ESA COUNTRY MINISTRIES STRATEGIC PLAN 2030

A WORD FROM THE CEO

ESA's history is bursting with stories. The stories started in 1883, when the founders of ESA got on their knees and started praying for country communities. From that day, God has not stopped answering those prayers as the good news about Jesus has been proclaimed and lives, families and communities have been transformed.

However, over the years, we have faced opposition, grief, disappointment and at times, trauma. I am so aware how easy it is to lose hope through hard times, and yet I feel incredibly hopeful for ESA's future.

In 2022, the Board and staff of ESA spent two days together, praying and discerning God's priorities as we looked ahead to 2030. The document you are holding in your hands is what we heard God say over those two days. What we didn't hear God say was that we needed to reinvent ourselves or head off in a brand-new direction. What we did hear God say was that country communities are still in desperate need of the Good News about Jesus. God is redeeming ESA and getting us ready for a new season of gospel impact throughout Victoria and beyond.

Our prayer is still the same as it was 140 years ago, that God would raise up an extensive team of pastoral workers to proclaim the gospel in every corner of our state and beyond, and that through their faithful ministries, through community connections and our camps, thousands would hear the gospel and know the radical change that Jesus brings! And we pray that God would build us into a community that shares this vision, that prays and partners, that invests into this gospel work, with our time and the finances God has entrusted to us. Will you join us on this adventure?

With love and prayers,
Cath Berryman, CEO

OUR VALUES

CONNECTION

we show grace, we say sorry, we don't blame each other when things go wrong, we face problems together

AUTHENTICITY

we are real with each other and true to who we are, we don't hide or put on a mask, we say what we mean (and mean what we say).

HUMILITY

we admit our mistakes, we're quick to ask for help - not pretending we've got it all together, we are vulnerable with each other, we are teachable.

FAITH

we love and follow Jesus together as we lead others to Him, we pray and read God's word, we are growing in faith and being changed by Jesus each day

ESA THEN AND NOW

ESA has been on mission since 1883, sending and supporting workers in country areas, going where the Gospel need is greatest. Our workers have shared their lives and the Gospel of Jesus Christ 'simply and clearly.'
Over 140 years, our mission and vision hasn't changed.
ESA's country-based workers still partner with local churches, they proclaim Gospel hope, growing disciples, and equipping them as servant-hearted leaders. We long for country communities to be transformed by the Gospel.

ESA IN 2030

REACHING THE UNREACHED

The Gospel of Jesus is at the heart of all that we do. We have an extensive team of Pastoral Workers proclaiming Gospel hope and growing disciples in every corner of the State. We run excellent camps where the Gospel is presented simply and clearly so people will come to Christ and follow and serve Him all their days. We have an agile and innovative approach to new Gospel initiatives.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

There are clear and effective pathways to help us to identify, train and equip new leaders. We have an internship program in place and partner with other like-minded organizations to provide theological training and practical ministry skills. We mentor and equip young leaders to become servant-hearted Gospel leaders, who will bless ESA, the church and communities in Victoria and beyond.

REFRESHED CONNECTIONS

Our ESA Community is growing in number, connection and engagement – as we invite our people to pray, to volunteer, to give and to invite others to be a part of what God is doing through ESA. We know who our people are, and we encourage them to step closer as we tell the stories of how God is at work through ESA. We know that 'unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labour in vain'. (Ps 127), and so we do all we can to encourage and equip our people to pray.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

A plan for ESA's financial sustainability is in place and implemented. We encourage generous giving through appeals and other fundraising strategies. We engage with new and existing donors, encouraging bequests and applying for grants. We budget with care, and we control what we spend, balancing wise stewardship and generosity.

LIVING INTO OUR VALUES

The culture of ESA reflects our values of Connection, Authenticity, Humility and Faith. The ESA team (our staff, our Board, our volunteers and our community) is connected, safe and hopeful as we follow Jesus together. We hold each other to account as we live and work into our values and as we work on our policies, make decisions and steward our resources.

SUPPORT A WORKER

Join the support crew of one of our pastoral workers:

Scan the QR code to pray for them, send a message or support them financially

PRAY

Pray with ESA for God to make our 2030 vision a reality. Join our list of supporters who receive regular prayer updates.

Email your interest to: esa@esa.org.au

DONATE

Donate to the little engine room of ESA!

VOLUNTEER

Become a leader of one of our camps, or encourage someone you know. And we always need cooks and assistant cooks!

SCAN THE QR CODE to support a worker, pray, donate or volunteer