

**Firefighters Charity Foundation Inc
(Foundation)
In its capacity as Trustee of
FireFighters Charity Fund Melbourne - Public Ancillary Fund (FF Charity Fund)**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES REPORT
YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2015**

This report on the operation of the Firefighters Charity Fund Melbourne - Public Ancillary Fund (FFCF) marks the end of the fourth year of operation for this Trust Fund.

The purposes of the FFCF are set out in the Trust Deed and are as follows:

4.1 General objects

The general objects of the Trust are to provide money, property or benefits exclusively:

4.1.1 to and for the purpose of Approved Institutions; or

4.1.2 for the establishment of Approved Institutions,

Provided that the provision of property, money or benefits is not in breach of the requirements of item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cwlth) (as amended) (the Act) including any special conditions set out in any of the tables in subdivision 30-B of the Act.

4.2 Specific objects

Without limiting the general objects set out under clause 4.1, the specific objects of the Trust are:

4.2.1 to attract and retain for the Trust the continuing interest and financial support of members of the public;

4.2.2 to solicit donations, gifts, bequests and other forms of financial assistance to or for the Objects;

4.2.3 to widen knowledge and understanding of the Trust, its activities, needs and objectives among the public;

4.2.4 to raise money from the public and establish and administer trusts and funds for the purposes of obtaining the Objects or any of them; and

4.2.5 and to do all things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the Objects or any of them or to the preservation, development and improvement of the standards, facilities and well-being of the Trust.

OPERATION

The primary source of fundraising remains payroll deduction within the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. However donations continue to be invited from the public. To this end:

- The Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board facilitates a workplace giving scheme for its staff;
- There is a website (www.firecharity.org.au) with links to GIVE NOW to allow fully receipted donations to be made directly to the Fund.
- Members of the public can also donate with direct payments into the FFCF bank account.

Administration of the Firefighters Charity Fund continues to be conducted directly by the Board of Directors with assistance from members of the Fund.

Guidelines for the administration of the Fund established in 2011 continued without amendment for this financial year. Proceeds from the FFCF to be distributed between accounts (see below) as follows: Perpetual Account 10%, FireLegacy 30%, the FireFighters Charity Fund (to be distributed on an annual basis between three core charities representing burns, children's health and cancer charities, one of which is nominated by contributors to the fund) and 20% to support other fundraising efforts (within our purposes).

OPERATION OF THE FUND 2014/15

Financial

The Board continued to hold a number of accounts with the Firefighters Credit Union:

- A distribution account into which all funds are received.
- Three sub accounts: Firefighters Charity Fund, FireLegacy and a Perpetual Account

The Treasurer is authorised to distribute the funds between the accounts. It is agreed that once the funds in the perpetual account reached \$10,000 the money should be placed in a 12 months term deposit.

Investment Summary: A total of \$3,056 interest was earned by the fund. Owing to the small size of the fund investment was limited to interest earned from the bank account in which the fund was placed. The return of an average of 1.5% interest over the year of operation is considered by the Trustees to be conservative and within the permitted investments allowed under law.

During the financial year 2014/2015 donations totaling \$305,821 were made to the Firefighters Charity Fund from the following sources:

- Workplace giving: \$127,915
- Fundraising events: \$163,040
- Sundry donations \$14,866

Main Activities

The Firefighters Charity Fund agreed that the core charities for the year 2014/2015 would be:

- Alfred Burns Unit (Burns) - \$127,122
- Camp Quality (Children) - \$30,000

Donations during the year totaled \$214,668. In addition \$10,000 was distributed to FireLegacy.

Other donations made in support of fundraising efforts included:

- Prostate Cancer Research - \$10,000
- Cyclone Pam Vanuatu - \$7,000
- West Welcome Wagon - \$6,321
- SANDS - \$5,000

Full details are attached (Attachment 1). The Board expects to provide a significant donation to the Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute during the first quarter of 2015/2016.

Amendment to Firefighters Charity Fund Melbourne – Public Ancillary Fund (FF Charity Fund)

During the year the Board reviewed the expense of paying for an external audit of the Funds' accounts on an annual basis. Members were satisfied that, considering the annual revenue and assets of the Trust, having the accounts reviewed rather than audited provided sufficient financial information and accountability to permit the Trustee to discharge its fiduciary duties as Trustee.

On 15 October 2015 the Trust Deeds were amended to reflect this decision. The effect of this resolution is that the FF Charity Fund will continue to comply with Public Ancillary Fund Guidelines 2011 issued under section 426-103 in Schedule 1 to the Taxation Administration Act 1953 (Cth) (Guidelines), and that its accounts will be reviewed, not audited, in future by an external accounting firm.

Dated: 27 November 2015

SIGNED:



Mark Carter (Chair)



Shane McCluskey (Deputy Chair)



Sarah Lostia (Treasurer)



Elaine Stewart (Secretary)



Michael Whitty (Board member)

Attachment 1

Firefighters Charity Foundation Inc (Foundation) in its capacity as Trustee of

FireFighters Charity Fund Melbourne - Public Ancillary Fund (FF Charity Fund)

Donations made for the financial year ended 30 June 2015:

Organisation	Amount
Alfred Foundation	110,122
Camp Quality	30,000
Alfred Hospital	17,000
Prostate Cancer Research	10,000
Cyclone Pam Vanuatu	5,000
West Welcome Wagon	6,321
SANDS	5,000
Amaze -Autism Victoria	1,000
Anglicare	1,000
Asylum Seeker Resource Centre	1,000
Blackwood Special School	1,000
Fred Hollows Foundation	1,000
JDRF	1,000
Julian Burton Burns	1,500
Kids Foundation	1,000
Lighthouse Foundation	1,000
Marfan Association	1,000
Médecins Sans Frontières	1,000
Multiple Sclerosis	1,000
Muscular Dystrophy Australia	1,000
Ovarian Cancer Research	1,000
Oxfam	500
Peter MacCallum Cancer Foundation	1,000
Polished Man	170
Road Trauma Support Service	1,000
RSPCA Victoria	1,000
Sacred Heart Mission	555
Salvation Army	1,000
Sanfilippo Children's Foundation	1,000
Save a Dog Scheme	1,000
St Kilda Gatehouse	1,000
St Vincent de Paul Society	1,000
Starlight Children's Foundation	1,000
State Schools Relief	1,000
TLC for Kids	1,000
Whitelion	2,500
Transfer to FireLegacy	10,000
TOTAL	\$222,668