



**MONTHLY MEMO**  
**April 2023**

***FROM THE CEO, BRAD HANNAGAN***

February 17 saw us welcome Aaron Evans to the EFCL Team as the Shared Services Manager. The EFCL Team gathered at Rosary Lodge, Strathfield to welcome Aaron and begin his induction and formation journey. Aaron will be attending our events on 8 May in Melbourne and 15 May in Sydney so many will have a chance to meet him there. He will also be attending upcoming Zoom meeting with current and prospective service partners. Aaron holds formal qualifications in Social Sciences and Community Services and brings to EFCL broad experience in the Mental Health, Disability and Aged Care sectors. Aaron has a passion for leading and mentoring teams in fast-paced, dynamic environments, so should feel right at home here at EFCL.

Organisationally April was another busy month on the staffing front. The following staff were hired to assist our service partners: Nisette Gorton joins us as a Congregational Business Manager and David Harrison joins us a Health and Wellbeing Coordinator.

This time of the year also brings focus to completing our budget for the next financial year and the proposed budget will be presented to the Board for approval at the upcoming Board meeting on 19 May.

***FROM THE TRANSITION MANAGER***

April appears to have flown by: I feel like I was only just getting the March's *Monthly Memo* out to you. We have, of course, had a few public holidays for Easter and Anzac Day and we have also been working in person with our service partners in April.

EFCL plans to create a structure to resource the individuals who will take up the responsibility of canonical governance to provide peer support, supervision and continued learning about the role. We held a Zoom meeting in March for religious and lay colleagues interested in the provision of canonical governance through a canonical delegate and consultants. August 3 is the date agreed for those interested to gather to workshop their Terms of Reference and co-design the structure that will best suit their needs.

Registration for the May workshop days is now closed. It was envisaged at the initiation of the Emerging Futures Collaborative that everyone connected to Emerging Futures would experience communio, collaboration, inter-connectedness; share experiences and learnings; participate in formation and find support and this year we have the opportunity to do this in person. Our two days are structured round three sessions: one formation session with Elizabeth Dowling rsm in Melbourne and Dr Janine Luttick in Sydney; we are grateful to our service partners Margaret

Barclay pbvm, Catherine White mfc, Sandra Winton op and Timothy Graham oh who have agreed to speak about their engagement with EFCL in the second session of the day; and an afternoon session structured as a Market Place where there will be short snippets of input and then the opportunity to select different themes with which participants would like to further engage. The whole day is very participative.

There are close to 70 registrations for Melbourne and almost 100 for Sydney. All our service partner leadership teams and many of their lay colleagues and staff are registered to participate, along with EFCL staff and Member Representatives and Board Directors of EFCL. We look forward to welcoming members of religious institutes not yet engaged with EFCL but interested in hearing about Emerging Futures and having an opportunity to talk with current service partners. We strongly believe that we have much to learn from each other and that's why we have entitled the day **Building A Living Network**.

The Transition Team has been busy this month working in person in three states with the current and new leadership teams of the Sisters of Mercy, Parramatta; the Presentation Sisters, Lismore; the Patrician Brothers; the Presentation Sisters, Queensland; the Dominican Sisters of Eastern Australia and the Solomon Islands; the Presentation Sisters, Wagga Wagga and the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion. While we have been fortunate in having Zoom to conduct many of our meetings over the last three years, there is certainly a different energy when we are all able to be in the room and working together!

On April 24 Catherine Brabender rndm, Chair of the Member Representatives, used Zoom to convene a meeting of parties interested in fundraising for Emerging Futures. Brad and I were grateful to Stancea Vichie mss and Clare Nolan rsc for joining us from EFCL's Board and to Alan Sherry fms, who lent his considerable experience in fundraising in Australia and overseas to the group. While EFCL is a user pays organisation, there are costs associated with operating the company that are not billable to users. Travel and accommodation for meeting attendance by Board Directors and Member Representatives, as well as days like the May events generate costs. And as time goes on, we anticipate we may be joined by religious institutes that require some financial assistance. We know religious institutes in Australia have made an invaluable, and often uncompensated, contribution to social and community services, health and education and believe that there are individuals and businesses that would be interested in assisting Emerging Futures in providing services to religious institutes into the future. We'll keep you in the loop as we venture into the fundraising space!

Sheila McCreanor rsj shared with us an interesting paper this month: *Hope in Suffering -The Spirituality of Life and Loss* by Linda Buck csj. Linda asks: How do we create space to respect the suffering and loss of our past and current reality, and at the same time, honour how this moves us into what is emerging? I also found another article by Linda: *Leaders in a Diaspora Moment: A framework for the emergent in Religious Life*. You can access both papers on our website [www.emergingfuturescollaborative.org.au](http://www.emergingfuturescollaborative.org.au) under Resources/Article Directory.

**A date to diarise:**

**Tuesday November 7 CHANGED DATE:** Zoom event for all interested participants from 11am-1pm AEDT.

Sharon Price rsm  
Transition Manager  
April 27, 2023