



Annual Report 2019



Youth Futures respectfully acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as the Traditional Custodians of Western Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to Elders, past, present and emerging. We extend this to all Aboriginal people.

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Youth Futures would like to acknowledge the contribution from **Everything Visual** who has kindly part donated their design, time and artwork to this annual report and numerous pro-bono items throughout the year.

We highly recommend Everything Visual. Phone Paula on: (08) 6191 0779 or www.everythingvisual.com.au

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From the Chairperson and CEO

All we can say is **WOW**, what an amazing year, and that's a big statement after all we accomplished last year. This year took busy to a whole new level as we had a number of exciting and significant changes to the organisation. During the year, we continued to operate all our existing services across Youth Futures and Comet, resulting in being able to assist 1,668 young people address and overcome a multitude of challenges and barriers preventing them from fully participating in their community. This number represents an increase of 22% from last year, which is an incredible achievement as an organisation, and a credit to our amazing staff members.

Throughout the year our Homelessness Services staff **supported 288 young people** who were homeless or at risk of homelessness. **768 young people were provided with help and support** through our Wellbeing and Support Services. In the 2018 school year, **240 young people** were enrolled through Comet and Anchor Points and **372 young people were supported** with appropriate curriculum by our Registered Training Organisation.

As a board we have always been mindful of advertising or promoting the organisation out of concern for raising our profile and the awareness of the services we offer, which would result in more referrals or requests for service than we can accommodate. **Our reputation for delivering professional quality youth services has continued to grow in recent years**, unfortunately so has the number of requests for help and support from young people. We received almost 1200 requests for help and support this year, which at we were unable to assist with; representing a 25% increase from last year.

We have continued to look for ways to increase our capacity through partnerships, service expansion and the creation of new services to meet this unmet need. In recent years we have also been looking at how we can do things differently, **how we can do things smarter**, and **how we can prevent the numbers of young people that end up in crisis or homeless**.

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. We know that providing a range of services to young people from a single location where they are already supported **reduces barriers** to engagement and significantly increases outcomes.

Following a number of years of planning we have **invested heavily** in the development of a number of new services and programs to extend our holistic model. We have completed one building project and commenced three additional building projects to increase our capacity. **We rescued another organisation that was about to close its doors** and merged with a youth service that had been around as long as we have. All of the following not only made for an extremely busy year, but more importantly will enable us to support more young people and achieve greater outcomes for those engaged with our services. Some of our achievements throughout the year include;

- Established our Youth Engagement Support Service (YESS)
- Opened the Youth Futures Community School in Midland
- Opened a new Comet School in Albany (our first regional service)
- Expanded our Youth Needs Assessment Service
- Secured a new building and fit out for Anchor Point Heathridge
- Commenced our Literacy Learning and Support Program (LLSP)
- Secured a new building and commenced fit out for Comet Clarkson (opening October 2019)
- Obtained approval for building works to commence at Comet Caversham
- Prepared Comet Connect to launch by September 2019
- Finalised a merge with Altone Youth Services

The Youth Engagement Support Service was established to directly address an area within the organisation that was identified as needing improvement. We knew that in some areas we worked extremely well with Aboriginal young people but in others our rates of engagement and outcomes needed to improve. Stage 1 of the Youth Engagement Support Service was to **employ an Aboriginal Engagement Officer** to address the following four key areas;

- Support Aboriginal young people currently engaging with our services
- Support Aboriginal young people who were disengaging from our services
- Support Aboriginal young people not engaged with our services but would benefit from engagement and participation
- Assist the organisation to be more culturally appropriate to the specific needs of Aboriginal young people

During the second half of 2018, we became aware that Corridors College (CaRE School) in Midland was experiencing significant issues that ultimately would lead to closure of the school without any external intervention. The school was placed under External Administration on 16th October 2018 and was facing closure and Liquidation as soon as 31st October 2018. We were able to negotiate with the

Administrators and acquired governance of the organisation on 27th November 2018. Our first goal once in control of the organisation was to **keep the school open** until the end of the school year; enabling existing students to complete their education for that year. Following significant work to the sites infrastructure, employment of appropriate staff and the adoption of our successful Comet Care School model, we opened the Youth Futures Community School for Term 1, 2019. We have already had **over 70 students enrol** with an increase in capacity planned for the second half of 2019, following the preparation of additional classrooms.

Whilst getting the Youth Futures Community School ready for Term 1 2019 we were also well into building works, recruitment and establishing our **Comet CaRE School in Albany**. In partnership with Albany Youth Support Association we have already had over 30 enrolments this year with another 7 students on the waitlist. We'll soon be employing additional staff to meet the number of enrolments we have received. Early discussions are occurring to look at options for site expansion, **allowing the intake of year 8 and 9 students in the near future**.

Established just over 2 years ago, the Youth Needs Assessment Service has proven to be **one of the best risks the organisation has taken over** the last 30 years. Engagement in the service has **increased to 53%** of all young people enrolled in Comet and Anchor Point. An additional Clinical Psychologist has been employed to deliver support to the young people enrolled at the new Youth Futures Community School. In September the Youth Needs Assessment Service also begun providing support to students enrolled at Comet Albany. It is anticipated that an additional Clinical Psychologist will be required for the beginning of 2020 to cater for an increase in student numbers following the completion of building works at a number of sites. **Parental engagement in the service has also continued to increase** which ultimately increases the support available to young people at home.

Since 2015 Anchor Point Heathridge has called the Heathridge Leisure Centre home. While the facility served its purpose well, it never fully allowed the program to reach its potential and restricted the programs capacity. As a result the decision was made to find a new home that could be **tailored to the programs needs** and significantly increase capacity to meet demand. With the assistance of a \$300,000 Lotterywest grant and a \$700,000 donation, **Anchor Point Joondalup moved into its new home**,

The Warehouse, following the official opening on 21st August 2019.

In recent years we have seen an **increase in the number of young people accessing Comet and Anchor Point** with numeracy and literacy levels well below those required to complete a Certificate I in General Education. Implementing the Literacy Learning and Support Program (LLSP) will provide the additional one on one support required to **help students be ready** to complete the Certificate I in General Education and then progress to the Certificate II.

Since established in 2002, Comet has operated from the City of Wanneroo's Clarkson Youth Centre. With the City planning on major renovations and extensions to the Youth Centre, we needed to find a new home for Comet Clarkson. While this seemed like something that would be reasonably simple, the reality was quite different. For the last 2 1/2 years we have searched for a suitable building to lease or buy and fit out and we even looked for a suitable vacant block we could develop and build a new school. Eventually, we found a suitable building to fit out with just enough time to complete before Comet would become homeless; allowing Comet to move into the new site some time in Term 4.

After almost two years of work we have finally got the required approvals and building permit to put two new classrooms, student services office, counselling room, store room and accessible toilet on the Comet Caversham site. The extra facilities will not only result in an increase in capacity, they will also **provide dedicated space to enable additional support** to students accessing onsite Youth Support and Development Workers and Clinical Psychologists from YNAS.

The year was full of highlights with one of the biggest being **Altone Youth Services** merging with Youth Futures. The merge brought together two of the state's longest running youth specific organisations who have been working together in recent years to **support more young people through a range of services**. We firmly believe the merge will **lead to greater service provision** for local young people as well as building on our collective impact as an organisation.

With the opening of new programs, expansion of others, four building projects and a merger we had to put two planned new services on hold. This was done to ensure we could invest the required time and resources into the implementation of these **exciting new initiatives**. Comet Connect, our mobile education project, will begin in the latter half of 2019 following the recruitment of new staff.

The mobile classroom will take education to young people facing significant barriers preventing them from accessing mainstream or alternative education programs. This pilot program will focus on the north east metropolitan area including the City of Swan and surrounding areas.

Anchor Point Mirrabooka, initially scheduled to open in 2019, is now scheduled to open for Term 1 2020. Some suitable sites have been identified and negotiations are currently taking place to secure a final site in time for the start of 2020. The new site will **use our successful and established Anchor Point model** to support young people not engaged in mainstream education. Mirrabooka has a significant CaLD and Aboriginal population, so our program will be **tailored to meet the specific cultural needs** of young people in the area.

The expansion of existing services and the development of new services and programs are all designed to increase our capacity to meet the needs of young people. But just as important, is the need for these services to form part of our integrated holistic model of service delivery.

Young people assisted by Youth Futures regularly access multiple services and are generally receiving **support across our three service streams**; Homelessness Services, Wellbeing and 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 an extended period of time, as opposed to brief intervention.

Young parents 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, attending 22-30 hours a week and TINOCA provides accommodation and support to young people for 130-140 hours a week. We believe our **intensive support is why the young people accessing our services overcome such adversity** and achieve so much. We have seen hundreds of **young people achieve amazing outcomes** while overcoming what at times appear to be insurmountable obstacles and challenges. Seeing these great achievements **simply reinforces why we choose to concentrate and focus on some of the most disengaged, disadvantaged and vulnerable young people in our community**.

Getting honest feedback from young people is always valued, sharing with us how they feel, what has worked and what didn't is critical to improving as an organisation. So when we get

young people telling us **"I was so lucky to have Youth Futures"**, "It makes a difference to someone, to have a place to call home", and "Youth Futures is like **my second family** to me, thank you for everything" we know our staff are making a difference to the lives of the young people accessing our services, our staff really are doing incredible things.

As we prepare for next year, we know we must use and learn from the past to **improve the future**, to continue to look for **new ideas** and find **innovative and creative solutions** to fill the gaps that too many young people are falling through. We will start 2019/2020 with 28 Youth Futures initiatives all aiming to support disadvantaged, disengaged, vulnerable and at risk young people.

We acknowledge that we do not and cannot do this alone. We **receive significant support** from Local, State and Commonwealth Government. We receive significant funding and **support from individuals, corporate and community philanthropy**. This support regularly extends well beyond funding and is essential to our successes. We are committed to using the financial support we receive in an appropriate and ethical way, ensuring we deliver the best possible service to as many young people as we can. We pride ourselves on being efficient, and using our funds appropriately, and have been able to **reduce our administration cost to 8.4%** throughout the year.

We thank to all our staff, volunteers and supporters for making a difference to the lives of those who need our help and support.

We **thank our Board** who share our vision "Communities where young people are valued, respected and celebrated" and continue to shape the organisation into what it is today. You have all contributed to enabling us to **support 1,668 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 who want to change their lives for the better. Whether they're homeless, struggling at school, experiencing mental health issues, or finding it hard to make ends meet, our professional staff are there to support young people in their journey.



6 Homelessness Programs



8 Support Programs



9 Education Programs



Registered Training Organisation



91.6% of our funding directly spent on programs for young people

Who Are Youth Futures?



We are a dedicated, multidisciplinary team who are committed to helping young people create a brighter future for themselves. Our staff and volunteers are respectful, non-judgmental and most importantly passionate about supporting young people in need. We acknowledge that every young person is an individual, with their own story and needs. Together we empower young people to take control of their future.

Our Board

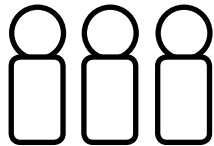
Chairperson	Ronan Philpott
Deputy Chair	Jenny Devine
Secretary	Sandy Friemond
Treasurer	Lisa Ford
Director	James Sutherland
Director/CEO	Mark Waite

Our People

Full Time	52
Part Time	15
Casual	14
Volunteers	60



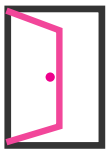
Highlights from 2018/19



**1,668 young people supported
across 23 programs**



**Organisation overheads were
reduced to 8.4%**



Opened Youth Futures
Community School to
support disengaged young
people in education



Merged with Altone Youth
Services to be able to offer
greater support in the
communities that need it



Continued funding for all
of our services allowing us
to keep supporting people
who need us



Grew our Youth Needs
Assessment Service (YNAS)
To ensure more young people
have quick access to 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



Launched a Youth
Engagement Support Service
to support Aboriginal young
people who are willing to
engage in education, with
the support they need to
connect to programs such
as Anchor Point and Comet

Regan's Story

My name is Regan, I have been **supported by Youth Futures** since September 2016 and am due to leave the program next month. When I first came to Youth Futures I was temporarily renting a room from a friend. I couldn't go back home as I'd stabbed my brother and wasn't legally allowed to stay in the same house with him anymore. I was in contact with my family but the **relationships were unstable** due to their issues surrounding drug use and mental health challenges. **I also had mental health challenges** and was diagnosed with severe anxiety and depression, occasionally I would self-harm and sometimes had suicidal thoughts. In the beginning a Housing Support Worker at **Youth Futures helped me to regularly** meet with my Youth Justice Office and adhere to the responsibilities of my order so I wouldn't get in more trouble. I was still studying year 12 at high school. They also **helped me connect and attend appointments** with Headspace, YMCA, Mirrabooka Community mental health, the Alive-360 program and a GP to obtain mental health care plans so I could move forward with my life. I was helped to attend personal training and yoga sessions at Goodlife Gym to support both my physical and mental health.

Due to the lack of stability staying with friends my Housing Support Worker helped me apply to stay at the medium-term accommodation Foyer; I stayed there for 18 months whilst **completing my studies at high school and then TAFE**. Over the past 12 months I have been staying in my own place which I got through the Department of Communities; I had to change gyms but saw the **importance of continuing my healthy lifestyle**. I'm pleased to say I had the rent in constant credit and managing all my bills on only a low-income. I also like to keep the place clean and tidy and take pride in my home. **I was so lucky to have Youth Futures** brokerage help me again to get essential furniture including a washing machine.

At TAFE I completed a **certificate 3 in Legal Studies**, which then progressed on to me completing a certificate 4 and a Diploma in Legal Studies. **Youth Futures helped me to pay** the initial TAFE fees after which I set up a payment plan to pay for the rest of my studies. **My long-term plan was to get a Law degree** but first I wanted to get some work experience at a law firm to make sure it was for me. This type of experience was hard to come by but a recruitment agency helped me go to several job interviews and I was lucky to get a **full-time admin position at a prestigious law firm in the city**.

I still take regular medication to assist with my mental health and even though some days are harder than others I can manage my symptoms and **work towards my goals in life**.

As I have my house and job now my next goal is to get my driver's license. Again, brokerage from Youth Futures was able to buy me \$800 worth of driving lessons and paid \$100 for the practical driving assessment. I hope to pass in the next couple of months. My next big things will be **enrolling in University to complete a Bachelor in Criminology** which can then lead onto a Law degree.



Homelessness Services

At Youth Futures we believe that every young person has a right to safe, secure accommodation, and that an experience of homelessness shouldn't define a person or their future.

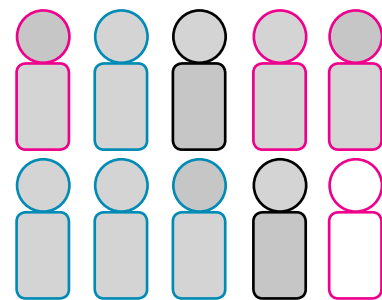
Guided by this belief, we offer a variety of accommodation and support services for young people experiencing, or at-risk of, homelessness. We know that secure housing can help a young person thrive, but that it takes much more than just a roof overhead to break the cycle of homelessness. That's why our team are passionate about helping each young person identify their goals and provide the support needed to make them a reality.

TINOCA

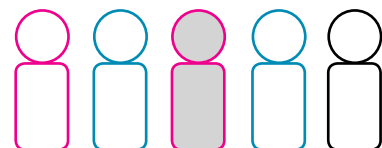
TINOCA provides short-term accommodation for young people aged 15-19 who are experiencing homelessness or are unable to stay in their family home. Located in Perth's northern suburbs, TINOCA offers young people a warm and inviting place to call home. A safe space, where young people can begin to work through challenges, learn independent living skills and access support to find ongoing accommodation.

"Majority of the workers have blown me away by their support. Many a time, I have been overwhelmed because I am so unused to so much kindness. If anything, the generosity of the workers has kept me going. Thank you so much."

"While I was in a bad headspace, workers looked after me and listened to me both over the phone and in person."



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



1 in 5 young people returned to the family home

65

Young people accommodated this year

4,506

Meals provided to young people

Sally's Story

My name is Sally and today I popped into Youth Futures **to give back**. At six weeks old I was thrown down the stairs by my Mother, this was the beginning of my journey in the State's care system. Whilst in foster care I suffered psychological, physical and sexual abuse which lead to me having **mental health challenges**. I had no relationship with my mother, my father had passed away due to a drug over dose and I had no other family members.

My anxiety and depression had deteriorated to a point where I was attempting to end my life. As a coping mechanism I was self-harming extensively and drinking excessive amounts of alcohol; this led to numerous hospital admissions and a stay at a mental health facility. I'd also had two stays in prison.

I came to Youth Futures when I was 21 and staying in transitional short-term accommodation. Youth Futures supported me practically and emotionally. I was helped with transport to and from doctors' appointments, budgeting to pay off my ambulance bills, nutrition advice and food shopping. I also engaged in informal art therapy and got mental health support. I came in today to give back [donate items], to **help all the young people and the young mums with babies** that do not have anything and I know Youth Futures helps with that.

At the time Youth Futures helped me to secure Government Housing and **gave me all the things I needed** to set up my home; including a cat to give me something to look after. **I was taught life skills** and how to survive living alone. Now, 6 years later from first engaging with Youth Futures **I've enrolled in university** and moved into a private rental. Because of what I've learnt I'm able to deal with negativity and I don't need others for happiness.

Youth futures helped me when I was not in a good place, helped me get a house when I was homeless. **It makes a difference** to someone to have **a place to call home** when you haven't got anything.



Transitional Accommodation Program (TAP)

TAP provides young people aged 16-21 with supported accommodation for up to 12 months. Young people staying in our TAP properties are given the freedom to live independently but are visited regularly by a Youth Worker who helps them address their needs and plan for their future; whether that be enrolling in education, gaining employment, setting saving goals or securing future accommodation.

186

Young people unable to access TAP due to high demand

12

Young people stayed in TAP

50%

Engaged in formal study

“TAP has been a real help, the workers are friendly and supportive, and having a stable place to stay lifts a burden.”

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

79

Young people accessed the Youth Place outreach service

151

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

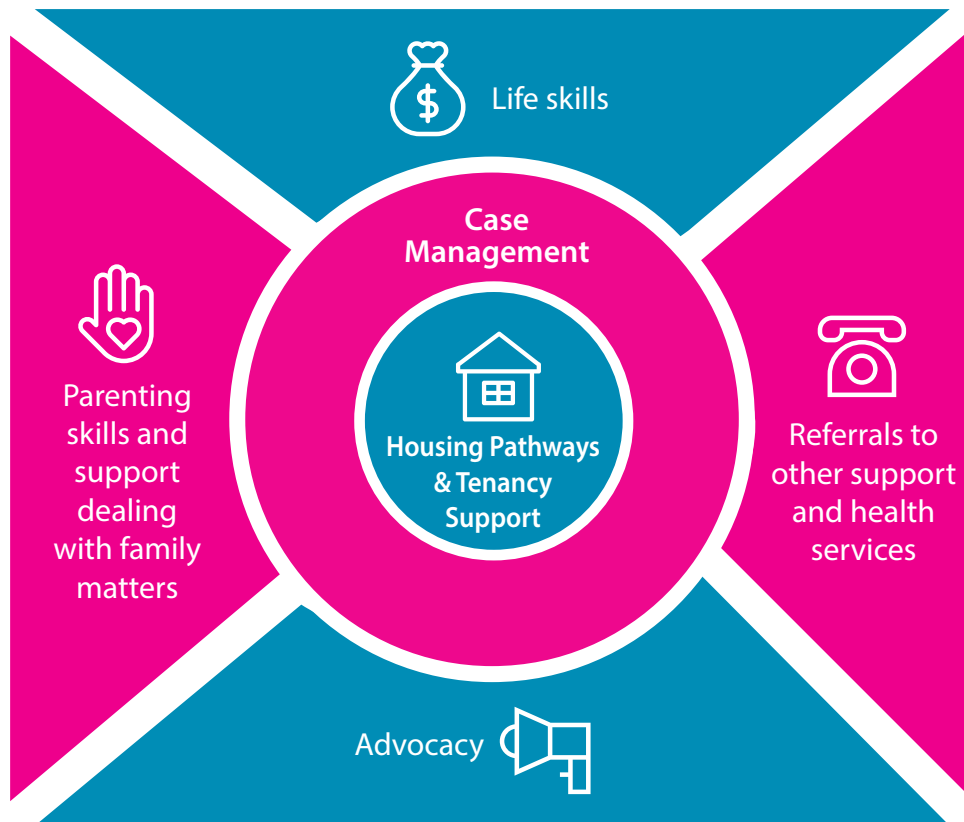
Housing Support Worker – Homelessness

Our dedicated Housing Support Worker assists young people aged 16-25 who are leaving homelessness services by helping them obtain safe, secure accommodation that will progress them towards long-term housing. Support is provided in all aspects of the young person's life including health and well-being, education and health service information, referrals,

advocacy, information, brokerage, transport, support to access housing and furniture once housed. This ensures a successful tenancy and helps young people achieve their goals. Its everything in between leaving homeless services and maintaining an independent tenancy which makes this service unique.

48

Young people and children were supported



Housing Support Worker – Corrective Services

This service helps young people aged 16-18 who are experiencing homelessness, or at risk of homelessness upon exiting the justice system, by giving them the support they need to get back on their feet. Young people who are on a community-based order or exiting juvenile detention are able to access the support of a Housing Support Worker. 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 replacement copies of identification, establishing an income, getting a learner's permit, resolving financial issues, assisting with family matters, linking in 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 support clients for a minimum of 12 months after they have been housed.

It is evident that once a young person gains stability through their accommodation they are able to achieve goals that they may have not been able to achieve due to their transient lifestyle. Having this support program in place assists individuals exiting the juvenile justice system reintegrate and be a positive member of society. Recidivism is also reduced by providing stability and helping them to reach their goals.

"Youth Futures has really helped me out when I needed it the most and supported me with my house."

"Youth Futures has helped me out of a bad situation, has assisted me with my accommodation and helped me change my mind set."

35

Young people
and children
were supported

1 in 3

Young people
were parents



The Nest

The Nest program was developed in response to an identified gap in services for young parents who risk having their child(ren) placed in the care of the Department for Child Protection and Family Support because they are homeless or are living in conditions unsuitable for raising a child. The program aims to empower these young parents to maintain custody of their child(ren) and to develop skills that will help them break the cycle of disadvantage. We had a great year at the Nest with all of our parents retaining custody of their children. The program provides each family a home of their own and a dedicated Youth Worker. The Nest Youth Worker helps each young person to identify and address the underlying barriers 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.

Katherine's story

Kathrine came into the Nest over 18 months ago with her daughter and has since given birth to a second daughter. With limited family support she has been living in accommodation services since the death of her mother when she was a teenager.

Adamant that she didn't want the same for her daughters, Katherine came to the Nest for refuge. Due to traumatic experiences of her own Katherine had severe anxiety and fear regarding the care of her daughters; not trusting anyone. Over time and **with support** Katherine was able to enrol her daughters in day-care where they are both **thriving and developing well** in a supportive environment with Katherine's eldest daughter overcoming a speech delay.

Most recently, Kathrine identified that she wanted to go to University and study to become a paramedic. **With our help** we managed to secure a contribution exempt place for a UniPrep course which will allow her to pursue her studies. **Having made great progress** in the Nest, Katherine is currently in the process of searching for her own private rental property.



8 months average length of support



1 in 3 escaping domestic violence



2 in 3 parents identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander

25

Young parents and infants accommodated

100%

Infants reached the relevant developmental milestones

100%

Parents maintained custody of their baby

194

Young parents 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 reaching their potential and aim to support them in the most holistic way we can.

Emergency Relief (ER)

For young people experiencing financial stress our Emergency Relief program offers essential items. We deliver this service from our Head Office in Joondalup, Youth Place in Fremantle and in partnership with Swan City Youth Service in Midland. The program offers practical assistance in the form of food hampers, toiletries, vouchers and public transport passes. Our Emergency Relief team engage young people in meaningful conversation during their referral and appointments to gain an understanding of the challenges 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)

Our Drug Education and Support Service offers young people who are already accessing our Homelessness Services the opportunity to participate in both one-on-one counselling and group sessions that will help them address their alcohol and/or drug use. The DESS program provides a safe space for young people to discuss any 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.

"I'm so grateful for the service Youth Futures provides. Being a single mum of two small children and having no credit on my phone to report to Centrelink by the deadline I was worried I would not be able to feed my children until my payment came through." ER recipient

257

Young people accessed Emergency Relief

58

Young people attended one-on-one support sessions

37

Group activities were delivered

207

Informal interactions with the DESS worker occurred

"The DESS worker is always able to help me understand my emotions in a way that I sometimes struggle to express. They're always available to help me break down my thoughts and help me find the main causes of my worries so we can start working through them."





Multicultural Youth Settlement Service

Our Multicultural Youth Settlement Service forms part of the Settlement Engagement and Transition Support service, which has been established as a 'one-stop-shop' for settlement services at the Herb Graham Recreation Centre in Mirrabooka. It is delivered through a partnership of five organisations, led by the City of Stirling. The program has a dedicated Youth Support and Development Worker who offers one-on-one support and information sessions for young refugees aged 12-25 who have arrived in Australia in the past 5 years. In addition, recreational activities like art workshops, sport and camps are programmed to engage and connect the community.

92

Young people participated in activities, workshops or camps

16

Young people were supported through case management

"I'm happy that I have had a chance to work with Youth Futures. Gasian has been very supportive; I like that he is not only my caseworker but he is like a big brother to me. The relationships and the skills from the program helped me developed the confidence I needed to succeed at school and work."

Youth Engagement Support Services (YESS)

The YESS program sees a dedicated Aboriginal Engagement Officer working with local communities to identify young people who have fallen through the gaps. Assisting and supporting young people with homelessness concerns, justice-court engagements, pregnancy and everyday basic human rights concerns.

The worker provides Aboriginal young people who are willing to engage in education, with the support they need to connect to programs such as Anchor Point and Comet. Once enrolled the Aboriginal Engagement Officer assists students to explore their cultural identity and when needed advocates on their behalf. When working with Aboriginal youth we also work with the family incorporating a holistic framework and Aboriginal Ways of Working (AWOW) allowing for open dialogue and support from all individuals involved in the young persons' education.

26

Young people supported to access education

"I feel less alone now, as I know who my mob are."

Young Person who was introduced to family members they'd never known including her father and siblings.

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.

62

Students supported
by the program

Youth Needs Assessment Service (YNAS)

We know from research that most young people who experience mental health challenges 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 waiting lists or specific intake criteria. These barriers are magnified for disadvantaged young people, those with trauma histories and minority groups.

Our YNAS service provides mental health support to existing Youth Futures clients. A team of Clinical Psychologists ensure that young people are able to access support in a timely manner and in an environment they are already comfortable in. Shorter waiting periods reduce the risk of a young person's mental health deteriorating further whilst they wait for support and having the service in-house increases the young person's willingness to engage in the

service. The YNAS Clinicians are able to build trust with the young people attending our education 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 waiting lists, 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.

159

Young people
supported

728

Sessions held with
young people

85

Sessions held
for parents

"The development of the YNAS program which integrates mental health care into appropriate alternative education settings has provided young people who would not normally be able to access support, access a high level of psychological treatment and support at a crucial time in their lives."
– Sarah, YNAS Clinical Psychologist. "

Education and Training Services

At Youth Futures we believe that education is the key to opportunity. We also understand that mainstream school isn't for everyone and that every person's path to success is unique.

The young people attending our education programs have faced many barriers to education including bullying, mental health challenges, learning difficulties and homelessness, to name just 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, three Comet CaRE Schools (pages 33-39) and our newly opened Youth Futures Community School; with FEAT our Registered Training Organisation (RTO 52833) providing the assessment and qualifications for all programs.



Nationally Accredited

Students complete a nationally accredited course.



Self-paced Learning

Students can enrol at any time of the year and complete their courses at own pace.



Holistic Approach

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



Tailored Learning

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



Life Skills

Our students leave with skills that will help them succeed in life; including budgeting, cooking, job-seeking and interview skills.



High Ratio

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

Anchor Point

Our Anchor Point programs operate at three sites, Ballajura, Bassendean and Joondalup. Each site supports severely disengaged young people (aged 15-19) to complete their Certificate I, II, or III in General Education with extra support focusing on personal development, work readiness, health and wellbeing.

At Youth Futures we understand that life can be complex therefore, our approach allows the students to learn at their own pace and reengage with education in a manner best suited to their circumstance.

96

Young people supported

112

Courses/
qualifications
completed

92

Young people
joined the
waitlist to attend
Anchor Point

Anchor Point

"It's my favourite place to be, outside of mentoring and hanging out with my friend. At Anchor Point, everyone is willing to help you and no one is left to feel sad. I even enjoy the schoolwork." – Reece

"I just wanted to let you know that I have been accepted into TAFE and that you were one of the first people I wanted to know about it. I am very excited to start working towards my dream of becoming a nurse, and I couldn't have done it without you. Thank you so much for not letting me give up before I even tried, it is a lesson I will definitely never forget." - Gem

"Thank you for letting me into Anchor Point and changing my life. Thank you for helping me throughout the time I have been here. Anchor Point is like my second family to me. Thank you for everything" - Ed



Literacy Learning Support Program (LLSP)

Through our education programs we identified many young people who require additional intensive and individualised support before they can begin to complete the nationally accredited courses on offer. To fill this gap, we piloted the LLSP providing additional support to 24 students who displayed significantly lower literacy and numeracy levels than their peers. The program ensures that young people who have not completed a primary-level of education are not left further behind as they progress into adulthood.

The outreach-based project saw a specialist Literacy Officer visit each of our sites to work one-on-one with students to improve their literacy and numeracy to the level needed for them to commence a Certificate I in General Education. The pilot program showed student literacy improve significantly and we're pleased to say we will be running the program full-time in 2019/20 to meet the individual needs of more students.



Futures Education and Training Services (FEAT)

FEAT is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO 52833) that provides an assessment for the following nationally recognised qualifications:

22472VIC - Certificate I in General Education for Adults

22473VIC - Certificate II in General Education for Adults

22474VIC - Certificate III in General Education for Adults

In the past 12 months FEAT has focused on consolidating the qualifications it has on scope and implementing the Continuous Improvement Schedule. The Continuous Improvement Schedule ensures that training and assessment is of a high quality and compliant with the Standards for Registered Training Organisations (2015).

During 2018/2019, 372 students were enrolled and 183 students were continuing as at 30th June 2019. The following certificates and units were completed:

Course	Qualifications Awarded
Certificate I in General Education for Adults	46
Certificate II in General Education for Adults	69
Certificate III in General Education for Adults	5
Total	120

Certificate	Total Number of Units Passed
Certificate I	850
Certificate II	775
Certificate III	61
Total	1686



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

Albany Community Foundation
ATI Martial Arts
Bassendean Memorial Library
Blue Sky Community Group
Building and Construction Training Fund
Careers Expo & VET Expo
Centrelink
Coles Caversham
Collier Charitable Trust
Comm Bank
Construction Futures Centre
Dirk Zarb-Cousin Personal Training
Dismantle
Dungeon Youth Centre
Edith Cowan University
Ertech
Essentials for Women
Foodbank
Givit
Hearspace
Hepatitis WA
Horse Vision
Jetts Gym Bassendean
Lazer Blaze Malaga
Lions Whitfords
Major Trusts

Malaga Beach Volleyball
 Martin Jane sculptures
 McCusker Centre for Citizenship
 Mental Health First Aid Australia
 Nandos Midland
 National Storage Joondalup
 North Metro TAFE Joondalup
 OzHarvest
 Palmerston
 Paraplegic Benefit Fund
 Professional Vogue
 Project ABLE
 Propel Youth Arts
 RAC
 R U Legal
 Red Ginger Services
 Renouf Fitness
 SDERA
 SecondBite
 Seldy's Gym
 SHQ
 Share the Dignity
 Skill Hire
 StreetSmart
 Swan City Youth Service
 The Nappy Collective
 Toastmaster
 Try-a-Trade
 Two Good
 Peer Based Harm Reduction
 West Australian Aids Council
 West Australian Child Safety Services
 West Coast Eagles
 West Side Driving School
 White Lion
 Woodside
 Your Health
 Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia
 Youth Link
 Youth Beat- Mission Australia
 Zero2Hero
 Zone Bowling Morley

Local Government

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

Government

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

Consortium and Contract Partners

Albany Youth Support Association
 Foundation Housing
 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
 Beyond Bank
 Collier Charitable Trust
 Comm Bank
 Coca-Cola Australia Foundation
 Everything Visual
 Healing Foundation
 Lotterywest
 Mantana Foundation for Young People
 MBE Photography
 Neami
 StreetSmart
 Unique Health Products
 Westpac
 WJ & MS Hughes Foundation

Major Event Partners

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.

As you can imagine, a lot of what we do at our CaRE Schools includes feeding many hungry teenagers. This feeding including sourcing and preparing the food, thinking up imaginative ways to sneak in vegetables or use up those 24 cucumbers that were donated whilst taking on a flurry of requests from our young people. In one week, hundreds of meals and snacks are prepared in a tiny old kitchen by one amazing woman, a volunteer called Penelope.

23

Hours donated
per week

200

Meals prepared
per week

Pene works tirelessly prepping meals to nourish our young people, juggling the storage and use of donated food to minimise waste and maintaining the on-site veggie garden for fresh produce.

First starting with Youth Futures in 2016 when Comet Caversham commenced Pene wanted to "to pay it forward and help create opportunities for others". Back then her operation consisted of 150 meals a week, now, with the addition of new sites, Pene curates over 200 meals and 40 morning teas for our students.

Pene recalls throwing the cook book and the meal schedule out the window when we started receiving donated food from SecondBite, as she never knows what great produce will be on offer week-by-week. As such, Pene dubs her cooking method "this goes with that" and often has to disappoint the students when they request previous concoctions as she can't remember what went in to make it so yummy! As well as donated items, other ingredients are homegrown on-site with Pene starting up the Caversham veggie garden in 2017; she and the students tend to herbs, tomatoes, zucchinis, sweet potato, pumpkin and capsicum and preserve anything that grows in abundance. Any waste veggies are composted and this goes back into the garden.

Pene's kitchen is always full of energy and fun and is also a space where students feel safe in discussing more things than just their favourite lunches.

Thank you Pene, for keeping our bellies and hearts full.





Ride with us

Each May mountain bikers and volunteers from across the state, country and overseas come together to raise awareness and funds for youth homelessness. For the last two years SRG Group have not only generously sponsored our annual Pipeline Challenge charity bike ride from Kalgoorlie to Perth, but have also taken to the bike for us too.

SRG Executive Director Brendon Durrant, uses his corporate volunteering days to ride alongside his colleagues and 90 other cycle enthusiasts. It's a laugh-a-minute with the SRG Team, who definitely don't take themselves as seriously as they do their insurance. We're pleased to say Brendon and the SRG Team have committed to Pipeline 2020 and we can't wait to have them ride with us again!

Beyond Bank

In a chance meeting Beyond Bank came to hear about our Nest program; captivated by our work they've since been generously supporting Youth Futures through a variety of activities. Engaging their employees with our cause by sharing testimonials from our young people, they collated gift baskets for the parents and babies in our Nest program and hosted Anchor Point students at their branches for financial literacy workshops. We're also a beneficiary of Beyond Bank's Community Reward Account where we receive a donation equivalent to a percentage of the average balance of all accounts linked to Youth Futures. Their support mirrors our holistic approach and we want to thank Beyond Bank for going above and beyond for us. We're excited to see where our partnership goes next.

"Beyond Bank is excited to see Youth Futures grow as an organisation that benefits so many young people from all walks of life, and whose stories resonate so deeply with our staff. Through Beyond Bank's partnership with Youth Futures, our team in WA have been able to connect with our local community and witness the amazing impact that Youth Futures is able to achieve. Allowing our staff to contribute their time as well as donations to the multiple programs that Youth Futures operates has made it a great fit for our employee volunteering program and provided a real insight into the adversities that young people within our local communities' face. We are very proud to partner with Youth Futures."

Katie Voss, Community Development Manager



Financial Overview

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

Reliance Auditing was appointed for the 2018-2019 financial year. Naz Randeria the Managing Director, brings a wealth of knowledge and years of experience in auditing.

At the end of the 2019 reporting period, our net assets stood at \$2,172,244 with total assets of \$2,683,216. At the same time last year, our net assets stood at \$1,015,250 with total assets of \$1,405,899 with the only material liabilities being creditors and employee leave entitlements. Between these two periods, it represents an increase of 47% in total assets and 52% in net assets. This is primarily due to leasehold improvements at The Warehouse.

Youth Futures is highly dependent on income received from government funding, grants, and donations. Funding received from the government during the year was \$2,981,605. Grant Income increased around 10% from the previous year with a total of \$1,634,734 and donations for the 2018/2019 financial year totalled \$937,777 All other income streams remained constant. The annual Pipeline Challenge raised \$125,684. Donations are expected to grow with the continuation of the Pipeline Challenge in conjunction with Youth Futures Foundation.

The cash flow has continued to be ardently managed which enables Youth Futures to actively plan, 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 is 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.



Lisa Ford
Treasurer

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE BOARD OF YOUTH FUTURES WA INC

Qualified Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Youth Futures WA Inc ('the Association'), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019, 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, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the *Basis for Qualified Opinion* section of our report, the accompanying financial report of the Association is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Foundation's financial position as at 30 June 2019 and of its financial performance for the year ended; and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Qualified Opinion

We were appointed as auditors of the Association on 20 November 2018 to conduct the audit of the Association's financial report for the year ended 30 June 2019. The financial information as at 30 June 2018 was not audited by us. We were unable to satisfy ourselves by alternative means concerning a number of opening balances disclosed in the statement of financial position, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows, as comparative figures. Since opening balances enter into the determination of the financial performance and cash flows, we were unable to determine whether adjustments might have been necessary in respect of the income and expenditures for the year reported in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and the net cash flows from operating activities reported in the statement of cash flows.

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 Association in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* 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 2 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Association's Board to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. 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 Board for the Financial Report

Board is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as 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, Board is responsible for assessing the Association'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 Board either intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Board is responsible for overseeing the Association'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 Association's internal control.

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Board.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of Board'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 Association'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 Association 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.

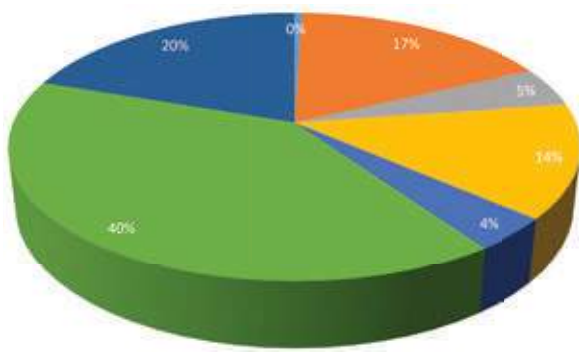
We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit

Reliance Auditing Services

Naz Randeria
Managing Director
Perth
17 September 2019

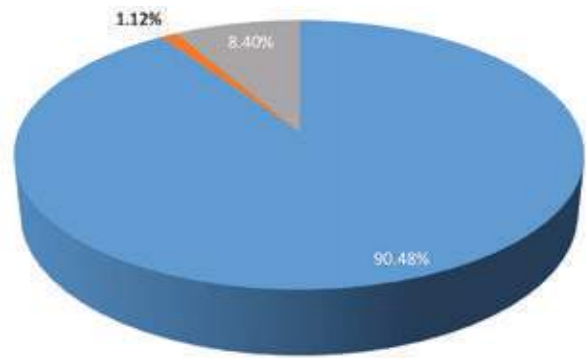


Where the money comes from



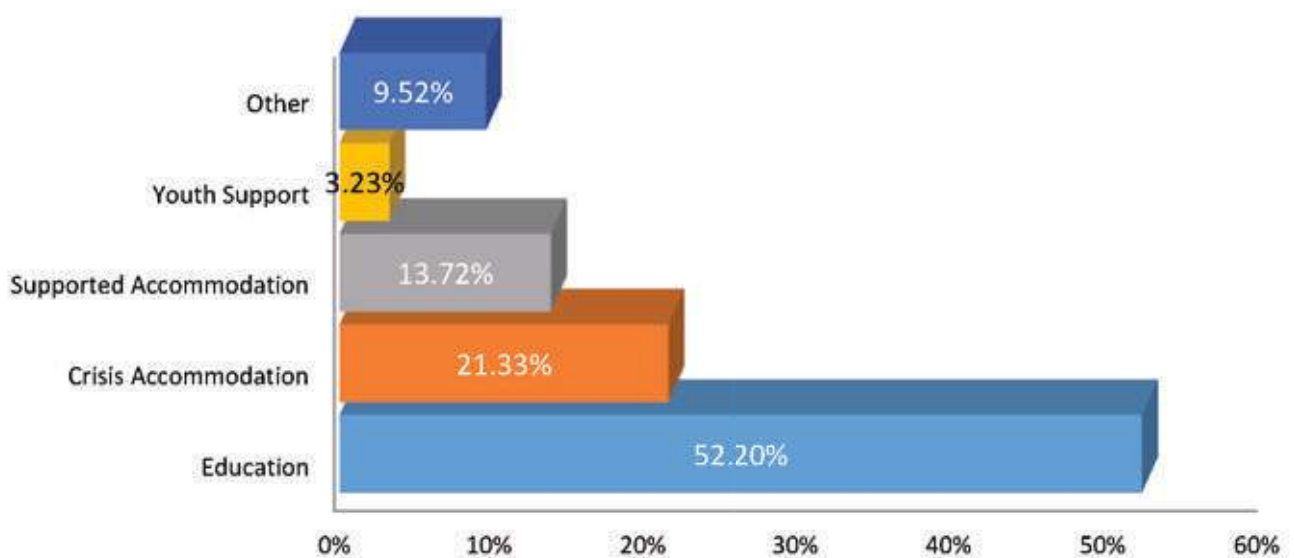
- Interest
- Donations
- Other
- State
- Service Funded
- Federal
- Federal/State Administered

Where the money goes

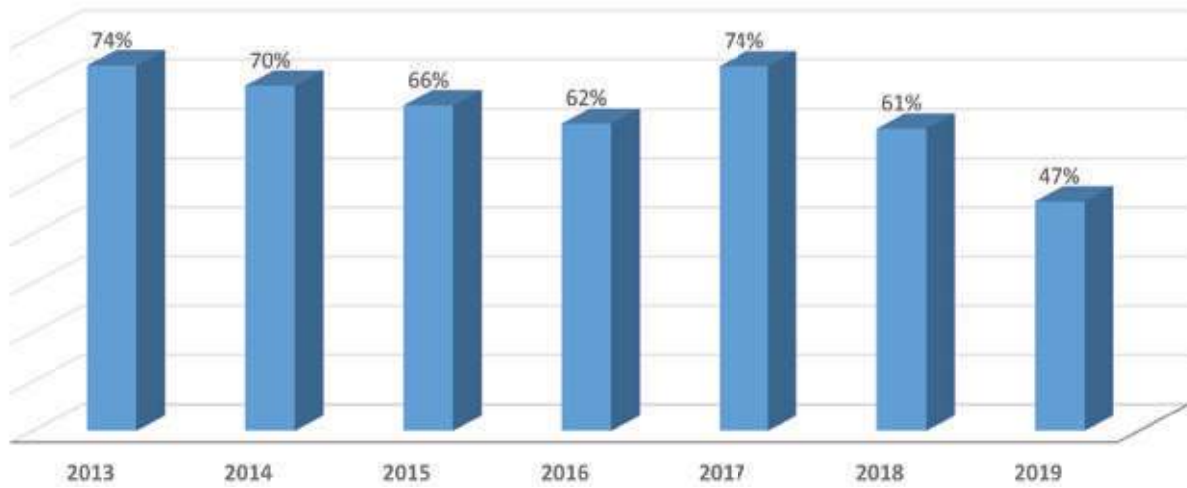


- Programs
- Fundraising
- Admin

Program Expenditure



Employment costs as a % of operating income





Together the possibilities are endless

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

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.

2018 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 during Years 10, 11 and 12.

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.

Running from three campuses, Albany, Caversham and Clarkson, Comet runs a highly student-centred learning model and much of the learning is student-paced in relation to their needs, rather than students having to conform to an inflexible education model which may not meet their requirements.

Students have access to VET learning pathways including certificates in General Education (Numeracy and Literacy) as well as a number of industry specific qualifications such as Building and Construction. The school also focuses on preparing students for their future pathways and assists them to transition into work through numerous work experience opportunities, TAFE and traineeships.

The school also works hard to provide the social skills required to be successful in the workplace, as well as practical and independent aspects such as driving licenses and White Cards.

2018 was again a fantastic and successful year at Comet CaRE School both in terms of consolidating the platform of engagement, academic and personal and social development which was laid in previous years, as well as further developing and growing the scope of service delivery we provide to our students, their families and community.

“Seeing individuals overcome obstacles to follow their dreams, and be successful, confident learners is the best part of my job.”

Richard Furber - Principal



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

Our staff include a unique mix of Teachers, Trainers, 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 & Staff

Chairperson	Ronan Philpott
Deputy Chair	Jenny Devine
Secretary	Sandy Friemond
Treasurer	Lisa Ford
Director	James Sutherland
Director/CEO	Mark Waite
Our Principal	Richard Furber

Our People

Full Time	18
Part Time	3
Casual	5
Volunteers	6



86

Students completed
Certificate in General
Education I, II or III

47

Students completed
First Aid
Certificates

16

Students completed
Workplace Health &
Safety Certificates

42

Students passed
their Keys For Life

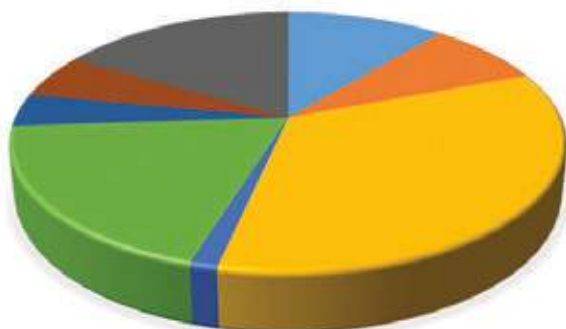
20

Students received
over 150 driving
lessons through
the school

14

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

Student Destination 2018



■ Mainstream	11%
■ Other providers	8%
■ Employment	16%
■ TAFE/RTO	34%
■ Apprenticeship	1%
■ Seeking Employment	19%
■ Moved out of area	4%
■ Participation	5%
	100.00%



Jess' Story

I came to Comet as an **unconfident** and **scared** person because I was being beaten up constantly by girls at my old school. I was scared and **didn't want to go to school** because of what had happened, so my mum encouraged me to go to Comet. At that point in time I didn't even want to leave the house at all.

My first day at Comet was scary but instantly I felt accepted and safe.

I knew that I would be able to complete my education without feeling insecure. **I have now been accepted into TAFE** doing Administration Accounting and I will be coming back on my days off TAFE to complete my Certificate III.



Sammie's Story

Mainstream education did not work out for me. At that age I was **not interested in school**, I found it difficult to follow the rules, to complete homework and assignments in a specific time frame, and I **found it difficult to communicate** in a responsible manner towards peers and authority figures. My accommodation being unstable and having an unstable income also made it difficult for me to attend school.

I stayed in TINOCA the Youth Futures short term accommodation for about two and a half months. During this period the youth workers of **TINOCA suggested Comet**, however my priorities were in the wrong place and I was not prepared for the responsibility of school. After TINOCA I found residence in a more long-term hostel with Mercy Care. I stayed there for seven months, and within those months my priorities changed for the better. I came to the realisation that I needed to complete school to get anywhere in life.

The Comet program allows you to **complete work at your own pace**, has reasonable hours, and you get **support from Youth Workers** in relation to the questions and tasks within the work booklets. The work was not overly difficult and sometimes we had the option to play Uno or a game of some sort. **This made it easier for me** to complete my course as there is no rush in completing work.

Now, I have **completed my Certificate in General Education** and am able to apply for work without criticism. I have stable accommodation with a mate who I met through Comet and I have enrolled for TAFE. As of next year, I will be **studying Community Services** Cert III and hopefully further down the track **I can support young people** with a career in youth work.





Jason's Story

Comet Caversham has helped me a lot in the past two years. I came here after going to mainstream school where I attended but didn't achieve much as there were lots of kids but not many teachers. The teachers here [at Comet] **help me and give me opportunities** that I wouldn't have had in mainstream school. Over the past two years I

have been doing my Certificate II in Civil

Construction [through the partnership we have with ERTECH] which will help me secure a job when I finish. This school has been **the best** school I've been to because the opportunities that have been given to me are setting me up for the future.

"The opportunities that Comet has given me have been life changing."

Together the possibilities are endless

Participate in the Pipeline Challenge

Sign up as a corporate partner

Become a regular giver

Hold a fundraiser

Leave a bequest

Donate items

Volunteer



Joondalup Lotteries House
Suite 1, 70 Davidson Terrace, Joondalup WA 6027

(08) 9300 2677

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ABN 83 753 549 791		



Midland
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