2024 in Review



Justice & Mercy in Action

Introduction

A lot can happen in a year. And for Jericho Road, no two years look the same. God has blessed the work of our dedicated staff, volunteers and the churches we partner with as different needs, opportunities and challenges arise. We hear of so many individual moments of compassionate care that tell stories of how God uses acts of justice and mercy to bring people to Him. Whilst that sort of impact can't be measured, we hope that the snapshot below gives you a glimpse of the breadth of work God gives us to do on Jericho Road, and how PCNSW has been able to show God's love in various ways in 2024.

Mission and vision

Jericho Road works with and for the Presbyterian Church in NSW to demonstrate the character of God by providing fresh hope and care for those who are in need, in a way that seeks justice, shows mercy, and makes Jesus known.

Our vision is to provide high quality and distinctively Christian care to all those in the community who are most vulnerable and who would otherwise be isolated from support.



Snapshot of 2024









Liz McClean | Chief Executive Officer

Reflecting on the year that's past, I'm deeply grateful—for the talented and dedicated team around me who are so committed to our vision and values, and for the ways we've been able to strengthen Allowah to better support kids

and families. We've worked hard to seek financial security and make the changes needed to ensure Allowah's future. Spending a day each week in CPU with the Director has been a highlight, and I've been so encouraged by the stories coming out of Chaplaincy and Early Childhood Services—stories of lives changed and Jesus made known. Seeing leaders grow, witnessing all of Jericho Road's ministries expand, and being able to advocate for people with disabilities at a local and government level have been real privileges. And nothing beats the moment when we can say, "Yes, we can help!"—whether it's through counselling, financial support, or simply being there when people need advice.

Jonathan Flick | Director of Finance & Operations

It was a busy and stressful year, but my finance team went above and beyond to keep everything running smoothly. Sisca and Leanne's love and compassion are incredible, and I'm so thankful for their hard work. In the operations side, we farewelled Bohan - we've been so blessed by his contribution to the Allowah facility.

While his departure is bittersweet, we're grateful for his impact and excited to have Paul on board to take on that role at Allowah. A major highlight has been welcoming Charity as our new Therapy Manager. She brings such strong leadership, and I'm eager to see this area grow under her direction.

Jon Flood | Director of Partner Ministries

Visiting churches was such a highlight of 2024—seeing firsthand how God is working in so many different contexts has been truly inspiring. Another joy has been watching the Partnership & Marketing Team grow in skill and capability. I'm so thankful for each team member and the unique gifts they bring, and it's been a privilege to see them use those gifts to serve so well. God has been at work, and I'm excited for what's ahead!



Joseph Park | Senior Chaplain

Watch Phil's story on YouTube

In 2024, a real highlight was equipping people to care for others through the Love Your Neighbour course. Whether through online sessions and in-person intensives at local churches, it's been incredible to see so many people eager to grow in their ability

to serve. Another joy was sharing what God is doing through chaplaincy—whether by email, social media, or in person at churches and gatherings. Phil's story of redemption was a particularly powerful example of Jesus at work in hard places, and we praise God for the many ways chaplaincy continues to make Him known. We are privileged to be able to bring the word of God and the hope of Jesus to so many in our hospitals and gaols.



Bernadette Reyes | Early Childhood Services Manager

This past year has brought its challenges—every season has its ups and downs—but we're so thankful for God's provision and strength to keep going. Our Long Day Care educators received a well-deserved pay increase, and there's real hope for preschool staff to see similar improvements. Many of our services are at full capacity, with waitlists, which means we've been able to serve even more children and families. It's a privilege to work in a Christian environment, where moments of faith shine through—like the little boy who insisted his mum download *Jesus Loves Me* so he could listen in the car. Whenever his siblings started to chat, he'd say, "Quiet, that's my Jesus song!" We've also seen a beautiful partnership grow

between the church at Tregear and our preschool there, with their team running coffee mornings for parents and their worker, Lyn, teaching SRE at the local school. It's been a blessing to support families in need, including those facing domestic violence, and to see God at work in so many ways through what our services are doing in these communities.



Jason Forbes | Disability Advocate

One of my favourite moments in 2024 was preaching from Galatians 5 at Wahroonga Presbyterian Church. It was so encouraging to see the congregation really engage with the message about how our personally imposed laws can keep us from fully enjoying our freedom in Christ. The conversations that followed were rich and meaningful—it's a joy to see people wrestling with and embracing gospel truth.



Taryn Clausing | former Counselling Coordinator

It was a big year for counselling, and I'm thrilled that we have Kiri on board as the new Counselling Coordinator to continue this vital work! A highlight has been strengthening connections between our counselling



services and other Jericho Road ministries—whether it's linking clients to chaplaincy, one-off financial gifts, or the Conduct Protocol Unit. Maintaining strong relationships with PCNSW ministers, members, and counsellors has been key—they know us, they trust us, and they call us when they need support. These ongoing partnerships mean so much, and honestly... I'm really going to miss this!

Kiri Rabe | our new Counselling Coordinator!

Having joined Jericho Road partway through 2024, my highlight would be the initial introduction to the counselling role. Taryn was just so open, considerate, and knowledgeable when training me for position - her guidance, warm smile, positivity and considered advice has been invaluable. I am also grateful to be part of a Christ-centred organisation who uses its resources and networks to help others through difficult circumstances, and to be able to connect people with counsellors and support. Lastly, I have really appreciated the opportunity this role provides for me to grow and develop personally and professionally – especially at a time when I thought that would be challenging to find.

Gillian Gilchrist | Director of Training & Systems

My role at Jericho Road involves a lot of behind the scenes things, and I love working with our teams to make their roles easier. At the end of 2024,

I took on working with the Training team at Allowah and I'm loving bringing together all their knowledge and talent so that we can support the Allowah staff and other NDIS providers and special schools. Most of all, I love being part of working with a view to seek justice, show mercy and make Jesus known.



Andrew Adams | Refugee & Cross-Cultural Response

There were so many highlights in 2024. I am thankful to God for the opportunities to speak about Jericho Road's Refugee Response at six Presbyterian congregations in the Blue Mountains and in the Far North Coast.

I am thankful for the warm reception I received, and the interest shown by the people. I think of the providential encounter I had with a refugee who sat next to me on my flight to Ballina in August. I thank God for the generosity of the small St Andrews Wentworth Falls Church in their oil and rice donation which I passed on to our partner, Sydney Refugee Team.

It's very encouraging that Springwood-Winmalee Presbyterian churches have recently formed a group to sponsor a refugee family under the Federal Government's Community Refugee Integration and Settlement Pilot [CRISP] Program. Orange Presbyterian Church's continuing involvement in CRISP is also very encouraging: they are currently sponsoring their second refugee family [a Syrian family] which will end shortly and they have formed a third group to sponsor another refugee family [a Christian Congolese family of 9] in 2025.

Vera Buvcevska | Director, Conduct Protocol Unit

One of the biggest blessings in 2024 was seeing our team grow—after a season of change, we finally have a full, skilled team, and I'm so grateful to God for bringing the the right people to the CPU. It's made such a difference in moving forward with safe ministry initiatives. Another highlight was running domestic violence training sessions in Hobart and Port Macquarie. Seeing participants grow in their understanding and commitment to responding well to DV situations was deeply encouraging. It's a privilege to be part of this important work.



Join us in 2025

Ways to get involved



Want to stay informed about what's happening?

Join the mailing list and receive occasional emails with prayer updates, news about opportunities to be part of something and encouragement about how other churches in PCNSW are responding to Jesus' command to "Go and do likewise."

<u>jerichoroad.org.au/pray</u>

Do you have an amazing justice and mercy ministry at your church?

Tell us about it! Your ideas and stories can help encourage other churches to try something new!

Follow us on socials



Check out events and upcoming opportunities

jerichoroad.org.au/events

Get in touch!

Call or email the Partnership team

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