

# Annual Report 2006

A space for family and friends of homicide victims...

From surviving to living



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ABN 37 256 294 316



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### **Primary Objectives**

- To provide case management and/ or assistance to individuals and groups suffering distress, loneliness, misfortune, sickness, and/or helplessness resulting from the homicide of a loved one, in order to assist the social participation of individuals or families, and improve the status of their health and well being.

### **Strategies**

- By providing a cost-effective, easily accessed website.
- By collecting and distributing relevant and timely information to and from secondary victims of homicide.
- To assist individuals and groups affected by homicide through the direct provision of:
  - Collection and distribution of relevant information (especially new research) relating to secondary homicide victims (both existing and future).
  - Provision of the opportunity and the tools to access helpful information in a quick and effective manner.
  - Provide access to supportive services and processes for individuals.
  - Creation of a safe forum for secondary homicide victims to interact with others, participate in research and explore resources and issues.
- Maximize professionals' capacity to support secondary homicide victims via:
  - The establishment of an arena that allows professionals to be better informed about relevant issues, and
  - Facilitating professionals' communication with both secondary homicide victims and other relevant professionals.
- Provide an arena from which research can be readily conducted, analysed and results reported.

### ***Outcomes (By Delivery Mode and Benefit):***

- Grief Education (via literature, face to face and phone support)
  - Decreased distress due to increased understanding
  - Increased social interaction and participation
  - Reduced sense of isolation, loneliness, and helplessness, and
  - Improved health status due to decreased risk of depression
- Peer Support (via forum discussions, one to one contact, group meetings, and special gatherings)
  - Decreased distress due to increased understanding
  - Increased social interaction and participation
  - Reduced sense of isolation, loneliness, and helplessness, and
  - Improved health status due to decreased risk of depression
- Referral to appropriate support services, organizations and individuals
  - Decreased distress due to increased understanding
  - Increased social interaction and participation
  - Reduced sense of isolation, loneliness, and helplessness, and
  - Improved health status due to decreased risk of depression
- Library Resources for individuals, groups and professionals (provision and maintenance)
  - Increased community awareness
  - Improved service provision by generic and specialized services
  - Reduced sense of isolation, injustice and abandonment.
- Self Development Materials provided (poems, other's stories, and relevant literature)
  - Decreased distress due to increased understanding
  - Reduced sense of isolation, loneliness, and helplessness, and
  - Improved health status due to decreased risk of depression
- Needs Assessment and Research relating to issues pertaining to secondary and tertiary victims of homicide (via data collection and research)
  - Opportunity to participate/ be heard in community processes/ education
  - Increased community awareness
  - Improved service provision by generic and specialized services
  - Reduced sense of isolation, injustice and abandonment.
- Recommendations to individuals, support services (generic and specializes) and governments as to enhancing secondary and tertiary victim's social participation, health and well-being.
  - Increased community awareness
  - Improved service provision by generic and specialized services
  - Reduced sense of isolation, injustice and abandonment.
  - Creation of appropriate social processes that reduce the risk of revictimisation.

### ***Target Groups***

- Secondary Victims of Homicide,
- Tertiary Victims of Homicide,
- Peer Support Groups,
- Professional Service Providers (generic and specialized),
- Broader Community, and
- Government (Relevant Departments and Policy Makers)

## ***Guiding Principles***

The general community when thinking of homicide concludes that the victim is the deceased. Indeed the *primary victim* is the *deceased*, however in recent years the World Health Organisation and the United Nations along with most developed Nations accept that there are also **secondary (family and close/intimate friends)** and Tertiary (professionals and acquaintances) victims. Typically, people will express that they feel empathy for those left behind but their support rarely goes beyond that. Professionals typically have support networks in place and their daily living or lifestyles are not typically affected by the homicide. Secondary victims however, may spend many years trying to integrate and cope with the loss of their loved one and the subsequent, often revictimising, social processes and systems that they encounter and endure.

O'Neill and Smith (2000) refer to people in this predicament not as victims or as survivors but as **orientees**. That is, they are people who are trying to find their way in a world that is foreign, one that has no road maps or signposts. They meet with a variety of faces, some that are helpful and loving, and others, hostile and rigid. One day they feel like survivors, the next like victims – this may even be a minute-by-minute swing. Sometimes, the terrain is flexible and pliable, however other times, it is fixed and immovable.

Given that generic victims of crime in developed countries have only been acknowledged since the late 1980s, it is understandable that secondary victims/ survivors/Orientees are still an often-overlooked diverse group, which have a multitude of complex multidisciplinary needs.

It is for these reasons that a human rights perspective governs this project. That is the belief that all people deserve to have a place and a space to have their basic human rights met.

*These rights include:*

- *The right to have a voice,*
- *The right to be heard,*
- *The right to timely, up-to-date and relevant information and resources,*
- *The right to be a visible and active part of the social justice process,*  
*and*
- *The right to grieve.*

The project is **not a forum for discussion on capital punishment**. At *all* times the site content should see that the one **primary focus is to remain on the victims' experiences, rights and needs**, not those of a perpetrator (known or alleged). That is not to say issues to do with the criminal justice process, such as parole, truth in sentencing and so forth cannot be debated within this domain, as they are essential to the concept of community safety.



## ***Achievements of the Past 12 Months***

In the past year the angelhands team has reached several landmarks, the following are our highlights:

### **General Organisational Activities**

The web site continues to grow and develop, with the virtual library and internet forum now up and running with members and the community beginning to contribute articles. This was made possible through the generosity and help of Inxpot, Paganini Productions, Ryan (forum moderator) and our new webmaster Moby. Our deepest thanks to all concerned.

Membership has increased slowly, we welcomed 6 new members (2 being associate members). 3 life memberships issued throughout the year and certificates of appreciation.

We continued to raise awareness locally, nationally and internationally of the issues faced by secondary victims of homicide. This was done via several medium including public presentations and education sessions in NSW, UK and USA, the distribution of angelhands flyers throughout the year through face to face contact and via doctors surgeries and shopping centres.

John B has established an assets register for angelhands

The first Draft of our generic Policy & Procedure Manual is now completed, thanks to Christine and Bea, and we are beginning to tailor it to suit the activities of angelhands Inc.

Our third Deductible Gift Recipient Application was successful and we are now a registered Public Benevolent Institution, meaning that people who donate monies to us can claim the amounts against their taxation. Thanks go to Shane and Angela at RSMi Bird Cameron and to Sue for all their time invested in making this possible.

We had a two day visioning workshop which included 2 days of information, brainstorming, and planning. The full report will be available soon, but all in all this was a great success and as a committee we reached a number of decisions that set out the guidelines and basis for our future activities some of which include the following things:

- Angelhands official Launch set down for April 2008, with various fundraising events and media press releases planned.
- Organising and hosting the first ever International Conference for Secondary Victims of Homicide – being hosted in Perth – initial enquiries made with PCB – ongoing, we are looking at early 2009.

### **Financial Related Matters**

We had three major fundraising events – Ultimo (in December and June) and Entertainment books – all were deemed to be great successes and involved low risk for the organization. Through our committee members making public presentations and through their personal and professional

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alliances we received several substantial donations. Our thanks goes to everyone who has helped us financially, it has helped us to advance angelhands objectives.

We had several computers donated to us; a large amount of these came from MYOB and Monitors donated by Coldwell Banker Pro Property as a result of Ann's talk at Rotary. These donations in kind have been very helpful to us as we had help from Paganini productions and Moby to install shareware on them and sell them to families in need, creating win-win situations for everyone.

Melville Rotary also kindly donated a digital data projector to us for use when making public presentations. A extra big thanks goes to Melville Rotary as this has helped us when making several public presentations.

We as a committee made several applications for funding, these being:

We applied for Criminal Property Confiscation but unfortunately were unsuccessful this time, but a good solid application was developed and hopefully our next application will be successful given the feedback we received in relation to this years application.

We also applied for an AIMS scholarship which was successful in that we received \$750 to go towards any of their courses. John will attend a course on project management in August 2006 and share the learning with the rest of the team.

Bea and Ann worked hard on our patron package but sadly our application to Princess Mary was rejected due to her already being the patron of a simular organisation. We have since invited Nicole Kidman to fill the role and are currently awaiting her reply.

We were fortunate to be granted Pro Bono accounting from RSMi Bird Cameron, a big thanks to all the team there.

#### **Committee Profile**

Resignations – sadly Carol, Bea and Darren resigned during the year due to professional and personal commitments. We thank you all for all the time, energy, and effort you put into help angelhands Inc. grow.

Karen took on the arduous task of Secretary, and has excelled in it. We had several new members join us including Sue who took on the treasurer role; Tracey, Terri and Georgia who have picked up many tasks including, but not limited to, the filing of the 100's of articles Ann has collected on Victims of Crime – a huge task indeed and the committee thanks you for your copious amounts of time and energy doping this and other tasks.

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### Community and Internal Social Activities

BM & KL attended 2 day workshop and seminar on Crime Prevention – Green Paper – it was very successful and a lot was learned.

Ann attends Conference in Croatia

Ann attends Conference in Orlando – presenting 2 papers

Sycamore Tree Project – KL attends 8 days at Acacia Prison over 8 weeks – restorative justice based program.

WISH – we are now members and JB is on committee

We held our first Christmas function at Mykanos Restaurant and a great night was had by all. The photos on page 8-10 vouch for what a fun night we had.

As part of our visioning workshop we had a social evening during which we could finally all relax and have some fun together. A great night was had by all as the photos on page 8-10 show.

This summarises our activities but many more less noteworthy tasks were undertaken in order to achieve the above and to keep running of the organisation on a daily basis.

We are looking forward to an exciting 12 months during which more milestones are reached!

### Photographs



**Wine collection Dec 2005**



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# Xmas 2005



# COON AND KROON WORKSHOPS

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## Agenda of the 2005 AGM

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2005, Stirling, PERTH, WA.

1. Opening of the Groups Annual General Meeting
2. Attendee's and apologies
3. Previous minutes: proposed seconded
4. Call for nominations for positions of: -

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Seconded
<b>Chairperson.</b>			
Vice Chairperson			
Secretary			
<b>Treasurer</b>			
<b>Additional Management Members</b>			
<b>Funding Officer</b>			
<b>IT Support</b>			
<b>General</b>			

5. **Treasurer will present the Current Financial Statement to the General Meeting**
6. **GENERAL BUSINESS.**
  - 4.1 A review of the Rules of Incorporation will be presented so that they can be brought into line with the requirements for obtaining gift deductible recipient status (GDR) \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4.2 Annual Review of Endorsement for ITEC/TCC – to be done at each AGM \_\_\_\_\_
  - 4.3 \_\_\_\_\_
5. DATE OF THE NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING \_\_\_\_\_
6. MEETING DECLARED CLOSED AT: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Chairperson \_\_\_\_\_ Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Time. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **Minutes of the 2005 AGM**

**Monday 13 June 2005 7.00 p.m.**

1. **ATTENDEES:** AO, BM, KL, CW, DM
2. **APOLOGIES:** JB, DB, MH, JL
3. **PREVIOUS MINUTES:** Proposed AO, Seconded CW
4. **OFFICE BEARERS:**  
BM took on role of Returning Officer.  
AO Chairperson  
DM Treasurer  
JB IT Support  
CW Secretary  
MH Funding Officer  
KL Management Member  
BM Management Member  
JL Management Member (pending JL's acceptance)
5. **FINANCIAL:** Treasurer presented committee members with current financial statement to meeting.
6. **CHAIR PERSON'S REPORT:** Chairperson handed out report to committee members.
7. **GENERAL BUSINESS:** A review of the Rules of Incorporation was handed out to members which was unanimously adopted.  
DB's resignation from Committee was accepted but he will continue to be a member of the Group.
8. **DATE FOR 2006 AGM:** CW to inform committee members of the next AGM which will take place in June 2006.
9. **MEETING CLOSURE:** Meeting closed at 8.00 p.m.

## 2005 Financial Statement

angelhands Incorporated  
Income & Expenditure Statement  
Period ended 31 May 2005

	<u>Cheque #</u>	<u>\$</u>
Opening Balance as at 1 January 2005		1,042.80
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Donations	-	-
Membership Fees	-	40.00
Sale of Publications	-	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>40.00</b>
<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>		
Dynamic Naming Worldwide	0006	200.00
Domain Hosting 3 Mar 2005 to 2 Mar 2006		
Melbourne IT	0007	88.00
Domain name license renewal for 2 years		
WA Council of Social Service Inc	0008	35.20
Workshop attendance fee		
Government Tax on Bank Account	-	0.70
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>323.90</b>
<b>Net Income for the year</b>		<b>(283.90)</b>
<b>Closing Balance as at 31 May 2005</b>		<b>758.90</b>
Balance per Bank Statement as at 31 May 2005		718.90
add: Membership Fees not yet banked		40.00
<b>Closing Balance as at 31 May 2005</b>		<b>758.90</b>



## **List of Board Members, and Volunteers**

### **Executive Committee**

Ann - Chair Person  
Karen - Secretary  
Sue- Treasurer

### **Committee Member**

John B- I.T. Support/ usual Deputy Chairperson  
Georgia – Committee member  
Tracey - Committee member  
Terri - Committee member

### **Inactive Committee Members**

John L Committee member – non attending currently  
Christine W Committee member – non attending currently

### **Web Master**

Alan S

### **Accounting Support**

Shane D

### **Legal Advice**

Ivy

