

Mission

The mission of Catholic Social Services Victoria (CSSV) is to assist the Catholic Church in Victoria to fulfil the gospel imperatives to: -

- (a) Stand with and serve the poor, disadvantaged and marginalised; and
- (b) Work for a just, equitable and compassionate society.

Objects

Catholic Social Services Victoria is auspiced by the Archbishop and Bishops, and its member organisations to act as a peak body for Catholic community service works in Victoria by:

- Discerning and promoting within the Church and its agencies and ministries a contemporary vision and focus of the Church's social mission
- Representing its members and the Church in responding to social welfare issues so as to bring about social change in accordance with Catholic Social Teaching
- Resourcing the Bishops, Religious Institutes, Church agencies, ministries and other Church-based groups with regard to their social welfare pastoral responsibilities and ministries
- Encouraging collaboration in the promotion of opportunities for service delivery and mission development
- Giving effective voice to the experiences and struggles of people who are disadvantaged and marginalised through researching, publishing and speaking on issues of justice and equity.

The Council will fulfil the Mission of CSSV and further the interests of members by:

- Facilitating the animation and development of CSSV and its membership.
- Responding, in appropriate forums, to member views and concerns
- Oversighting the overall functions of CSSV
- Determining the annual membership fee
- Approving the annual CSSV budget
- Providing general direction for the Secretariat in carrying out its functions as set out in Section 12 below.
- Promote and facilitate interest groups as a means to monitoring necessary service developments.

12 Secretariat

The Secretariat comprises the Executive Director, Catholic Social Services Victoria and other staff of CSSV. It is responsible for provision of executive support to the Council including: -

- Strategic planning including the development of an annual plan
- Lobbying
- Advocacy
- Social research
- Promotion of program evaluation
- Development and co-ordination of joint formation and education programs on Catholic mission for members
- Identification and response to new social needs
- Policy development and critique
- Administrative support for other CSSV functions
- Identifying issues that relate to the mission of CSSV
- Promoting and facilitating cooperation amongst members and between members and other service providers
- Responding to the concerns of the membership
- Providing support to member agencies.