

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 6pm - Wednesday October 18, 2017

Sisters of Charity Outreach Launches *Strategy 2020*

Sisters of Charity Outreach, the not-for-profit community service organisation which has been addressing unmet social need in society since it was established in 1990, has released its new, three-year strategic plan, *Strategy 2020*.

The plan, which outlines the four key goals the organisation will focus on for the next three years, was unveiled by Sisters of Charity Outreach Chair, Lucy Riggall and General Manager, Gary Sillett at Sisters of Charity Outreach's Annual Celebration 2017, held at St Vincent's Clinic function room in Sydney, on Wednesday October 18.

"Having this important milestone plan provides everyone associated with Outreach with a clear vision and direction for the next three years, as we continue the mission and legacy of the Sisters of Charity in supporting the vulnerable in our community," said Lucy Riggall Chair, Sisters of Charity Outreach.

Strategy 2020 provides the inspiration, aspiration and direction Sisters of Charity Outreach believes will allow it to achieve its four key goals for the next three years. These being:

1. Reducing the impact of domestic violence in the community;
2. Enabling improved access to health care services;
3. Reducing the impact of social isolation within the community;
4. Increasing operational efficiency, compliance and sustainability."

"As part of our journey of change and 'looking to the future', *Strategy 2020* gives us a clear direction, and will guide how we operate and deliver our much-needed services in the community over the next three years," said Gary Sillett, General Manager of Sisters of Charity Outreach.

"The past year has demonstrated that this is indeed the way forward for us as a community-based not-for-profit with limited funding, as we face increasingly-visible inequality in our society and find more and more vulnerable people seeking our assistance."

A registered Public Benevolent Institution, Sisters of Charity Outreach currently runs six core services:

Safe Haven – our domestic violence crisis accommodation and external outreach support service;

Country Care Link - our no-cost transport service for regional NSW people attending medical visits or hospital stays in Sydney;

Chisholm Cottage - our low-cost, short-term, shared accommodation for regional NSW families and individuals travelling to Sydney for medical appointments and hospital stays;

Visit Program - our no-cost, fortnightly visit service for socially isolated people living in both east and south west Sydney;

Time Out - our initiative to provide support for the wellbeing of carers and patients in St Vincent's Hospitals, Sydney; and,

Court Support - our caring presence for people attending Liverpool Court, Darlinghurst Court and the Downing Centre in central Sydney.

www.sistersofcharityoutreach.com.au

“*Strategy 2020* provides us with the foundations to meet these needs – and deliver quality, streamlined services that equally support the organisation’s sustainability,” Mr Sillett added.

“It provides the direction so that we are able to develop and deliver our services to address unmet social need more effectively and efficiently, while nurturing not only those who desperately need our services and support, but also welcoming new partnerships with individuals, companies and government departments who support our mission.

“The outcome is that we now have a clear focus on what we do to address unmet social need - and how we’re going to do it.”

Strategy 2020 is now available for download from www.sistersofcharityoutreach.com.au

“I encourage everyone to read our *Strategy 2020* and invite any benevolent individuals, businesses and government agencies who are motivated by what we do to join us in making a real difference in the lives of the many vulnerable people in our community today. Together, we will build on the legacy of the Sisters of Charity.”

Volunteer Years of Service Awards 2017

Sisters of Charity Outreach’s Annual Celebration 2017 also recognised the major contribution that the organisation’s 200-plus volunteers make throughout the year, with the Volunteer Years of Service Awards 2017 announced.

“Our volunteers remain an integral part of our day-to-day ability to deliver the services we provide to the vulnerable in society and these awards go some way to recognising the important role our volunteers play across the organisation,” said Gary Sillett.

“On behalf of everyone associated with Sisters of Charity Outreach and all our clients, we say a sincere thanks to all our volunteers who continue give so willingly of their time to allow us to address unmet social need within the community.”

Volunteer Years of Service Awards 2017

Five Years’ Service Awards:

Dorothy Brown, Charlie Bugeja, Noeline Byrne, Maureen Cannavo, Michael Chan, Gael Czinner, Marleen Flaherty, Moira Parker, Mike Preston, Coral Rogers, Malcolm Sanders, Rod Woodward, Geraldine Wylie.

10 Years’ Service Awards:

Deretta Andrews, Carolyn Delohery, Margot McNiven, Mary O’Meally, Brian Phillips, Anne Poulden.

15 Years’ Service Awards:

Angela Egan, Margaret Frater, Robyn Gale.

20 Years’ Service Award:

Sr Marie Stanley

**Sisters of Charity Outreach General Manager, Gary Sillett
is available for interviews.**

For all Media enquiries: Stephen Cook on (02) 9410 2313 or 0414 683 689.

www.sistersofcharityoutreach.com.au