

BIRTHING KIT FOUNDATION (AUSTRALIA)



Annual Report 2009



Chairperson's Report

Dear Members,

Reaching the 10th Birthday of the Birthing Kit Project is a milestone that none of the initial committee would ever have dreamed possible, especially with the wonderful achievement of distributing over 560,000 birthing kits.

Under the administration of the Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia) (BKFA) for the third year, the project has evolved from being purely facilitators and suppliers of clean birthing kits in 2005, to expanding in 2006 into establishing five day health, nutrition, hygiene and birth attendant training programs designed to complement the supply of the clean birthing kits in Vietnam. In 2007 - 2009 more training programs were established in Kenya and expanded in Vietnam with over 5000 Birth Attendants now trained. From 2008 the BKFA has targeted specific countries, where within a five year time frame, it hopes to have sustainability with all essential birthing kits made in-country and training programs funded locally.

This year we have again met our target, with 137,400 kits made in 2008 – 2009 at 103 Assembly days organised by our dedicated volunteers from Zonta clubs, high schools, midwifery schools, universities, church groups and other organisations like Rotary. (30,000 kits were also made in Vietnam). These kits went to 17 countries through 33 organisations. This is an enormous logistical exercise, the success of which is a reflection of our dedicated team led by Jacqui Wathen, our Project Manager, Amy Mitchell, our Distribution Officer, Kristen Frost, our Supplies Officer and Pam Harris, our Warehouse coordinator. Our processes are so refined that 97% of all kits sent, reach their destination. Another amazing achievement when you consider kits arrive in Sudan, Chad, Ethiopia, Malawi, Tibet and other countries not noted for reliable postage.



I would like to thank AUSAID for the \$200,000 grant and the previous Minister for Defence, the Hon Joel Fitzgibbon MP, for allowing the Australian Defence Force to transport 50,000 of our kits into Afghanistan. The support from the Australian Government has been invaluable to our success

Fund raising is an ongoing issue to which every humanitarian organisation, as it grows, needs to concentrate more energy and time. Our income comes from many areas. Most comes from donations and Zonta club contributions with just under 50% coming from our AusAID grant. Since 2004 we have received funding from AusAID by ministerial approval which was outside the usual process. AusAID now require that we become accredited to receive further funding or possibly work through other accredited organisations. 50% of the work towards accreditation was done with the application for OAGDS, however, to become fully accredited will take one person

possibly 5 months full time to achieve, which is a formidable task.

We thank and appreciate the ongoing financial and kit production support from our Zonta and other volunteer organisations, and also thank those benefactors who make regular and much appreciated donations, and lastly thank our individual and corporate members.

Chairperson's Report

We have the demand to expand to help in many other communities, with kit supply, training programs and microeconomic/sustainable projects where the kits are made locally in country. The only restriction to our potential growth is funds. It would be wonderful to work with Rotary to support the Rotary Nigeria Fistula Program which has requested 150,000 kits to be distributed through 10 hospitals to rural communities – currently we do not have the resources to make this happen.

My personal highlight this year has been the training seminar run by Dr Luc Mulimbalimba Masururu with the Maasai Mara women in Kenya. These are people still living in cow dung huts who have remained the same basically for 500 years, and want no western influence in their culture. Yet when asked if they would want our kits the elder replied "yes they can accept them..... With the kits they need to teach the traditional midwives how to use them". Eighty traditional midwives were trained and another 320 wanted training.

Another highlight was to achieve our first steps towards sustainability in Vietnam, with the support of the Hanoi International Women's Club funding 19,000 kits being made in Vietnam and AusCHAM funding a training program in the south of Vietnam.

The next year will be very exciting for the Foundation. OAGDS, which is tax deductibility in our own right, will be achieved this year and our new website is almost ready to go on line.

I would like to thank the many people who make this project a success. The wonderful Zontians and volunteer groups who make our kits, our employees who administer the kit production and distribution part of our project and the project supervisors overseas who make sure our kits are properly used and our training programs are run efficiently.

I also need to thank our board, who are all volunteers, for their tireless work and dedication in steering the project into exciting times. Lastly thanks to their family and friends for their ongoing support.

560,000 kits distributed to 30 countries through over 40 organisations

Over 5000 birth attendants trained

Thousands of women are alive today because of our Birthing Kit Project

A wonderful achievement in 10 years

The board looks forward to another exciting year and your continued support.

Kindest regards,

Julie Monis-Ivett
Chairperson



Training in Chad

Project Report

GENERAL REVIEW

The Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia) is thrilled that so many Australians are prepared to give their time and money to reduce infant and maternal deaths and infections in the developing world. The phenomenal growth of kit production over the years, from 200 kits in 1999 to a record 137,400 in the last 12 months, reflects the increasing community commitment to this vital project.

The board has studied the effectiveness of the foundation's work and Joy O'Hazy presented a research paper identifying the neediest countries. This has motivated us to concentrate our efforts in countries where the kits will have the greatest impact and resulted in clearer distribution plans and improved efficiency.

Our work has only been possible with on-going funding from AusAID, complimented by the financial and hands-on support from Zonta Clubs and numerous other community groups. New sources of funding from generous private donors and an expanding membership base were also crucial to our financial success during the year, allowing us to meet all our planned commitments. We will continue to explore opportunities for support. Zonta Clubs in the United States, taking their inspiration from us, are producing and distributing kits in Central and South America. Our scope for fund raising should also be enhanced when the official recognition of our OADGS status becomes operational. This vast task, allowing for direct tax deductible donations, was completed during the year by Di Bartel.



A Home Visit in Kabul

All of this activity brought increasing publicity, with a range of newspaper and magazine articles and inclusion on current affairs programmes on radio and television. Our image is growing and will soon be reflected on our new and improved website.

To all our supporters we convey a thank you from one of our recipients in Tigray Province, Ethiopia. It is expressed in the clearest of terms, 'We are so remote here that each kit is more precious than any gold or money, as these items cannot be bought with either as the contents are simply not available.'

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Objectives and long-term strategy

The Birthing Kit Project addresses 4 of the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); gender equality, reduction in child mortality, improvement of maternal health, and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. The BKFA's strategy to help achieve these MDGs is to ensure a safe and clean birthing environment by providing training to in country health workers (so they can in turn train traditional midwives and mothers) and providing clean birthing kits (to be replaced by local materials from local sources).

The Foundation has researched areas of high need based on the approach to estimating maternal mortality developed by WHO, UNFPA and UNICEF. The Foundation places a priority on countries with the highest maternal mortality risk and is moving towards addressing our activities to areas where we can maximise the impact of our funds and activities, while maintaining the current partnerships in needy communities that are progressing towards sustainability and where very good cooperative relationships have been established.

The Foundation looks at its capacity to provide support to the partners in the form of supplies of birthing kits and/or funding training programmes and also at the long term capacity of recipient communities to work towards sustainable solutions for the clean birthing principles that we are establishing.

Individual countries have unique health systems and demographics and so the Foundation and NGOs and health officials work together to effect the most efficient and workable scenario for the training programmes and the distribution of kits to support established health programmes involving traditional birth attendants.



TBA and trainers in Sudan

Project Report cont.

Training programmes

To achieve these objectives during the last year, apart from distributing the birthing kits, the Foundation initiated training programmes in Vietnam, Kenya, and D.R. Congo and supported training programmes in Ethiopia.

Vietnam:

Ha Giang Province

Following the training programme completed in June 2008, a further 112 very remote communes were identified. A 5-day reproductive health training programme was held, in line with the plan for the year, for traditional birth attendants and health workers in each of the communes. Of these communes, 67 had not had the training programme in the past. A further 59 communes that were part of the last year's allocation of programmes had been identified as needing a repeat course due to difficulties with language. With 22 minorities with very many different languages in remote areas, each of these communes was provided with an interpreter for the courses to address this need. The training was very successful and focused on the need for clean birthing, the use of birthing kits, nutrition, hygiene, immunization, obstetric and neonatal care, and general hygiene. Each of the attendees received an educational booklet prepared by the provincial health authorities for the Foundation.

All communes in this province have now received the training course.

Thanh Hoa province:

A further 112 communes in Thanh Hoa Province received the 5-day training programme. The course content was the same as for Ha Giang Province.

Comprehensive reporting requirements were met by the province and they continue to supply us with data and statistics on reproductive health and incidence of post partum and umbilical infection. No cases of infection were recorded.

Binh Phuoc province:

The training programme model that has been successful in Ha Giang and Thanh Hoa provinces has commenced in Binh Phuoc province in May 2009. This programme will run until March 2010 and will deliver education on reproductive health to traditional birth attendants and mothers in 74 communes. The funding for this training programme was provided by Auscham, the Australian Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam, which is a licensed foreign business group in Vietnam established to represent and promote the interests of Australian businesses operating there. The Foundation provided 9,000 locally-produced birthing kits to complement the training



A Health extension worker in Ethiopia

Project Report cont.

Kenya:

Maasai Mara

A 5-day midwifery training seminar was held in April 2009 for 80 Maasai Mara traditional birth attendants in southern Kenya. The people are nomadic and all births take place at home. The women were accommodated in tents and fed for the 5 days. Dr Luc Mulimbalimba, who ran the seminar, reported that all the proposed objectives were achieved. Due to the high levels of illiteracy a pictorial training manual was developed for the participants. At the end of the seminar 4,000 kits were distributed to the TBAs.



Maasi Mara women at the training seminar

Democratic Republic of the Congo:

In August 2008, a 3-day training seminar was conducted for 60 traditional birth attendants in Kaharoro village in Uvira district, South Kivu province, DR Congo. The village has no health centre, school or amenities such as water. An educational book written in Kiswahili language, with pictorial instructions, was developed for the seminar. Topics covered over the 3 days were use of the birthing kits, midwifery, primary health care, nutrition and food therapy. There was also counselling and social development support for the attendees. After the seminar birthing kits were distributed to the birth attendants for use in their communities. An added benefit was that during the training course the doctors were able to set up a free clinic to offer medical services to the participants and their families who had travelled large distances.

Ethiopia: *Hamlin Fistula Hospital*

The Foundation has sent a total of 50,000 kits since 2006 to the Fistula Hospital, which has distributed them via the training programmes conducted by the Public Health officer from their Outreach Centres in Mekelle, Bahir Dar, Harer and Yirga Alem, in conjunction with their Fistula Prevention Programme. There are extensive training sessions in targeted remote woredas for health extension workers (HEWs), traditional birth attendants (TBAs), community based reproductive health agents that incorporate the birthing kits, and sensitisation and awareness programmes for community representatives and elders, religious leaders, women and youth workers.

The kits are reaching our target demographic of women giving birth in remote mountainous regions, and there is anecdotal evidence from the officials of the woredas that the kits are effective in reducing the incidence of maternal mortality and morbidity although there are no statistics.



A newborn baby in a remote woreda, Ethiopia

Project Report

Sustainability

Vietnam:

This year the Foundation has arranged for the production of locally-sourced birthing kits in Vietnam. The Hanoi International Women's Group funded the production of 10,000 kits in Ha Giang province to complement the traditional birth attendant training programmes in the communes and 9,000 kits in Hoa Binh province to educate people in the need for clean birthing practices. A further 9,000 kits were produced for the training programmes in Binh Phuoc province which were funded by the Foundation. The evaluation visit to Vietnam in April identified the potential for this country to gradually become self sufficient over the coming years.



Attending a clinic in Afghanistan

Ethiopia:

Afar Pastoralist Development Association (APDA)

The APDA has received 600 Foundation birthing kits in the past year through the Fistula Hospital Outreach centre in Mekelle. They have documented where and how they have been used. There are 760 TBAs in Afar region. There are 161 women extension workers who are literate and train TBAs, and there is follow-up yearly. There is a training manual, but they need 2 to 3 times more women extension workers. Recently they have assembled some birthing kits from locally-sourced materials which cost US\$1 each, but inflation on consumables is at 30%, so there is difficulty in providing kits on an ongoing basis. TBAs use 12-20 kits each per year.

In some countries, once the knowledge of the need for clean birthing kits is firmly established, it has led to a demand for their use and some of the communities are ready to source supplies and assemble their own kits.



Kits waiting for distribution, PNG



TBA receiving a locally sourced birthing kit, Vietnam

Summary of Program Activities by Region

ASIA/PACIFIC

Country	NGO	Total	Project
Afghanistan	Terre des Hommes in Kabul, Kandahar and Rustaq (TdH) MSI, Afghanistan RAWA	42,800	The kits are distributed in 14 areas of Kabul city and in the south they are provided through a home visiting programme. In the north, at Rustaq, TdH is building capacity of Female Community Health Workers to provide basic services. Approval was given by the Australian Minister of Defence for the Defence Force to transport the birthing kits to Kabul. Marie Stopes International, Afghanistan distribute the kits through their health centre in Kabul, as well as distribute to Community Health Educators (CHW) RAWA held Midwifery training programs in the refugee camp in Pakistan incorporating the birthing kits. The midwives and health teams took the kits into Afghanistan for use in remote villages. Kits were distributed again this year to community leaders in 10 villages in Maharashtra State.
India	Save the Children Centre for Social Action Women's Education Development Trust (SAWED) Society for Women's Education and Awareness Development (SWEAD)	1,400	200 kits were supplied to SAWED as a trial and the Foundation has received a proposal for the delivery of a training programme for TBAs in 25 Tribal Villages in Dindigul District in Tamilnadu State which includes raising of awareness about importance of clean birthing environments. 200 kits were supplied to SAWED as a trial.
Myanmar	Partners World	2,000	Volunteers took bags of kits with them from Australia to distribute to the refugee camps along the Thai Myanmar border to the Karen, Karenni and Shah States.
Papua New Guinea	National Dept Health (Dr Hilda Polume) University of Goroka / Man-I-Kiau Co-op Society Medical Society of PNG	20,000	The kits are currently distributed throughout Papua New Guinea to the following provinces of Central, National Capital, Western, Gulf, Oro, Milne Bay, Morobe, Madang, East Sepik, Sanduan, Eastern Highlands, Simbu, Western Highlands, Enga, Southern Highlands, East New Britain, West New Britain, New Ireland, Manos, Bougainville and Goroka. In Madang the NDOH are developing Village Health programs and working with World Vision and the Lutheran Church who have trained many TBAs. The kits were delivered to 14 villages with a population of 29,000 people of different tribes by 53 trained TBAs who are supported by the hospital. 6000 kits were distributed to Kikori and Pimaga District, Morobe and West New Britain provinces.
Tibet	Kham Kampo Association	4,000	Kits have been distributed to remote regions of Bathang County which consists of 74 administrative villages with a population of 45,000, who mainly live in the remote regions.
Timor Leste	Clinic Café Timor Viqueque Hospital Lions	1,200 1,000	Clinic Café Timor offers primary level health services to the coffee farmers and their families in the remote mountain coffee growing districts of East Timor. The program currently reaches 115,000 in rural Timor. Kits to Viqueque Hospital have been transported via the Geelong Lions Club in Victoria, Australia.
Vietnam	Tu Du Ob-Gyn Hospital Thanh Hoa Province Ha Giang Province Hoa Binh Province Bin Phuoc Province	5,000 8,800 10,000 9,000 11,000	TuDu Hospital distributes the kits with midwifery training programmes for TBAs from remote villages A further 112 communes received training programmes and kits in conjunction with kit distribution. Kits for this province were funded by Hanoi International Women's Group and produced in-country Kits for this province were funded by Hanoi International Women's Group and produced in-country Kits for this province were funded by BKFA and produced in-country
West Timor	Perdhaki Catholic Medical organisation	1,000	Kits are supplied to 4 clinics in remote villages in West Timor
TOTAL		117,200	

Summary of Program Activities by Region

AFRICA

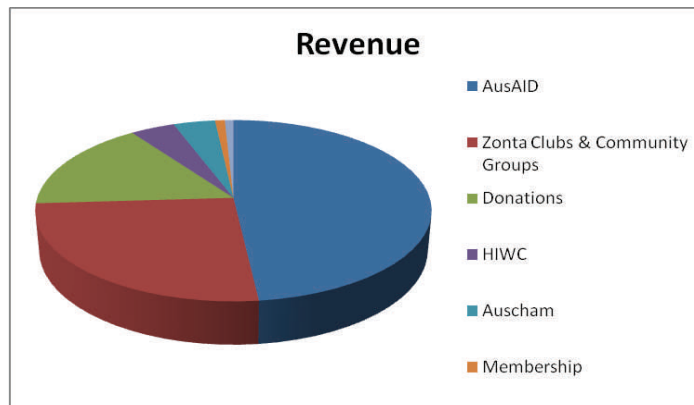
Country	NGO	Kits	Project
Chad	Safer Birth in Chad	3,200	The kits are used specifically by midwives and trained nurses for deliveries both in hospital and when attending home deliveries.
Ethiopia	Hamlin Fistula Hospital Stitching the Oasis Foundation	21,600	Kits were supplied to the Hamlin Fistula Hospital for use by the outreach centres in Bahir Dar, Mekele, Harer and Yiga Allem in their preventative health training programs in remote regions. Kits have been distributed with training programs in the far north-west of Tigray region and were universally accepted.
Kenya/DR Congo	Mission in Health Care and Development	9,200	The birthing kits were used to complement the training programmes and to distribute at remote villages in Kenya and DR Congo where training in clean birthing practices had previously been given.
Madagascar	MSI, Madagascar Tanora Mpanefa Iraka	6,200	MSI distributes kits through traditional birth attendants and the government hospitals. Kits were distributed to the townships of Fiaferana, Sabotsy Namehana, Alatsimainy Bakaro, Ambatoasana, Ankadinandriana, Anosy Avaratra
Malawi	St. John's College of Nursing	2,000	The kits are distributed via local community leaders. 4 Kits are given to each student Traditional Birth Attendant per month after a 4 week training course.
Nigeria	Rotary International Fistula Project	200	150,000 kits were requested to complement their women's health and fistula programs in 10 rural hospitals. Our usual trial of 200 kits was sent. Further kits will be sent to Kaduna and Kano State.
Sudan	Kingdom Assignment Sudan Padang Lutheran Christian Relief Juba Hospital	2,400	Kits are distributed to Traditional Birth Attendants in the Malakal region and the infrastructure exists within the organisation to distribute 200,000 kits if we supplied them. They would like distribution to be extended to Upper Nile and Warrap States in Southern Sudan. Juba Hospital has received a trial shipment of 200 kits and once transport arrangements prove to be reliable, and distribution networks are set up, more kits will be sent.
Uganda	Christian Outreach Mission and Evangelism Resurrection Power Ministries Uganda Australia Christian Outreach	3,600	Bishop Ntambi supervised distribution in Eastern Uganda to health clinics through TBAs. They requested 50,000 kits The kits are distributed through Women's Groups and Associations under UACO Health Education guidelines and Traditional Midwife training programmes.
Zambia	Mukuni Village Sisters of Charity-Chikuni Mission and Mulanga Rural Health Centre	1,800	The kits are transported to Zambia along with a full container of goods and distributed through the Mukuni Village. Sisters of Charity receive kits which are distributed in remote areas by community leaders.
TOTAL		50,200	

Financial Report

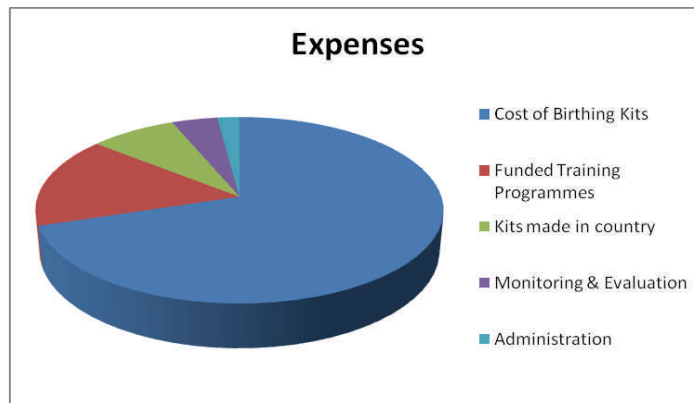
Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)
Year ending 30 June 2009

Financial overview

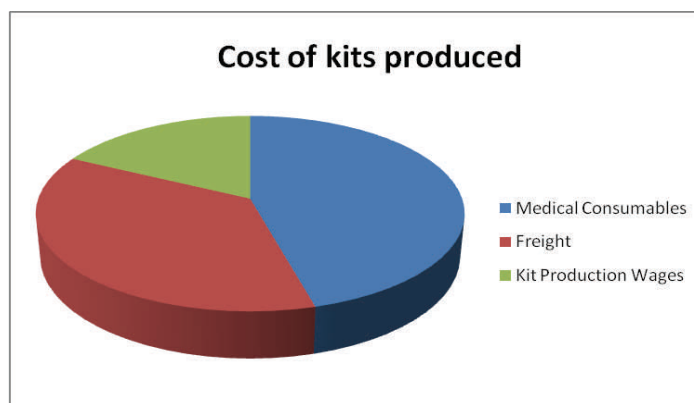
Where the money came from:



How the money was spent:



Breakdown of cost of kits:





Financial Report

Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia) Directors Report

Your directors present this report on the company for the financial year ended 30 June 2009.

Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during or since the end of the year are:

Jane Abdilla (retired November 2008)
Maggi Gregory
Joy O'Hazy
Jenny Weaver

Di Bartel
Julie Monis-Ivett
Margaret Parsons

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Operating Result

The Foundation surplus/ (deficit) for the financial year ended 30 June 2009 amounted to : (\$4,488)

Principle Activities

The principle activities of the company during the course of the year were the raising of funds to supply birthing kits to developing countries. No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

No significant changes in the company's state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

After Balance Date Events

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

Future Developments

The company expects to maintain the present status and level of operations and hence there are no likely developments in the operations in future years.

Environmental Issues

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territory.

Directors Benefits

No director has received or has become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the company or related body corporate with a director, a firm which a director is a member or an entity in which a director has a substantial financial interest.

Indemnifying Officer or Auditor

No indemnities have been given or agreed to be given or insurance premiums paid or agreed to be paid, during or since the end of the financial year, to any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the company.

Proceedings on Behalf of Company

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings. The company was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

Financial Report

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)

Revenue Statement for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Notes	2,009	2008
Revenue		\$	\$
Donations and Gifts		175,123	112,858
Membership		3,768	4,090
Grants			
AusAID		200,000	171,429
HIWC		17,481	4,142
Auscham		16,224	-
Interest on Investment Account		3,344	4,364
Total Revenue		415,940	296,883
Expenses			
Overseas Projects	1	382,822	225,797
Community Education		11,720	-
Monitoring & Evaluation	2	17,265	19,851
Administration		8,621	37,136
Total expenses		420,428	282,784
Excess of revenue over expenses		\$-4,488	\$14,099



Financial Report

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)

Balance Sheet for the year ended 30 June 2009

	Notes	2009	2008
Assets		\$	\$
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		16,894	30,829
Total Assets		16,894	30,829
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade Creditors	3	13,173	1,450
GST Liabilities		-2,564	18,476
Payroll Accruals Payable		781	911
Total Liabilities		11,390	20,837
Net assets		5,504	9,992
Equity			
Retained Earnings		9,992	-4,107
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)		-4,488	14,099
Total Equity		\$5,504	\$9,992

The Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Financial Report

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)

Statement of Cashflows for year ended 30 June 2009

	Notes	2009	2008
		\$	\$
Cash available at beginning of year		30,828	201,401
Cash Flow from Operations			
Grants, donations and other receipts		412,596	121,090
Interest received		3,344	4,364
Payments to suppliers, partners and employees		-441,054	-296,027
Net cash generated (used)		-25,114	-170,573
Cash Flow from Investing		-	-
Cash at end of financial year		\$5,714	\$30,828

Statement of Equity as at 30 June 2009

	Notes	2009	2008
		\$	\$
Total equity at beginning of financial year		9,992	-4,107
Current year surplus / (deficit)		-4,488	14,099
Total equity at end of financial year		\$5,504	\$9,992

Notes to the Financial Statements

Statement of significant accounting policies

The Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia) was incorporated on 8 September 2006 in South Australia under the Corporations Act 2001 as a public company limited by guarantee.

These financial statements for the period 1 July 2008 to 30 June 2009 have been prepared under Australian Accounting Standards for the members of the Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia).

They have been prepared using historical costs on an accruals basis.

Inventory is valued at the lower of cost or net realizable value.

There were no depreciable assets during the period.

Income Tax

Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia), a health promotion charity, is Income Tax exempt under Subdivision 50-B of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, receives GST concessions under Division 176 of *A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999*, and is FBT exempt under section 123D of the *Fringe Benefit Tax Assessment Act 1986*.

Cash

For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash includes cash on hand and in bank. Cash at the end of the financial year shown in the Statement of Cash Flow is reconciled to the related items in the Income Statement.

Financial Report

Remuneration of Board Members

The Board members serve in an honorary capacity and do not receive any remuneration for their services in that capacity.

Remuneration of auditor

The auditor, Sylvia Pembroke, B. Bus (Acc), Dip. T (Com), Dip FP, FTIA, CPA, CFP Certified Practising Accountant, provides her services in an honorary capacity.

Table of cash movements for designated purposes

No table of cash movements for designated purposes is included in the financial report as no single project or other form of fundraising for a designated purpose generated 10% or more of total income for the year under review.

Note 1 Overseas projects

Medical consumables for birthing kits	\$ 130,380
Freight	104,172
Kit production wages	50,247
Kits made in-country	32,597
Funded training programmes	<u>65,426</u>
	\$ 382,822

Note 2 Monitoring and Evaluation

Vietnam & Tibet	\$ 8,346
Ethiopia	<u>8,919</u>
	\$17,265

Note 3 Trade Creditors

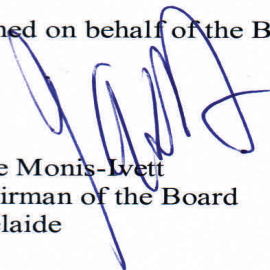
Creditors and accrued charges.

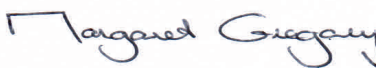
Directors' declaration for the financial year ended 30 June 2009

The Board Members declare that in their opinion:

- There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Foundation will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
- The attached financial statements and notes thereto are in compliance with accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Foundation.

Signed on behalf of the Board and in accordance with a resolution of the Board by:


Julie Monis-Ivett
Chairman of the Board
Adelaide


Maggi Gregory
Director/Treasurer
Adelaide

Financial Report

Auditor's Report to the Members of Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)

Scope

We have audited the financial statements of the **Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)** for the year ended 30 June 2009. The Treasurer of the **Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)** is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial report and the information contained therein. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the **Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)**.

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Treasurer's accountability requirements. We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members of the **Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)**.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination on a test basis, of evidence supporting the accounts and other disclosures in the financial report. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements are consistent with the documentary evidence from which they were derived and upon which we express an unqualified audit opinion.

Signed: 

Sylvia Pembroke B. Bus (Acc), Dip. T. (Com), Dip FP, FTIA, CPA, CFP.

On: 22 October 2009

At: 10 Druids Avenue, Stirling, SA 5152, Australia.

Corporate Governance Statement

The Foundation is committed to achieving International and Australian best practice in corporate governance for non-profit organizations. The Board regularly reviews the Foundation's corporate governance framework to ensure compliance with best practice standards.

Corporate Structure and Operations

The Foundation is an Australian Public Company Limited by Guarantee registered under the Australian federal Corporations Act 2001. As such it must comply with the corporate governance provisions prescribed by the Government under the Act and Regulations. The Foundation has Income Tax Exempt Charity status with the Australian Taxation Office, and is registered in South Australia under the Collections for Charitable Purposes Act, 1939.

The Foundation is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct.* This year, the Foundation applied for Overseas Aid Gift Deductibility Status (OAGDS) with the Australian Taxation Office; a major undertaking. AusAID has notified us that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has approved our application, and the Department of the Treasury will gazette our new status shortly. This will mean that donations will be tax deductible and it should open up new opportunities for funding from private and corporate sources.

The Foundation intends to apply for full AusAID accreditation in the near future.



Handover of kits in Chad

Governance

The Foundation's constitution provides for a voluntary and independent Board of Directors to be responsible for overall management and specifies the Board's powers and responsibilities and how directors are elected by members. The Board has established a Policy and Procedures Manual covering corporate governance, operations and financial matters. It includes a policy on the Role of Directors including ethical responsibilities and leadership, an Employee and Volunteer Code of Conduct and a Conflicts of Interest policy. Under its Delegation of Authorities policy, the Board has reserved the following responsibilities for itself: setting and monitoring of strategic direction and goals, approving the annual plan and budget and monitoring performance against them, appointment of a CEO, remuneration of employees, review of Board performance, and approval of Policies and Procedures.

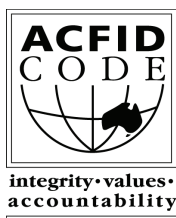
The Board has appointed a Project Manager whose responsibilities are: overseeing the supply and distribution of birthing kits to partner organizations, sourcing new destinations for the kits, preparing monthly reports for the Board, the supervision of employees, ensuring adherence to the policy and procedures handbook and the Code of Conduct, and developmental work as directed by the Board.

Board of Directors

Directors are elected by members at the Annual General Meetings and are not paid for their services as board members. The Board may appoint a person to fill a casual vacancy on the Board until the next AGM. New directors must read the policies and procedures and familiarise themselves with the operations of the Foundation. The Board is required to meet at least four times a year, but met monthly during the year. Meetings are chaired by the Chairperson or in the chair's absence, the Vice-Chairperson. The Company Secretary keeps the minutes of meetings and lodges official ASIC (Australian Securities and Investments Commission) returns.

Financial Reporting and Performance

The Board receives budget and financial performance reports prepared by the Treasurer at each meeting. Audited Financial Statements are included in the Annual Report and forwarded to members each year prior to the AGM, as well as to ASIC, ACFID and the State Government. The Foundation reports to AusAID on receipt and dispersal of grants twice a year.



The Foundation is a signatory to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID) Code of Conduct. The Code defines minimum standards of governance, management and accountability for NGOs. Adherence to the Code is monitored by an independent Committee elected from the NGO community. Our voluntary adherence to the Code demonstrates our commitment to ethical practice and public accountability.

Annual Reports are available on the Foundation's website at www.birthingkitfoundation.org.au.

Board Members

Board members during the year ended 30 June 2009:

- Julie Monis Ivett – Chairperson
- Jenny Weaver – Deputy Chairperson
- Dianne Bartel – Company Secretary
- Maggi Gregory – Treasurer
- Joy O’Hazy
- Margaret Parsons
- Jane Abdilla (retired November 2008)

Retiring in 2009	Retiring in 2010
Di Bartel	Joy O’Hazy
Maggi Gregory	Margaret Parsons
Julie Monis-Ivett	Jenny Weaver



The Governing Body

JULIE MONIS-IVETT, Chairperson

Qualifications: Dental Surgeon

Experience: Graduated in 1975 as a dental surgeon and have been in private practice since 1978. Charter member since 1987 of the Adelaide Hills Zonta International Club, serving at board level for 15 years, convening committees and holding various positions including presidency for 2 years. Coordinated the Zonta Birthing Kit Project with Joy O’Hazy since 2000.

Special responsibilities: Inaugural Chair of Board. Current Zonta District Project Coordinator for Australia, a position held since 2004. Liaison person with Zonta International clubs overseas. Am a passionate advocate for our Birthing Kit Project and its potential, about Zonta and the wonderful women who are attracted to this great organization and to my football team Port Power.

Term of office: Inaugural Board member **Board Meetings attended:** 12

JENNIFER WEAVER, Deputy Chairperson

Qualifications: BA, Dip. Ed., SA Fin, CFP®

Experience: My career covers 18 years in the financial planning industry as well as adult education and secondary school teaching. In the late 1970’s I started a wine making business. As a member of Zonta International for 18 years I have been involved in many of their projects and served as a Club President, Chair of the Combined Status of Women Committee.

Special responsibilities: Deputy Chair, Compliance Officer, Public Relations and Marketing

In 2005 I volunteered to assist the Zonta Birthing Kit Project committee with their increasing workload and continued on as a Birthing Kit Foundation Board Member.

I have a strong commitment to projects which assist women, especially women in developing countries. Zonta has provided opportunities to raise awareness on issues such as women’s homelessness and domestic violence. In my career I have focused on improving the financial knowledge and independence of women.

Term of office: Inaugural Board member **Board Meetings attended:** 11

DI BARTEL, Company Secretary

Qualifications: Registered Nurse

Experience: Di has worked in Adelaide and overseas in various areas in nursing, fieldwork for medical research and admin. She has experience of living in different cultures. She is one of the original members of the Birthing Kit Committee, and has worked for the Foundation in transport coordination, ACFID Accreditation, strategic planning, in-country evaluation and sustainable community development including the initial training program models in Vietnam. She is currently President of the Zonta Club of the Adelaide Hills, Inc.

Special responsibilities: Company Secretary, gaining Overseas Aid Gift Deductibility (OAGDS) status, community development projects, oversight of corporate governance to maintain ACFID signatory status.

Term of office: Inaugural Board member **Board Meetings attended:** 10

Board Members

MAGGI GREGORY, Treasurer

Qualifications; Company Secretary and Public Officer of a private company, Business Partner

Experience: Treasurer of Zonta International District 23 8th Biennial Conference, Treasurer of Zonta International District 23 social event, Treasurer of the Zonta Birthing Kit Project.

I enjoy the challenge of bushwalking and backpacking, and from these experiences particularly in developing countries it has inspired me to embrace the birthing kit project

I am an inaugural member of the Zonta Club of Gawler and have held many positions within the Club.

Special responsibilities: Treasurer

Term of office: Inaugural Board member **Board Meetings attended:** 11

JOYLEEN O'HAZY

Qualifications; MBBS, DRANZCOG

Experience: In various activities – public relations / admin / fund raising and strategic planning with the project and involved in the Assembly Days .

Special responsibilities: Medical information research

One of the original members of the Zonta Birthing Kit Committee Involved with the project for 9 years. Member of Zonta Club of Adelaide Hills

Term of office: Inaugural Board member **Board Meetings attended:** 10

MARGARET PARSONS

Qualifications; Diploma in Teaching

Experience: One of the original members of the Birthing Kit Committee for many years as the Assembly Day Coordinator. An active volunteer within the school, church, scouting and local community .

Special responsibilities: Membership Officer, Minutes Secretary , Post Box Correspondence Secretary.

Married to Paul with two daughters and three grand children. Love camping, bush walking, reading, cooking, Current member, past Board Member and President of the Zonta Club of the Adelaide Hills Inc.

Term of office: Inaugural Board member **Board Meetings attended:** 9

JANE ABDILLA

Qualifications: Masters Social Science (Counselling) Uni SA, BA Social Science (WAIT)

Experience: One of the original members of the Birthing Kit Committee. Member of Zonta International since 1994. Two terms of office as President of Zonta Club of the Adelaide Hills inc. Member of numerous committees as a volunteer working for the community.

Special responsibilities: Minutes Secretary until resigning at the AGM in November 2008, Facilitator of Strategic Planning days for BKFA for three years.

Term of office: Inaugural Board member **Board Meetings attended:** 2



TBAs in Covalima, Timor Leste receiving kits



A TBA in Ethiopia who uses BKFA Birthing kits



Foundation Statements

Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)

Mission Statement

The Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia) works with organisations and communities to provide a clean birthing environment for women in developing countries in order to reduce the incidence of infant and maternal mortality. We raise awareness, provide support and resources and act as a catalyst for the creation of birth attendant training programmes and community development projects.

Values Statement

“Every woman has the right to a clean and safe childbirth”

Vision

A world in which all women have access to safe birthing practices, regardless of race, culture or socio-economic status.

Goals

To distribute birthing kits to women in developing countries to assist the provision of a clean and safe birth.

To develop health initiatives to make available clean birthing environments for women in remote communities and to work towards locally generated sustainable solutions.

To administer the Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia) with integrity, efficiency and accountability.

To produce Birthing Kits within the budget and to continue to develop processes to increase the project’s efficiency and cost effectiveness.

To create a broad based fundraising programme to support the administration of the Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia)

To raise the awareness of the Birthing Kit Project and the Birthing Kit Foundation (Australia), both nationally and globally.

The Foundation wishes to especially thank the following individuals and organisations:

Prescott Securities
Jane Abdilla
Ted A”Bear
Zonta Clubs of District 22, 23 and 24

Mike Gardiner
Sherry Proferes
Geoff Chatwin
Peggy Charitable Foundation