

EMMANUEL CENTRE MANDATE



Emmanuel, meaning God with Us, is a call to be Jesus to the people. Hence the Risen Christ is our Standard, and His image is the first thing that greets visitors to the centre.

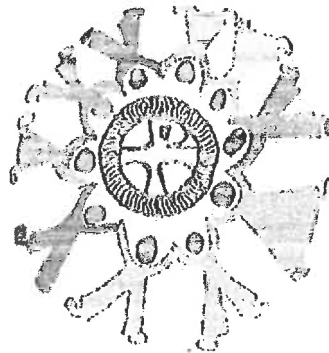
Emmanuel Centre's ethos is built on three scripture passages:

You are made in the image and likeness of God. *Gen 1:26*

Now you are the Body of Christ, each one of you is a part of it. *1Cor 12:27*

Walk to Emmaus. *Luke 24: 13-35*

People with disabilities are made in the image and likeness of God and all of them are part of the Body of Christ. Our Mission is to walk with the person with disabilities and his/her/their family and empower them to reach their full potential. And to do so in a way that opens their eyes to the presence of Christ in them and in the people around them.



EMMANUEL A SELF-HELP CENTRE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

1.0 PREAMBLE

Emmanuel's mission is the mission of Christ, namely, "...to preach the gospel...to heal the brokenhearted...to set at liberty them that are bruised.... (Luke 4: 18-19).

"Emmanuel" is a biblical word, meaning "God with us". Hence Emmanuel is to be "Jesus", with the people.

Emmanuel works on a self-help model where there is shared giftedness and shared brokenness.

Emmanuel is to witness through action and prayer that all people are equal in the sight of God and each has a vocation to self-fulfillment.

Emmanuel sees people as companions on a journey.

Emmanuel recognises that through Baptism all Christians are incorporated into Christ with consequent right and responsibility to a sense of belonging and acceptance at the local level.

As members of the Body of Christ all have a role to play in bringing about the full potential of all.

2.1 NAME

2.1 The name shall be Emmanuel a Self Help Centre for People with Disabilities (Hereinafter called Emmanuel).

3.0 DEFINITIONS

3.1 "Archbishop" means the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Perth, his agent, proxy or trustee.

3.2 "Coordinator" means the principal officer for the time being in charge of the day to day administration of Emmanuel.

4.0 PURPOSES

4.1 GOAL

Emmanuel is committed to empower people with disabilities, their families and those who work with them according to Gospel values and the pastoral directives of the Catholic Church.

4.2 ROLE

Emmanuel works towards filling in gaps and does not appropriate to itself tasks and areas for their own sake.

The services of Emmanuel are available to every member of those sections or classes of the public as Emmanuel aims to benefit, without discrimination of any sort.

The works and services of Emmanuel shall be carried out without the purpose of private gain for any particular person or persons.

4.3 FUNCTION

To advocate for and to promote the moral, physical, social, and spiritual welfare of adults and children with special needs;

To initiate and create opportunities and situations wherein people with special needs and others may grow in their gospel commitment;

To encourage and counsel people with special needs, their families and others;

To provide opportunities for people with special needs to discover and use their personal talents and abilities in the service of others;

To liaise with parishes and local church groups in integrating people with special needs into their worshipping communities.

To provide catechetical programmes for children and adults with special needs where there is a gap;

To provide resources, books, tapes, visual and other material to assist people with special needs and those working with them.

To act as an advisory body in matters relating to people with special needs in the wider community.

5.0 MEMBERSHIP

As community is an essential part of the Gospel, membership of Emmanuel is open to all persons interested in furthering the goal, role and function of Emmanuel's expression of the Gospel.

All members of staff, whether paid or volunteer workers, are automatically members of Emmanuel.

Membership is extended to all church organisations.

A member shall cease to be a member of Emmanuel when he/she or his/her advocate notifies the Coordinator of such a decision.

A current list of members shall be kept by Emmanuel.

6.0 RESPONSIBILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Emmanuel is responsible to the "Archbishop" for the management of its operations, and as such is accountable to him in the following matters:

For making any such arrangements as are conducive to the attainment of the goal, role and function of Emmanuel and conducting its operations in accordance with its Statutes.

For maintenance of a standard of service in keeping with the mission of the Gospel and Church.

For acceptance of donations, grants and bequests of money or any real or personal property provided always that such acceptance does not render Emmanuel liable or obligated in any manner to the donor of any such donation, grant or bequest.

For raising funds by any lawful means and for taking such other lawful actions as are deemed to further the goal, role and function of Emmanuel.

For all assets held by Emmanuel, all income, gifts or capital received from whatsoever source, and for all expenditure.

For the preparation of an annual budget and submitting it for approval by the "Archbishop" on or before the 31st December each year or as determined by the "Archbishop".

7.0 MANAGEMENT

The mission of the Gospel and Church to transform human relationships is reflected in the management style of Emmanuel, "a community of persons respected in their uniqueness and their right to participation."

Members in general meetings shall manage the business of Emmanuel which shall operate as a self help collective with responsibility for decision making shared by all members in general meetings.

Flowing from a genuine equality of dignity and responsibility, decision making for all meetings shall be achieved by consensus whereby all members present at a meeting are in agreement on an issue or where those not in agreement agree not to maintain an objection. If consensus cannot be achieved at the meeting where an issue is raised, then the issue shall be referred to the next general meeting when, if consensus is still not reached, the issue shall be put in the form of a resolution and will be decided by a majority vote of 75% (seventy five percent) of the members present.

Emmanuel may from time to time establish task forces/working parties to pursue specific issues within the framework of the objects of Emmanuel. The deliberations of these task forces will be presented to general meetings.

There will be at least twelve general meetings plus an annual general meeting each year.

Notice of all general meetings and the annual general meeting will be sent to all members.

8.0 PRINCIPAL OFFICER

The principal officer of Emmanuel shall be the Coordinator.

The Coordinator, is appointed by the "Archbishop and is responsible to the "Archbishop" for the conduct and administration of Emmanuel in accordance with its goal, role and function.

In addition to the direction given at general meetings, the Coordinator has an Advisory Board. Membership of this Advisory Board will be principally drawn from those already exercising stewardship and sharing responsibility for the mission of the Church with the Ordinary of the Diocese and will include the principal officers of the:

Ministry to Deaf and Hearing Impaired People of Western Australia,
Catholic Concerns Committee on Psychiatric Issues,
Catholic Association for Children with Special Needs,
Faith and Light,
Task Forces/Working parties pursuing specific issues concerning people with disabilities and their careers within the framework of the goal, role and function of Emmanuel.

Others nominated at Emmanuel General Meetings who have expertise that assist the Coordinator.

8.1 DUTIES OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER

The duties of the Coordinator shall include:

To encourage and maintain the participation of all members in the affairs of Emmanuel, its goal, role and function;

To promote programmes for staff development and to create an environment for all members to act as participating in the mission of Jesus by the proclamation of the Kingdom;

To develop his/her own gifts and talents and empower others to grasp the meaning of life in the perspective of the Gospel;

To encourage the effective flow of information and communication between members of Emmanuel and between members of Emmanuel and the wider community;

To co-ordinate the staffing (paid and volunteer) of Emmanuel;

To co-ordinate the financial administration of Emmanuel.

The Coordinator, under the authority of the "Archbishop" may appoint staff (paid or volunteer) by such procedures and for such purposes and under such conditions as may from time to time be determined for the attainment of the goal, role and function of Emmanuel.

9.0 NON-PROFIT MAKING

The income and property of Emmanuel wheresoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the goal, role and function of Emmanuel as set forth in these Statutes.

10.0 HEADQUARTERS

The headquarters of Emmanuel shall be at such place as the "Archbishop" shall decide.

11.0 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The business of the annual general meeting shall include:
Minutes of the previous annual general meeting.
Report of Emmanuel and its works.
An audited financial statement.

12.0 AUDIT

An auditor shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting to audit the books of accounts and report upon the annual balance sheet and income and expenditure statement.

13.0 AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION

This Constitution may be amended by consensus of the members present at a properly constituted Annual General Meeting of Emmanuel in respect of which notice has been given at least 7 (seven) days before, relating to the amendment of the Constitution. Such amendment shall be notified to the "Archbishop" for his approval and only if he approves shall it become an effective amendment, which will then be notified to the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation in Perth.

14.0 DISSOLUTION

In the event of Emmanuel being dissolved by the "Archbishop", all liabilities being paid out, no surplus assets of Emmanuel shall be shared among its members; and its assets shall be transferred to an institution or fund with similar objects to Emmanuel nominated by the "Archbishop" and approved by the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation as satisfying sub-paragraph 78(1) (a) (ii) of the Income Tax Assessment Act.

The Deputy Commissioner of Taxation in Western Australia will be advised of the date of such dissolution.

15.0 AUTHORITY

This Constitution is issued by the "Archbishop".

16.0 COMMON SEAL

Emmanuel is an official care agency of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Perth whose incorporation and registered office details are:

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Perth of Victoria Square, Perth, a Corporation sole by Act of Parliament. The Common Seal is kept in safe custody at the Archbishop's office. It shall be affixed by the Archbishop or his representative.

As an official Catholic Church agency Emmanuel shall operate within the provision of the Code of Canon Law of the Roman Catholic Church.

12 November, 1993

