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ABN 40 052 036 186

SENDING MONEY OVERSEAS? ARE YOU CAUGHT?

A Seminar on the new External Conduct Standards

Churches & other charities sending money overseas or conducting activities overseas, face new rules; - tracking money; governance requirements; closer controls & potentially new reports;

Saturday 21 September from 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

at

Bluegum Community Centre, 111 Bluegum Road, Beechboro

(Be aware that access to Beechboro Road from Reid Highway is no longer available)

The Government has developed new External Conduct Standards relating to all charities that send money or goods overseas, or are conducting activities overseas. These wider legal obligations are to ensure controls are in place to prevent money laundering and terrorism support, and to protect vulnerable people. There have been instances where a dummy charity has been established to bypass the wider rules. There are also instances where a charity, with every good intention, has been tricked into giving support to a cause that was less than worthy. The Parliament of Australia has now approved these new rules, and they will be administered by the ACNC, effective from July 2019.

Many, perhaps most, instances of money or other support for an overseas agency or ministry by an Australian charity will need to be more closely monitored than what has previously occurred. These rules also apply to all Basic Religious Charities even though the normal Governance Standards do not apply to them. Key issues include –

- Money needs to be traced from the sending charity through to the recipient entity and the Australian charity will need to satisfy itself that the support has been applied for its nominated purpose and that it is also a worthy charitable cause.
- The overseas recipient entity will need to demonstrate it is complying with reasonable governance procedures.
- Where the intended beneficiaries are children, aged or otherwise disadvantaged persons, steps may need to be taken to ensure there are reasonable safeguards in place to support them.
- Some charities may be required to prepare and lodge a special annual report, perhaps even on a country by country basis. Records need to be maintained in such a manner that enables the charity to comply if and when asked.
- Charities need to take steps to protect themselves from the possibility of fraud or other financial misconduct.

This will introduce a new era of governance. Secretaries and Treasurers will need to understand what these new rules will mean and their application to YOUR charity. This seminar will focus on these, and related, issues. To assist us all in moving forward we have negotiated with ACNC to provide two of their senior staff to advise us at the seminar.

THE SPEAKERS

LISA DIFFORD: Lisa joined the ACNC as a Senior Registration Manager in May 2012. Since April 2018 Lisa has been the Manager responsible for the implementation of the External Conduct Standards and other DGR Reform initiatives. Prior to joining the ACNC, Lisa worked in the professional services sector as a Taxation Director at KPMG and Business Services Partner at Grant Thornton.

SALLY STONIER: Sally joined the ACNC as part of the Task Force in March 2012. Since the Commission's establishment she has been part of the senior leadership team and directly responsible for managing the ACNC Registration Directorate. She has worked with international charity regulators for a number of years, including the New Zealand Charities Commission and the Charities Commission of England & Wales.

BOB CAMPBELL: Director, Australian Audit – Bob is an experienced accountant and advisor to charities and has significant experience in DGR matters. He has been involved in diverse roles with charities throughout his career and has also been the CEO of a significant charity that was a DGR for several years. He is a member of the ACNC Professional Adviser Group.

SUE ASH OA: Sue has worked across most areas of human service delivery during her career. She has been a CEO for 20 years and has worked and taught in social policy and human service management. She has experience with the three recent human service Royal Commissions – institutional response to child sexual abuse; aged care and disabilities. She has also led teams responding to failure to comply with statutory obligations and change.

THE PROGRAM

- 8.30 - Registrations and refreshments
- 9.00 - Welcome and introduction to speakers
- 9.05 - External Conduct Standards – **Lisa Difford**
- 10.00 - Q & A session – Panel questions to **Lisa and Sally Stonier**
- 10.30 - Refreshment break
- 11.00 - DGR session with special attention to entities working overseas – **Bob Campbell**
- 11.45 - Governance obligations with overseas activities – **Sue Ash**
- 12.30 - Q & A session – your opportunity to address the speakers on your burning questions
- 1.00 - Close

Please take the opportunity of sending in your questions in advance as this will provide the best opportunity to maximise benefit for the day to: Administry@hardingthornbury.com.au.

COST \$50.00

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PLEASE REGISTER BY MONDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

Add-Ministry Inc

PO Box 175 Bayswater WA 6933

Ph: 08 9271 1844