



MARIST SOLIDARITY CAMBODIA  
ANNUAL REPORT 2017





Bishop Olivier Schmittaeusler  
Bishop of Phnom Penh





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Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Grapes for Humanity Global Fund  
(Toronto)**

for the financial support you have  
given us in 2017



# Vision, Mission & Values

## HISTORY AND MISSION

- Marist Solidarity Cambodia (MSC) is an international non-government organization encompassing LaValla School, Villa Maria Hostel, a rented house and an Outreach Programme. MSC aims to support young Cambodians with physical disabilities by way of furthering their education and assisting them into employment.
- MSC is an integral part of the mission of the Marist Brothers whose foundation in France 200 years ago initiated a commitment on the part of Saint Marcellin Champagnat, the founder, to

provide schooling for poor children from marginalized families. That commitment and that dream are being realized here in Cambodia as MSC works for poor young people with disabilities wanting to give them new and better opportunities, hoping that their formal education will prove decisive in changing their circumstances.

- LaValla School established in Phnom Penh in 1998 is the only government approved school in Cambodia providing a full elementary school education for children and young people with physical disabilities.
- Villa Maria, built by the Australian

Marist Fathers in 2005 is now a hostel for the young people attending secondary and high schools and those attending university.

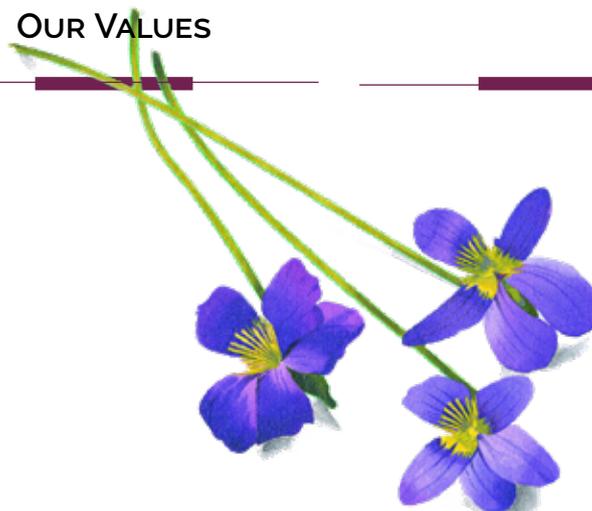
- An outreach programme based at LaValla assists more than 100 young Cambodians with physical disabilities who live at home and attend their local schools.
- All but a few of MSC's students live-in coming as they do from all over Cambodia.
- In 2010 MSC was established to integrate various programmes and sites into one entity with its own Board of Directors under the aegis of Australian Marist Solidarity.



Support for children and youth with disabilities... this project is an integral part of the mission of the Marist Brothers.

## OUR VALUES

From their beginnings the Brothers were urged to be simple, humble and modest and the image of the three violets was associated with those three virtues. In time we came to think also of the violets as reminders of "little virtues", like hospitality, courtesy, friendliness, patience, encouragement, and others....



# Director's Report

MR CHENG BUNTHOEUN

“**Marist Solidarity Cambodia intends to be an exemplar of the act of caring for others.**”



In our three places, at LaValla, Villa Maria and the rented house and in our Outreach program the work of Marist Solidarity Cambodia continued throughout 2017.

The group, of Marist Brothers and Cambodian staff who began this work nearly 20 years ago, committed themselves to helping young Cambodians with physical disabilities go as far as they could with their formal schooling. Much has happened since those beginnings: there have been pleasing accomplishments and there have been mistakes; there have been years of stability and there have been significant changes; all of this and more we have, hopefully, addressed, learned from, benefitted from.

Marist Solidarity Cambodia intends to be an exemplar of the act of caring for others. Giving, of ourselves, our resources, our time, is at the heart of all of our activities. Teaching, tutoring, feeding, housing, monitoring health, are all freely shared as are respect, encouragement and counsel. It does not get any easier however, year by year, to meet the costs that come with such an approach.

More than once I've heard people talk of this work as having been especially lucky and richly blessed, and there are stories told about unexpected good fortune, happenings which made the longed-for difference at critical times, progress rather than problems the outcome. Spend a little time with our students and you will understand what I mean. They have every reason to be disappointed and even angry given the disabilities they contend with, but we don't see that, or evidence of self-pity, or resentment. They just get on with it! And when they do the rest of us are inspired.

Sound instruction, useful engagement, hard work, advocacy, access to referral services, together with livelihood training and the search for employment opportunities, all feature in MSC's program. More than anything else however we want to build up the confidence of our young people, help them glimpse their potential, inspire them to go on. Finding ways to do this is a most important part of our work.

I take this opportunity to thank Ms Ut Rim, Ms Keo Sokuntheary and Mr Pon Dina who left MSC during 2017. Elsewhere in this Report you will read of the death of Mr Choeung Samang.

A sense of gratitude should never be too far from our thoughts for we have received and enjoyed much. We trust that those who have helped us, whatever way, know well of our regard for them and our appreciation. We have named them in this report and we renew our thanks to them.



Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Innocents Relief (Australia)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# The Board

## CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS - BR TERRY HEINRICH

He was 27 years old. He was an ordained priest six months since ordination. He was the curate in a country parish and his parish priest was a heavy drinker. It was mountainous country and rugged and there was much to do. He did a lot of walking, trekking really, on that terrain. He was busy, probably stressed, always zealous. And in the middle of all this he announced that he was forming a society of teaching Brothers, to teach the poor, country children. Six months into his first ministry appointment! All too much for some of those around him, especially those senior to him. Inevitably he attracted accusations of arrogance, foolishness even madness. He did it anyhow.

He did it on February 2, 1817. He and two good and willing souls got started. That was 200 years ago this year.

When he died, 33 years later in 1840 he left 278 brothers working in 48 different establishments and when we celebrated the 200 year milestone this year we did so in the more than 60 countries where the work of the brothers, Champagnat's work, goes on today.

We've tried, often, to help the young people in our programme appreciate that by being engaged in a Marist enterprise they are in fact linked, to the history and to people world-wide likewise engaged. The visits by young people from Marist schools in Australia and elsewhere help that understanding; our students might be happily surprised to find that they actually have something in common with the visitors they are entertaining.

That's a pleasing thought but more important than feeling good about our shared heritage is recognizing and owning the responsibilities that come with claiming to be Marist after Marcellin. Students or staff, the claim is valid only if the way we are Marist here in Takhmao is the way our Marist brothers and sisters world-wide try to be Marist, the way our forebears have tried to be Marist for 200 years.

How do we know if we are getting it right? If we love what we are doing; if we engage always with those we are working for and love them; if we do things simply, unpretentiously; if we promote and share a sense of belonging to a family; if we recognize that compassion, care, service, patience, gentleness are all qualities we've found in Mary and imitating her is our way.

*The Board of MSC is the organization's highest in-country governing body and has final legal responsibility and authority.*

*The Board will be primarily concerned with the policy, strategic direction and financial oversight of MSC.*

*The Board of MSC is accountable to Australian Marist Solidarity for its use of funds and for conducting itself and its operations according to (this) Constitution.*

*MSC Constitution 2011*

Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Little King Movement (Australia)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017





**SR LEONOR MONTIEL MARYKNOLL**



**Ms. SOPHEA YI**

**FATHER KEVIN CORRIGAN**

Fr Kevin is the pastor at Nelson Bay in Australia. He has been a particular friend of ours for many years: he first came to Cambodia with a group on an exposure tour, organized by Australian Catholic Relief. It's clear that Cambodia, its disadvantaged people especially, has touched Fr Kevin deeply: he has visited many times and each time reaches out to people in obvious need, some of them families associated with Marist Solidarity Cambodia. He is a welcome guest for many reasons one of them being that when he is here we are able to celebrate the Eucharist together often.

**AUSTRALIAN MARIST SOLIDARITY**

Australian Marist Solidarity (AMS) is the international agency for the aid and development work of the Marist Province of Australia throughout Asia and the Pacific region. AMS works with people in short and long term development partnerships intending to support or sustain educational opportunities for the young people of the region. MSC records here its appreciation for the help and collaboration given us by AMS this year.



**MEMBERSHIP**

The Provincial of the Marist Province of Australia Brother Peter Carroll appointed Brother Terry Heinrich for two further years as Chair of the Board of Marist Solidarity Cambodia following the departure from Cambodia of Sister Luise Ahrens, Maryknoll.

During 2017 Mr Hort Seila completed his appointment as a member of the Board and the Board welcomed two new members, Sister Leonor Montiel and Ms. Sophea Yi.

At the end of 2017 the Governing Board of MSC was made up of the following members:

- Brother Max Meier
- Brother Andrew Chan
- Brother Allen Sherry
- Sister Leonor Montiel
- Ms Sophea Yi
- Brother Terry Heinrich Chair.
- Mr Cheng Bunthoeun Director of MSC

Mr Chhom Sopagnya, MSC's Financial Manager attended all meetings and Br Brian Kinsella acted as minutes secretary: we are very appreciative of his assistance.

To each of the Board and to those assisting very sincere thanks, for attendance, for the consideration given to all the issues facing MSC and for advice and encouragement given our organization again this year.

Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Marist Mission Centre (Marist Fathers Australia)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Reports!

## VISITORS, CHRISTMAS

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### SCHOOL VISITS

#### MARIS STELLA VISIT

It was a particular pleasure to welcome to LaValla boys and staff from the Marist school Maris Stella in Singapore. More than 30 boys and five staff spent three days with us in November. This was a first such venture for the school, their students younger than we are used to with visiting groups. The visit however was happy and successful, the level of interaction very pleasing.

#### RETURN SCHOOL VISITS



Marist North Shore Sydney, St Francis Xavier's Hamilton, St Rita's College Clayfield, Ashgrove College Brisbane, St John's College, Woodlawn, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School Alice Springs and United World College Singapore have each become one of our annual fixtures as groups from each school spend a week working, tutoring, interacting with our students either mid-year or towards the end of the year.

This engagement is for the students at LaValla a great opportunity to get past fears to do with foreigners, overcome shyness, practice some English, broaden horizons. As pleasing as all that, establishing bonds, even if just for a week, experiencing friendship from unexpected meetings – these we hope are formative experiences as well.

We believe they are and because we think the young people here special we assure our visitors that if they put the time into getting to know our students, listen to them in spite of language constraints, watch them, they will go home changed. It's a promise we confidently make.

And we thank the young people who come: the time they commit, the risks they take, the expenses they meet: important for us that it is all truly worthwhile.



**“ ..we assure our visitors that if they put the time into getting to know our students, listen to them in spite of language constraints, watch them, they will go home changed.**

## CHRISTMAS DAY 2017

As much as we would like to think the excitement around Christmas Day at LaValla had a lot to do with commemorating the birth of Jesus we are pretty sure that for Christians and Buddhists alike the reasons have to do with gift-giving, partying, a fun day. Which, of course, makes us much the same as children the world over. Yet, Christmas Day is a special day for us: telling again the story of the birth of Jesus, praying together, revealing the Christmas tree, giving gifts, snacks, games, lunch, dancing, ice cream and numerous photos. Some ex-students come back, some with their own small children; the local kids take part, friends visit. It's all a very pleasant event.

Christmas 2017 was just that much more special because Bishop Olivier, the Catholic Bishop of Phnom Penh joined us, prayed with us, had photographs with us, had lunch with us and, best of all had gifts for us! All of us! And then to our great surprise provided funds to cover the cost of the lunch. Lunch for 300! We were, we are, very grateful.



## ANTHONY McDONNELL

Hard to know how many times Tony has been to visit: has to be close to 20. Some of those visits were independent of the North Shore boys and one of them lasted for a year. Tony has a special place in his life for the young people here in Cambodia and those of our young people who've come to know Tony have such a place for him in their hearts.

Much of Tony's teaching career has been spent at Marist North Shore where by every measure he is a real school man. When he comes with the boys mid-year and when he visits for a longer time we are the beneficiaries of his many talents, in music and its burgeoning technology, photography, I.T. and just about anything he puts his mind to.

Among the photos appearing in this publication are many taken by him.

Tony is a good friend to have: we do appreciate him and want to acknowledge his long association with us this way.



# Lavalla School

## MS UM SREYNAN - EDUCATIONAL AND RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMMES

### EDUCATION PROGRAMME



At the start of the 2016-17 school year the enrolment at LaValla was just over 100. When school ended in September 2017 there were 96 students, all but five of them residential. 32 Grade 6 students graduated in August 2017.

The course of studies at LaValla is made up of Ministry of Education curriculum requirements - the study of Khmer, Mathematics, Social Science and Science and of subjects required by MSC itself - English, Computing, Art, Music, Health and Physical Education, Sewing and Agriculture. Students

are encouraged to learn to play a musical instrument and tuition is offered in our own Viola Wheeler Music Programme. The numbers doing so remain few regrettably.

Ours is an accelerated programme of learning; it's our aim and our hope to have students living with us for just 3 years which means they need to complete 2 elementary school grades in 1 year.

Our students are from poor families and their own education has been constrained by the difficulties facing their families. At LaValla the aim is to broaden their horizons,





deepen their knowledge, increase their skills, improve their health, lift their self-confidence and prepare them to meet the challenges that await them, in high school, at work, beyond.

One of the enriching experiences afforded them is their encounter with young adults from Australia who come to spend a week with us. They have the opportunity to practise their English and to try to engage with young people from a very different background. Usually our students do very well in this regard - come the end of a visit by the foreigners saying goodbye is not easy to do.

**RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMME**

All but a few of LaValla's students are from the provinces and live-in., returning to their homes for 4 weeks at Khmer New Year and 6 weeks at P'chum Ben, our end of year holiday. MSC takes responsibility for a number of costs normally met by parents: tuition, food and toiletries, school clothing and health care, school materials and transportation. In return the residential students are expected to care for the property, facilities and equipment, as any proprietor would. Just as important, to care for visitors.



Our Thanks, renewed, to  
**St Rita's College (Australia)**  
for the financial support you have given us in 2017

Our Thanks, renewed, to  
**Catholic Missions (Australia)**  
for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Inclusive Education

## VILLA MARIA RESIDENTIAL AND COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMMES

There are those who view LaValla School for Children and Young People with Physical Disabilities unfavourably because this MSC project contrasts strongly with the notion of Inclusive Education, a priority for the Cambodian Ministry of Education and for many in the Cambodian teaching profession. MSC would argue, simply, that without LaValla more school age children and youth with disabilities would not be going to school.

After LaValla most of our Grade 6 graduates go to Villa Maria there to live while they pursue their secondary education at the high school in Takhmao. Hence our reference to "inclusive education", that point at which our students join the mainstream where inclusive practices are given priority.

It is worth noting that our students attending Hun Sen High School in Takhmao, more than 60 of them, make that high school conspicuously a site where principles underlying inclusive education might be comprehensively applied: every class level has a % of young people with disabilities.

Living at Villa Maria were 83 students, 44 in secondary school, 24 in high school and 15 at university. 25 of the 83 were girls. During the course of the year 3 boys and 1 girl dropped out of school. Funding for these students comes in part from the German organization

Misereor who assist to meet some schooling and accommodation costs. The Misereor funding makes the difference: it allows MSC to channel financial support to these young people so that they can stay at school.

MSC has also an outreach programme. With funds from the Netherlands organization Liliane Fonds, 108 young people with physical disabilities living at home and attending their local schools were assisted financially to stay at school. 29 of these were in elementary school, 29 in secondary school, 29 in high school, 21 at university. Of the 108, 48 are girls. During the year 4 students dropped out of school.

Again, funds from this foreign donor organization allow us to support young Cambodians who would otherwise not be able to afford or manage to attend school.

An approach was made to the university deans of Phnom Penh International University to discount fees for young people with disabilities. The request was rejected.

Students from Villa Maria, 4 of them, represented Cambodia in the Global IT Challenge for Youth with Disabilities in ASEAN. They were placed second in the competition and received silver medals.

Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Liliane Fond (Netherlands)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



**Public Examinations**

**Grade 12**

Fourteen of our students and ex-students attempted the Grade 12 examination in August. One withdrew, three failed and 10 passed. Those who passed: Moak Sarah, Som Sreyneang, Teut Toy, Kim Sophors, Lom Sereyvat, Chorn Tola, Kim Sokna, Yon Mouy, Un Hok Leng and Chou Chuun.

**Grade 9**

Twelve of our students attempted the Grade 9 examination. Nine failed. The three who passed were Phai Van Chai, Bon Sarab and Chin Seyha. This unhappy outcome disappointed but did not surprise us: we had often to challenge the class on their attendance and application. As a consequence of these results and their poor cooperation we terminated their enrolments at Villa Maria.



**RIP CHOEUNG SAMANG**

Choeung Samang the LaValla Site Manager, died at about 1.30 a.m. on Monday, April 3, 2017 in Takhmao as he was being taken to hospital. He was 42 years old.

Samang was one of the many gifts with which the Good Lord has blessed our work here. He loved these young people, overcame innate shyness to reach them and care for them and always looked for ways to make their lives better, happier. They referred to him as "uncle", an especially lovely compliment.

We have many good reasons to remember Samang: his kindness, his loyalty, his commitment to his role here, these and more, are why we remember him so fondly and miss him still.



Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Mission Bambini (Italy)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017

Our Thanks, renewed, to

**United World College (Singapore)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Case Studies

## STUDENTS FROM LAVALLA AND VILLA MARIA

**Som Yat** is 24 years old she is from Kampong Chanang Province. Polio has affected both legs from 8 years of age. Her Father is a farmer and her Mother is deceased. She has 3 brothers and 3 sisters. Yat is the third child. Yat initially completed 4 years of primary school at her local village school. Because she had no form of transport. She has 1 of her brothes who is also

affected by Polio. In 2007 she started school at Lavalla and graduated from Grade 6 in 2009. With the help of a scholarship from the Liliane Foundation she is now continuing her education year 1 at university. She hopes to study banking at university. She is grateful for the past and future support of Marist Solidarity Cambodia and the Liliane Foundation



**Sam Sareun** is 24 and is year 1 at Phnom Penh international university. He is from Kampong Cham where he lives with his parents and 2 siblings. He is the second born child. His father is a soldier and his mother is a housewife. Sareun was born with a number of congenital abnormalities: both arms are truncated and he is missing his right leg. Remarkably however these limitations do little to stop Sareun engaging fully in whatever opportunities occur He is a very confident and social young man. He has good friends and our impression is that his contemporaries take notice of him. He maintains a high level of

personal independence and tends to guard it vigorously. Sareun, realising the challenges he faces because of his physical condition approaches most things with seriousness and keen purpose. He does not suffer fools gladly and consequently finds himself at odds with people more frequently than most. His commitment to serious study is evident and he enjoys the respect of staff and peers because of that. Sareun speaks of being a translator beyond high school. His efforts to master English suggest that he might just be that.

Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Kindermissionswerk (Germany)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Marist Farm School

## LEARNING TO BE BETTER FARMERS

### PROGRAMME

Sharing the land on which we are building the village is the site of the LaValla Farm School. It is the centre for the training programme we are offering to ex-students who recognize the benefits of becoming better farmers.

It will be hard, for the foreseeable future at least, for many of our students to find regular employment. We do what we can to help them but the options are few and the disappointments many. Given that, we decided to use our property and our staff to help form good farmers. It's fortunate that many of our students have access to land: with training and confidence they should be able to grow food and ensure that they and their families are never hungry.

Three young men **Yoak Mao**, **Reum Lon** and **Om Vanny**, ex-students, began this training programme in March 2017. Their instructors are **Cher Lin** and **Phal Sophea**, both of whom have completed the Jesuit agricultural skills programme at Banteay Preap.

The trainees spend mornings on the farm or in lessons. Each afternoon they join other grounds staff for work in gardens, farm or grounds generally. Their programme will run for up to one year and during that time they will spend a period in training on the Sa'ang farm under the supervision of the tenant farmer there.



Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Miseror (Germany)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017

Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Woodlawn College (Australia)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Health and Physiotherapy Report

## ACTIVITIES AND SUCCESS STORY

### HEALTH PARTNERS

A specialist doctor who is a partner of MSC provides hearing care annually to all of the students at MSC. This is part of our overall health care.

A Japanese national, Professor Kawaga, a physiotherapist from Japan country enjoyed volunteer work with us and became an importance resource, providing general health checks and physiotherapy to the Lavalla students.



### SUCCESS STORY

Sopheak, is a 15 year-old from Kampong Chhang Province at the west part of Cambodia. He lives in a poor family with 7 siblings (5 girls and 2 boys). At 5 years old, Sopheak came down with a severe fever which left him unconscious for 5 days. His parents took him to a hospital and his life was saved. However, the muscles in his legs were effected and, gradually his knee joints developed became deformed(curved/bent) which prevented him from walking. Since that time, he used his arms to assist him to go about the **Activities of Daily Living**. He felt very shy in the local community and he expected that would be unable to walk in the future.

Sopheak arrived at the Lavalla School on 25th October 2016, he received physiotherapy but this couldn't change the deformities he had.

On 6th March 2017, Sopheak had an operation to correct the deformity of his knee joints. After the operation, his knees were adjusted but he was left with substantial wounds and sharp pain. Unfortunately, following the operation he returned to his home for one month due to the school vacation. At this time both of his legs were covered in plaster.

On 28th May 2017 he came back to school and we could see that the wounds were infected, and he was in considerable pain. Our physical therapists made interventions for pain and wound care. The health team has worked with Sopheak in managing his post operative wounds and pain through physiotherapy (massage, muscle re-learning program, stretching, standing, referral for an assistive device-brace, re-training his legs to be weight bearing and how to walk, as well as hydrotherapy). Now, his wound is completely healed, he is pain free, his legs are stronger and this has allowed Sopheak to be able to stand erect and walk with assistive devices (braces and crutches). He is very happy and takes pride in what has been achieved by the surgeons and the MSC health team and also in no small part through Sopheak's bravery and persistence. He never expected to be able to walk again and he no longer feels the need to be shy in his local community.



# Health Figures

## STATISTICS FOR 2017

### ASSISTIVE DEVICES MAINTENANCE

Staff have been active in the maintenance of assistive devices (wheelchairs, Prosthetics & Orthotics, etc)

### STAFF CAPACITY BUILDING

Senior Physiotherapist (Sokny) continues to gain experience through attending the general executive meeting and congress of the Asia Western Pacific (AWP) Region World Confederation for Physical Therapy in Bangkok (Thailand) which was organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and as well as the Annual Cambodian Physical Therapist Association congress in Cambodia. This networking is essential to accessing up to date techniques.



Main Services Provided/referred	Jan		Feb		Mar		May		Jun		Jul		Oct		Nov		Dec												
	Sex		Sex		Sex		Sex		Sex		Sex		Sex		Sex		Sex												
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F											
# Physiotherapy	21	14	35	23	12	35	34	23	57	23	16	39	25	17	42	22	16	38	7	5	12	24	14	38	24	15	39		
# Hydrotherapy	6	4	10	8	3	11	8	4	12	5	3	8	5	3	8	5	3	8	5	3	8	5	3	8	5	3	8		
# General medical health check at school	23	4	27	36	23	59	17	12	29	20	11	31	13	10	23	17	17	35	22	13	35	22	13	35	32	20	52		
# mouth/teeth care	67	34	101	2	5	7	0	1	1	69	35	104	0	61	39	100	0	75	42	117	0	75	42	117	0	75	42	117	
# Hearing care at Lavalla by (JSC-Dr)	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
# Hearing Care at private clinic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	8	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
# Blood test for Hepatitis	7	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
# Visual care (assistive device)	0	1	1	0	0	0	4	3	7	0	2	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
# Surgery (physical restrictive & other)	9	2	11	3	2	5	4	1	5	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
# Medical treatment at Hospital/Private clinic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
# Tenuis vaccination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
# Epilepsy medication	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
# Assistive devices at Rehab Centre	7	4	11	4	2	6	4	2	6	0	3	3	0	3	3	0	3	3	0	3	3	0	3	3	0	3	3	0	3
# Assistive devices repaired at Rehab & at MSC	17	8	25	14	4	18	11	9	20	19	12	31	8	5	13	8	5	13	8	5	13	8	5	13	8	5	13	8	5

Our Thanks, renewed, to  
**Clive Powell**  
for the financial support you have given us in 2017

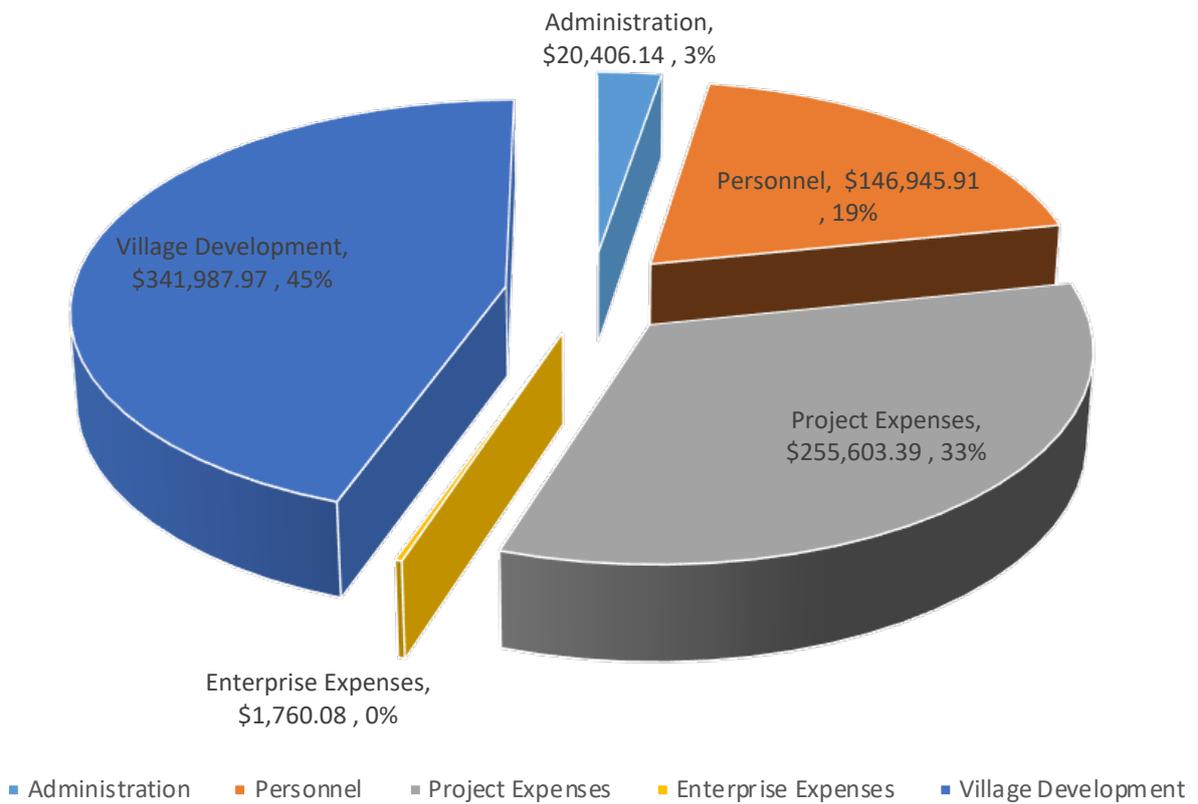
Our Thanks, renewed, to  
**Australian Marist Solidarity**  
for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Financial Report

## EXPENSE REPORT 2017

### Expenses 2017



Our Thanks, renewed, to

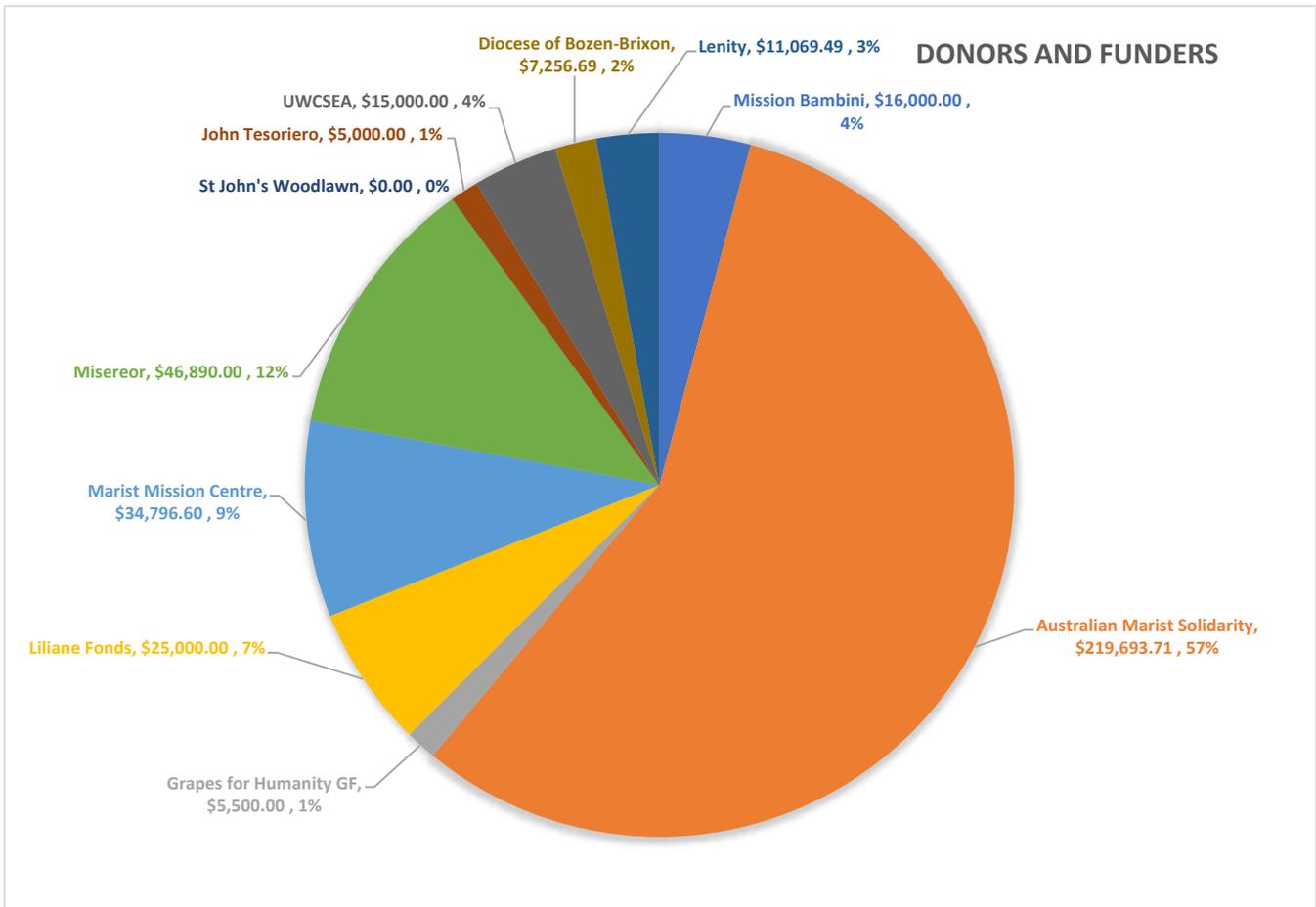
**Lenity Australia**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Donors and Funders

## MAJOR DONORS AND FUNDERS - INCOME 2017



Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Dougherty Family (Australia)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Capital Development

On the 23rd of July 2017 all of our students, from LaValla, from Villa Maria and from the rented house gathered on the property behind LaValla for the ground-breaking ceremony for the Village. It was a simple ceremony but one in which all of us shared, all of us hopeful of a very good outcome to the construction now underway.

The following day Principals and staff members from the construction company IDEA, DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION held their own prayer service near to the site of our ground-breaking. The Village, our biggest ever construction project represents a very strong commitment to the best quality care, tuition and formation we are capable of. The education system leaves much to be desired here in Cambodia and more than once our students have struggled doubly given the disadvantages it imposes on them. We know we can counter some of those obstacles believing it to be the Marist way to help students discover what's best in themselves, rise above whatever undermines their confidence and get on with doing the best they can.

They know, the young people destined to live in the Village, that more is going to be asked of them, in their study, in their care of the site, in the manual work they will be required to do and in their pursuit of a broader, richer educational experience. Their enrolment will depend on the extent to which they meet the demands life in the Village will impose.

The Village will be a new chapter in our story. It will be an exciting chapter replete with possibilities for learning and growth. We dearly hope our young people are able to meet its challenges.



Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Michelle Cowan**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017

Our Thanks, renewed, to

**John and Jacqui Tesoriero**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



**CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**

**VERONIKA VILLAGE**

Australians Joe and Veronika Butta have been extraordinary friends to the work we have been doing here in Cambodia. They have helped us with capital finance for many years. They provided the funds to purchase the land behind LaValla and contributed significantly to meeting the construction costs of the Village.

Wanting to recognize their remarkable generosity we asked Joe if we might give the Village a name of his choice. It was no surprise to us that he asked us to call the Village after Veronika. This then is our first formal notification of the decision to name our village Veronika Village and to announce that the opening date is set for Friday, November 30, 2018



Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Joe and Veronika Butta**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017

Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Maurice and Heilan Renshaw**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017



# Images/Activities

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Our Thanks, renewed, to

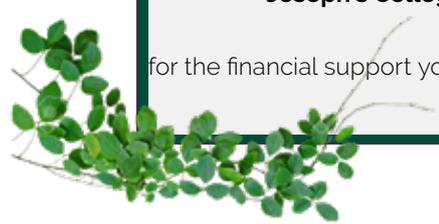
**Diocese of Bozen Brixen (Germany)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017





Our Thanks, renewed, to  
**Australian Marist Schools, notably Marist College North Shore, St Francis Xavier Hamilton, Marist College Ashgrove, Marist College Canberra, St Joseph's College Hunters Hill**  
for the financial support you have given us in 2017





Our Thanks, renewed, to

**Little Way (Untied Kingdom)**

for the financial support you have given us in 2017







Marist Solidarity Cambodia  
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