



SISTER  
PROJECT

# ANNUAL REPORT



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# FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO



## TRACEY CAVE

CEO Sister Project

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on 2024, I am filled with an immense sense of pride and gratitude for all that we have achieved together. The year began with significant challenges. We found ourselves in a difficult financial position, facing uncertainty that required resilience, determination, and a shared vision for a brighter future.

We have many generous supporters surrounding us, including our very community-hearted Landlord and Property Manager at Prime Projects that have been a key component in creating what is now our thriving Community Hub - an essential and core part of the way we serve our multicultural and wider community.

Thanks also to the incredible efforts of our ever-growing and extremely dedicated team of volunteers and students, we not only made huge steps in stabilizing the organization but also achieved remarkable milestones. Their unwavering commitment and tireless work have truly been the backbone of our success.

This past year, we celebrated new collaborations with partnering organizations paving the way for innovative projects that align with our mission, such as computer classes with Multicultural Futures and driving lessons with Edmund Rice WA. We welcomed the opportunity to offer counselling in our Community Hub with Midland Women's Health Care Place and Kool Care Therapy as well as financial counselling with Midlas, employment support with Ability WA and Parenting Pathways with Training Alliance. These partnerships add to the already longstanding and mutually supportive relationship with North Metro TAFE AMEP program. Our Community Hub is now a vibrant and welcoming centre of the North East corridor of Perth, where community members can find multiple services to support them as well as a place for multiple and culturally diverse community groups to connect with each other and belong.

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

Combined with a number of project grants (including from Volunteering WA, and Sudbury House, we have strengthened our volunteering foundation and broadened our impact within the community. Recognition came in the form of multiple awards and nominations, which are a testament to the dedication and passion of our team.

A significant milestone for our organization in 2024 was the granting of the Deductible Gift Recipient status, reinforcing our credibility as a strengthened organization, also allowing us to now be able to support donors with the opportunity of tax-deductions as well as offering us the opportunity to pursue a further range of grants.

A highlight of the year was a fact-finding trip to Victoria towards the end of 2024 thanks to our supporter Annie Hill. This expedition provided invaluable insights and inspiration, leading to the development of our Micro Enterprises. The launch of the first pilot project under this initiative has already shown great promise and success, offering a glimpse into the transformative potential of these enterprises for the future for both Sister Project and the women we serve.

While 2024 began with adversity, it has ended as a celebration of collaboration, innovation, and resilience. None of this would have been possible without the incredible support of our team, partners, and community.



Looking ahead, we are more energized than ever to build on the momentum we've created and to continue delivering meaningful impact in 2025 and beyond. Thank you for being an integral part of our journey.

With deepest gratitude,  
**Tracey Cave,**  
Founder and CEO





# MISSION AND VISION

## OUR VISION IS...

A community where migrant women feel welcomed and can co-create their future

## OUR MISSION IS...

Creating a welcoming environment where migrant women belong and feel empowered to create their futures through connection, skills sharing and entrepreneurship

# TESTIMONIALS

“

Very welcoming and inclusive environment. Worked together to provide empowering opportunities to men and women in the community.

**Abulfazl Ataie**

”

“

This is a beautiful place to be. We have a permanent booking for our therapy room at the Sister Project, and the staff has always been helpful and friendly. Thank you, Tracey and team. Not only do you provide excellent service, but you also create a true refuge in our community for those who need it most.

**JN Burger**

”

“

I had a very positive experience here with the community, the most helpful and kindest you'll meet!! In particular Tracy, an amazing leader that embodies the fun and creativity in the setting of every meet up, The activities are vast and full of joy thanks to the sister project community. I enjoyed this sisterhood that has helped me so much in every way and I encourage other women to join no matter the background !! ❤️❤️🌸🌹

**Zena Altamimi**

”

“

Absolutely heart & passion driven organisation doing wonderful things for local CaLD women in particular creating a safe space, addressing social injustice and building meaningful connections.

**Anju Sivarajah**

”

“

Friendly and amazing place for everyone. Feels like home 😊.

**Zahra Ibrheem**

”



# ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW



Sister Project was founded with the mission to empower migrant women through connection, skills sharing, and entrepreneurship. Over the years, we have grown into a vibrant community hub in Ellenbrook, Perth, offering a wide range of programs and activities to support women from diverse backgrounds

Sister Project operates with a dedicated team of staff and volunteers who are passionate about making a difference. They bring a wealth of experience and commitment to our mission.

We offer a variety of programs and services, including English classes, parenting workshops, fitness sessions, art and craft activities, and holistic care workshops. Our initiatives aim to break down barriers, foster inclusion, and support the personal and professional growth of migrant women.

Through our collaborations and partnerships with organizations we have created numerous opportunities for cultural exchange, learning, and community building. Our efforts have positively impacted the lives of many women and their families, contributing to a more inclusive and vibrant community.

# CLIENT SUCCESS STORIES



Meet our inspiring sister, Merylize. She joined Sister Project in 2024 seeking connection and found a supportive family. With newfound confidence, she tackled life's challenges and now has exciting plans for study, work, family, and her upcoming wedding. We're incredibly proud of her progress and courage. 💜💛💛  
Thank you, Merylize, for sharing your fabulous news! 🍷🍷🍷  
— at Sister Project.

Meet Athok, a success story in the making. She came to Sister Project for support and recently passed her citizenship test, marking a significant milestone. We celebrate her persistence and determination. Sister Project is dedicated to helping women co-create their best possible futures, one step at a time. Athok's journey inspires us all to keep going and take one step at a time.



Sushma joined Sister Project in 2019. With growing confidence, she started her own ice cream van business. Sister Project connected her with opportunities to sell at events and festivals. Her business thrived, leading her to hire other members and expand with a Fairy Floss and Slushie stand. Now, Sushma and her team operate at multiple locations across Perth. If you have an event and would like to support this wonderful local business, please reach out.

Alek, one of our dedicated members, has successfully received her driver's license! 🎉  
👏 This achievement brings newfound freedom and independence, especially as a mother of young children. We are incredibly proud of Alek's perseverance and determination. A heartfelt thank you to Edmund Rice Centre WA for providing driving lessons and supporting our local women. This is one very grateful mama. 🙏

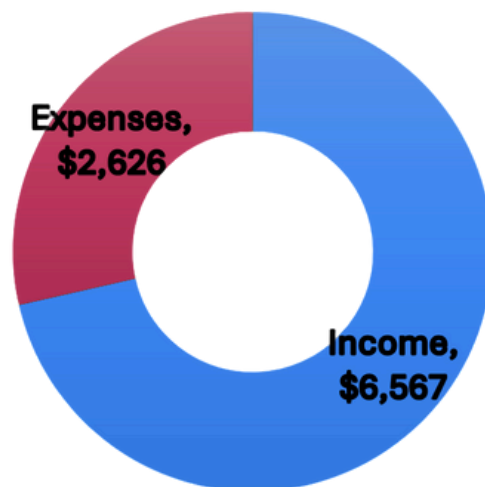




# MICRO-ENTERPRISES

## MARKET MAKERS PILOT PROJECT

Market Makers empowers women from diverse backgrounds to create and market their own products. Through this initiative, women receive training and workshops on essential business skills, along with mentorship from experienced professionals. Sister Project supports these women by helping to sell their products through various platforms, ensuring they reach a wider audience. This project fosters a supportive community, encouraging collaboration and mutual growth, ultimately helping participants achieve financial independence and contribute to their communities.



# THE DEVELOPMENT OF MICRO-ENTERPRISES CLOSER LOOK

Our micro enterprises form the cornerstone of Sister Project's commitment to fostering sustainable growth and empowerment. These ventures not only generate critical revenue to support Sister Project's mission but also provide meaningful income opportunities for the women involved. Through these enterprises, we are creating pathways for financial independence, strengthening local communities, and ensuring the long-term impact of our work. Together, we are building a future where economic resilience and empowerment go hand in hand.

Our main income stream comes from hiring the 15 individual spaces in our Community Hub to other organisations, businesses and individuals. Using Sister Project's extensive networks we are able to help promote and connect community members to organisations hiring rooms. Our community benefits by having much needed organisations come to our local area. This has proven to be win-win-win.





# PILOT OF MARKET MAKERS

## Social media/Online Marketing

- Items are posted on the Sister Project website and available for sale online.
- **Highlights:** 100 pairs of were ordered from the U.S for the Mrs World Pageant.
- 50 customised items were ordered by Sudbury House to sell at the Mirrabooka markets.
- 100 pairs of earrings were ordered for the Gala dinner for Purposed2Impact celebration of International Women's Day

## Pop-up Shops

- 6 week pop up shop at the Ellenbrook shopping centre
- **Highlights:** A total of 39 items were sold in the first week totalling \$615.

---> Market Makers: **\$386**

---> Sister Project: **\$228**

## Train Station Opening

- A pop-up stall for the market makers was set up at the open day for the Ellenbrook train station open day.
- **Highlights:** A total of 25 items were sold totalling \$319 for one day.

## Overview of Enterprise

- Currently a total of 17 participants within the Market Makers Enterprise.
- 11 participates are the actual makers who actively participate in the workshops to create the hand-made jewellery pieces.
- 6 participants are our support staff which assist in ensuring the enterprise operates smoothly. Roles range from book keeping to marketing.

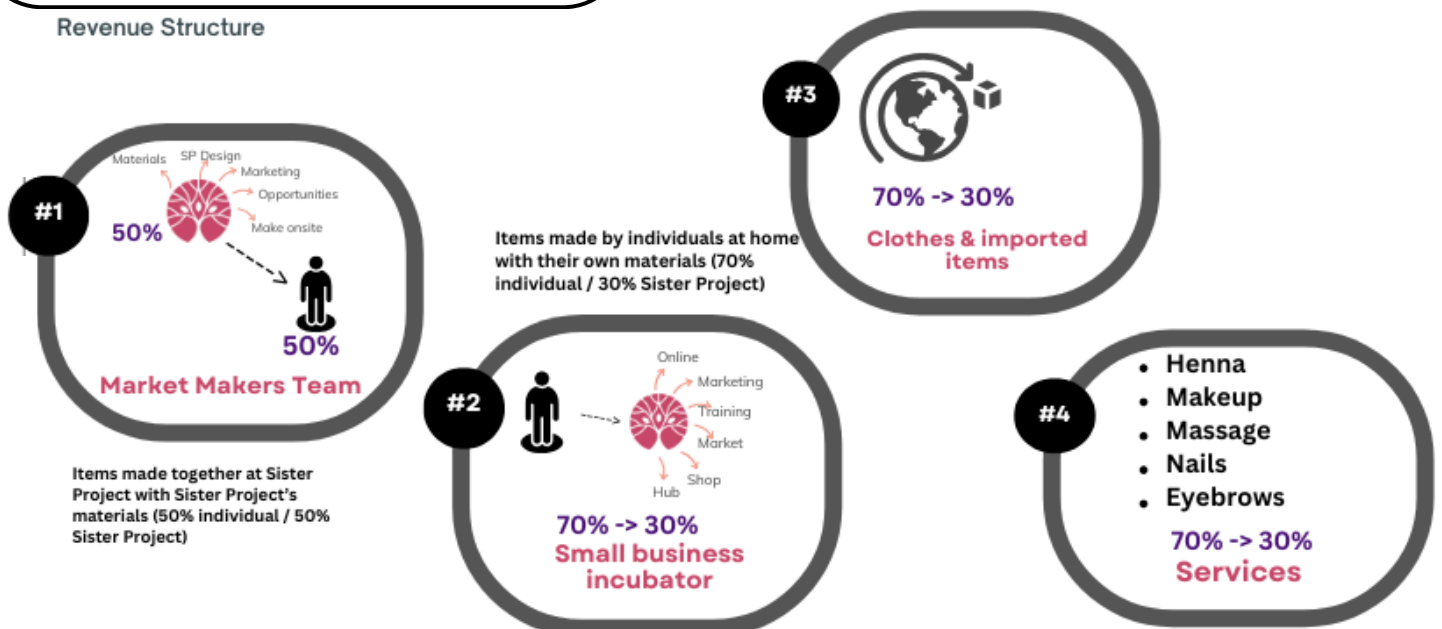


## Overall Objectives for our Market Makers:

- Up-skill and provide working experience.
- Promoting confidence to independently earn money and to enter the working market.
- Match existing and new skills to Australian market.



## Revenue Structure



# POP-UP SHOP SUCCESS

As part of the Pilot Project for Market Makers we launched a pop-up shop initiative that provided a platform for our members to showcase and sell their products. This initiative not only boosted the confidence of our women entrepreneurs but also allowed them to gain valuable business experience. The pop-up shop was a resounding success, attracting a diverse range of customers and generating significant sales. It also fostered a sense of community and collaboration among our members. We look forward to continuing this initiative and expanding its reach in the coming years.





# AWARDS

## VOLUNTEERING WA

Sister Project was a FINALIST in the Inclusive Volunteering Award, and our CEO Tracey Cave was a FINALIST in the Volunteer of the Year award. Special mention to 90-year-old Joan Ward, winner of the Lifetime Contribution award for her 72 years of volunteering. 🌟🌟🌟

Volunteering brings joy to both the giver and receiver. Thank you, Volunteering WA, RAC WA, Lotterywest, and all sponsors for a fabulous evening. To learn more about the finalists and winners, visit Volunteering WA.



# EXCURSIONS

What a FABULOUS day it was!! 🌟❤️🌟❤️🌟❤️🌟

❤️ Thank you to Ayor Makur Chuot MLC and Lorna Harper MLC for inviting us to lunch in Parliament House. 🤗🤗🤗 We felt like VIPs, experiencing public transport for the first time. We came from diverse countries but were definitely 'sisters.' Sister Project provides a safe space for migrant and refugee women to explore the world together. 🤗🌟



## ELLENBROOK ARTS GALLERY

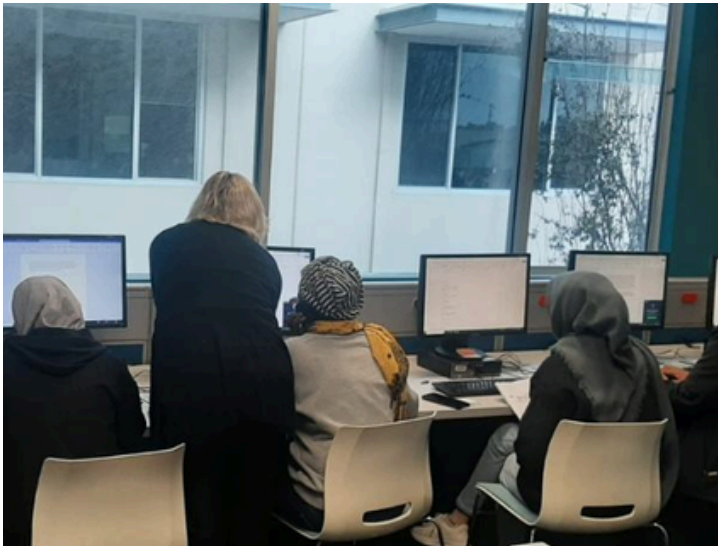
What a fabulous, emotional and community bonding morning it was had at the Biggest Morning Tea at Ellenbrook Arts.

These days everyone has or knows someone who has had their struggle with cancer. Cancer does not discern what culture, gender or religion you belong to. It affects everyone.

Community comes from sharing, supporting and belonging.

Thankyou to our wonderful speakers who courageously spoke of their struggles, losses and victories in their personal journeys.

# COLLABORATIONS



We are grateful for the collaboration with Multicultural Futures, who provide computer classes for our members. These classes help our members gain essential digital skills, boosting their confidence and employability. The support from Multicultural Futures has been invaluable in empowering women from diverse backgrounds.

We are grateful for the generous support from Bunnings, who provided us with security cameras to enhance the safety and security of our facilities. This partnership has been instrumental in ensuring a secure environment for our members and visitors. The contribution from Bunnings reflects the strong community support for our mission and helps us continue our work in empowering women from diverse backgrounds.



Sister Project collaborates with District32, a business networking group that meets fortnightly at our Community Hub. This group includes diverse businesses, supporting each other in growth. Special thanks to Adrian at Perth IT Care for his excellent IT and cyber security support, helping protect our organization and community members online.



# COLLABORATIONS



We welcomed K.O.O.L. Care Therapy, a new counselling service, to our Community Hub on Main St, Ellenbrook. This service supports all ages and offers sessions in English and Afrikaans. We are proud to collaborate with K.O.O.L. Care Therapy, making essential services easily accessible to our community.



The City of Swan and Sister Project collaborated to create opportunities for cultural exchange and learning. These events, such as the recent gathering where Iraqi women shared their culture, traditions, and delicious food, help break down barriers and foster inclusion. By celebrating our cultural diversity, we enhance our community's vitality and create a sense of belonging for everyone.

# PROGRAMS



This year, our North Metropolitan TAFE AMEP Level 2 class successfully completed their studies. Their hard work and dedication were evident throughout the year. The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) at North Metro TAFE provided a fun and friendly environment for learning English at our Ellenbrook campus. The new train station behind our Hub made it even easier for students to attend classes. We look forward to continuing this valuable partnership and welcoming more students in the future.

We celebrated the graduation of our computer class, where students demonstrated incredible persistence and learned valuable new skills that will aid them in job searches and daily life. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Teresa, Mani, and Grace from Multicultural Futures for their consistent patience and friendly approach in teaching digital literacy. Living in Australia without computer skills is a significant disadvantage, but our dedicated class of students is breaking down that barrier. Well done, class!



We are thrilled to receive a grant from Volunteering WA to upskill migrant women through volunteering. Our "Seat At Our Table" program offers free cooking classes, where participants can watch and enjoy authentic dishes from various countries. This initiative aims to understand and overcome the barriers migrant women face in volunteering, fostering community and breaking down barriers.



# ACTIVITIES



Sister Project is grateful to The Angels Mission for their continuous support with fresh fruit and vegetables for our members. In return, we are offering fun cooking classes for their hardworking volunteers, thanks to Volunteering WA. Our volunteers are excited to showcase their cooking skills and bring joy to community groups such as Angels Mission, celebrating diversity and inclusion.

Our community came together for a morning tea with 30 community groups, organized swiftly by Jessica Shaw MLA, Denise, and team. We were honored to meet Premier Roger Cook, who pledged support for our new Ellenbrook Community Hub. Special thanks to Lorna Harper MLC and Virginia for their continual guidance and support. We appreciate Paloma from Razaudiovisual for capturing the event beautifully.



# EVENTS

We celebrated International Women's Day with the Ellenbrook Classy Tarts Red Hat Group, CWA Bullsbrook & Districts, Jessica Shaw MLA, Ma'di women, Gujurati women, and Chat and Connect Community. The event, themed "Inspire Inclusion," was filled with dancing, shared food, and laughter. Special thanks to CWA Bullsbrook & Districts for organizing, and to Paloma for her brilliant photography and videography.



The Ellenbrook Multicultural Festival 2024 was a fabulous day! Our women showcased their skills, engaging with the community and selling special items. We extend our gratitude to our special guests, including Lorna Harper MLC, Ayor Makur Chuot, and Mrs. World Australia, Jenay Larson. Thanks to the Ellenbrook Multicultural Festival Committee for their hard work and hospitality.

# STUDENTS

We are blessed with university and college students who have shared their skills and interests to Sister Project over 2024.

Scarlett is a creative problem-solver and talented photographer, capturing beautiful moments such as in our Biggest Morning Tea. We're lucky to have her marketing expertise. Panda from Edith Cowan University speaks English, Arabic, and Dinka, and her passion for community service is inspiring. We're fortunate to have both on our team!



We are incredibly proud of the brilliant students from UWA McCusker Centre for their outstanding efforts during their summer internship. They put in 150% effort to plan, design, and develop the framework for Sister Project's micro-enterprises. This powerhouse team of young women, including a lawyer, a doctor, an engineer, and an IT specialist, each has an inspiring personal story that fuels their passion for empowering migrant women and their families.

Also from McCusker Centre was Tiselle (pictured) and Fanhua (hiding) who worked their magic building our website, showcasing our stories and our impact in the community.

Incredibly skilled and a joy to work alongside.

Thankyou for sharing your skills! What an impact you have made!



Alex and Kani, brought their unique skills and perspectives to our projects. Their dedication and hard work have significantly contributed to our successful Market Maker Pilot Project.

Thank you, Alex and Kani, for your incredible efforts!

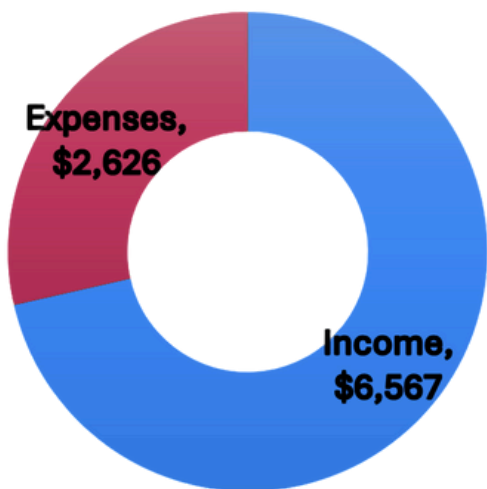


# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

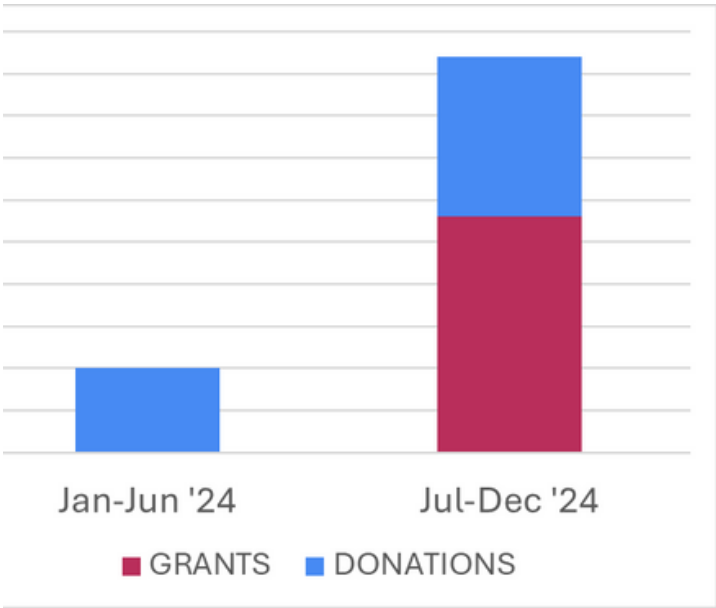
## \* ROOM HIRE



## \* MARKET MAKERS



## \* GRANTS & DONATIONS



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