groups have been provided with food and financial support. Dixon House was open to support desperate requests by providing a Covid-safe method of distributing help for needy families. Many individuals and families also received Christmas hampers in 2021 (large families received two). Several of these families were also supported with the generous gift of toys for their children.

I wish to thank our Treasurer Ian and Naomi for their guidance and support in applying for all available governmental support during the pandemic. They both provided excellent counsel and support, applying for all possible grants to assist our financial framework. In particular I would like to thank Ian for his valuable service and counsel over the recent years. Ian has decided not to re-stand as Treasurer this year owing to the demand of personal issues and the time commitment these make on him. I wish him well for the future.

I must also thank our Manager, Winston, for all the work he has done in maintaining our current reduced program as well exploring future developments at Dixon House. He has adapted well to changes in working conditions and has helped staff and volunteers to make these adjustments too. Special thanks must be given to our paid staff and volunteers who have continued to support us during the lockdown period and who have developed online resources in support of the most suitable programs.

Finally, Dixon House has come through the pandemic in good shape although we have lost many active members who have previously supported the organisation. A strong member drive is needed in 2022-23 to rebuild our member base and hopefully expand the Committee of Governance in its work. This will be a critical task in the new year and I seek support from all members.

***Vaughan Smith - President - Dixon House Committee of Governance***

# TREASURER'S REPORT

The financial year 2021-2022 has again been a disrupted year. Providing activities continued to be affected by the necessity to comply with the restrictions imposed in the attempts to arrest the spread of the coronavirus.

Fortunately, as in the preceding year, funding and support from various organisations and individuals has continued and is acknowledged with appreciation. Most importantly, the government's pandemic support funding has again compensated for reduced income from programs fees. This has provided relative stability such that at year's end the balance sheet showed an operating surplus of \$6,540 increasing the equity (net assets) to \$90,869 as at 30 June 2022.

The annual accounts for the 2021-2022 financial year have been audited by Mr Garry Andrews CPA, who has confirmed that they represent a true and fair view of the transactions for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Our banking continues to be managed via the Westpac Banking Corporation, with security processes for managing the inflow and outflow of cash and with two signatories required for all transactions. We are paying most of our bills via online and a debit card and use cheques only where it is not feasible to pay online. We appreciate our funding partners including Department of Families, Fairness, and Housing for ongoing operational funding, as well as the City of Monash and the Melbourne Anglican Foundation for their project and program specific funding, as well as All Saints for their mission and individual giving.

Looking ahead, with the government pandemic supports now discontinued and the expectation that it will take time to return to pre-Covid levels of participation, there will be pressures on budgeting for the 2022-2023 financial year (when a substantial deficit is forecasted) and beyond. Nevertheless, the sound financial position means that Dixon House is well placed to continue its' commitment to its' Mission Statement to provide a range of on-site and on-line activities to benefit the local community.

It has been my role as Treasurer to provide oversight to financial matters and I would like to thank the Committee of Governance and the Dixon House Manager for their support. A special thanks to Ms Naomi Lim, Finance Officer, who has again done an exemplary job, in managing the finances of Dixon House, reporting all transactions and producing the final financial reports for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Regrettably, because of personal reasons, I have resigned from my role as Treasurer, effective November 2022. It has been a privilege to contribute in a small way to the objectives of Dixon House. Thank you.

***Ian Wilding - Treasurer - Dixon House Committee of Governance***

# AUDITOR'S REPORT

## AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR 1 JULY 2021 TO 30 JUNE 2022

**DIXON HOUSE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC. ABN  
86648041219, REGISTERED WITH AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND  
NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION, CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
NUMBER A0058595N.**

**FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND ALL MEMBERS OF DIXON  
HOUSE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC.**

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE AUDITED THE BOOKS OF DIXON HOUSE NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE INC. FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE, 2022.

DURING THE AUDIT THE FINANCE OFFICER, NAOMI LIM, PROVIDED ALL DOCUMENTATION INCLUDING THE FINAL ACCOUNTS, PROFIT AND LOSS AND BALANCE SHEET ALONG WITH ATTACHMENTS. ON SITE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE ACCOUNTS WERE HELD WITH NAOMI LIM AND WINSTON CHEE, ANSWERS TO MY QUERIES WERE PROVIDED TO MY COMPLETE SATISFACTION. AT THE DATE OF THIS REPORT THERE ARE REASONABLE GROUNDS TO BELIEVE THAT DIXON HOUSE WILL BE ABLE TO PAY ITS DEBTS AS AND WHEN THEY BECOME DUE AND PAYABLE.

BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED AND SIGHTED I CERTIFY THAT THE PREPARED AND PRESENTED REPORTS, SHOWING A **PROFIT OF \$ 6,540** FOR THE YEAR REFLECT A TRUE AND FAIR VIEW OF ALL THE TRANSACTIONS, THE REPORT IS BASED ON ACCRUAL ACCOUNTING. THIS HAS BEEN ANOTHER DIFFICULT YEAR COMING OUT OF LOOKDOWNS AND STILL UNCERTAINTIES REMAIN FOR FUTURE ACCOUNTING PERIODS.

THE EQUITY AS AT THE BALANCE SHEET DATE IS **\$90,869** FOR DIXON HOUSE SITUATED AT , 2 DIXON STREET, CLAYTON, VIC. 3168.

ALL KNOWN LIABILITIES HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, I STAND BY THE ACCOUNTS AS PRESENTED TO ME AND REVIEWED IN THE AUDIT PROCESS,

DATED;      October 7, 2022

SIGNED:



**GARRY ANDREWS**  
CERTIFIED PRACTISING  
ACCOUNTANT,  
TAX AGENT

| <b>Profit and Loss</b>   |                     |                     |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Dixon House Neighbourhood Centre Inc.</b>                     |                     |                     |
| <b>1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022</b>                               |                     |                     |
| <b>Income</b>  | <b>30 June 2022</b> | <b>30 June 2021</b> |
| Annual Membership fees   | 80                  | 125                 |
| Bank Interest Received   | 32                  | 42                  |
| Donations - All Saints Church                                    | 5,081               | 6,882               |
| Donations - Individuals  | 250                 | 1,323               |
| Donations - Individuals (All Saints Church)                      | 823                 | 609                 |
| Donations - Toorak Op Shop                                       | 4,000               | 2,534               |
| Funding - Anglicare (Emergency Relief Administration)            | 4,200               | 4,550               |
| Funding - Department of Families, Fairness and Housing           | 89,596              | 86,909              |
| Grants - Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centre (Helping Hand) | 3,208               | -                   |
| Grants - City of Monash (Connecting Clayton)                     | 8,600               | 8,600               |
| Grants - Department of Social Services Volunteer Grant           | 577                 | -                   |
| Grants - Good Things Foundation (Be Connected)                   | 379                 | 1,757               |
| Grants - Melbourne Anglican Benevolent Society (Homework Club)   | 10,047              | 6,237               |
| Grants - Others  | 2,475               | 50                  |
| Other Revenue - Hall Hire & Others                               | 540                 | 1,630               |
| Programs - Art Class Fees  | 295                 | 1,035               |
| Programs - Computer Class Fees                                   | 574                 | 888                 |
| Programs - Craft and Friendship Group Donations                  | -                   | 230                 |
| Programs - English Class Fees                                    | 3,695               | 3,103               |
| Programs - Sewing Class Fees                                     | -                   | 120                 |
| <b>Total Income</b>  | <b>134,453</b>      | <b>126,623</b>      |
| <b>Plus Other Income</b>   |                     |                     |
| Pandemic Support - ATO Cash Flow Boost                           | -                   | 16,228              |
| Pandemic Support - Dept of Jobs, Precincts, Regions              | 45,400              | 15,000              |
| Pandemic Support - Jobkeepers Subsidy                            | -                   | 77,850              |
| <b>Total Other Income</b>  | <b>45,400</b>       | <b>109,078</b>      |

# FINANCIALS

| <b>Less Operating Expenses</b>                   | <b>30 June 2022</b> | <b>30 June 2021</b> |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Accounting Software - Xero                       | 1,176               | 1,081               |
| Bad Debts  | 23                  | 320                 |
| Bank Fees  | 86                  | 81                  |
| Depreciation of Office Equipment                 | 81                  | 135                 |
| Event Expenses                                   | 1,736               | 200                 |
| Fees - Auditor                                   | 220                 | 200                 |
| Fees - Membership for Professional Organisations | 1,058               | 866                 |
| IT - Computer Hardware                           | 162                 | 193                 |
| IT - Webhosting & Software                       | 499                 | 640                 |
| JobKeeper Top-up Payments                        | -                   | 43,158              |
| Miscellaneous Expenses                           | 727                 | 48                  |
| Office - Cleaning                                | 1,800               | 2,160               |
| Office - Equipment & Printing                    | 2,047               | 3,304               |
| Office - Refreshments                            | 102                 | 302                 |
| Office - Stationery                              | 569                 | 898                 |
| Office - Telephone Expense                       | 805                 | 394                 |
| Programs - Homework Club Needs & Equipment       | 168                 | 129                 |
| Programs - Homework Club Refreshments            | 169                 | 131                 |
| Programs - Art Group Materials                   | 247                 | 202                 |
| Programs - English Books                         | 131                 | 69                  |
| Programs - English Stationery                    | -                   | 234                 |
| Publicity & Signs                                | 439                 | 67                  |
| Rent Paid to All Saints Anglican Church          | 7,200               | 7,200               |
| Staff - Admin ER Support                         | 3,755               | 4,054               |
| Staff - Admin Officer                            | 27,795              | 25,927              |
| Staff - Adult Education Coordinator              | 18,348              | 27,566              |
| Staff - Annual Leave                             | -7,701              | 2,872               |
| Staff - Art Teacher                              | 2,027               | 1,411               |
| Staff - Computer Class Tutor                     | 506                 | 560                 |
| Staff - Manager                                  | 73,433              | 60,702              |
| Staff - Homework Club Coordinator                | 7,877               | 8,023               |
| Staff - Long Service Leave                       | -1,709              | -4,459              |
| Staff - Marketing & Promotions Officer           | -                   | 720                 |
| Staff - Portable Long Service Leave Levy         | 2,267               | 2,076               |
| Staff - Programs Coordinator                     | 9,300               | -                   |
| Staff - Super Contribution                       | 14,312              | 12,244              |
| Staff - Work Cover Insurance                     | 3,075               | 3,079               |
| Staff and Volunteer Training                     | 470                 | 220                 |
| Working with Children & Police Check             | 112                 | 186                 |
| <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>                  | <b>173,313</b>      | <b>207,191</b>      |
|  |                     |                     |
| <b>Net Profit</b>                                | <b>6,540</b>        | <b>28,511</b>       |

**Note:** Staff salaries increased approximately 1% from the previous financial year. Any increase beyond this may be attributable to staff cashing out their accrued annual leave or long service leave during unpaid term breaks - there are 12 unpaid term break weeks per year.

| <b>Balance Sheet</b>                         |                     |                     |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Dixon House Neighbourhood Centre Inc.</b> |                     |                     |
| <b>As at 30 June 2022</b>                    |                     |                     |
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                | <b>30 June 2022</b> | <b>30 June 2021</b> |
| <b>Bank</b>                                  |                     |                     |
| Billing Account                              | 144                 | 144                 |
| Comm Solutions Cash Reserve                  | 138,393             | 130,324             |
| Comm Solutions Cheque Account                | 1,027               | 1,137               |
| Petty Cash Community Lunch                   | 301                 | 301                 |
| Petty Cash General                           | 61                  | 81                  |
| Westpac Debit Card Account                   | 226                 | 532                 |
| <b>Total Bank</b>                            | <b>140,152</b>      | <b>132,520</b>      |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                        |                     |                     |
| Accounts Receivable                          | 135                 | 444                 |
| Other Receivables                            | 87                  | 90                  |
| <b>Total Current Assets</b>                  | <b>221</b>          | <b>534</b>          |
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                          |                     |                     |
| Office Equipment                             | 3,960               | 3,960               |
| Accumulated Depreciation                     | - 3,839             | - 3,758             |
| <b>Total Fixed Assets</b>                    | <b>121</b>          | <b>202</b>          |
| <b>Total Assets</b>                          | <b>140,494</b>      | <b>133,256</b>      |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                           | <b>30 June 2022</b> | <b>30 June 2021</b> |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                   |                     |                     |
| Accounts Payable                             | - 172               | -                   |
| Accrued Liability                            | 3,482               | 2,492               |
| Deferred Income                              | 16,394              | 7,700               |
| PAYG Withholdings Payable                    | 8,124               | 7,844               |
| Provision for Annual Leave                   | 9,332               | 17,033              |
| Superannuation Payable                       | 4,516               | 4,198               |
| <b>Total Current Liabilities</b>             | <b>41,675</b>       | <b>39,268</b>       |
| <b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>               |                     |                     |
| Provision for Long Service Leave             | 7,950               | 9,659               |
| <b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>         | <b>7,950</b>        | <b>9,659</b>        |
| <b>Total Liabilities</b>                     | <b>49,626</b>       | <b>48,927</b>       |
| <b>NET ASSETS</b>                            | <b>90,869</b>       | <b>84,329</b>       |
| <b>EQUITY</b>                                |                     |                     |
| Current Year Earnings                        | 6,540               | 28,511              |
| Retained Earnings                            | 84,329              | 55,818              |
| <b>Total Equity</b>                          | <b>90,869</b>       | <b>84,329</b>       |

*Financial reports prepared by Naomi Lim - Finance Officer*

# MANAGER'S REPORT



## Another Year of Pandemic Impact

Just like the 2020-21 financial year, 2021-22 was another year impacted by the pandemic and its flow-on effects; perhaps to a greater extent. Dixon House, with the exception of Emergency Relief, operated remotely from the second part of Term 3 2021 until the end of Term 1 2022. We consulted with stakeholders regarding reopening in middle Term 4 2021 and the start of Term 1 2022, and the majority of respondents opted to stay away - thus, we planned accordingly. I want to specially thank staff, participants, and especially the volunteers who continued to support Dixon House during these challenging times.

## City of Monash International Student Lunch

This anticipated event was postponed several times due to the pandemic but finally took place in May 2022. We saw international students come together with Dixon House staff, volunteers, participants, as well representatives from Monash Council, Victoria Police, Link Health, and MiCare, who presented on their respective services supporting international students. A special thank you goes out to former Committee President David Nettelbeck, who at short notice, put his refined presentation skills to good use as he graciously filled in as event MC due to staff sickness. Attendees enjoyed a scrumptious Malaysian feast catered from Khesyaan Cafe in Oakleigh, including nasi lemak, sambal dishes, briyani, fried chicken, and curry puffs. We also garnered some interest in our Connecting Clayton Project which resulted in future collaboration, which we will share in next year's report. We look forward to working again with City of Monash for the betterment of our large international student cohort in Clayton.

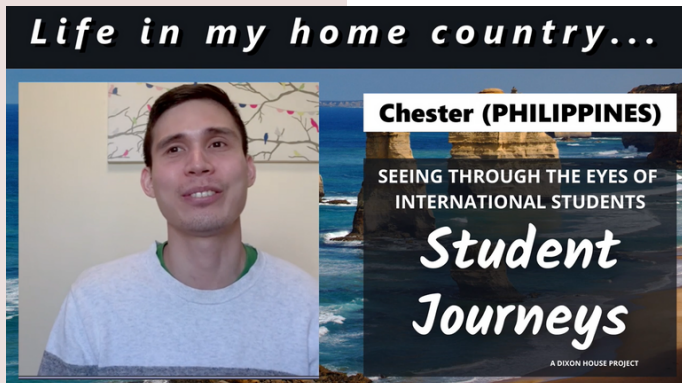


# MANAGER'S REPORT

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## Connecting Clayton to the World Project

The aim of the project is to involve international students in running workshops at Dixon House in order to provide them with invaluable experience as well as the opportunity to connect with the local community. We recruited a postgraduate volunteer who ran a workshop which provided a primer on organisational and social sustainability, targeting small to medium non-profit organisations. As a follow-up to the workshop we developed a written guide which was distributed to the attendees. Due to the lower number of international student arrivals and the challenge of recruiting volunteers, we added an interview style video project called "Student Journeys", which was an easier entry point for participating in Connecting Clayton. Two international students participated in this project, which resulted in two videos which highlighted the ups and downs of the international student experience in Australia, with the unique backdrop of the Covid-19 pandemic. All our workshops and interviews can be accessed via our Youtube channel or via our website.



## Other Programs and Events

I hope that you can take the time to read the rest of this report which highlights the work that was done in different areas despite the challenges of the pandemic, lockdowns, and restrictions. Once again, thank you for your continuing support of Dixon House and I hope to see you here.

**Winston Chee - Manager**

# CREATIVE PROGRAMS



## Expression Through Art

The Art group was able to resume regular face-to-face sessions in Term 2, 2022 once COVID eased. The five participants were eager to reconnect after such a long absence from each other, as they only had the one session with Helen before then. There was much chatter in the first session as they shared what had been happening in their lives. Helen's name would often come up, as they missed their long-standing art teacher, who was on long-service leave.

Term 2 was focused on portraiture, particularly in memory of people of significance to us. We firstly warmed up in a non-traditional way using a roll-a-drawing template to draw people in a Joan Miro style. This guided activity helped those who are not confident with their drawing ability as images were predetermined. Then we learnt the traditional use of facial proportions to depict faces. The next step was to find an image of someone, trace their outline using the graphite transfer method, and use watercolour to bring them to life. Most students experimented with watercolour, whilst others preferred their marker pens or colour pencils, but at least they had their initial exposure to this gentler medium. For our new student, dogs were important in her life, so it was wonderful to see her try this new style, using both the pencil and paint forms of watercolour. She loves improving her skills with this medium now.

One participant, now having lost both parents, proudly shared an acrylic artwork of her cherished father. Another artist had painted him, but we discussed what we liked about the portrait, and how the use of colours and painting style gave us insight to the personality of the person before us. With this knowledge we can see that creating an artwork can involve much thought before we put pencil or brush to paper.

**Oanh Lam - Art Tutor**



# CREATIVE PROGRAMS

## **Craft and Friendship Group**

Our Craft and Friendship group meets every Monday between 1pm and 3pm during the school term. We have a group of seventeen ladies with varying craft interests and abilities. It is a very caring and sharing group. Many conversations bring on lots of laughter. With afternoon tea, which is one of the highlights, comes a time of light reflection, given by one of our group. Companionship is nurtured by the group as for some of our ladies it is their only outing for the week. Although we were unable to meet during the lockdowns, we kept in touch with each other. Everybody was delighted to return.

***Dianne Payne - Craft and Friendship Group Facilitator (with support from Gwen Clark and Pat Irving)***



# ENGLISH PROGRAMS

Thanks to the enormous commitment from all our tutors, staff and students who made the programs possible at Dixon House this past year. We essentially ran three terms online and Term 2 2022 was back onsite for several programs.

With LACE, we had a core group of students who attended every term, with new students joining us along the way. In Term 4 2021, we trialed watching Australian movies with an emphasis on learning Australian culture and language through examining movie plots, characters, cultural aspects of the film, and vocabulary. This new iteration of the LACE program was well received and continued for several terms.

Our Multi-Level English program ran predominantly online and returned onsite in Term 2 2022. A special mention to David and Alison who were with us during our entire time online, and when we returned onsite. Their ideas and contribution especially during those online lessons made my work much easier. Online learning certainly had its challenges with technical difficulties occasionally hindering us from seeing, hearing, or speaking to each other, nevertheless we worked with what we had and the students were appreciative of the opportunity to continue their learning. Using breakout rooms to divide the class into small groups made it more manageable as well as enabling lessons to cater for particular students' learning needs.

Our former English Coordinator Roslyn assisted in Term 2 with program coordination as well as recruiting new volunteers while I continued with some online programs. Both Roslyn and Kerrie continued to support us through facilitating our two conversation groups. Our one-to-one tutoring remained an invaluable resource for students, thanks to our team of dedicated one-to-one tutors who donated their time for regular weekly lessons. Everyone played a part, including students who participated, to enable the continual operation of Dixon House English programs during those challenging times. I trust that 2022-23 would see an expansion of the English programs so that we can do more for the local community.

***Wayne Lim - English Coordinator***

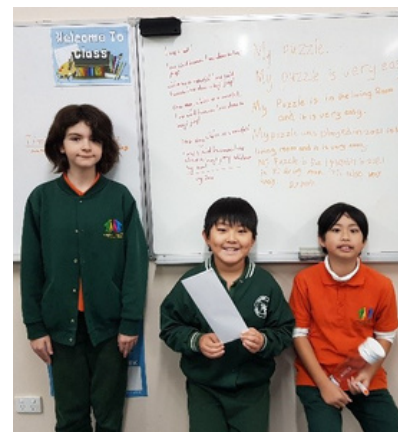
# HOMework CLUB

Term 3 was mostly spent on Zoom. With four volunteer tutors for eleven students we had to find engaging group activities for the first half of each session. We made use of online games like Articulate and Skribbl that one tutor found, which were very popular with the children. A self-made Kahoot (a game-based learning platform) on the Paralympics was used to see how people with disability were able to adapt and compete on an international platform, and it also encouraged us to ponder how we would manage with a sudden loss of physical ability. A group biography using the Padlet online platform was created to get to know each other, and reflect on our abilities and learning styles.

During smaller pairings, tutors kept up with supporting the students with their homework. This can be challenging for some students who dislike online learning, but surprisingly preferred by more students than expected. It was noticeably harder to hold younger students' interest but we all got through the term, with one new student appreciating the inclusion into the Homework Club. The children readily participated in physical workouts from Joe Wicks and other sites helped to keep our body moving. Wayne helped out with some tutoring as we transition to having him take on the Homework Club Coordination role from Term 4 2021.

I returned to the Homework Club In Term 2 2022, which coincided with the resumption of onsite learning, however, it was difficult to recruit volunteers. Averaging two tutors for our now eight students, we still managed to keep the group going, but with less individual attention. The children seemed more emotionally sensitive, but they thoroughly enjoyed being back onsite with each other. It was a new atmosphere for our new youngest member, but she is now settled into the group. The children enjoyed letting off excess energy in the hall, and having opportunities to do creative tasks likes mazes, creating their own gratitude jars and drawing selfies, as well as improving their multiplication skills and vocabulary.

**Oanh Lam - Homework Club Coordinator**



# HOMework CLUB

I took over from Oanh as the Homework Club Coordinator in Term 4 2021. We had nine students and six tutors. Thanks to the continued funding of Melbourne Anglican Foundation, students from low socio-economic or migrant and refugee backgrounds were able to continue accessing this program. In Terms 4 and 1, we remained online due to the preference of parents during the peak of Covid-19 in Australia. We met with tutors prior to the start of each session to discuss what activities they would undertake with their respective students in the breakout rooms (Zoom). The tutors were very helpful and were able to think quickly and adapt and use new activities to enhance students' learning. One challenge with teaching children online is maintaining their attention, so it was important for us to develop programs that were reasonably fast-paced, with activities that changed regularly to keep them engaged. We acknowledge that online learning will never replace the immersive experience of face-to-face learning, but like everyone else during those times, we made do with what we had. Some activities we did included watching short educational videos followed by quizzes, vocabulary-based games, and learning specific subjects such as dinosaurs. I am grateful to Oanh for guiding me in leading this program, and to our volunteer tutors, students, their parents, and The Melbourne Anglican Foundation.

**Wayne Lim - Homework Club Coordinator**

**Comparatives and Superlatives**

Create comparative and superlative sentences using the words in the square.

|  |                                 |                              |                                   |                               |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Go back to the start<br>↶                  | Difficult<br>Reading, listening | Harder<br>English, Spanish   | Easy<br>Speaking, listening       | FINISH                        |
| Enjoyable<br>Horror, action, comedy movies |                                 | Comfortable<br>Train, Car    | Go back two spaces<br>↶           |                               |
| Good<br>Summer, winter, spring             |                                 | Expensive<br>House, car      | Enjoyable<br>Reading, watching TV |                               |
| Far<br>Sun, Moon                           |                                 | Go forward 5 spaces<br>↷     | Good<br>Invisibility, speed       |                               |
| Important<br>Russia, China, America        |                                 | Intelligent<br>Dogs, cats    | Roll again!<br>🎲                  |                               |
| Bad<br>Apple, Android                      |                                 | Deadly<br>Rhinos, crocodiles | Popular<br>Youtube, Netflix       |                               |
| START                                      |                                 | Tasty<br>Pizza, ice cream    | Cheap<br>Renting, buying a house  | Useful<br>Money, intelligence |

ESUKids GAMES



Anglicare Victoria is in deep appreciation for the longstanding partnership with All Saints Clayton and Dixon Neighbourhood House. In these uncertain times of global turmoil and spiralling cost of living increases for basic housing, utilities, food and petrol; our struggle to help those individuals and families on the brink of survival, remains our most important community endeavour. This financial year our dedicated volunteer team contributed a significant 3,200 hours of time, energy and resources to a changing and complex local environment. We gratefully acknowledge the day-to-day and invaluable work volunteers do, to support the most vulnerable in our community, and keep the Emergency Relief program sustainable.

## **Case Study**

Rebecca (not her real name) is a 34 year old recently homeless female, with two children, who presented for financial and material aid assistance for the first time at our Emergency Relief Program at Dixon House. Rebecca had just started a new part-time job in retail, her first in recent years, after couch surfing with family and friends for the past few months, and leaving a traumatic family violence situation. Rebecca was under a lot of stress and disclosed having some anxiety and health issues, so during the interview we discussed what other Anglicare and Family Violence programs might be available for ongoing support. Rebecca also requested a referral support letter to other housing groups to find some temporary and later more secure accommodation, which would help as part of the process for retaining custody of her children. We sought permission to contact her case worker to confirm details of her current situation to include in the housing referral letter, and made an appointment with "Launch Housing" to start the formal application for public housing. Our dedicated volunteers spent time listening to Rebecca's story, and discovered that she desperately needed clothes to start the new job. Volunteers were able to help with a \$100 Kmart gift voucher to buy clothing, \$60 grocery vouchers for shopping, some nutritious food from our pantry, and referrals for essential medications. Our volunteer team then encouraged Rebecca to return to Dixon House for further assistance, if any additional support or information was required.

## **Quick Statistics**

- Total number of clients: 485
- Total number of new clients: 227 (46.8%)
- Total numbers of Emergency Relief types of assistance provided – 1,784
- Average value of assistance provided – \$43.40
- Total value of assistance provided – \$75,441

## **2021 Christmas Distribution Statistics**

- 118 clients received a total of 174 Christmas hampers
- 129 children/teenagers received toys and gift cards
- Total Assistance – \$21,227

***Suzanne Keil - Emergency Relief Services Coordinator (Anglicare Victoria)***

# COMPUTER TUTORING

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It has been a fantastic journey being part of Dixon House. I have learned a lot since I began, and I continue to learn to this day. This year has been a different experience as things return to normal after the Covid-19 pandemic, as many people realised the importance of having basic computer knowledge for daily living, communication, learning, and recreation. It feels good to know that I can play a part in helping people gain this essential skill and it is always exciting to see people apply something they have just learned. I have been supporting a student with learning difficulties and it has been a privilege to be part of her journey toward increased independence. I am so grateful to be a part of Dixon House and would like to thank Winston for his constant support and guidance. Everyone is so nice and supportive here which makes a big difference!

***Bhumika Patel - Computer Tutor***

# ADMINISTRATION & RECEPTION

I have been volunteering at Dixon House for three and a half years now and I am thoroughly enjoying my time here. I volunteer on a Wednesday and I have just started filling in on Tuesdays as well. Wednesdays are very busy with Emergency Relief and there are English classes as well. I find that I get a great deal of satisfaction coming in to volunteer at Dixon House. I get to work with an amazing group of staff and volunteers.

***Christine Hill - Administration and Reception Volunteer***

I would also like to acknowledge Delrine Gay who has been an integral part of Thursday administration and reception for many years. She is crucial to the operation of Emergency Relief operations, as the initial person who attends to clients presenting at reception to receive support. June D'Silva has been supporting us on Tuesdays for administration and reception and has been a great support to staff and volunteers on that day. **(Dixon House Manager)**

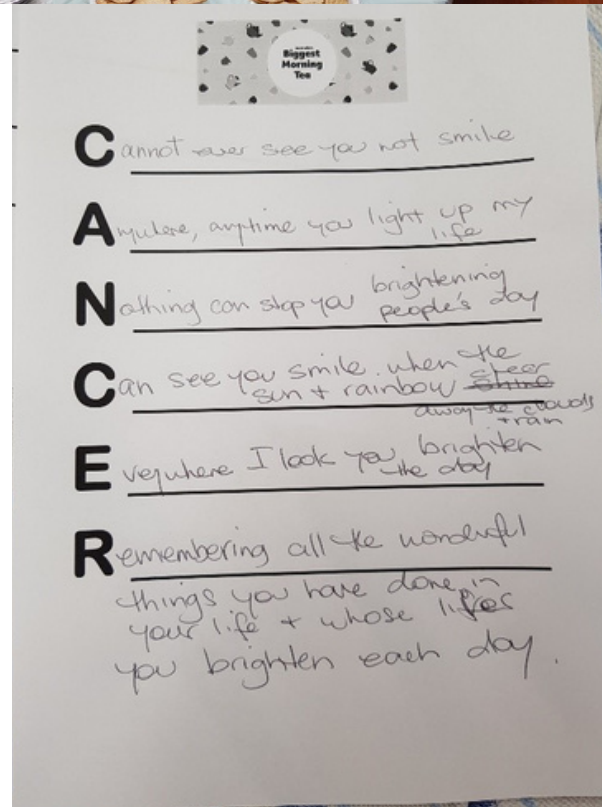
# SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

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After so many missed opportunities to connect, having the Biggest Morning Tea seemed like an ideal way to catch up over some fancier nibblies, tea and coffee than usual. But, we would also be supporting the Cancer Council spread awareness and raise funds for their important research, and preventative and treatment programs. Volunteers came in earlier to decorate and prepare the food, before staff, English students and the Emergency Relief team and a client of theirs joined us. The hall could certainly cater for more people, as we were hoping people from the Cultural Diversity Lunch would come along, but we were thankful for those who did come to share in this special event.

The Biggest Morning Tea was coupled with activities to help us engage with the serious topic of cancer, and how it has touched so many lives within the Dixon House and outer communities. We had two brave people write and recite their impromptu poetry on cancer or health, and other pursuits to occupy our hands and minds. Attendees competed in a light-hearted tea-trivia against each other, attempted a drawing activity on tablecloths, and shared stories and experiences of cancer. Together, we raised a modest \$105, but, we certainly learnt that cancer is impacting more people than we know, and had the chance to brighten our day meeting new people, and having deep conversations. For more photos and videos, visit our Facebook page.

**Oanh Lam – Programs Coordinator**



# OUR FUNDING PARTNERS

It would be impossible for Dixon House to do its work without the financial support of the following organisations during the 2021-22 financial year, for which we are immensely grateful.

- All Saints Church Clayton
- Anglicare Victoria
- Department of Families, Fairness, and Housing
- Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association
- Melbourne Anglican Foundation
- City of Monash
- Toorak Op Shop
- Department of Social Services
- Federal and State Government pandemic relief payments
- Neighbourhood Houses Victoria
- Churches and organisations supporting Emergency Relief
- Individual donors