





"You have made so much difference to the quality of service we provide to our patients, for that I am indeed grateful. God bless your hearts."

Dr. Sereana Natuman | Director of Medical Department

Vila Central Hospital



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#### **GREETINGS FROM OUR CHAIR & GENERAL MANAGER**

When we established the Melanie Jewson Foundation in 2012 to support Health and Education in Vanuatu, we could not have imagined the effects a pandemic could have when it beset the world in 2020-2021. The impact the current pandemic has had on countries all around the world has shown us that a virus does not discriminate between the haves and have nots and the rich or the poor, however, access to medical care and well-resourced schooling does.

As the pandemic continues to wreak havoc around the world, the work of the Melanie Jewson Foundation becomes even more important as it supports health and education in Vanuatu.

Despite the fact that Vanuatu has remained predominantly COVID free the challenges facing Vanuatu remain significant. The people of Espiritu Santo (Sanma Province) withstood Cyclone Harold which damaged buildings and infrastructure including schools and learning resources. Health resources are also stretched as they strive to provide basic health care for the people – something that is difficult to imagine for a well-resourced country like Australia.

This year, we have provided much-needed medical equipment including Rapid Assessment Kits for the nurses in the Emergency Department so that they can readily triage incoming patients and provide timely care and treatment. Our end of financial year campaign 'Let me Learn' has also been hugely successful and will enable us to replenish destroyed learning resources for Sanma Province in the coming year.

We are a dedicated volunteer team that is passionate in supporting the people of Vanuatu and we are ready, with the ongoing and generous sponsorship from our donors, to continue our support for health and education in Vanuatu into the future.

Vanuatu needs us, and we are thankful for your commitment to us and to the people of Vanuatu.

Gary Jewson

Chair & General Manager | The Melanie Jewson Foundation

### **OUR PROFILE**

#### **Our Mission**

Vanuatu's health and education systems are in desperate need. The Melanie Jewson Foundation responds to this need by fostering opportunities for improvement. Quality health and education are essential to a thriving community.

#### **Our Vision**

Advancing Health and Education in Vanuatu.

### **Our History**

The Melanie Jewson Foundation launched in 2012 and is dedicated to advancing health and education in Vanuatu. To date, we have raised over AU\$250,000 and continue to build our donation base. We support ongoing projects, individual proposals and continue to strive for growth throughout Vanuatu. The Melanie Jewson Foundation is currently focused on the Vila Central Hospital, Vila East Primary School and education resourcing on the island of Santo in Sanma Province. We can always do more.

Vanuatu has been classified by the United Nations as a Least Developed Country. Its health and education systems are in desperate need. One in two Ni-Vanuatu children will not attend high school and Vanuatu's budget for health per person is 37 times less than Australia's. The MJF responds to this overwhelming need by working with the people of Vanuatu to foster opportunities for improved health and education.

As a Least Developed Country, Vanuatu's unsustainable health system is in crisis. The MJF works in partnership with the Vila Central Hospital to provide equipment, education and training.

Education is crucial in enabling Vanuatu to reach its future development goals. Together with the Ministry of Education and in particular Vila East Primary School and Sanma Province, we are working to support Vanuatu's under-resourced education system.

#### Who was Melanie?

Melanie was a gregarious spirit taken too soon. She loved the arts – she danced and sang – she was encouraging of others, beautiful and overflowing with potential.

In early 2003, 17-year-old Melanie and her mother Elizabeth travelled to the Pacific island nation of Vanuatu to work together as volunteers at the Port Vila Central Hospital. Mel was profoundly moved by the need she saw all around her and resolved to do something to help. She returned from Vanuatu to complete her final year at high school and during that year set about raising funds and equipment for the hospital.

This foundation honours the life that should have been Melanie's to live by developing her fledgling vision into something tangible for the people of Vanuatu. It has been a way to focus our grief and a reminder that even the deepest despair can transform into something of worth; something fulfilling.

### **MJF OVERVIEW**

#### **About Us**

The Melanie Jewson Foundation has been established in memory of Melanie as a not-for-profit company. Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) acts as auspice for the Foundation to ensure donations achieve tax deductible status. Under a Deed of Trust our volunteer board has been established to govern the operations of the Melanie Jewson Foundation. Since 2012, the board has focused its attention on supporting health and education in Vanuatu with a strong emphasis on being committed to culturally appropriate responses, respectful relationships and the donation of new resources that can, if possible, be sourced locally or at least, be maintained locally.

The Melanie Jewson Foundation is family operated and the work of the foundation is made possible by a team of dedicated volunteers.

#### **Values**

The following principles guide the goals, strategies and all activities of the Melanie Jewson Foundation:

- 1. Access to quality health and education are a basic human right.
- 2. We are response based.
- 3. We are culturally safe.
- 4. We practice responsible waste reduction and sustainability.
- 5. We are accountable to the people we support and the people who support us.

### **Our Process**

Partnership is key to the work that we do, and it is what sets us apart.

The Melanie Jewson Foundation's donation strategy is based on the principles of ethical, needs-based donation of equipment and resources. This means that each item and each project is driven by the identified needs of the staff of the school or hospital in question, as well as the Vanuatu Government. We work hard to ensure that items are of an acceptable standard and fit the specifications required by schools and the hospital.

We do this not only because we believe that the people of Vanuatu know best what they need, but to ensure that donated equipment is appropriate and useful. According to the World Health Organisation, as little as 40% of equipment donated to developing countries ends up being used. Our success rate is close to 100%. We attribute this to our respectful and long-lasting relationship with the people in Vanuatu and our approach to ethical donation.

### **Our Supporters & Partners**

#### **Australia**

Australian High Commission Provides guidance, support and liaison with the governments

of Vanuatu and Australia.

Harwood Andrews Community Partner – A Geelong based legal firm providing

the MJF with Pro-Bono legal advice re the establishment of

DGR status for the Foundation.

Geelong Lutheran College The MJF works closely with Geelong Lutheran College and

the students who travel to Vanuatu each year, to encourage

their service learning program and facilitate a strategic

support of MJF into the future.

Kalgin Global Logistics Provides ocean freight services from Australia to Vanuatu at

a greatly reduced rate.

Private Donors Our generous private supporters provide ongoing financial

support through their donations and event attendance.

Vanuatu

Agence Gauchet Community Partner – Receiver of shipped goods in Vanuatu.

Ministry of Health Vanuatu's Ministry of Health supports the work of the MJF

with a Memorandum of Understanding.

Vila Central Hospital The large hospital in Port Vila whose relationship with the

Foundation has been long-standing. A great deal of MJF work is located and focused on the various departments of

the VCH.

Ministry of Education & Training Vanuatu's Ministry of Education & Training supports the work

of the MJF with a Memorandum of Understanding, a renewal

of which is currently in process.

**Patrons** 

Hon. Richard Marles MP

The Member for Corio, Victoria, Australian Labor Party. Deputy

Leader of the Opposition.

Martin Sheen International actor and activist.

#### **GOVERNANCE**

### **Structure & Management**

The Melanie Jewson Foundation has been established as a not-for-profit company and is under the auspice, for tax deductible purposes, of Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS). Under a Deed of Trust, a volunteer board has been established to oversee operations of the Melanie Jewson Foundation. Since 2012, the board has focused its attention on supporting health and education in Vanuatu, with a strong emphasis on being committed to culturally appropriate responses and respectful relationships.

The Melanie Jewson Foundation is family operated but is governed by a board of interested people and satisfies legal and financial regulations and requirements under Australian law. Currently, the Chair also acts as General Manager with responsibility for the liaising with the portfolio managers for Marketing, Health and Education.

#### **Our Board**

The MJF Board meets at least four times per year and monitors financial accountability, overseas donations, legal requirements and approves budgets, fundraising initiatives and events.

Role	Name
Chair	Gary Jewson (Education)
Secretary	Elizabeth Jewson
Treasurer	Marian Wilson
Members	Andre Jewson (Marketing & Fundraising)
	Dr. Ashlee Jewson (Health)
	Joy Adcock
	Jan Baker
	Rob Baker
	Kay Buckland
	Peter Buckland
	John Donoghue
	Andrew Dunbabin

## **Administration Report**

#### **Governance**

Like all organisations around the world, the MJF has also been impacted by COVID and some of our activities have been delayed due to the limitations to in-country visits caused by the virus. The MJF is a small organisation and as such, the Chairperson also acts as the General Manager to oversee operational activities and support other member with required tasks.

The board has established a regular cycle of meetings with each meeting having a particular focus:

1. **February:** Governance Review & Training

2. May: EOFY & Budget Setting

3. August: AGM, Annual Report

4. **November:** Strategic Review (SWOT on priorities)

A key role for the Chair is to ensure that each meeting of the board is well prepared with a comprehensive agenda that schedules the receipt of regular reports from each portfolio (Finance, Health, Education and Marketing & Fundraising) and that the required governance tasks of the organisation are conducted in an orderly and efficient manner.

#### **Management**

Key roles for the General Manager include:

- liaising with current partners to ensure their continued support;
- ensuring that communication with partners is regular and transparent;
- seeking out and establish new partner opportunities for future support;
- ensuring all administrative tasks are conducted ethically, professionally and in a timely manner:

The board completed a Strategic Plan in 2018 and all portfolio reports to the board are reported against strategic priorities and targets to ensure that activities align with the strategic directions set by the board. The board will review priorities at the November meeting.

We continue to keep in close contact with our Patrons, the actor Martin Sheen and Hon. Richard Marles MP and appreciate their interest in the Foundation and continued support.

#### Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR)

During 2020-2021 we have continued to liaise with Harwood Andrews Lawyers to guide the MJF through the process of gaining DGR application in its own right. Currently, Rotary International acts as auspice for the MJF to ensure donations achieve tax deductible status. Harwood Andrews is continuing to support us in this endeavour and will continue our application for registration with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) and once successful, will then apply for status under the Overseas Aid Gift Deduction Scheme (OAGDS) whose purposes are to support activities in parts of the world declared as a 'developing country' by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. We continue to be deeply grateful to Harwood Andrews for their generous pro-bono support.

#### **Logistics & Special Projects**

For the MJF to effectively support its projects and achievements, various infrastructure needs to be in place to ensure smoothness of operations or indeed, to make them possible. In the

2020-2021 financial year, under 'Special Projects', the MJF committed \$2,200 to instal a concrete apron in front of the MJF storage shed to enable the safe delivery and pick up of shipping crates. Kalgin Global Logistics generously ships our crates to Vanuatu at no cost and this installation has enabled easy access for their drivers to offload and pick up loaded crates.

### Marketing & Fundraising

The MJF's Marketing & Fundraising team aims to support the work of the Health and Education teams primarily by raising the funds needed for them to do their work. It also prioritises the foundation's messaging and communication to donors/supporters/recipients.

This financial year, the priorities have been planning for the website upgrade, as well as the usual fundraising imperatives.

Marketing & Fundraising collaborated with Nathan Harms of NH Creates to develop a sitemap and 'look and feel' for the MJF's new website, reworked all marketing copy (which will be implemented across every platform at the launch of the new website), supervised the branding of donated goods, ran an end of financial year (EOFY) fundraising campaign and maintained communications with MJF supporters.

The website, although in need of a complete redesign, continues to successfully accept online donations, which are often one-offs in response to a specific campaign, but can also be set up by the donor to be made regularly on an automatic schedule. Marketing & Fundraising aims to continue to increase the regular donation base over the coming year to solidify incoming financials, giving the foundation a reliable source of income.

The MJF's brand identity takes many forms — from marketing collateral, (like brochures and business cards), to consistent marketing copy, and branded stickers and stamps for donated items. This financial year Marketing & Fundraising branded a large crate full of donated goods before they were sent to Port Vila. The central goal with all the branding work is to build trust and recognition in the MJF as a reliable, professional organisation, with both supporters and recipients alike.

Dr. Sarmad Akkach joined the MJF's Marketing & Fundraising team earlier this year. Sarmad has been indispensable, archiving and processing hundreds of photos and is beginning to develop our social media presence.



Masks branded with MJF stickers, packed and ready to be shipped.

Marketing & Fundraising stays in touch with the MJF's community of supporters through targeted electronic direct marketing (EDM) and social media. Each year it runs a fundraising campaign at the end of the financial year, targeted to either Health or Education, which in 2021 raised well over \$10,000.

Marketing & Fundraising tries not to push too hard for donations, as the MJF's supporter base is modest (under 400 on the EDM list, 1.2K followers on Facebook, 182 on Instagram). Communication aims to strike a pleasing balance between being informative and petitional. Mention of Melanie always garners the highest responses on social media. Converting this interest in the memory of Melanie into MJF support is a constant challenge.

Due to the disruption of COVID, unfortunately the MJF wasn't able to hold its usual annual 'Spring Film' fundraising event in the second half of 2020. Hopefully there can be a return to the event in 2021.

### **Our Objectives & Activities**

#### **Health Achievements**

"Medical equipment has become a fundamental part of modern healthcare delivery, enabling screening, prevention, diagnostics, treatment and palliative care. Still a huge mismatch exists between the number of technologies produced by the global healthcare innovation community and the user in low-resource settings. Donations of medical equipment could bridge some of these gaps, allowing for some of the surplus from high resource settings to be passed to low resource settings.

However, if poorly executed, donations could turn into a burden for the recipient, wasting an enormous amount of money, human resources and time, with long term implications of crippled healthcare systems and amassing environmental burden."

- The World Health Organisation

MJF Health is committed to flexibly responding to expressed and identified needs on an ongoing basis and pride ourselves on the ethical and responsible donation of equipment and resources.

During the last financial year, equipment purchased in the 2019-2020 financial year arrived on site for use in the Medical Department, Paediatric Department and the Emergency Department (ED) at Vila Central Hospital. The Director of the Medical Department, Dr. Sereana Natuman, has been instrumental in identifying life-saving equipment that the Medical Department did not have access to. This included a brand new Automated External Defibrillator (AED), a device used to electrically re-start the heart when patients go into cardiac arrest. We have also been able to donate other essential life-saving equipment, including oxygen masks, stethoscopes and infusion pumps. We are extremely proud to have been able to supply such critical and needed equipment.

To equip the Paediatric Department, MJF collaborated closely with Director of the Paediatric Department, Dr. Orelly Thyna. Through this partnership, MJF was able to provide life-saving equipment and consumables to the Paediatric Department, including stethoscopes, infusion pumps, Ophthalmology and Ear Nose and Throat diagnostic sets, oxygen masks, thermometers, and airway equipment. Feedback from Dr. Thyna confirmed the immediate impact this equipment has had on the care of children.

This year, we also successfully supported an up-skilling triage initiative with the ED, with the help of Volunteers-Australia nurse Leigh Elton, who was on the ground at Vila Central Hospital. We

supported the initiative by providing nursing packs, or Rapid Assessment Kits (RAKs), containing all the essential equipment required to monitor patients' vital signs, including stethoscopes, blood pressure cuffs, thermometers, glucose monitors, pen lights, and oximeters. The signs are the gold standard parameters for determining whether a patient is medically stable or deteriorating and are considered essential for an effective triage system. MJF Health is proud to have been able to provide 50 nursing packs to Vila Central Hospital. The equipment donated is the same standard of equipment used in Australian hospitals' emergency departments. The ED used the equipment packs to run a fundraising campaign to upgrade some of their facilities. The packs sold out quickly and received glowing reviews!

Due to difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, MJF Health deferred its budget from 2020-21 to 2021-22. Providing COVID support is outside of MJF's scope and mission, however ancillary support from the Vanuatu government was provided to the hospital during the pandemic.



Nurse with her brand-new MJF-donated Rapid Assessment Kit. Vila Central Hospital, Port Vila.

#### **Educational Achievements**

"Culture is central to learning. It plays a role not only in communicating and receiving information, but also in shaping the thinking process of groups and individuals. A pedagogy that acknowledges, responds to, and celebrates fundamental cultures offers full, equitable access to education for students from all cultures. Culturally Responsive Teaching is a pedagogy that recognizes the importance of including students' cultural references in all aspects of learning."

- Gloria Ladson-Billings, American Pedagogical Theorist

The MJF believes that the best work we can do is to improve literacy and numeracy skills in the early years, thereby laying a solid foundation of learning that will open doors into higher education, enabling greater career opportunities into the future.

Our educational work currently focuses on the supply of quality reading material for pre-reading, early readers and other resources in the primary school. These educational resources are sourced through Read Pacific (<a href="https://readpacific.co.nz/">https://readpacific.co.nz/</a>), a New Zealand based company that focuses on supplying culturally appropriate educational resources to the Pacific Islands. Read Pacific also

has a local office in Port Vila so that schools can visit the office in person and choose the most relevant materials to suit students in their classrooms.

A strong education system is crucial in any society, and this is emphasised by Goal 4 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals which states:

Goal 4: Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning.

Compulsory education in Vanuatu only applies to the first six years of primary schooling. A further four years of junior secondary and three years of senior secondary is available to students, however, most conclude their education at the end of Primary school and enter the workforce with limited literacy and numeracy skills. Formal education is not available at all in some remote villages of Vanuatu.



A student at Vila East Primary School, Port Vila.

Improved literacy has a positive effect on society by increasing self-esteem and confidence. Although basic literacy and numeracy skills are improving in Vanuatu (ranked 50th in the world), education remains costly with classrooms often overcrowded and critically under-resourced. This presents significant challenges for classroom teachers to provide the type of learning programs enjoyed in Australian classrooms. Primary enrolment is reasonably healthy at 96%

but at secondary level, this figure falls to 43% of potential students enrolled.

#### EOFY Campaign - "Let me Learn"

In partnership with Read Pacific and the Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) the MJF is working to support Vanuatu's desperately under resourced education system to provide quality, new and culturally appropriate resources that can be used in the classroom to enhance learning. The MJF is also committed to listening to the needs of local schools and teachers to ensure that the resources supplied will be used extensively in Vanuatu classrooms.

In April 2020 Cyclone Harold caused significant damage to the island of Espiritu Santo. Their schools are in great need of support to replace damaged and lost resources and equipment so their students can continue to access effective learning. The support given by our donors and provided through the Melanie Jewson Foundation will give the students of Sanma Province the best possible chance of accessing higher education, enabling greater career opportunities into the future.

"On behalf of the very appreciative staff at VCH, I would like to say TANK YU TUMAS for your extremely generous equipment donation!

By sending the Rapid Assessment Kits to VCH, the Melanie Jewson Foundation has improved the care that healthcare professionals are able to give to their patients."

Libby White | Emergency Department

Vila Central Hospital

### **OUR FINANCES**

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Melanie Jewson Foundation is a dedicated charity that relies on volunteers for all its administration and fundraising activities. We are grateful to our regular supporters and those who have responded so generously to our End of Financial Year campaign to replace learning resources in Sanma province due to the losses incurred through Cyclone Harold. Our current DGR status is achieved through auspice by Rotary International and we are grateful for their support which is enabled through Rotary Belmont.

Although COVID has impacted on all aspects of operations, donations in this financial year have continued strongly and it is encouraging to see more and more people moving to become regular donors. The impact of COVID has also prevented us from an in-country visit this year and meant that project expenditure will be rolled-over into 2021-2022 to ensure maximum benefit in response to Cyclone Harold and with the provision of medical resources for the Ministry of Health. Because of our small base of supporters and the necessary costs in running a foundation, a higher percentage of income needs to be used for our operations than we would like. As we grow, and our income grows, this percentage will reduce.

#### **Auditor's Statement**

#### Year Ended 30 June 2021

I report to members that I have reviewed the financial records of The Foundation for the year ended 30 June 2021 and the accounts extracted from those records are attached to this report.

The Statement of Receipts and Payments reflects accurately and fairly the activities of The Melanie Jewson Foundation for the year ending 30 June 2021.

As is common with many volunteer and not-for-profit organisations there is not the normal division of responsibilities in the various financial roles within The Foundation and some receipts are taken in cash, and so records are of a standard not acceptable in larger commercial organisations.

With these provisos I am satisfied that the appropriate records of financial transactions are maintained by The Foundation.

Andrew Dunbabin

Andrew Dunbabin

Fellow of The Institute of Charted Accountants in Australia (Retired)

## **Financial Statements**

### **MELANIE JEWSON FOUNDATION**

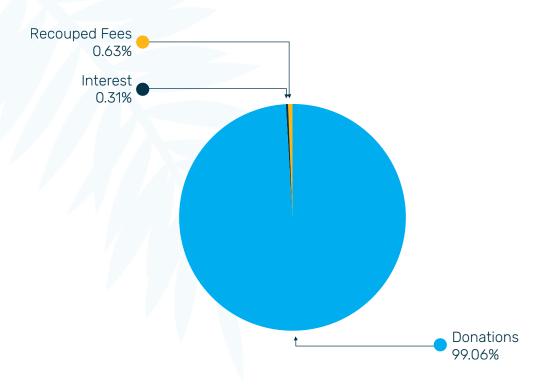
### RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

#### **YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

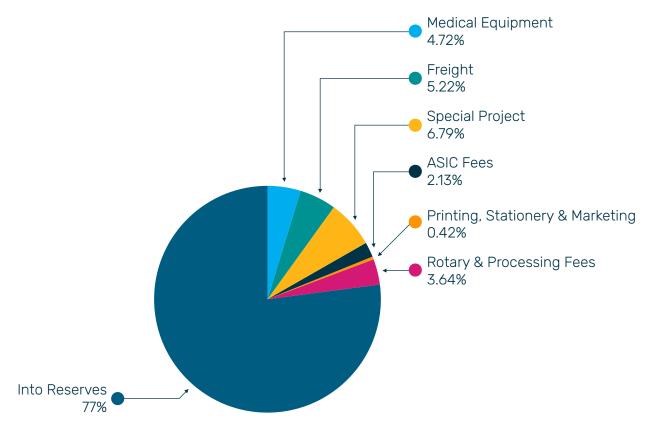
	2021	2020
	\$	\$
RECEIPTS		
Donations	32,109	37,826
Interest received	102	363
Recouped fees	203	248
Fundraising – Film Festival		3,697
	32,414	42,696
PAYMENTS		
Fundraising costs – Film Festival		1,760
Website costs		1,797
ASIC fees	690	267
Printing, Stationery & Marketing	136	179
Rotary & processing fees	1,181	1,557
Vanuatu Donations		
-Medical Equipment	1,531	25,589
-Freight to Vanuatu	1,692	310
-School Equipment		8,220
-Special Project	2,200	600
	7,430	40,279
Surplus/(Deficit)	24,984	2,417
	=====	=====

## **Graphs**

### Income 2020 - 2021



### **Expenditure 2020 - 2021**





Nurse with patient and parent, Vila Central Hospital Paediatric Department.



2020 crate branded and packed, ready to be transported to Vanuatu.



### OTHER INFORMATION

### **Acknowledgment**

The MJF cannot function without generous donations from our supporters and partners who either donate money, time or resources to aid the people of Vanuatu and to honour the memory of Melanie. We are very grateful for this sponsorship and we commit to ensuring the ethical use of our finances so that the maximum support can be given where it is needed most. We are also grateful to the members of the board who have given much of their time in supporting the MJF over many years. – again, we could not function without them.

We are also grateful to Harwood Andrews and the work they are generously gifting to the MJF to assist us in realising our ambition of achieving DGR status in our own right. Due to our focus on overseas aid to Vanuatu slightly more complex requirements are required by the Australian Government.

### **How You Can Help Us**

For our important work to continue, regular donors are needed to assist us in planning the type of support we can give. The need is great, our passion is great, and the change we are aiming for is also great. To achieve these lofty ideals we require you to support the MJF and its work by attending our events; telling your colleagues, your friends and your extended family; making a regular donation; or even speaking to someone you know who may be keen on becoming a corporate sponsor. Every donation, either large or small, may save a life or help a child learn to read and open a door for them that leads to a better future for them and their country.

## **Looking to the Future**

The MJF is planning to increase its support of health and education in the coming years so that we can make an appreciable difference to the people of Vanuatu. Our vision for the MJF, and for Vanuatu, is to build on the partnership we have with the Ministry of Health so we can, together, improve service delivery in the hospitals which will have a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of all in the community. In addition to our work in the health sector, we plan to increase our support to schools in other parts of Vanuatu so that a greater number of students can have ready access to quality resources, giving them the best possible chance of being able to gain further education and have better opportunities for employment in the future.

# **CONTACT US**

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