

ACT Disability, Aged and Carer Advocacy Service Inc

2006-2007

ANNUAL REPORT

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ADACAS MISSION STATEMENT

To vigorously advocate for and with vulnerable people, who have a disability or who may be aged, so that they may exercise their rights as citizens, live valued and dignified lives in the community, and pursue their dreams.

(Amended and Adopted February 1999)

ADACAS' MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ADACAS' STAFF

Advocacy Program

Clinical Supervision Consultants

Janice Wickerson
Sandra Russet-Silk
Trish Walsh

ADACAS FUNDING

ADACAS is funded by two levels of government, through three programs:

ACT Government:	Home and Community Care Program
Commonwealth Government:	Department of Family and Community Services
	Department of Health and Ageing

Table 1 Allocation of funds by program

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

MANAGER'S REPORT

The past year has seen significant staff and Management Committee changes for ADACAS together with improvements to our financial and information management systems. We have focused on the challenge of delivering advocacy of the highest quality and have sought to ensure that we have the necessary systems in place to properly support our advocates in their work.

The organisation has continued with its primary focus on individual advocacy while recognising the important role we play in educating service providers, government and the community about the rights, needs and experiences of the individuals we advocate for. It is vital that the systems knowledge we gain from the consumer perspective is understood and factored into the quality improvement processes of governments and services. The challenge for ADACAS is how to ensure that this occurs without adversely impacting on our core business of standing beside and speaking up for individuals.

Funding Program Reviews

In the past year, two of the three Programs under which ADACAS receives government funding, the National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP) and the National Aged Care Advocacy Program (NACAP) have been undergoing significant change in response to Program reviews undertaken in the previous year. Throughout this process ADACAS has sought to provide advice and guidance to Government that reflect our organisation's commitment to advocacy that is based on internationally recognised principles of advocacy and the best practice implementation of these principles.

Each change at the Programmatic level has necessitated a corresponding reconsideration at the organisational level of the validity of our form of advocacy and the appropriateness of our administrative practices. This has been a time consuming process but has resulted in our organisation becoming more administratively robust and even more certain about the importance of advocacy and the appropriateness of the advocacy principles we follow.

ADACAS has also engaged with other Advocacy agencies around the country to improve the quality of advocacy practice nationally, to give more authoritative advice to the federal government about advocacy matters and to establish mechanisms for information sharing and joint lobbying by advocacy agencies. The ADACAS Manager is the current ACT representative on the taskforce working to establish a National Disability Advocacy Association.

ACT Advocacy

ADACAS advocacy work for individuals gives us a unique picture of the way the policies and practices of government and the community services impact on the lives of very vulnerable people with disabilities and frail older people. We work hard to ensure that this picture is made available to the relevant systemic advocacy organisations and government policy makers and funders.

In the ACT ADACAS continues to work co-operatively with the Mental Health Consumer Network, PWD ACT, Advocacy for Inclusion, the Client Guardian Form, ACT Shelter and ACTCOSS to ensure that client issues that are system wide are addressed on a systemic level.

In the past year we have also taken the opportunity to meet with the Minister for Disability, the CEO of the Department of Disability Housing and Community Services, the Executive Director of Disability ACT, the Complaints Investigation Scheme, the Public Advocate, the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency, the Aged Care Commissioner and the Director of Housing ACT to pursue issues affecting significant number of people we advocate for.

ADACAS remains concerned about the number of very vulnerable people in the ACT who are unable to access advocacy support or appropriate representation when important decisions are being made by others about their lives. In particular we are concerned about the lack of advocacy availability for vulnerable people in the areas of mental health, child protection, elder abuse, housing, and before the mental health and guardianship tribunals.

In recent times ADACAS has encountered resurgence in the reluctance by decision-makers in some parts of government to acknowledge and accept the vital role that independent advocates play in the life of very vulnerable people who have disabilities or who are frail and ageing. By seeking to exclude a vulnerable person's advocate from acting or speaking on the person's behalf, decision-makers are effectively excluding the voice of the vulnerable person from the decision-making processes entirely. This makes the initial decision-making simpler but almost inevitably results in decisions, which are to some degree unfair, inappropriate unworkable, and sometimes even outside the law. It is an exercise of power at the expense of respect for the vulnerable person, proper process, and accountability.

Most government or service decision-makers are required by their enabling legislation, agency policy or service standards to have regard to the wishes of the affected person when making their decisions. The CSTDA, the HACC Service Standards and the Aged Care Act make clear the intention of both Federal and ACT governments that independent advocates be available to vulnerable people so that their voice might be properly informed and heard. This was confirmed in the ACT in 2003 by the FEMAG review and accepted by the ACT Government in their response their 2004 response "The Right System for Rights Protection".

Staff Matters

In 2007 ADACAS farewelled Genevieve Wauchope to campaign against climate change, Shawn Fracchia to pursue his interest in education and Doug Smith to work for the Personal Helpers and Mentors Program. While we were sad to see them leave we were pleased that each was following their heart to work in an area for which they had developed a passion. We thank them for their dedication and commitment to the rights and interests of people with disabilities and wish them well in their chosen occupations.

ADACAS welcomed, during the course of the year, Ivette Gonzalez, Sally Scanlain, and Heather Stewart. Each comes to ADACAS with a wealth of knowledge and experience that has already proved to be extremely valuable to ADACAS as a whole and in particular to the people for whom they advocate. I thank them for the enthusiasm with which they have embraced our team approach to advocacy and their roles as individual advocates.

During the year ADACAS has continued its strong focus on staff support and development. Advocates have attended a wide variety of external training courses and conferences and now undertake monthly advocacy and clinical supervision sessions. As an organisation we have improved our debriefing skills and undertaken training in working with people with personality disorders. ADACAS continues to seek new ways to provide support and

assistance to advocates so that advocates remain strong and focused on achieving good advocacy outcomes and better lives for the people we serve.

Operations

ADACAS has, over the course of the year, continued to refine its data collection, information and financial management practices. This has been assisted by the installation of a new server and colour printer and the reorganisation of our extensive holdings of publications.

During the year a review was conducted of the clinical supervision policy, the external complaints policy and the salary packaging policy. Each was subsequently refined and updated. Work is continuing on the ADACAS privacy policy, the intake and exit policies, an infection control policy an advocate peer support policy and an advocate mentoring policy.

The full financial statements for ADACAS are contained in Attachment B to this Report

Conclusion

I would like to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly thank the ADACAS staff for their untiring commitment to the people they serve, to improving our practice of advocacy and for the support they have given me in my role as manager. I particularly appreciate the efforts that all have made during the year to acquire and share knowledge and to support each other through the tough times which are an inevitable part of life as an advocate. I believe ADACAS to have been incredibly lucky to be able to attract and retain staff of such a high calibre, particularly at a time of ACT wide staff shortages. I look forward to our continuing work together in pursuit of justice and well-being for the people we serve.

My final thanks must go to the ADACAS Management Committee for their ongoing oversight and guidance. There are significant challenges ahead but I believe that we have the vision and skills to take advantage of the opportunities which present and continue to provide high quality advocacy to the people we serve.

Andrea Simmons
Manager

OVERVIEW

The Reports and Tables that follow discuss, in some depth the work of ADACAS over the last year in each of our three Programs. This section provides a brief overview of the organisation's activities.

Individual Advocacy

In 2006-07 ADACAS provided individual advocacy to 327 people involved in 498 cases. This can be broken down as follows:

Program	Cases 05/06	Cases 06/07
Disability	194	142
Aged Care	175	161
HACC	226	195

You will note that there appears to have been a reduction in the number of cases dealt with this year when compared to the previous year. The numbers are not, however, reflective of a reduction in the work undertaken. Instead they reflect a definitional change in what is recorded as a case. From July 2006 a case became all the interrelated issues raised at the one point in time. Previously, cases were more closely identified with issues.

For the majority of this year ADACAS was required by the demand for our advocacy to restrict access to our Disability and HACC programs to those who were in the most desperate of circumstances eg at risk of violence, homelessness, incarceration or doing without necessary food, medications or medical care. This is a situation which leaves many vulnerable people without access to an advocate in circumstances slightly less severe but still too difficult for them to manage on their own. Over time unresolved matters have a tendency to escalate in size and to put the vulnerable person at risk.

We have raised this issue with our funders and the ACT Government and hope that it will receive due attention in the next Budget round.

Group Advocacy

In 2006-07 ADACAS took a major role in protecting and promoting the rights of two large groups of people who were facing long-term homelessness in a very tight housing market:

The first of these, involving residents of the Narrabundah Longstay Park, we reported on in our last Annual Report. ADACAS has continued to co-ordinate resident and community organisation action directed to ensuring that the residents gain security of tenure and a say in the management of the Park.

The second involved working with ex-residents of the Macquarie Hostel to ensure that they acquired long-term appropriate housing and their entitlements under agreements reached when the hostel was closed.

Community Education

The ADACAS education program is focused on improving knowledge and understanding within the community about the rights of people who are ageing or who have disability and on letting people know about advocacy and the work that ADACAS does. In all, over the course

of the year ADACAS has addressed 2941 people in 151 presentations. The education program involves visits to Aged Care Homes, disability group homes, retirement villages and community care provider organisations. We make presentations to groups of consumers, family members, service provider employees and students in CIT and university courses. We also address professional groups, generalist service provider groups and government employees. A breakdown of the education sessions conducted can be found in Table 3 of the attached Statistical Summary.

Information

Another important aspect of ADACAS work is responding to enquiries from members of the public. This year ADACAS spent 87.4 hours responding to a total of 257 enquiries. Further details about the enquiries are contained in Table 5 of the attached Statistical Summary

AGED CARE

Abuse

In May of this year the Government introduced a range of new measures designed to respond to concerns about abuse and poor quality care in Aged Care facilities. In particular a new Complaints Investigation Scheme was established within the Department of Health and Ageing along with mandatory abuse reporting, whistleblower protection for facility staff and additional money for staff training. These changes flowed from the 2005 Senate Community Affairs Committee Inquiry into Aged Care and to which ADACAS was a significant contributor.

While the Complaints Investigation Scheme gives investigation officers significant power to investigate and act on complaints, the Scheme must ultimately be judged on its ability to ensure that complaints are effectively addressed and remedied. In the ACT it would appear that the Scheme regards complaints as resolved when a settlement agreement is reached between the complainant and the facility. It is vital that the Scheme retains a watching brief to ensure that the terms of the agreement are implemented but to date this has not been occurring.

An issue which the industry and government is yet to effectively address relates to the situation where a worker is encouraged to leave one home for poor or even abusive performance and moves immediately to work in another home. It is vital that these workers are, at a minimum, required to address their performance issues before being re-employed in a situation of power over vulnerable people and that no such reappointment occurs until it is certain that the abuse will not continue.

Staffing Issues

Noteworthy in this report is the more than doubling since 2006 of the number of cases which deal with issues relating to Administration and Fair Trading particularly Personnel and Staffing, Administration and Management. Significant increases are also to be found in the number of cases dealing with issues relating to key aspects of resident care, for example, medication, hydration/nutrition and skin care

This is probably a reflection in part of the incapacity of aged care homes to attract quality staff, including management, in a situation of low pay for workers and a shortage of workers with appropriate values and skills. The issue of inexperienced workers is compounded by the homes' apparent limited capacity to provide appropriate training and support.

We are also concerned that homes do not appear to be devoting sufficient attention to enhancing and clarifying the values of staff and developing and maintaining a culture of respect for residents.

Accreditation.

ADACAS remains concerned about the ability of homes to achieve a satisfactory report against all 44 expected outcomes in their accreditation audits in the face of ongoing poor performance in key areas of quality. Some satisfactory determinations have come as a

surprise to ADACAS when we compare them to the issues raised with us by residents, particularly in relation to personal care, medication management, choice and decision-making. It would appear that some homes change their practices simply for the period of accreditation and that others are able to present well when in fact their practices are quite poor. It does raise questions about whether the bar is set high enough in terms of what the agency looks for as proof that the expected outcomes are being met.

We also question the appropriateness of the practice of the Agency to seek feedback on its auditing performance from the homes they audit and not from the residents and relatives of the homes. Such a one-sided mechanism must surely inhibit the Accreditation Agency's ability to focus on audit improvements which will lead to more accurate assessments of a home's performance in terms of outcomes for residents.

Food and nutrition

Issues relating to food and nutrition are commonly raised with ADACAS. The kinds of issues vary but the most serious relate to situations in which people do not eat because they require assistance but the necessary assistance is not provided and their food is removed untouched. It is not unusual that people who fall ill in an aged care facility and are admitted to hospital are found, in addition to their presenting problem, to be suffering from malnutrition and/or dehydration.

Food quality and temperature are other common concerns. Good health relies, in large part, on good nutrition and hygiene. Aged care facilities, in common with the community as a whole, must pay more attention to these issues if their residents are to get the most from their lives. Yet in aged care facilities food and food preparation are often seen as areas for cost cutting when the finances are tight with consequential effects on the health and wellbeing of residents.

DISABILITY

Psychiatric Disability

People with living with mental illness in our community are clearly experiencing a disproportionate level of deprivation and hardship under the current economic and social conditions. In particular they are finding it difficult to retain appropriate housing at a time when affordable private market housing is virtually unobtainable.

The ongoing changes to the ACT Housing Eligibility Guidelines have the potential to adversely impact on significant numbers of people living with mental illness because the opportunities to remedy poor decision-making in relation to choice of home are more limited under the new system and fewer choices are offered in the first place. There also appears to be within Housing ACT a very limited understanding or tolerance of the issues faced by mental health consumers in managing their lives. This leads to many unnecessary misunderstandings which ADACAS believes could be avoided if a better informed approach were taken by Housing staff.

ADACAS experience of assisting clients appearing before the Mental Health Tribunal suggests that sometimes treatment orders are being provided on a just in case basis rather than because a good case has been made for them and that medication is too often being mandated in situations where therapy and ongoing community support would be the better response. People with psychiatric conditions are appearing before the Tribunal with little or no assistance to understand the process and frequently do not have access to the necessary legal or advocacy support to express their wishes in a way that is useful to the Tribunal.

This year we have focused our systemic work on supporting the Mental Health Consumer Network to develop their positions in relation to review of the Mental Health Care and Treatment Act and the Services Plan.

Younger People in Aged Care Facilities

ADACAS is pleased to note that the Commonwealth Government is now working with the ACT government to move some younger people out of nursing homes and to avoid other younger people from being placed in nursing homes. At the same time however we are aware of younger people with high medical needs for whom nursing home or hospital care is still the only option on offer.

Disability Reform

In its interactions with disability service providers ADACAS has continued to advocate for service provision that responds to the needs and aspirations of the individual in accordance with the Disability ACT Vision and Values Statement and taking up the challenge laid out in “Challenge 2014”.

Our experience is that the services are now responding better to the individual needs and desires of some of their clients however the improvement is patchy and often relies on the goodwill of particular staff members. There remains a focus on supporting people with disabilities in groups rather than on supporting them to live in the kind of home environments common to people of their age and interests.

There also remains on the part of government an unwillingness to invest in the resources necessary to assist people to actively participate in the life of their community in a way that is meaningful and appropriate to their interests and capacities.

The lack of experienced and well-trained carers still hampers the quality of service provision, particularly in circumstances where the person being cared for has very different behaviours and learning styles from the norm. It is to be hoped that the new Disability ACT ITAS Service will bring a greater level of understanding and skill to the support provided to these people, informed by recent research and best practice in Australia and elsewhere.

The issues most commonly worked on by ADACAS advocates in the Disability Program in the past year were issues related to accommodation (63 cases), legal matters (38 cases) abuse (33 cases) and vulnerability/isolation (30 cases).

HOME AND COMMUNITY CARE

Overwhelmingly the issues dealt with under the HACC program relate to service access (66 cases), service quality (50 cases) and the individual's right to respect and courtesy, being informed and consulted and being party to decisions. The commonality with which issues of respect and communication arise would suggest a need for a greater emphasis on these matters in the recruitment and training of carers. When these issues are properly attended to by a service provider other problems are often avoided or short-circuited.

When ADACAS advocates become involved in a situation, the right to have an advocate can also become an issue because some service providers will actively seek to avoid the involvement of an advocate on matters where they would otherwise be in a position of power.

Commonly people eligible to receive services under the HACC Program need services from more than one provider. Navigating the system to get the right combination of services and supports can be a complex matter and there simply are not the case co-ordination services available to perform this function for all potential HACC clients.

Of considerable concern is the number of people and families that are required to survive for extended periods of time with insufficient support. This situation leads to stress and anguish for all concerned. Commonly social withdrawal of the person needing support and their family occurs due to the pressures of providing the necessary care and this is almost inevitably followed by a premature call for institutionalization of the supported person.

In the HACC Program as in the Disability Program ADACAS has dealt with a significant number of cases where housing (43 cases) or abuse (35 cases) is an issue.

Housing

Issues relating to housing and accommodation have become increasingly prevalent for the ADACAS target population as the Canberra housing crisis worsens. In the past year ADACAS advocates have spent vast numbers of hours explaining to Housing ACT officials the special needs of our particular client group.

It is clear that if more attention were paid to the particular needs of a person when they first presented for a housing allocation from Housing ACT then much time and angst would be saved for all involved. It is vital that people with disabilities are provided with housing appropriate to their physical and/or psychological needs and that they are provided with the necessary supports to assist them to sustain their tenancies. Stable, affordable, appropriate housing is an absolute necessity for people in vulnerable circumstances yet it is their very vulnerability which often makes it less likely that they will achieve a sustainable living situation.

ADACAS has major concerns about the likely impact on vulnerable people with oa disability or who are frail and ageing of the

Abuse

There has been a significant increase over the past three years in the number of cases of abuse reported to ADACAS. This financial year there were 91 cases in which abuse was an issue.

Abuse in aged care facilities received considerable attention this year in the media and by the Federal Government resulting in the introduction of a range of measures to address the issue. Unfortunately the same attention has not been paid to abuse of other vulnerable members of the community or abuse by family members of a vulnerable person. Our experience in advocating for vulnerable people subject to abuse is that their need for specialised support and counselling is often forgotten; that their right to legal redress is commonly disregarded or thought by the relevant authorities to be too hard to achieve and that authorities are reluctant to intervene in suspected financial abuse if the suspects are family members. More attention must be paid by policy makers and funders to addressing the needs of vulnerable individuals who suffer abuse.

ADACAS STATISTICAL SUMMARY

ADVOCACY SUMMARY

Table 1

The following figures give an indication of the work performance of ADACAS over the past year.

Individual advocacy:	
advocacy hours	5061.74
total numbers of people assisted	336
total cases	595
new cases	366
closed cases	388
outcome achieved	78.1 %
satisfied with ADACAS performance, per issue closed	96.1 %
people unable to be assisted	29
Systemic advocacy:	
advocacy hours	159
total issues	19
Enquiries:	
numbers of enquiries	266
time spent	123.75

ADACAS provided advocacy for 51 people from other cultures, and there were 4 people of Aboriginal background who received advocacy this year. In addition, 20 people with dementia, or carers of someone with dementia, were provided with advocacy.

ADVOCACY ISSUES

Table 2

Information is recorded on each advocacy case and enquiry dealt with by ADACAS.
The following provides information on the number and types of issues responded to this year.

Individual Advocacy

Disability 2005/06

Client numbers 104

Cases:

Cases continuing into period 80
New cases 114
Closed cases 123
Cases continuing out of period 71

Abuse Issues

Financial 11
Emotional 19
Physical 16
Sexual 8
Neglect 6

Other Issues

Aids/Equipment 5
Accommodation 60
Child & Family Services 6
Choice 27
Criminal Justice 9
Crisis Situation 19
Culturally inappropriate 2
Day Service 2
Discrimination 2
Education 5
Employment 12
Family & Social Supports 17
Financial 18
Guardianship & Administration 13
Health 15
Housing ACT 20
Independent Living 24
Individual Planning 9
Lack of Information 9
Legal Issues 34
Personal Care 10
Physical Access 2
Recreation Social 6
Respite 2

Rights	36
Safety	22
Service Access	7
Service Gaps	7
Service provider policy/practice	8
Subsidies/ entitlements	6
Transport	9
Vulnerable and/or isolated	29
Waiting list and/or urgent needs	14
Other	20

HACC

Client numbers	123
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Cases:

Cases continuing into period	98
New cases	128
Closed cases	140
Cases continuing out of period	86

HACC Service Related Issues

Alleged breach duty of care	12
Assessment	16
HACC fees	3
Carer Support	4
Case Co-ordination	24
Case Management	20
Service hours insufficient/unsuitable	27
Service unavailable	24
Service refused	5
Service reduced/fear of reduction	13
Service withdrawn/fear of withdrawal	11
Privacy/confidentiality	6
Staff issues	29
Complaints handling	16
Other service related matter	106

Other Issues

Abuse	28
ACAT/RAC issues	2
Access to support packages	9
Carer support	4
Dept of Veterans Affairs	1
Equipment	8

Family/personal relationships	12
Guardianship	6
Health	22
Housing	38
Income security	9
Legal	18
Trusteeship/EPAs	1
Other	27

Aged Care

Client numbers	109
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Cases:

Cases continuing into period	51
New cases	124
Closed cases	125
Cases continuing out of period	50

Issues

Administration/Fair trading	35
Level of Care	115
Consumer Rights	100
Environment	45
Alternate decision making	7
Care options	18
Financial issue	25
Family disputes	2
Fear of retribution	14
Wanting to leave	8

<u>Aged Care</u>	
2005/06	
Total sessions	152
Participants	
Consumers	2235
Carers	151
Allied health professionals	10
Industry staff	478
Other community & govt. organisations	3
Other individuals & students	59
Total	2936

<u>Disability</u>	
Total sessions	26
Participants	
Consumers	28
Carers	36
Allied health professionals	8
Industry staff	287
Other community & govt. organisations	29
Other individuals & students	73
Total	461

ADVOCACY OUTCOMES**Table 4**

	Disability	HACC	Aged
Total cases closed	123	140	125
Outcome achieved	93	116	94
% achieved	75.6 %	82.9 %	75.2 %
Satisfied with ADACAS	123	129	121
% satisfied	100 %	92.1 %	96.8 %
Cases not resolved *	30	24	31

* Reasons for non-resolution of cases during the year include: client withdrew; no resolution was possible; client deceased; or client referred elsewhere.

INFORMATION**Table 5**

ADACAS responded to 266 enquiries this year. The total time spent in responding to the enquiries was 119.25 hours.

Program	Disability	HACC	Aged Care	Other
Number of enquiries	61	110	77	18
Hours spent on enquiries	16.28	52.37	52.10	3.00

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**ACT Disability, Aged and Carer Advocacy
Service Inc**

(ADACAS)

AUDITORS REPORT

YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

ADACAS

AUDITOR'S REPORT

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WILLIAM MCKELL & CO
ACCOUNTANTS AND REGISTERED TAX AGENTS

AUDITORS REPORT
ACT DISABILITY AGED & CARER ADVOCACY SERVICES INC.
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
And
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

Scope

I have audited the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet of ACT Disability Aged & Carer Advocacy Services Inc for the year ended 30 June 2006. My responsibility is to express an opinion on the information presented based on my audit.

I have conducted my audit to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the statement is free from material miss-statement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts in the statement and evaluation of accounting policies and accounting systems. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the statement presents a view of their operations.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis

Unqualified Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Balance Sheet for ACT Disability Aged & Carer Advocacy Services Inc:

- is based on proper accounts and records and
- is in agreement with the accounts and records
- is in accordance with Statements of Accounting Concepts and applicable Accounting Standards.

Yours sincerely

William McKell B.A. (Acc) CPA
1 October 2006

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ADACAS
Committee's Report
For the year ended 30 June, 2006

The Committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The Committee have determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the accounts.

In the opinion of the Committee the accompanying accounts:

1. present fairly the financial position of ADACAS as at 30 June, 2006 and the results and cash flow for the year ended on that date in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.
2. at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Kym Duggan (Chairperson)

Phillip Gleeson (Treasurer)

ADACAS
Members of the Committee
For the year ended 30 June, 2006

Your committee members submit the financial accounts of the ACT Disability, Aged and Carer Advocacy Service Inc. (ADACAS) for the financial year ended 30 June, 2006.

Committee Members

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

Kym Duggan	Chairperson	
Phillip Gleeson	Treasurer	
Susan Robertson	Secretary	to September 2005
	Public Officer	to September 2005
Ronald Fraser	Secretary	from November 2005
	Public Officer	from November 2005
Patricia Daniels	Committee Member	to February 2006
Melissa Johns	Committee Member	to September 2005
Stephen Price	Committee Member	
Craig Davis	Committee Member	from November 2005
Stephanie Legg England	Committee Member	from December 2005

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: Promoting and protecting the rights and responsibilities of people with disabilities, people who are ageing, and those who care for them.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The surplus amounted to

Year ended 30 June, 2006	Year ended 30 June, 2005
\$5,590.84	\$25,857.98

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

Kym Duggan (Chairperson)

Phillip Gleeson (Treasurer)

ADACAS
Profit and Loss Statement
Year ended 30 June 2006

	Note	2006	2005
Operating profit		5590.84	25857.98
GST Rounding		0	0.86
Retained profits at the beginning of the financial year		92158.77	66299.93
Total available for appropriation		97749.61	92158.77
Retained profits at the end of financial year		<u>97749.61</u>	<u>92158.77</u>

ADACAS
Balance Sheet as at 30 June
2006

	Note	2006	2005
Current Assets			
Cash	2	11598.65	18925.75
Other	3	73779.27	80028.05
Total current assets		<u>85377.92</u>	<u>98953.80</u>
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	4	60471.82	43787.00
Total non-current assets		<u>60471.82</u>	<u>43787.00</u>
Total assets		<u>145849.74</u>	<u>142740.80</u>
Current Liabilities			
Provisions	5	24831.42	19993.44
Committed Funds	6	0.00	5573.64
GST & PAYG Liability	6	10227.63	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	6	2732.20	0.00
Grant received in advance		0.00	2447.00
Total current liabilities		<u>37791.25</u>	<u>28014.08</u>
Non-Current Liabilities			
Provisions	5	10308.88	22567.95
Total non-current liabilities		<u>10308.88</u>	<u>22567.95</u>
Total liabilities		<u>48100.13</u>	<u>50582.03</u>
Net Assets		<u>97749.61</u>	<u>92158.77</u>
Members' Funds			
Accumulated surplus		<u>97749.61</u>	<u>92158.77</u>
Total Members Funds		<u>97749.61</u>	<u>92158.77</u>

ADACAS
Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June, 2006

Note 1 - Statement of Accounting Policies

These financial statements are a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act. The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting identity and therefore there is no requirement to apply Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional requirements in the preparation and presentation of these statements.

The statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act, and the following accounting principles.

Incorporation

ACT Disability, Aged and Carer Advocacy Service Inc is an association incorporated under the *Association's Incorporation Act 1991*.

Income Tax

The Association is a non-profit organisation and is exempt from paying income tax in accordance with Section 50-5 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

Historical Cost Accounting

The accounts have been prepared on accrual basis and are based on historical costs and do not take into account changing money values nor current values of non current assets. The accounting policies are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated on a diminishing value basis over the useful lives of the assets to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Computers	40%
Phone System	18%
Motor Vehicles	22.5%
Evaporative Cooler	20%

Goods and Services Tax

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. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense.

Adoption of Australian Equivalents to International Reporting Standards

Australia is currently preparing for the introduction of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) effective for financial years commencing on or after 1 January 2005. This requires the production of accounting data for future comparative purposes at the beginning of the next financial year.

The key difference in the accounting policies which will arise from the adoption of IFRS is that changes in accounting policies, accounting estimates and prior year errors will be recognised by restating comparatives and adjusting retained earnings rather than making current year adjustments with note disclosure of prior year effects as required by the current accounting standards.

Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year, together with any entitlements arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and long service leave that will be settled after one year, have been measured at their nominal amount.

ADACAS
Notes to and forming
part of the Financial
Statements
Year ended 30 June
2006

	2006	2005
Note 2 - Cash		
Bank accounts		
- Cheque Account CBA 1001 3161	3316.66	10002.34
- Business Chq CBA 1006 7960	969.12	3473.80
- Inclusion-CBA 1014 1577	7112.87	5449.61
- Petty Cash	200.00	0.00
	11598.65	18925.75
	11598.65	18925.75
Note 3 - Other Assets		
Current		
Short term deposits	73779.27	80028.05
	73779.27	80028.05
	73779.27	80028.05
Note 4 - Property, Plant and Equipment		
Equipment & Fittings		
At cost	18822.00	13730.00
Less: Accumulated depreciation	-8277.00	-4476.00
	10545.00	9254.00
	10545.00	9254.00
Motor vehicles		
At cost	59485.82	40962.00
Less: Accumulated depreciation	-9559.00	-6429.00
	49926.82	34533.00
	49926.82	34533.00

ADACAS
Notes to and forming
part of the Financial
Statements
Year ended 30 June
2006

	2006	2005
Note 5 - Provisions		
Current		
Employee entitlements	24831.42	19993.14
	24831.42	19993.14
	24831.42	19993.14
Non Current		
Employee entitlements	10308.88	22567.95
	10308.88	22567.95
	10308.88	22567.95
Note 6 - Other Liabilities		
Current		
GST & PAYG Payable	10227.63	0.00
Payroll Liabilities	2732.20	0.00
Committed Funds (environment upgrade)	0.00	5573.64
	12959.83	5573.64
	12959.83	5573.64
Note 7 - Remuneration of Auditor		
Amounts received, or due and receivable by the auditor for:		
Auditing the accounts	1211.68	1510.00
	1211.68	1510.00
	1211.68	1510.00

ADACAS
Statement of Cash
Flows
Year ended 30 June
2006

	2006	2005
Cash Flow from Operating Activities		
Receipts	486931.79	446902.17
Payments	-505577.12	-423135.20
Interest Received	5069.45	1933.58
Net cash from operating activities	-13575.88	25700.55
Net increase/decrease in cash held	-13575.88	25700.55
GST Adjustment 2002/03 & Rounding	0.00	0.86
Cash at beginning of the year	98953.80	73252.39
Cash at the end of the year	85377.92	98953.80

**ADACAS
Statement of Cash
Flows
Year ended 30 June
2006**

	2006	2005
Note 1 Reconciliation of Cash		
<p>For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in banks and investments in money market instruments, net of bank overdrafts</p> <p>Cash at the end of the year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the balance sheet as follows:</p>		
Cheque Account CBA 1001 3161	3316.66	10002.34
Business Chq CBA 1006 7960	969.12	3473.80
Inclusion-CBA 1014 1577	7112.87	5449.61
Petty Cash	200.00	0.00
Short Term CBA 5021 9113	42712.15	40028.05
Short Term CBA 5015 7071	0.00	20000.00
Short Term CBA 5016 5477	31067.12	20000.00
	85377.92	98953.80
<p>Report is out of balance by:</p>		
Cash at the end of year per cash flow statement	85377.92	98953.80
Closing balance of cash accounts	85377.92	98953.80
	0.00	0.00

ADACAS
Income & Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June, 2006

	2006 \$	2005 \$
Income		
Grants received	429,549.80	417,460.08
RAC Grant for 2004/05	4,900.00	0.00
Interest received	5,069.45	1,933.58
Membership income	33.58	27.30
Training income	0.00	1,312.50
Donations	1,636.99	210.00
Workers Comp reimbursement	0.00	10,102.72
Sundry income	185.00	797.11
Total Income	441,374.82	431,843.29
Expenses		
Advertising & promotion	1,046.87	2,316.98
AGM expenses	73.82	469.15
Audit fees	1,211.68	1,510.91
Bank fees	194.00	2.20
Cleaning	611.45	0.00
Committed Funds	0.00	5,573.64
Computer	2,427.31	3,839.93
Conference Registration	5,892.72	5,110.71
Equipment purchase	1,475.85	1,564.48
Equipment consumables	336.41	519.56
Furniture	851.36	4,127.27
Insurance	10,812.29	9,869.33
Journals/Subscriptions	836.47	731.28
Memberships	181.82	283.63
Meeting Costs	106.22	-
Motor Vehicle expenses	14,572.01	11,791.03
Office supplies/stationery	2,703.67	2,481.57
Postage	497.40	634.81
Professional fees	0.00	100.00
Rent	18,778.66	17,812.15
Repairs & maintenance	940.87	734.14
Salaries & Staff Benefits	319,679.57	292,664.96
Staff development	3,803.81	3,710.70
Staff Support	1,675.00	0.00
Superannuation	23,662.74	22,091.64
System Development	6,282.50	0.00
Telephone	5,167.48	5,394.05
Travel & Mileage	8,435.71	3,425.20
Volunteer Expenses	450.99	364.72
Non-Recurrent Expenditure		
Farewell & Lunch	688.27	662.80
Planning Day	796.16	0.00
Total Expenses	434,193.11	397,786.84
Operating surplus	7,181.71	34,056.45

ADACAS
Income & Expenditure Statement
For the year ended 30 June, 2006

	2006	2005
	\$	\$
Operating surplus	7,181.71	34,056.45
Extraordinary items		
Profit on sale of assets	1,549.00	1,593.46
Leave Accruals	5,671.76	1,676.07
Depreciation - motor vehicles	-8,537.00	-7,025.00
Depreciation – equip.+fittings	-3,801.00	-4,443.00
Expenditure of committed funds	3,526.37	0.00
Net operating surplus	5,590.84	25,857.98

Notes:

Net operating surplus for the year ended 30 June 2005 includes asset purchase of two motor vehicles and two computers.

Net operating surplus for the year ended 30 June 2006 includes asset purchase of one motor vehicle and one computer.