

news

Generous community delivers a joyous Christmas to Karinya

The overwhelming generosity of the Canberra community was once again a source of inspiration for Karinya's Staff and Clients during the Christmas season. In the weeks leading up to Christmas our Staff gratefully accepted donations of gifts, toys and food on a daily and often hourly basis.

It is a privilege for all of us at Karinya to bear witness to this generosity of spirit and endorsement of our work. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the following organisations and individuals for their invaluable support:

AGLOW

AIS Caretaker's Cottage

Attorney General's Department - National Security Capability Development Division

Australian Public Service Commission

Belconnen Baptist Church - Women's Ministry

Calvary Health Care ACT

Canberra Christian Life Centre

Canberra Quilters - Quilts for Others

Catholic Bookshop - Favier House

Centric Wealth

Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Merici College

PricewaterhouseCoopers

Rotary Club of Belconnen

Rotary Club of Canberra North

St Gregory's Parish - Queanbeyan

Spence Children's Cottage

St Vincent de Paul - Kaleen Conference

Stylecraft

Shelley Aitkins

Lois Billings

Marilyn Calliess

Noreen Crozier

Gwen Gleeson

Linda Ivatts

Edna Keir

Doug and Anne Kelly

Claudia Krebs

Linnea Leece

Kerry Lehoczky

Margaret Lloyd

Kerrie Spent

John and Tess Trotter

Rodney Waghorn



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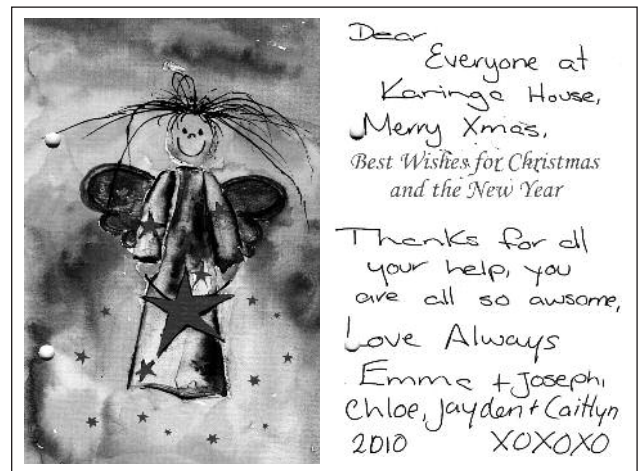
Project 1000 Donation Form **Insert**



Generous community delivers a joyous Christmas to Karinya (from Page 1)

We again acknowledge the tireless efforts of Karinya's Assistant Coordinator, Luisa Lopes, and her family and friends for donating their time to put together Christmas hampers for 40 Clients and their families who are experiencing significant financial and emotional hardship. The hampers, which contained gifts, toys and food, were distributed to 63 babies and children and 48 adults in total.

One of Karinya's outreach Clients, Emma, sent the following Christmas card to thank us for supporting her family at Christmas and throughout 2010:



Karinya's Clients celebrate the festive season

For the second year running Karinya's Clients, Staff and Volunteers celebrated the Christmas season with a poolside sausage sizzle at Dickson Aquatic Centre. Thankfully we were blessed with a reprieve from the rain! For some of our Clients and their babies this was their first ever visit to a pool and it was wonderful to share this exciting experience with them.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable and relaxing day and we thank Staff members, Luisa Lopes and Cate Rolls, for ensuring everything ran smoothly and the other Staff and Volunteers who helped out on the day. Special thanks also to Santa for taking time out of his busy schedule to join us for a sausage sandwich and deliver gifts to our Clients and their children.

from our Management Committee

Dear Friends of Karinya House,

Welcome to 2011! I hope you all had a refreshing and relaxing time over the Christmas and New Year season. I was away in Melbourne with my family, catching up with extended family and friends, feasting, rejoicing and reflecting on what a fortunate life I lead.

As the summer progressed, it was a time of unusual and extreme events. The drought broke and the country flooded, many of us sat watching it unfolding in disbelief. Meanwhile back at Karinya House, it was also a crazy time. Babies don't read calendars and women with complex needs and a magnitude of different vulnerabilities don't either! For some of our Clients, this was a time when the fragile balance of their lives tipped into chaos due to the extra financial and emotional pressure that come with this season.

The effort put in by all the Staff and Volunteers over this time has been extraordinary, even by the very high standards they set themselves and I would like to publicly acknowledge them and to thank them.

I would like to also use this opportunity to thank our donors and supporters. We value the contribution that you make and it is essential to the ongoing service that we provide. Without our committed supporters we would not be able to continue, let alone cope with the intensely demanding situations that our Staff face every day.

Once again you endorsed and supported the Christmas Appeal so generously. To date the Appeal has raised \$9,875.00. There were also large quantities of gifts, food and practical items which were delivered or collected in the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Thank you again for your ongoing interest and support, we are always looking for more financial support and, as you will read on the following page, we are currently reviewing our Corporate and Community Partnership Strategy with a view to increasing our non-government funding sources.

Enjoy this issue of Karinya News and stay with us on the journey with this outstanding organisation and the women and children we serve.



Catherine Cooney
Vice President

Karinya House supports pregnant and parenting women in crisis throughout the ACT and surrounding region by providing supported accommodation, transitional housing and outreach services on a twenty-four hour basis.

Karinya staff work as part of a dynamic and enthusiastic team, assisting women and their families who are among the most vulnerable in our community. The service is focused on early intervention and flexible service delivery. An ability to work compassionately with families, often with complex needs to promote their empowerment and independence, is an essential attribute.

Caseworker

Social and Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award 2010

Fixed Term Contract – Full Time Position. Applicants require tertiary qualifications, relevant training and/or substantial demonstrated experience in casework management and/or health care.

For further enquiries and a position package contact Marie-Louise Corkhill on 6259 8998 during business hours. Written applications addressing the selection criteria are to be received by COB Monday, 21 February 2011.

Applications should be addressed to:

The Coordinator
Box 6 Evatt Newsagency
Evatt ACT 2617
info@karinyahouse.asn.au

 **Karinyahouse**
for mothers & babies

meet our Staff

Cath O'Halloran



Cath first heard about Karinya House from a friend who was a member of our Staff. Despite being the busy mother of three very young children, Cath decided to join our Volunteer team and took on the task of sorting and washing the significant amount of clothing which is donated to Karinya by our generous supporters. "I wanted to volunteer because it sounded like such a worthwhile

organisation but also because I am interested in going into the field of social work and case management so I was keen to find out if this environment would suit me and I would suit it." We are pleased to add that Cath has since commenced welfare study.

Cath enjoyed her Volunteer role so much that she successfully applied for a Client Support Worker when Karinya advertised for casual staff. "The most rewarding thing about working at Karinya House is seeing happy, healthy babies being cared for and loved by their mothers and knowing that we have had some influence on that relationship. The Staff at Karinya have embraced me and my family beautifully. It is an extremely family friendly place to work and has such a happy vibe."

Cath's ability to quickly establish a rapport with our Clients and her wonderful sense of humour has made her popular with our Staff and Clients alike. Cath says she admires our Clients just as much as our Staff for working together to achieve positive outcomes and lasting change in their lives. "People often say to me that we do a wonderful job, but I really believe that it's our Clients who are doing a great job! They have made the decision to come to Karinya and accept our help and I honestly think that makes them very brave."

Announcing Karinya's new Corporate and Community Partnership Strategy

Karinya's Management Committee approved a proposed review of the way in which our corporate and community partners are acknowledged at their last meeting for 2010. It had been determined that the existing structure of the Project 100 appeal was no longer sufficient as a means of retaining existing partnerships and securing new sponsorship partners.

Many charitable organisations adopt a tiered approach to attracting and acknowledging corporate and community sponsorship. The tiers are incremental and are based on the contribution being made by a particular business or organisation.

In consultation with Frances Corkhill and Markus Gibson-Huck, who are members of our Fundraising Sub-Committee, Karinya has chosen to adopt a similar approach. Frances and Markus have extensive professional knowledge and experience in corporate partnerships and marketing and with their help the following Corporate and Community Partnership Strategy has been devised.

Project 100 will be replaced with a tiered model based on the financial, contra or pro bono contribution being made per annum by a particular corporate or community partner. This model will be used to determine the way in which these partners are publicly acknowledged, including future issues of Karinya News and in Karinya's Annual Report.

In the coming months we will be writing to our existing corporate and community partners and providing them with further details regarding the tiered model. They will be advised which tier they are in now and how their support will be acknowledged by Karinya House.

We of course remain extremely grateful for the significant support we receive from hundreds of individuals and families through the Project 1000 appeal and for the funding we receive from the ACT Department of Disability, Housing and Community Services. However, if Karinya is to remain viable into the future and realise our vision for a Cluster Housing Facility, significant corporate and community support is vital.

Further, we will write to former corporate and community partners who have not contributed in recent years and invite them to resume their partnership with Karinya. A sponsorship drive for new corporate and community partners will also be undertaken once the strategy is in place.

We look forward to adopting this exciting new strategy as we strive to secure the sponsorship of new partners who wish to embrace Karinya House and the vulnerable women, children and families in our care as part of their corporate and community responsibilities.

Karinya's upcoming fundraising ventures – save the date!

Mother's Day Ball

Karinya House will proudly be hosting our second annual Mother's Day Ball in May 2011. The evening will comprise a three-course meal, music and entertainment, lucky door prizes, raffles and live auctions.

Location: The Corinna Ballroom
Canberra Southern Cross Club,
Corinna Street, Woden

Date: Friday 6 May 2011

Time: 6:30pm

Tickets: \$100 per person (or \$800 for a table of 10)

Bookings: Please contact Jackie Gallagher at Karinya House on (02) 6241 8427 or via email at jackie.gallagher@karinyahouse.asn.au

Winter Wine & Unwind at The Brassey

Now in its third year, the Winter Wine & Unwind once again promises an afternoon of escapism from our dreary Canberra winter. The Barton Ballroom at The Brassey is the perfect backdrop to sample delightful wine and produce from our local region and treat yourself to the free pampering activities available – massage, manicures and more. Our exhibitors will also be selling and/or taking orders for their products on the day.

Fabulous raffle prizes will be on offer and guests who purchase a raffle ticket will be treated to a complimentary cup of mulled wine!

This event is not just for the ladies, gentlemen are more than welcome.

Location: The Brassey of Canberra
Belmore Gardens, Barton

Tickets: \$20 per person

Date: Sunday 7 August 2011

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Bookings: Please contact Jackie Gallagher at Karinya House on (02) 6241 8427 or via email at jackie.gallagher@karinyahouse.asn.au

A special Christmas gift for Elizabeth and Apajok

In the last issue of Karinya News we featured an article about Erin House resident, Elizabeth and her daughter Apajok. Elizabeth was anticipating the birth of her baby and was due to give birth on 27 December. Elizabeth was homeless, pregnant and with a toddler when she first came to Karinya House in August 2010.

By way of an update we are delighted to announce that Elizabeth gave birth to a beautiful baby girl, Anna Aluel, on Boxing Day; by far the most exciting Christmas gift she and Apajok could hope for! Anna Aluel, pictured here, continues to thrive and Apajok is delighted (most of the time!) with her new baby sister.



a very special thank you to...

Corpus Christi Parish



For the past 18 months Karinya House has been gratefully receiving donations from the parishioners at Corpus Christi Parish by way of the One 2 One Project. Karinya was one of five beneficiary charities selected to participate in the Project, which also raised funds to cover the cost of an extension to the Holy Family Church in Gowrie.

Karinya recently received a letter from Parish Priest, Fr John Armstrong, who wrote "The One 2 One Project has now closed and it has been a successful undertaking for the Parish. It has also been a significant exercise working with the five charities and being able to enlighten our parishioners about these organisations."

The One 2 One Project raised a total of \$3,481.50 for Karinya House and we extend our heartfelt thanks to the members of the Corpus Christi Parish community for their generosity throughout the duration of the Project.

Centric Wealth



In November last year we were contacted by Maria Hancock, State Adviser Support Manager ACT, at Centric Wealth who had some very exciting news. Maria informed us that Karinya had been chosen as the recipient charity for Centric Wealth's 2010 Christmas Appeal. The Appeal is undertaken each year and Centric Wealth's Staff and Clients are invited to make a financial contribution to a nominated charity.

Maria comments, "We have always been conscious of endeavouring to provide as much support as possible within our local community and a number of years ago at Christmas time decided instead of sending Christmas cards or gifts to our Clients that we would use this money to support a local charity by way of hamper items and monetary donations. We also extended an invitation to our Clients for their participation and have been extremely overwhelmed by their generosity and support."



"This year we decided to give our Clients the opportunity to provide suggestions for a suitable charity and although we received responses for a number of very worthy charities, we received several nominations for Karinya House."

The response to the Appeal was once again overwhelming with a total of \$11,705.00 raised to directly support Karinya's vital work as well as an abundance of beautiful gifts and food

for our Clients and their families. We wholeheartedly thank all who contributed the success of the Appeal.

Pictured here are Maria and Sophie from Centric Wealth who visited Karinya prior to Christmas to personally deliver the gifts and food which had been collected as part of the Appeal.

Ablaze Total Solutions



For several years Karinya's Staff and Volunteers have been participating in regular First Aid and Workplace Safety training sessions facilitated by Kay Merceica from Ablaze Total Solutions.

Kay individually tailors the sessions to suit Karinya's needs in working with pregnant and postnatal women, babies and young children.



In recent times Kay has extended her support for Karinya's work to include assisting us to undertake a comprehensive Risk Management review of the service on a voluntary basis. This involved Kay devoting countless hours of her time to ensure that a high standard of practice is paramount within the organisation.

Kay says, "It is really hard to put into words how I feel about Karinya and what you all do but we at Ablaze value the partnership we have with Karinya in working towards safe and healthy environments for Staff, Clients and their babies. I love my visits to Karinya, with such wonderful Staff and Volunteers, and it is great to watch the Clients grow in confidence during the sessions on safety and first aid for mothers and babies."

Kay was recently presented a Certificate of Appreciation for the substantial contribution she has made to our organisation and we look forward to working with her well into the future.

Jazz Apple Cupcake Emporium



When Sharon Mitchell, owner of the renowned Jazz Apple Cupcake Emporium in City Walk, heard about Karinya's work she wanted to do something practical to help.

Sharon approached OzHarvest, who are also proud community partners with Karinya House, and asked them to partner with her in undertaking regular deliveries of cupcakes to Karinya using their refrigerated van.



The team at OzHarvest agreed and each and every Client and their children now receives a beautiful box of delicious Jazz Apple cupcakes on their birthday.

Sharon comments, "We are thrilled to be associated with Karinya House as it is an outstanding example of what can be achieved in our community when we all work together."

"The women and children of Karinya House are so deserving of every single cupcake that we are blessed enough to deliver to them. Jazz Apple is proud to be able to help change the world, one cupcake at a time."

Sharon was also recently presented with a Certificate of Appreciation as a way of acknowledging the joy she has brought to our Clients and their children through this wonderful gesture.

How you can help Karinya House...

Project 1000

Please consider providing much needed financial support to Karinya House by subscribing to Project 1000 or renewing your commitment if you have not donated recently.

For further information please contact the House on 6259 8998. A Project 1000 donation form is also included in this issue of Karinya News.

Membership

Are you a member of Karinya House?

We greatly value our supporters and would not be able to continue the service without you.

As an Incorporated Association, Karinya House also requires a good complement of financial members who support the Objects of Karinya House and demonstrate through membership the support of the work of the Association.

It would be a great demonstration of the support for all the wonderful work of our Staff and Volunteers if, in addition to providing financial and other in-kind support to Karinya House, our supporters would also become members of the Association.

Membership is \$20.00 per annum (plus a one-off \$1 joining fee). It also helps defray the costs of providing Karinya News to all of our supporters, which is a vital way of communicating to you and the community, the happenings at Karinya House.

For further information or to obtain a membership form please contact the House on 6259 8998.

Donations

We are currently in need of the following items for our Clients and their babies:

- Bassinettes and mattresses (urgently)
- Cots and mattresses (urgently)
- Towels and face washers for babies (urgently)
- Bassinette sheets and blankets (winter weight)
- Size 00000, 0000 and 000 clothing for boys and girls (especially singlets)

- Baby bottles
- Baby baths
- Nappy bags
- Bunny rugs
- Change tables
- Prams (suitable for newborn babies)
- Rockers/baby bouncers

\$10 or \$20 gift vouchers from Coles/Myer, Kmart, Woolworths or Big W will also be gratefully accepted. The cards will be used to give to our clients as gifts and for emergency food relief.

Financial contributions to allow us to purchase for the following practical items would also be most welcome:

- **A treadmill** (to allow our Clients to exercise regardless of the weather conditions)
- **Two change-tables** which contain baby baths in the top section (to be used by our residential Clients at Karinya and Erin Houses)

Newsletter and Mailout Volunteers

We rely on the generous support of groups and individuals to carry out the folding and labelling of each issue of Karinya News. Our continued thanks to Judy McDonald and the wonderful Staff at PricewaterhouseCoopers for once again volunteering their time to bring you our last issue of Karinya News.

Our supporters would also be aware that we carry out various other mailouts over the course of the year and rely on a generous team of volunteers to assist us each time with this task. We are grateful to the wonderful group of volunteers who generously gave up their time in the very busy lead up to Christmas to assist us with our Christmas card and appeal mailout.

If you are able to assist with a future issue of Karinya News or would like to join the group of volunteers who assist with mailouts to our supporters, please contact Jackie Gallagher via email at jackie.gallagher@karinyahouse.asn.au or by calling (02) 6241 8427.

Karinya House gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the following Corporate, Community and Government partners.

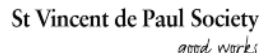
Funded by:



Major supporters:



Associated supporters:



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