

# ÁRPÁD AGED CARE FACILITY

2015 REPORT

*Árpád Aged Care Facility (ACF) was established in 1994 to meet the needs of an ageing Hungarian population. It has 60 low and high care level beds and 11 independent Villa Units. Árpád provides transitional care from independent living through to minimal and high-level assistance without the need to move to another establishment when care needs change. Árpád ACF is a fully accredited and certified facility. Árpád ACF is a short walk from the local Wantirna Shopping Centre and is only a few minutes from the Hungarian Community Centre and St István Church.*

*The report was compiled by  
Judy Hajdu and Maria Vrbovszki*

*Photography by  
Tamás Ruscsák and Balázs Mariczky*

*Mission Statement for Árpád Aged Care Facility  
Árpád ACF ensures that its residents receive appropriate high level care in quality surroundings that is tailored to their individual needs. We strive to achieve a meaningful, pleasant and relaxed lifestyle for our residents.*

*Árpád Aged Care Facility  
9 Garrisson Grove, Wantirna 3152  
Email: [arpad@arpadagedcare.com.au](mailto:arpad@arpadagedcare.com.au)*





## Welcome to Árpád

Walking down Garrison Grove the visitor sees the cream brick building of the Árpád Aged Care Facility with an overhanging canopy to shield one in the rain and the gardens on the right to calm the soul.

On entering, the Hungarian atmosphere is pervasive. Bright red-embroidered cushions adorn the sofas. A stone dog sits in a basket on the left with a description of the Hungarian vizsla dog breed above him. On the wall there is a map of Hungary harking back to the olden days. A plaque of St. Stephen conjures up the first King of Hungary. His crown sent by the Pope features under the texts of the Hungarian National Anthem and the Szózat.

Opposite on the glass wall of the Dining room there are various displays of Hungarian literature: poems and texts that refer to specific times of year like Mother's Day or Days of Commemoration. Book shelves with fascinating books in Hungarian line one wall of the large sitting room.

On the top shelf are beautiful pieces of typical Hungarian pottery and woodwork. The residents resting in the room can admire the painting of Árpád vezér framed by the Hungarian and Australian flags. It is after the clan chieftain Árpád vezér that the home was named, as he led the Hungarian clans into the Carpathian Basin at the end of the 9th Century AD. Along the corridors residents and visitors can be transported to the Hungarian countryside through paintings of villages, wide plains and bright skies.

There are photos of Hungarian dancers in traditional dress enjoying lively festivities. The familiar skyline of Budapest is shown in day and night photographs. In another corridor we see photos of the residents happily engaged in various activities and then on the opposite wall are old family snapshots. These give us the opportunity to reminisce with the residents about their past. Certainly the atmosphere and the surroundings at the Árpád remind the visitor of a different world full of colour, tradition and warmth.

# Committee



***Zoltán Fritz***  
*President*

Zoltán has been a committee member since 2003 and was elected as President in 2008. Zoltán is a lighting engineer and has managed his own business for over 30 years. His interest in the Árpád ACF developed when his mother was a resident and realized the full benefits of the organisation.



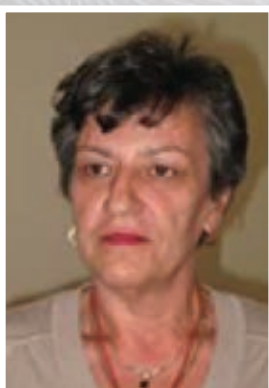
***Dr Jozseph Juhász***  
*Vice-President*

Joe is General Practitioner and has been a member of the Árpád Committee for over 8 years and Vice-President since 2008. He has considerable medical experience in Aged Care and has a large number of Hungarian patients. He is able to provide advice to the Committee regarding medical issues that arise from the administration of the Árpád ACF. Dr Juhasz is a member of the Futures and Administration sub-committee.



***Éva Kövesdy***  
*Secretary/ Acting President*

Eva has been an active member of the Hungarian Community for many years and held the position of Secretary to the Hungarian Community Centre for 17 years during which time she was involved in the initiation of many major programs. Eva has a Master's Degree from Deakin University in Applied Science – Nutrition and Public Health. Her area of research was the provision of food for the elderly by local councils. Eva joined the Committee and was appointed Secretary in 2009. She is a member of the Public Relations and Futures sub-committees.



***Kornelia (Nellie) Tóth***  
*Treasurer*

Nellie has been a member of the Committee since 2007 and has held the Treasurer's position since 2010. Nellie has extensive accounting skills having worked in the field for over 25 years. Nellie is a member of the Finance sub-committee.

# members



***Balázs Bartha***  
*Committee member*

Balazs joined the Committee in 2011 and is a member of Building Sub-committee. He is a director of a Family Trustee and a post-graduate in Psychotherapy studies. His studies and experiences from overseas and Australia contribute to the work of the Committee. Together with his family Balazs is an active participant in many Hungarian community events and organizations.



***Ferencz Baranyay***  
*Committee member*

Ferencz is an architect with his own practice in Malvern. He regards it an honour to be on the Committee and be part of the general management of the facility. Ferencz joined the Committee in 2012 and has been on the Building Sub-Committee since 2013.



***Csaba Dézsi***  
*Committee member*

Csaba joined the committee in 2009. He is a Reformed Church pastor and felt it his moral duty to support the Árpád ACF in its endeavours to continue to maintain a high standard care facility for elderly Hungarians. Csaba is a member of the Public Relations and Futures sub-committees.



***Judy Hajdú***  
*Committee member*

Judy was a Lecturer in Education at the University of Melbourne. She teaches at the Council of Adult Education and volunteers her services to the University of the Third Age and the Friends of the Royal Botanic Gardens. For the past six years she has visited the Árpád ACF on a weekly voluntary basis interacting with residents and supporting the facility's program. Judy was elected to the Committee in 2009 and is a member of the Administration Sub-committee.



## Report from the Committee

2015 has been a busy year for the Committee. We welcomed back Hella Szilagyi from maternity leave. The Committee thanked Karen Gibson for her work as Acting-Manager.

Apart from the regular monthly meetings, sub-committee meetings were held as well, the most active being the Building Sub-Committee led by Ferencz Baranyay. Plans for renovations and the building of two new rooms in the Tisza Section were progressing.

On 19 June we took part in the Aged and Community Services Nationwide Open Day. Árpád organised programs and tours of the facility. It was once again very well received by the Hungarian community. In September we received Accreditation for a further three years with attaining 44 out of 44 points. Congratulations to Hella Szilagyi and her team.

The Korosi Csoma Program scholarship holders visited our residents from time to time and organised various presentations and activities, for example they organised the October 23 Commemoration at Arpad.

The Committee would like to thank Melinda Mariczky for her work as our administrator. She resigned to pursue a new career path. We welcomed two new members to the Committee – Olga Veto and Ilona Benedek. I would like thank Ferencz Baranyay, who did not re-nominate as a Committee member, for his great contribution over the years, particularly for leading the Building Sub-Committee.

*Eva Kovesdy  
Secretary/ Acting President*

# Report from the President

## ►► WELCOME TO THE 2015 ARPAD AGM

Unfortunately, Zoltan Fritz is ill, so this year's President's report will be delivered by me. We wish Zoli a speedy recovery.

Arpad is a very important institution in Melbourne's Hungarian community's life. We joined the Victorian Hungarian Council (Magyar Egyeztető Tanács) to be part of that community.

We are responsible for our residents' lives and welfare. We need to ensure that Arpad is financially viable; our financial reports demonstrate that Arpad is. We need to ensure that the residents' everyday needs are met. We appoint the manager, and the Arpad family is very lucky to have Hella to manage the day-to-day operation of the home, which she does efficiently and effectively. The Manager is responsible for employing appropriate staff. We are very fortunate to have a wonderful team, both Hungarian and non-Hungarian who look after the residents with compassion and care. I would like to thank Karen Gibson who took on the Acting Manager's role during Hella's maternity leave. She did a fantastic job to ensure a seamless management of the home.

In June we participated in the Aged and Community Services Nationwide Open Day. It once again proved to be very popular as we had a large number of visitors.

In the past Arpad's two main sections were known as Low Care and High Care. In August the two sections were given names – Duna Section, the old low care and Tisza Section which was high care.

In September we once again went through an intensive Accreditation process. It is always a stressful, but a very important and critical time for both management and staff. I am pleased to report that Arpad has once again obtained accreditation for four years receiving a maximum 44 out of 44

possible points. This is once again an outstanding achievement by Hella and the staff.

The current group of Korosi Csoma Program scholarship holders visit our residents from time to time and organise various presentations and activities, for example they organised the October 23 Commemoration at Arpad.

The Committee faces some challenging issues from time to time, which we attempt to solve in the best possible manner. The planned upgrade of the buildings in the Tisza Section – high care- together with the new rubbish bin enclosure are progressing, negotiations and plans are continuing with the architects. We are hoping to commence work very soon.

## ►► I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY APPRECIATION AND THANKS TO:

- Our team of volunteers whose numbers have increased since last year. No matter what role they take on, their input is greatly valued.
- to the people who made generous donations during the year.
- to Hella and the staff for the wonderful work they do. They do an extraordinary job of caring for the residents.
- and finally to the Committee for its hard work during the year, under sometimes difficult circumstances. I would like to thank Ferencz Baranyay for his great contribution over the years that he was on the Committee. He has decided to step down from the Committee. I would like to express our appreciation to Zoltan Fritz for his continued support and hard work and we hope he will soon return to the Committee. I would also acknowledge Melinda for her work in supporting the Committee.

*Eva Kovesdy*  
*Secretary/ Acting President*

# Report from the Manager

**We have again had a very busy year at Arpad, full of challenges and hard work.**

## ►► ACCREDITATION

The Arpad Aged Care Facility has undergone re-accreditation (1-2 September) during which every aspect stipulated by the Aged Care Quality Agency was investigated. As we reached 44/44 standards we have received accreditation for a further three years. We work very hard to attain this excellent result and we are very grateful to our residents, their families and the staff for their hard work, support and help.

## ►► STAFFING

The Arpad Aged Care Facility has at present 50 staff members, of these 27 are Hungarian. We constantly need Hungarian-speaking nurses and carers. We are able to train suitable applicants with government support to further their skills. We have a very good staff in the Home, they complete their tasks most responsibly and they continually develop their knowledge, so that they can care for the elderly appropriately. It is with regret that I must say that there are not enough carers or nurses and I therefore call upon everyone, that if they know someone who would be interested in this sort of work that they should approach us.

At present there are 14 active volunteers who help out at Arpad. They conduct bingo sessions, play music or simply talk with residents. The slide presentations of volunteers' travel and experiences have been very well received by the residents.

## ►► LIVING LONGER LIVING BETTER

In 2012 the previous government introduced the program "Living Longer Living Better" which is an elderly reform package with the aim of establishing flexible and joint projects and thereby enabling the older generation to choose their own care and support programs. Since June 2014 low and high care residents have

been treated equally. Therefore, everyone - not only low care residents - has to pay a bond. This is advantageous for the residents but not for the aged homes, because the monthly deductions from the bond have been scrapped. The full amount of the bond has to be therefore refunded. However, higher bonds have to be charged because there is a minimum loss of \$70,000 for each bond-paying resident, as the deductions have been ceased. The government has also issued a new financial test that each intending resident has to submit to centre link and then the government will determine the daily fee that each resident will have to pay.

## ►► CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

We achieved most of our goals set for this year. We are developing towards a better and brighter future. A large part of our development is concerned with paper work and how the administrative work of the staff can be eased, but that this can still meet with expectations. We also aim to make our residents' lives more comfortable by making the environment more appealing. Our future plans include not only refurbishment and building, but also considering how we could help elderly Hungarians in their own homes.

## ►► WAITING LISTS

At the Arpad we have at present 4 separate waiting lists: one for the villa units; one for low care, one for high care according to the old system and a new list with those names who have a new assessment according to the regulations passed in July 2014. There are 43 waiting for a villa unit. There are 78 on the low care list, 16 on the high care list and on the new list there are 23 names. If there is anyone wishing to add their name to a list, we ask them to telephone us for further information or visit our home page. The government, however, expects that the applicants wishing to be added to a waiting list undergo an "Aged Care Assessment".

At the moment there are many people on the waiting list who do not have such an assessment, but if they seriously intend to come into the Home within a year, we



ask them to obtain an Aged Care Assessment. At Arpad there are two Respite Rooms. For these, the same assessment is required but in this way a visitor can stay a few weeks to see what life is like in the Arpad Home. The Aged Care Team makes an assessment and gives permission for Home Care, that is care in the home that includes various types of home help, for example individual care, cleaning, meal delivery, nursing etc. Our application last year to provide help on 1 and 2 level home care was not successful, but this year we are applying again to provide low care help in the home. The result of this application is due in March. If we are successful then we can provide home care to our elderly community.

### ▶▶ ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

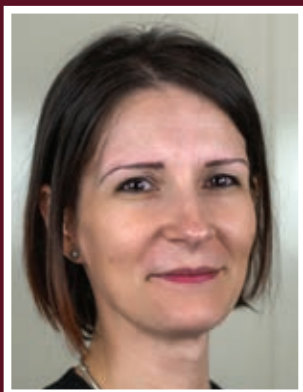
Grateful thanks are due to each and every staff member who do their work conscientiously so that our elderly experience pleasant and comfortable days. As I have already mentioned, we have in our Home a very good team of carers, for whom Arpad is their passion. This is reflected in Arpad's positive achievements. I would like to thank our dear volunteers for their helpful, worthy contribution, that supports our residents. This year as in every November we will hold our traditional volunteer lunch.

We have a bigger need for volunteers than ever. If there are any people, who could devote a half day per week in the high care area (Tisza) to speak with our residents, listen to them, hug someone who needs warmth, then please put up your hand because our residents have a great need for love, understanding and a willing ear. We would also need volunteers as entertainers, as interpreters or drivers who could take our residents to various appointments.

I have grateful thanks for every member of the Committee, for their wonderful, self-sacrificing work. We can always count on them and they have done much for the Arpad home in the past year. They have completed their duties most conscientiously in the interests of the Home. We thank them for their work during the whole year.

Those people who have supported the Arpad Home with their generous donations this year also deserve our thanks. Their warm, selfless generosity means that we can successfully move forward and develop. We thank those enthusiastic people who have remembered Arpad in their will, or those who, instead of flowers, direct donations to Arpad.

*Hella Szilágyi*  
Manager

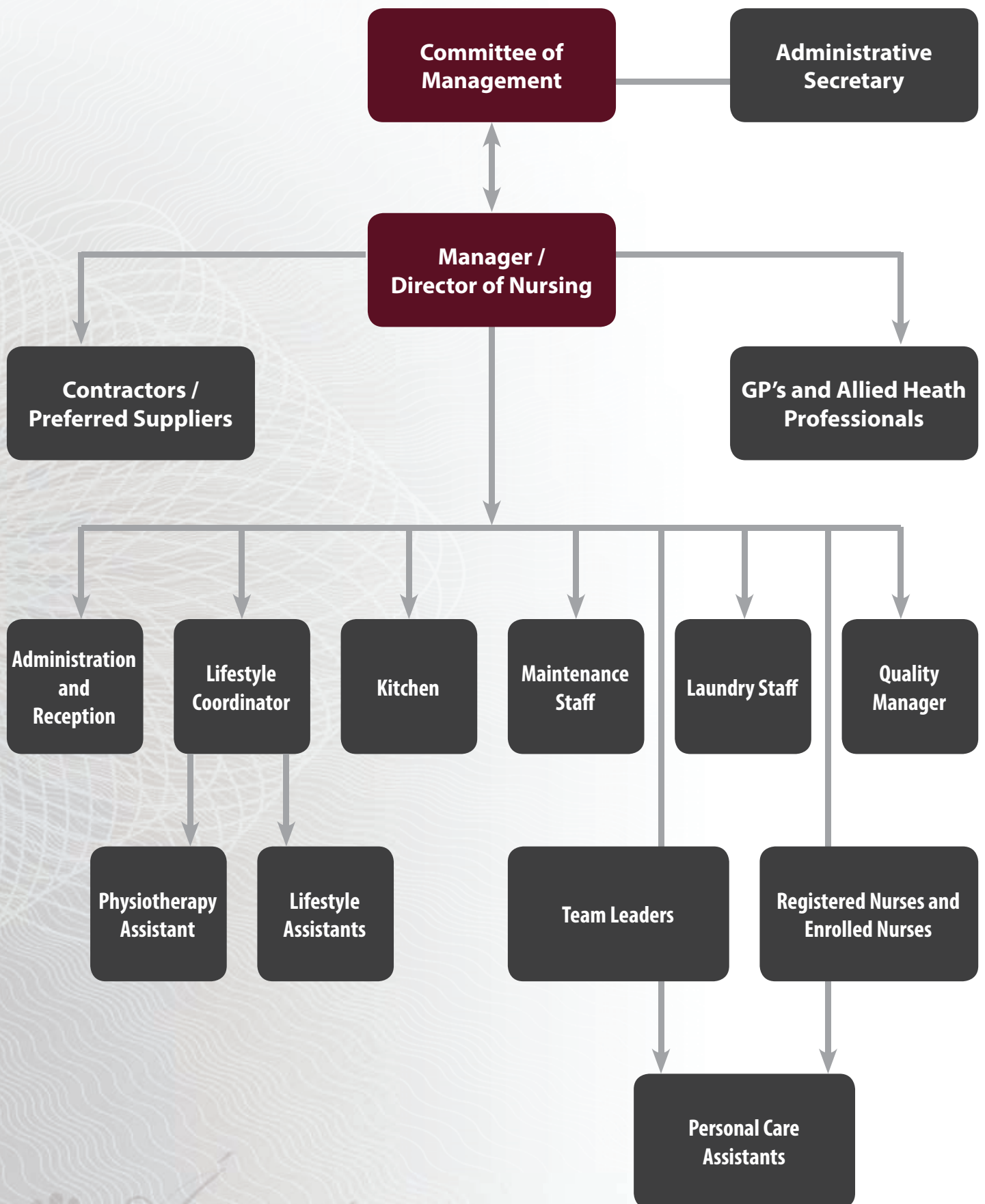


## HELLA SZILÁGYI

MANAGER

*After starting her nursing studies in Hungary, upon arriving to Australia Hella decided to continue this career and completed a Bachelor of Nursing in 2000. She has been working at the Árpád Aged Care Facility for 13 years and has been the Manager for the last 10 years. Hella continued studying and gained a Master's Degree in Health Science specialising in Gerontology and also holds Diplomas in Business and Frontline Management.*

# Organisational Structure of Árpád





## Árpád Staff

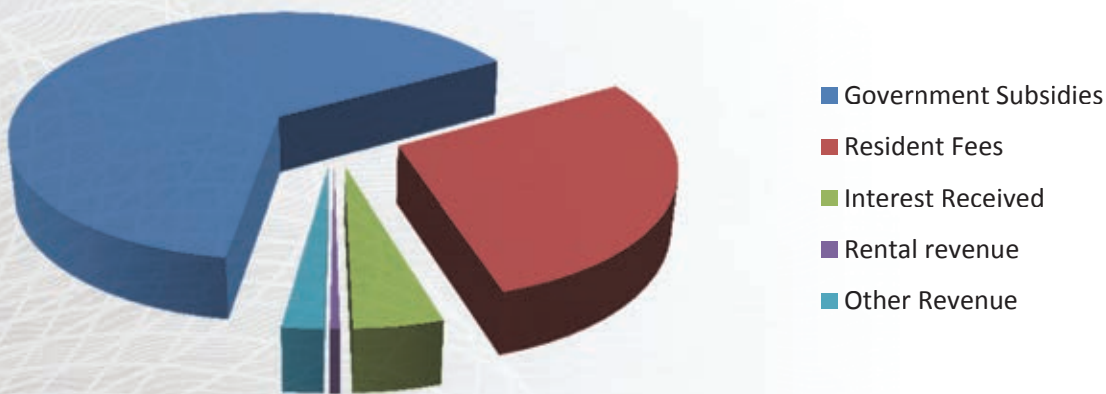
Hella Szilagyi	Elizabeth (Zsofi) Hermann	Krisztina Lo Piccolo	Danielle Therese Sobota
Agnes Alexy	Sandra Hickey	Melinda Mariczky	Szilvia Szaka
Katalin Apathy	Gabriella Homer	Zsuzsanna Matyassy	Ilona Szarvas
Ileana Bodnar	Tamara Izman	Livia Mentus	Imre Takac
Xinxin (Cindy) Chen	Catherine Javier	Zita Mihalka	Rebeka Takac
Edit Czanik	Mary John	Krisztina Molnar	Terez Takac
Mariana Dan	Brigitta Kallo	Virginia Muresan	Claudia Tarcea
Judit Danka	Asmita Kandel Sapkota	Eva Nemere	Vicki Toce
Valeria Der	Navrup Kaur	Dorota Pachaz	Nikolett Varaczki
Rozalia Erdosi	Paramjit Kaur	Evi Peto	Ildiko Varga
Pramila Lowra (Pam)	Harleen Khubber	Vinh Phat (Tyler) Phan	Qingjuan (Wendy) Wang
Eugine	Mi Young Kim	Tamas Piroska	Chih-Liang (Peter) Wu
Eva Ezsol	Jessica Lay	Judit Preczekjan	Jinghan (Jenny) Wu
Agnes Feher	Yuen Lee	Valeria Ridd	Erzsebet Zambori
Olivia Gabert	Erika Lerinc	Tamas Ruscsak	Izabela Zavarko
Karen Gibson	Sophia Lerinc	Leslie Simity	Qiran (Rachel) Zhang
Eva Hazai Mazzag	Jessica Yang Liao	Harbhinder (Harry) Singh	

# Financial Report

## Income/Expenses for 2014/2015

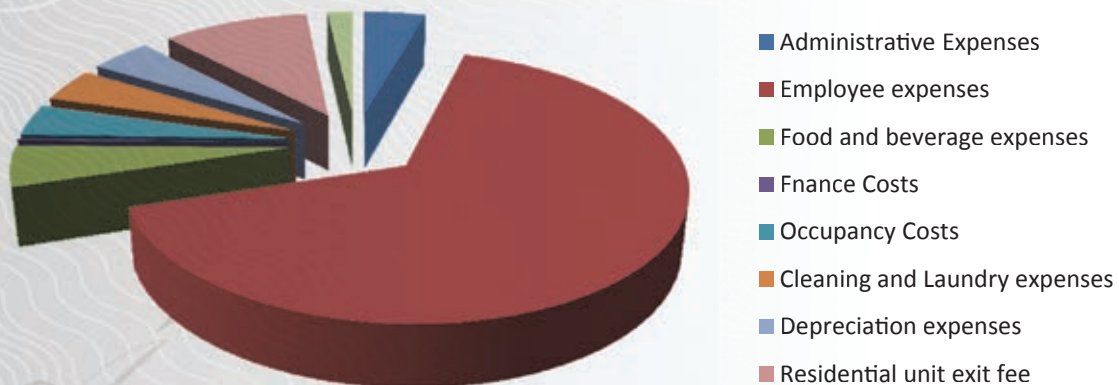
### Income

Government Subsidies	\$3,042,885.00
Resident Fees	\$1,347,122.00
Interest Received	\$207,906.00
Rental revenue	\$22,952.00
Other Revenue	\$95,374.00



### Expenses

Administrative Expenses	\$181,900.00
Employee expenses	\$2,751,015.00
Food and beverage expenses	\$213,904.00
Finance Costs	\$7,254.00
Occupancy Costs	\$165,716.00
Cleaning and Laundry expenses	\$175,609.00
Depreciation expenses	\$180,104.00
Residential unit exit fee	\$429,500.00
Other expenses	\$74,187.00



# Supporters 2015

**For their generous donations  
Arpad wishes to thank:**

Elizabeth Boros  
Ilona Surjan  
Istvan Buzy  
Valeria Harczos  
Alice Misky  
Terezia Bavolyar  
Jozsef Hajdu  
Peterffy family  
K.Erdos  
Judith Legg  
Rozalia & Lajos Olah  
Elizabeth Bordierie  
Mr & Mrs Lengyel  
Ferenc Boday  
Charles Varga  
Izabella Gyori  
Krisztina Serfozo  
Katalin Pritz  
John Mausecz  
Fenyvesi Ilona  
Endre Kocsis  
Ferenc Markovics  
Sully family  
Nancy Hogan Galante  
E. Demeter & M. Czegledi  
Christina Klopfer  
Ilona Fenyvesi  
Mr & Mrs Jando

**We gratefully acknowledge  
the team of volunteers in 2015**

Kato Benko  
Roza Bogar  
Julia Csuk  
Magdolna Gleichweit  
Judith Hajdu  
Istvan Hangodi  
Suzanna Harmer  
Julia Ivic  
Eva Kulic  
Valeria Liptai  
Imre & Nusika Nagy  
Roza & Lajos Olah  
Louisa Rigo  
Maria Sarnyai  
Maria Sullivan  
Magda Toth  
Thomas Weber

# Significant events in 2015

As usual the year 2015 was filled with interesting and stimulating events. Residents celebrated commemorative days from their Hungarian heritage and the holidays of their Australian homeland. Australia Day in January reminded them of the settlement of Australia more than two hundred years ago. In February all received a rose for St. Valentine's Day.



There was much merriment as residents dressed up for Carnival.





1848 in Hungary was remembered on 15<sup>th</sup> March when residents read poems and texts from that time.



Throughout the year the residents enjoyed musical afternoons and entertaining visits. Here Maria Petras, Kornel Dobrenței and Csaba Dezsi.



They celebrated many birthdays.







For Easter residents prepared cards and dyed many bright eggs. The ladies received a little gift from the Committee for Mothers' Day.



In August residents reflected on Saint Stephen I, the first Christian King of Hungary. The gentlemen received a gift for Fathers' Day in September. Many residents can remember the Revolution of October 1956 so the readings were particularly pertinent for them. In November the volunteers and Committee were invited for a delicious lunch as a mark of thanks for their contribution to Árpád.



December brought St. Nicholas Day and the happy festival of Christmas.



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