



compelled
by love

ANNUAL REPORT
17-18





The **love** starts here



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INTRODUCTION

Letter from the ceo



'Partnership' is the word that comes to mind as I reflect on another incredible year for Compelled By Love (CbL). It's at the heart of the way we work and seek to engage with our project partners, our supporters, and those who we are ultimately trying to reach. It's encompassed within our core values of people and collaboration. For us, partnership is about more than a contract or an agreement - its essence is relationship. Relationship that is built on trust, common goals, mutual understanding, humility and respect; and that grows and deepens over time through friendship, being together and knowing each other better.

Partnership is a privilege - it's not a right or an entitlement, but a gift that is given which needs to be nurtured and maintained. Partnership can never be one-way - all involved give and contribute to the partnership, as well as receive from it. That is so important to us - that at every level, with every stakeholder and participator in our work, there is a partnership relationship in which there is sharing back and forth, and everyone benefits as well as makes sacrifices to be part of the two-way nature of partnership. This may be a new perspective for some of us,

as we can have the understanding that in this kind of work, there are those who are on the receiving end, and those who give. But we seek and endeavour to experience partnership in every aspect and interaction we have as an organisation.

For those we work with, whether that be young people in Australia, students in India and Rwanda or those experiencing trauma in Rwanda - they sacrifice and give so much of themselves in order to receive from us. All we can offer each individual is an opportunity. To receive the benefits that can come from that opportunity, they have to become vulnerable, they have to let go of fear and take risks, and they have to work extremely hard. Much of the hard work is inner work at the emotional and heart level - not always obvious to those on the outside, but vital and usually much more difficult than any physical thing we might do. But there is much physical sacrifice as well, as often poverty and physical circumstances require being prepared to go to great lengths just to show up.

For our project partners, they are our connection and where we invest our resources to see impact and make a difference - what they personally

invest to journey alongside people has a huge cost that is unseen to most of us – very real and tangible cost like giving up the income and security that can come from a ‘normal’ job in the for-profit sector, time with their families, and physical health. The cost is so great because they in turn partner with those they work with – they don’t simply manage a resource and they don’t give out handouts – they enter into people’s lives and provide long term practical and emotional support.

For our supporters, you give so much of your finances, your time, and other resources to advocate and connect people. Often, a relationship with a nonprofit organisation can be viewed from the one-sided perspective of supporters give, and organisations receive. But in your relationship with CbL, our goal once again is partnership – that is what we offer. Our stance is not one of trying to get something from you – rather, we seek to offer a partnership in which you receive a gift that is beyond measure and much more than any of us could ever contribute. Those we work with also contribute something else that is so significant – they give their stories. They open their lives and share their brokenness and their heartache, as well as their triumphs and success.

We receive so much from these stories as we learn from their experiences, resilience and strength and are challenged in our own situations and perspectives. But more than that, what we receive is the incredible privilege of having played a part in the transformation of someone’s life, of someone moving from hopelessness to hope, from trauma and brokenness to healing, from poverty to opportunity and future. There truly is no measure of value that can be placed on the absolute joy that it is to have the means and the chance to be generous, and to see that generosity overflow into making someone’s life better.

There is no price that can be placed on seeing entire families, communities and generations empowered, simply through us giving out of the abundance we have – which comes from living in our country, with all the services and support we have available to us.

As you embark on the Annual Report 2017-2018, receive it as our gift to you, as part of our partnership together. Every dollar and every volunteer hour has incredible value and significance and is part of a collective. We partner with you as an individual and your individual contribution touches someone’s life, but it also joins with the contributions of others which results in literally hundreds of stories of genuine impact that we all share in together.

The stories shared here are just a handful of voices that represent similar stories over and over. Each story is unique and no journey is the same, but the general narrative is unified in that your partnership has created an opportunity that has resulted in lives changed! We’ve shared the facts and figures, but kept that brief so that it is the stories that speak.

Our greatest privilege is to partner with God in the work He is doing on earth. As a Christian organisation, we recognise that not all share our faith and we celebrate the unity we have in diversity – but we acknowledge that the foundation of CbL and the amazing impact we see is not due simply to a great model, fantastic partners, effective projects and a generous team of supporters and volunteers – all of that requires the work of God in order to take root in people’s lives, and that is the true source of long-term change.

Be encouraged, be inspired, and above all be blessed as you experience through this report what an amazing blessing you’ve been to others!

Love always,



Karen Visser
CEO

WHO WE ARE

Our mission

In case you're new to Compelled By Love (CbL), our mission is that we are compelled by love to see things made right where poverty and brokenness exist. We work collaboratively to build capacity in local organisations, in order to release potential, restore dignity and reconcile relationships.

Our vision

Thriving **communities** that support, connect, empower and inspire **individuals** taking steps towards wholeness, full potential and restored dignity, facilitated by effective, local **organisations** who are affirmed, encouraged and increased in capacity through collaboration with **Compelled By Love** living out our calling and unique shape for the service of others, enabled by **supporters** who advocate and give to see lives transformed.

Our values

Love, people, excellence, collaboration, integrity, prayer.

How we work

We're all about partnership! We partner with our supporters to connect finance, skills, experience, resource and knowledge to local NGOs that are experts in their field.

We're all about participation and empowerment! We don't do things *for* people, but we work *with* people to provide opportunities for them to enact transformation in their own lives.

We respect the dignity of people, and recognise that even those in deep poverty have abilities and assets in themselves that can create capacity when combined with opportunity.

As an organisation, Compelled By Love's role is to function as partners, collaborators, and capacity-builders, and we extend a continuous invitation to others to join us in partnership.

What we do

Here in Australia, Compelled By Love have a local project focused on young people - helping both youth at risk and young leaders to discover and reach their potential.

Overseas, we have project partnerships in India and Rwanda. Projects in India are focused on education, while our work in Rwanda centres around trauma counselling, rehabilitation and reconciliation support in response to the devastating impact of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi.



"I never thought I could understand feelings, but I can, I can, you guys have shown me I can."

- Participant in *Sailing On*, who is living with autism.





*Turiumwe co-operative, meaning 'we are one' –
living out reconciliation by working together.*



Australia

Developing the leaders of the next generation and helping young people see their own potential and be empowered to make positive choices for themselves.

We supported two Phase 2 processes of *No Limits* at Keysborough Secondary College in terms 3 and 4 of 2017, with 29 students participating.

We supported four Phase 1 processes of *No Limits* at Keysborough Secondary college in terms 1 and 2 of 2018, with 50 students participating.

We contributed support to *Sailing On* 2018.

We connected two volunteers for *No Limits* Phase 1 and 2, and two volunteers for a day trip with *Unlimited* (*No Limits* for primary aged students).



AUSTRALIA

No Limits

Phase 2, 2017 and Phase 1, 2018



“I’ve been handing in more work, listening to teachers and feel really good about school since doing No Limits - I feel proud of myself now.” Participant.

CbL’s work in Australia is focused on young people - working to develop the leaders of the next generation, and helping youth at risk of homelessness and facing various issues to see their own potential and be empowered to make positive choices for themselves.

We do this in partnership with YaFT-Xplore (Youth and Family Therapy), who have been working with youth in Australia for over 25 years and have an incredible amount of love, experience and dedication. The *No Limits* process helps to ground young people in truth as they seek to figure out who they are and what life is about - to build a foundation in them which is about realising they have value, they have worth, they have skills, they have potential, they have something to contribute, and they matter.

There are so many influences that tell young people the opposite of these things - discovering that they have worth, that they are loved and that people care about them enables young people to make positive choices for themselves. *No Limits* teaches these truths through active-based learning, in which the young people actually experience these things rather than just hearing them or being told.

The *No Limits* process is run in two phases over the school year. Students are selected to be involved in the program in conjunction with the school and are allocated class time each week to participate.

Each phase of the process runs for approximately eight weeks, with students who are really benefitting from Phase 1 and challenging themselves, encouraged to go on to Phase 2. Phase 1 includes a day trip to a ropes course, and Phase 2 includes an overnight hike at Mount Erica.





"I feel I know more about myself and how other people might feel. I've learnt how important trust really is for my future."



No Limits is.. "changing me in everyday life. I'm doing homework more, handing in more work, listening to teachers, my attitude to school changed."

I've learnt to.. "think in different ways, it's good to ...listen and consider everyone's thoughts."



"I'm more forgiving and trust people more."



STORIES FROM AUSTRALIA

Story 1

One of the girls in Phase 1 would use joking and being loud to keep herself 'safe within her shell' and distract the group from exploring deeper issues. Towards the end of Phase 1, she was supported to be aware of this protection and also supported to trust herself and the group to try different strategies. In her interview for a place in Phase 2, she stated she would commit to "boost confidence, leave her shell, work with new people, improve her teamwork and take more risks".

This young woman has truly settled into Phase 2 and is making conscious effort to be active in the group, offer reflections in group discussions, to consciously support others and is taking risks when a challenge is offered. In a recent trust activity, she was one of only a few who had a second go to challenge herself further and during the trust activity she was comforting another girl who was struggling. This is such a solid example of young people choosing to explore their self-concept, grow towards their potential and choose healthy strategies that support growth and development.

Story 2

One young woman began Phase 1 with her hair constantly covering her face. She struggled to find her voice and would shrink from being part of the group. In Phase 2, she now stands tall, has her hair back, contributes to group discussions, tackles the trust challenges, chooses to go in small groups without her close friend and is often smiling. This speaks of deep, lasting change that is being reinforced and further encouraged in Phase 2.

"Volunteering was rewarding, enjoyable, nice to be a part of, and well facilitated. I loved how it was inclusive and encouraging, doing things in circles so all voices are heard. I appreciated the experience and could see how being there as a volunteer really freed up others to focus on the students."

- Mark Lennon, Westpac.





Quotes from students.

What's the best thing about this process?

"The day trips and the deep talks we had."

"It's fun and it makes me confident."

"Trust is the best thing."

Taught me "more about what I can achieve if I actually try. I've started trying now."

"The friends I made and also the deep talks."

"Finding my true potential."

Understanding your self-concept.

"It has made me more confidence in myself in front of others."

"This helped me with my low self-esteem made me feel quite nice."

"I find this helpful for me a lot, because how you guys teach us how to be leader. I used that to help someone with depression and now she's fine."

"I think its been worthwhile because it has helped me get better at understanding what other people feel."

"I've quiented more to be a more better listener and read and see others views better."

"I'm able to speak up more in class and answer teachers."

"I'm more aware, think more about risks and believing in myself and my potential."

"Humour has changed, I'm more relaxed. My anger has changed, I walk away from it and am dealing with it personally."

Respecting others.

"I smile more and say hi to more people and accept them."

"Now that I have completed the course, I can now respect others way more."

"Is really important to me because respect other have so many positive improvement in your life."

Trust and co-operation.

"My trust for my mates have doubled after the course."

"That trusting others can feel good."

From written feedback.

"I've been handing in more work, listening to teachers and feel really good about school since doing No Limits - I feel proud of myself now."

"I can actually be social with people now."

"I started being happier, allowing people to support me, trusting more, got better at listening."

"I've become nicer, this is a huge one. I realise being nice is a little thing that can make another person's day."

Leaders - No Limits - What the leaders saw in the students

"Leader. You have grown in your confidence and ability to influence others."

"Confident. You started out by hiding in every way possible, but throughout Phase 2, you have found yourself and your voice."

"Courage. You have taken every obstacle head on and have pushed yourself to shrink any gap or fear that has held you back in the past."

"Strength. You have really found your footing during Phase 2. Your confidence and boldness that were hiding within have truly burst into colour."

Understanding our gaps (fears).

"Even if we may be different we can help each other [challenge our fears], like puzzle pieces."

AUSTRALIA

Sailing On

Phase 3 of No Limits

"I am approaching my brothers more calmly and we are getting on better, it's still difficult but better." - Participant.

Sailing On forms Phase 3 of *No Limits* and is a Bush Adventure Therapy (BAT) program that runs over six months, with a nine-day sailing expedition at its core.

BAT aims to assist young people to rediscover their potential, build self-efficacy, resilience and confidence, develop team work, and learn helpful behaviours and life coping skills.

It is a practical way for young people to discover who they are and what they are able to achieve when they are provided with a safe space, and they choose to set their mind and heart to something.

A young man who chose to come on *Sailing On* has been struggling with negative thoughts, sometimes quite powerful and destructive. One of his goals for *Sailing On* was to keep these thoughts out during the journey and to develop strategies for keeping them out once back home.

The young man was surprised at his learning, growth and experience on the journey. He stated at one point "I never thought I'd be able to understand feelings, but with these reflections I can, it's amazing!" It was a very real revelation that

feelings could be understood and learnt from. This was a result of daily reflections, group and individual chats, listening to each other and expressing truthfully in a safe therapeutic space what each other were thinking and feeling.

This is a massive shift for this young man and has brought significant hope into his life 'back home'. On returning home he spoke with a number of his friends and told them he is having time out from them as he needs to be in a positive space and get his thinking right. He told them their group was often negative and so doesn't want that. He said he still considers them as friends but needs some space right now.

When this young man was talking to his father about telling his friends he would have time out, his father asked if he wanted some support about what to say.

The son replied, "No thanks, I've already told them." This was only a few days after the journey. This is such a courageous choice for a teenage boy to make and clearly indicates his commitment to change and growth. His father reported being surprised and proud at the changes his son has and is making.



VOLUNTEER REFLECTION

Tina Pham

2018 volunteer from 3fold Resources Pty Ltd.



“Everything was over my expectations! I’m willing to contribute, Rob has a passion to do it. Everything is well organised” - Tina Pham.

With YaFT we have been doing activities, helping students understand about their potential, their value as a person, being more open and friendly, understanding themselves more, working together with other people.

On the day trip, the ropes course, they had to work together to make sure no one falls off, everyone has to fit, they find a way even though it seems impossible - everyone cheers and encourages each other! Lots of activities seem impossible to get to, but in the end they can do it - there’s lots of teamwork.

I found the trust fall difficult and the high jump because I’m scared of heights. I

have found this experience valuable for my personal life. My son is the same age, so I go home and apply it at home. It’s helpful to make them understand more. There were a lot of things I didn’t know before, but now I’m learning more and using it at home. I’m impressed by how tolerant and patient Rob [Coller] is with the kids.

I definitely enjoyed the process. It’s helpful for the process and yourself to get more involved. Expands the meaningfulness of the process to people. The more you are involved, the more you understand how good the process is.

The process has a lot of impact on the students. They are really changing from day one. They are more open, build up trust of other people, teamwork, more friendly with others. Such a large impact in a short period. And it can be carried on in the future. They understand themselves more and can go from one point and develop further.

Everything was over my expectations! I’m willing to contribute, Rob has a passion to do it. Everything is well organised.

A great memory was the camping day - crossing the river. We had to carry the sleeper from one side to the other until everyone is over the other side. Everyone is mucking around until they hear they must complete it in order to have lunch. A quiet boy starts to talk and give suggestions. Everyone jumped back over to the BBQ as soon as they completed it.”

PARTNER REFLECTION

Robert and Karen Coller

The dynamic duo behind YaFT-Xplore



“We count ourselves fortunate indeed to have CbL behind us” - Robert Coller.

“Our partnership with Compelled By Love is one that has been crucial to the continuation and development of YaFT-Xplore. A foundational element of our partnership has been the trusting, relational aspect - knowing we have an agency (CbL) with an involved and prayerful Board, who believe in our work and in us, has been fundamental to YaFT-Xplore.

This valued relationship has led to active and significant support of many kinds, such as volunteers becoming part of the *No Limits* processes, regular contact with CbL representatives about how we are travelling, genuine interest in us, the

young people we support, families, youth workers and teachers we are supporting as well as the timely funding which enables us to focus on the ministry as our work.

The knowledge that there are people we can call to discuss issues, who provide accountability with integrity and hold the young people’s best interests in hand and heart, assists us in going out to confidently offer support to many young people and families in difficult circumstances.

We count ourselves fortunate indeed to have CbL behind us and are thankful and aware of how their willingness to lead in support of us leads to many fruitful blessings to others.”



India

Giving children the opportunity to receive an education that leads not only to employment, but to the development of the whole person.

We supported a medical camp in May 2018 in Kundi village. 111 people benefitted from the medical camp, having access to doctors and medical treatment.

CbL Board Members Marty and Fiona visited partners in India in May 2018 - a great time of sharing, reflecting and dreaming together, and spending time with the beautiful students!

We continued to support 12 students to receive an education, with students in primary school, secondary school and university.

Nine of the students we support aren't able to live with their families, and so also receive accommodation in a loving home environment during school terms.

Two new students were sponsored this year! You can see the big smiles for Tinu and Purvi now that they have the opportunity to go to school.





INDIA

Medical Camp

In Kundi village



Kundi village is a remote village in need of medical services. We supported our local partner, Aasara, as they partnered with a local hospital to send a team of medical staff - including doctors, nurses, a dietician and a social worker - to enable those in the village to seek medical treatment.

Through this medical camp, 111 people were able to see a doctor and receive basic medicines, free of charge.

Providing people with access to basic services helps to restore dignity and is an opportunity to engage with the broader community. Partnering with local hospitals provides the opportunity for professionals to serve their communities and engage with poverty.

INDIA

CbL Visit

Nagpur



***"I would like to become a policeman to serve the community, help change the community and put an end to bribes."* - Om.**

CbL love spending time with our partners! We aim to visit our overseas partners annually, to deepen and develop our relationships, build greater mutual understanding, spend time listening, and evaluate and reflect on our work together.

Our Board visit to India in March 2018 was a fantastic and special time together with our partner, Aasara. Of course, one of the

main highlights was spending time with the students we are supporting, seeing how they have grown and developed, and hearing about their hopes and dreams for the future.

In spending time with our partners, and the students, there were lots of laughs and memories made, as well as greater understanding of how both of our organisations function, and how we can best work together. A highlight of the trip was the opportunity to bless the students by taking them out to see a Hindi movie and then enjoy pizza for lunch.



INDIA

Education Sponsorship

“I would like to be a bank officer to help needy and poor people by giving them knowledge about government schemes by the finance department.” – Sharon.

Our goals in India are firstly to provide opportunities for those from poor, vulnerable and marginalised backgrounds to receive quality education.

Secondly, where needed, to provide accommodation in a loving, caring, family environment for students who are unable to undertake education opportunities at home.

And finally, to support the families of these students through visits, encouragement, advocacy and medical assistance – engaging with individual students, their broader families and then the community as a whole.

Essentially, this project is about education sponsorship – but in reality, it encompasses so much more than that. It’s fairly straightforward to pay for a student to go to school. But for CbL, education is not only about receiving a high school certificate – it’s about learning to think for yourself, about developing as a person mentally, socially, emotionally and spiritually, it’s about values and understanding and being empowered to make decisions and become a contributing citizen. It’s about being in a position at the end of the sponsorship to go on to employment, independence and self-sustainability.

To achieve these outcomes, a high level of commitment and a holistic approach is required. The students need to attend good quality schools where they will be taught well and really have the opportunity to learn.

They may require tutoring depending on the previous education they have had access to. They need nutritious food and healthcare so that they are in a position to study. They need to feel valued and loved and be inspired with hope for the future so that they begin to develop goals and aspirations and the drive they will need to succeed.

They also need to know that their families are ok and doing well, as problems in the family create stress for students. Together with our partner, we aim to facilitate all of this and more, and it is such a joy to work together for these students and their families.

Lack of education is a key issue that not only keeps people in India in a state of poverty, but also puts those who have recently escaped poverty at risk of falling back into it. Providing quality education is a strategy to ensure that students have the opportunity to reach their potential and gain crucial life skills and social skills, as well as becoming employable. Employment secures not only their future, but also the future of their families yet to come, as well as their existing families whom they will be able to help care for and support.



INTRODUCING OUR STUDENTS

Sharon & Shimon**Siblings**

Sharon and Shimon are siblings. Sharon is 19 and in her second year at university, studying a Bachelor of Commerce. Shimon is 18 and is also studying a Bachelor of Commerce, he's in his first year. A couple of future accountants in the making! Sharon and Shimon's mother, Sarika, has struggled to raise her children as a widow. As her children have been supported in their education, Sarika has also worked hard to better her situation and this year obtained work with the Home Guard in India, improving her financial position. We were also able to obtain some scholarship funds from the Government for Sharon, due to her difficult background, which has been great to assist with her education.

INTRODUCING OUR STUDENTS

Ankit & Santoshi**Siblings**

Ankit and Santoshi are brother and sister. Santoshi is 18 and Ankit is 16. Santoshi is in her final year of college (our equivalent of year 12), studying a science combination, and hopes to become a doctor. Ankit is in year 10. Their mother, Janki, is a widow and works very hard as a labourer to support herself. She lives and works on construction sites, which is very difficult for her. This year she has struggled a lot with sickness, but our project partner has been able to stand with her and support her in that, taking her to hospital and caring for her medical needs, and she is now doing much better.

INTRODUCING OUR STUDENTS

Harsh K, Om & Yamini

Siblings



You can see that Harsh K, Om and Yamini are siblings! Harsh is 16, Om is 15 and Yamini is 13. Om and Yamini are in high school, and Harsh is in his final year of college (our equivalent of year 12), studying an Arts combination. Their mother, Wanita, is a widow and relies on her extended family for support. She was able to undertake a computer course this year which was offered by the Government, and we hope to see her have opportunities for employment through this.

INTRODUCING OUR STUDENTS

Purvi & Tinu

New Students



Purvi and Tinu are our new students! Purvi and Tinu both come from extreme poverty and to see the difference in their faces now that they are able to go to school is amazing! Purvi is 11 years old and in grade five. Tinu is 12 years old and in grade six.



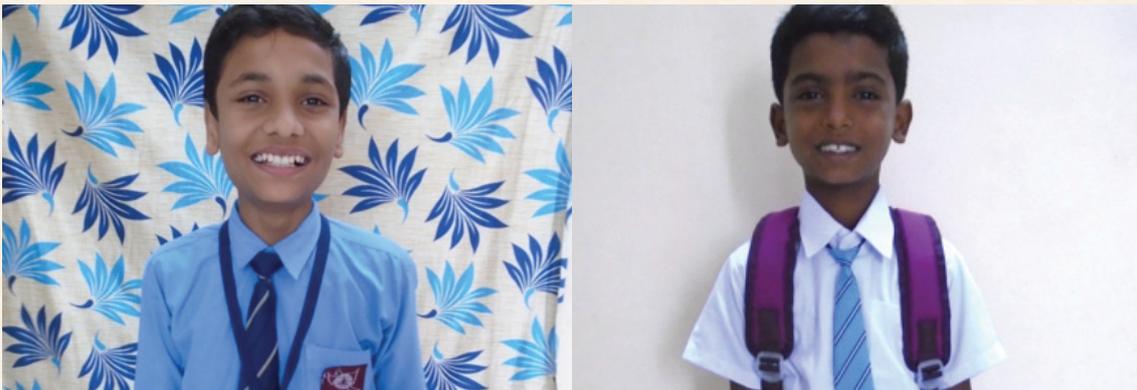
INTRODUCING OUR STUDENTS

Tashu



Tashu is 16 and in her first year of college (our equivalent of year 11), studying a science combination. Tashu would like to work in the health sector, either as a doctor or nurse. Tashu's mother is a widow and has also suffered the tragedy of Tashu's younger sister passing away.

Anuj & Harsh T



Anuj is 15 and in his first year of college (our equivalent of year 11), studying a commerce combination. Anuj is a quiet and shy young man, and still overcoming trauma in his life, having lost his mother when he was just five years old. He has a great smile though, and we are seeing this more and more as he benefits from the love and care of the home environment.

Harsh T is the youngest student we support, just ten years old! He's in grade four, is very smart and doing well!



All of these precious young people have lost a parent - Anuj his mother, and all of the others, their father. Loss and poverty had robbed them of opportunity and hope for the future. But now, they are receiving education that is life-transforming for them and their families! Some of these students we've been investing in for over ten years already - it's incredible to see the journey from where they were, to where they are now.





Rwanda

Seeing individuals and communities transformed through trauma counselling, education sponsorship, leadership development, socio-economic enterprise and special projects.

Empower - building resilience and alleviating physical and psychological symptoms of trauma.

Education sponsorship - a long term investment in the development of the whole person, to change not only their future, but that of their family and the generations to come.

Leadership development - focused on our partners, seeking to invest in them so that their organisations are strengthened, enabling the work to continue long term into the future, providing sustainability.

Socio-economic enterprise - providing practical ways for people to continue in their journey of healing, forgiveness and reconciliation.

Special projects - restoring dignity and value by responding to housing, counselling and medical needs.



RWANDA

Empower

Building resilience and alleviating physical and psychological symptoms of trauma.

We supported 12 *Empower* programs, which saw 433 people receive access to trauma counselling.

We supported 12 Eighth day programs for *Empower* facilitators, at which they received further training as well as debriefing and support.

We supported 11 Follow Up programs, connecting with 414 previous *Empower* participants to track their journey and provide ongoing support and input.

We supported home visits to 193 *Empower* participants.

Trauma rehabilitation and reconciliation work through the use of the *Empower* program is the central aspect to our work in Rwanda - the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi has left millions of people traumatised, and unable to move forward, and communities completely shattered with victims and perpetrators living together, but in suspicion and fear, and plotting revenge and suicide. We have found that people are unable to improve their physical lives and circumstances, until they first receive some healing from their experiences. Once people have journeyed through *Empower*, through our partners we are able to then offer complimentary interventions of education sponsorship and socio-economic enterprise to help them continue their healing and come up out of material poverty.

Empower is run over a period of seven days, with groups of 36 participants. Its aim is to alleviate the effects of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and build resilience in people's lives, particularly for those from poor communities who do not have the resources to seek help on their own. The program teaches and guides the participants step by step, with each day building on what was learnt and discovered the previous day.

Participants are given the opportunity and taught to share their stories in a safe way that does not result in re-traumatisation.

Empower has two parts - the first section focuses on trauma and equipping the participants with skills to process their experiences and deal with the symptoms of trauma. Participants report being able to share their story with another person for the first time, sleeping through the night for the first time since the genocide, and healing of other trauma-related physical symptoms such as headaches and chronic pain.

The second part teaches about forgiveness, and how forgiving is like releasing a burden that opens the way to hope and freedom. After *Empower*, participants share about the restoration of relationships between husbands and wives, parents and children and genocide victims and perpetrators.

Empower includes the seven day program, followed by an 'Eighth Day' which is for the ongoing care, training and development of the facilitators, and a Follow Up program for all the participants three months after the initial program.





Empower outcomes

True forgiveness from genocide survivors towards perpetrators.

Understanding of the weight of their crimes and true repentance from genocide perpetrators, resulting in public confessions, asking for forgiveness and acts of restitution.

Resolving inner conflict through self-forgiveness.

Reconciliation between husbands and wives.

Turning away from plans of revenge.

Understanding about the source of family conflicts and therefore how to address them.

Restored sleep through learning to manage thoughts.

Genocide perpetrators set free from shame and fear through interacting with survivors and receiving forgiveness.

Healing from chronic headaches.

Shaking hands, hugging, and home visits and meetings between genocide survivors and perpetrators - first steps towards reconciliation and restored relationships.

Changes in thinking in terms of approach to daily life; how they live with their spouses; how they raise their children; how they live with their neighbours - decisions to change behaviour and apply the lessons from *Empower* for better living for themselves and those around them.

Restored joy - going from being unable to smile or finding it difficult to smile, to rediscovering enjoyment in life.

Reopening of relationships in community - genocide perpetrators and survivors allowing their children to mingle and play together, where previously they wouldn't allow this.

Initiating friendships and no longer hiding problems, but finding someone to share life issues with.

Gaining employment and starting businesses due to renewed purpose in life and overcoming feelings of helplessness.

Increased income due to changed behaviour in starting savings, working their land, ceasing to waste income on alcohol and refocusing on developing their families and situation.

Acts of restitution including paying back property that had been destroyed during the genocide.

Acts of forgiveness including survivors releasing perpetrators from debts to pay back for destroyed property.

STORIES FROM EMPOWER PARTICIPANTS

Mary and Immanuel

"Mary* had developed a strong hatred to the family of Immanuel* due to their role in killing her father during the Genocide Against the Tutsi. Immanuel's brother killed Mary's father during the genocide. Immanuel also took part in killing other innocent Tutsis during the genocide. Mary tried to take revenge and she killed their sheep, but Immanuel's family did not take her to court due to the fear and shame they had.

Immanuel was born to a single mother and grew-up with a step-father. He had a difficult upbringing and his background made it easy for him to join killings of innocent Tutsis during the genocide.

Both Mary and Immanuel attended the *Empower* program. As they both testified at the end of this program, they were living

in the consequences of the genocide. But due to their attendance at *Empower*, they both got inner healing. Mary proclaimed forgiveness to Immanuel's family. In proving that forgiveness is possible, she took time and went to greet Immanuel's mother who was not part of *Empower*.

Immanuel boldly stood up in public and appreciated Mary's forgiveness and promised to also go and ask for forgiveness from the families of the people he killed.

Before the *Empower* program, Immanuel had lost hope and lived a drunkard life. *Empower* helped him to acknowledge the importance of living a life with purpose, and committed to stop the drunkard life and work hard for his family."

Daphne

"Daphne* is a widow of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi, who survived with her two daughters. She was touched by all the lessons of the *Empower* program. In particular, learning about 'true identity' helped her a lot. She understood that if she is alive, then she should live. The program has given her the hope of life.

On the fourth day of *Empower*, she started sleeping deeply at night. Her headaches had

gone, she is able to eat well, and she hopes to be healthier. For the first time, she feels the peace in her heart; she can now work and do her chores. She decided to forgive the man who killed her husband. He was also present in the program. Her goal from now on is to develop herself, use her properties to generate income and have a sustainable life. She is a new person!"

*Note that names have been changed



STORIES FROM *EMPOWER* PARTICIPANTS

Ruth and Peter

"Ruth* is one of the Genocide Against the Tutsi survivors who attended the *Empower* program. She survived alone out of seven people in her family during the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi. She was 14 years old during the genocide. Her parents and all her siblings were thrown into the Nyabarongo river. Ruth's grandmother who was a Hutu woman who had married into a Tutsi family - she called a mob to come and kill Ruth, but somehow Ruth escaped them. Later, Ruth got married and now has a husband and four children.

From the first day of *Empower*, up to the fourth day of program, Ruth was so quiet. She was in the very same small group with her direct offender, Peter*, who was among the five cell leaders in 1994 and threw Ruth's family members into the river. On the fifth day of the program, Ruth cried a lot because it was her first time sharing her problems. She was able to open her heart to one of the facilitators and this action helped her a lot because on the following day she started to smile. *Empower* helped her to forgive Peter, who killed her family members and made her an orphan.

Furthermore, she got strength to forgive her grandmother even though she had already passed away. In addition, she said that hearing about Peter's struggles helped her to forgive him, because what he did during the genocide caused him to lose his peace and constantly feel shame.

On the other hand, Peter benefitted from the program because as he said it was his

first time to meet with Ruth and sit together. It was impossible as he said, but *Empower* made it possible. Peter killed people during the genocide and also wounded many people because he was among the top five leaders in their cell. After the genocide, he was arrested and spent eleven years and nine months in prison.

When he was imprisoned, his wife had a child with another man, and this wounded him a lot. After finishing his sentence in prison, it created many conflicts between him and his wife. Peter carried shame because of his bad attitudes during the genocide, but also lived with a broken heart due to what his wife did.

Before attending the *Empower* program, he was an unhappy man. Even during the program, he always looked down but followed well the *Empower* lessons. As a result of attending this workshop, Peter was able to go through inner healing and decided to ask for forgiveness from Ruth due to his crime of killing all her family members. He decided to change his behaviour and committed to live his life positively - in particular, he decided to change how he lives with his family.

He said that this *Empower* program enabled him to reconcile with his wife and as a consequence, he feels peaceful and he can see the positive change in his family. Peter said that he will go with his wife to visit Ruth's family for the first time in 23 years since the genocide. He also said that he will again ask for forgiveness to the whole family of Ruth (her husband and children also).

STORIES FROM EMPOWER PARTICIPANTS



Stephen and Amos

Stephen* was the eldest of four children. His father committed genocide crimes during the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi, which resulted in him going to prison, and he died there. Stephen's mother also died due to sickness. Stephen's father killed people during the genocide, including the father of Amos* who was attending the *Empower* program as well. Stephen, as the eldest son in his family, grew-up with shame due to what his father did. He was afraid of the genocide survivors, thinking that they can do harm to him as a result of what his father did.

Stephen is married with two young children. He makes a living by riding a taxi-bicycle. Due to being the son of a genocide perpetrator he struggled raising his siblings. He never had any hope of having a sustainable and good life, he lived a purposeless life. Paying back debts of what his father had destroyed made his life miserable because he had to use money that could have helped them with other things. This made him hate living.

Empower helped Stephen to be released from fear and shame because of what his father did. He got the courage to ask for forgiveness from Amos; "Please, forgive me for what my father did to you and if possible, let us live as brethren," Stephen said. Amos forgave him, and on the last day of the program, Stephen came to *Empower* riding Amos on his bicycle.

Empower helped these two people to accept what happened and agree to live in harmony. They had time to talk about it and agreed to live a life with good relations.

Empower helped Stephen set goals, among them: he is going to find a motorcycle driving permit and give the bicycle to his young brothers; he is going to work hard to earn a better economic living.

Stephen committed himself to stand in the gap of his father and ask for forgiveness from all those his father had harmed. Stephen was just eight years old when the genocide took place.

STORIES FROM EMPOWER PARTICIPANTS



A Perpetrator

One perpetrator shared that through *Empower*, he understood his part in what happened during the Genocide Against the Tutsi, and was able to stop putting all the blame on the government. He discovered how he had wounded many people and recognised how he was carrying burdens by refusing to pay back what he had destroyed during the genocide.

He asked for forgiveness from those he wounded and he paid back what he had destroyed. He decided to sell part of his land and paid back more than RWF 300,000 (approximately AUD 500) within three months of the *Empower* program. He testified he had been released from the burdens he was carrying.

Facilitators

"As usual, on the 8th day, all the facilitators who facilitated the *Empower* program met for their debriefing. During this *Empower* there were many heavy testimonies because some of the perpetrators were front leaders of the Genocide Against the Tutsi in their areas.

Talking to them [the perpetrators] and listening to them open up about what they did showed that the facilitators were resilient. They are thankful to have time for themselves on the 8th day, where they share freely their own feelings. They understand better the importance of sharing - it helps them to release what they heard, and they are able to even find solutions to their own problems as they share.

Apart from the debriefing we were able to share our daily lives, what the facilitators are trying to do to help their families. Two of them have started income generating activities, something that will help their family develop. This was something great to know - it shows their growth and how far they have gone in their inner healing.

This was a foreign idea to them before they joined *Empower*. They said that these *Empower* programs helped them to feel normal as people who are no longer hopeless, but people who are contributing to the society. As they facilitate *Empower*, they continue to receive skills that help them build up their own lives."

- Diane, *Empower* Co-Ordinator

EMPOWER

Partners' Reflection

Diane - CARSA

"No matter who you are and what you hold in your life, once you have a chance to sit and listen to the challenging lessons, you change and become a new person. This is what the *Empower* workshop is doing."

- Diane, CARSA

Gladys - CUF

"We ended the general sessions yesterday, with great joy and dancing. The participants have been set free, and it was evidenced by their testimonies of repentance and offering forgiveness to those that wronged them. I'm personally glad to have had the opportunity to go through the [*Empower*] program, as there are things that have been changed in my life, and I got to know different techniques of dealing with my heart in case I have been hurt. All participants are so thankful to have gone through the training and they are praying that other people will also have an opportunity of going through the same program. We also had the debrief today, and all was great." - Gladys, CUF

Christophe and Sylvestre - CARSA

Compelled By Love (CbL) has been partnering with CARSA since 2012. Since then it has been a real journey of cross-cultural learning, understanding and growing together as partners. This partnership has not only allowed CARSA and CbL to make a great impact in the communities that we serve, but has also enabled us to grow our relationship.

Cross-cultural partnerships can sometimes create harm when it's not well managed, but at CARSA we very much appreciate the CbL philosophy and approach in our partnership. Humility, mutual respect, transparency and openness have been very important values that have characterized our partnership.

For the past six years, partnering with CbL has enabled CARSA to reach out to hundreds of genocide survivors and their direct offenders to give them an opportunity of trauma healing, forgiveness and a possibility of reconciliation.

Lives are being healed and transformed, people are being reconciled, the genocide ideology is being uprooted, families are being restored, children who were not able to perform in schools affected by the trauma of their parents are showing healthy turn in their school performance, communities are being united in the 14 cells of Kamonyi and Muhanga districts where CARSA works.

Those who have never greeted each other shake hands and even hug; those who never thought they could ever sleep again recover their sleep, it is a new day for those who are enabled to attend the *Empower* program, thanks to the support of CbL.

Through the CbL partnership, CARSA was able to expand and reach a great number genocide survivors and their offenders who have been suffering from their trauma, living with hopelessness, fear and guilt.

"I had never greeted this man since 1994 but this workshop has helped me to understand that I was hurting myself, my hatred was eating me up and my unforgiveness destroying and negatively affecting my family. I have understood how forgiving benefits me, and how it is possible



to forgive without waiting to be asked for forgiveness. This gave me the courage to forgive my perpetrator and anyone else who wronged me," a survivor testified during the *Empower* workshop.

At the leadership level, CbL's partnership has helped CARSA leadership to grow through the forum where we had the opportunity to learn from other organizations. Through the Global Leadership Summit, many practical skills on leadership and management have brought a great affect in our daily work.

Through the partnership, students from poor families who didn't have hope to study are given the access to education and some of their families received support for shelters.

One lady who would be awake every rainy night confessed that she never thought of sleeping quietly throughout the night, as her house would leak like an open space. Her heart busted into a song of praise to God when she got the house that CbL provided for her. Her children were glad to find a place to rest that they were not sharing with the household animals.

We can't wait to see where this partnership journey takes us in the years to come!

Thanks again to CbL and to whoever supports its vision!

RWANDA

Education Sponsorship

A long term investment in the development of the whole person, to change not only their future, but that of their family and the generations to come!



We supported 31 students to receive and continue education:

20 students in secondary school

Five students in primary school

Two students undertaking vocational training

Three students at university

One student undertaking both vocational training and a university degree

STUDENT STORIES

Aline



Aline comes from a difficult background. Her father left her mother when she was just one month old. Her mother later remarried and had another four children with her husband, but he passed away in October 2015, leaving Aline's mother a widow with five children.

Aline's mother does not have a regular income. She does what she can, selling tomatoes and onions and working doing odd jobs like washing clothes, but it is difficult for her to pay school fees for her children, particularly for Aline who is in high school.

They were unable to even afford rent for their house, and so were living in the sitting room of their pastor's home.

Thanks to education sponsorship, Aline is now in school and has no fear of being kicked out due to not being able to pay school fees! She represents hope for a future for her family, as she is empowered through education.

STUDENT STORIES

Samson and Desiree



Samson comes from a very poor family. His parents are both farmers, and the family can only manage to eat one meal per day. Samson has four siblings, so there are five children in the family. Desiree also comes from a very poor family. His father is not known, his mother says he died while she was pregnant with Desiree. She has since married and Desiree lives with his mother, step-father and three siblings. His mother works as a farmer. The family only eat lunch or dinner sometimes.

Both Samson and Desiree are incredibly bright students. After completing primary school, they both did well on the National Exam and so were allocated places at good quality schools - however, their parents were not able to pay the school fees, so they were not able to take up these opportunities and instead continued with basic education. Samson's older siblings have had to drop out of school as the family could not pay the fees. But thanks to sponsorship, Samson and Desiree now have the opportunity to continue their education, and build a future for themselves.



Diane

Diane is a student in Rwanda, currently attending university. We have been able to support her with education and counselling, as like many people in Rwanda, Diane has grown up through many difficulties. Because of education, Diane has been able to get to the point where she can support herself - so amazing!

"I grew up struggling and trying to help myself, but sometimes in the wrong ways because of my wounded heart. I struggled to be an independent and strong woman but I made things complicated for myself and others around me, so it was hard to achieve independence and strength. After counselling, I learned different ways to achieve my goals. I discovered the power in knowing myself and others, loving myself and others, to mean no harm to anyone, and renewing my passion and commitment. And now I can see the change in me and the people around me.

Before I received support for my education, my job had been stopped. I was in the danger zone where I did not see hope in the future and this mentality was stuck in my head and I couldn't do anything about it. In my hardship, Compelled By Love came and gave me the help I needed - covering all my bills including rent, school fees, food and also fees for a short course in culinary art. After doing the short course, I became an intern in a kitchen at a hotel in Kigali. While I was doing the internship, the executive chef offered me a job to work with them in the breakfast section, so now everything is well with me.

My heart is full of joy, happiness and love. My spirit is happy and humble in God's kingdom, as I know I am a child of God. I am very grateful because now I have work which will help me to cover all my bills and also help people to live a good life by empowering them with my testimony."

Diane now works from 3:30am until 1.00pm and receives transport to and from work, breakfast and lunch meals and medical insurance, as well as her salary. After work, she attends her university classes from 5.00pm until 9.30pm. On top of her busy schedule, Diane is now volunteering in a local coffee shop on Friday, Saturday and Sundays from 6 pm to 10 pm. She is doing this because she wants to challenge herself and gain as much knowledge in the industry as possible. She is an incredible woman who has worked really hard to get where she is today and continues to work hard towards her goal of owning her own business.



RWANDA

Leadership Development

Focused on our partners, seeking to invest in them so that their organisations are strengthened, enabling the work to continue long term into the future, providing sustainability.



We supported and ran a leadership forum with our partners, which 10 people attended

We supported 10 leaders to attend the Global Leadership Summit in Kigali

"I have to say that it was privilege and blessing to attend the GLS (Global Leadership Summit) 2017. This was my first time to attend such an interesting leadership summit. All the topics and speakers were great! Thank you for allowing us to attend the summit."

- Sylvestre, CARSA.



RWANDA

Socio-Economic Enterprise

Providing practical ways for people to continue in their journey of healing, forgiveness and reconciliation, as well as building community and increasing people's standard of living.



We kept up our follow up and support of the *Turiumwe*, 'we are one', co-operative, as they continue their journey of healing by working together making soap.



RWANDA

Special Projects

Restoring dignity and value by responding to housing, counselling and medical needs.



We supported the building of a new house for a family with six children in a rural area

We supported a family with no home and no ability to pay rent to purchase a piece of land with an existing house, and are currently repairing and extending the house

We continued to support Prosper with both medical and rehabilitation expenses, as well as counselling, as he heals and recovers from an accident that has left him paralysed from the chest down.

STORIES FROM SPECIAL PROJECTS

Sandrine's House



“Hope does not come from the new house. It comes from their capacity to rebuild their lives.”
 – Sylvestre, CARSA

In March 2018, CbL completed its first building project in partnership with CARSA, constructing a home for Sandrine's family in Musambira sector of Kamonyi, Rwanda.

Sandrine is part of the Education Sponsorship Program (ESP) in Rwanda. She is 23 years old, and was born out of rape that occurred in connection with the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi. Sandrine's mother has married and has five other children. Her mother suffers from chronic back pain and pain from injuries suffered during the genocide. The family own their home, but it was old, in disrepair and on the verge of falling apart. They have no other assets, and survive by subsistence farming.

CARSA staff had said that when it rains, being inside Sandrine's home was the same as standing outside – the roof was in such a state that water just leaked in everywhere. The project consisted of not only constructing a four-bedroom house for this large family, but also a kitchen, bathroom / washroom, toilet and water tank installation. The construction commenced in January 2018 and was completed in mid-March.

“When I first met the family, I was deeply moved by their circumstances. The kids didn't have their own bedroom and slept with the goats and turkey they reared. Healing one's inner wounds is important. At the same time, the person also needs to come out of poverty. They need to be able to develop themselves so that they can move their lives forward in a holistic way. Hope does not come from the new house. It comes from their capacity to rebuild their lives.” – Sylvestre, CARSA



“They have made me a muzungu. This is a very beautiful house. In 2013 when the house I had built collapsed I started wishing to have a house, but I could not afford it. Every three months, I had to climb up and repair the roof tiles, the wind would take them away and I would repair them again. I used to go to Kigali to work for people who will give me money trying to see if the children would grow up.

Their studying had gone out of my mind because I knew I would not be able to afford it. I felt they will come and help their mother to farm, and then I was told, ‘Sandrine is going to school’ and I was so happy! With this new house, my heart is now at peace. I am going to work hard to raise my children, focusing mostly on what helps the household than worrying about the house. It is good to age in a nice place.”
- Evode, Sandrine’s step-father



“I am very happy that I am going to sleep well, not in the same room with goats and turkey. I will be able to study. I am very happy that we will have electricity, and I will be able to read at night. I will use the old house to raise rabbits, that will give me money.” - Mireille, Sandrine’s sister

Emeritha, Sandrine’s mother said, “now I am at peace, I can welcome any visitor at home without shame. I will sleep with animals no more and will no longer sleep worried that if the wind comes mud is going to fall into my ear from the roof. There is even a water tank! We are going to have water, it will be easy for us to wash our clothes, be clean, and this is great.”





STORIES FROM SPECIAL PROJECTS

Prosper

We continued to support Prosper with both medical and rehabilitation expenses, as well as counselling, as he heals and recovers from an accident that has left him paralysed from the chest down.



"I have achieved a lot. I can say that my heart is healed and even if I still have physical pain, I can feel the joy. I have learned skills of coping with my trauma reminders."

"I am 34 years old, I had an accident when I was at work as an electronic technician. When I was up on an electricity pole, my colleagues turned on the electricity before I went down. I had an electric shock. Part of my body became paralysed, I cannot use that part, I use a wheelchair. To me, I survived though it was possible for me to die.

I received physical therapy and psychological support at the hospital, but it was like death to me, everything made no sense, I was even wondering why medical people were wasting time on me – a dead, useless person like me.

I moved to a rehabilitation facility where I also received physical therapy and psychologists, but I was still feeling useless, a person who will be a burden for the rest of my life.

I moved for treatment to Kigali and my brother told me that a counsellor will come to see me. I was tired of people who come to help and give me moral support, as if they can support what I am going through. I know I am useless, these people just talk but nothing changes.

When the counsellor came to me, I was in a bad mood and angry for everyone who pretends having sympathy for me, and yet they can do nothing about my suffering. I didn't feel like talking to him. I received him anyway, but I was like talk first and go. I am tired of people like you. When I saw him, I openly told him that I met other great and experienced counsellors before him. I asked him, what is your specialty that you will bring, that others didn't use? He humbly replied to me that he will offer only his presence and his open heart to listen to me. He said we can give ourselves some time and we will see if nothing happened, then we will stop.

Ok, I was ready to maybe meet him once or twice, but the plan turned out differently to the way I had imagined. I am sure this was God's time for me. God can use His people at His time. The second meeting, which I was expecting to be the last with him, was so different to me. He shared with me the symptoms of the brokenhearted. All the symptoms he mentioned fit me – he talked about loss and grief, shame and guilt, anger – all that was me.

I started feeling that I need to talk to him more, to know how come he knows all of my feelings



and how he is reading my heart? We set up objectives of our meetings and divided them into three parts - before the accident, during and after. At the end of each session, he left me with some exercises to do alone, and while doing these exercises, I could feel the pain and see my brokenness.

As the sessions went on, I started wondering if he will come, I was feeling excitement and an eagerness to talk to him. We talked about all my losses - loss of my organs, my power, my freedom, my dreams, my relationships. We talked about the phases of grief and I could see where I was stuck in my grieving and I understood where my anger and fear is coming from.

We talked about how trauma affects the brain and memory and this was one of my issues. We talked about my negative thoughts that I will be a burden for those that I know and those that I don't know for the rest of my life. We talked about positive thoughts and the triggers of trauma. All these changed my way of looking at my situation and other people. I started receiving healing of my heart wounds. I started seeing life in another way, receiving restoration of my joy and hope.

It reached a point where I was calling or sending an SMS every week to make sure my counsellor is coming. Meeting him was

bringing me back to rightness and I am sure God was using him because He has a good plan for me.

Now, in a journey of nine sessions, I have achieved a lot. I can say that my heart is healed and even if I still have physical pain, I can feel the joy. I have learned skills of coping with my trauma reminders.

I was able to forgive myself for all the blame; I was able to forgive my parents as I was very angry with them for pushing me to join this career; I was able to forgive my colleagues and many other people I was angry with for not visiting me or supporting me - I understood that all this anger was from my grief.

I have now made a decision of living positively. It does not mean everything is fine, but it means I have to accept what I cannot change and choose to live. To be grateful for what I have and not focus on what I don't have. I have life and I can live with joy. God has restored my hope for the future and I am grateful.

I am ready to keep fighting for life like everyone else. Now my prayer is for God to use me to help other people who are suffering. I think I have a story to share and I will restore many lives as my life was restored. I pray blessings for everyone who supported me and is still doing so." - Prosper



CbL Organisation

The individual stories of how people and families have been able to see amazing change in their lives through CbL support and empowerment are made possible by the growth and achievements of the organisation here in Australia. The work of our Board, Members, Staff, Volunteers and Supporters is absolutely vital to the incredible outcomes we see in the projects.



We have some incredible supporters who have worked hard and given their time, energy and efforts to raise funds for CbL!

Participants in Around the Bay - Compelled to Ride 2017

Participants in the Melbourne Marathon - Compelled to Run 2017

Dandenong Christian Reformed Church - supporting our work in India and their Op shop supporting our work in Australia

Nell Steunenbergh fundraising through car boot sale and biscuit sales





We made three project visits to Rwanda, and one to India, strengthening relationships and developing our partnerships, as well as evaluating our work and refining our model for maximum impact into the future.



We hosted a Member's dinner and had the opportunity to hear from Frida Umuhoza - speaker, author and survivor of the 1994 Genocide Against the Tutsi - as she shared her amazing story of forgiveness and freedom.



FINANCIALS

Profit and Loss Statement

Compelled By Love - 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018

Income

Bank Interest	\$84.48
Donations	\$248,752.40

Total	\$248,836.88
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Expenditure

Projects	\$161,747.92
Operating Expenses	\$1,052.47
Bank Fees	\$160.00
Training	\$243.75
Project Management	\$6,189.92
Event Expenses	\$2,572.21*

Total	\$171,966.27
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Surplus	\$76,870.61
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*Outlay cost of venue and catering for CbL Dinner

FINANCIALS

Balance Sheet

Compelled By Love - As at 30 June 2018

Assets

Bank

Compelled By Love	\$135,980.51
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Total Bank	\$135,980.51
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Total Assets	\$135,980.51
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Liabilities

Current Liabilities

GST	\$497.20
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Total Current Liabilities	\$497.20
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Total Liabilities	\$497.20
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Net Assets	\$136,477.71
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Equity

Current Year Earnings	\$76,870.61
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Retained Earnings	\$59,607.10
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Total Equity	\$136,477.71
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THANK YOU

It always seems like such a small word, to simply say 'thank you'. There are no words that could express our gratitude to each and every person that has shared in the journey of CbL this last year in some way - whether that be by making a donation, sponsoring a student, attending an event, getting involved in fundraising, volunteering, visiting a project, praying, giving encouragement and a whole myriad of ways that people partner together with CbL.

CbL and our partners could not do what we do without YOU. That's a fact. The impact we see and the stories we tell are only possible through the combination of a whole lot of people coming together and playing a part.

As we reflect on the year gone by, we are already well into a new year of exciting and thrilling opportunities to make a difference! The invitation is always open to join us in being a part of all the stories that lie ahead. Being generous with our money, our time, our energy is a gift that we can give to ourselves - it doesn't remove or take something from us, but rather, it actually enlarges and expands our lives. In partnering with CbL, we offer the chance to be a part of something that is real and genuine, that is personal, and that is effective and transformational.

If you've been a part of the story of 2017-2018 - thank you once again. We hope to count you in for the road we're embarking on for 2018-2019!

I do want to say an extra special thank you to our Members and our Board. Our Members are the backbone of CbL, committed to seeing the organisation grow and expand so that more lives can be made better. Our Members advocate, volunteer, financially support and are often the ones to step up and meet the gaps - thank you.

To our Board - once again, 'thank you' seems too insignificant to say - what you give not only in terms of time, wisdom and experience, but in terms of your heart - is incredible. You give your best because you know it's about real people's lives. You're each amazing, and we love you.

I also want to acknowledge Masa Sato, an incredible graphic designer who has so generously given his time to enable us to present this Annual Report. Masa has put his heart and soul into this report, and the outcome has allowed the stories and images to truly shine. Masa, our gratitude is beyond what we could say. Your work on this project has made such a difference - thank you.

"I prayed to the Lord, and he answered me. He freed me from all my fears. Those who look to him for help will be radiant with joy; no shadow of shame will darken their faces. In my desperation I prayed, and the Lord listened; he saved me from all my troubles." - Psalm 34:4-6



Karen Visser
CEO



compelled
by love





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