



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

## The Good Life Farm: Grassroots healing

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# About the farm

Lesley Porter founded the Good Life Farm in 2005 with the vision of contributing to the health and well-being of young people who are experiencing a diverse range of emotional, social and physical challenges.

She and her team do this in an extraordinary way - putting troubled lives back on track by forging strong bonds with animals and nature.

Some specific reasons and challenges a child may have been referred to The Good Life Farm include:

- 🌱 general anxiety
- 🌱 stress management
- 🌱 performance anxiety
- 🌱 mood disturbances
- 🌱 confidence issues
- 🌱 self-identity problems
- 🌱 communication skills
- 🌱 relationship skills
- 🌱 life experience
- 🌱 social isolation
- 🌱 bullying
- 🌱 friendship problems.

## Our vision

A community in which our young people feel safe, reconnect and look forward with optimism to a good life.

## Our purpose

We provide programs that empower young people to develop emotional resilience and life skills, realise their potential and embrace opportunities to experience a good life.

We apply an evidence-informed therapeutic model founded on:

- 🌱 genuineness
- 🌱 understanding of the benefits of human-animal bonds and interaction
- 🌱 respect for the individual and the environment.

Our team of youth workers are from diverse backgrounds, holding various qualifications inclusive of psychology, counselling, social work, mental health nursing, community services and residential care youth work – the program is therapeutic and intensive.



*I see a bit of myself every day in these kids. I see their struggles. I see their happiness. I see their connection to the animals and I see that this place gives them a reason to live.*

**Founder, Lesley Porter**



# Chairman's Report

On behalf of the Good Life Farm Board of Directors it is once again my great pleasure to present to you The Good Life Farm's 2022 Annual Report.

Thanks to the continued generous support of the Sunshine Foundation (a grant of \$50,000 in 2021) an independent evaluation of our services has been undertaken by VERSO over the past 2 years. The evaluation identifies significant overall improvements in areas such as health and wellbeing; sense of self; seeking support; planning for the future; confidence in making decisions; insight into issues; motivation to develop; insight into skills and capacity; pro-social activities; engagement with adults; and reduction in risk taking behaviour.

These outstanding benefits could not be achieved without the dedication, passion and mentorship of our founder and highly committed CEO Lesley Porter. Also critical to The Good Life Farm's many successes has been the tireless role Bronwyn Pitman plays in administration, management and support to Lesley, me as Chair and the Board. I wish to acknowledge and thank Lesley's highly qualified and skilled team (including Tennille Porter, Dave Ring, Julie Don, Sarah McKenzie, Cassandra Gunther, Amber Dalgleish, Ray Hargraves, Ashleigh Bond, Olivia Romaniex and Jeanne Labouchardiere) for the invaluable support and care you give to our young people. I also thank our placement students Amber, Rosie, Sarah D, Jodie, Sarah N, Kaylee and Ethne for your involvement with the program.

It is worth noting that the number of young people supported by The Good Life Farm increased from 48 in 2021 to 57 in 2022, confirming our valued programs continue to grow in popularity, often resulting in The Good Life Farm operating at full capacity.

The Board has established a new Business Plan to guide our strategic actions over the next few years. This includes giving priority to: developing an effective Succession Plan; utilising the service evaluation results to further improve and promote the highly positive outcomes of our services; ensuring financial sustainability; achieving corporate partnerships; establishing a legal model/framework for future operations; and commissioning the development of a video for enhanced service marketing.

The GLF truly values and wishes to recognise the efforts of our many volunteers as well as our numerous partners and generous supporters, such as Yarra Ranges Council, the Victorian Government, Anglicare, Rotary Club of Balwyn, The Sunshine Foundation, VACCA, EACH, Anne Bishop, XY Financial Services, Goodwill Wines, Catherine Lancaster and the Goodman Family Trust. I wish to recognise the passing of Ion Whykes and express our deep gratitude for his long-term support and generosity. I also thank the many people who give generous one-off and/or monthly donations.

I thank former MP Tony Smith for his advocacy on behalf of the Farm in assisting us in securing a grant to undertake long overdue renovations to the classroom. I also thank everyone involved with making this year's Comedy Night such a success.

I wish to acknowledge the efforts of all my fellow Board members who continue to play a critical role in relation to such areas as fundraising, securing grants, events, establishing partnerships and actively promoting the Good Life farm.

Finally, I wish to, once again, express the Board's heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to our CEO Lesley Porter and your many, varied and precious creatures for everything you do to improve the lives of our young people.

**Frank Dixon Chairman**

# CEO's Report - Our achievements in 2022

2022 has seen another year of challenges and achievements for The Good Life Farm.

The Good Life Farm continued program operations, enabling us the opportunity to assist and support vulnerable young people.

Fifty-seven young people (previously forty-eight in 2021) will have participated in the GLF Life and Social Skills program by the end of 2022 with some attending for just one term and others for longer.

The GLF staff bring a diverse range of skills and qualifications to the program inclusive of psychology, equine and animal skills, social work, mental health nursing, counselling, youth work and horticulture.

Thank you to our team – Bron, Tennille, Cassandra, Dave, Julie, Sarah, Ray, Olivia, Amber, Jeanne and Ashleigh.

I would like to thank our placement students –Rosie, Amber, Sarah N, Sarah D, Jodie, Ethne and Kaylee – who all dedicated their time to the program as part of their studies.

A big thanks once again to the lovely Anne Bishop, our long-time volunteer who helps out every week.

The Good Life Farm continues to be grateful for the generosity of our supporters.

Although the current economic climate is difficult for many, we have been very fortunate to receive generous donations that all assist greatly with the operation of the Farm and provision of Life & Social Skills programs.

Catherine Lancaster opened her home, hosting a dinner that raised nearly \$3000, Russell Harrison and Julie Richards (both ex Directors of GLF) made significant financial contributions and we were once again supported by The Goodman Family trust, with monies being used to provide animal care and feed.

There are also many who supported GLF by way of ongoing monthly donations via our website in addition to “one off” donations – thank you, this is very much appreciated.

Overdue and necessary works have been carried out at the Farm this year with thanks to grant contributions.

Tony Smith MP – Stronger Community Grants allowed us to renovate the classroom providing a practical learning environment and much needed storage facility, Victorian Government Ventilation Program allowed us to place an additional window in the classroom and Yarra Ranges Council (small grants) provided funding to replace our bike helmets.

Our annual Comedy Night took place in October raising \$\_\_\_\_\_ - these funds will be used to support young people's participation

With thanks to the generosity of The Sunshine Foundation, VERSO is nearing completion on an independent evaluation of GLF Life & Social Skills program.

The results and findings of this evaluation will be shared with partner organisations, key stake holders and supporters – it is expected that the outcome will reinforce the important role that GLF play in early intervention and providing our therapeutic program based on animal assisted learning and permaculture principals.

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the passing of Mr Ion Whykes and recognise his generosity and support of The Good Life Farm.

With thanks to Susan Bond, GLF now has a new website.

The Good Life Farm has exciting plans for the next twelve months which includes presentation of the formal evaluation, further work to secure grant funding and partnerships, presentation of professional services to key stake holders and continued relationship building with schools, NDIS Account Managers, DHHS, Anglicare and other key support agencies.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our Board of Directors for their continued support and guidance.

**Lesley Porter CEO**



# Financial statements

Information provided for financial year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**THE GOODLIFE FARM LTD**  
**ABN 60 166 003 854**

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS FOR**  
**THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022**

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Revenue		294,143	437,312
Employee benefits expense		(259,171)	(160,491)
Impairment gains (losses) from financial assets		-	(1,071)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(5,327)	(5,400)
Finance costs		-	(9)
Other expenses		<u>(131,195)</u>	<u>(143,309)</u>
Profit (loss) before income tax		(101,550)	127,032
Income tax expense		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Profit (loss) for the year		<u>(101,550)</u>	<u>127,032</u>
Profit (loss) attributable to member of the company		<u>(101,550)</u>	<u>127,032</u>

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STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS FOR  
THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Revenue		294,143	437,312
Employee benefits expense		(250,171)	(160,491)
Impairment gains (losses) from financial assets		-	(1,071)

THE GOODLIFE FARM LTD  
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STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
Profit (loss) for the year		(101,550)	127,032
Other comprehensive income:			
Total other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income (expense) for the year		<u>(101,550)</u>	<u>127,032</u>
Total comprehensive income (expense) attributable to member of the company		<u>(101,550)</u>	<u>127,032</u>

**THE GOODLIFE FARM LTD**  
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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS**  
**AT 30 JUNE 2022**

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	167,438	216,842
Trade and other receivables	3	10,636	64,380
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>178,074</u>	<u>281,222</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	4	116,852	114,592
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>116,852</u>	<u>114,592</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>294,926</u>	<u>395,814</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	5	49,108	48,446
Borrowings	6	7,256	7,256
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>56,364</u>	<u>55,702</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>56,364</u>	<u>55,702</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>238,562</u>	<u>340,112</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		238,562	340,112
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>238,562</u>	<u>340,112</u>



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STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2020	213,080	213,080
Comprehensive income		
Profit for the year	127,032	127,032
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the member of the company	127,032	127,032
Balance at 30 June 2021	340,112	340,112
Balance at 1 July 2021	340,112	340,112
Comprehensive income		
Profit (loss) for the year	(101,550)	(101,550)
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the member of the company	(101,550)	(101,550)
Balance at 30 June 2022	238,562	238,562

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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR  
THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from customers		347,872	385,219
Payments to suppliers and employees		(389,704)	(316,640)
Interest received		15	24
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>(41,817)</b>	<b>68,603</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(7,587)	(212)
Payment for investments		-	9
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(7,587)</b>	<b>(203)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Net gains on disposal of investments		-	(11,406)
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>(11,406)</b>
Net increase (decrease) in cash held		(49,404)	56,994
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		216,842	75,120
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>167,438</b>	<b>132,114</b>

# Thank you for your support

## Board of Directors

Lesley Porter (CEO)

Frank Dixon (Chair)

Susan Bond (Deputy Chair)

Richard Meredith (Secretary)

Tennille Porter

Shannon Wight

Michael Robertson

Stephan Friedrich

Tania Parker

Chris Henderson (LOA)

## Major donors and partners

The Sunshine Foundation

Yarra Ranges Council

YX Ball Financial Services

The Goodman Family Trust

Tony Smith MP for Casey (past)

Good Will Wines

