28 October 2020

A new vision for caring services in Victoria

On 1 January 2021, Centacare Ballarat, CatholicCare Melbourne/Gippsland and CatholicCare Sandhurst will merge to form a new entity: CatholicCare Victoria.

This heralds a momentous strategic alignment of the social service agencies of the four Catholic dioceses in Victoria; an amalgamation that will:

• enhance and strengthen service provision to the vulnerable and marginalised, facilitating improved coordination and greater choice for clients
• amplify scale and reach to sustain and grow services, and enable a greater focus on addressing the root causes of poverty and injustice
• become a model of high performing Catholic mission
• continue the strong commitment to local communities

CatholicCare Victoria will draw on **a combined 184 years of experience in delivering excellence** in a broad range of child, family and community services. It consolidates leadership and expertise in the areas of school counselling, pastoral services, social housing, employment services and advocacy.

CatholicCare Victoria will operate from **20 office locations and a further 107 delivery sites**, including offices in Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong and Shepparton. Our footprint will extend to all corners of Victoria, from Mildura to Warrnambool, and Wodonga to Traralgon.

CatholicCare Victoria's workforce of **500 staff and 200+ volunteers** will work together, inspired by Catholic Social Teaching, in a shared mission for a stronger, more inclusive society - where everyone can reach their potential and live life to the full.

We will work with **over 50,000 people each year**: children, individuals and families experiencing difficulty or disadvantage, people in prisons, newly arrived refugees and asylum seekers, people with disabilities, people who are sick, unemployed, or who are homeless. Collective impact will strengthen our advocacy.

CatholicCare Victoria is an expression of the Catholic Church's commitment to a charity based service model providing works of mercy and justice to meet people's needs, in partnership with parishes and local communities.

We are excited to take this step forward in our vision to forge our future as a leading and influential Catholic provider of charitable and caring services in Victoria.

Maureen Waddington	**John Sheldon**	**John Murphy**
Chair	Chair	Chair
Centacare Ballarat	CatholicCare Melbourne/Gippsland	CatholicCare Sandhurst