



**The possibilities  
are endless**



**2018**  
**Annual  
Report**



Youth Futures acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Western Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to their culture and to elders past, present and emerging.

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Youth Futures would like to acknowledge the voluntary contribution from **Everything Visual** who have kindly donated their design and artwork time to this annual report and numerous other items throughout the year.

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# From the Chairperson and CEO

**It has been a super busy and amazing year for Youth Futures. Not only have we been able to expand existing services, we have also been able to successfully open a new Anchor Point site in Bassendean and become a Registered Training Organisation (RTO). Even more importantly, across Youth Futures and Comet we have been able to assist 1,410 young people to address and overcome a multitude of issues and barriers preventing them from fully participating in their community.**

Unfortunately, we have been unable to provide support to over 946 young people that have sought our help. For this reason, as a Board we will continue to look at ways to increase our capacity through partnerships, service expansion and the creation of new services to meet this unmet need. We are strongly committed to continuing to provide services that are centred on the young person and that operate under a holistic model as we have done for over 30 years.

Young people assisted by Youth Futures regularly access multiple services and are generally receiving support across our three service streams; Homelessness Services, Support Services and Education Services. The majority of the support we provide to young people accessing our services throughout the year is intensive and over a prolonged period of time, as opposed to brief intervention. Young mums can be supported by the Nest program for up to 18 months, young people enrolled in Comet or Anchor Point can be part of the program for 3-4 years and attend 25-32 hours a week. TINOCA provides accommodation and support to young people for 130-140 hours a week for up to three months. We believe this is why the young people accessing our services overcome such adversity and achieve so much.

## **Throughout the year we have seen hundreds of young people achieve amazing outcomes...**

while overcoming what at times appear to be insurmountable obstacles and barriers. Seeing these great achievements simply reinforces why as an organisation we continue, why as an organisation we work with young people, and why we choose to concentrate and focus on some of the most disengaged, disadvantaged and vulnerable young people in our community.

Getting feedback from young people is always valued as we know they have no issue with being honest and saying how they feel. So when we get young people telling us "I feel like my life is getting back on track while I'm here", "There was always someone working on shift and they would listen to me", and "It's great that there is a program that still cares for young people" we know our staff are doing incredible things.

Seeing the changes in the lives of young people supported across the organisation and

what they can achieve when provided with the support they need, confirms that we are doing something right and that the programs and services are meeting the needs of young people in our community. We acknowledge that there is always room for improvement, ways of doing things better, being more efficient, more effective and know that the day we stop striving to improve is the day we let young people down.

As a Board we have the honour of being involved in an organisation that has a great track record and reputation for delivering quality services to at-risk and vulnerable young people in Western Australia. We also have the pressure and responsibility of ensuring appropriate services continue and are sustainable now and in the future.

Sustainable planning, not only for the short term but for the long term, requires the Board to regularly make significant decisions to ensure the continual sustainability of Youth Futures and to ensure we continue to provide services that are relevant to the needs of the young people seeking our assistance. Many of the services and programs we deliver today are the result of years of planning, discussion and often waiting for the right time or opportunity. Over the last couple of years we have seen the implementation and realisation of past year's planning and decisions. Throughout 2017 and the first half of 2018 we have reaped from the seeds planted in the past and we are expecting as they say a "bumper crop" over the next year.

Some of those key achievements include Youth Futures becoming a Registered Training Organisation. Futures Education and Training (FEAT) was officially registered in February 2018 and will initially provide the necessary curriculum for Comet and Anchor Point. Certificates I, II and III in General Education are currently the focus of the RTO, however additional certificates that increase the employability of young people will be added in the near future. This was a massive achievement and will only add to the quality of education programs offered across the organisation.

For many years our Homelessness Service Manager has been advocating for more to be done for young people who are under 16 years and experiencing homelessness. Finally after years of advocating, a joint research project involving Youth Futures, YACWA, Edith Cowan University and the Commissioner for Children and Young People was completed. "Homelessness in young people under 16 years" was released earlier this year highlighting the specific needs and issues associated with being under 16 and homeless. The report will be used to assist the Government in developing policy affecting this cohort.

Following the successful establishment of our Youth Needs Assessment Service in March 2017, it didn't take long for the need for this innovative service to outgrow capacity. As a result we employed an additional Clinical Psychologist in November 2017 to meet service demand. We have again seen the need for the service continue to grow and as a result an additional Clinical Psychologist will be employed later in the year.

For the start of Term 1 we also opened an additional Anchor Point Community Based Course in Bassendean. Through an innovative funding arrangement we were able to establish Anchor Point at the Town of Bassendean's Youth Centre located at Bassendean Oval. Anchor Point Bassendean has benefited from the experience gained through the delivery of Anchor Point Heathridge and Ballajura over the last 4 years and the delivery of Comet over the past 17 years. Delivered in partnership with the Town of Bassendean Youth Services, we now operate the same successful Anchor Point model in three locations. Initially the program was designed to cater for up to 15 students with the aim of increasing capacity to 21 in the second half of the year. However due to high demand the site is already at capacity of 21 students and also has a waitlist.

As a Board we have looked at what gaps exist externally in youth services as well as what gaps exist within the organisation and across our services. One area we have identified is our engagement with Aboriginal young people and the Aboriginal Community. While a number of our programs and services have extremely high engagement with Aboriginal young people and overall they engage with all programs and services across the organisation, we know the identified need far exceeds current engagement levels. In order to reduce this gap we have established the Youth Engagement Support Service and we are currently recruiting an Aboriginal Engagement Officer. The aim of the program is three fold;

- **Increase our engagement with Aboriginal Young People**
- **Increase our connection with and include the Aboriginal Community**
- **Increase our cultural awareness, competency and ensure we are Aboriginal Friendly**

Another new initiative we will be launching is Comet Connect, an innovative new program targeting educationally disengaged young people including Aboriginal young people, those with social anxieties, mental health issues and gaming addictions. Comet Connect is a mobile classroom that takes education to the young person. We have purchased a new vehicle that is in the process of being transformed into a classroom. Young people will not only be able to access one on one support from our Teacher/Trainer, they will also have access to our Youth Support and Development Worker and Clinical Psychologist. This is a hugely exciting program that is being piloted across Perth's North Eastern metropolitan area.

Anchor Point Heathridge has operated at capacity for the last two years, as a result the program will be moving to a new location for 2019. Work on the fitout of the new building will commence later in 2018 with completion prior to Term 1 expected. The new facility will not only increase capacity by more than double, but young people will also have access to resources and equipment usually not seen in an alternative education setting. This

purpose built facility will increase the options available to students enrolled and show our commitment to what we prefer to call 'Appropriate Education' with an investment of over \$1 million dollars.

With the planned renovations of the Clarkson Youth Centre next year by the City of Wanneroo, Comet Clarkson will be moving from its home of 17 years. A new location has recently been found with planning approval being submitted shortly. The new site requires a minor fitout which will be carried out by a licensed builder and with the assistance of students from Comet Caversham who are completing their Certificate II in Construction. Depending on planning approval the site will be ready for either Term 2 or 3 in 2019. The new site will also allow for an increase in capacity which will be welcomed as Comet Clarkson has operated at capacity since 2015. Following the renovations of the Clarkson Youth Centre due to be completed by the end of 2021, Comet is planning to establish a junior campus for years 8-9 and low level year 10's in the renovated centre.

Youth Futures transitioned CTEC in Caversham to Comet Caversham for the start of Term 1 in 2016. Since then the site has been cleaned up, renovated and enhanced in many ways. Student numbers have continued to grow and we operated at capacity for most of 2017 and all of 2018. As a result we have sought permission from the Aboriginal Lands Trust and the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council to build two additional classrooms, a student services room, counselling room, storeroom and staff toilet. Works are planned for later in 2018 with the hope that rooms are available for use Term 1, 2019.

We have also received Advance Determination from the Department of Education to establish a Comet CaRE School campus in Albany for 2019. In Partnership with the Albany Youth Support Association (AYSA), works have already commenced on an existing facility to ensure it meets the standards required to operate a CaRE School. This is an exciting partnership developed throughout 2017-2018 with the aim of supporting local young people who are disengaged from mainstream education and need a holistic and supportive appropriate education setting. Our proven success working with young people in an education setting, combined with the experience and local knowledge of AYSA ensures this partnership has all the ingredients required for success.

Experiencing another year of growth, particularly in our services with an education focus, continues to be extremely encouraging as we firmly believe education is the key to providing young people with opportunities for their future. The success of our education programs is directly related to the holistic model that incorporates a number of internal and external support programs for students.

While education is the priority of Anchor Point and Comet we clearly know that unless we provide the support our cohorts need to address the barriers and issues they are facing we simply would not be able to provide them with an education. Our goal is not to simply

see a young person complete their compulsory school attendance, but to prepare them and assist them to transition to post-school life, including further education, employment, training, apprenticeships and independent living.

There has not been any certainty regarding homelessness funding for many years. During that same period of uncertainty Australia has had five different Prime Ministers conducting white papers, green papers, and reviews. While the name of the new funding program is known, the uncertainty and short term contract extensions continue.

The National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) and the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH) fund all of the Homeless Services that are provided by Youth Futures (excluding the Nest). These funding initiatives are joint ventures by the State and Commonwealth Governments to address affordable housing and homelessness across Australia and will be replaced by the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA)

During the year, Youth Futures provided 121 homeless young people with a safe place to sleep. In addition, a further 208 homeless young people have been provided with support to address their homelessness. Unfortunately however, over 946 additional requests for support were not able to be met, including 626 requests for crisis accommodation.

Through our general support services which make up a valuable part of our holistic wraparound approach we have been able to assist over 833 young people throughout the year. This support has included the provision of drug and alcohol education through the DESS program, food, clothing and essential items through the Emergency Relief program, support for young refugees through the Youth Settlement Service, support for young people dealing with mental health issues through our Youth Needs Assessment Service, and assisting young people to obtain their driver's licence through the Keys 2 Employment program.

Youth Futures continues to maintain its position within the not-for profit sector as a significant provider of professional, innovative and valued community services to young people. But we must acknowledge that we do not do this alone. We work in partnership and collaborate with a large number of organisations to meet the needs of young people and without their help we would not be able to support the number of young people we do, or provide the range of services currently on offer. We look forward to continuing these partnerships in the future and establishing new relationships to further enhance our services.

We would like to thank the many volunteers that work with us. Not only for the contribution they make to the organisation, but also for the impact they have on the young people that access our services.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude and thank the many

financial and in-kind partners for their donations both small and large. This support enables Youth Futures to help more young people and to provide essential services that would otherwise not be possible.

It is essential to recognise the support we receive from Local, State and Commonwealth Governments. We receive a significant amount of funding through Governments and acknowledge our responsibility to use these public funds in an appropriate and ethical way and do all we can to ensure as much of these funds as possible are used for service delivery. We pride ourselves on being efficient and using our funds appropriately and have been able to reduce our administration cost to 8.83% throughout the year.

We thank all our staff for making a difference to the lives of those who need our help and support. For their commitment and dedication in what can often be a challenging environment and for helping young people achieve things they never knew they were capable of. The positive impact staff have on the lives of so many young people is amazing to see, especially when they are able to start a new, more positive chapter of their life.

A special thank you to our management team and Board of management who have helped shape the organisation into what it is today. As an organisation we are extremely fortunate to have such a high level of expertise and experience leading and driving the organisation into the future.

**We thank everyone who has helped and supported Youth Futures and Comet, you have all contributed to enabling us to support 1,410 young people throughout the year. Without you this would not be possible, you truly have shown us that when we work together, the**

**"possibilities are endless".**

**Thank you.**



Chairperson - Ronan Philpott



CEO/Director - Mark Waite

## Our Vision

Communities where young people are valued, respected, and celebrated.

## Our Mission

To provide young people with professional services that increase community participation and enhance wellbeing.

## Our Values

### Integrity

We develop and maintain services that are honest and ethical.

### Inclusivity

We value the contribution of a diverse range of people.

### Collaboration

We form partnerships and work together to achieve shared goals.

### Innovation

We challenge ourselves and support young people to seek new and creative solutions.

### Simplicity

We create processes that are user-friendly.

# About Us

We're for all young people, regardless of who they are or the circumstances they've found themselves in.

For over thirty years we have been empowering young people to overcome their barriers and to work towards a brighter future.

## Why?

Because we believe that when young people are given the right opportunities, skills, and support, the possibilities are endless! We also know that being there for a young person during the pivotal moments in their youth means we can have a greater impact on their quality of life as an adult.



6 Homelessness Programs



5 Support Programs



5 Education Programs



Registered Training Organisation



91.1% of our funding directly spent on programs for young people

# We Are Youth Futures



We are a dedicated team of West Australians who are committed to helping young people create a brighter future.

We acknowledge that every young person is an individual, with their own story and needs. Together we empower young people to take control over their future.

Above all, we are respectful, non-judgemental and passionate about the work we do.

## Our Board

<b>Chairperson</b>	Ronan Philpott
<b>Deputy Chair</b>	Jenny Devine
<b>Secretary</b>	Sandy Friemond
<b>Treasurer</b>	Roisin O'Neill
<b>Director</b>	James Sutherland
<b>Director</b>	Lisa Ford
<b>Director/CEO</b>	Mark Waite



## Our People

(Exc. Comet)		(Inc. Comet)	
Full Time	18	Full Time	32
Part Time	12	Part Time	14
Casual	6	Casual	8
Volunteers	59	Volunteers	62



## Highlights from 2017/18



**1,410 young people supported  
across 17 programs**



**Organisation overheads were  
reduced to 8.83%**



Opened a third Anchor Point site in Bassendean to support disengaged young people in education



Expanded the Youth Needs Assessment Service to ensure more young people have quick access to appropriate mental health support from a Clinical Psychologist



In partnership with YACWA, TAFE and the Commissioner for Young People, we conducted vital research into young people under the age of 16 and their experiences of homelessness



Registered Futures Education And Training, our Registered Training Organisation to ensure young people have access to an appropriate curriculum

# James' Story

I had been living with my mum, my step-father and my cat.

The relationship between me and my stepdad was completely destructive, mentally and emotionally.

After 7 years of violence I ran away from home and was homeless. I couch surfed at first with a friend until that accommodation was no longer an option either.

My school became aware of my situation and put me in contact with TINOCA that same day. I was nervous about whether I would be able to be accommodated.

I called up and was invited to come in that night. I remember trying to be open-minded about what it was going to be like.

I instantly felt safe and at home. I have now mastered the art of tactically mopping certain areas of the floor to bamboozle the workers into believing I'm a hardcore slave to the clean. The youth workers helped me with relationship advice and helped me not succumb to peer pressure and smoke ciggs or do drugs.

TINOCA gave me someone to trust and vent to, allowing me to clear my mind and focus on the road ahead.

Without TINOCA I would still be homeless and moving from couch to couch, or I would back in a toxic family environment, unable to succeed or be myself.

## Next up?

I plan to go to university, get a private rental with a mate and possibly rebuild my relationship with mum.



# Homelessness Services

**We believe that every young person has a right to safe, secure accommodation and that an experience of homelessness shouldn't define them or their future.**

Youth Futures offer a combination of crisis and transitional accommodation programs. We know that while access to safe, secure accommodation can help a young person thrive, it takes more than a just roof overhead to break the cycle of homelessness. That's why our skilled team also offer personalised support to help young people address their issues and put in place plans for future goals such as education, employment, healthy relationships and housing.

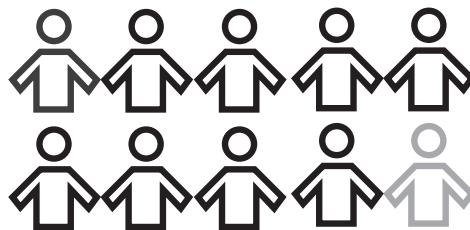
## TINOCA

This year we celebrated 30 years of supporting young people experiencing homelessness. TINOCA, our crisis accommodation service, first opened its doors in March 1988 and still offers young people a warm and inviting place to call home today. A safe space, where young people can begin to work through issues, learn independent living skills and access support to find ongoing accommodation.

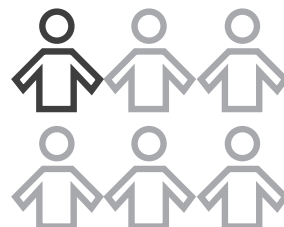
**"I want you to know that I didn't want to be homeless, I don't do drugs, all I ever wanted is a safe place to call home."**

**"There's always a worker at home to help you if you need and you feel supported with everything."**

**"I feel like my life is getting back on track while I'm here."**



9 out of 10 young people are unable to access TINOCA due to high demand



1 in 6 young people returned to the family home

**63**

Young people accommodated this year

## Josh's Story

Josh was referred to Youth Place by a psychologist from a local secondary school as he was couch surfing with a friend's family. A couple of years ago Josh's father had ripped up his birth certificate in front of him and stated that he would never be able to get one again. With support from our Youth Place worker, Josh now has a Medicare card, bank card, a copy of his birth certificate, and will soon be receiving independent youth allowance.

"My birthday is tomorrow and this is the best present ever and I can now prove my dad wrong. Also once I get my first payment I can start paying my friend's parents some money for food and board which makes me happier and also will make them happy!"

We plan to offer Josh transitional housing when a property becomes vacant.

# Jack's Story

My name is Jack and I am 15 years old. I go to school in my local area and consider myself academically smart and I enjoy the school I go to. Life at home wasn't great, I lived with my mum and to be honest we didn't really have much of a relationship. There was no communication between us on almost any emotional level except for fighting. I found mum completely inconsistent in how she treated me and arguments sometimes got out of hand and escalated to physical violence.

A fight broke out with mum and it turned violent. I broke some things in her house during the fight and subsequently was asked to leave and was sent to my dad's place. My dad lived with his new partner and their baby and issues there quickly started to bubble up when dad felt it was not safe to have me around the new baby with my supposed anger issues and mental health issues. After a few nights at dad's house I was asked to leave and now I literally had nowhere left to go.

Although not willing to take me back, my mum found a number for crisis care and gave it to me, I called them up and was soon connected with a few different services in Perth who all said they wouldn't take me due to being 15. I was eventually connected with TINOCA and after a long chat about everything that was going on they agreed to let me come in for a face-to-face interview and I was given the address.

After I hung up the phone to TINOCA it dawned on me how grave my situation was. I was now homeless. I imagined a large house, with hundreds of dorms and lots of beds full of displaced kids. I imaged a scene from Oliver Twist and became very anxious. Regardless, I turned up to TINOCA and was invited in to do a face-to-face interview and then was offered a place to stay. I was given a bed and my own room and was shown around the house. I met some of the other residents who were staying at TINOCA and at first I was incredibly shy, I felt like everyone in the house was different to me, they looked odd.

I didn't know anyone and I continued to question what I was doing with my life. To be honest, despite now having a roof over my head this was a very dark time and I wasn't sure what was ahead of me. I was still enrolled in school and had a part time job, now all of a sudden I am in a strange place, with strange people. Am I one of them now?

My feelings from my first night at TINOCA changed very quickly, I started to get used to the people who lived there and with some of them started to make quite close friends. It was strange, with some people I felt myself getting close, with others I felt we lived in a house together but just existed, with no relationship forming and in some cases clashing of personalities. I was happy with how I managed to fit in without too much drama, a lot less than I thought. The support at TINOCA was also very helpful for me, there was support whenever I needed it. There was always someone working on shift and they would listen to me. This was a new experience from what I was used to.

After one month of staying at TINOCA I began to reflect on my relationship with my parents. While previously fractured to the point of being kicked out, with me not living with them things started to change. We started to see each other every now and again and would generally not fight. With the help of TINOCA I started to work towards a reunification plan and met with another



**“There was always someone working on shift and they would listen to me.”**

outside worker who was the go-between person between me and my parents. My anger was almost completely gone now that I was not in their home and my confidence in myself was also changing. Somehow, my parents have become more willing to help me and I have been more open to seeing the changes I need to make in myself. Moving forward from this, it would take almost three months at TINOCA to get to the point where family reunification would become an option. TINOCA made me see some of the issues my parents might be facing from a new angle, I could see problems I was creating that I either couldn't see before or didn't want to see.

I am writing this four months after leaving TINOCA and I am now living with my dad and his partner and my little sister. Things are great! I graduated year 10 and was very happy with my grades considering the sort of year I had. My relationship with my dad is stronger than ever and I even think my little sister looks up to me. While things with mum are still not great, we are still working on it. I have a job and am working when I can and am truly happy that things have worked out the way that they have. Things could have been much different.

You know, half way through my stay at TINOCA I was asked to write down some of my aspirations for the future, I wrote down that I wanted live in a stable house, I wanted to be part of a functioning family that was fair with their emotions. Now four months out from TINOCA and many, many months from when me and my family broke down, I look at my time as a homeless youth as a blip in my story.

## TAP

Our Transitional Accommodation Program (TAP) provides young people aged 16-21 with supported accommodation for up to 12 months. During this time, young people are given the chance to develop and learn life skills that they may not have otherwise learnt. TAP provides an open and safe space for young people to achieve their goals and obtain long term accommodation within the community.

**92**

Young people unable to access TAP due to high demand

**16**

Young people stayed in TAP

**50%**

Engaged in formal study

“The Transitional Accommodation Program helped get me off the streets and into warm, fuzzy sheets. As a struggling young person with nobody to turn to, having TAP help me get on my feet, was almost like a miracle. Now I’m on the road to a more stable environment, and I can’t fault TAP for anything.”

## Youth Place

A partnership between Youth Futures and St Patrick’s Community Support Centre, Youth Place provides supported accommodation to young people aged 15-25. Young people are able to stay for up to 12 months and during this time a youth worker helps them explore long-term housing options. If there are no vacancies in the supported accommodation program, youth workers are able to support young people on an outreach basis, with generous brokerage that can assist to break down barriers for that young person.

**24**

Young people and children stayed at a Youth Place house

**1 IN 3**

Identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

**103**

Young people accessed the Youth Place outreach service

**58**

Young people were unable to access Youth Place due to high demand

## Housing Support Worker – Homelessness

This service supports young people aged 16 to 25 who are exiting specialist homelessness services and still require additional support to overcome homelessness and address issues that place them at risk of future homelessness.

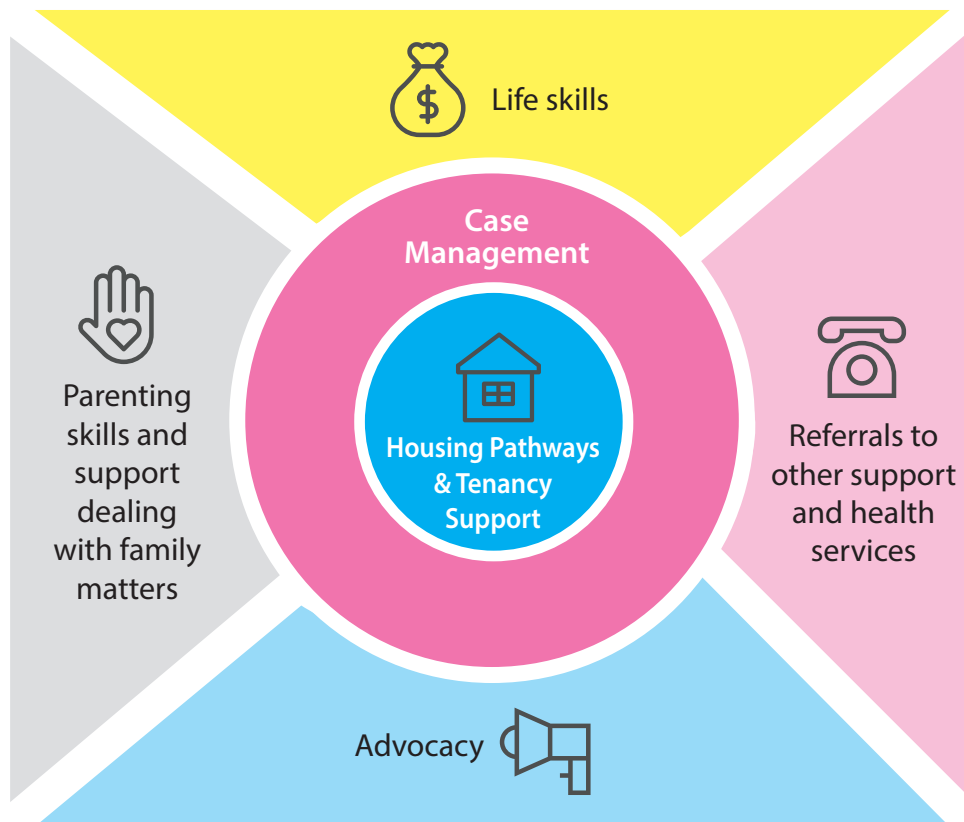
The Housing Support Worker assists each young person to find and maintain

stable accommodation and empowers them to work on issues such as substance use, mental health and wellbeing.

Young people are also supported and encouraged to set goals for their future including goals around education, employment and financial management.

**60**

Young people and children were supported



## Housing Support Worker – Corrective Services

This service allows young offenders aged 16-18 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness get back on their feet and establish stability in their lives. The program strives for long-term accommodation for clients and assists them to maintain their tenancy. Not only does the Housing Support Worker advocate for young offenders to achieve housing, they support the client's needs in the process. This includes obtaining birth certificates, establishing an income, getting a learner's permit, resolving financial issues, assisting with family matters, linking with local support services and learning life skills such as cleaning, cooking and budgeting.

Once long-term accommodation is achieved, this program also helps young people establish their home and provides assistance with furniture, whitegoods and other household items. The Housing Support Worker will continue to provide support to clients for a minimum of 12 months after they have been housed.

Having this support program in place helps young people exiting the juvenile system become functioning members of society and works to decrease levels of recidivism by providing stability and helping to reach their goals.

**45**

Young people and children were supported

**1 IN 4**

Young people were parents

*"I believe the support program is great because it helps struggling youths like myself get back on their feet and also helps them to earn their own house, teaches them life skills like budgeting and how to look after themselves."*

*"I personally think it's great that there is this program that still cares for young people."*

*"This program is great because I now have somewhere permanent to live and my family can finally feel safe and secure."*



## The Nest

This year our Nest program celebrates 10 years of providing young parents with safe, secure accommodation, enabling them to maintain custody of their baby. More than just a housing program, the Nest adopts a holistic approach to wellbeing, assisting young parents to develop vital independent living, parenting, and financial skills.

**“mothers aged 16-19, are escaping homelessness or unsuitable conditions for raising a child..”**

Our Nest parents, usually single mothers aged 16-19, are escaping homelessness or unsuitable conditions for raising a child, for example domestic violence or parental drug use. A Nest worker helps each young person to identify and address the underlying issues which may affect their new role as parent. From here, they are supported to develop a plan that will help them stabilise their lives, find long-term accommodation and become the best parent they can be.

## Larina's Story

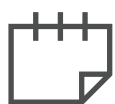
***“Before the Nest I was constantly wondering where I would be able to live with my child as I didn't have anywhere for both of us to go. Without the Nest I would have had my baby taken away from me.”***

When Larina fell pregnant with her second child at the age of 18 she realised that she didn't want a life of domestic violence and drug use for herself, or for her unborn child. She ended her relationship with her partner and moved back in with her grandparents. This was not a long-term solution and Larina was told that she needed to find a safe, secure place to live or she would be at risk of losing custody of her newborn.

Fortunately, our Nest program had a house become available and Larina was able to move in before giving birth. Since giving birth to a beautiful baby daughter, Larina has been able to create a loving home and become a confident mother. She has proudly decorated her house with colourful paintings which represent her Aboriginal culture, something she is very passionate about.

Larina is dreaming big and with the support of our Nest worker has set many goals for the future.

She's working hard to get her driver's licence and is currently undertaking driving lessons with an instructor thanks to the Nest. Ideally, Larina would like to move into her own long term property. Her dream job would be to join the police academy.



6 months average length of support



2 in 3 escaping domestic violence

%

50% of parents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

**22**

Young parents and infants accommodated

**100%**

Infants reached the relevant developmental milestones

**93%**

Parents maintained custody of their baby

**85**

Young mums and babies unable to access the Nest due to high demand



## Support Services

**We are passionate about helping young people overcome the barriers preventing them from leading healthy lives.**

## Emergency Relief

Young people aged 15-24 who are experiencing financial stress are able to access our Emergency Relief program. The program offers practical assistance in the form of food hampers, toiletries, vouchers and public transport passes. More than just a hand-out service, our Emergency Relief team engage young people in meaningful conversation during their referral and appointments to gain an understanding of the issues and barriers that they may be facing. If appropriate, the young person is then offered further assistance through other Youth Futures programs or referred to an external service provider.

## Drug Education and Support Service (DESS)

The DESS program offers young people a safe space to discuss concerns they are facing in their daily lives and provides them with accurate information on topics such as harm reduction, drug use and mental health. The DESS worker offers both one-on-one and group sessions focussing on young people who are already accessing our Homelessness Services.

**373**

Young people accessed Emergency Relief

**48**

Young people attended one-on-one support sessions

**35**

Group activities were delivered

**193**

Informal interactions with the DESS worker occurred

"DESS helps me feel like I have someone to talk to about my drug use and that I have the power to change."

"Since I have started going to Drug Education Sessions I have been more mindful of my drug use and harm reduction."

"DESS helped me engage with the right support to help me long term."

"Our clients may be experiencing other issues making it hard to obtain employment or Centrelink. The program provides them with the basic necessities to get through tough times a little easier."



# Youth Settlement Service

A partnership with the City of Stirling, this service supports young migrants and refugees aged 15-25 who arrived on Humanitarian Visas. Based at the Mirrabooka Multicultural Centre, we offer young people the opportunity to participate in a number of activities as well as the chance to engage in more formal support.

**113**

Young people participated in activities, workshops or camps

**22**

Young people were supported through case management

"I think what this program has done for most of the young people is create a home away from home, maybe not physically but certainly emotionally and psychologically, a place for meaningful participation and overall a place they feel they belong and their voice is heard.

The transformation I have seen in some of the young people in the last few years has been incredible in so many ways, self-esteem, command of English, their ability to make new friends, their ability to access mainstream services without our assistance and so much more."



# Keys 2 Employment

A driver's licence can open doors to education, training, and employment. It also helps increase help-seeking behaviour. Unfortunately, some young people are not able to acquire a learner's permit or driver's licence due to financial difficulties or because they lack a responsible adult to teach them.

Our Keys 2 Employment program is run in partnership with Balga Senior High School and helps young people successfully navigate the licencing process while assisting them to complete their logbook.

21

Students supported by the program

## Youth Needs Assessment Service (YNAS)

We know from research that most young people who experience mental health difficulties do not access psychological support. There are a number of reasons for this, including stigma, distrust of services, financial and practical barriers to access as well as extensive waitlists or specific intake criteria. These barriers are magnified for disadvantaged young people, those with trauma histories and minority groups.

Our Youth Needs Assessment Service employs onsite Clinical Psychologists to help overcome these barriers. The service allows young people to get to know the Clinicians before they commit to engaging with them. Being onsite means they are able to build trust with the young people attending our programs and often manage to engage young people who are initially very reluctant, when they are "vouched for" by other young people.

Having the Clinician around the program regularly, interacting with other staff and young people helps reduce the stigma associated with mental health services and normalises help seeking. When the young person is ready to engage, YNAS can respond quickly and take advantage of that motivation.

YNAS works from a consent based and client centred framework. By providing young people with an accessible, youth friendly mental health service without fees or waitlists, we aim to make a young person's experience with mental health services a positive one. As well as addressing their current difficulties, this hopefully sets young people on a path where they are not afraid to access mental health services if they need them later in their lives.

"Not every young person is ready to sit in a therapy room for an hour going through an intense assessment session. Sometimes the therapy room isn't the best place to engage a young person. YNAS has the flexibility to fit the client, rather than making the young person fit the service!"

111

Young people supported

438

Sessions held with young people

113

Sessions held for parents



# Education and Training Services

We believe that education is the key to opportunity, and it is this belief that continually inspires our team to support disengaged young people through appropriate education.

Young people disengage with mainstream education for a number of reasons. These can include bullying, depression, anxiety, family breakdown, learning difficulties and behavioural issues to name a few. At Youth Futures we're passionate about creating supportive learning environments that have the flexibility to take into consideration each individual's personal and educational needs. This is the foundation of our Education and Training Services stream which includes three Anchor Point community-based courses, two Comet CaRE Schools (pages 33-39) and FEAT, our newly established Registered Training Organisation.

## Anchor Point

Our Anchor Point programs operate at three sites, Heathridge, Ballajura and Bassendean. Each site supports severely disengaged young people (aged 15-19) to complete their Certificate I or II in General Education. At Youth Futures we understand that life can be complex and that each person's path to success is unique.

**That's why our Anchor Point program operates differently to traditional schools.**



### Self-paced learning

Each student can complete their Certificate at their own pace



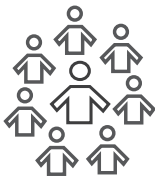
### Holistic approach

It's not all about bookwork. Students have access to youth workers, a literacy coach and a clinical psychologist



### Tailored learning

We know that young people learn in different ways. That's why we make our lessons engaging and hands on



### High ratio

To make sure each student gets the support they need we have 1 staff member for every 7 students



### Life skills

Our students leave with skills that will help them succeed in life. These include budgeting, cooking, conflict resolution, jobseeking and interview skills

102

Young people supported

58

Young people joined the waitlist to attend Anchor Point





## Anchor Point

"Anchor Point to me means great friends and funny experiences. It means being helped in many aspects of my life. It means feeling included and important, it's feeling like everything I'm passionate about is meaningful. It's being able to grow as a person in a safe environment. Anchor Point is a family." - Phoenix

"Mainstream school was being really unsupportive and not helping out, so the Department of Education reached out to me and said Anchor Point is a really nice place, so I checked it out. At Anchor Point it's a really nice home environment, you don't dread the work so much. I've learned more about math this year than I have any other year. I want to finish this Certificate and then get into TAFE and then maybe into Uni, and do something around computers." - Zed

"I was bullied a lot in Primary School and had family issues going on as well. It got worse when I went to high school because of my sexuality. I wasn't attending school at all and when I would attend I would struggle to do any sort of work. I became really socially awkward and wasn't coping. I was in a really, really dark place. I was asked by student services if I wanted to be at school or not.

I said no and was told about Anchor Point. I was really scared of going but I knew it was my last option so I met with Kristy from Anchor Point and she told me about how it would work. It sounded amazing. I was treated like an adult and an individual. I know for a fact I wouldn't be here today if I hadn't gone to Anchor Point." - Em

## Futures Education and Training

In February this year Youth Futures became a Registered Training Organisation under the name Futures Education and Training (FEAT).

The initial scope of delivery is the Certificates I, II and III in General Education for Adults. Becoming an RTO has enabled our trainers and assessors at both Anchor Point and Comet CaRE School to develop and deliver appropriate training and assessment materials relevant to the student cohort. Transitioning to an RTO has allowed our Education Training Manager to implement a Continuous Improvement Strategy that ensures training and assessment is of a high quality and compliant with the Standards for Registered Training Organisations 2015.





## Working Together

Our ability to deliver high quality programs and services that change the lives of young people would not be possible without strong partnerships with the community, government and corporate sectors. We are grateful to the below partners who share our vision for a community where young people are valued, respected and celebrated.

### Community

Act Belong Commit  
 Altone Youth Service  
 Bassendean Youth Service  
 Building and Construction Training Fund  
 Camera Story  
 Centrelink  
 Communicare  
 Dirk Zarb-Cousin Personal Training  
 Dismantle  
 Dungeon Youth Centre  
 Edith Cowan University  
 Essentials for Women  
 Foodbank  
 Freedom Centre  
 Givit  
 Headspace  
 Hepatitis WA  
 Indigo Junction  
 KSP Writers  
 Malaga Beach Volleyball  
 McCusker Centre for Citizenship  
 Mental Health First Aid Australia  
 National Youth Mental Health Foundation  
 OzHarvest  
 Project ABLE  
 RAC  
 RDA Brigadoon  
 Red Ginger Services

Safe Schools  
 SDERA  
 SecondBite  
 Seldys Gym  
 SHQ  
 Share the Dignity  
 Skill Hire  
 The Nappy Collective  
 Touhy Aged Care  
 WASUA  
 West Australian Aids Council  
 West Side Driving School  
 White Lion  
 Your Health  
 Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia  
 Youth Link  
 Zero2Hero

### Local Government

City of Joondalup  
 City of Stirling  
 City of Swan  
 City of Wanneroo  
 Town of Bassendean

### Government

Department of Corrective Services  
 Public Transport Authority of WA  
 WA Police Service

### Consortium and Contract Partners

Centrecare  
 Community Housing Ltd  
 Foundation Housing  
 Patricia Giles Centre  
 St Patrick's Community Support Centre



## Thank You

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to each of our financial and in-kind supporters.

### Major trusts, foundations and corporate partners

100 Women  
Allens  
Commonwealth Bank  
Earthcare Recycling  
Everything Visual  
Future2 Foundation  
Inger Rice Foundation  
Lotterywest  
Matana Foundation for Young People  
MBE Photography  
Pioneer Tanks  
Stephens Family Foundation  
StreetSmart  
The Marian & EH Flack Trust  
The Stan Perron Charitable Foundation  
WJ & MS Hughes Foundation

### Major Event Partners

Beyond Bank  
Chamber of Commerce and Industry WA  
City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder  
Office Solutions IT  
SRG

### Government Partners

City of Joondalup  
City of Wanneroo  
Department for Child Protection and Family Support  
Department of Education  
Department of Justice  
Department of Social Services



## Our Community

Behind every charity is a wonderful community of people lending their support. We'd like to introduce you to a few members of our community, who are helping us make a difference to the lives of disadvantaged and at-risk young people.

This year we partnered with the McCusker Centre for Citizenship to offer UWA students the opportunity to actively contribute to the wellbeing of their communities through a meaningful internship with Youth Futures. Clara was one such intern, providing marketing and fundraising support to the Business Development team over 100 hours.



***"During my internship, it struck me so deeply how privileged I was to be able to have a roof over my head, access to education and to not have to worry about my next meal."***

## Introducing Andrew

Each May mountain bikers and volunteers from across the state come together to raise awareness and funds for youth homelessness. Andrew (below right) has become part of the furniture on our annual Pipeline Challenge charity bike ride from Kalgoorlie to Perth, having volunteered his time for each event since its inception in 2015. Andrew uses his annual leave coupled with corporate volunteering days to volunteer as a Support Crew Driver for the event. His jolly smile and positive can-do attitude is loved by riders, staff and fellow volunteers alike.

***"I loved the opportunity to again help out on this fantastic event. The hours were long but we were all there to help a worthy cause."***

I volunteer because I want to help improve the lives of others and the Pipeline Challenge raises funds to support services that are close to my heart. Being able to see the smile of the riders at the end of the day and knowing that they really do appreciate my contribution to make their day easier is my reward. I feel very close to the Pipeline Challenge family and I am already looking forward to 2019."





## Funktional Events Motown Magic

This year four Event students from North Metropolitan TAFE joined forces to create Funktional Events. Over four months the team held a number of fundraisers, including the very funky Magic of Motown which was a fun-filled evening full of wigs, flares and knee-high boots.

"We wanted to be able to help out those in our local community" said Event Coordinator Jo McCrory.

"Having Youth Futures literally around the corner helped us quickly establish a great working relationship. It was great to receive feedback on how we could help, specifically in relation to donations required on top of our fundraising."

"The team raised an amazing \$4,598 and also donated a trolley's worth of toiletries and other essential items to help young people in need."

## Charter Hall

Over the past twelve months Charter Hall have been redeveloping the Wanneroo Central shopping centre. Wanting to give back to the local community in which they were working the team decided to partner with Youth Futures. Through a number of fundraising initiatives such as a golf day and participating in the Augusta Adventure Race, the team have made an incredible impact on the lives of young people in Perth's north.

**Charter Hall's Retail CEO Greg Chubb said,**

"We are proud to partner with Youth Futures and give back to the Wanneroo community. Throughout the Wanneroo Central development, the Charter Hall team raised over \$35,000 and with the support of the community and our national charity partner, Two Good, the team have also donated 800 meals that will be delivered to local youth and women impacted by domestic violence. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Youth Futures and helping to shape the future of youth in our community."



## Financial Overview

This overview is based on the published annual financial statements of Youth Futures WA (Inc.) and will not go into any detail of the day to day financial management of the Organisation.

Australian Audit was appointed for the 2017-2018 financial year. Robert Campbell, Director, brings a wealth of knowledge and years of experience in the not-for-profit sector. Australian Audit also completed previous audits for Youth Futures WA (Inc).

At the end of the 2018 reporting period our net assets stood at \$1,015,250 with total assets of \$1,405,899. At the same time last year, our net assets stood at \$805,763 with total assets of \$1,077,853 with the only material liabilities being creditors and employee leave entitlements. Between these two periods, it represents an increase of 26% in total assets and 30% increase in net assets.

Youth Futures is highly dependent on two main sources of income; namely government and donations. Funding received from government during the year was \$2,753,875.

Donations for 2017/2018 totalled \$229,886 with \$71,392 being raised from the Pipeline Challenge and \$17,082 matched giving donations for the new Bassendean Anchor Point program. Donations are anticipated to grow with the continuation of the of the Pipeline Challenge along with the Youth Futures Foundation.

The cash flow has continued to be actively managed which enables Youth Futures to actively plan ahead along with allowing donations and a greater percentage of program funding to be used directly for client services. Managing a strong financial position is essential to increasing the sustainability of the organisation and developing many of the programs delivered by Youth Futures.

Youth Futures continues to be in a sound financial position. The Youth Futures management team are to be commended for their financial management, in particular the Managers ability to offer quality service within existing financial constraints. This has allowed the organisation to remain in a sound financial position and to continue to increase services to at risk young people.



Roisin O'Neill  
Treasurer

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the members of Youth Futures WA Inc.

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Youth Futures WA Inc.(the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and the statement by the Board.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report has been prepared in accordance with requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)* and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2018, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act), the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015* (WA) and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.



### Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Entity to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)* and the *ACNC Act*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

### Responsibilities of the Board for the Financial Report

The Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)* and the *ACNC Act* and the needs of the members. The responsibility of the Board also includes such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board is responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.



- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

#### **Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements**

In our opinion, Youth Futures WA Inc. has complied with 60-30(3)(b), (c) and (d) of the *ACNC Act* and 82(1) (b), (c) and (d) of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*:

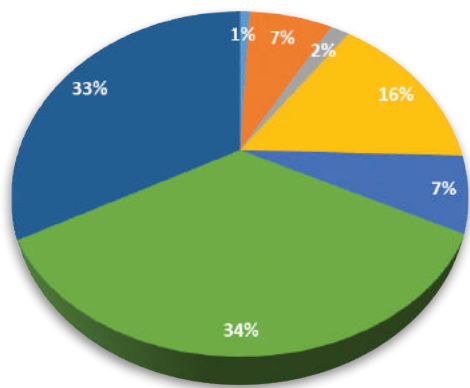
- by providing us with all information, explanation and assistance necessary for the conduct of the audit;
- by keeping financial records sufficient to enable a financial report to be prepared and audited; and
- by keeping other records required by Part 3-2 of the *ACNC Act*, including those records required by Section 50-5 that correctly record its operations, so as to enable any recognised assessment activity to be carried out in relation to the entity.
- by keeping other records required by Part 5 of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2015 (WA)*, including those records required by Section 66 that correctly record its operations, so as to enable true and fair financial statements to be prepared.

#### **Australian Audit**

Robert Campbell CA, CPA, GAICD  
Registered Company Auditor number 334773  
**Director**

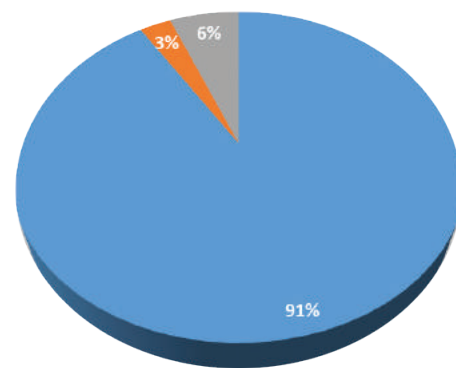
**Dated: 18 September 2018**

Where the money comes from



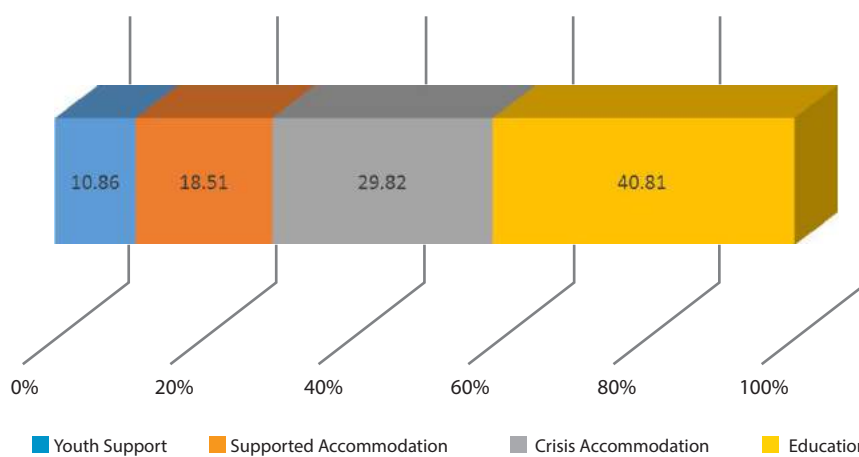
- Interest
- Donations
- Other
- State
- Service Funded
- Federal
- Federal/State Administered

Where the money goes



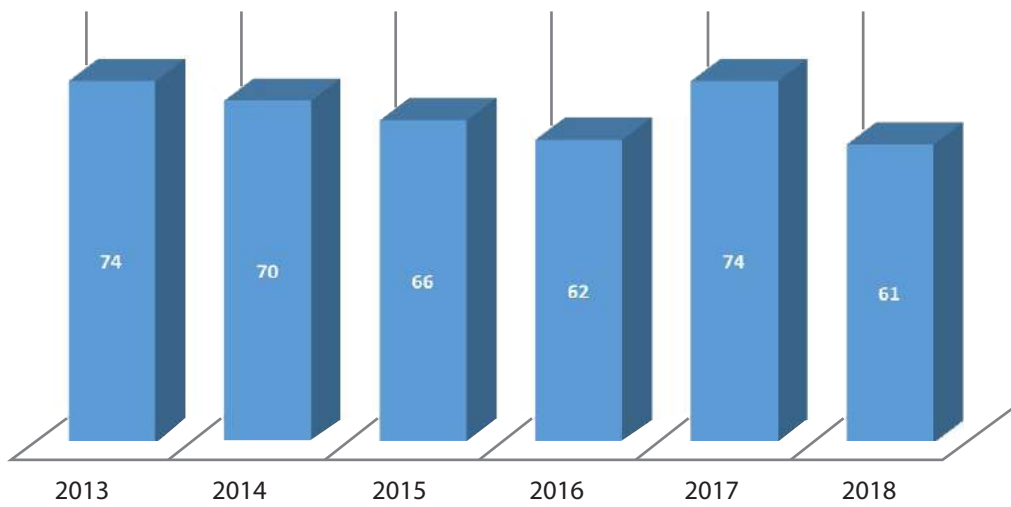
- Programs
- Fundraising
- Admin

Program Expenditure



- Youth Support
- Supported Accommodation
- Crisis Accommodation
- Education

## Employment costs as a % of operating income





**Together the possibilities are endless**



# 2017 School Year

**COMET stands for Community Outreach Model of Education and Training. The school exists to provide an alternative setting to mainstream education for students who have been unable to successfully access education at conventional mainstream schools.**

Comet prides its success on the fostering of excellent relationships between school staff, students and their families. These relationships, which are based on empathy and respect, underpin the learning process.

We operate from two campuses in Clarkson and Caversham. From these locations we run a highly student-centred learning model and much of the learning is student self-paced based on needs, rather than students having to conform to an inflexible educational model which may not meet their requirements.

Students have access to VET learning pathways including Certificate of General Education for Adults levels I, II and III as well as a number of industry specific qualifications including Certificate II in Building and Construction.

The school focuses on preparing the students for their future pathways and assists them to transition into further education, TAFE, apprenticeships, traineeships and employment.

We work hard to help students to develop the social skills required to be successful in the workplace as well as practical and independence aspects such as driving licenses and white cards.

2017 was again a fantastic and successful year at Comet, both in terms of consolidating the platform of engagement, academic achievements, and personal and social development that was laid in previous years. We also further developed the scope of service delivery we provide to students, their families and community.

*I am excited to share with you some of the achievements and highlights from the past year at Comet CaRE School*

**Richard Furber - Principal**

## Our Vision

Communities where all young people can access an appropriate education.

## Our Mission

To provide young people with a safe and encouraging learning environment where they can attain an education and receive support that leads to independent living.

## Our Values

<b>Integrity</b>	We develop and maintain services that are honest and ethical.
<b>Inclusivity</b>	We value the contribution of a diverse range of people.
<b>Collaboration</b>	We form partnerships and work together to achieve shared goals.
<b>Innovation</b>	We challenge ourselves and support young people to seek new and creative solutions.
<b>Simplicity</b>	We create processes that are user-friendly.



**We are a dedicated team of West Australians who believe that young people are entitled to access an appropriate education.**

Our staff include a unique mix of teachers, education officers and support staff.

We acknowledge that young people learn in different ways and that each individual brings with them different

strengths and challenges. Together we help young people overcome their personal barriers and assist them to create an education plan that is achievable and meaningful for them. Above all, we are respectful, non-judgemental and passionate about the work we do.

## Our Board

<b>Chairperson</b>	Ronan Philpott
<b>Deputy Chair</b>	Jenny Devine
<b>Secretary</b>	Sandy Friemond
<b>Treasurer</b>	Roisin O'Neill
<b>Director</b>	James Sutherland
<b>Director</b>	Lisa Ford
<b>Director/CEO</b>	Mark Waite



## Our People

Full Time 14  
Part Time 2  
Casual 2  
Volunteers 3

## Our Staff

Our CEO	Mark Waite
Our Principal	Richard Furber





**33**

Students completed  
Certificate in General  
Education I, II or III

**22**

Students completed  
First Aid  
Certificates

**12**

Students completed  
Workplace Health &  
Safety Certificates

**17**

Students passed  
their Keys For Life

**20**

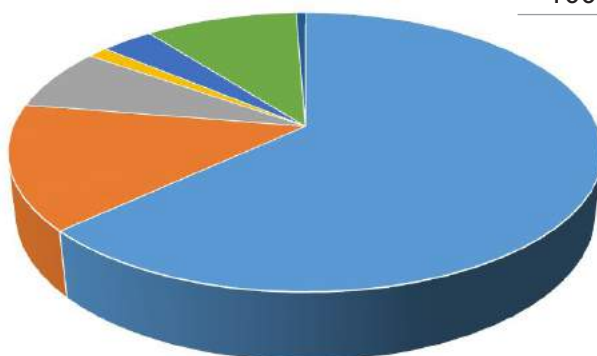
Students received  
over 150 driving  
lessons through  
the school

**8**

Students participated  
in the 600 km Pipeline  
Challenge bike ride  
from Kalgoorlie  
to Perth

### Student Transition Outcomes

Continuing Education	63.10%
Further Education inc Tafe/RTO/Uni	14.5
Employment inc Apprentice/Trainee	7.2
Seeking Employment	1.3
Participation Coordinators	3.4
Unknown	9.9
Misc inc Moved, Detention	0.6
	100.00%





## Victoria's Story

Before Comet, I dropped out of high school and didn't go to school for a year, because of mental health reasons. I had no other options. My mum was told by someone about Comet and she encourage us to look into the school.

I was very anxious and scared, but the staff assured and helped me to attend school. I started with only one hour per week, since I was not able to do more hours. Everyone at Comet was very accommodating and helped me with everything – from not being so anxious to helping me with

my school work. Even with only one hour a week attending, I felt like I was accomplishing something and I felt like I was doing something positive.

**"I then started to feel better about myself and going to school."**

After one year at Comet, from being not able to attend, I am now attending school full time and I am confidently participating in the classroom. I feel that Comet is a safe place for me and other students with

difficulties. They provide a happy environment where you would want to come to learn and socialise.

Without Comet, a lot of young adults, like me, would not have a positive future, or not have a future at all. I am thankful for the opportunity to come to school. Without an alternative school like Comet there would be more people on Centrelink, without jobs and more teen suicides. I believe that Comet is a good investment for the future of young Australians.

## Karli's Story

My name is Karli and I go to Comet Clarkson, I've been going to Comet for almost a year now and...

**..."it's been the best time of my life."**

I got involved in the sewing group because it has been something I've been longing to do for ages now.

I find sewing so calming and relaxing, having sewing classes on each and every Wednesday has really helped me.

**"It's become a big part of me."**

Many people here at Comet love fashion and I reckon they would love to design their own clothes and start their own clothing brand or business. I was part of the enterprise group who went to Wanneroo Youth Market and it was a wonderful experience, it will be put on my resume and this will hopefully help me get a job.

**"It has really given me the confidence I can achieve things."**



# Hannah's Pipeline Challenge Experience

"Before the pipeline challenge, I never believed in myself and I never thought I would be able to do this but in the long run I am very proud of myself for the big achievement.

I put so much effort in this then I ever would before.

I am very thankful for everyone helping me along the way.

Now I am able to believe in myself no matter what the situation is and no matter how hard it is!

**Thanks to everyone who supported us along this journey!"**



# Together we can make a difference

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## Ways you can help

Donate

Volunteer

Become a regular giver

Enter into a corporate partnership

Fundraise

Leave a bequest

Participate in the Pipeline Challenge

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