



YEAR IN REVIEW 2025

MEDICAL BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION OF NSW-ACT

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



It is my privilege to present the Medical Benevolent Association of NSW's Year in Review for 2025.

The 2024-25 financial year was defined by growing demand for our support, set against a backdrop of continued uncertainty within both the healthcare system and the broader community. The pressures on medical practitioners—professional, financial and personal—remain significant. In this environment, the role of the Association as a trusted and confidential source of assistance has never been more important.

Fulfilling Our Purpose

The core mission of the Association is to provide support to doctors and their families in times of difficulty. In 2025, we remained steadfast in delivering on this purpose.

We saw a notable increase in requests for assistance, reflecting a range of challenges including work stress, illness and injury, mental health concerns, family crises, and financial distress. Many of those seeking help had not previously engaged with the Association, underscoring both the extent of need and the importance of continuing to increase awareness within the profession. In the last 2024-25 year we assisted 123 doctors and family members, provided 341 sessions of direct social worker activity (in addition to indirect interventions), and invested \$380,830 in services and support to clients.

Our specialised assistance has been timely, compassionate, and discreet. Every person reaching out to us is recognised as an individual with their own unique circumstances, and their wellbeing and dignity sit at the centre of our decision-making. Where tailored financial assistance is identified, MBA NSW-ACT has the flexibility to apply funds for the greatest impact.

Impact and Outcomes

While the Association's work is always conducted confidentially, those seeking our support report its impact is profound. During 2025, we provided meaningful assistance to doctors at all stages of their careers—from trainees, retired practitioners, and to doctors' families after their passing.

MBA NSW-ACT is unique in that it offers continuity of care with consistency in social worker case management. Our support has enabled individuals and families to stabilise their circumstances, access care, and navigate periods of significant uncertainty. Beyond financial assistance, the Association has continued to offer reassurance: that there is a safety net available to the profession, and that support is available when it is needed most.

Financial Performance and Sustainability

The Association remains in a sound financial position. For the 2024-25 Financial Year we achieved a modest operating surplus of \$20,714. The full set of audited financial statements are available as part of our [Annual Information Statement and reporting to the Australian Charities and not-for-profits Commission](#).

Careful stewardship of our resources, combined with the generosity of donors and prudent investment management, has enabled us to meet increased demand while preserving our long-term sustainability.

We continue to maintain a disciplined approach to expenditure and risk management. Our investment strategy remains aligned with our objective of providing stable, reliable funding to support beneficiaries both now and into the future.

Governance and Risk Management

Strong governance underpins all aspects of the Association's work. Throughout 2025, the Board has remained focused on ensuring robust oversight, transparency, and accountability.

We have continued to refine our governance frameworks, strengthen our risk management practices, and ensure compliance with all relevant regulatory and ethical standards. This includes safeguarding the confidentiality of applicants, which remains a cornerstone of our operations.

I would like to acknowledge the dedication and professionalism of my fellow Board members, whose commitment ensures the integrity and effectiveness of the Association.

Engagement with the Profession

A key priority in 2025 has been increasing awareness of the Association across the medical community. Too often, doctors are unaware of the support available.

We have taken steps to improve communication and engagement with the profession, working with stakeholders to ensure that information about the Association is accessible and understood, including through upgrades to our website. This remains an ongoing focus as we seek to reach those who may benefit from our assistance.

Gratitude

Social Work Team: Our specialized and highly experienced social workers are the lifeblood of our organisation and the support that they give our beneficiaries can literally be life changing. My sincere thanks to Carolyn Robertson and Susan Brooks for their work during the year. Both are extremely committed social workers and have already taken our beneficiary assistance to new levels.

Patron: Professor Bruce Robinson continues to provide vital support and guidance to the MBA of NSW and ACT, and I am extremely grateful for his patronage.

Council Members: Our council is an effective and cohesive group that meets monthly to review all our beneficiary's needs and assistance. I thank each member for their time, dedication and passion. I particularly thank Vice President Dr Felix Choi for his guidance and contribution.

Executive Officer: Ms Louise Fallon has worked incredibly hard for the MBA during her tenure, and we at MBA NSW-ACT cannot thank her enough for her contribution.

With the recent appointment of our Chief Executive Officer Mark Fraser AO CVO, we are looking forward to our continued growth and strong operational performance.

The work of the Association is only possible because of the generosity of our donors and the support of the medical community in spreading the word about our work.

On behalf of our beneficiaries, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all our donors, partners and supporters. May your ongoing assistance enable the outstanding work of the Medical Benevolent Association of NSW and ACT to continue for many years to come.

Looking Ahead

As we move into 2025-26, we anticipate a number of staffing changes as we consolidate our work and continue to build the organisation. Our focus will be on maintaining our capacity to respond, strengthening our financial resilience, and continuing to evolve our support model to meet changing needs.

The demand for our services will remain elevated. The challenges facing doctors are only continue to grow, and the need for a strong, responsive benevolent association will continue.

Conclusion

The MBA NSW-ACT exists to support doctors when they need it most. In 2025, we have continued to fulfil that role—consistently, respectfully, and effectively.

There is no typical story of hardship, and no single pathway to recovery. What remains constant is the importance of having a tailored trusted safety net for doctors.

On behalf of the Board, I extend our sincere thanks to all who have contributed during the year. Your commitment enables us to provide timely and meaningful assistance to colleagues in need. It is a powerful expression of solidarity within the profession.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Association and of one another.

Yours sincerely,



Andrew Wines AM MBBS FRACS (Orth) FAOrthA GAICD

President

Medical Benevolent Association of NSW-ACT