

2020

ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20



Able
AUSTRALIA



TOGETHER WE ARE ABLE



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ABOUT ABLE AUSTRALIA

Able Australia is a leading provider of disability services for adults and community supports for seniors. We are a diverse not-for-profit organisation offering a broad range of high quality services to enable those we support to live the life they choose. We strive to ensure our clients live better days, every day.

Established over 50 years ago, we have grown from providing help to the deafblind community, into an innovative and diverse organisation with a varied service offering.

WE OFFER THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

- Accommodation services for people with multiple disabilities
- Support with community participation
- Deafblind services
- Day programs
- Community supports for seniors.

Able Australia's 500+ strong workforce is committed to the values of Trust, Respect, Excellence and Kindness, providing quality care in a long term partnership with our clients and their loved ones.

We currently provide services in Victoria, Tasmania, ACT and Queensland.

VISION

Our vision is to enable the people we support to live the life they choose.

MISSION

Our mission is to build on our heritage and empower the individuals we support to reach their potential by living our values of trust, respect, excellence and kindness every day.

VALUES

Committed to our values of trust, respect, excellence and kindness, we strive to provide the best quality support in long term partnership with our clients and their loved ones. Below are a set of guiding principles and fundamental beliefs that allow Able to achieve its vision and mission.



Trust: For more than 50 years we have been trusted to deliver high quality, reliable services safely to those we support.



Respect: We are respectful, upholding the rights of everyone we support and work with.



Excellence: We strive for excellence in everything we do – from the services we provide, to the outcomes we support clients to achieve.



Kindness: We are kind and compassionate to all.



YEAR IN FOCUS 19/20



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON & CEO



DAVID CLARK
BOARD CHAIR



KATE MACRAE
CEO

This past financial year has been one of contrasts for Able Australia. We began FY19-20 hosting the prestigious Deafblind International World Conference on the Gold Coast which welcomed over 400 delegates from across 70 different countries. The five day event was an overwhelming success and showcased the incredible work taking place around the world to support those who are deafblind.

We also received the results from our Client and Carer Research in September of 2019. It provided great insights into how our services were perceived by clients and their families. It was particularly heartening to see that our service performance rating was, on average, 90% with staff performance including friendliness, treating clients with respect and providing quality support, a particular standout.

Our newest Day Service in Northcote, Melbourne was opened featuring assistive technology provided as a result of our partnership with Google. As 2019 drew to a close, we ended the year feeling optimistic and energised, more attuned to our strengths and poised for growth.

Sadly, as 2020 began, Able, like much of Australia, had to take an 'emergency response' footing as we first dealt with the bushfires and then COVID-19.

Able quickly took a leadership role through the pandemic, much of which is detailed later. Our thanks to the team for their collective effort.

Like many other organisations, COVID-19 adversely impacted Able Australia's bottom line. With the help of JobKeeper, Able was able to keep much of its workforce employed and continued to offer a broad range of client services. The organisation reported an operating surplus from ordinary activities amounting to \$3,328,585 [2019: surplus \$1,441,681].

At last year's AGM, Laura Meagher stepped down after serving more than 10 years as a Board Member. As Board Chair, I want to extend my thanks to Laura for her contribution to Able over those years. I also want to welcome several new members to the Able Australia Board - John Rowan, Bruce McCowan, Ro Marks and Jenny Smith. The depth and breadth of skills they bring puts Able in good stead for many years to come.

Thank you to our fellow board members for going above and beyond supporting the organisation in governance. Thank you to our workforce for ensuring the safety and wellbeing of our clients and each other. Thank you to our donors who continue to give generously and care deeply for our clients. And thank you to our clients and families for being so understanding of all the changes we have asked you to adopt as a result of COVID-19.

Never has our tagline been more true - together we *are* able.

GOVERNANCE

GOVERNANCE



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DAVID CLARK

CHAIRPERSON - DIRECTOR SINCE NOVEMBER 2012

Graduate of The Australian Institute of Company Directors

David was appointed Chairperson of the Able Australia Board in December 2013. He is an Executive Coach with more than 20 years' experience in senior executive roles within a diverse range of organisations. David's background is in Human Resources and Senior Executive Management, working primarily in the food and beverage industry. David has worked in Europe, USA, Asia and the Pacific and has deep experience in organisational change.



MEG DOWNIE

DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON SINCE NOVEMBER 2018

DIRECTOR SINCE 2016

Bachelor of Business

Meg is the Director of the Infrastructure, Government and Healthcare Industry Group at KPMG where she has been managing the strategic growth and market positioning of its government business for a number of years. Prior to KPMG, Meg spent 16 years with the Commonwealth and Victorian Public Services where she specialised in organisational re-structuring and a range of human resource management functions.

Meg's Able Australia Board Committee membership includes:

Chair – People & Engagement Committee

Chair – Client Advisory Committee



PETER REILLY

TREASURER - DIRECTOR SINCE 2012

Bachelor of Business Accounting, Associate – The Institute of Chartered Accountants, Registered Tax Agent Since 1976, Associate – Institute of Company Directors

Peter has more than 40 years' experience as a senior executive and has demonstrated success in a range of areas including general management, building high performance teams, developing and implementing financial and business plans, directing public companies and ensuring funding requirements are met in high growth organisations. Peter is a Director of Melba Opera Trust, Director of the St. Bernard's Foundation, Chairman of Scotchmans Hill Pty Ltd and Executive Director of Lifeview Residential Care.

Peter's Able Australia Board Committee membership includes:

Chair - Finance, Audit, Investment & Risk Committee



HON. DONALD WING AM

DIRECTOR SINCE AUGUST 2011

Bachelor of Laws

Don practised as a Barrister and Solicitor for 20 years before being elected to the Legislative Council in the Parliament of Tasmania. During his 29 years as an Independent Member, he served as President of the Council for six years and was Mayor of Launceston from 1983-1987. Don is a member and patron of a number of community, humanitarian and sporting organisations.

Don's Able Australia Board Committee membership includes:

People & Engagement Committee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DR. PRUE MORGAN

DIRECTOR SINCE JUNE 2018

PhD, Master of Applied Science (research), Bachelor of Applied Science (physio), Graduate Diploma Neuroscience

Prue is the current Head of Physiotherapy at Monash University. She is an experienced physiotherapy clinician and academic with more than 30 years of experience in neurological clinical practice, physiotherapy education and research. Prue has assumed many state and national leadership roles in physiotherapy over her career and was awarded the title of Specialist Neurological Physiotherapist in 2008 by the Australian College of Physiotherapists in recognition of her expertise in clinical practice and scholarship. Prue has particular skills in the management of issues affecting people aging with complex disability, and brings her clinical experience to Able Australia.

Prue's Able Australia Board Committee membership includes:

Client Quality & Safeguarding Committee



BRUCE MCCOWAN

DIRECTOR SINCE JULY 2019

Bachelor of Education, Post Graduate in Education Studies, Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors

Bruce is an experienced Executive, Human Resources Leader, Consultant and Board Director with extensive expertise in organisational transformation through alignment of business and HR strategy, with a particular emphasis on culture change and improving leadership capability. Bruce is currently Partner Performance at *deliberatepractice* and is Chair of the White Ribbon Australia Accreditation Committee. He has previously served as a Board Director for a number of organisations in the not for profit sector, including a disability services organisation.

Bruce's Able Australia Board Committee membership includes:

Chair - Client Quality & Safeguarding Committee
Finance, Audit, Investment & Risk Committee



JOHN ROWAN

DIRECTOR SINCE JULY 2019

Bachelor of Business (Accounting), CPA, Australian Institute of Company Directors, Fellow of the Governance Institute of Australia

John has held a variety of leadership roles in diverse areas including Human Resources Management, Superannuation, Company Secretariat, Fleet Management, Sales and Marketing, Supply Chain and Occupational Health and Safety. John has extensive skills in business development and continuous improvement (kaizen) and has previously served as a longstanding Board Director for a not-for-profit disability organisation.

John's Able Australia Board Committee membership includes:

Finance, Audit, Investment & Risk Committee
People & Engagement Committee

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



RO MARKS

DIRECTOR SINCE JULY 2019

Bachelor of Applied Science Recreation, Master of Social Science Human Services, Graduate Diploma Strategic Foresight

Ro has a 30-year history as a social policy and planning professional. Ro has worked in senior roles with state, regional and local governments, not-for-profit organisations and statutory authorities in Victoria and Western Australia. After operating a social policy and planning consultancy for 14 years, Ro is currently the Community Care Policy Lead at the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV). Ro is committed to strengthening engagement with service users, their families, and carers to ensure quality in policy and service outcomes.

Ro's Able Australia Board Committee membership includes:

Client Quality & Safeguarding Committee
Client Advisory Committee



JENNY SMITH

DIRECTOR SINCE JULY 2019

Bachelor in Computer Science, Information Systems and Accounting, MBA Melbourne Business School, CPA, Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors

Jenny is a senior executive with diverse experience across the not-for-profit and for profit sectors. She has been in senior roles at Mercy Health for ten years and currently holds the position of Executive Director – Strategy, Planning and Major Projects.

Jenny's Able Australia Board Committee membership includes:

Finance, Audit, Investment & Risk Committee



LAURA MEAGHER

(RESIGNED OCTOBER 2019)

DIRECTOR SINCE 2008

Bachelor of Commerce (Law), Bachelor of Management (HR), Diploma of Public Relations

Laura is a committed and passionate professional with experience in marketing, communications, culture and people across a variety of industries including automotive, finance and insurance and building and construction for over 15 years.



MEETING OF DIRECTORS

	JUL 2019	AUG 2019	SEP 2019	OCT 2019	NOV 2019	DEC 2019	JAN 2020	FEB 2020	MAR 2020	APR 2020	MAY 2020	JUN 2020	TOTAL	ATTENDANCE
BOARD MEETINGS				AGM	Telecon- ference									
David Clark	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	9	9
Meg Downie	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	9	6
Peter Reilly	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	9	8
Don Wing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	9	9
Laura Meagher	No	Yes	Yes	No (Resigned at AGM)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Dr Prue Morgan	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	9	7
John Rowan	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	9	8
Bruce McCowan Started 29/7/19	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	9	9
Ro Marks Started 29/7/19	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	No	9	6
Jenny Smith Started 26/8/19	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	Yes	9	8

	JUL 2019	AUG 2019	SEP 2019	OCT 2019	NOV 2019	DEC 2019	JAN 2020	FEB 2020	MAR 2020	APR 2020	MAY 2020	JUN 2020	ATTENDANCE
FINANCE, AUDIT, INVESTMENT & RISK COMMITTEE													
NAME CHANGE - EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 2019													
Peter Reilly	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	5
Don Wing Joined to form Quorum	-	-	Yes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
John Rowan	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	4
Jenny Smith	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-	4
Bruce McCowan Observer	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	No	Yes	-	Yes	-	3

	JUL 2019	AUG 2019	SEP 2019	OCT 2019	NOV 2019	DEC 2019	JAN 2020	FEB 2020	MAR 2020	APR 2020	MAY 2020	JUN 2020	ATTENDANCE
PEOPLE & ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE													
NAME CHANGE - EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 2019													
Meg Downie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	-	2
Don Wing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	-	2
John Rowan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	-	Yes	-	2

	JUL 2019	AUG 2019	SEP 2019	OCT 2019	NOV 2019	DEC 2019	JAN 2020	FEB 2020	MAR 2020	APR 2020	MAY 2020	JUN 2020	ATTENDANCE
CLIENT QUALITY & SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE													
NAME CHANGE – EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 2019													
Bruce McCowan Effective Nov 2019	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	2
Ro Marks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	2
Dr Prue Morgan	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	-	Yes	-	-	2

	JUL 2019	AUG 2019	SEP 2019	OCT 2019	NOV 2019	DEC 2019	JAN 2020	FEB 2020	MAR 2020	APR 2020	MAY 2020	JUN 2020	ATTENDANCE
CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (NEW)													
Meg Downie	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1
Ro Marks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	No	0
Peter Reilly Joined to form Quorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Yes	1



CELEBRATING ACCESSIBILITY, COMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY AT THE 17TH DEAFBLIND INTERNATIONAL WORLD CONFERENCE

The 17th Deafblind International World Conference was held at the Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort from 12 – 16 August 2019. Held once every four years, this event is the pinnacle in the Deafblind International (DbI) event calendar. Able Australia was very honoured to have secured the rights to host such a prestigious event.

The conference theme for 2019 was: Sharing the knowledge to ACT: Accessibility. Communication. Technology. The event showcased the most current information and research in these fields and was officially opened by the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC QC.

More than 400 people attended the event, representing close to 70 different countries – even two from sub-Saharan Africa! The Scientific Committee, charged with managing the conference program itself, had to sift through over 200 high calibre applications from researchers, professionals and those with lived experience of deafblindness – all keen to present at the conference – such is its reputation.

Keynote addresses were provided by the likes of Isabel Amaral from Portugal – a retired professor involved in training teachers for children with congenital deafblindness, Dr Namita Jacob, Executive Director of Chetana Trust in India and Christopher Woodfill – Associate Executive Director at the Helen Keller National Centre based in the USA.



Aside from the very informative panel discussions which featured each day, the event also included a range of inspiring presentations within the accessibility, communication and technology conference streams.

They included:

- Enhancing accessibility to education through curriculum adaptation for students with deafblindness.
- Bringing accessibility solutions to our homes and communities for today and tomorrow.
- Using videoanalysis to enhance communication between parents and children with deafblindness.

At the conference dinner, several staff members from Able Australia were recognised.

Carla Anderson received the Dbl Lifetime Achievement Award while Art Therapist, Emily Walters took home the Dbl Young Professional Leaders Award 2019. Able's Gary Daly, stepping

down from his role as Dbl Secretary, was also recognised for his many years of service to both the Australian and international deafblind community.

The Conference concluded with the WFDB (World Federation of Deafblind) Global Report on Deafblindness - the first-ever global report on deafblindness bringing together quantitative and qualitative data on the prevalence of deafblindness across the world.



LEADING THE WAY THROUGH COVID-19

For many, 2020 will be the year of COVID-19. With the World Health Organisation declaring it a pandemic and the Australian Federal Government imposing restrictions in March 2020, terms like 'physical distancing and hand hygiene' became part of our vernacular as we were all asked to play our part to 'flatten the curve'.

As a disability service provider supporting some of our community's most vulnerable, Able Australia knew it needed to lead the charge to keep its clients and workforce as safe as possible. And so our COVID-19 response began...



MARCH

- Established a COVID-19 Management Plan for the organisation.
- Established the Disability CEO forum - starting as a group of 4 growing to over 80 participants.
- Systematically began providing updated staff training on COVID 'safe' practices - physical distancing, hand hygiene, checking temperature etc.
- Closed high risk services such as Day Services and reduced worker mobility where possible.

APRIL

- Day Service staff redeployed into residential services to deliver a 'day program' to clients at home.
- Online program of activities for clients piloted with great success.
- Public appeal for personal protective equipment (PPE) began for the disability sector.
- Lindt donated chocolate Easter Eggs to Able clients forced to isolate away from their families during the first COVID-19 wave.



ABLE'S VOLUNTEER ARMY

Able put the call out for seamstresses willing to sew protective gowns for the disability workforce and the response was incredible. Over 30 volunteers produced more than 250 protective gowns. One of our amazing volunteers, Judith Ross, said, "As a donor to Able Australia for many years, I understand the difference they can make to the lives of those who face the challenge of disability...I do not have the skills to be a disability support worker - but I do have sewing skills. By making a gown, it's one small way I can show my appreciation for those caring for others under pandemic conditions, and in turn help the people Able Australia cares for."



MAY

- Supply chain to bring in face masks established for the sector.
- Army of volunteers gathered to sew protective gowns for our workforce.
- Prototype developed for a protective face shield which Swinburne University optimised and mass produced on our behalf.
- Prepared a COVID-19 submission for the Disability Royal Commission on behalf of disability sector CEOs with over 30 signatories.

JUNE

- Started to move into 'COVID-normal' across all sites when the second wave began in Victoria.
- Incident Command Centre established in Victoria including a Site Support Team – staff prepared to go into a COVID positive house if required.
- 'Isolation ready' facility stood up to house any COVID positive client away from their home if required.

SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY AND ABLE AUSTRALIA DEVELOP FACE SHIELDS

Swinburne University partnered with Able Australia to develop a simple, low-cost face shield that could be mass produced with any 3D printer for use by the disability sector. Taking a prototype created by Able, the team re-engineered its design to improve usability and allow the shields to be produced at scale. 1,100 units of "Swin Shield" were created with Swinburne donating the cost of the 3D printing materials.

FACE MASKS FOR THE SECTOR

To address the sector wide shortage of face masks urgently needed Able Australia set about establishing a supply chain for the disability sector. 1.2million surgical masks were sourced by Able and distributed to disability service providers in need. Over \$1million worth of masks were ordered for the sector.

QUEENSLAND'S INNOVATIVE IDEAS LIFTS SPIRITS

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Queensland team were not able to make physical contact with its seniors based in Queensland as they normally would. Instead, they began calling clients to check in and make sure they were okay. To keep engagement levels high, the team started delivering tea and biscuits as a reminder that they were only a phone call away. This initiative was popularly termed 'QuaranTea'.

ABLE ONLINE

Like the broader community, many Able Australia clients found themselves largely confined to their homes. To break the monotony Able Online was born – a program of activities such as cooking classes and dance lessons delivered via Zoom with the support of local staff in the home. The program has been so popular the format has been expanded and is expected to continue even when things return to 'normal'.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

In 2019 Able Australia reviewed its strategic plan and asked itself, “what more can be done?” In doing so, we kept landing on the notion of providing ‘better days’ for our clients. Not just providing a quality service, but providing that service in a way that delivers a better day for the person receiving that support.

Providing better days is something that everyone at Able can work toward, every day of the year, in every interaction that we have. In fact, we believe that focusing on better days as an outcome is a way that we can constantly set a high expectation of ourselves, improve upon our services and measure how well they serve those we support. After all, we all hope for better days in our life.



QUALITY AND INNOVATION

Provide innovative services under-pinned by contemporary, evidence-based practice, within a measurable quality framework.



CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR DEAFBLIND

Grow the Centre of Excellence for Deafblind's reputation and actively collaborate with other world-leaders.



PARTNERSHIPS AND ENGAGEMENT

Establish, grow and strengthen long-term partnerships that deliver quality, client-focused, shared-purpose and value-adding outcomes.



SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Grow and transform our service offering sustainably, nimbly, purposefully and in a planned and targeted way.

QUALITY & INNOVATION

We will deliver better days for our clients through innovative services that are under-pinned by contemporary, evidence-based practice, within a measurable quality framework.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Accreditations and certifications achieved:
NDIS Practice Standards | ISO9001:2015
Quality Management System certification
| TAC registration | Aged Care Quality
Standards | Food Safety certification |
Department of Transport

Positive Customer Experience
Project launched

Partnered with Monash University on an
allied health pilot project in Tasmania

Led Able Australia's COVID-19 response
implementing systems and processes
to mitigate the organisation's risk of
exposure to COVID.

BETTER DAYS, BETTER OUTCOMES



Able Australia collaborated with Monash University on a pilot project that aimed to provide more online connection, communication and support to people with disability and their families. The project trialled the use of telepractice with allied health students delivering allied health assessments remotely. This project was designed to help people with disability, their families, health professional students and disability support providers to engage with low-cost, mainstream technologies for digital connection, online communication and delivery of participation-focused supports.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR DEAFBLIND

We will deliver better days for the deafblind community by growing the Centre of Excellence for Deafblind's (COE) reputation, undertaking research, education and training.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Provided extensive training to 15 Communication Guides who were then able to graduate in a ceremony in Adelaide, SA.

COE was successful with two deafblind related grants.

Training opportunities provided to both service providers and clients, including six workshops in Mount Gambier on deafblind awareness.

Reference committee formed that includes involvement from ISAAC (International Society for Augmentative and Alternate Communication) and UNCRPD (United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities), amongst other members.

BETTER DAYS, BETTER TRAINING



A Graduation Ceremony for 15 Communication Guides was held at Government House in Adelaide. The Governor of South Australia, His Excellency the Honorable Hieu Van Le AC, oversaw the ceremony and spoke insightfully and sensitively about deafblindness. His Excellency praised Able Australia for providing the much needed training.

PARTNERSHIPS & ENGAGEMENT

We will deliver better days for our clients, families, carers and service delivery partners by actively monitoring and measuring the value and quality of our relationships.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Northcote Day Service opened in Victoria supported by Google in the form of technology donations.

Partnerships with a range of academic institutions including Swinburne University, Monash University and Melbourne University to inform and enhance our service delivery.

Client and Carer Engagement research survey conducted.

Able Art exhibition held as part of International Day of People with Disability supported by Herbert Smith Freehills, Bostik and the City of Boroondara Council.

BETTER DAYS, BETTER PARTNERSHIPS



"Bostik has been working with Able Australia for just over a year and supporting Art Therapy with our Blu Tack product."

"This partnership is important to us as like Able Australia, we believe creativity is accessible to all. Bostik employees have benefitted from having an art therapy workshop at our head office, helping to bring awareness to the amazing work Able Australia does and reinforcing how art can benefit your wellbeing. Able Australia has always been so supportive and collaborative in the short time we have worked together, and we look forward to our partnership continuing further."

Melissa Coulter

Senior Brand Manager
Consumer Bostik Australia Pty Ltd

SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

We will deliver better days by growing the organisation sustainably in a planned and targeted way. We will extend our core services, including new accommodation models, without compromising the quality of the supports delivered or the safety of our clients and workforce.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Successfully opened two residential houses, one in Queensland and one in Hobart, Tasmania.

Consolidated our National Office in Victoria into one location.

Opened a new office in Ipswich, Queensland and a new office in Hobart, Tasmania.

Transformed the way we work with our business intelligence tool - Calumo - building data dashboards to help frontline teams make more informed decisions.

BETTER DAYS, BETTER HOMES



One of the greatest stories from this year is the story of our client Steve. Steve recently moved into a home in Queensland owned by Able that was renovated to suit his particular needs and requirements. As a result of the renovations, Steve can now enjoy greater independence in his home. Steve's family are also very pleased with how he has settled in.



THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS



We are committed to creating better days, every day for people with a disability. It is the reason why we exist.

This year, a total of 2,179 generous people donated more than \$500,000 and helped us to turn our dreams into reality.

As a result of COVID-19, several projects that we had hoped to commence this year have had to be delayed. They include building works for our Moorabbin project and kitchen renovation works for our Springvale project. As COVID-19 restrictions ease Able and our clients look forward to driving these projects forward once again.

This year, along with much-needed funds, we have worked on lifting the spirits of our staff and clients. COVID-19 has affected everyone in many ways, and we want to do everything possible to keep our clients safe, healthy and happy.

Looking towards the new year, our focus will be on making our supported independent living homes more accessible and equipped to facilitate independent living and social connections.

We greatly value the genuine commitment of our donors to help people with disability live their best life. With this ongoing support, our pledge is to continue doing just that.

TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

- V V Marshman Charitable Trust
- A J & M A Snelling Family Trust
- Douglas & Phillip Young Charitable Trust
- Birchall Family Foundation Trust
- Mulnot Foundation
- HMA Foundation Pty Ltd
- The Russell Foundation
- Brian M Davis Charitable Foundation
- Lord Mayor's Charitable Fund
- Ritchie's Store - Community Benefits
- State Trustees Fund - William Arthur Shipperlee
- State Trustees Fund - Phylliss Nerelle Turner





OTHERS

- JB Were
- State Trustees
- Herbert Smith Freehills
- Bostik
- Lindt
- Signorama
- Swinburne University
- NAB
- The University of Queensland
- Reclink Australia
- Fabric Deluxe
- Google
- City of Monash
- City of Darebin
- City of Booroondara



VALE EDDIE KEIR OAM (12 FEB 1932 – 16 JULY 2020)

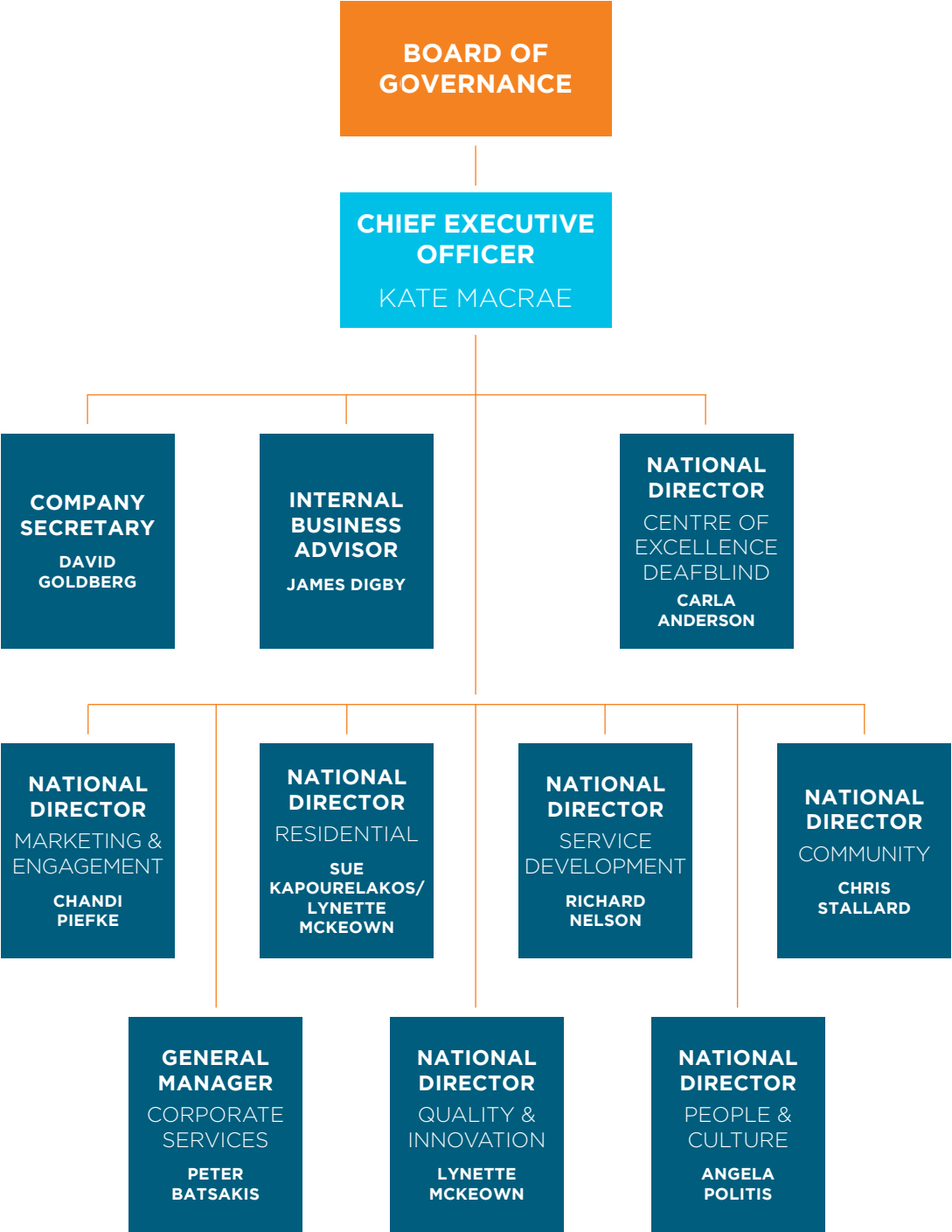
Eddie Keir is remembered as a founding member of Able Australia. He was dedicated to people with multiple disabilities and in particular those who were deafblind.

Eddie's direct association with Able Australia spanned over 45 years, serving as a Board member and also as Board President during this time. In recognition of his enormous contribution, Eddie was made a Life Governor of Able Australia and received The Anne Sullivan Award – given to professionals who have committed themselves to furthering the education and development of individuals with deafblindness.

An extraordinary man, Eddie influenced the lives of many, including parents, children, students and professionals. He continued to work with children and adults up until his illness two years ago. Eddie's memory will live on in everything he accomplished throughout his life and he will be greatly missed.



THE ABLE LEADERSHIP TEAM





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