



**BAPTIST  
WORLD AID  
AUSTRALIA**  
Be love. End poverty.

## What others are saying about the new CEO of Baptist World Aid Australia:

‘Melissa Lipsett is an outstanding leader. I am thrilled she has joined our Baptist family. The hearts of Baptists have always been touched by global needs and Baptist World Aid is a wonderful vehicle to express God’s love. Melissa will lead Baptist World Aid from a place of deep faith, pastoral warmth and strategic vision.’

—**Rev. Tim Costello, Executive Director, Micah Australia**

‘I am really looking forward to working with Melissa Lipsett and continuing the wonderful relationship that Baptist World Aid Australia/Transform Aid International has with Australian Baptist Ministries and the Asia Pacific Baptist Federation. Melissa is a gifted leader, speaker, team builder and a strategic thinker. I believe that she will be an asset and brings a tremendous amount of energy and enthusiasm.’

—**Rev. Mark Wilson, National Ministries Director, Australian Baptist Ministries Vice President, Asia Pacific Baptist Federation**

‘Melissa is one of the most gifted, passionate and effective leaders I have enjoyed the privilege of serving alongside. Melissa loves Jesus, loves people and is committed to seeing the Gospel transform lives and communities. All the time I have known her she has had a heart for the nations. I am delighted the vital mission of Baptist World Aid empowering the world’s poor and working for justice will be enhanced further by one of Australia’s best Christian leaders.’

—**Rev. Stu Cameron, CEO and Superintendent Minister, Wesley Mission**

‘Melissa is a wonderful role model in Christian leadership in these lands now called Australia. She brings her executive expertise, humble leadership, pastor’s heart and compassionate spirit. Melissa is such a qualified, capable, and deserving person to be appointed as CEO of Baptist World Aid Australia. Congratulations, Melissa, and Baptist World Aid Australia. May God richly bless BWAA and Melissa in this exciting season.’

—**Brooke Prentis, CEO, Common Grace, Aboriginal Christian Leader**

‘Melissa Lipsett is an outstanding appointment as the new CEO of Baptist World Aid Australia. Her love for Jesus and people combined with her great leadership capacity and intellect will open an excellent season of ministry for all.’

—**Dale Stephenson, Senior Pastor, Crossway Baptist Church, Burwood East, VIC**

‘I am so excited about Melissa’s appointment to the role of CEO of Baptist World Aid. Melissa is an inspiring leader who leads her teams with vision and humility, enabling each person to develop and flourish in the gifts that God has given them. I have personally appreciated Melissa’s encouragement and support, and I look forward to working together as we serve those who live in poverty throughout the world.’

—**Clare Steele, CEO, Compassion Australia**

‘How Melissa lives and works her faith, how she leads as a woman, as a person—her strength and humility, compassion and conviction, generosity of leadership and hospitality—is an inspiration to all who have been blessed to work with her. Down to earth, she lifts and presses other people up to do more than they thought they could. Her ability to think big picture but watch the detail transform the teams she leads. In summary she is ace. I would like to be her when I grow up.’

—**Susannah McFarlane, Head of Publishing, Bible Society of Australia**

‘Melissa Lipsett’s appointment to the role of CEO for Baptist World Aid Australia is good news for that organization and I believe for all Baptist endeavours to be God’s love and act justly across our nation and world. Melissa brings the necessary skill and experience to the role and, significantly in our current cultural climate, she brings a relational intelligence and engagement that makes her just the collegial and empowering leader we need. I am excited about this appointment!’

—**Karen Siggins, Interim Director of Ministries, Baptist Churches Western Australia**

‘At once gracious, insightful, and godly, Melissa has a breadth and depth of experience that shines through in the way she leads and motivates people. Her impressive success leading churches and charities bear testament to her considerable wisdom and passion for her work.’

—**Scott Walters, CEO, Opportunity International**

‘I’m pleased to endorse Melissa Lipsett as CEO for Baptist World Aid Australia. I’ve worked closely with Melissa for over a decade and know her to be a leader of high integrity, high relational skills and someone who others willingly follow. Melissa imparts vision and takes teams on the journey of discovering new strategies and ways of working well together. She clearly hears and responds to God’s prompting in her leadership and decision-making. I will support her in whatever way I can as she paves new paths and directions for what she has been entrusted with.’

—**Karen Wilson, CEO Global Leadership Network Australia, Vice President Global Leadership Network International, President Baptist World Alliance Women**

‘The appointment of Melissa Lipsett as CEO of Baptist World Aid Australia is great news, not only for Melissa and the organisation, but for the many people whose lives are impacted by this important work. Melissa brings experience, passion, and commitment to the role, and is a highly effective leader, combining emotional and pastoral intuition with business acumen and skill. She brings out the best in the people she leads. Melissa’s proven “can do” approach, animated by her deep and mature Christian faith, will be a model of steady and unwavering commitment.’

—**Simon Smart, Executive Director, Centre for Public Christianity**

‘Melissa is compassionate, down-to-Earth and deeply relational while also being strong, courageous and skilled to speak up for those who do not have a voice. I am thrilled to hear of her appointment to the role of CEO and look forward to seeing the organisation thrive under her competent leadership.’

—**Yvette Cherry, Baptist Pastor, WA**

‘Rev. Melissa Lipsett is a wise leader, who wants the best from and for her staff, is passionate about her faith and strives to live out the call of Micah 6:8, “To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” Baptist World Aid Australia will continue to flourish with Melissa, a woman of outstanding integrity, at the helm.’

—**Penny Mulvey, Chief Communications Officer, Bible Society**

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*Baptist World Aid Australia has been the heart and hands of Australian Baptists since 1959 and continues to work toward ending poverty through 71 projects with 36 local Christian partners in 17 countries.*