

project 
respect

celebrating 15 years of
working towards a world
where women are free
from trafficking, prostitution,
and sexual exploitation

Annual Report

2012/13

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Our Vision

Project Respect's vision is for a world where women are free from trafficking, prostitution and sexual exploitation.

We aim to see this achieved by:

1. Supporting women in the sex industry; through direct outreach, practical assistance, referral, ongoing emotional support, social inclusion and a sense of community.
2. Empowering women who have been in the sex industry; using a strengths-based, woman-centred approach, facilitating access to genuine options to rebuild their lives outside the industry, and working to foster their sense of self-esteem and self-worth.
3. Education of the community, informed by women from the sex industry; to bring about greater awareness of the impacts of prostitution and trafficking, and to prevent the exploitation and enslavement of women by the sex industry.
4. Advocacy and activism, informed by women from the sex industry; to address the demand, violence and structural inequalities that maintain the sex industry.
5. Research on the sex industry; to inform evidence-based practice and provide tools for social change.
6. Leading the way in Australia; as the experts in specialist support for women who have been trafficked into the sex industry.

Our driving principles

Project Respect's core principles are:

- **Feminist; recognising gender inequality and working to promote women's rights.**
- **Women centred; our outreach is focussed on women's needs and experiences, and our activities led and informed by the women we support.**
- **Respectful; for all women, acknowledging diversity and celebrating individuality.**
- **Proactive; we are committed to being leaders in education, advocacy and research to achieve sustainable social change.**
- **Compassionate; our work is grounded in compassion and empathy.**
- **Human rights; for all women.**
- **Non violence; we reject violence in any form, and focus on preventing violence against women.**

A word from our Founder

1998

Project Respect is born. I've been back in Australia three years, and I believe there's a real need for an organisation to tackle violence against women in the sex industry. I'm committed to using the community organising approach I learned in the Philippines – I don't want to be part of a welfare agency that doles out help, I imagine an organisation that women in the sex industry find empowering and will, in time, run themselves. It's a big dream – at this point, I don't have funding or even an office. A welfare worker tells me it can't be done – women in the sex industry, she says, are too chaotic. I have a good feeling that we're going to prove her wrong.

2003

This is a big year. Shirley Woods begins a placement at Project Respect, and we employ her later that year – she transforms our outreach and support. We're granted legal standing at the NSW Coronial Inquiry into the tragic death of Puongtong Simaplee at the Villawood Immigration Centre, women tell us more and more about being trafficked, and Elisabeth Wynhausen and Natalie O'Brien write damning exposes of trafficking in *The Australian*. We constantly lobby, write, talk to the media, talk to women who have been trafficked in detention, in brothels and once they've escaped, and there is growing public concern about trafficking. As a result, the Federal Police charge Brunswick St brothel owner Wei Tang with sexual slavery. We're invited to train the Australia Federal Police on trafficking, which we do regularly for several years after. The night before our big conference (which is ably organised by Nina Vallins, in partnership with RMIT and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission), the federal government announces a \$20 million counter-trafficking package that will, among other things, stop the mandatory detention and deportation of trafficked women. And we hold our first weekend away that year, one of the enduring ways we've developed such a strong community.

2008

Valli Mendez (semi) retires as Co-coordinator, having secured funding for a shelter for trafficked women, the first time a state government in Australia has funded trafficking-related work. She's also expanded our work to regional Victoria, which Michelle ably manages. Nina Vallins continues as Coordinator, bringing her strong public speaking skills, commitment to advocacy and incredible work ethic. She secures \$250,000 from the federal government for trafficking work. Finally, after five long years of trials and appeals, the High Court upholds the guilty finding against Wei Tang. We hold a community education session with trafficked women about the case, and then, with the women, develop a powerful statement in response to the conviction. With the Brunswick Women's Theatre, we develop and perform 'Prostitute: Who is she' to sold-out audiences. We are finally funded to run our Pathways Project, our exit program for women, to our knowledge the first program of its kind in Australia. Christy and Ana's expertise and leadership in developing this project is part of its success. This leads to our Friday lunches, which have been running ever since, and, with our weekends away, are at the heart of our community-building.

2013

Shirley's been at Project Respect a decade. Kelly Hinton, our wonderful Director, has been with us three, and under her leadership we win the 2013 Hesta Community Services (Social Impact) Award, to add to our 2011 Our Community Kookaburra Award (Community Group) and 2011 Inaugural Anti-Slavery Australia Freedom Award. Kelly makes sure staff are properly supported, our processes are clear, and she advocates relentlessly, and successfully, for funding. Valli is back (no-one ever really leaves Project Respect), working with the Platform Youth Theatre on 'In Bed with... The Elephant in the Room', a theatre project that asks who are the men who buy women for sex and what is the culture that brings them there? Lily and Christy, who were in the first play, are involved again this time. We were sad when Vicky stopped working for us, but delighted when she came on to the committee of management (see, people really don't leave). Marlyn, Yunmi, and Kate have been amazing in their outreach roles, and Shei has not just organised the office, she's helping women find paid work and employers find great workers. There are women from the sex industry involved in every level of PR – as volunteers, staff, committee of management members and supporters. Our community continues to grow – there are too many wonderful women who have made it strong to be able to list them all here, which is a great problem to have.

2018?

In my imagination, what will we look like in 2018? I hope Kelly will still be at the helm, helping Project Respect continue to grow and innovate and advocate. If she isn't, the next Director will be a woman from the sex industry, bringing that important expertise and experience to this key leadership role. Our Friday lunches will continue, in our new, extremely affordable offices – with twice the staff we had in 2013, we simply outgrew our 2013 upstairs office. We'll be setting up our regional offices, and exploring the scope for interstate offices. Violence against women in the sex industry will be an established concern in discussions about gendered violence, and the voices of women in the sex industry will have put it there, helped along by our strong advocacy and campaign training with them. We'll have finally got the Pathways Project re-funded, and women who have found employment through our education and employment support will be mentoring other women wanting to exit the industry. Our weekends away will continue, and women will continue to know Project Respect is an empowering, empathetic community. Let's work together to shape this future.

Kathleen Maltzahn



Report from the Chair

Women outside of women-focused organizations have rarely articulated and championed issues of rape prevention and intimate violence in formal public settings, such as legislatures. (Htun & Weldon, 2012: 553)

This quote gives continued meaning to the need and the purpose of Project Respect. Women's organisations serve women, their sole mandate is to serve women as individuals and women as a body politic. Project Respect continues to be a critical yet small organization of women who challenge the established social order of gender power structures that support the exploitation of women locally and globally, imagine new forms of social policy change, and support women who have been subjected to abuse, violence and neglect.

This year Project Respect celebrates 15 years as a women-centred organization. Women-centred organisations are a powerful resource for those women most marginalised, for those women who are deemed problematic, for those women who are often invisible in policies and politics.

I have only been part of Project Respect for a short time, however I am proud to join with this women-centred organization that continues:

- To take a feminist position on the exploitation of women, the mistreatment of women who are bought sold and used for their bodies through trafficking for sexual exploitation
- To advocate for women's rights to a safe world, free from violence
- To advocate for the protection of women in the sex industry, by making visible safety issues
- To work directly with women who are in the sex industry and need support, respect and resources.

Sadly in 2013 Project Respect is still needed – women continue to be exploited. Women continue to require and want specialised support and care without judgement. Whilst estimates differ greatly about the number of women trafficked to Australia for the purpose of sexual servitude, Project Respect estimated in 2004 that 1000 women are trafficked into the Australian sex industry annually and are under debt bondage at any given time. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Australia ranks high as a destination country for human trafficking, with the majority of cases that have reached court in Australia being about trafficking in the sex industry

In 2013 we have progressed our organisation vision and strategic plan by: focussing on stakeholder engagement through public education and awareness raising at forums and training; strengthening our provision of service provision through engaging women in the sex industry, in brothels (counselling, referrals to appropriate supports, developing pathways to employment and job training); and by advocating for reforms to policy and legislation to stop women being trafficked for sexual exploitation.

While women are still being exploited locally and globally, simply because of their gender – Project Respect is needed. As volunteers, workers and Committee of Management we are committed to make use of strategies, practice wisdom, skills and lived experiences to act for our principles of gender equality and human rights for all women. Project Respect will draw

on networks of business, community and government as a key strategy to create ripples of effect in enabling and growing pathways of women's empowerment.

Project Respect is a small women-centred organization that centralises women's voices, experiences and rights. We are able to do this meaningful work because we have great women working with us and joining us. Thank you to our staff team, Kelly, Shirley, Yunmi, Shei and Kate. These women are compassionate and committed to empowering women and advocating for a more gender just and equitable world.– Thank You. I would also like to thank Dr Georgina Phillips and Joy Banerji, the two preceding chairs: their generosity and wisdom added to the substance of Project Respect.

Tracy Castelino PhD Chair

Mala Htun and S. Laurel Weldon (2012). The Civic Origins of Progressive Policy Change: Combating Violence against Women in Global Perspective, 1975–2005. American Political Science Review, 106, pp 548569 doi:10.1017/S0003055412000226

Rao, Aruna et al. (1999) Gender at Work: Organizational Change for Equality, Kumarian Press, Sterling VA



Report from the Executive Director

It is an absolute privilege to be part of the Project Respect team at this milestone – 15 years of support, advocacy and collaboration to prevent the exploitation of women. Ours is an organisation that does not shy away from the difficult or controversial issues, and consistently challenges accepted ways of thinking, both within and outside the organisation.

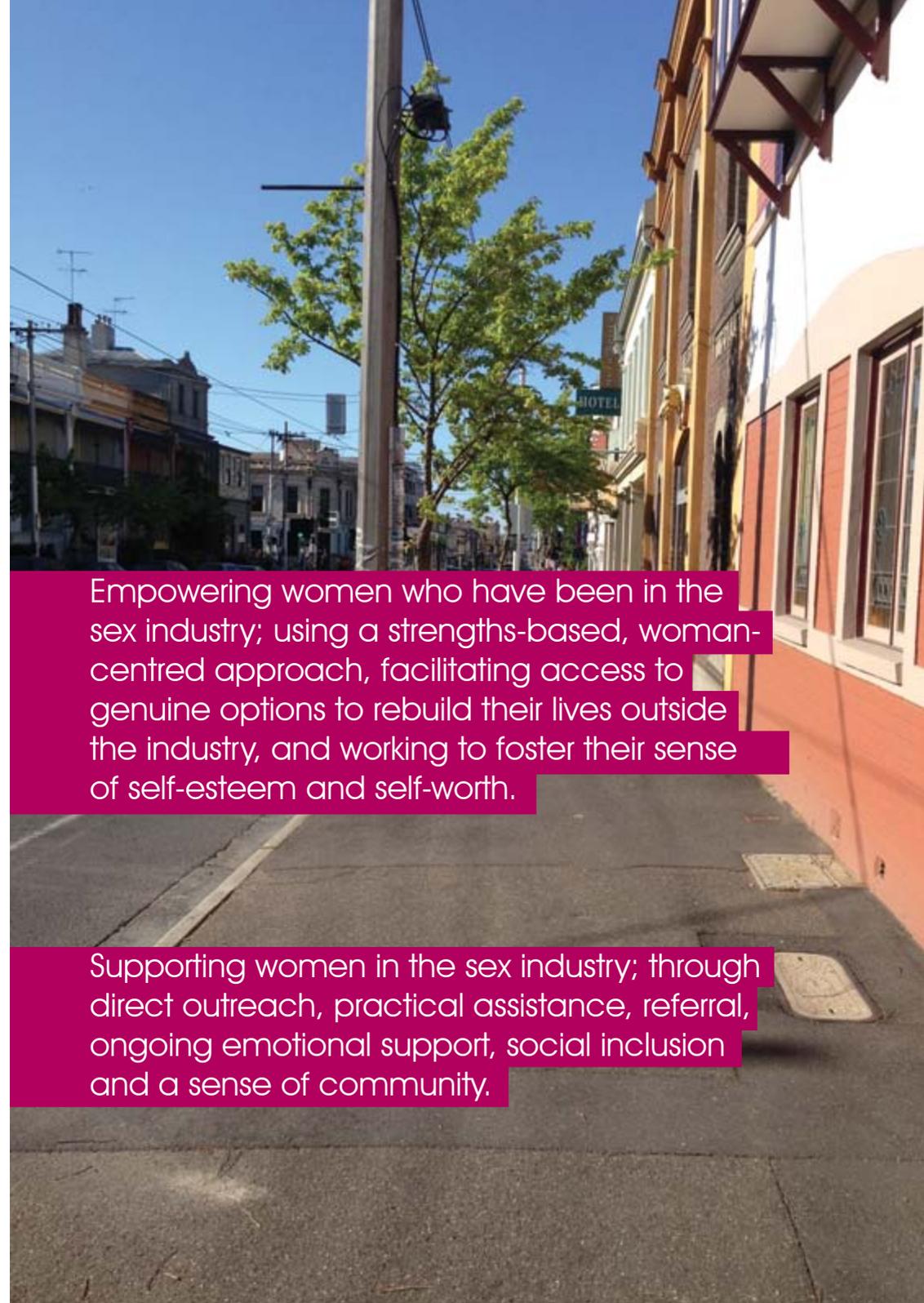
As an organisation, we are at a very exciting stage. We are about to employ our fourth outreach worker and sixth paid staff member – the largest we have ever been. We have options for women who wish to exit the sex industry, and supports in place to make this a realistic opportunity. We are cited in the mainstream media on issues of trafficking and the sex industry. We are speaking in universities and secondary schools about trafficking and the sex industry. Our work is recognised by governments internationally.

Yet, we still have so far to go. Women continue to be assaulted, exploited, traumatised and stigmatised in our legal and normalised sex industry. Women continue to be trafficked into the sex industry. Those who speak out publicly about the harms of the sex industry to women continue to be harassed, both professionally and personally. Those who purchase sexual services remain invisible and unjudged. Project Respect still has no security of resources or funding.

So we look to build on our reputation as leaders in this field. We work with our ever expanding and strengthening networks, both locally and overseas. We continue to professionalise our practices, without compromising what we value, and what women value about our organisation. We value our team and our community support, as without our incredible people, we cannot achieve anything.

I would like to personally thank each and every person who has contributed to Project Respect. Our staff, who fight every day for the women we work with. Our volunteers, pro bono supporters and Committee of Management, who give up their time and expertise to further our cause. Our massive range of donors, who give items for women, and money to sustain the service. Our funding bodies, who recognise the value in the work that we do. The ethical journalists, who want to get the word out, and do it in a manner that is safe for the women who trust them. And our community, who spread the word, and educate those around them. Thank you, for everything you do.

Kelly Hinton
Executive Director



Empowering women who have been in the sex industry; using a strengths-based, woman-centred approach, facilitating access to genuine options to rebuild their lives outside the industry, and working to foster their sense of self-esteem and self-worth.

Supporting women in the sex industry; through direct outreach, practical assistance, referral, ongoing emotional support, social inclusion and a sense of community.



Brothel visits

Year	Number of brothels visited	Total number of visits	Number of women encountered	One-on-one counselling hours
2011–2012	68	200	714	1359
2012–2013	61	201	496	1939.5

* over 70% of women we met this year from CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) backgrounds.

Outreach and Support

Project Respect continuously develops and provides information kits to all brothels visited, that offer a range of information about relevant local and statewide services for women.

The information kits also include pocket size information cards that the women are encouraged to take. Information is updated regularly, and uptake monitored for relevance to women's interests and needs.

Four Project Respect Newsletters were distributed to the brothels visited throughout the year and have impacted greatly on our work, as a large number of self-referrals continue to come from women who have read the newsletters.

Working with Women

The following section highlights issues that women in the sex industry that we have either met in brothels, or worked intensively to support over a period of time. Sadly, these issues appear in almost every annual report since Project Respect was founded, with emerging and recent issues highlighted.

Physical and Sexual Assault

Women who have been in the sex industry speak openly of either childhood or adulthood sexual abuse or assault to our team. In addition to this, many women experience sexual assault on an everyday basis but do not recognize it as such. Often whilst visiting brothels the Outreach Workers will hear women discussing with other women a client they just spent time with. They have been overheard talking about men biting their nipples, pulling their hair, being forceful with their fingers inside them, and trying to force anal sex on them. Women will often be annoyed at the client but unfortunately the violence is so entrenched that it has been normalized as "part of the job" (sic). The Outreach Workers wherever possible will challenge this ideology – as no woman should be forced to endure any form of violence.

Reports to the Police of such incidents remain uncommon, as many women feel they will not be believed or will be judged or treated differently by police for being in the sex industry.

Throughout 2012/2013, the new Victoria Police Sex Industry Co-ordination Unit (SICU) has been visiting brothels and trying to build rapport with women. Many women who have encountered the police from this Unit speak highly of their interaction with them. The Outreach Workers are hopeful that women will begin to report violent incidents once trust and rapport has been solidified with SICU.

Some women encountered were not only experiencing violence in the brothel but also in their personal lives – see 'Domestic/Family/Intimate Partner Violence' further.

Advocacy and Community Education

Project Respect was interviewed for an article about violence against women in the sex industry by the Australian Centre for the Study of Sexual Assault, which was then published online.

Single Motherhood

The majority of women met by our team are single mothers. We have encountered increasing numbers of women starting in the sex industry this year who state this is due to the Federal Government cuts to the Single Parents Pension. Those who were in the industry before the cuts say that they are doing more shifts and/or longer hours to supplement their income. Many women spoke of having little time to spend with their children, and having no energy when they do have time.

Advocacy and Community Education

Project Respect frequently encounters service providers who believe that women in the sex industry must be poor mothers, or neglecting their children. Contrary to this, our experience (and advocacy) is that women who are in the sex industry are usually strong women who are providing for their children at a significant cost to themselves.

Financial abuse

It is not at all unusual for women encountered by the Outreach Workers to report living in situations whereby they are financially supporting a boyfriend or husband. Many women report that the pressure of being the sole income earner for the family is an emotional drain, and have partners who will phone several times throughout a shift to see how much money they have made. The Outreach Workers have encountered women who have spent the night at the brothel as they have been afraid to go home due to a lack of earnings.

Domestic/Family/Intimate Partner Violence

Despite the increasing research and knowledge base on intimate partner or family violence, there is very little on the relationship between this form of gendered violence and the experiences of women in the sex industry.

Women encountered by Project Respect frequently indicate either currently living in a violent relationship or having been in one in the past – including partner violence, sibling violence and violence perpetrated by adult children. This is also often the reported reason for entering the sex industry as a result of being in debt due to relationship breakdowns (sexually transmitted debt), or in an attempt to gain the finances necessary to exit the relationship. Project Respect continues to provide information about services available and encourages women to contact them. Although the numbers of women seeking assistance from DV services has increased, some remain reluctant due to fear of stigma. Violent partners continue to control women by threatening to “out” them to family members and Child Protection Services, thereby maintaining control of the women even if they are able to physically leave the relationship.

Housing

Housing stress continues to be one of the most common issues that women we meet ask for assistance with. Problems include difficulty renting due to no proof of income, lack of affordable renting properties, and difficulty in paying rent due to unpredictable nature of income. Of the women we encounter who are homeless, most stay at brothels temporarily, some sleep in cars, and some drift from one friend’s house to another.

As in previous years, women sleeping at brothels continue to be exploited by owners and managers taking advantage of their 24 hour presence. Women speak of being woken up to ‘service’ a client when they have finished their shift and retired for the night. Most women say that they feel obliged as the brothel is providing a roof over their head.

Advocacy and Community Education

Project Respect drew attention to this issue by representing on the Equality Rights Alliance Housing Working Group, which produces fact sheets and policy recommendations to the Federal Government on the issue of women’s housing.

Legal Issues

Legal assistance includes custodial issues, debt consolidation, fines, immigration and visa issues (including protection visa applications), and seeking intervention orders.

Emerging issue

Due to Federal Government cutbacks to Legal Aid one woman supported by Project Respect in 2012/2013 was left to represent herself without Legal Aid in a final hearing over access to her child. Our Outreach Team has been advised this is now standard due to the cuts in funding. Project Respect is extremely concerned about this issue, particularly for women who have English as a second language.

Physical and Mental Health

The common misconception is that when speaking of physical health, our work is largely around safe sex and STI’s. In reality, women in the sex industry are extremely careful and have a very low rate of STI’s.

The health issues identified by women are more often about back, knee, and foot problems related to wearing high heels for extended periods of time. Other issues raised include dental problems (condoms, although necessary for oral sex, are not designed for oral use), recurring thrush, recurring urinary tract infections, and pain during intercourse.

Fatigue is an increasing concern for women, and many speak of the industry as being quieter than usual. Most women are doing longer shifts and more hours.

Mental health is a constant issue, with many women encountered using anti-depressants and suffering anxiety. Project Respect continues to encounter women who have been diagnosed with schizophrenia, bi-polar, personality disorders and drug induced psychosis.

Project Respect encourages women to seek counseling and diagnoses of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder are not uncommon, which supports international research of the impact of the sex industry on a woman's mental health. Many of these women have experienced trauma before entering the sex industry and then upon entering the industry the trauma is compounded.

Drugs

Drug addiction has long been a problem in the sex industry; however it is not necessarily the reason a woman enters the sex industry – more often, we find, drug use starts after a woman enters the sex industry. Drugs that keep a person awake (and therefore able to work (sic) longer hours) remain extremely popular in the sex industry.

Ice, along with Benzodiazepines, are found to be the most common drugs reported by our team. The use of Benzodiazepines are often described by women as a means to 'come down' off ice and/or reduce anxiety. [**Prescribed or illegal use of Benzodiazepines amongst this population is unknown.] We continue to provide information about the effects of Ice and prescription medication in our Information Kits.

Anti-depressant use is extremely common with women we meet, and the use of mood stabilisers and alcohol remains high.

Emerging issue

When a woman purchases Ice it now comes standard with Xanax!

Project Respect has worked with 2 women during the past year who have had horrific experiences using Xanax. Both mixed it with alcohol; being unaware of the possible side effects. One woman "lost" 5 hrs of time. She remembers nothing of what happened during this time. She is currently facing court for a number of violent crimes (all done during the 5 hours). Another woman "lost" an entire week. Although she believes she was unharmed during this time she is emotionally struggling with not remembering anything. She sometimes cries uncontrollably about it and is fearful about what may have happened during that time.

Emerging issue

Some women report that brothel managers and owners are selling Ice to them. Women claim that it is offered to them when they are getting tired as an incentive to do more hours. They are also reporting increasing number of clients bringing Ice into the brothel and offering it to the women during the "booking". The women feel the clients do this for 2 reasons, firstly so that the woman will lose her inhibitions during the service; and secondly so that they can become their dealer and ultimately, trade drugs for sex.

Employment and Education

One of the most common conversations women initiate with our staff is about leaving the sex industry. Please see our section further for what we are doing to address this issue.

Body image and self-esteem issues

Nearly all the women encountered talk about their weight or body shape; constantly comparing themselves to women in the media. So many of the women encountered are on weight loss diets and cosmetic surgery is popular.

Emerging issue

Women have reported attending "Botox" parties. These operate along the same lines as "Tupperware" parties.

Self harm, chronic illness, and death

Women we meet regularly speak of past and current suicide attempts and current or past self-harm. Project Respect have worked closely with a number of women in the past year that have attempted suicide or have struggled with suicidal ideation. Outreach workers have also regularly met women who speak of past suicide attempts and current or past self-harming. It is not unusual for outreach workers to observe what appear to be self harm scars on women's arms and legs. One woman encountered by an Outreach Worker during a brothel visit this year had cut the words "Why Me" into her leg.

Changes in brothels

More brothels are showing pornography both in the rooms and in the introduction areas of the brothel, despite women continuing to speak out about the impact of this on them. Women say that men expect them to perform the acts they are viewing, which usually include no condom, anal sex, and violent sex.

Emerging issue

Historically, the majority of brothels had only women to provide sexual services. Transgender people were in a small number of brothels only. Throughout the past year Project Respect has encountered transgender people in brothels previously only filled with women.

Intensive Case Management Support

Project Respect provides individual, woman centered and strengths focused support to any women within the sex industry who request our assistance. Support is tailored to meet the needs of each woman as she sees them and is extremely flexible with no waiting lists, and no time limit to support periods.

The majority of women that Project Respect works with contact the outreach service for assistance for themselves.

Project Respect has also found a significant increase in referrals from community and support organisations that we have provided training or information sessions to, including health organisations, drug & alcohol workers, domestic violence counsellors, psychologists, community services, universities, and other women's services.

The women that Project Respect works with often have chaotic and complex lives and low self-esteem, making it difficult to earn money in other areas. The pressure for women to earn money in the sex industry often amplifies their mental health issues and creates more internalised chaos. These underlying issues commonly express themselves in their lives as unpaid fines, abusive relationships, drug habits, severe isolation, mental health issues and even suicidal tendencies.

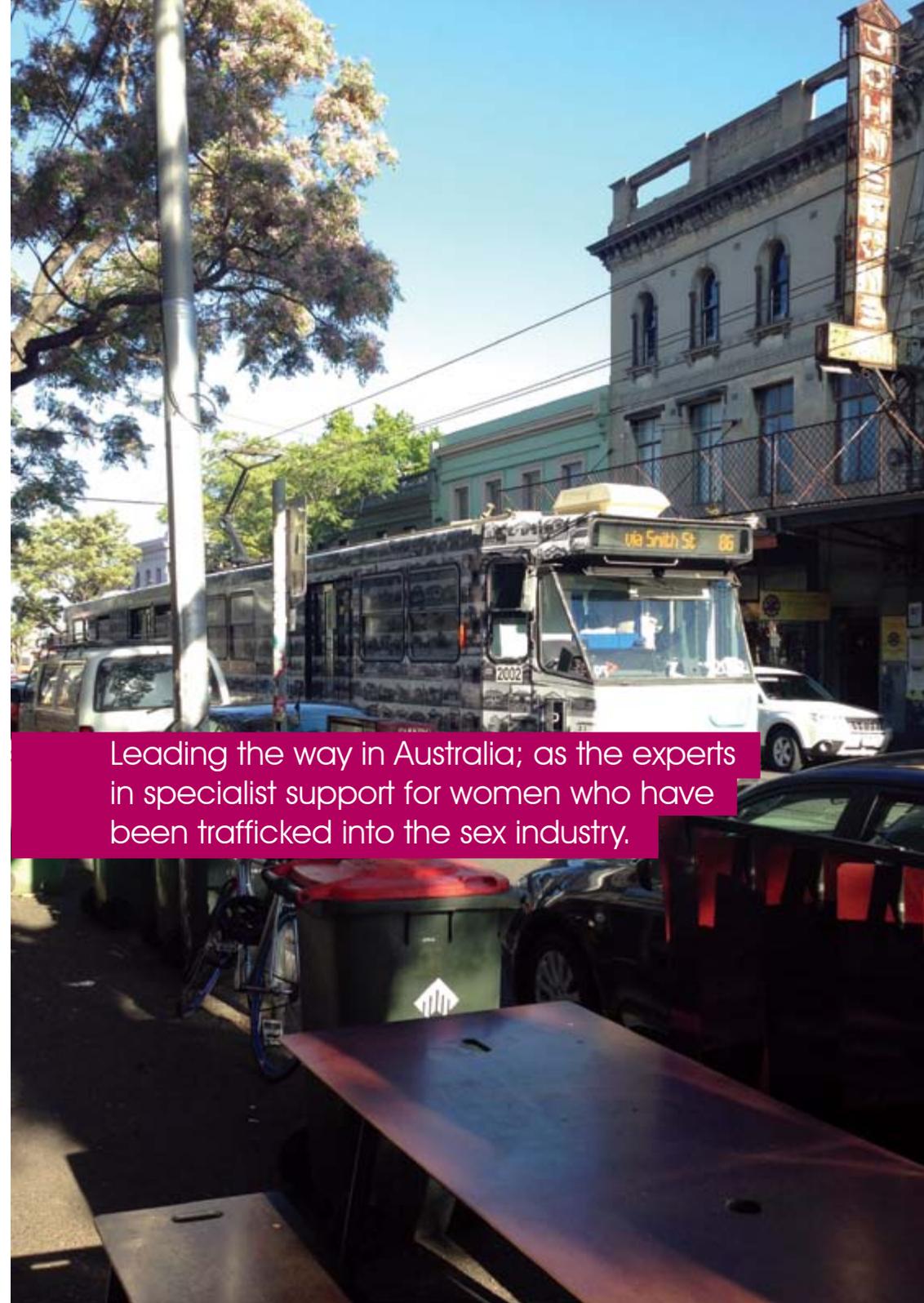
"Sometimes I forget how to talk. Having someone to talk to who will listen and wants to help me is very important"

This year, our outreach hours were reduced, as our requests for individual support and counselling increased dramatically to nearly 2000 hours.

"I cannot over emphasise how much this support has meant to me over the years. Working in the sex industry is socially isolating due to the judgements and perceptions society has about the industry. Women you work with are not really your friends, they are essentially competitors in what can be a cut throat industry. Project Respect provides me with a social support system that has never failed me, which is especially unique when so many other services fall short."

"I am eternally grateful to Project Respect for their ongoing help and support, I do not view the staff as workers, but as friends."

Shirley Woods
Outreach Coordinator



Leading the way in Australia; as the experts in specialist support for women who have been trafficked into the sex industry.

Working with Women Trafficked

Project Respect continues to provide emergency accommodation, intensive casework, and outreach to women who have been trafficked into the sex industry.

"I can tell other women, this is not the life. This is a painful life. If you can, get out."

Project Respect is often the first person a woman who has been trafficked may confide in, or encounter that is not involved at the brothel.

This program is especially important for women who are not eligible for, or do not wish to engage with the authorities and so cannot access the Support for Trafficked Persons program, administered by Red Cross.

Many women who are trafficked into the sex industry are not willing to speak to authorities in Australia. They have often been told the police are corrupt, and fear for their safety, and that of their families back home. This is further exacerbated for women who come from countries where prostitution is illegal and fear punishment upon their return home.

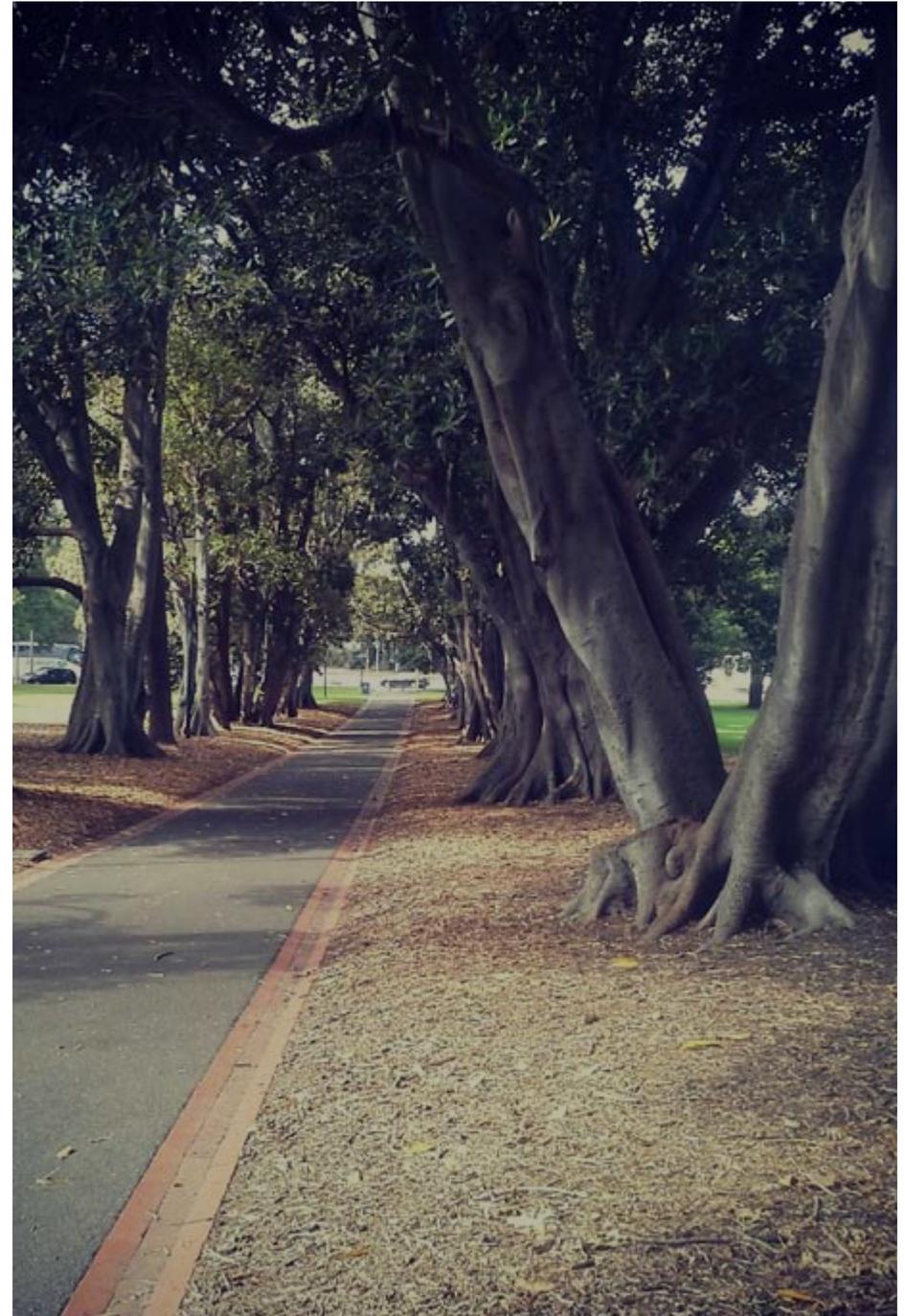
Project Respect's support to women who have been trafficked can be anything from simple provision of information, to peer support community activities, to long-term, intensive case management. Project Respect also provides specialised emotional support.

In 2012/13, assistance included:

- Supporting women to report crimes of trafficking against themselves to authorities
- Helping women attain stable immigration status
- Helping women secure stable accommodation
- Supporting women to enrol in and maintain further study
- Supporting women to access and maintain employment and career development
- Providing material aid
- Social and emotional support
- Supporting women to access information about the definition of slavery under Australian legislation and how to urgently access help while under control of the traffickers

We also developed a general information video to be uploaded onto the internet, so that when our team meets women whose language we do not speak, they can provide information about who we are, and what we can help with. Often women who are trafficked are unable to take a business card or brochure, but they might be able to watch a short video on their mobile.

Thanks to the Neighbourhood Justice Centre, City of Yarra and Fire Films for their support in producing this video.



Specialised Support for Korean Women

Project Respect has met about 180 Korean women in the brothels over the year.

- 15 of them have been provided individual support and case management.
- 2 women were on student visa, and 13 women were on working holiday visa.
- 4 originally come from North Korea, and made it to South Korea as a refugee, but found it wasn't that easy to live in South Korea due to the discrimination.
- 11 of South Korean women had been in the sex industry in their own country.

Korea remains as a highly patriarchal society. Despite economic and political development, violence against women such as sexual and domestic violence is reportedly increasing. In addition to this, Korea has an enhanced sex industry from when it was going through colony of Japan, Korean War, US troops and military dictators. South Korean women and girls are trafficked into sex industry domestically. Korean teenagers are increasingly exploited in the sex industry. And foreign women have been trafficked into Korea.

South Korea is a source, transit, and destination country for trafficking of women to the sex industry. Recruiters lure women saying prostitution is legalized in Australia and say customers are gentle and money is better. They also promote Australia as the easiest country to get visas such as working holiday and student visa among English speaking countries.

These factors have meant that Korean women in sex industry in Australia have increased for last decade. Project Respect has met Korean women who have been trafficked or in a slavery like situation. Most of them didn't speak English and had overseers. Only 2 women of 15 supported by Project Respect could use public transport. Most Korean women had no other option but to stay at the accommodations arranged by the overseers.

Being foreigners can make women vulnerable, due to language and cultural barriers and lack of knowledge and information of the industry. Even though they are in Australia, they still work with Korean managers, overseers, and other Korean women. Most women we met had issues with health (and no insurance), housing (finding it impossible to get private rental), immigration (as they had been taught an illegal way to get or extend their visa), study and employment to exit the industry as well as trafficking and financial abuse. Most of all, since they are on temporary visa, they are not eligible for many services, despite wanting help.

Unless Korean sex industry gets smaller and women's status in Korea is improved, there will be more women brought into Australian sex industry. At the same time, Australian society needs to look into the situations where foreign women get exploited and address the underlying issues.

Yunmi Lee
Outreach Worker

Employment and Education

"One of the most helpful services Project Respect has offered me was providing character references for employment out of the industry. It is such a simple act, however after working in the industry for several years I had big gaps in my employment CV, providing character references gave me the confidence to apply for employment out of the industry. In the years since I first accessed the service I have ceased working in the sex industry, mostly overcame issues of depression and PTSD, maintained stable housing, gained employment in an area I am passionate about; ceased drug use including success fully reducing off a Methadone program, started and maintained a new relationship, raised a son (my ex husband was incarcerated). I moved to the other side of Australia and am now only weeks away from completing a University degree."

I tell this story to remind us all of how sensitive and heavy/complex this topic is.

Project Respect has been determined to address this issue and take action in a more structured way than before. In September 2012 in response to one of the biggest requests from women – employment - Project Respect established the Business Partnerships Program.

The goal of the program is to create and maintain a program/network of partnerships between Project Respect and individual businesses and educational institutions operating in Melbourne in order to provide a range of opportunities for women to exit the sex industry either by offering direct entry into alternative employment or by building skills and qualifications to enter new areas of employment.

By employing the Business Connections Officer/Co-ordinator, planning and establishing the program started immediately with the goal to engage with potential employers willing to offer a variety of suitable employment to women who wish to exit the industry.

Industries and areas of interest to women wishing to exit were identified and documents to support the program, (such as information brochure for women, information flyer for businesses, and introduction letter for businesses) were produced. With the help of our pro bono lawyers, a memorandum of understanding was produced for potential businesses to provide a full understanding of how we hoped/ envisioned the partnership would benefit both parties.

Although the program did not require the direct relationship between women and the business Connections Officer/Co-ordinator, it gradually became a core part of this role due to our case worker's busy schedules.

In addition, we have been fortunate to have a great volunteer to create resume templates to enable staff in helping women taking the first step in job hunting and putting a CV together. This includes a one on one assistance session when a woman needed a more specific resume.

"it meant freedom...I felt I was in control of my life due to my job. It opened up possibilities for me in all aspects of my life...I felt I belonged in society"

Although the outbound approach to having businesses involved has not yet been very successful (due to the heavy weight of the topic: employing women in the sex industry), through the kindness of our supporter base we have been able to start a conversation

with a few small businesses and organisations and these negotiations are being continued...and will continue to pursue its goal of providing employment opportunity to meet the increasing demand.

In the past year the program has been effectively involved with 25 women;

- Referred 23 women to partner businesses
- Helped creating CV for 3 women
- Assisted 25 women through their job interviews
- Accompanied 4 women to job interview
- 1 woman a job promotion

and will continue to pursue its goal of providing employment opportunity to meet the increasing demand.

In the last year we spent over 68 hours working to support women transitioning out of the sex industry and into mainstream employment – in addition to time spent approaching businesses to partner with us! We also provided case management around related issues preventing them from maintaining employment, such as housing, substance misuse, violent relationships, etc.

In line with our focus on establishing new partnership to create education and employment opportunity, with generous help of the National Australia Bank, we provided 10 laptops for women who have been studying

Shei Vadji
Business Connections

Project Respect is incredibly grateful to the Inner North Community Foundation and Reichstein Foundation for their support in developing this program, and welcomes the interest of any potential employers in offering a job opportunity to a woman we work with.



Peer Support Activities

Community Lunches

Project Respect continues to provide an informal community lunch, every Friday, for women in the sex industry, including those trafficked.

This is an opportunity for women to develop social networks, give and receive emotional and practical support to each other, and exchange information – about their rights, leaving the sex industry, support services, and the list goes on.

It is a completely informal and safe environment where women can relax amongst others who have had similar experiences and are completely non-judgmental, let off steam and have a laugh!

Women who are struggling financially are able to have a (free) nutritious meal, and take home fresh fruit and vegetables, bread, and toiletries.

A HUGE thank you to Second Bite for providing the fresh fruit and vegetables for our community lunches, and Thomas Dux in Richmond, who provide beautiful breads and baked goods. Also a huge thanks to the Malcolm Foundation, who provided a freezer for us to store excess foods and breads for when women are in need during the week.

Weekends away

Project Respect provided two weekends away for women from the sex industry, providing a safe and friendly environment for women to take time out, relax, and process life experiences with other women.

At each weekend Project Respect provides healthy food, a day outing, and a therapeutic massage for each woman. Many single mothers who are struggling financially value the weekend as it is free, and they can bring their children, and develop ongoing friendships with other women.

It is often at the weekends away that women are able to develop trusting relationships and open up about their experiences. Women frequently report how much they are able to relax, and not feel like they have to 'hide' or fear judgement from other women on these weekends.

Our very sincere thank you to Cabrini Health who make this program possible.

National Support

During the past year Project Respect has provided support for 2 women in Perth, 1 woman in Sydney, 1 woman in Adelaide, and 1 woman living in a rural area of Victoria.

All of these women originally came to Project Respect to gain support for a variety of issues whilst living in Victoria. The support for those in other States is provided by phone and email. The woman in Adelaide was visited by Project Respect recently when staff were in Adelaide for an Awards ceremony. The woman who has moved to a rural area of Victoria is provided with phone support and has been visited once in the past year. All of the women are very appreciative of the ongoing support and often state that there is no one where they are now living who understands them as Project Respect does. One of the women who now lives in Perth has visited Melbourne in the past year and attended the Community lunch whilst in Melbourne.

International Support

Project Respect continues to support one woman who is now back in her home country. Support is provided via email. One of our team recently caught up with the woman when she was holidaying in her home country. The woman has a job and is coping well. Project Respect continues to support her sister here in Melbourne.

Shirley Woods
Outreach Coordinator

Our very sincere thanks to the Federal Attorney Generals Department, City of Yarra and City of Monash for supporting our outreach and individual support programs.

Material Aid

Once again, we are extremely grateful to the organisations that provide us with emergency material aid supplies for women in crisis.

Our sincere thanks go to:

- Unshackled (an initiative of New Hope Baptist Church) for their constant supply of toiletries and non-perishable foods
- Soroptomist Business on Collins for Christmas gifts for children
- Malcolm Foundation for our Christmas hampers and lunch with women
- KOGO (Knit One Give One) for the knitted items
- De Jour Sanitary Products for thousands of tampons – which are an expensive sanitary item that many women in crisis cannot afford.
- The Papo family for gift cards for women
- The Lord Mayors Charitable Foundation for a grant covering material aid
- Igniting change
- Countless other private donors for contributing to our material aid
- New Hope Community Care for countless items for single mothers.

These contributions let women know they have value, and people do care about them. Thank you so very much.



The Diversity of Groups we work with

We value our relationships with the following organisations, and thank them for their assistance, advice and/or referral in the past year:

ACRATH (Australian Catholic Religious Against Trafficking in Humans)	Metro West Housing Services
Angliss Neighbourhood House	Minihub Communications
Anti Slavery Australia	Monash Link Community Health Service
Australian Federal Police (Human Trafficking Teams)	National Solidarity Against Sexual Exploitation of Women (South Korea)
AWAVA (Australian Women Against Violence Alliance)	NEAMI (Mental Health Service)
Cabrini Health	No to Violence
Cabrini Linen	Our Community
CASA (Centre Against Sexual Assault)	Polaris Project (US and Japan)
Collyer and Partners	RE Ross Trust
Corinne Maunder	Red Knot Design
Council of Single Mothers	RILC (Refugee and Immigration Legal Centre)
Department of Human Services	Safe Futures Foundation
DIAC (Department of Immigration and Citizenship)	Salvation Army
Domestic Violence Victoria	Soroptomist International
EDVOS (Eastern Domestic Violence Outreach Service)	Stop the Traffik Australia
ERA (Equality Rights Alliance)	The Davis Family
Fiona McLeod	Thornbury Neighbourhood House
Fitzroy Financial Advice Service	Vic Relief Foodbank
Fitzroy Legal Service	Victim Support Agency
Fusion Neighbourhood House	Victoria Police (Sex Industry Coordination Unit)
Gale Insurance Brokers	Victorian Legal Aid
Gatehouse	Victorian Women's Lawyers
Good Shepherd	Victorian Women's Trust
Goodwill Wine	Wavecare
Grill'd	WDVCS (Women's Domestic Violence Crisis Service)
Hanover Southbank	WIRE (Women's Information and Referral Exchange)
Ian Potter Foundation	WISHIN (Women's Information, Support and Housing In the North)
IBM	Women's Health West
Immigrant Womens Domestic Violence Service	Yarra Youth Services
Jan Permezel	Zonta Club
Just Salvo's Brothel Support Team	
Maurice & Blackburn Lawyers	



Research on the sex industry; to inform evidence-based practice and provide tools for social change.

Stigma and Discrimination for women in the legal sex industry

In 2012 I conducted a research project with the aim of discovering what the impact of stigma and discrimination was on the life of a woman currently or previously involved in the sex industry (WISI). My interest in this subject came from my own life experiences which have given me a passion for human rights, social justice and giving marginalised people, especially women, a voice.

This research was approved by an ethics committee and was based on principles of Feminist Theory and Participatory Action Research. Research was implemented using semi-structured, qualitative interviews which allowed women flexibility to discuss their needs and interpretations of events in their lives. The research revealed the pervasive nature of stigma and the insidious impact this had on the women's day-to-day experiences.

"They don't see you as a person, they constantly see you as [though] you're a prostitute and nothing else. They forget that you're a mother and daughter and a sister and you might even have another job, you might have a degree, you might be studying, you know there's all sorts of possibilities outside of the industry. But I think a lot of men don't want to know about that either. It gets too embarrassing for them. They don't want to see you as a human being. Then they might actually start to feel guilty about being there". – Mary

Many participants raised the common belief that WISIs are uni-dimensional and sexually indiscriminate, with their lives happily centred around their participation within the sex industry. This led to discussions that raised discrepancies in community attitudes towards men purchasing sex versus women selling sex.

"The one thing that's never looked at is the customer. No one ever makes a judgement or talks about the men who go to brothels..." – Mary

Societal stigma was directed much more heavily towards WISIs rather than customers. WISIs were perceived as having little or no value due to their 'prostitute' status.

"It's not a valued role. After almost 30 years of legalisation in Victoria if anyone can bring me a loan application, pass-port application, anything at all where it says 'occupation: prostitute', I'd love to see it. People perceive it as being the lowest of the low". – Susan

All of the women discussed the expectation from customers for women to perform certain sex acts that they believed women outside of the sex industry would not be expected to perform.

"Men can do anything they want because they've paid. They think because you need their money they can do anything". – Jane

Participants also spoke of the erroneous attitude of clients that perceive WISIs as subhuman and their 'choice' to be in the industry actually invites and justifies mistreatment.

"The way johns treat [me] is different than other normal women outside of the industry. "[I] felt as though they treated my body like a doll. Customers spat on my stomach!" Jo went on to speak of an incident with a client. "[I] told him] I'm not a doll I'm a human being. You need to treat me better". The man responded: "If you're a human being then why are you doing this?" – Jo

This attitude exemplifies the culturally ingrained and accepted belief of the perceived male's right to a woman's body. This is further amplified within the sex industry due to the perceived lowered status women have due to their participation. This was inevitably followed by women expressing the fear of violence, witnessing violence or experiencing violence at the hands of customers.

"The last shift I ever did I was raped. I couldn't do it anymore. Losing that sense of control and thinking 'oh my God he's going to kill me!' I stood back and let it happen 'cause I knew I was in his hands at that point and if I had of done anything he would of killed me". – Nancy

Another emerging theme from the research was the necessity of silence for women in regards to their participation in the sex industry. This included hiding and lying about their involvement and the isolation that ensued as a result.

"There are lots of discrepancies in your relationships. Little lies trip you up and really no friendships get built on grounds of that". – Emily

Many women spoke of the heightened levels of fear and anxiety they experienced due to customers behaviour and their concern over family, friends and the general community finding out about their involvement in the sex industry. This isolation only maintained women's difficulty in exiting the sex industry.

"[It's] traumatising to have to lie to people. You want to connect with people like everybody else. You want to make friends you want to be just a normal person. A little question like 'So what have you been doing?' or 'Where have you been working?' And all those absolutely average, normal questions become traumatising and if you want to protect yourself you have to lie and then the isolation comes in because you're protecting your lies so you can't let anybody know you... Depending on how long you've been in you don't know how to get out... People don't understand if they haven't been in it. They don't understand the lack of choice [and] they don't understand how hard it is to get out. [They don't see] how many times people do try to get out and they don't understand all the psychological [issues that maintain women's involvement in the industry]". – Laura

All of the women who participated in this research spoke of having been affected by the sex industry in some way. Some women internalised the stigma that was directed at them due to their involvement. Others were affected by traumatic events and some women by witnessing the damage it caused other women rather than themselves.

"For the first two years I thought it was the best job in the world until I realised the damage it does to you. Your soul is just dirtied forever and you need to repent for what you've done. I want to say sorry for lying so much. People think you're a good person but you're not". – Lisa

This research demonstrates some of the stigma-related difficulties faced by women who are/have been in the sex industry. It is important to note that even though many of these women did not have strong external resources and support, all of these women had built a wealth of coping-mechanisms that allowed them to build resilience to their difficult experiences.

I would like to thank the eight women who participated in this research study for their time, their trust and the privilege of allowing me to hear their stories. I would also like to thank the staff at Project Respect for their support throughout my placement and this research project. I'd also like to thank Martha Brzywczy for her time and support whilst helping me edit the final stages of this work.

Kate Connett

International Policy Approaches on the Sex Industry and Trafficking

In October 2012 our Outreach Coordinator, Shirley Woods went on a research tour in Sweden in Italy. The aims of the research were to:

- understand how victims of prostitution and trafficking might be better assisted, especially in terms of individual empowerment and justice.
- to identify innovative advocacy models for women exiting prostitution, especially models that prioritise survivor engagement and leadership.
- develop cross country networks to foster information and knowledge on prostitution and trafficking, particularly among survivor led orgs.

The big question was how can our efforts can be strengthened here in Australia by looking at countries that are implementing what it is considered to be best practice models, and how effective are they?

In Sweden Shirley met with Magnus Johnson from the Ministry of Education & Research. Magnus was heavily involved in the implementation of the 1999 legislation which criminalised the buying of sex. Shirley also met with the Swedish Women's Lobby who work to stop all forms of discrimination against women and girls and also played a big role in lobbying for the 1999 legislation. Shirley also visited Rose Alliance who support women in the sex industry and have a harm minimisation approach to prostitution.

In Italy Shirley met with Valerie Quadri from the Dept of Equal Opportunity, Stella Polare and On The Road, which are both organisations that support women in the sex industry and victims of trafficking; but in different cities. Shirley attended a Conference of Trafficking and spoke with an Italian Police Officer who provided very valuable insights into gaining successful prosecutions of traffickers. While working with Stella Polare Shirley was privileged to meet and talk with 3 Nigerian women who had been trafficked into Italy.

Overall the Research Tour was very worthwhile. Much knowledge was gained about best practice models on both prostitution and trafficking. A more extensive paper on the Research Tour will be released later in the year.

Our sincere thanks to the Ian Potter Foundation for funding this study tour.



Education of the community, informed by women from the sex industry; to bring about greater awareness of the impacts of prostitution and trafficking, and to prevent the exploitation and enslavement of women by the sex industry.

Community education

Project Respect continues to run our Professional Development workshop 'Working with Women in the Sex Industry' which targets authorities, community workers and the general public.

The training was amazing. Facilitators had a lot of experience and knowledge and were very respectful when delivering the material. Such an amazing organisation to be a part of. Thank you.

We aim to increase their knowledge, and ensure they develop appropriate responses to women who require their help.

I feel so much more empowered – intellectually and emotionally to have constructive and honest conversations about the reality of the struggles of women in the sex industry. Every woman has a story behind the reason she does what she does.

The violence within the sex industry is rarely raised publicly, and dialogue around the sex industry often obscures the power, and normalises the violence within.

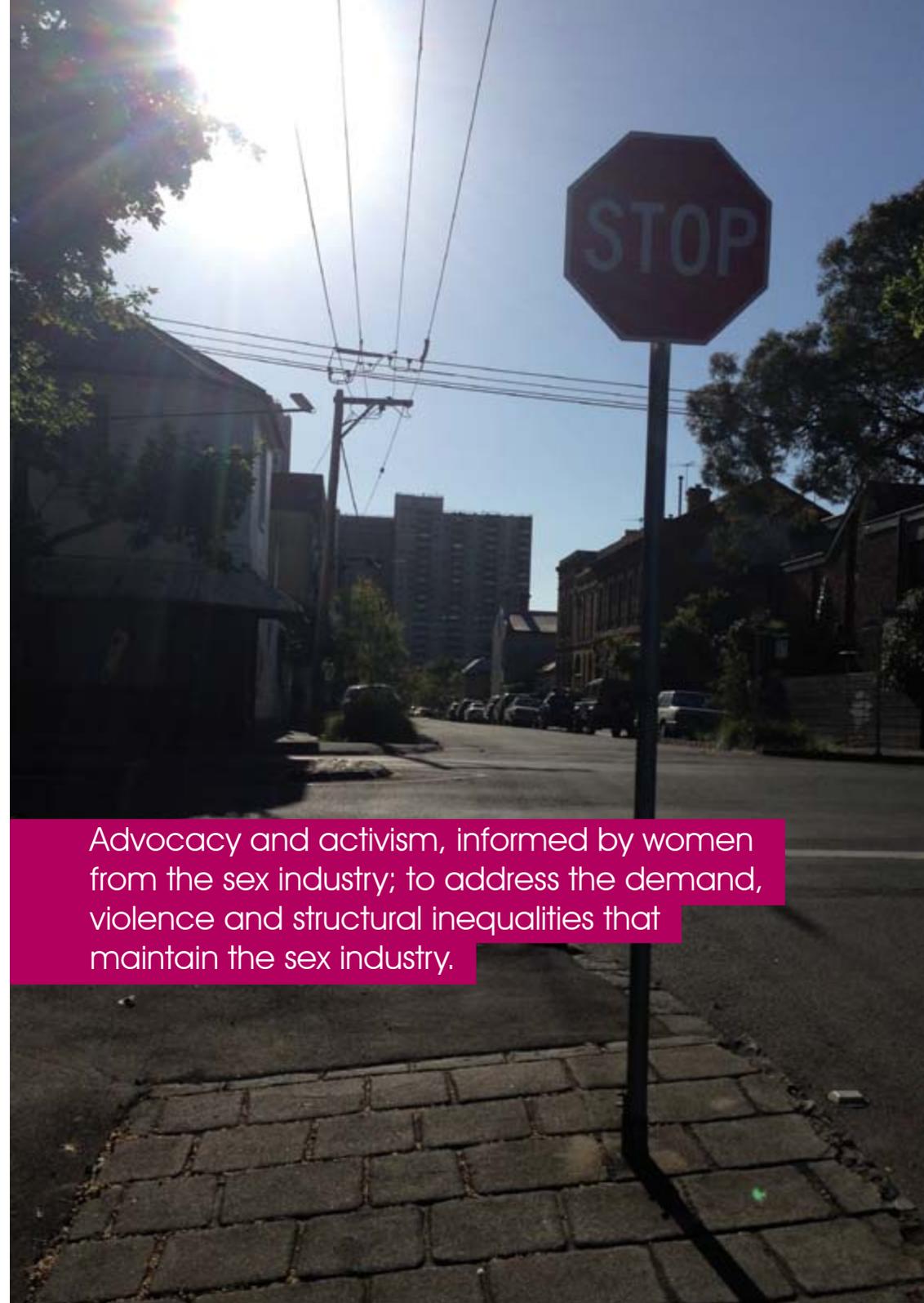
This year, Project Respect had two opinion pieces published to highlight the violence endured by many women that we meet.

One joint piece was by our Founder, Kathleen Maltzahn, and Executive Director, Kelly Hinton, and published in the Guardian, UK, entitled 'Sex workers need better protection against violent clients' (not our title).

The other piece was published online in the lead up to the 2013 Federal Election, and was entitled 'Silence, violence, and the doors that remain closed'. There are so many articles and blogs online that discuss the sex industry, but very few that articulate the violence that occurs even in the legalised sex industry.

What Project Respect means to the women we support: their words

caring family help
gratitude community dedication guidance
house hope inspiration laughter
somerheretogo nurture integrity
support true lifesaving
understanding



Advocacy and activism, informed by women from the sex industry; to address the demand, violence and structural inequalities that maintain the sex industry.

Advocacy

In 2012/2013, Project Respect submitted to the Federal Government Inquiry into Slavery, Slavery-like conditions and People Trafficking and also appeared as a witness at a hearing in Melbourne.

The key points that we made were that:

- The knowing or reckless use of a trafficked women must be a criminal act (regardless of whether this will be utilised or not)
- Visa's and support for trafficked persons must be COMPLETELY delinked from the criminal justice process.

Criticisms have been levelled at Project Respect for not raising the Swedish Model around the sex industry at this Inquiry. The fact that we did not raise this model in this inquiry is not due to our lack of support for implementing a similar model, which understands the need to address the demand for the sex industry in order to work towards gender equality. The points we made are ones we believe immediately possible under the Federal Government Jurisdiction on human trafficking, whereas legislation on the sex industry remains with the States, and we do not foresee the Federal Government reclaiming this power from the States in the near future.

In early 2013, the amendments to the Federal Government Trafficking legislation passed through Parliament. This was positive as it expanded the offences and definitions around trafficking,

however conflated trafficking into the sex industry with labour trafficking, despite the fact that trafficking into the sex industry differs from labour trafficking, as rape is an inherent element.

Project Respect speaks at numerous public events and conferences every year. This year, we were very proud to present at two key conferences on our experiences in working with women in the sex industry, including those trafficked:

The No To Violence (NTV) Conference on Responses to Men's Domestic and Family Violence: Experience, Innovations and Emerging Directions, where we spoke about demand for trafficked women.

The Australian Migrant and Refugee Women's Alliance (AMarWA) STAND UP! National Conference Eliminating all forms of violence against culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds women, where we spoke about sexual slavery and vulnerabilities of CALD women in the sex industry in Australia.

Internationally, we are working with and learning from our networks in a massive range of countries. We are working with Equality Now, an international coalition fighting for women's rights, and seeking to provide a way for women who have not experienced the sex industry as a positive thing, to have their voices heard, and to advocate for change.



The Project Respect Team

Committee of Management

Dr Georgina Phillips (Chair/Leave of Absence)	Victoria Deresa (Secretary)	Tracy Castelino (Chair)
Kathleen Maltzahn (Public Officer)	Deb Itzkowic	Avilyn Tan
Joy Banerji (Chair/resigned)	Susan Shepherd	Gaye McCulloch
	Mischa Barr	Rebecca Preston
	Phuong Ngo	

Staff

Kelly Hinton (Executive Director)	Marlyn Torres (Outreach Worker/Resigned)	Shei Vadjdi (Admin Officer/Business Connections Coordinator)
Shirley Woods (Outreach Coordinator)	Yunmi Lee (Outreach Worker)	Kate Connett (Outreach Worker)

Students

Kate Connett	Sue Shelton	Tateum Murphy
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Volunteers

Alex Crowe	Kat Emerson	Valina Clearwater
Beth Jones	Nadege Malcolm	Valli Mendez
Cynthia Carter	Rachel Reilly	Yunmi Lee
Deanna Papo	Sara Barber	
Helen Babb	Simone Clapham	

Pro Bono/In Kind Support

Alana Roy	Hawker Britton	Mary Ellen Davis
Allens Arthur Robinson	Healthy Fundraising	Minter Ellison
Anna Song	HWL Ebsworth Lawyers	National Australia Bank
Anne Smyth	Kim Lo	Petra Bueskens
Eleanor Davis	Lachlan Fairburn	
Goodwill Wine	Leila Sturt	

Finally, a very special thank you to those individuals and supporters who are too numerous to mention by name, but are so important to our team at Project Respect.

Awards

The Valli Mendez Award

This year, Project Respect launched the Valli Mendez award, in recognition of a previous Coordinator, and long term volunteer at Project Respect.

This award was created to recognize and acknowledge those volunteers who go above and beyond in order to support our work. Organisations such as ours would be lost without our super skilled and generous volunteers.

We were so proud to announce in November 2012 that we couldn't possibly choose one volunteer for this award...so we gave it to two incredible women!

Simone Clapham initially volunteered at Project Respect with our social enterprise business. When we, very sadly, closed the business, she decided to stay at Project Respect, and took on the large role of fundraising! Simone pioneered our intimate dinner fundraiser, garage sale, raffles and sponsorships. She was also a vocal and passionate supporter of Project Respect.

Rachel Reilly initially volunteered for one role, however by the time she left us we needed three to replace her! She launched and managed our Facebook page and Twitter, redesigned and updated our e newsletter and website, wrote funding applications and basically took on anything we threw at her!

The Kathleen Maltzahn Award

This year we presented our second Kathleen Maltzahn Award, which recognises the work of those women who go above and beyond in order to support women in the sex industry, including those trafficked.

One of the things we are most passionate about at Project Respect is ensuring women's voices are heard. This is difficult for women in the sex industry, as it involves outing themselves, and the stigma and discrimination they face afterwards can be devastating.

This award was presented to Kate Connett, who came to PR initially because she shared the passion of ensuring women's voices and stories would be heard, and trying to get these out publicly to demonstrate the difficulties women from the sex industry endure.

Kate conducted an incredible piece of research on stigma and discrimination in the sex industry, which we are now working with her to try and get published. She has since continued volunteering at PR every Friday, sometimes cooking lunch, and always being a gentle but friendly face in the office for women.

She has not only gone above and beyond to assist women we work with, but has been an incredible support to staff in various roles at various times, ranging from talking through ideas for our business partnerships, to editing our Director's opinion pieces. We are proud to now also welcome her as a paid member of our outreach team.

The HESTA Award

This year we were so proud to be the winner of the first HESTA Community Services Award (Social Impact Category). Project Respect was chosen from a long list of fantastic services across Australia, and is very grateful for the recognition.

Financial Statements

Balance sheet as at June 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Equity		
Retained Earnings	(31,053)	13,561
Total Equity	(31,053)	13,561
Represented by:		
Current Assets		
Petty Cash	428	2,414
Cash at Bank	238,200	223,887
Sundry Debtors	26	26
Accounts Receivable	–	1,969
	<u>238,654</u>	<u>228,296</u>
Non-Current Assets		
Office Equipment	325	–
	<u>325</u>	<u>–</u>
Motor Vehicles	49,904	49,904
Less Accumulated Depreciation	12,377	6,139
	<u>37,527</u>	<u>43,765</u>
Office Furniture & Equipment	1,979	1,979
Less Accumulated Depreciation	1,055	857
	<u>924</u>	<u>1,122</u>
	<u>38,776</u>	<u>44,887</u>
Total Assets	277,430	273,184
Current Liabilities		
Sundry Creditors	2,300	3,721
Accounts Payable	–	1,380
ANZ Visa Card	1,247	707
ATO Integrated Client Account	(48,824)	(16,873)
Provision for Holiday Pay	7,806	29,208
Provision for Sick Leave	14,517	–
Provision for GST	51,697	33,581
PAYG Withholding Payable	2,185	–
Income in Advance	276,067	207,898
Superannuation Payable	1,475	–
Other Payroll Liabilities	12	–
	<u>308,482</u>	<u>259,623</u>
Total Liabilities	308,482	259,623
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	(31,053)	13,561

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Income		
Management Fees	–	50,981
Interest Received	242	391
Donations & Fundraising	60,086	37,570
Sales	2,100	19,968
Other Revenue	1,000	5,818
	<u>63,428</u>	<u>114,727</u>
Income – Grants		
City of Yarra	107,799	96,220
City of Monash	23,197	20,886
Dept. of Justice	–	47,686
Lord Mayor's Foundation	6,028	18,182
Cabrini Grant Income	9,782	–
Jobs Fund	–	46,285
R E Ross Trust	20,125	25,455
Dept. of Planning & CD	–	20,000
Federal Attorney General (POCA)	110,518	129,000
Reichstein Foundation	10,000	–
Ian Potter	9,091	9,091
NJC	5,595	–
VMC-T	–	4,654
Minter Ellison	4,000	4,000
General	154,666	4,545
ACA Grant Income	19,000	–
Attorney General Grant Income	60,000	–
Inner Nth Com Grant Income	34,710	–
	<u>574,511</u>	<u>426,004</u>
Brought/(Carried) Forward	(276,067)	(65,594)
	<u>298,444</u>	<u>360,410</u>
Total Income	361,872	475,137

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Expenditure		
AGM & Annual Report	1,124	1,163
Advocacy	205	73
Audit Fees	1,800	1,447
Bank Charges	845	7,103
Bookkeeping Fees	6,966	630
Conferences/ Subscriptions	1,402	382
Depreciation	6,436	6,204
Fundraising Expenses	28	585
Hire Expenses	182	–
Holiday Pay	(18,727)	20,728
Insurance	10,489	12,020
Information Technology	2,180	2,892
Meeting Expenses	313	–
Penalties & Fines	141	–
Project Costs	16,850	28,821
Project Management Fee	–	44,827
Rent, Utilities & Office Expenses	11,208	10,593
Repairs & Maintenance	469	126
Salaries & Fringe Benefits	236,751	285,393
Sick Leave	15,594	–
Staff Recruitment	–	33
Staff Training & Welfare	2,742	860
Storage Fees	3,093	–
Superannuation Contributions	21,645	26,224
Supervision	–	985
Telephone	8,476	8,252
Translation/Consulting	–	1,450
Travelling Expenses	21,531	10,652
Volunteer Expenses	145	–
Workcover	9,984	3,694
	<u>361,872</u>	<u>475,136</u>
Operating Profit	–	–

Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 30 June 2013

	2013 \$	2012 \$
Balance at the beginning of the financial year	13,561	(47,626)
Prior Year Adjustments	(44,614)	61,187
Profit (Loss) Attributable to Members	–	–
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2013	(31,053)	13,561

Note 1

Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the economic entity in the preparation of the financial report.

Fixed assets

Each Class of fixed assets is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated using the prime cost method or the diminishing value method over their useful lives to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year together with entitlement arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at their minimal amount. Other employee entitlements payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those entitlements.

Contributions are made by the association to employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

Good and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognized net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of the GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognized as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the Balance Sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year ended 30 June 2013

	2013	2012
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
Receipts from grants	366,614	315,356
Receipts from other sources	51,320	91,010
Payments to suppliers and employees	(405,523)	(375,286)
Interest received	241	391
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities (Note 2)	12,652	31,471
Cash Flow from Investing Activities		
Proceeds from (payment for) property, plant and equipment, and motor vehicles	(325)	(17,104)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(325)	(17,104)
Net increase (decrease) in cash held	12,327	14,367
Cash at beginning of year	226,301	211,934
Cash at end of reporting period (Note 1)	238,628	226,301

Notes to the statement of Cash Flows

Note 1. Reconciliation of Cash Flows

For the purposes of the statement of the cash flows, cash included cash on hand and in call deposits will banks or financial institutions, investments in money market instruments maturing within less than two months, net of bank overdrafts.

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

Cash at the end of the reporting period as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

Cash on Hand	428	2,414
Cash at Bank	238,200	223,887
	238,628	226,301

Note 2. Reconciliation of net cash provided by operating activities to operating profit

Operating result	-	-
Prior year adjustment – Reserves	(44,615)	61,186
Depreciation of Non-current Assets	6,436	5,566
Charges in Net Assets and Liabilities:		
(increase)/decrease in debtors	(11,866)	(18,868)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,413	(32,663)
Increase/(decrease) in income in advance	68,169	(4,478)
Increase/(decrease) in provisions for leave	(6,885)	20,728
	12,652	31,471





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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of PROJECT RESPECT

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of PROJECT RESPECT which comprises the balance sheet as at 30th June 2013, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The management of PROJECT RESPECT are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The management's responsibility also includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies, and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the Management's financial reporting requirement. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

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

Director:
JANE L COLLYER, FCPA
LORD R. ANNO, CA, FBUS
RACHEL L. CPA & CGA



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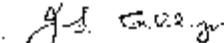
Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the relevant independence requirements.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of PROJECT RESPECT

- (a) gives a true and fair view of PROJECT RESPECT's financial position as at 30th June 2013 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1, and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1.


Jane Collyer
J L COLLYER & PARTNERS

11th November 2013

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