

Housing. Support. Recovery.

# Annual Report

FY 2023-24



**B Miles  
Women's  
Foundation**

[bmiles.org.au](http://bmiles.org.au)



The B Miles Women’s Foundation is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and is endorsed with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. We would like to extend our gratitude to the NSW Department of Communities and Justice for funding received under the Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) Program to support people facing or experiencing homelessness in NSW.

B Miles Women’s Foundation Incorporated ABN 31 323 982 619

## Our commitment

We are committed to supporting Aboriginal, LGBTIQA+ and culturally and linguistic diverse women.



B Miles Women’s Foundation holds Certificate level Australian Service Excellence Standards accreditation. This independent accreditation process provides our stakeholders assurance that a commitment to quality underpins every level of our service.



B Miles Women’s Foundation is a registered community housing provider with demonstrated compliance to the standards set by the National Regulatory System of Community Housing.



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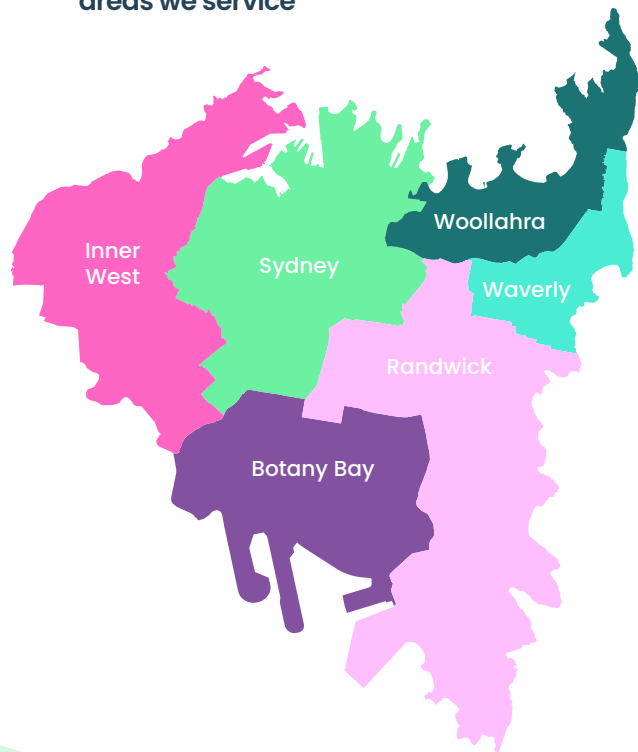
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## Our purpose

We empower women in inner Sydney to prevent and resolve homelessness through personalised, compassionate support and access to safe, secure, and affordable housing. In collaboration with a wide network of services and housing providers, we deliver an integrated, client-focused approach that fosters long-term recovery and homelessness prevention. The women we support often navigate complex and interwoven challenges, including mental health struggles, trauma, domestic and family violence, abuse, and substance dependency, and we are dedicated to helping them rebuild their lives with dignity and security.

### The local government areas we service



## Acknowledgement of Country

B Miles Women's Foundation acknowledges Aboriginal people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live and work. The Foundation pays respects to Elders past, present and future, and recognises their continuing connection and contribution to the land and waters. We are committed to truth-telling and listening to Aboriginal voices on the matters that affect them.

## About this report

This report details the activities and impact of B Miles Women's Foundation over the 2023-2024 financial year. It highlights our goals, outcomes, achievements, and ongoing quality improvement initiatives. The report is intended for our stakeholders, funders, service participants, and the broader community, providing an overview of our work and its value.

## Our Strategic Plan 2023 to 2025

As we conclude the financial year ending June 2024, we reflect on our strategic planning process, which has been an inclusive and organisation-wide endeavour. This process has integrated insights from our Board of Management, staff, partners, stakeholders, and service users. In early 2023, we reaffirmed our vision, established clear objectives, and prioritised key initiatives while defining specific indicators to measure our success.

Throughout the past year, we have made notable strides toward achieving our goals. Our efforts have resulted in measurable improvements in service delivery, the strengthening of partnerships, evolution of our programs, and overall organisational growth. As we transition into 2024-2025, our commitment to refining our strategies remains steadfast. We are dedicated to deepening our impact and ensuring sustainable, long-term success for our organisation and the women we serve.



### 1. People

Australia's housing and health sectors are currently experiencing workforce shortages and elevated rates of worker burn-out. Investment in the capability, capacity, retention, and wellbeing of our team is a key priority. We are proud of our commitment to prioritising the cultivation and maintenance of a positive workplace culture that maximises learning opportunities, professional development and workers' safety, health, and wellbeing.



### 2. Services

Our purpose is to ensure that women in need have access to affordable, safe housing and support services to enable recovery. We commit to providing sustainable programs that are responsive to community need, and to continually reviewing our services and how they are delivered to ensure that the needs of our clients are met effectively and through contemporary best practice.



### 3. Funding

Diversification of funding is a long-standing goal of ours. To date, progress has been made in obtaining funds for special projects from sources other than the NSW Department of Communities and Justice. Access to alternative funding streams remains a priority because it enables us to:

- deliver projects that address unmet needs of our core client group, and
- access resources needed for projects that will deliver on strategic priorities e.g., community engagement, cultural inclusion, and social inclusion programs.

## Our strategic priorities for 2023 to 2025



### 4. Advocacy

We will leverage our reputation and strength to advocate for sufficient resourcing of the Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) sector, and for societal change, including adequate social housing, an end to women's homelessness, and for access to housing, support and health care for women.



### 5. Partnerships

Strengthening and expanding our partnerships has the potential to enhance our capacity to meet the needs of the women we serve, and leverage to advocate for the sector, our workers and for women. We will prioritise our engagement with existing and potential partners and will support those relationships to deliver excellent services and to advocate more broadly.

These priorities are aligned with our vision and will be achieved with the support of our financial, administrative and governance systems.

# CEO's introduction

**It is with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment that we present to you the B Miles Women's Foundation Annual Report for 2023–2024.**

The following pages highlight the context in which we work – both state and nationally, along with some of the achievements, stories, and milestones that reflect the collective efforts of our board, team, partners and supporters.

## The Housing Crisis in NSW

Sydney's housing crisis is worsening, with the number of new homes completed in 2023 dropping 42% compared to 2018, reflecting persistent challenges like rising interest rates and inflated building costs. Despite significant population growth and demand for housing, Sydney only added 32,600 new dwellings in 2023, far below Melbourne's 43,400 and Sydney's 2018 peak of 56,500. Over 10,000 approved homes remain unbuilt due to structural issues like a shortage of prime sites and high development costs. This lack of housing supply has fuelled affordability problems, especially in the rental market, with weak building approvals pointing to an even lower housing output in 2024. Economists warn these issues undermine NSW's economic competitiveness, as Sydney continues to deliver some of the most expensive housing globally.

## Women's Homelessness

The latest data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics reveals a 10% rise in homelessness among women and girls since 2016. Overall, more than 122,400 people were homeless on census night in 2021 with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people disproportionately affected, comprising 20.4% of the homeless population despite representing only 3.8% of the overall population. Social services are urging governments to address the severe shortage of affordable housing to combat the growing crisis.

A study by Macquarie University analysing 324 deaths of people experiencing homelessness in Sydney revealed a median age of death of just 50.7 years, with mortality rates across age groups 80% higher than the general population. Advocates emphasize the urgent need for a "housing first" approach—providing immediate housing alongside health, mental health, and substance abuse support services—to prevent these premature deaths. Researchers also call for a national framework to track homelessness deaths, ensuring accountability and guiding effective policy interventions.

↓ **42%**

number of new homes in Sydney completed in 2023 dropped 42% compared to 2018

**Over 10,000**

Over 10,000 approved homes remain unbuilt due to structural issues like a shortage of prime sites and high development costs

## Rental Affordability Index (NSW, 2024)

The 2024 Rental Affordability Index revealed that rental affordability in NSW remains at crisis levels. In Sydney, renters are spending over 30% of their income on rent, making it one of the least affordable regions in Australia. Regional NSW is also increasingly unaffordable, with rental conditions worsening over the last decade, challenging perceptions that renting offers a haven for lower-income households. In recent years our sector has been calling for significant increases in social housing and reforms to improve rental affordability and stability.

↑ 30%

In Sydney, renters are spending over 30% of their income on rent, making it one of the least affordable regions in Australia



L to R: Debby Ireson (Detour House), Dom Rowe (CEO Homelessness NSW), Kate Timmins (B Miles CEO) and Sharlene Harkness (B Miles CSM) at Parliament House in September 2024 attending the branch networking event *Shifting the Dial to Prevent Homelessness*

The NSW Government has signalled a shifting approach in response to the ongoing rental affordability crisis, acknowledging the findings of the 2024 Rental Affordability Index. Recent commitments include greater investment in social and affordable housing projects, prioritisation to move away from temporary accommodation models as well as policy shifts aiming to increase protection and stability for renters. These steps reflect growing recognition of the need for long-term solutions to address housing insecurity across the state.

**NSW Government is shifting their approach to increase protection and stability for renters**

### A Changed Approach

As we reflect on the past year, we stand at a pivotal moment in the homelessness and community housing sectors, one marked by significant changes that offer a renewed sense of hope for the future. The NSW government has started to take crucial steps towards prioritising the resolution of homelessness as demonstrated in several initiatives and funding announcements over the course of the last 12 months.

The NSW Rental Commissioner, a role introduced by the NSW Government in June 2023, has been working to advance renters' rights and improve housing security across the rental market. Appointed for an initial 12-month term, the Commissioner Trina Jones has already overseen initiatives such as the launch of "Rent Check," a free online tool designed to help tenants compare rental prices and ensure they are paying fair market rates. The Commissioner has also spearheaded consultations on critical reforms, including ending 'no-grounds' evictions, implementing a portable bond scheme, and making it easier for renters to have pets. Additionally, the Commissioner is actively investigating ways to improve rental affordability, encourage longer-term rental agreements, and enhance energy efficiency for renters, marking important steps toward a fairer and more secure rental market in NSW. These early efforts represent significant steps toward addressing the challenges faced by renters across the state

**Homelessness NSW Conference 2024 Panel Discussion Critical Debates on Homelessness; L to R: Cindy Peterson (CEO Detour House), Kate Timmins (B Miles CEO) & Deborah Batterham Swinburne University**

### Homes NSW

We started to see a real commitment towards change when the NSW Government launched Homes NSW in October 2023. Homes NSW has been designed to streamline housing support services, improve access to housing for those in need, and increase the supply of affordable and social housing across the state. It is a key part of the NSW Governments strategy to address homelessness across the state committing to policies and funding that will have a lasting impact on those most in need. These developments bring new opportunities to address the root causes of homelessness and provide sustainable solutions. As a community organisation dedicated to supporting women in acute need of emergency responses, we are encouraged by these shifts, and we are poised to leverage these changes to further our mission of providing safe, stable housing and empowering women to reclaim their lives. This year, we witnessed the promise of real transformation, and we are more committed than ever to being part of the solution.





## NSW Government

The 2024-2025 NSW Budget marks a historic moment for homelessness services, with the state government announcing its biggest-ever investment in housing. These announcements demonstrate a commitment to addressing the housing crisis and tackling homelessness across NSW.

With an allocation of \$1.2 billion to expand social and affordable housing, the budget sets a foundation for long-term change, but we know this will take time and we need the responses to move faster.

The funding includes increased support for vulnerable groups, such as women and children fleeing domestic violence, and greater investment in crisis accommodation and homelessness prevention programs, however, we have not yet seen any additional investment in homelessness services baseline funding. The data across the state tells us that Specialist Homelessness Services cannot keep up with demands and we know that agencies are turning away 1 in two people who are seeking assistance. We need to see investment in homelessness services baseline funding to tackle this problem head on.

The Minns Labor Government is working to address the housing crisis in New South Wales with a \$100 million investment into the Homelessness Innovation Fund, a key part of the state's \$6.6 billion Building Homes for NSW program. This fund aims to develop innovative solutions to homelessness, particularly for women and children fleeing domestic violence, and reduce reliance on expensive hotel and motel accommodation by supporting better emergency housing options. Minister for Housing and Homelessness, Hon Rose Jackson, emphasised the importance finding innovative solutions to improve and expand service delivery, crisis accommodation, and invest in early intervention and prevention strategies.

The recent \$1.2 billion investment in social and affordable housing through the 2024-2025 NSW Budget and the \$100 million Homelessness Innovation Fund (HIF) are game-changing opportunities for the homelessness sector.



**In August 2024, we had the privilege of hosting NSW Minister for Housing Rose Jackson at our premises to discuss future directions. Pictured: Minister Rose Jackson with Sharlene Harkness (Client Services Manager) and Kate Timmins (CEO)**

Together, these two funding injections represent a historic commitment to addressing the housing crisis. The \$1.2 billion will significantly expand housing options, with a focus on vulnerable groups.

There is a sense of optimism across the sector about the HIF. It is an exciting and much needed investment in innovative solutions to address homelessness, however at this early stage, the funding is for 12-month projects only. The HIF has the potential to empower organisations to create innovative approaches to crisis accommodation, however, we will need to see longer term commitment to the funding, to make real inroads in terms of addressing the homelessness crisis across NSW.

The homelessness sector is unable to keep up with demand. Across the country, 71,962 people are turned away from homelessness services each year. If the cost-of-living crisis continues, Homelessness Australia expects the number of people who are seeking help from homelessness services who are turned away will likely increase to 91,936.

It is these bleak facts that make advocacy such an important part of the work we do. We continue to work with media, the NSW and Commonwealth governments to address the root causes of homelessness, and to make it a priority in their policies and platforms.

### Federal Government

The Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF) is a federal initiative aimed at delivering 20,000 new social homes and 10,000 new affordable homes across Australia over five years, focusing on addressing acute housing needs.

The National Housing Accord is committed to delivering an additional 10,000 affordable homes over the same period, through collaboration among government, investors, and the housing sector. Both initiatives are funded by the Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF), a \$10 billion investment fund with the income generated used to disburse funds for housing projects. While it does mark a shift in terms of Federal Governments approach to investment in Housing, some have been critical that it is a 'drop in the ocean' when looking at the need for investment.

There is also concern that the pending election next year could see this project scaled down as a result of the priority being subject to political winds.

While the recent investments in housing and homelessness are a positive step forward, they are not moving fast enough to address the scale of the crisis. It's as though someone has finally turned the tap on, but it will do little to fill the bathtub given the urgent and growing demands. However, these commitments do demonstrate a shift in approach, with governments recognising the significance of the problem and beginning to invest in meaningful solutions—though much more is needed to truly address the issues of inadequate housing and homelessness.



L to R: Kate Timmins BMWF CEO, Hon Clare O'Neil Federal Minister for Housing and Homelessness, Cindi Petersen (CEO of Detour House) and Alison Churchill (CEO of Community Restorative Centre).

### Strategic Achievements

As we reach the halfway point of our 2023–2025 strategic plan, we are pleased with the progress we have made across our five priority areas: **People, Services, Funding, Advocacy, and Partnerships**. Through focused collective efforts, we have made solid progress towards achieving the key indicators of success. This progress is driven by the strong support of our financial, administrative, and governance systems, ensuring we continue to build a solid foundation to progress forward.



Community Radio; Gabrielle Haumesser and Kate Timmins (CEO) raising community awareness on homelessness and family and domestic violence in our community



## Advocacy

Advocacy is so important in this sector as it provides an opportunity to ensure that government and other agencies are well informed of the real issues and the impact of their funding allocations and decisions. Influencing these decisions is an important part of the work we do. A key part of the advocacy work is having the opportunity to hear from the women who access our service and learn from their experience.

We have embraced numerous opportunities to advocate for change by meeting directly with both the State and Federal Housing and Homelessness Ministers. These high-level discussions enable us to directly influence policy decisions and push for more effective solutions. Additionally, by presenting at statewide conferences, we amplify our message, share expertise, raise awareness, and engage with key stakeholders to drive systemic change. This year, given the surging demand for access to homelessness services across NSW, we have pushed hard to advocate for better investment and responses to the homelessness crisis.

**Each time we hosted the Ministers at our crisis accommodation site, we talked through:**

- the importance of specialisation across the homelessness sector, particularly for women impacted by complex mental health problems.
- The importance of having fit-for-purpose properties to effectively deliver housing and supported accommodation programs, particularly for older women or women living with disabilities.

Both Ministers expressed support for us to work creatively with the resources available to adapt crisis accommodation models to best suit the women we support.



**Sharlene Harkness (Client Services Manager) and Kate Timmins (CEO) on the steps of Parliament House) Australian Housing Institute advocacy forum on Prevention and Early Intervention September 2024**

## National Homelessness Week

We were delighted to host the Hon. Clare O'Neil MP, newly appointed Federal Minister for Housing and Homelessness, during her first week in the role as she visited Sydney to launch National Homelessness Week. Before attending the official launch, the Minister took some time to visit our property in Darlinghurst, where she met with our partners and was keen to learn about our experience and challenges on the ground.

## NSW Conference of Homelessness Services

At the 2024 NSW Homelessness Conference, we delivered a compelling presentation highlighting the unique challenges faced by women experiencing homelessness. Our session focused on the critical need for gender-responsive, trauma-informed services and the importance of providing safe, accessible housing options for women, particularly those living with disabilities. We shared insights from our work on the ground and called for stronger policy commitment to address the intersectional factors that contribute to women's homelessness.

### Homelessness Peak Bodies

We proudly supported Homelessness Australia's advocacy campaign to secure increased funding and prevent proposed cuts to homelessness services in the 2023-24 Federal Budget. This funding, which included over \$70 million allocated to community sector workers following the Fair Work Commission's 2012 Equal Remuneration Order, was at risk of being reduced. Thanks to our collective efforts, we successfully won the campaign, ensuring continued vital support for homelessness services across the country.

**I am about to commence a second term serving on the Homelessness NSW Policy Council, which gives us the opportunity to leverage our experience and insights to advocate for:**

- systemic changes,
- strengthen collaboration across the sector, and
- push for the solutions that will prevent and reduce homelessness.

We actively contributed to both Link Wentworth's Inquiry into Homelessness Amongst Older People Aged 55 and Over in NSW, and the NSW Government's Review of Regulations and Supply of Short-Term and Long-Term Rental Accommodation in the state, by making detailed submissions. These efforts reflect our commitment to advocating for policies that address the housing needs of vulnerable populations, particularly older women.

The NSW Government is collaborating with stakeholders to develop the new ten-year NSW Homelessness Strategy 2025-2035. The vision for the Strategy is to make homelessness in NSW rare, brief, and non-recurring, ensuring that people have a safe home and the support needed to maintain it. The Strategy will be supported by flexible, whole-of-government Action Plans outlining the steps to achieve this vision. We are actively participating in the consultation process and will be providing feedback on the draft Strategy, offering our input on its implementation, the principles and outcomes it aims to achieve, and recommendations for focus areas in the first Action Plan.

**We supported the strong advocacy efforts of Homelessness NSW's 2024 submission to the NSW Government for the 2024/25 budget and achieved significant wins including;**

1. **New 5-Year Housing and Homelessness Agreement;** National Cabinet has agreed to a new 5-year federal and state agreement, the National Agreement on Social Housing and Homelessness. While not additional funding, this agreement continues resources allocated under the Equal Remuneration Order (ERO), introduces indexation, and redirects more funds towards homelessness programs. The funding is matched by the states, marking a significant victory for ongoing support in the sector.
2. **Investment in Housing for Vulnerable Groups:** The government has directed \$1 billion from the National Housing Infrastructure Facility (NHIF) towards housing for young people and women and children fleeing domestic violence. In a major shift, the amount allocated to grants for community housing providers has increased from \$175 million to \$700 million, making it more feasible to develop new housing options for these underserved groups.
3. **\$1 Billion for Infrastructure to Build Homes Sooner:** A \$1 billion investment over 5 years will support essential infrastructure—such as roads, water, and energy—needed to accelerate new housing development. However, only 25% of this amount can be used for social housing, highlighting the continued need for additional investment in affordable homes.



From left to right: Sharlene Harkness (Client Services Manager), Kate Timmins (CEO) and Sally Ringrose (Program Manager at Community Restorative Centre) at Homelessness NSW Conference in March 2024

## Local Advocacy

Building public awareness of homelessness is crucial in addressing the issue. It not only helps to break down stereotypes but it also encourages the local community to take steps towards pushing for solutions. When our local community understand the complexities behind homelessness, such as mental health challenges, lack of affordable housing, and systemic barriers—it can shift public perception from seeing homeless as the individual person's responsibility, into the community's responsibility.

With all of this in mind, we embraced opportunities to speak publicly on the issues in local and state-wide newspapers as well as interviews on local radio.

## Quality Improvement via Independent Review

Over the past five years, we have made several key changes to the way we deliver crisis accommodation, striving to provide better services to the women who access our service.

In alignment with various government and departmental strategic directions, as well as the 2022 NSW Ombudsman's Report relating to Access and Equity in Specialist Homelessness Services, we made the important decision to engage an external independent consultancy firm to review our crisis accommodation model. The review was comprehensive, focusing on effectiveness, safety, quality and outcomes as well as best value for money. The final report was presented to the Board earlier this year and will be used as the road map for several exciting opportunities that we will be undertaking over the next 12 months.

## Partnerships Driving Change

In 2024, the City of Sydney Council took significant steps to address affordable housing by selling surplus residential properties at discounted rates to eligible community housing providers. In March 2024, the Council approved the sale of two properties in Potts Point to B Miles Women's Foundation. The proceeds from these sales will be allocated to the City's Affordable and Diverse Housing Fund, aimed at supporting future affordable housing projects. These initiatives reflect the Council's commitment to increasing affordable housing supply and supporting diverse communities within the city.

We were honoured that our application to Lendlease was selected to participate in Lendlease's Future Steps Program to drive meaningful change by delivering sustainable and affordable housing solutions for women in need. This collaboration underscores our shared commitment to addressing systemic challenges and creating opportunities for women to thrive in the inner city. By partnering with both Lendlease and City of Sydney Council, we are driving meaningful change by delivering affordable housing solutions for women. This collaboration exemplifies a true sense of partnership, fostering capacity-building within our sectors to create lasting impact and support women with complex needs.



Team members gathered to bid farewell to Victoria Hill in October 2024, celebrating her dedication and invaluable contributions to our service; L to R: Marisa Rose, Sharlene Harkness, Kate Timmins, Victoria Hill, Kerry McCarthy, Lok Chen, Belma Torres & Michelle Delamotte

### With thanks...

**We have had the true honour of working with psychologist Victoria Hill in our Clinical Supervisor role for what we estimate must be almost 25 years. Her extraordinary commitment to the women who access our service was delivered through the support and professional development of our team.**

During that time, Victoria has provided consistency, education, mentorship, professional development, critical incident debriefing, planning and government advocacy support... the list goes on and on. To articulate her dedication, her unwavering support and her impact on our team and our service feels close

to impossible. This year was Victoria's final year in the role, as she is retiring as this report goes to print. We had the absolute privilege of honouring her tireless work and dedication to all, in a ceremony that was filled with laughter and tears and sincere thanks. With the deepest sense of gratitude and thanks- we wish Victoria continued learning, joyous experiences, some rest but lots of fun in her retirement.

To our dedicated staff and Board of Management - your passion, expertise, and energy continue to drive our success. To our partners and supporters, your belief in our vision empowers us to create lasting impact. And, most importantly, to the women we serve - thank you for entrusting us with your journey. Your resilience, strength, and courage inspire everything we do. Thank you all for being a part of this transformative work.

*Kate Timmins*

**Kate Timmins**  
CEO

# Chairperson's message

This is my first Chairperson's report, having taken on the role 12 months ago. I thank our previous chair, Robyn Fortescue, for her fearless leadership. She left big shoes to fill, and the Board has certainly missed Robyn's contributions and corporate knowledge of B Miles, having been involved for over two decades.

Having been on the Board for seven years, including five as Secretary, I stepped into this role amid significant changes—most notably, the escalating housing crisis and the growing demand for services like ours. I entered this role wanting to continue the good work of those who have gone before me and those who continue to surround us. Ensuring B Miles continues to have good governance, with policies that meet its needs without being onerous, and ensuring B Miles continues to be in a strong financial position, while supporting our staff and their wellbeing, remain critical. Further, we remain committed to B Miles' advocacy across the sector, to government, and to the private sector. Our strong track record means that others listen – and that is something that we can all be proud of. I can honestly say that those who advocate on behalf of B Miles, and when required, the sector more generally, are absolutely fearless in their advocacy.

As outlined by our CEO in her introduction, B Miles continues to navigate an incredibly challenging housing and homelessness landscape. Women experiencing homelessness require us to provide a service that is adaptable and inclusive, responding to increasingly complex needs. The housing and homelessness crisis is being acutely felt, and our team continues to rise to the challenge with determination and compassion. During much of the last 12 months the Board has focused on how we can evolve our services to ensure that B Miles can better meet the needs of women experiencing housing instability. The conversation around the need to evolve our services really took off during the global COVID pandemic. This led to the engagement of the services of Policy Fox and we have asked some tough questions of ourselves, B Miles staff and its clients.

This year marked significant steps forward in aligning our service delivery and strategic goals, ensuring that we remain a leader in the sector. We have expanded our collaborations and partnerships, enhanced the quality and reach of our programs, and laid the groundwork for new initiatives that will address emerging needs. These achievements have only been possible through the passion and dedication of our staff and the leadership of our CEO, Kate Timmins.

Whilst B Miles has always offered an exceptional service, and is recognised sector wide for this, these conversations mean that we will continue to do so, albeit slightly differently. There are exciting times ahead, so watch this space.

I, and the Board, are indebted to Kate, who is incredibly passionate about what B Miles does and is always thinking about how it can do better. I thank Kate for always being willing to share her time with me as I transition to this role. Kate is supported by a wonderful team who always go above and beyond. I am in awe of them every day – thank you.

To my fellow Board members, who volunteer their time, thank you for providing your experience and expertise, and for your considered decision-making. You have made my job as Chair all too easy.

Finally, the 12 months ahead will be an exciting chapter for B Miles. I look forward to sharing this with you.



**Renée Bianchi**  
Chairperson

# A message of thanks from our Client Services Manager

## Our work & impact

Women experiencing homelessness and mental ill-health are often among the most marginalised in our communities. Many of the women we work with face intersecting issues such as trauma, domestic violence, substance misuse, poverty, and poor access to healthcare. Mental health conditions, including depression, anxiety, PTSD, and other psychotic illnesses frequently exacerbate their experience of homelessness and complicate the process of recovery and stability. B Miles Women's Foundation's service model and holistic approach provides not only housing solutions but also intensive case management, therapeutic interventions, practical and emotional support.

We have had some incredible achievements this year, particularly in relation to securing long term housing for women supported by our case management team. We successfully moved 22 women from our support programs into long term housing tenancies, a place that women can call home. We work together to make an application for long term housing, view properties, sign lease agreements, organise furniture, set up utilities, familiarise with local area all while prioritising health and wellbeing. We work closely with local health districts, allied and mental health services to ensure women have access to appropriate supports while focusing on prevention and recovery. Assisting women with moves into long term housing creates opportunities for more women to access our short-term accommodation and transitional housing programs. I want to thank our small team of dedicated Case Managers who are passionate and highly skilled in the work that they do. Our Case Managers model kindness and empathy while providing structure and stability to women accessing our services.



Our team enjoying some down time and some of Belma's fabulous baking! From left: Sharlene Harkness, Belma Torres, Michelle Delamotte, Ellen Hickson, Lok Chen

We have seen a significant increase in women referring to our service that can no longer afford to reside in the private rental market. Due to significant rent increases and the lack of affordable housing, women are finding themselves accessing Specialist Homelessness Services for the very first time. While our accommodation is limited and often at capacity, we can provide flexible short-term outreach support to help women navigate a complex housing system and where possible prevent experiences of homelessness.

Our senior Case Management team facilitate psychoeducation groups providing women opportunities for learning, self-reflection and social connection. We facilitate housing ready workshops to help women develop an in-depth understanding of what to expect when a housing offer comes through, understanding emotions that arise while making life changing decisions in short timeframes. The combination of stable housing, personalised mental health care, and group programs has led to improved wellbeing, safety, and independence for many of the women we support. Given the success of these groups, we plan to expand and build on these initiatives in the coming year.



I'm very excited for the year ahead. We are in the process of purchasing two one-bedroom properties in the heart of Potts Point which will be the first time we have ever owned property. We have completed a crisis accommodation review with external consultants Policy Fox and are hoping for some success in our most recent



Three fabulous Case Managers from left: Belma Torres, Ellie Hickson, Michelle Delamotte after hosting a lovely lunch for the women in our service at the new OzHarvest enterprise Refettorio in Surry Hills

round of grant applications. I would like to thank the Board of Directors for supporting our team with the opportunities and for dedicating their time and expertise to the Foundation, Kate Timmins (CEO) for her leadership and unwavering commitment to staff and women accessing our service, Kara Holmes (Clinical Psychologist) for her dedication to the Clinical Support Program, and Victoria Hill our Clinical Supervisor who recently retired after supporting our team for close to 20 years.

I want to thank all the women who accessed our service and hope that we have been able to support you in your journey towards mental health recovery and housing stability. We acknowledge how difficult it can be to seek help, especially when facing the vulnerabilities of homelessness. It takes incredible strength to open up and allow someone to walk alongside you during such a challenging time. Your courage to trust our team with your hopes, struggles, and dreams is a privilege we do not take lightly. Thank you for allowing us to be part of your journey..

*Sharlene Harkness*

**Sharlene Harkness**  
Client Services Manager

# Our Impact



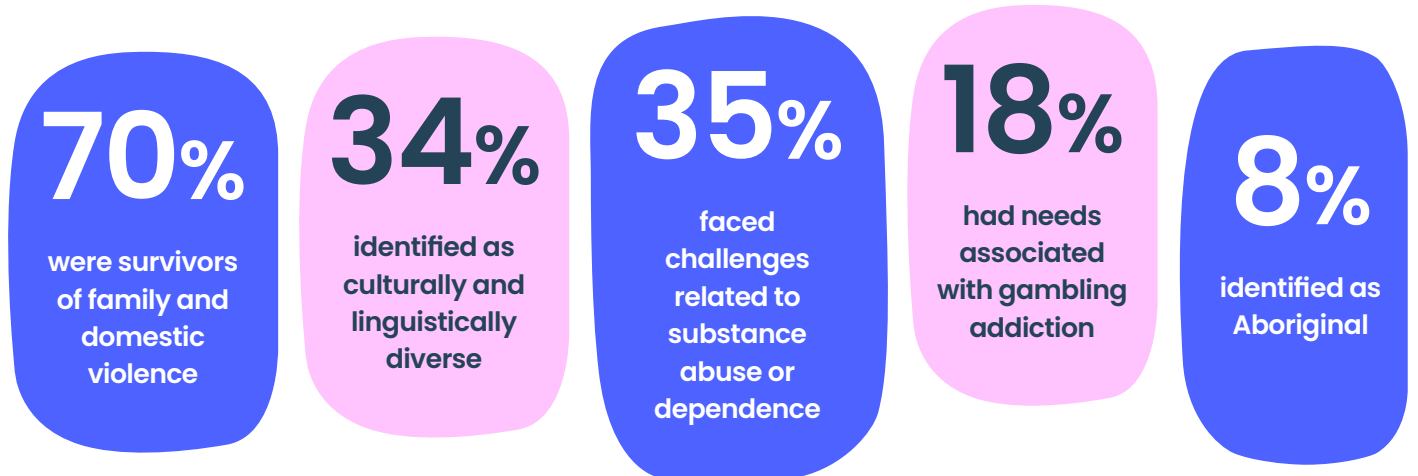
In December 2023, the team facilitated a social inclusion event for our service users at The Opera House

# Who we helped

Anyone can face a shift in circumstances that makes housing unaffordable, unsuitable, or unstable. We provide tailored support to women experiencing mental health challenges, helping women to prevent or overcome homelessness by ensuring access to safe, affordable housing and recovery services.

In FY2023–24, B Miles Women’s Foundation provided 284 support periods of vital assistance to 223 individual women who were experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity.

Among the 95 women engaged in Case Management;



These figures underscore the multifaceted needs of the women served and highlights B Miles Women’s Foundation’s expertise in delivering targeted support and resources to help women rebuild their lives. By addressing these complex issues, we offer a vital pathway to stability, resilience, and recovery for vulnerable women in the community.

# How we helped

We offer specialised services designed to help women secure safe, affordable housing and support their recovery. Our trauma-informed approach addresses the complex challenges many women face including mental health struggles, trauma, family and domestic violence, abuse, and substance dependency. Through compassionate, expert care, we empower women to rebuild their lives in a safe and supportive environment.

### We provide a spectrum of service responses, including;

- Needs assessments and referral services via our hotline
- Rapid response accommodation
- Transitional housing
- Outreach support services
- Case Management
- Psychological therapy.

### Support through our hotline

Many of the women we supported received assistance through our hotline. In FY2023–24, our dedicated Case Managers conducted thorough needs assessments with 121 women. These assessments were followed by the provision of tailored information, guidance, and support, along with referrals to relevant services that best suited each woman's individual needs.

### Providing tailored case management support:

- In FY2023–24, B Miles Women's Foundation provided comprehensive Case Management to 95 women. Specifically designed to support women recovering from homelessness and trauma while also living with mental ill-health, the Case Management program provides individualised, person-centred care, focusing on addressing the unique needs of each woman to foster stability, empowerment, and recovery.

Case Managers work closely with participants to assess their needs, set achievable goals, and connect them to vital services, including housing support, mental health care, medical services, and skill-building programs. Through consistent one-on-one support, Case Managers help women navigate the complexities of accessing public housing, healthcare, and social services, often advocating on their behalf with government agencies and health providers.

The program also addresses critical areas such as substance use, financial stability, and personal safety. By offering a safe, non-judgmental space, BMWF's Case Management program allows women to heal, build resilience, and take meaningful steps towards living independently. The program's holistic approach emphasises the intersection of mental health and housing stability, ensuring women have the resources they need to rebuild their lives and thrive.

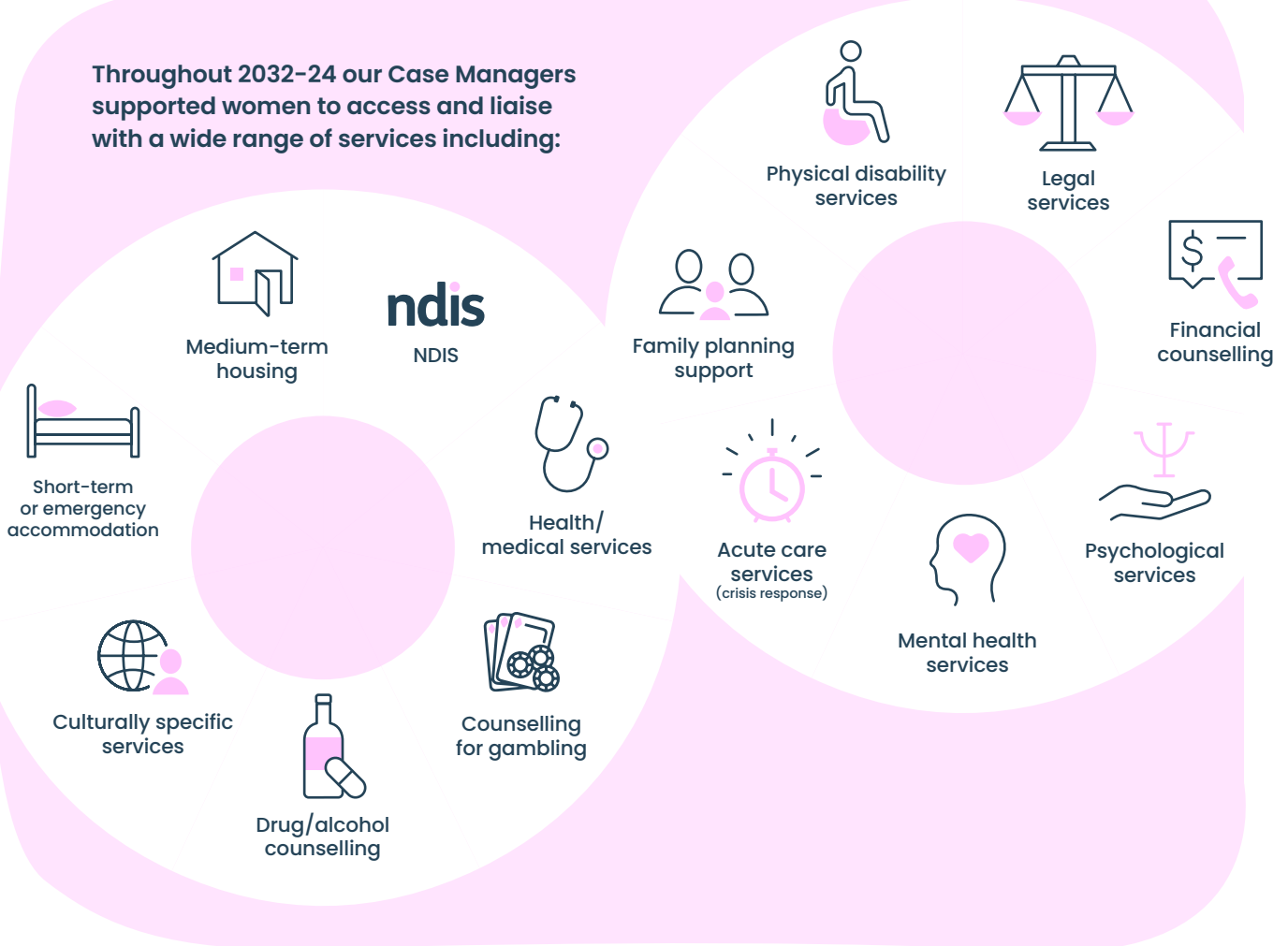
- Assisting women in applying for public housing or transfer assistance through Homes NSW is a vital aspect of the support B Miles Women's Foundation provides for women recovering from homelessness. Stable, affordable housing is essential for women to rebuild their lives after experiencing homelessness, trauma, and other significant hardships. By helping 63 women navigate the often complex and challenging housing application process, our Case Managers address a fundamental barrier to recovery and independence. Securing safe, long-term accommodation not only reduces the risk of returning to homelessness but also provides a stable foundation for women to focus on their mental health, employment, and personal growth. This support reflects BMWF's commitment to empowering women in their journey toward lasting stability and well-being.

**I will always be extremely grateful to B Miles for giving me my life back.**

**B Miles are wonderful service providers as I was listened to and understood. Because of this, my life was supported, I was given empathy that aided my transition toward a very happy and healthy outcome**

**I like the support and empathy of the B Miles workers**

Throughout 2022–24 our Case Managers supported women to access and liaise with a wide range of services including:



**B Miles works in a kind and transparent way, so I know what to expect. That's helped me so much.**

## Providing accommodation

- In FY2023-24, 52% of the women we accommodated were referred into our programs through strong linkages with health services. Referrals came from mental health units, community mental health services, drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs, and various health services and allied health professionals. This high referral rate from health services underscores B Miles Women's Foundation's role as a specialist provider at the intersection of homelessness and mental health, highlighting the trust and collaboration established with health service partners to support vulnerable women in need.
- We provided both transitional and rapid re-housing services to 49 women
- 22% of women experienced homelessness for more than six months prior to their accommodation with us.
- 69% of women residing in our crisis accommodation program moved into transitional housing tenancies while their need for suitable, long-term housing was resolved.
- 23% of women residing in our crisis accommodation program moved directly into permanent long-term social or community housing.
- 80% of women exiting our transitional housing into long-term tenancies in social or community housing. Our partnerships with organisations such as St George Community Housing and Bridge Housing were instrumental in securing safe, affordable accommodation for women.



## Community housing partnerships

Through our collaborations with St George Community Housing (SGCH) and Bridge Housing, we are able to offer both short- and long-term accommodations for women with low to moderate incomes. SGCH is also the designated housing provider for several properties linked to our contract with the NSW Department of Communities and Justice. We deeply value these partnerships, as they ensure that women recovering from homelessness and housing instability can access safe, affordable tenancies.

# Improving access to psychological therapy

Research shows that women experiencing homelessness often face significant barriers to healthcare, including:

Limited access to preventive health services

Challenges in engaging with and maintaining healthcare treatment plans

Disruptions in continuity of care

Encounters with stigma and discrimination in healthcare settings

42

women accessed psychological therapy through the program in 2023-24

Despite these challenges, mental health treatment and psychological therapy for women in homelessness support programs have long been inaccessible. Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) have grappled with these barriers for years. Even before the additional strains on the mental health system brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, a decline in public mental health services and the privatisation of psychological care had created a substantial gap, making therapy both unaffordable and inaccessible for women facing financial hardship while rebuilding their lives after homelessness and trauma.



Belma Torres (Senior Case Manager) facilitating the Healthy Minds Workshop in May 2024

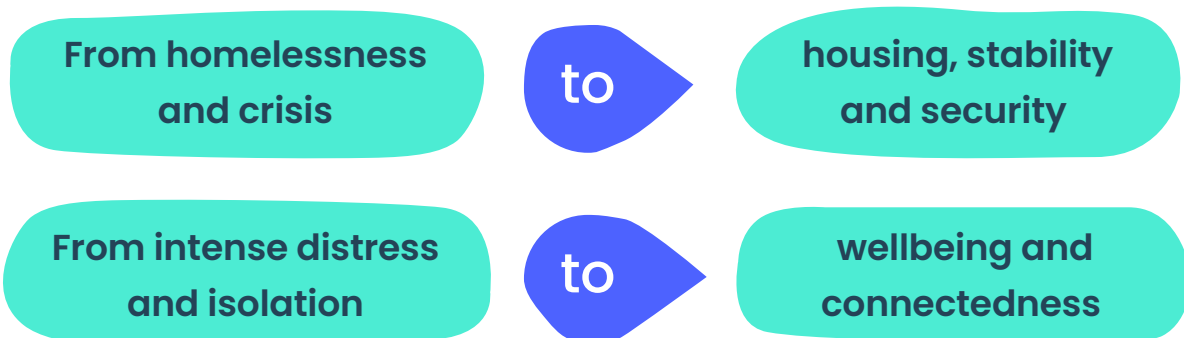
## Our impact

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we have been able to bridge this gap. Our Clinical Services Program offers psychological therapy to women involved in Specialist Homelessness Services as well as those living in social and community housing in inner Sydney. The Clinical Services Program is designed to support women as they recover from experiences of homelessness, housing instability, domestic violence, trauma, and other distressing circumstances. In 2023-2024, we provided 42 women with flexible, trauma-informed, and person-centred therapy. Case Managers and General Practitioners can easily refer women to the program, which is designed to break down the barriers to accessing therapy for women recovering from homelessness and instability.

### Preventing Homelessness Recurrence

The regular therapy provided through our program equips women with the skills needed to support their recovery and prevent a return to homelessness. Through therapy, women learn strategies for recovering from trauma, emotional regulation, distress tolerance, coping with stress, interpersonal effectiveness, relaxation, self-care, and mindfulness. These skills contribute to greater stability and capacity to maintain a quality of life. Additionally, participants have reported significant reductions in anxiety and depression, as well as healing from trauma.

**In combination with safe and affordable housing and effective Case Management, our program produces remarkable transformations in women's lives:**





### In FY2023–24, the program accomplished the following:

- Delivered over 800 individual psychological therapy consultations
- Collaborated with SHS case managers, acute care teams, psychiatrists, GPs, NDIS support coordinators and service providers, aged care teams, addiction specialists, and sponsors to provide integrated care
- Assisted women with psychosocial disabilities in navigating and accessing NDIS supports
- Helped women apply for drug and alcohol rehabilitation programs and detox facilities
- Completed medical assessments and reports to advocate for women's prioritisation for social and community housing through Homes NSW
- Advocated for women needing transfers out of unsafe housing
- Assisted women with mental health issues facing criminal charges, ensuring they engaged in treatment and support while avoiding conviction and sentencing
- Supported women in reporting violent crimes, including sexual assault, and helped them access the National Redress Scheme and Victims Support Scheme
- Provided clinical reports to the Department of Immigration and Home Affairs for women with immigration or residency challenges
- Sponsored women to repay state revenue fines through Work Development orders tied to their participation in treatment
- Coordinated with job networks and disability services at universities and TAFE to support women's engagement in employment, vocational training, and education.

Since 2015, more than 500 women have been referred to the Clinical Services Program by inner-city Sydney SHS providers and General Practitioners. Demand for these services remains strong, with many new referrals each year. The program has been operating at full capacity throughout the past year, providing individual treatment to 42 women in the last 12 months.

The women referred to the program were recovering from homelessness, housing instability, domestic violence, addiction, and/or trauma. We are privileged to offer therapeutic support for these women's healing and recovery, and the continuity of care provided has been crucial during women's transitions

from homelessness to stable housing. We remain committed to providing this essential service to women in Sydney's homelessness sector, and we extend our gratitude to the generous donors for making this life-changing program possible.



**Kara Holmes**  
Clinical psychologist

# Building social connections & a sense of belonging

**This year, our efforts to foster social connections and promote a sense of belonging among the women accessing our services were strengthened by hosting a series of social events. These activities included cinema outings, group yoga classes, aquarium, theatre performances, and regular lunches at Refettorio Ozharvest, local cafes and restaurants.**

Research suggests that social engagement and communal activities have a significant impact on reducing social isolation and improving overall well-being, particularly among individuals experiencing financial hardship. By providing access to these events through our Social Inclusion Program, we actively reduced barriers to participation in community activities, which are often exacerbated by economic strain.

Studies indicate that such interventions not only enhance emotional well-being but also contribute to the development of supportive peer networks, which can be critical in improving mental health outcomes. We look forward to continuing these efforts in the coming year, building on the positive results seen so far in fostering social bonds and promoting holistic wellness.



The B Miles Team hosting Christmas Lunch in December 2023 (L to R; back Lok Chen, Sharlene Harkness, Michelle Delamotte, Monique Taylor, Belma Torres, front row Kerry McCarthy & Ellie Hickson)

## Philanthropic Funded Projects

Each year, we assess the unmet needs of the women we support and design targeted projects to address those needs. We then seek funding from philanthropic sources to bring these initiatives to life. In 2023-24, we proudly launched two impactful projects.

- The **Essential Health Care Project** provided our clients with access to vital dental and medical treatments that were previously out of reach due to financial constraints.
- The **Healthy & Active Lifestyle Support Project** empowered our clients to participate in gyms, pools, and wellness classes, as well as purchase equipment for safe and effective exercise.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the generous donors who made these projects possible and to the participants whose valuable feedback has enriched our understanding of the benefits these initiatives provide. Their insights will guide us in making access easier and more streamlined in the future.

**Sharlene Harkness**  
(Client Services Manager) accepting the generous donation from Wests Ashfield to support our projects to address unmet client needs



The team enjoying Lunch Club at OzHarvest's Reffeterio Café as a component of B Miles social inclusion program



A delightful dessert at OzHarvest's Reffeterio Café. Our sincere thanks to OzHarvest for hosting these wonderful events, enjoyed by our team and the women accessing our services



## Our impact

### Essential Health Care Project



100%

of participants rated their experience positive and stated that participating in the project improved their health and wellbeing.

I can't stress how helpful this assistance has been in helping me to manage recently. I am constantly trying to attend to chronic health problems both mental and physical whilst paying for living expenses too... this support has helped me stay afloat to get a few steps closer to a future where I can be self-sufficient. The difference between accessing healthcare and having a roof over my head or having to sacrifice what most people consider necessities really does come down to assistance such as this project that paid for my expensive medication.

The B Miles assistance with my healthcare funding has been incredible. Encouraging and making sure I'm able to take care of myself with necessary GP and physio after injury. And major dental that's been life changing - I wouldn't have been able to access myself.

This project helped me through a very difficult period. I was struggling with finances while suffering chronic pain and mental health issues... I need to have CT scans, steroid shots and MRIs and I see a lot of hospital specialists, which can come at quite a cost. At times I do not have the funds for these, so having the access to the financial help this project offers has taken a great deal of stress from me and has allowed me to attend my GP or get scans done when I cannot afford them myself.

## Our impact

### Healthy & Active Lifestyle Support Project

The Healthy and Active Lifestyle Support Project enabled our clients to access gyms, pools, fitness and wellbeing classes, and to purchase equipment to exercise safely.



100%

of participants rated their experience positive



82%

stated that participating in the project improved their health and wellbeing

It was a nice gesture. It gave me something to look forward to and I can't afford new shoes for exercise, so it helped a great deal.

I'm able to walk with support of the shoes that I could otherwise not afford... my health is very important to me.

It's an excellent incentive for encouraging exercising which is an important de-stressor.

I think this is an amazing funding for people who especially are on low incomes who don't exercise or do much due to not having the footwear or exercise gear.

Thank you to the generous donors who made these projects possible, and thank you to the project participants who provided helpful feedback about the benefits of the projects and ideas about what we can do to make access easier and more streamlined in the future.

# Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs (ICSWCN)

## Leading the Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs

Through our role as the Lead Agent for the Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs (ICSWCN) package – a NSW Department of Communities and Justice funded initiative under the Specialist Homelessness Services Program – we contract other agencies to provide a range of specialist service responses for women:

- experiencing mental ill-health
- impacted by the criminal justice system, and
- recovering from substance dependency.

Our contributing agencies include Community Restorative Centre and Detour House Inc. Together, we provided:

**416**

women with complex needs were supported in FY2023-24

**447**

support periods were provided to women with complex needs in FY2023-24



## Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs (ICSWCN)

Throughout the support periods, client needs were identified, and assistance was provided either directly by ICSWCN or through referrals to external agencies to address these needs. The table below outlines the extensive efforts made by ICSWCN to support the women accessing our services.

Need identified	Number of times support provided by ICSWCN	Number of times referral arranged by ICSWCN to meet support needs identified
Short term or emergency accommodation	50	30
Medium term/transitional housing	38	52
Long term housing	0	74
Assistance to sustain tenancy or prevent tenancy failure or eviction	182	27
Assistance to prevent foreclosures or for mortgage arrears	1	0
Assistance for family/domestic violence – victim support service	74	42
Assistance for family/domestic violence – perpetrator support service	2	1
Assertive outreach for rough sleepers	1	2
Assistance to obtain/maintain government allowance	37	27
Employment assistance	7	16
Training assistance	2	12
Educational assistance	76	25
Financial information	48	31
Material aid/brokerage	107	50
Assistance for incest/sexual assault	36	6
Family/relationship assistance	117	39
Assistance for trauma	186	50
Assistance with challenging social/behavioural problems	158	39
Living skills/personal development	156	39
Legal information	36	39
Court support	29	12
Advice/information	363	33
Retrieval/storage/removal of personal belongings	52	23
Advocacy/liaison on behalf of client	287	49
School liaison	2	2
Child care	1	0
Structured play/skills development	78	16
Child contact and residence arrangements	11	6
Meals	71	28
Structured play/skills development	78	16
Child contact and residence arrangements	11	6
Meals	71	28

## Our impact

Need identified	Number of times support provided by ICSWCN	Number of times referral arranged by ICSWCN to meet support needs identified
Laundry/shower facilities	52	15
Recreation	62	20
Transport	94	23
Other basic assistance	289	10
Child protection services	0	7
Parenting skills education	1	3
Child specific specialist counselling services	0	1
Psychological services	40	55
Psychiatric services	1	40
Mental health services	145	21
Pregnancy assistance	1	3
Family planning support	0	7
Physical disability services	0	6
Intellectual disability services	1	1
Health/medical services	13	83
Professional legal services	1	26
Financial advice and counselling	0	22
Counselling for problem gambling	0	4
Drug/alcohol counselling	96	40
Specialist counselling services	25	25
Interpreter services	5	5
Assistance with immigration services	4	5
Culturally specific services	52	19
Assistance to connect culturally	16	16
Other specialised service	96	26
	Total individual support types provided by ICSWCN for identified needs = 3,201	Total referrals made by ICSWCN to meet identified needs = 1,253



# Outreach & advocacy



**A fundamental aspect of our strategic plan is our dedication to community engagement, advocacy, and the development and maintenance of successful partnerships. Over the past year, we have collaborated closely with various colleagues across the sector to exchange best practices, learn from one another, and work on projects that promote advocacy and raise awareness of community issues including;**

- Industry Partnership
- Policy Council of Homelessness NSW
- Health Network Meetings
- Inner City Service for Women with Complex Needs Consortium
- SSESNSD SHS District Forums
- SHS Sector Network Meetings
- SHS Sector Health & Wellbeing Program Pilot Project Working Group
- St Vincent's Mental Health Service
- Together Home Program
- Bridge Housing Partnership Meetings
- St George Community Housing Partnership Meetings



# Feedback from those we've helped

Feedback and consultation with the women we support are essential to our commitment to continuous quality improvement and service development. We actively seek and regularly review input from our service users, using their insights to inform and refine our practices, ensuring our services remain responsive to their needs.

## Client Consultation Meeting

In April 2024, we facilitated our annual client consultation meeting, which was well-attended by many current and former service users. These events provide us with a genuine opportunity to listen to and learn from those with lived experience about what works best.

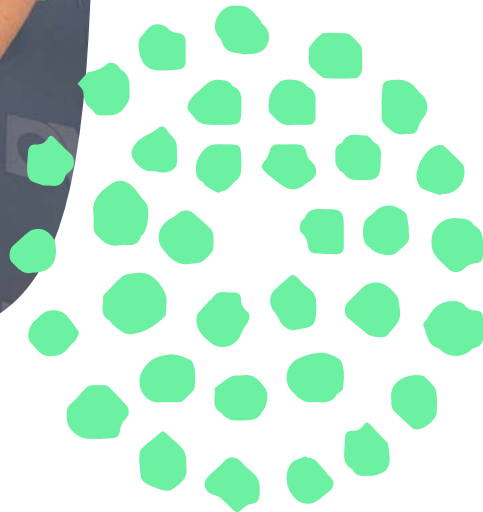
Our key priorities at these events are to:

- Engage with the women who have accessed our service on our strategic priorities as well as how to measure key indicators of success
- Gather feedback on women's experiences with our programs, services, and events.
- Share insights about the Australian Service Excellence Standards (ASES) and the significance of achieving ASES Certificate Level accreditation.
- Outline the advocacy work we are currently undertaking and check if our advocacy is centred around community needs.
- Communicate and solicit feedback on our organisational values, website, marketing strategies, cultural competency, and our commitment to privacy and confidentiality practices.

In March 2024, Belma Torres and Michelle Delamotte (Case Managers) participating and learning at the Elsie Conference.



Lok Chen (Case Manager) and Sharlene Harkness (Client Services Manager) at DVNSW Conference in September 2024



The meeting generated a wealth of valuable ideas, many of which have already been actioned to enhance our service delivery. We look forward to updating providing updates on developments during our next consultation. We extend our sincere thanks to all the women who contributed their time and insights to this process, supporting us in our commitment to excellence.



Allegra Spender MP for Wentworth speaking at a housing forum where local residents were consulted on the housing crisis and solutions

Kate Timmins (CEO) at the Shifting the dial to prevention of homelessness forum. An opportunity for leaders in the homelessness sector to discuss prevention and early intervention.



### Thank you to our partners & contributors

We collaborate with a diverse range of partners, including corporate, private, government, and non-government agencies, to deliver housing, support services, case management, and clinical treatment for women in need.

In addition, special projects have been developed to address unmet client needs, allowing us to offer even more targeted support. Our ability to go above and beyond in this mission is made possible by the generosity of our supporters and providers. Thank you for being a vital part of our work to support women in recovery to rebuild their lives.

- Bridge Housing
- City of Sydney Council
- Clubs NSW
- Commonwealth Bank
- Community Restorative Centre
- Detour House Inc.
- Dykes on Bikes
- Inner West Council
- Lendlease Future Steps Program



L to R: Kate Timmins (CEO)  
Sharlene Harkness (CSM)  
Jessie Lenson (Lendlease) and  
Katherine Bushell (Lendlease)

- Private donors via the Give Now platform
- NSW Department of Communities and Justice
- Refettorio Ozharvest
- Randwick City Council
- Re-Love
- St George Community Housing
- St Vincent's Hospital Mental Health Service

**We'd also like to acknowledge our generous private donors who have continued to support.**

# People & culture



The B Miles team at A Morning with Julia Gillard IPAA NSW; Kerry McCarthy, Sharlene Harkness, Ellie Hickson, Monique Taylor, Michelle Delamotte, Belma Torres and Lok Chen

# Our Board

**We are governed by a Board of Management who are formally elected in accordance with our Constitution. The Board oversees and monitors:**

- Governance
- Risk Management
- Finance
- Performance against plans and budgets
- The organisation's values, vision and purpose



**Renée Bianchi**  
Chairperson

Renée (she/her) is a barrister with a diverse practice in common law, commercial and equity matters, including the areas of professional negligence, product liability, insurance, general commercial and succession law.

Renée has a Bachelor of Law and a Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Hons) from the University of Newcastle. Renée was the President of NSW Young Lawyers in 2016 and is currently the Chair of the Law Council of Australia's Young Lawyers Committee. Renée is also an active volunteer with Girl Guides Australia and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, having been involved for over twenty years.



**Brendan Dunne**  
Treasurer

Brendan (he/him) has a Bachelor of Accounting from the University of Technology Sydney and is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia.

He has held senior roles within Australia and internationally with a background in Finance, Risk, Strategy and Transformation and is employed by Allianz Australia as Chief Customer and Operations Officer.





**Kate Dennis**  
Secretary

Kate (she/her) is a corporate communications and public relations practitioner with twenty years' experience in the corporate, government and education sectors.

Kate holds a Master's in Business (Marketing) from UTS, a Graduate Certificate of Change Management from the University of NSW and a Bachelor of Arts in Organisational Communications from Charles Sturt University.



**Simon Chapple**  
Ordinary Member

Simon (he/him) is a barrister with a practice in succession law, elder law, property law, general commercial law, corporations' law, consumer protection law and administrative law.

Simon graduated from the University of New South Wales with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) and a Bachelor of Law. In 2010 Simon was awarded a PhD from the University of New South Wales. He is an adjunct Fellow in the law faculty at University of Western Sydney.



**George Quinn**  
Ordinary Member

George (he/him) is a registered nurse and has a Master's Degree in Public Health from University of Sydney and an Arts Degree (Hons) with a Philosophy major from the University of New South Wales.

He is currently the Secretary for Bushwalking New South Wales. He is the former President of the Coast and Mountain Bushwalking Club. Through his former clinical, senior and team management positions with St Vincents Mental Health Service he had an association with B Miles Women's Foundation spanning twenty years.



**Dr Sarah Michael**  
Ordinary Member

Sarah (she/her) is an integrated adult psychiatrist with interests in severe mental illness, ensuring equity in physical health outcomes for those with mental illness, and clinician wellbeing.

Sarah holds a Masters of Public Health from UNSW and an Executive MBA from the University of Sydney, and has previously worked with the World Health Organisation, as well as in medical education and administration roles. She currently holds a clinical position at St Vincent's Hospital Sydney as well as the position of Director of Psychological Wellbeing at Sydney Local Health District.

# Our team



## Kate Timmins

### Chief Executive Officer

Kate Timmins (she/her) has over 25 years' experience in social services, specialising in supporting women affected by family violence, sexual assault, mental illness, and other forms of abuse or disadvantage. She holds qualifications in Communications, Counselling, and Family Dispute Resolution.

As CEO of the B Miles Women's Foundation since 2015, Kate has expertise in leadership, NGO management, change management, advocacy, policy, and planning. She serves on the Policy Council of Homelessness NSW and is dedicated to driving innovation and policy reforms to support women who experience housing instability, abuse and disadvantage.



## Sharlene Harkness

### Client Services Manager

Sharlene (she/her) has more than a decade of experience in social services and has been with B Miles Women's Foundation since 2011. She comes from a community services background and is a strong advocate in the psychosocial issues that women experience. Sharlene is passionate about social justice, particularly for women who experience psychiatric disability and lack access to long-term housing and mental health support.

Sharlene works from a trauma informed care and recovery-based framework and believes that recovery and living a meaningful life is possible for everyone.



#### **Belma Torres**

##### **Senior Case Manager**

Belma (she/her) has worked within social services for over ten years across a variety of sectors, including mental health, addictions, community health and case management. She obtained her Master's in Social Work in 2012 which included a specialisation in alcohol and other drug counselling.

Belma has been a case manager with B Miles Women's Foundation since 2018 and has relished the opportunity to engage with an organisation that shares her passion for assisting women in a holistic manner that addresses the need for advocacy within larger systems and celebrates the diversity of those accessing the homelessness sector.



#### **Kerry McCarthy**

##### **Senior Case Manager**

Kerry (she/her) has worked at B Miles Women's Foundation since 2016. She has over ten years' experience in social services and holds a degree in psychology. After university Kerry went on to work in mental health rehab for males with complex mental health needs with a forensic background.

Kerry is passionate about raising mental health awareness, social justice and building a more equal and inclusive future for all. And, she loves that in her role she gets to work with so many amazing, compassionate and resilient women.



**Lok Chen**

Case Manager

Lok (she/her) has worked for B Miles Women’s Foundation since late 2016. She has more than a decade of experience in the community services sector across specialised case management, supporting women impacted by mental ill health and domestic/family violence, commonwealth programs for people aging in their own home and occupational rehabilitation for injured workers.

Lok holds a Master of Social Work (Qualifying) as well as a GradDip in Rehabilitation Counselling. She loves making a little difference every day, sharing the joy when clients receive housing offers and moments when they celebrate their achievements.



**Michelle Delamotte**

Case Manager

Michelle (she/her) joined B Miles Women’s Foundation in 2023. She has more than three years of experience working in social services and has primarily supported women impacted by substance abuse, mental ill health and domestic/family violence.

Michelle is passionate about social justice, equity and helping women access the appropriate supports to assist them in making positive changes in their lives.

## People & culture

### Our team



#### **Ellen Hickson**

##### Case Manager

Ellen (she/her) comes from a community services background and brings four years of experience within the homelessness sector to the team. She is experienced in providing case management support and advocacy to women impacted by homelessness, domestic and family violence and other co-existing needs.

Ellen is a strong advocate for social justice and equality and is passionate about working towards equal access to safe and secure housing for those with experiences of homelessness, domestic and family violence and mental health. Ellen is devoted to being part of a dedicated support network to provide positive change within the community.



#### **Monique Taylor**

##### Case Manager

Monique (she/her) joined B Miles Women's Foundation in 2023. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Medical Science, with a major in neuroscience and is continuing her education in Nursing specialising in Mental Health. Monique is committed to making a positive impact on the lives of individuals impacted by mental ill health. Over the past five years, she has worked in diverse community service settings providing support to young people and individuals experiencing homelessness, substance use and mental ill health.

Throughout her career, Monique has demonstrated a commitment to advocacy for mental health. She firmly believes in eliminating stigma and raising awareness about mental health issues, fostering empathy and understanding in society.

# Psychologists/ Consultants



## Victoria Hill

Victoria (she/her) has provided clinical supervision to the team at B Miles for close to 20 years. Her wealth of experience and practice wisdom, supports our team to navigate important issues such as: vicarious trauma, reflective practice, ethical dilemmas, risk management and potential harm, skill building and professional development.

Additionally, she offers best practice when supporting women who have experienced; domestic violence, trauma, mental health diagnosis/ disorders and other complex problems.

Victoria's reliable and sound support, enables our team, to navigate complexity in a framework guided by ethical principles .



## Kara Holmes

Kara (she/her) has worked with B Miles Women's Foundation in various roles since 2007. In 2015, she completed a Master of Psychology (Clinical) and established a private psychology practice that primarily works with women engaged in Sydney's specialist homelessness sector. Kara's approach to therapy is relational and skills-based (Mindfulness, DBT, ACT, CBT). Kara is a member of the Australian Psychological Society and the APS College of Clinical Psychologists. Kara is a Psychology Board of Australia approved supervisor for registrars completing their clinical internships. Kara is passionate about enabling access to psychological therapy for women who are in recovery from homelessness/housing instability via B Miles' Clinical Services Program.

# Our culture

Our staff are often called upon to manage crises, emotional distress, and complex situations that require immediate and thoughtful responses. Recognising the emotional and psychological toll this can take, we prioritise cultivating a supportive workplace culture that directly contributes to the well-being of our team. This is not only essential for the health and resilience of our staff, but also critical for maintaining the high-quality service and care we provide to those in need.



**Kerry McCarthy (Senior Case Manager), Sharlene Harkness (Client Services Manager) and Kate Timmins (B Miles CEO)**

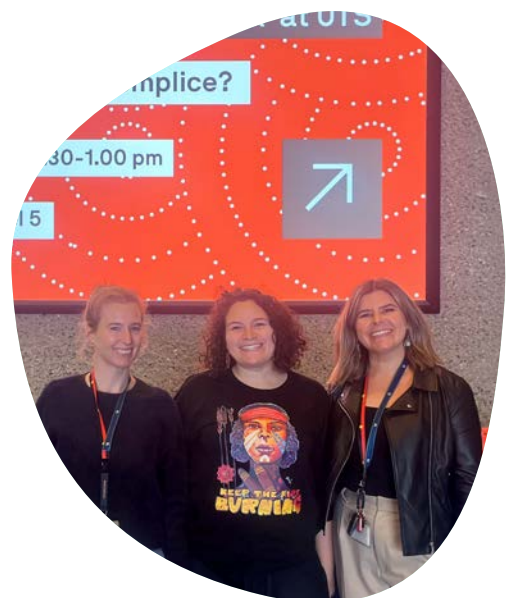




In June 2024, the B Miles team engaged in a group consultation with Policy Fox about housing models and innovation

To achieve this, we are committed to ensuring that our team has access to comprehensive support systems. This includes regular clinical supervision, where staff can reflect on their work in a structured and confidential environment, helping them process the demands of their roles. Additionally, we offer debriefing sessions following particularly challenging situations, allowing staff to openly discuss and manage any immediate stress they may have experienced.

We also place a strong emphasis on professional development, ensuring that staff have ongoing opportunities to enhance their skills, learn new strategies for managing complexity, and stay up to date with best practices. By investing in these supports, we aim to foster a healthy, resilient workforce capable of delivering the highest standards of care while safeguarding their own mental and emotional well-being.



Team members at UTS during National Reconciliation Week in May 2024; Michelle Delamotte, Belma Torres & Ellie Hickson

# Workforce development

We recognise that ongoing professional development is essential for continuous quality improvement. Our commitment to staying current with evidence-based practices drives us to actively engage in staff training, workshops, seminars, and conferences. Through these opportunities, we continuously expand our knowledge and adapt our practices to meet evolving needs.

The B Miles team undertaking First Aid Training with St John Ambulance NSW in January 2024 (L to R; Kerry McCarthy, Monique Taylor, Lok Chen, Michelle Delamotte, St Johns Ambulance NSW trainer, Sharlene Harkness, Kate Timmins, Belma Torres & Ellie Hickson)



The team learning about psychopharmacology with Dr Sarah Michael in September 2023



Ellie Hickson (Case Manager) training providing LGBTQIA+ training to the team in January 2024



With heartfelt gratitude, we bid farewell to Victoria Hill, our longstanding and highly respected Clinical Supervisor, who retired this year. Thank you, Victoria, for your years of dedication, guidance, and the positive impact you've made on our team and the women we support



The team participating in in-house training on psychosis with Clinical Psychologist, Kara Holmes (June 2024)

In May 2024, the team enjoyed attending the book launch of Sydney's Bohemian Bee Miles at the Sydney's Writer's Festival; Bee Miles is the name-sake of B Miles Women's Foundation



# Workforce development

Over the past 12 months, our Case Managers and management team have participated in the following networking and professional development initiatives:

**Respectful Workplace Program**

(Blakworks)

**Cognitive Impairment in Methamphetamine Use: Perspectives from Neuropsychological Practice** (Cracks In The Ice)

**Leading for the Future**

(Homelessness NSW)

**Information and Security**

(DCJ)

**CIMS SHS Client Outcomes Survey Training**

(DCJ)

**Housing Information Session**

(Bridge Housing)

**Social Housing Law & Policy**

(Redfern Legal Centre)

**Cyber Security Policy and Guidelines**

(DCJ)

**Leading with Purpose: A morning with Julia Gillard**

(Institute of Public Administration, NSW)

**Social Security Basics**

(Welfare Rights Centre)

**Coercive Control Forum**

(Women's Legal Service)

**Mental Health Professionals: Your Role in Prevention, Identification & Response** (National Eating Disorders Collaboration)

**Methamphetamine and Sleep**

(Cracks In The Ice)

**Information Security Forum for ACWA members**

(DCJ)

**Skills for Success; Navigating ethical dilemmas**

(IPPA)

**Family & Domestic Violence Leave**

(Domestic Violence NSW)



# Continuous quality improvement

As part of our commitment to continuous quality improvement, we consult with our stakeholders—including clients, community partners, government agencies, and health professionals—to ensure our services meet the evolving needs of the community. Through recent stakeholder consultations, one critical area for improvement was identified: reducing waitlist times and increasing housing availability for women experiencing homelessness and mental health challenges.

We have incorporated this priority into our strategic plan, focusing on several key initiatives to address the issue;

- We streamlined our intake processes and enhanced our case management resources to reduce wait times for services.
- Our strategic priorities include advocating for increased funding and resources to expand affordable housing options, strengthening partnerships with housing providers, and exploring innovative housing solutions, such as transitional and supported accommodation models. By embedding these priorities into our strategic plan, we are taking proactive steps to tackle housing access issues and reduce barriers for the women we support.

Our ongoing collaboration with stakeholders ensures that we remain responsive to community needs, continuously improving our programs to provide timely, effective support for women on their journey to stability and recovery.

- 95% of our surveyed stakeholders rated the quality of our services very high to high quality
- 94% of our surveyed stakeholders said our staff were very helpful and responsive



When we surveyed our stakeholders in 2024, stakeholders described us as;



# Aboriginal cultural responsiveness

As a women's homelessness service, our mission is to improve housing and health outcomes for women with complex needs in our community. We have recently asked ourselves how can we strengthen our capacity to support Aboriginal women?

Data has shown that 16% of women who access SHS in NSW identify as Aboriginal, yet only 4% of women accessing B Miles services identify as Aboriginal. We risk missing the mark when it comes to supporting Aboriginal women impacted by complex health and housing needs. While we do well in many areas, this is new to us. That's why, in 2023-2024, B Miles engaged Blakworks for their expertise to guide us as we reaffirm our commitment to increase our cultural capability for

1. supporting Aboriginal women,
2. increasing Aboriginal personnel, and
3. collaborating with local organisations.

Over the course of approximately 18 months, B Miles implemented seven (7) projects with the guidance and expertise of Lindsay Stanford, an Aboriginal consultant and Founder of Blakworks. This Respectful Workplace Program started with a full-day Cultural Awareness Training in May 2023 for all B Miles personnel which provided a baseline and foundation to start our project work. Over the course of FY 2023-2024, key staff members attended workshops and strategy sessions around the following topics: Language Policy and Guide, Internal Rationale, Community Profile, The Question, Cultural Learning Calendar, Welcomes to Country and Acknowledgements of Country, and Workplace Signals.



Lok Chen, Belma Torres, Kerry McCarthy, Ellie Hickson & Monique Taylor (Case Managers) enjoying NAIDOC Community Day in July 2024





In January 2024, the B Miles team enjoyed connecting with the community at the Yabun Festival; Michelle Delamotte, Kerry McCarthy, Lok Chen & Belma Torres

Through the Respectful Workplace Program, B Miles has implemented various new policies and procedures to help clarify and codify our organisation's use of:

- language when speaking with and about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, families, and communities
- Welcomes to Country and Acknowledgement of Country within the workplace
- workplace signals as physical signs promoting cultural practices; and
- procedures around asking about self-identification as an Aboriginal person.

Engaging in these projects provided our team with increased knowledge, confidence, and templates for engaging more fully within our local community. Throughout the year, we have continued to participate in local events such as Yabun Festival in January 2024, attending a National Reconciliation Week event held by City of Sydney, and celebrating within our local community at AMS Redfern's NAIDOC Week event. Importantly, we have also implemented a Cultural Capability Plan which will be updated annually to include in-built opportunities for staff discussions, learning, and participation during significant events throughout the year.



Belma Torres (Senior Case Manager) and Kate Timmins (CEO) Keeping the Fire Burning during NAIDOC week in July 2024.

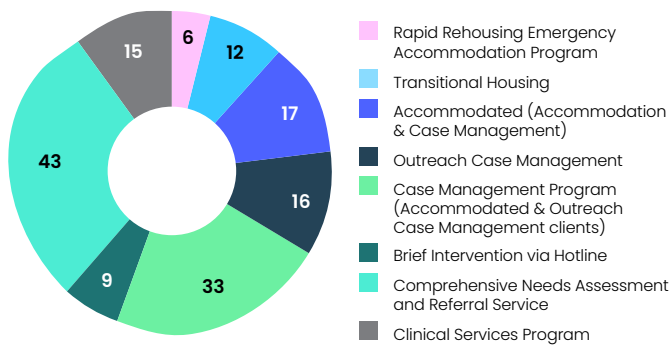
Additionally, we were given a great opportunity to learn and engage with Aboriginal community members during the October 2023 Referendum around enacting a Voice to Parliament. Alongside consultation with Blakworks, B Miles provided support for a "Yes" vote in acknowledgement of the importance of listening to Aboriginal voices on the matters that affect them. While the referendum did not pass, we remain committed to working toward implementing this best practice across all levels of our work and being a strong ally to the Aboriginal community members we work alongside.

We would like to thank Lindsay Stanford for her leadership and guidance throughout this past year – it has been invaluable as we move forward with more confidence toward continuous learning and improvement as a team and an organisation.

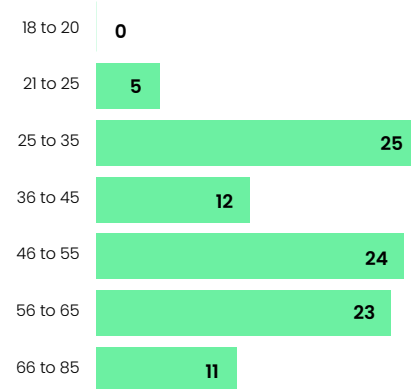
# FY2023-24 Data

In FY2023-24, B Miles Women's Foundation provided 284 support periods of vital assistance to 223 individual women who were experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity.

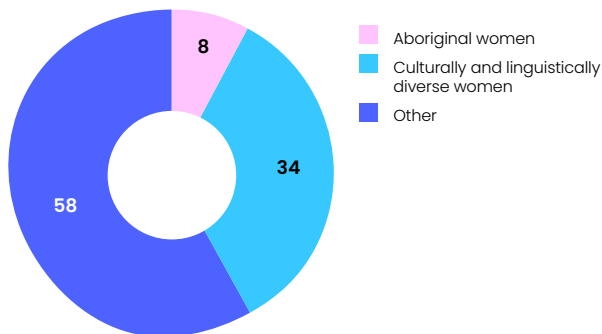
Support Periods Provided (%) (n = 284)



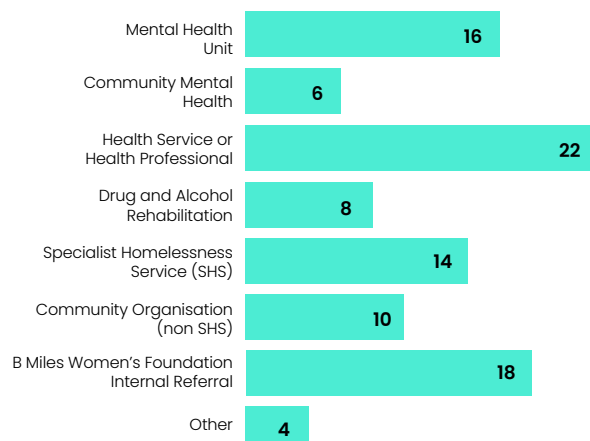
Age (yrs)(Case Management Clients)(%)



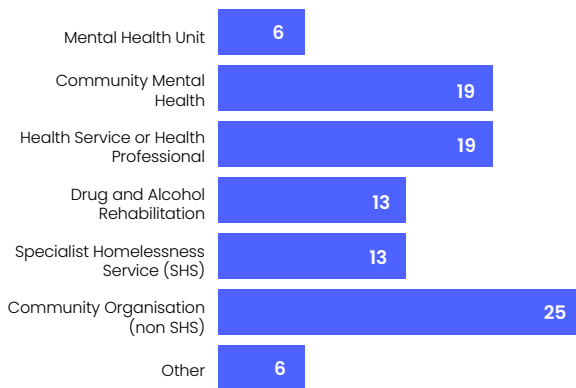
Ethnicity (n = 95 Case Managed Clients)



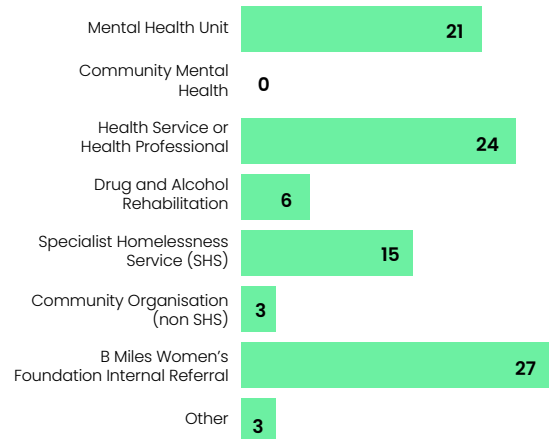
How were women referred to B Miles accommodation programs? (RREAP and Transitional Housing) (%)



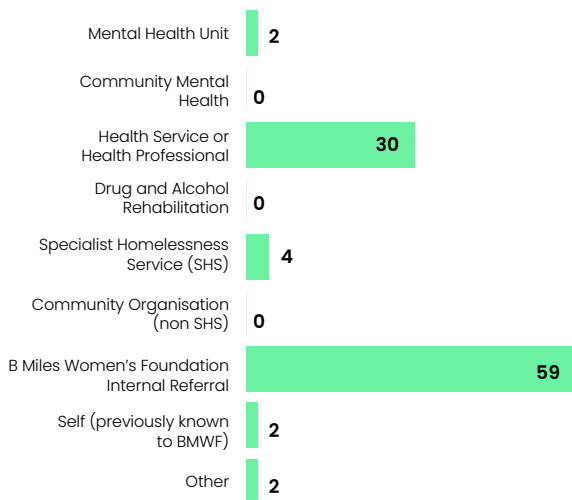
**How were women referred to B Miles Rapid Rehousing Emergency Accommodation Program (RREAP)? (%)**



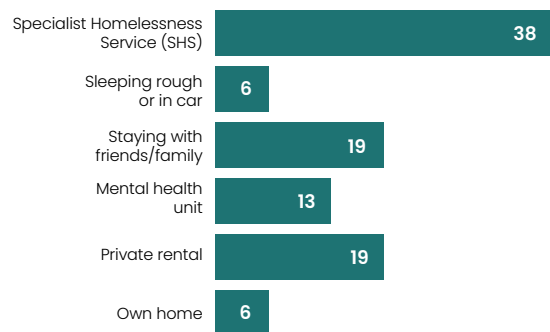
**How were women referred to B Miles Transitional Housing Program? (%)**



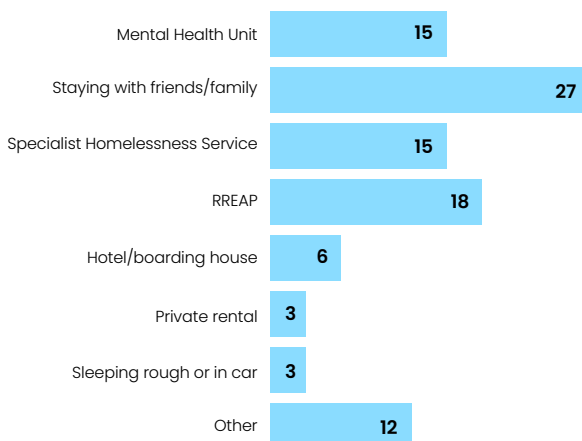
**How were women referred to B Miles Outreach Case Management? (%)**



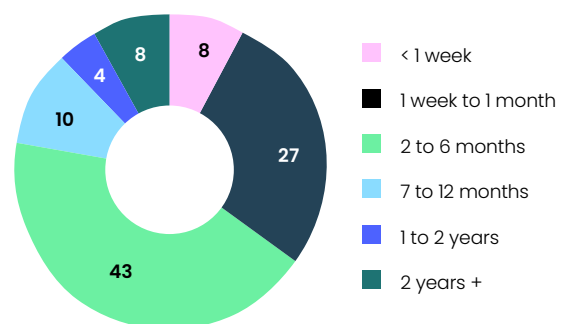
**Where were women staying immediately prior to their stays in RREAP? (%)**



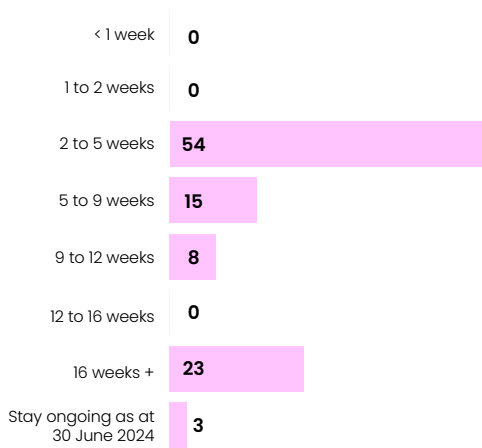
**Where were women staying immediately prior to their stays in BMWF Transitional Housing? (%)**



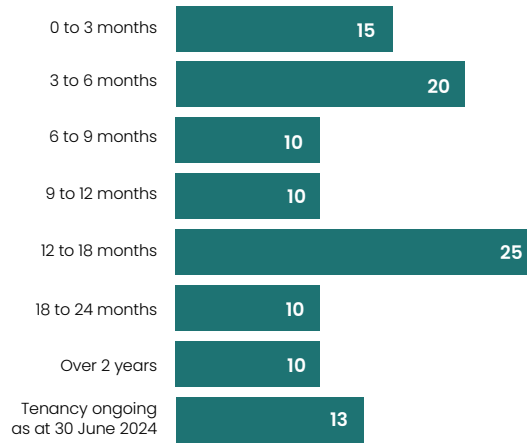
**How long were women experiencing homelessness prior to their accommodation with B Miles Women's Foundation? (%)**



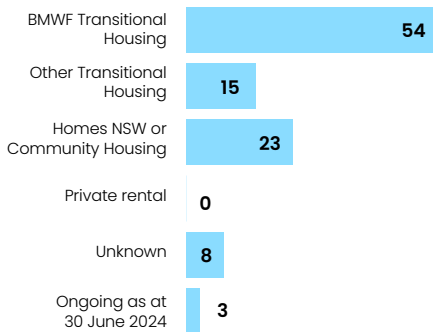
How long did women stay in RREAP? (%)



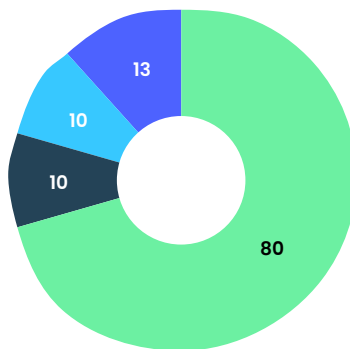
How long were women's tenancies with B Miles Transitional Housing? (%)



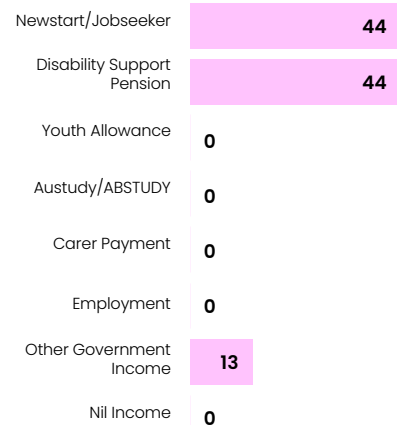
Where did women move to after their stays in RREAP? (%)



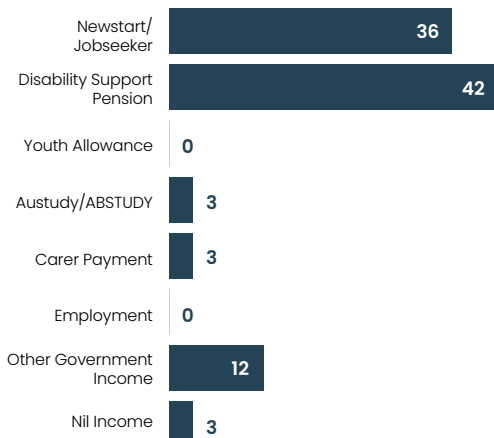
Where did women move to after their tenancies with B Miles Transitional Housing? (%)



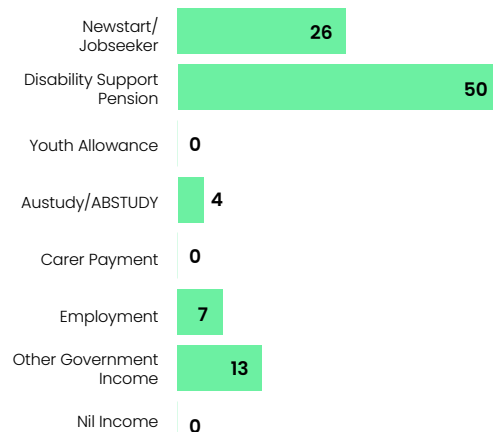
What income were women receiving in RREAP? (%)



What income were women receiving in B Miles Transitional Housing? (%)



What income were women receiving in Outreach Case Management? (%)



# Financial statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

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## Treasurer's report

**B Miles Women's Foundation continues to deliver critical and impactful support to women experiencing homelessness and related challenges. As we reflect on 2024, the demand for our services remains significant, underscoring the urgent need for greater government action to address housing affordability and availability, as well as the broader systemic issues impacting the vulnerable women we serve.**

The Foundation remains primarily funded by the NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) through the Specialist Homelessness Services Program. This funding ensures the delivery of essential services to our clients. While the recurrent funding from DCJ remains secure, our continued success relies on adhering to high service standards, maintaining fiscal discipline, and executing our Strategic Plan to ensure sustainable funding and long-term stability.

The announcements of the federal Housing Australia Future Fund and the state Homelessness Innovation Fund (NSW) present a significant opportunity for organisations like ours to address housing and homelessness across the nation. These funds aim to boost the supply of affordable housing and support innovative solutions to homelessness, aligning with the government's commitment to tackling these critical challenges. In line with our strategic plan, we are poised to leverage these opportunities by incorporating efficiency and evidence-based approaches into our operations. In 2023-2024, we conducted thorough research into best practice models and used financial modelling to ensure the optimal allocation of resources moving forward. This research project and subsequent grant applications will ensure that we maximise the impact of government funding and ensure that every dollar contributes to sustainable outcomes for women facing homelessness. Through this approach, the Foundation can not only meet the immediate needs of vulnerable populations but also help shape long-term, scalable solutions in line with national priorities.

Over the past year, we have deepened our efforts to enhance marketing and communication strategies, enabling us to broaden our donor base and strengthen relationships with supporters. We express our heartfelt gratitude to all contributors, including City of Sydney Council, Inner West Council, Clubs NSW, Dykes on Bikes, Lendlease, and private donors who have supported us through platforms such as Give Now. Their generosity has been instrumental in enabling us to fund vital programs. These contributions directly support initiatives such as the Clinical Support Program (Clinical Psychologist) and other critical client-related expenses, including removalist services, storage, furniture, home internet, essential dental and medical care, and programs promoting healthy lifestyles. These initiatives provide a foundation for recovery and empowerment for the women we serve.

In 2024, we are proud to continue collaborating with a diverse range of community partners who value and amplify the work of the Foundation. Their ongoing support is a testament to the trust and impact we have built over the years.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## Treasurer's report

I would like to extend my gratitude to the dedicated staff and Board members of the B Miles Women's Foundation. Their professionalism, resilience, and unwavering commitment drive our mission forward. Special thanks go to our CEO and Finance Manager for their meticulous stewardship of the Foundation's financial systems, ensuring compliance with government policies, reporting requirements, and accounting standards.

As we look to the future, the Foundation remains committed to meeting the growing needs of our client base while advocating for systemic change to create a more equitable and supportive society for all women. Together, we continue to make a difference.

I recommend our audited 2023-24 financial statements to B Miles Women's Foundation staff and management.



**Brendan Dunne**

Treasurer

# Committee's report

Your committee members submit the financial report of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED for the financial year ended 30 June 2024..

### Committee members

The names of the committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Renée Bianchi (Chairperson)  
Kate Dennis (Secretary)  
Brendan Dunne (Treasurer)  
Simon Chapple  
George Quinn  
Sarah Michael

### Principal activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were the provision of affordable accommodation, case management, emotional and social support to women at risk of homelessness and living with a mental illness.

### Operating result

The profit of the Association for the financial year after providing for income tax amounted to \$49,020.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee:

### Significant changes in state of affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the association during the year.

### Events after the reporting date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the association in future financial years.

### Environmental issues

The association's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulations under a law of the commonwealth or of a state or territory of Australia.

### Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED.

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### Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, for the year ended 30 June 2024 has been received and can be found on page 3 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the members of the committee:



**Renée Bianchi**  
Chairperson



**Brendan Dunne**  
Treasurer

Dated 24 September 2024



B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Interest	4	33,914	21,408
<b>Other income</b>	<b>3</b>		
Donations		46,331	37,144
Other Income DCJ		645,134	617,330
Grants		1,687,631	1,660,139
Other Income		5,448	41,865
		<b>2,418,458</b>	<b>2,377,886</b>
		<b>2,377,886</b>	<b>2,493,608</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Other expenses		604,621	1,353,521
Wages		1,064,556	939,884
Staff expenses		55,127	68,021
Transfer Funds		645,134	-
		<b>2,369,438</b>	<b>2,361,426</b>
<b>Profit for the year</b>		<b>49,020</b>	<b>16,460</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Income statement

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Bank Interest	33,914	21,408
Donations	46,331	37,144
Grants	1,687,631	1,660,139
Other Income	5,448	41,865
Other Income DCJ	645,134	617,330
	<b>2,418,458</b>	<b>2,377,886</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Accounting Fees	28,698	27,196
Accreditation	-	7,000
Advertising & Promotion	2,830	150
AGM Expenses	6,158	4,199
Annual Leave Acc	27,366	(16,945)
Audit Fees	3,600	4,400
Bank Fees	864	1,130
Brokerage	250	-
Cleaning	450	681
Client Equipment/Furnishings	13,314	8,807
Client Expenses	31,931	24,616
Client Expenses - Dental & Medical	11,034	26,990
Client Expenses - Healthy Lifestyle	1,780	5,003
Client Expenses - Internet	11,545	7,248
Community Engagement	8,020	10,274
Computer Exps	167	2,746
Conference/Seminars	1,320	-
Consultants	88,800	82,789
Consultants - Building	4,100	-
Couriers	83	253
Depreciation	5,000	10,000
Donations	-	500
Electricity	1,612	1,588
Food & Household Supplies	-	200
Furniture BMiles	-	4,111
Garden Maintenance	485	1,380
Healthy Lifestyle-Foot/Sports Wear	2,609	-
Healthy Lifestyle-Gym/Yoga Member	2,611	-
Household Equip & Furnishings	-	1,125
IT	4,774	6,370
Insurance	12,208	11,224
Insurance - Vehicles	4,442	5,225
Internet Expense	2,949	5,259
Legal	-	(1,033)
Locksmith	-	180
LSL Accrued	8,953	34,596
LSL Accrued	8,953	34,596
Maternity Leave	-	35,936
Meeting Exps	227	-

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## Income statement

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Office Equipment	865	-
Planning Day Expense	-	2,500
Postage	-	867
Printing, Postage & Stationery	2,168	1,609
Program Co-ordination	-	1,182
Removalist	5,256	2,513
Rent - Edgecliff	123,587	117,629
Rent/Bond/Housing Expense	2,350	6,614
Repairs & Maintenance	4,350	814
<b>Resources</b>	907	1,517
RREAP	175,909	182,408
Security Exps	648	2,120
Staff Amenities	1,175	-
Staff Development & Training	11,346	24,796
Staff General Expenses	-	1,409
Staff Recruitment	-	255
Staff Supervision	14,180	14,203
Staff Travel Exps	28,426	27,359
Stationery	998	975
Storage	4,616	4,140
Structure Review	-	75,750
Subs/Memberships	6,095	5,933
Superannuation	97,090	85,073
Telephone	12,126	10,631
Transfer to CRC	304,708	291,238
Transfer to CRC ERO Funds	11,536	11,377
Transfer to Detour	316,891	302,883
Transfer to Detour ERO Funds	11,998	11,832
Travel/Mileage Reimb	8,450	4,612
Treatment/Medical/Psychological	2,228	55,134
Vehicle Expenses	3,157	1,492
Vehicle Insurance	-	2,492
Vehicle Lease	-	1,620
Video Conferencing	448	425
Wages & Salaries	896,772	775,170
Wages Accrued	3,282	7,606
Website Expense	2,493	-
Wellbeing Group	86	-
WHS and Wellbeing	4,435	(1,785)
Workers Comp Insur	22,643	13,836
Working from Home - Equip	37	-
	<b>2,369,438</b>	<b>2,361,426</b>
<b>Net profit</b>	<b>49,020</b>	<b>16,460</b>

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## Appropriation statement

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Net profit</b>	49,020	16,460
Retained earnings at the beginning of the financial year	441,033	424,573
<b>Retained earnings at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>490,053</b>	<b>441,033</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## Balance sheet

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	1,170,582	974,609
Trade and other receivables	6	37,533	37,189
Other current assets	8	1,464	-
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>1,209,579</b>	<b>1,011,797</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	7	12,493	17,493
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>12,493</b>	<b>17,493</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>1,222,071</b>	<b>1,029,290</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	10	336,830	173,955
Provisions	11	119,914	92,548
Other current liabilities	13	72,905	128,337
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>529,649</b>	<b>394,840</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Provisions	11	202,370	193,417
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>202,370</b>	<b>193,417</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>732,019</b>	<b>588,257</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>490,053</b>	<b>441,033</b>
<b>Members' funds</b>			
Retained earnings		490,053	441,033
<b>Total members' funds</b>		<b>490,053</b>	<b>441,033</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## Statement of changes in equity

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Retained earnings</b>		
Opening retained earnings	441,033	424,573
Net profit	49,020	16,460
	<b>490,053</b>	<b>441,033</b>
<b>Total equity</b>		
Balance as at 01 July 2024	441,033	424,573
Profit	49,020	16,460
	<b>490,053</b>	<b>441,033</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## **Auditor's independence declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 to the trustee of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2024, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



**Rolf Garda FCA**

Rolf Garda, Reg Company Auditor 4414

24 September 2024

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

# Notes to the financial statements

The financial statements cover B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED as an individual entity. B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED is a not-for-profit association incorporated in New South Wales under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 ('the Act').

The principal activity of the association during the financial year was:

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were the provision of affordable accommodation, case management, emotional and social support to women at risk of homelessness and living with a mental illness.

The functional and presentation currency of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

## 1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Material accounting policy information relating to the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

## 2 Material accounting policy information

### Income tax

The association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

### Revenue and other income

#### Interest revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

#### Grant revenue

Grant income is recognised when received, unless it is matched to a specific program, then income is brought to account when the program is completed.

#### Donation revenue

Donations recorded as income when received.



B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## Notes to the financial statements

### Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities that are recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

### Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

### Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all of the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term. AASB 16 has not been adopted by the client.

The rental expenses for the serviced office at Edgecliff is expenses as incurred.

### Lessee accounting

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

The association has chosen not to apply AASB 16 to leases of intangible assets.

At the lease commencement, the association recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the association believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model, depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the association's incremental borrowing rate is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the association assessment of lease term.

Where the lease liability is remeasured, the right-of-use asset is adjusted to reflect the remeasurement or the remeasurement is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

# Notes to the financial statements

## Exceptions to lease accounting

The association has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. The association recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

## Leases

At inception of a contract, the association assesses whether a lease exists.

## Lessee accounting

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

The association has chosen not to apply AASB 16 to leases of intangible assets.

At the lease commencement, the association recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the association believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

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## Exceptions to lease accounting

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## Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Plant and equipment is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the assets useful life to the association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

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## Notes to the financial statements

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

### Employee benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits, those benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high-quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

### Defined contribution schemes

Obligations for contributions to defined contribution superannuation plans are recognised as an employee benefit expense in profit or loss in the periods in which services are provided by employees.

### Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period, the association determines whether there is evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where this indicator exists and regardless for goodwill, indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the assets is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss, except for goodwill.

### Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

## Notes to the financial statements

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>3 Revenue and other income</b>		
<b>Other income</b>		
Donations	46,331	37,144
Other Income DCJ	645,134	617,330
Grants	1,687,631	1,660,139
Other Income	5,448	41,865
	<b>2,384,544</b>	<b>2,356,478</b>
<b>4 Finance income and expenses</b>		
<b>Finance income</b>		
Bank and term deposit Interest	33,914	21,408
	<b>33,914</b>	<b>21,6408</b>
<b>5 Cash and cash equivalents</b>		
BMWF Cheque #238	1,016	17,291
BMWF On Line Saver #911	431,468	305,872
BMWF Debit Card #235	5,097	10,253
BMWF Debit Card CMI Belma	4,629	6,106
BMWF Debit Card CM2	5,156	9,534
BMWF Debit Card CM3	8,225	6,172
Term Deposit 11/09/24 4.25%	700,000	604,391
Rental Bond	14,991	14,991
	<b>1,170,582</b>	<b>974,609</b>
<b>6 Trade and other receivables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accrued Income	-	3,479
Bank Interest Accrued	23,897	16,922
Prepaid RREAP	13,636	16,064
Prepaid Expenses	-	724
	<b>37,533</b>	<b>37,189</b>

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## Notes to the financial statements

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>7 Property, plant and equipment</b>		
<b>Motor vehicles</b>		
Mazda Car at Cost	27,493	27,493
Depreciation Mazda	(15,000)	(10,000)
	<b>12,493</b>	<b>17,493</b>
<b>Office furniture and equipment</b>		
Office Equipment at cost	15,255	15,255
Office Equip Accum Depn	(15,255)	(15,255)
	-	-
<b>Furniture and fittings</b>		
Furniture & Fixtures at cost	65,048	65,048
Furn & Fittings Accum Depn	(65,048)	(65,048)
	-	-
<b>Household equipment</b>		
Household Equipment at Cost	10,351	10,351
Household Equipment Accum Depn	(10,351)	(10,351)
	-	-
	<b>12,493</b>	<b>17,493</b>
<b>8 Other assets</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Prepayments	1,464	-
	<b>1,464</b>	-

### The association as a lessee

The association has a lease over a serviced office in the Edgecliff Business Centre. These payments are all expensed as rental expense as incurred,

## Notes to the financial statements

### 9 Leases

#### The association as a lessee

The association has a lease over a serviced office in the Edgecliff Business Centre. These payments are all expensed as rental expense as incurred.

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>10 Trade and other payables</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Accrued Expenses	57,756	122,471
Accrued Audit Fees	3,600	4,000
Accrued Wages	21,208	17,926
StreetSmart	3,550	-
Macpherson Kelley Found(Spring Ave)	5,900	-
Trade Creditors	26,000	5,912
Donations	200,000	-
GST Collected	52,425	52,405
GST Paid	(33,609)	(28,759)
	<b>336,830</b>	<b>173,955</b>

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

### 11 Provisions

#### Current

Provision for Annual Leave	119,914	92,548
	<b>119,914</b>	<b>92,548</b>

#### Non-current

Provision for LSL	202,370	193,417
	<b>202,370</b>	<b>193,417</b>

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## Notes to the financial statements

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>12 Employee benefits</b>		
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Provision for Annual Leave	119,914	92,548
	<b>119,914</b>	<b>92,548</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>		
Provision for LSL	202,370	193,417
	<b>202,370</b>	<b>193,417</b>
<b>13 Current</b>		
DCJ - Comm ERO 22/23	-	58,605
Clinical Services Program	53,655	53,655
PAYG Tax	15,216	12,146
Superannuation Payable	4,035	377
Superannuation Returned	-	3,553
	<b>72,905</b>	<b>128,337</b>

## Statement of cash flows

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Grants received	2,062,294	2,176,151
Fundraising (no GST)	99,907	342,040
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,972,013)	(2,507,918)
Interest received	5,785	4,486
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>195,973</b>	<b>14,759</b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	195,973	14,759
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	974,609	959,850
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>1,170,582</b>	<b>974,609</b>



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## Statement by members of committee

The committee declares that in its opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes for the year ended 30 June 2024, are in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 2009 and:
  - a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures; and
  - b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the association.
2. In the members' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee.



**Renée Bianchi**  
Chairperson



**Brendan Dunne**  
Treasurer

Dated 24 September 2024

# Independent audit report to the members of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

## Report on the audit of the financial report

### Opinion

I have audited the financial report of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED (the association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the statement by members of the committee.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of the association is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure Standard and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

### Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of my report. I am independent of the association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the management of the association, would be in the same terms if given to management as at the time of this auditor's report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion

### Responsibility of management and those charged with governance

Management of the association is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosure Standard and the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

# Independent audit report to the members of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.



**Rolf Garda** Registered Auditor 4414

Dated - 24 September 2024

B Miles Women's Foundation Incorporated ABN: 31 323 982 619

## Certificate by members of committee

Annual statements give true and fair view of the financial position of incorporated association.

We, being the members of the Committee of the B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED, certify that -

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of B MILES WOMENS FOUNDATION INCORPORATED during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30 June 2024.



**Renée Bianchi**  
Chairperson



**Brendan Dunne**  
Treasurer

Dated 24 September 2024





## **B Miles Women's Foundation**

PO Box 729 Edgecliff NSW 2027

**B Miles Women's Foundation hotline:**

Ph: 1800 274 984



[bmiles.org.au](http://bmiles.org.au)