



MEDIA RELEASE

The CMA Standards Council accredits its first Foundation Partners.

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From: CMA Standards Council (www.cmasc.net.au)

Contact: Stephen Kerr (Executive Director)

Phone: 0417 316 932

Email: steve@cmasc.net.au

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The CMA Standards Council (“CMASC”) accredited its first Foundation Partners, TEAR Australia, FEBC Australia and Anglican Aid, on 7 June 2017 before an audience of approximately 350 people.



CMASC’s Executive Director, Steve Kerr, said to the packed room, “Each of TEAR Australia, FEBC Australia and Anglican Aid shows good governance and responsible leadership, is transparent in its actions, and is prepared to be accountable not only to God, but also to its peers, the ACNC and the watching world.”

TEAR Australia, FEBC Australia and Anglican Aid have each met all of CMASC’s 54 Principles and Standards of Responsible Stewardship. “These organisations have voluntarily taken part in CMASC’s pilot program to show their commitment to integrity and demonstrate their trustworthiness” said Mr Kerr. “They are sending a powerful message to the Christian sector.”

The Chair of TEAR Australia, Joanna Betteridge, said “It is important for the whole of the body of Christ to give assurance to the public, in the light of things that can go wrong, that we have a set of best practice standards we all try to live by and meet”. The Chair of Anglican Aid, Bishop Peter Tasker, agreed, adding “We jumped at coming in on this project. Anyone who is relating to the Christian public should be working towards this accreditation”. Kevin Keegan, the CEO of FEBC Australia went on to say “Being recognised as an organisation with high standards of governance and compliance is absolutely vital today to engender the trust element for existing and potential donors. I would wholeheartedly recommend accreditation”.

Mr Kerr said that CMASC is continuing its pilot program, which it hopes to complete later this year. “Our pilot program includes a number of further fine churches and Christian organisations which we fully expect to accredit soon as Foundation Partners. Accreditation certifies that our Partners have met independent Standards to show they can be trusted to deal responsibly and ethically with their donors and other stakeholders.”

The CMA Standards Council urges all donors to give confidently, and give generously, to these Foundation Partners. A list of all our accredited Partners is available at the online directory on www.giveconfidently.net.au and on www.cmasc.net.au.