

The logo for Angeles Relief Inc is located in the top left corner. It consists of a solid red rectangle. Inside this rectangle, the text "Angeles Relief Inc" is written in white. The text is enclosed within two white rectangular outlines that are slightly offset from each other, creating a layered effect.

Angeles Relief Inc

# Angeles Relief Inc

## 2020 Annual Report

# ANGELES RELIEF INC

Angeles Relief Inc is a not for profit association incorporated in the state of Victoria, Australia. It was established in 2018 to provide services for the relief of poverty, sickness, distress, misfortune, and/or helplessness to children abandoned by their fathers in the Philippines.

## PURPOSES OF THE ASSOCIATION

To provide relief from poverty, sickness, distress, misfortune, and/or helplessness to children abandoned by their fathers in the Philippines, by undertaking activities such as:

- (a) providing money for education, shelter, health needs, legal help and other material and financial assistance;
- (b) recruiting, training and retaining a staff, both paid and volunteer, dedicated to delivering the assistance; and
- (c) advocating for the Australian Government to accept applications for child support direct from the mothers in the Philippines.

## PRINCIPLES

The agency provides a service that is:

Free

Confidential

Impartial

Independent

Respectful of the clients' rights to make their own decisions.

## CONTACT DETAILS

1/8 Brassey Ave, Rosanna VIC 3084 Australia

[angelesrelief@gmail.com](mailto:angelesrelief@gmail.com)

[www.angelesrelief.org](http://www.angelesrelief.org)

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Angeles Relief Inc (ARI) activities in the last financial year have been dominated by two things: first, like the rest of the world, both the families we serve and our attempts to support them have been heavily impacted by the COVID-19 crisis.

Travel restrictions meant that my usual trip to the Philippines, which Dave Tacon and I had scheduled for June, was unable to go ahead. Instead, we were even more reliant on Marivic Panilawan for keeping us informed of events on the ground. As the crisis developed, Angeles City was subjected to an extremely strict lockdown, which made it hard for her to travel around safely. Her own situation became extremely stressful.

At the same time, the sex tourism industry collapsed in Angeles City. Most of our families and the surrounding community are dependent on this industry, either directly or indirectly. Even those who don't work in the bars usually have jobs in construction or hospitality that are directly connected to the tourism industry. So all at once, just about every source of income into the Hadrian's Extension suburb was cut.

In light of this, I put out a special appeal to our donors in March – anticipating not only extra demand on our services, but also the likelihood that we would lose donors due to job losses in Australia.

In response, we got an extra A\$5,100 which we have been using to pay the families we support an extra A\$50 a fortnight – sufficient to provide extra food relief. We have enough money to continue to do this until the beginning of September.

The challenges of delivering this relief were considerable for Marivic, and we incurred some extra expenditure to allow her to travel safely.

We also were disappointed to find that our Philippines partner organisation, Children's Better Life Program Inc, have effectively collapsed, and are thus not able to provide Marivic with the necessary "cover" to continue to operate safely.

We provided Marivic with letters to assist with this. Also relevant is our developing partnership with another international charity, Hear Their Cries, which has been the other development this year.

Hear Their Cries (<http://www.heartheircries.org/>) is a charity founded by Australian lawyer Andrew Macleod, who is Non-Executive Chairman of British based Griffin Law, Non-Executive Director at New York based Cornerstone Capital, a Visiting Professor at Kings College London and an Advisory Board member of International Lawyers for Africa, amongst other activities. The charity's principal focus is the children born to paedophiles working in the aid community, including the United Nations.

Andrew contacted me and Dave Tacon following our article in The Guardian international magazine last year, proposing that we run a pilot project employing DNA testing and tracking technology to trace the fathers of some of "our" children. The widespread adoption of genealogy databases now holding DNA data on millions of people has been used to track criminals, such as in the Golden State Killer case in the USA.

Andrew proposed that we invite some of the children we support to take DNA tests, and this would then be used to attempt to track their fathers, with a view to obtaining child support and family contact.

After some due diligence, we introduced Andrew to our families, and six children were DNA tested. Follow up work has identified four of the fathers. In one case this has been an unqualified happy experience, with the father delighted to discover his son, and undertaking to support him from now on. This has been a wonderful outcome.

In another two cases the fathers have been identified but have resisted taking any responsibility for their children. We have pro bono lawyers following up in Canada and Australia. In another case, the father has been identified and while the wider family has indicated a willingness to be involved, we have yet to speak to the father himself.

One child, whose mother was underage at the time he was conceived, has agreed to be DNA tested but due to the COVID disruption, this has not yet been done.

Andrew has also used his legal connections to assist in getting British Passports for twin girls, now aged 19, who we wrote about in The Guardian piece. They knew the identify of their father, but thanks to Andrew's help he agreed to cooperate with getting a court declaration stating that he is their father, and this was achieved late last year. This father has also undertaken to assist his daughters to get British passports. This is underway.

The DNA testing project was funded by Griffin Law's charitable trust, and the monies were channelled through ARI's accounts.

While this project is now coming to an end, we feel that an MOU between our two organisations would reflect the reality of our cooperative work on this project, and possibly assist Marivic in gaining the appropriate recognition for the work she does. This MOU was put to the Board of Hear Their Cries in July, and approved by a committee meeting of ARI in August.

Having proved the concept, Hear Their Cries now intends to apply the methodology to children born to under-age mothers in other countries. Meanwhile, Andrew is keen to assist us with any other cases.

Meanwhile, due to the collapse of Children's Better Life, we decided that we should attempt to establish ARI in the Philippines. This would involve Marivic becoming the resident agent of ARI's branch/representative office in the Philippines. We expect to apply for registration to the Philippines authorities next month.

Despite the challenging circumstances, we have managed to maintain and increase our support to our target families, and due to the HTC partnership over the DNA project, at least four of our children may well soon be receiving child support from their fathers.

The way ahead is hard to see, and our activities for next year will also likely be largely dominated by the impact of the virus on our work. Thankfully, our donors have remained loyal. It is very hard to know when I will again be able to visit our families. Our impact, however, has never been more important to the families we support.

Margaret Simons

President

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Income statement for the year ended 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
		(note 1)
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
Donations received - for cost of children's aid	22,283	20,118
Donations received - for cost of Philippine representative	5,498	5,130
Interest	10	15
<b>Total income</b>	<b>27,790</b>	<b>25,263</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Grant for children's need	19,779	15,231
Grant for Philippine representative costs	5,360	4,670
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>25,139</b>	<b>19,901</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>2,651</b>	<b>5,362</b>

#### Note 1

Angeles Relief Inc was incorporated on 4 April 2018. The income statement period for 2019 is from 4 April 2018 to 30 June 2019. Comparative amounts are therefore not entirely comparable.

### Balance sheet as at 30 June 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets</b>		
Cash at bank - Bendigo Bank	8,013	5,362
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>8,013</b>	<b>5,362</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>8,013</b>	<b>5,362</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>8,013</b>	<b>5,362</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Retained surplus	8,013	5,362
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>8,013</b>	<b>5,362</b>

## COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

As at 13 August 2020

President	Margaret Simons
Secretary	Chris Sherrell
Ordinary Members	Peter Gribbin Gillian Wright