



2022

Annual Report

Taking Paediatrics Abroad Ltd

www.takingpaediatricsabroad.org.au



Contents:	Page
1. Vision, Mission, History and About Us	3
2. Our People	4
a. Board members	
b. Advisory Group	
c. Volunteers	
d. Contributing Experts	
e. Donors	
f. Supporters	
3. Our Structure and Management	6
4. Message from the Chair	6
5. Managing Director's Report	7
6. Objectives and Activities	8
a. Australia	
b. International locations	
7. Our Impact	9
a. How We Deliver	
b. International Sessions by Countries	
c. Collaborations	
8. Financial Statements	12
9. Contact details	14
10. Appendix 1	15

Vision

Equitable healthcare for children globally.

Mission

Sharing expertise in paediatric care to prevent and control diseases, save lives and create a brighter future for children and young people in low-resource settings overseas and in Australia.

Our History

Taking Paediatrics Abroad Ltd (TPA) was established in 2019 to facilitate the sharing of paediatric expertise in Australia and the Indo-Pacific. In low-resources countries, the availability of quality healthcare is inversely proportional to the need of the population; there is a higher burden of diseases and significant resource challenges. Initial plans included:

- Short-term volunteering face-to-face
- Ongoing connection to enable further consultations / following visits
- Annual visits to share new knowledge
- Funded 'observerships' in Australia for key clinical skills training

The first international volunteering episode coincided with the onset of COVID-19-related travel restrictions.

TPA continues to build its resulting telehealth project including:

- Telemedicine with paediatricians conducting virtual consultations for Australian Aboriginal children and their families in two remote NSW locations
- Telehealth connecting Australian paediatric subspecialists (doctors, nurses and allied health professionals) with paediatric colleagues in low-resource countries in the Indo-Pacific region. Scheduled telehealth sessions enabled Australian paediatric experts to provide education and guidance on cases or topics requested by international colleagues. Countries include the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, Kiribati, Samoa, Fiji, the Federated States of Micronesia, Cambodia, Vietnam, Bangladesh and Mongolia.

About Us

TPA is a charitable organisation registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission with endorsement for charity tax concessions. The Australian Business Number is: 35 635 999 076.

Our People

Board members

Name	Position	Dates
Peter Richards	Chair & Treasurer	Chair since 2021; a Director since 2019
Lesley Mathews	Company Secretary & Director	2021 – present: a director since 2019
Elizabeth Adsett	Director	2021 – present (Chair from 2019-2021)
Patsi Michalson	Director	2019 – present
Kathryn Currow	Managing Director	2019 – present
Joanne Lillie	Director	2021 – present

Advisory Group

Name	Position	Dates
A/Prof. Sue Woolfenden	Advisor & Presenter	2019 – present
Dr James Weaver	Advisor	2019 – present
Sally Whitaker	Advisor	2019 – present
Dr Sue Phin	Advisor	2019 – present
Ruth Baker	Advisor	2019 – present
Anneka Parker	Author & Contributor	2019 – present
Dr Elodie Moreau	Advisor/ Journal club lead	2021- present
Dr Susan Adams	Advisor & Surgical Journal Club lead	2022-present

Volunteers

Name	Position	Duration
Brooke Boswell	Honorary Director Digital	2019 – present
Kate Crawford	Administration Support	2021 – present
Peter Andersen	Project Support	2019 – present
Sarah Feyen	Project Support	2021 – present
Will Havellas	Project Support, Presenter	2021 – present
Margaret Stichter	Administration Support	2021 – present
Dr Hayden Segboer	Project Support	2022 – present
Lynne Brodie	Project Support	2022 – present

Contributing Experts

Taking Paediatrics Abroad gratefully acknowledges the dedicated of paediatric colleagues who regularly share their expertise with paediatric colleagues in the Indo-Pacific region. They are from NSW, ACT, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania and one from New Zealand.

Experts include:

Type of Expert	Number
Paediatric Subspecialists	75
Nurse Specialists	31
Allied Health Paediatric Specialists	17

Our Donors

Taking Paediatrics Abroad gratefully acknowledges the support of:

- MSC Mission



- Private donors
- Artists, helpers, attendees, purchasers who all contributed to the TPA Art Auction fund-raiser held during the year. Led by Board Director, Patsi Michalson, this event netted funds and helped raise awareness of the work and impact of TPA.

Our supporters

We gratefully acknowledge the ongoing expert pro bono support of:

Name	Logo	Dates
HWL Ebsworth		2019 - present
Bongiorno		2019 - present

Structure and Management

Australian paediatric experts, the Managing Director, the Board Members, the Advisory Group, project team and administrative support team contribute their time in a voluntary capacity.

Message from the Chair

It is an honour to contribute to the work of TPA as Chair of the Board.

The global Covid-19 pandemic has brought many challenges to the lives of people across the world, not least those of children and young people living in low-resource settings. The pandemic also presents many hurdles for the ways in which TPA can deliver its services via similarly challenged colleagues in all the geographies we support. It is with a sense of pride that TPA has adapted its approach to achieve such significant impact across all the areas in which we work.

The focus of the TPA Board revolves around continued strengthening of our governance framework and supporting our Managing Director working on our strategic priorities. We have recently completed a new strategic plan, and it is clear that growth in the impact of TPA is constrained only by limited resources, particularly financial. Of course, as a small charity, our position is not unique.

Thank you to the Board for their work and passion for our cause. Particular thanks to Liz Adsett, inaugural Chair who stepped back during the year but remains on the Board.

Thank you to all the volunteers and contributors to our work, whether advisory, administrative, professional or otherwise – it is humbling seeing what is being achieved by a movement based almost totally on voluntary contribution.

Lastly, thank you to Kathryn Currow, TPA's founder and Managing Director. Kathryn is the driving force behind TPA, who continues to move any obstacle to achievement of our Vision.

Managing Director's Report

TPA continues to support children and young people in Australia and in low-resource countries. Special thanks to the Board and the Advisory Group for their excellent ongoing support and to the growing pool of enthusiastic and committed volunteers, including the contributing experts, who support our work.

Globally it has been a difficult time for children and young people with the impact of Covid-19 having significantly displaced the focus away from their needs. Gains achieved over recent years have been set back. Problems include a marked increase in poverty and malnutrition; disruption to routine vaccinations; and a significant increase in mental health problems.

Further enhancements added throughout 2022 include:

1. The introduction of a **South Pacific paediatric journal club** to share discussion about current peer reviewed research publications relevant to practice in South Pacific countries with their Australian counterparts. Facilitation by a senior paediatric presentations expert/researcher helps to provide a process for appraising publications, share experiences and build effective relationships, especially between junior doctors.
2. A **half-day virtual paediatric conference** was held in May. This was attended by approximately 140 paediatric doctors and nurses from the South Pacific and Cambodia. Format included latest guidelines for TB in children; medical issues in the transition from childhood to adolescence; detecting congenital heart disease; and the importance of assessing evidence to guide best practice.
3. Thanks to Prof. Ben Marais, Prof. Craig Mellis, A/Prof. Sue Towns, A/Prof. Kath Carmo, Dr Kate Armstrong and to paediatric colleagues from each country who gave excellent case presentations. New knowledge was a highlight, but may have been surpassed by the warm collegiality of the enthusiastic audience who were so inspired by the achievements of their colleagues in similarly resource constrained settings. This will become an annual event in the TPA calendar.
4. A **Paediatric surgical discussion group** has just commenced. This will enable South Pacific surgeons and paediatricians to join in sharing experiences and learning with subspecialist Australian colleagues. Sharing experiences and ideas provides potential for enhancing services.
5. Additional support for **special requests for additional case discussions** in addition to the scheduled weekly series of meetings. This reflects trusted and effective clinical relationships.

Objectives and Activities

Australia

Initial feedback from Pius X in Moree is that virtual consultations by paediatricians introduced by TPA have made a very positive impact on the health and well-being of Aboriginal children in the region and greatly assisted the healthcare team.

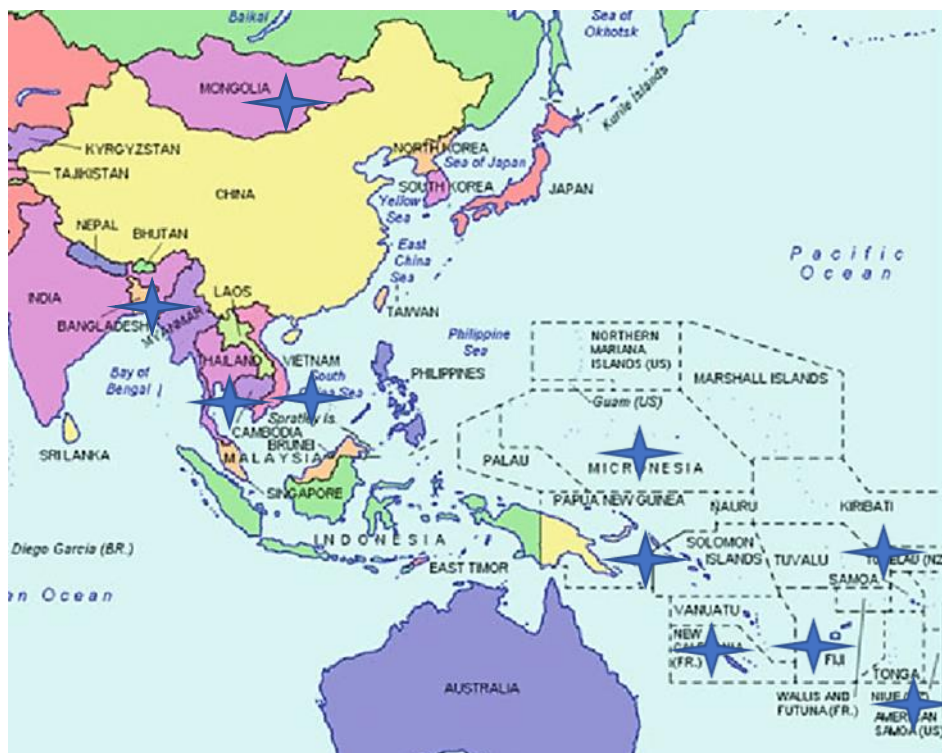
The three paediatricians providing regular virtual consultations greatly appreciate the opportunity to contribute to improving the health and wellbeing of Australian Aboriginal children and their families. Formal evaluation is planned for later in 2022.

Another similar request for paediatric support is being actively explored.

International locations

With the ongoing limitations on travel, our international TPA colleagues in low-resource settings have experienced greater challenges in providing healthcare to children and young people. We are all inspired by the results these colleagues achieve in their day-to-day practice and we are humbled by their enthusiasm to enhance their services in difficult circumstances.

Countries now include: the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, Fiji, Samoa, the Federated States of Micronesia, Cambodia, Bangladesh and Mongolia. Zoom enables broad reach within countries and sharing of experiences with colleagues in multiple international locations.



Our Impact

TPA is actively supporting improvements in the health and wellbeing of children and young people through engagement with the paediatric doctors, nurses and allied health professionals who care for them. Its focus is effective clinical discussion, teaching and sharing latest evidence-based guidelines. This in turn gives impetus to the strengthening of health systems.

Children and young people and their families are ultimately the beneficiaries of our support. The numerous stories of direct benefit for patients are beyond the scope of this report.

There is always affirmation of what is being achieved by our esteemed colleagues who face the very challenging circumstances of managing children with complex medical problems in low-resource settings.

All benefit from the discussions:

- our international colleagues are empowered and encouraged
- contributing Australian experts appreciate the broadening of their knowledge, understanding and experience
- children and young people have enhanced health outcomes and have a brighter future

How We Deliver

Regular Zoom meetings connect paediatric colleagues from the Indo-Pacific region with Australian subspecialist counterparts to provide clinical teaching to assist in the management of children with complex medical problems. Colleagues from international locations have their country priorities addressed: they present relevant cases for discussion and guidance or ask for updates according to their needs.

Scheduled discussions cover the broad range of paediatric subspecialties from neonates to adolescents focusing on sharing new knowledge. An example was during the pandemic, where additional sessions provided much needed support for the many challenges of Covid-19 management.

These telehealth meetings via Zoom are high impact, low cost, low risk, can reach throughout each country and have a minimal carbon footprint.

Of special importance is TPA's ongoing support for paediatric oncology patients in the Solomon Islands, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Dr Luciano Dalla-Pozza from The Children's Hospital at Westmead and Dr Steve Lumasa and his Honiara colleagues. This has given impetus to the development of a paediatric oncology service in the Solomon Islands.

International sessions by countries until 19th October 2022

Countries	Sessions
Solomon Islands + Tonga 2021; Kiribati & Samoa (Aug 2021); Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji (Oct 2021)	139
Vanuatu + Tonga 2021; Kiribati & Samoa (Aug 2021); Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji (Oct 2021)	111
Joint sessions with all South Pacific Countries	13
Cambodia	93
Bangladesh	21
Mongolia	8
Nurse led sessions	80
Physiotherapy led sessions	11
South Pacific Paediatric Journal Club including Surgical Discussion group	10
Half-Day Virtual Conference May 2022: guest speakers & cases from countries	4 hours
TOTAL	483 sessions
	486 hours

Collaborations

TPA welcomes the opportunity to work with like-minded organisations and is thankful for the strong support of the Sydney Children’s Hospitals Network Executive, affirmed in a recent agreement, and from Children’s Health Queensland. Special thanks to colleagues from the Australian College of Neonatal Nurses for their great contribution to Nurse-led sessions.

In 2022, TPA has begun to work with CLAN (Caring and Living as Neighbours), an organisation to support children and families with chronic conditions in resource poor settings. An important component of this is education to health professionals and families. TPA support for this component of CLAN’s work in Vietnam is now being developed. Plans for similar project in Zimbabwe are emerging for 2023.

It is anticipated that in 2023, in addition to ongoing regular zoom meetings, TPA will commence some face-to-face volunteering where appropriate to provide key skills training. Visits to the South Pacific, Cambodia and Vietnam will assist in plans to support the priorities of our international colleagues. Additional services such as paediatric imaging support will follow on from these visits.

“Thank you TPA for ensuring that no child is left out and that we make child health and child health rights our business.”

Dr Thyna Orelly, Head of Paediatrics, Vanuatu

TAKING PAEDIATRICS ABROAD LIMITED
ABN 35 635 999 076

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	65,231	30,101
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>65,231</u>	<u>30,101</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>65,231</u>	<u>30,101</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>65,231</u>	<u>30,101</u>
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		65,231	30,101
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>65,231</u>	<u>30,101</u>

TAKING PAEDIATRICS ABROAD LIMITED
ABN 35 635 999 076

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Donation Received	28,131	7,073
Interest received	-	10
Trading Income:		
Sales		
Art Sales - fundraiser	23,775	-
Gross profit on trading	<u>23,775</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>51,906</u>	<u>7,083</u>
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Contractor	3,000	-
Computer & Software	2,721	1,501
Education	-	70
Delivery	133	-
Depreciation - plant and equipment	3,934	-
Fundraising Costs	4,179	-
Filing fees	88	-
Insurance	1,988	1,887
Printing and stationery	433	362
Subscriptions	300	65
Travelling expenses	-	367
	<u>16,776</u>	<u>4,252</u>
NET OPERATING PROFIT	<u>35,130</u>	<u>2,831</u>
Retained Profits at the beginning of the financial year	<u>30,101</u>	<u>27,270</u>
TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION	<u>65,231</u>	<u>30,101</u>
RETAINED PROFITS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	<u><u>65,231</u></u>	<u><u>30,101</u></u>



Contact details

Dr Kathryn Currow

k.currow@takingpaediatricsabroad.org.au

+61409120247

Appendix 1

Meeting Attendance:

Name	Meeting 20/10/2021	Meeting 15/12/2021	Meeting 16/2/2022	Meeting 20/4/2022	Meeting 22/6/2022	Meeting 8/2022
<i>Peter Richards</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Kathryn Currow</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Lesley Mathews</i>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Elizabeth Adsett</i>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>Joanne Lillee from 29/10/2021</i>		Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
<i>Patsi Michalson</i>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
<i>Jasper Garay</i>	Yes	No	Yes	No	<i>Resigned</i>	