



2023

ANNUAL REPORT



Youth Futures acknowledges the traditional custodians of the
lands on which we live and work and we pay our respects to
Elders past, present and emerging.

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Message from The CEO

2023 has been another year of change and growth - the biggest growth being the pouring of the slab for our second crisis accommodation service, Djinda. The need for an additional youth homelessness service is well overdue and the combination of the rental crisis and cost of living increase has put pressure on all of our homeless services. Our staff continue to be amazing, adapting to the wider landscape and the challenges it presents when providing essential services to the vulnerable and at-risk young people that access Youth Futures. Staff continue to be our biggest asset and without their dedication and commitment Youth Futures would not be able to continue to support young people in our community. It has been another incredible year for Youth Futures with countless highlights attributed to the dedication and hard work of our 140 paid staff and 30+ volunteers. Some of the highlights for 2023 include additional services being established, growth and development of existing services, and confirmed new services planned for 2024.

Growth and Development 2023

- Established our fifth Anchor Point site in Swan View
- RTO developed Certificate II in Workplace Skills course to be delivered by the Anchor Point program
- Two new classrooms installed at our Midland School Campus
- A new Art room installed at our Midland School Campus
- Delivery of our third Comet Connect mobile classroom vehicle

Planned Growth and Development 2024

- A second 6-bed Crisis Accommodation Service, Djinda, under construction
- Expand Anchor Point Mirrabooka site to double its capacity
- Permission from the Department of Education to open two more Anchor Point sites
- Commence the fitout of our Merriwa School Campus
- Commence a joint project with Edith Cowan university to contextualise our curriculum for Indigenous young people

As an organisation, our greatest highlight for 2023 is that we have assisted over 4,100 young people across the 37 services operated under Youth Futures, a 30% increase from what we achieved in 2022. This incredible achievement is a credit to all involved with the organisation, from our amazing staff and volunteers to our generous funders and supporters. What's even more incredible is that over 2,000 of these young people were supported on multiple occasions over an extended time period, from weekly sessions to 140 hours of support a week. We believe our intensive support is why the young people accessing our services overcome such adversity and achieve so much.

Homelessness Services supported 312 young people experiencing homelessness throughout the year via our 7 homelessness services. An increase to the previous year attributed to outreach programs and an increase in requests for support as more young people struggle to find affordable places to live. With vacancy rates at some of the lowest ever recorded, combined with record rent rates and increases, many young people have simply been locked out of the housing market. Our accommodation services provided 19,859 safe night's sleep – a number we are extremely proud of. Throughout the year we also received an additional 2,098 requests for help and support from young people experiencing homelessness that we were unable to assist. As an organisation we continue to plan, develop and implement initiatives and services to support the unmet need. 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 positive outcomes.

Our 15 Wellbeing and Support Services provided help and support to 1,922 young people throughout 2023, an increase of 20% from 2022. We have several projects planned for the coming year to further increase our capacity as an organisation. Not only will we look to increase our internal capacity through service expansion and the creation of new services, we also look for ways to increase our capacity through partnerships, all with the aim of providing more support and increasing positive outcomes for young people.

In the 2023 school year, 635 young people were enrolled through Youth Futures Community School, Anchor Point and Comet Connect. The Literacy Learning Support Program delivered 1889 individual sessions to young people with literacy levels so low they're unable to be accepted into other education services. Overall, our Education and Training Services enabled students to achieve the following:

- 2,577 Units completed (CGEA I, II, III)
- 199 students completing one or more Certificates (CGEA I, II, III)
- 19 Certificate II Civil Construction completed

We continue to see hundreds of young people overcome challenges, obstacles and achieve amazing outcomes when provided with appropriate support. Seeing the lives of young people change and witnessing their achievements, reinforces our dedication and commitment to continue helping some of the most disengaged, disadvantaged and vulnerable young people in our community. However, as our reputation for delivering professional, achieving youth services continues to grow, unfortunately, so has the number of referrals we receive that we are not able to support.

Supporting young people marginalised by adversity and institutional discrimination through economic turmoil is emotionally demanding work so when we get feedback from young people, we know our collective effort is making a difference to their lives. This feedback reinforces our commitment and desire to support more young people and makes the challenges and hard times worth it, "All I expected was a house, you gave me so much more"... "You have changed my life for the better and I am very grateful for this program" ... "TINOCA staff make me feel comfortable but they remain professional when I need them for help and support"... "Thank you so much for everything you have done for me".

We will start 2024 with more capacity and initiatives than ever before, all aiming to support more disadvantaged, disengaged, vulnerable and at-risk young people. We do this knowing we cannot do this alone. We continue to need and appreciate the support of Local, State and Commonwealth Governments. We continue to need and appreciate funding and support from individuals, corporate and community philanthropy. We are committed to using the financial support we receive in an appropriate and ethical way, ensuring we deliver the best possible services we can. We pride ourselves on being efficient and using our funds to support as many young people as possible. We thank all our staff, volunteers, supporters and Board who share our vision "Communities where young people are valued, respected and celebrated". You all contribute to shaping the organisation into what it is today. You have enabled over 4,100 young people to be supported throughout the year and you have shown us that when we work together, the "possibilities are endless". Thank you.

CEO/Director - Mark Waite





About Us

At Youth Futures we believe that all young people matter, regardless of the circumstances they find themselves in.

For 35 years we have been empowering young people to take control of their future by offering them the holistic support and opportunities they need to thrive.

Our passionate team work to provide at-risk young people with a flexible and non-judgemental environment, always acknowledging that each person we help is an individual with their own story and needs.

As a Child Safe Organisation, we always put the best interests of children and young people first.

Our Purpose

To be a united force of empowerment for young people marginalised by adversity and institutional discrimination.

Our Mission

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

Our Vision

Communities where young people are valued, respected and celebrated.

Our Values



EMPATHY

No one person is the same, nor their journey or aspirations. Only through active listening and engagement can one aspire to know the real individual. Only from a foundation of empathy can one contribute positively to another with relevant meaning and affect.



EMPOWERMENT

For individuals to be self-assured, responsible and represent theirs, and others' interests with confidence and a sense of autonomy and authority.



UNITY

There is power in the many, the collective. When we come together, connect, and collaborate, good happens and no challenge, no barrier is insurmountable. We are aligned in our conviction and equal in our value in any outcome.



INTEGRITY

Say what we are going to do and do what we say. Progress with consideration and respect, aspiring to generate trust and confidence in all with whom we connect.



VIGOUR

Our determination and our passion is pervasive. Our energy and our enthusiasm is both compelling and infectious. With restless urgency we are driven and drive positive change.

Our Approach

Person Centred

The young people we work with always come first.

Social Justice

We believe all young people deserve equitable access to quality services.

Strengths Based

We focus on young people's strengths, encouraging self-determination and a positive outlook.

Empowerment

We advocate for young people and support them in pursuit of their goals, interests and rights.

Trauma Informed

We acknowledge the prevalence and impact of trauma. Our team works to create physical and emotional safety for young people, as well as pathways to recovery.

Accessible

The journey to a brighter future can be tricky to navigate. We remove as many roadblocks as possible.

Holistic

Through a multifaceted approach we support the whole individual. We don't believe in band-aid solutions.

Our Impact

At a Glance



4,130

young people supported



232

people supported
by in-house Psychologists



19,859

safe nights sleep
enabled



41,902

meals provided
to young people



20

young families kept
together in the Nest



2,577

units of nationally
recognised qualifications
completed





Our Services

Homelessness

We believe every young person has the right to safe, secure accommodation and that an experience of homelessness does not define them or their future.

TINOCA

Established: 1988

How it works:

A short-term accommodation service where young people can stabilise their life and plan for their future. Supported by Youth Workers, residents participate in case management to address any personal challenges, and develop independent living skills such as budgeting, cooking, cleaning, and hygiene. Where appropriate, young people are assisted to maintain or restore family relationships.

Who we help:

Young people aged 15-19 who are experiencing, or at immediate risk of, homelessness. TINOCA can support six young people at any given time.

312
young people
supported

40%
identify as
Aboriginal or
Torres Strait Islander

They have helped me with numerous things such as; Centrelink, general emotional support, helping me find and connect with a counsellor to better my mental health and teaching me about more independent living skills.

54
young people
supported

74%
transitioned into
safe, secure
accommodation

16%
returned to
the family

991
young people
unable to be
supported



TAP North & South

Established: 1990 & 2021

How it works:

Young people staying at our TAP properties in the North Metro live independently with support and regular visits from a Youth Worker. Emphasis is placed on helping young people overcome their challenges and planning for the future. Goals might include enrolling in education, gaining employment, setting saving goals or securing future accommodation.

Our TAP South program also sees a Youth Worker providing outreach support, helping young people accessing community housing to maintain their tenancy.

Who we help:

Young people aged 16-21 who are experiencing homelessness and are able to live independently.



29

young people
supported

84%

engaged in
study and/or
employment

510

young people
unable to be
supported

The Nest

Established: 2008

How it works:

Young parents at risk of losing custody of their baby are able to access single-dwelling accommodation and support. The Nest helps young parents, usually mothers, with support in areas such as parenting, budgeting, nutrition, independent living, safety, and goal setting.

With demand outstripping housing annually, we introduced a Nest Outreach Service in 2022 to support as many young parents as possible to find suitable accommodation, maintain custody, and create a brighter future for their family.

Who we help:

Young parents aged 16-19 who are at risk of losing custody of their baby due to homelessness or unsafe living conditions such as domestic violence.

20

young mothers
and babies
accommodated

25

young parents
supported via
outreach

75%

escaping
domestic violence

100%

of parents
maintained custody

312

young parents
unable to be
supported



Thea

"Before the nest I was living at my aunties house. She had just been rediagnosed with cancer and asked me to move out so she could focus on her healing journey with only her husband and children around her. I had no where else to go. I'd been looking for a rental for months already but couldn't get anywhere due to no rental history and such a low income, I couldn't live with my mum due to an abusive situation, and I couldn't live with my dad as the house was completely full with other family who had to move out of their homes and couldn't find anywhere else because of the rental crisis. I started couch surfing between friends houses, which, as you can probably imagine, was extremely difficult with a baby. The Nest saved me from that. When I first went into the program the only thing I expected was a safe place to live. In return the nest gave me a furnished house. They went above and beyond, providing me with money to cover my first food shop and items my baby needed. I've had constant support from Jo throughout the months of me living in the program, where she's taught me life skills such as meal planning and how to cook. **The safety of the nest has given me the ability to progress in my life.** I'm now starting my diploma and am about to get a promotion at work. I'm extremely grateful to the nest and everything they have provided my child and I. I wouldn't be where I am in life without their support."



Housing Support North Metro

Established: 2010

How it works:

Our Housing Support Worker helps young people experiencing homelessness who wish to reside in Perth's north metropolitan area. The primary goal is to help young people secure long-term housing, however they are also assisted with goal setting, accessing education or employment, budgeting, advocacy and referrals. The outcomes for this program are significantly impacted by a lack of affordable housing.

Who we help:

Young people (individuals, couples and families) aged 16-25 who are leaving homelessness services and require support to secure long-term housing.

30

young people
supported

50%

were young
parents with one or
more children

14

young people
unable to be
supported

Housing Support Corrective Services

Established: 2010

How it works:

This program gives young people who are on a community-based order or leaving juvenile detention, a fresh start. The primary goal is to help young people secure long-term housing, however they are also supported to develop independent living skills and guided to overcome financial hardship and family challenges in the hopes of reducing recidivism. Once long-term housing is found, the Housing Support Worker will help a young person establish their new home and can continue to provide support for a further 12 months. Like the Housing Support North Metro program, the outcomes for this program are significantly impacted by a lack of affordable housing.

Who we help:

Young people aged 16-18 who are experiencing or at-risk of

27
young people supported

45%
are employed or engaged in study

26
young people unable to be supported

Youth Place

Established: 2010

How it works:

Delivered in partnership with St Patrick's Community Support Centre, Youth Place provides supported housing and outreach support to young people experiencing homelessness in Fremantle and surrounding areas. Taking a holistic approach, young people are assisted to work through any personal challenges, ranging from mental health and drug use to family breakdown. The Youth Worker also helps young people to explore and secure long-term housing.

Who we help:

Young people aged 15-25 who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

31
young people accommodated

43
young people supported via outreach support

245
young people unable to be supported





Our Services

Education and Training

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.

Vision

Communities where all young people can access an appropriate education.

635

young people
supported

4 in 5

receiving mental
mental health
support

At Youth Futures we believe that education is the key to opportunity but understand that mainstream school isn't for everyone and every person's path to success is unique. Academic attainment is complemented with holistic care ensuring students receive the wrap-around, holistic support needed to reach their potential. Our staff include a unique mix of Teachers, Trainers, Youth Workers, Clinical Psychologists, and support staff.

Youth Futures Community School

Established: 2002

How it works:

Provides young people with an appropriate alternative to traditional high school in a more structured classroom environment to that of Anchor Point. Delivered five days a week from sites in Albany, Caversham, Clarkson and Midland, students complete accredited courses, complemented with holistic care to reach their future potential.

Who we help:

Educationally disengaged young people in years 8-12 requiring a flexible approach to learning and additional support with personal development, work readiness, health and wellbeing.



131

GCEA certificates
completed

19

Civil Construction
certificates
completed

52

additional
certificates
completed

Youth Futures Community Schools exist to provide an alternative setting to mainstream education for students in Years 8-12 who have been unable to successfully access education at conventional schools. Central to the schools' success is effectively fostering excellent relationships between school staff, students and their families. These relationships are based on empathy, respect and trust, which underpin the learning process.

Campuses deliver a highly student-centred education model with much of the learning self-paced and based on an individual's needs, instead of students having to conform to an inflexible educational model which may not meet their requirements.

Students have access to vocational education training (VET) learning pathways through Certificates in General Education for Adults I, II and III (22472VIC, 22473VIC and 22474VIC), in addition to industry specific qualifications. To supplement educational attainments, students are supported with their journey to future pathways and assisted to transition to employment through work experience opportunities, TAFE courses, apprenticeships and traineeships.

Academic achievements are complemented with experiences to develop social skills required to be successful in the workplace as well as practical and independent life skills such as Keys 4 Life, attaining driving licences and acquiring WHS certificates and White cards.



Comet Connect

Established: 2020

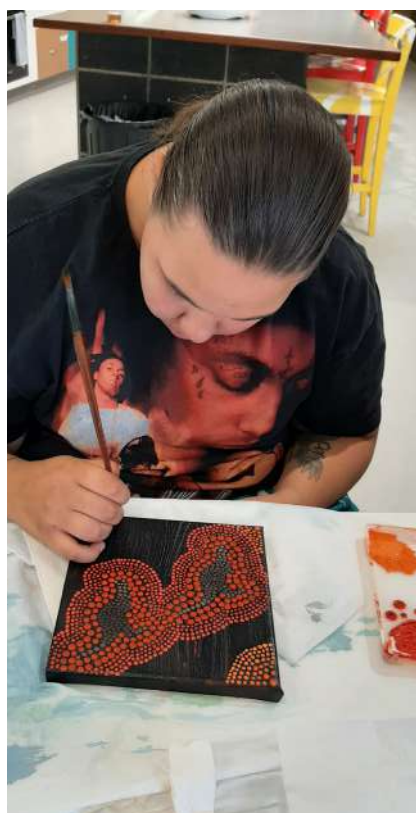
How it works:

Two custom fit minibuses with dedicated Trainers provide a mobile classroom with everything a student needs to access education. The service meets young people at their preferred location, whether that's at home or at a safe public space like the local library; with the session taking place inside or outside the vehicle. Comparable to our Youth Futures Community Schools, students can study Certificates in General Education for Adults at a pace which suits them. Students can also access support services delivered by the organisation in addition to obtaining referrals to external support services.

15
students enrolled

Who we help:

Educationally disengaged young people aged 15-19 who are unable to attend a fixed and/or shared educational site due to personal circumstances such as caring for a family member or experiencing mental health challenges, such as social anxiety.



Anchor Point

Established: 2015

How it works:

Provides young people with an appropriate alternative to traditional high school. A flexible, youth-friendly environment allows students to learn at their own pace and reengage with education in a manner best suited to their circumstance. Delivered four days a week from sites in Ballajura, Bayswater, Mirrabooka, Joondalup and Swan View students complete VET accredited courses.

211
young people enrolled

34
additional certificates completed

Who we help:

Educationally disengaged young people aged 15-19 requiring a flexible approach to learning and additional support with personal development, work readiness, health and wellbeing.



2023, Anchor Point Student,

"School is a very popular subject, these days you will hear lots of people talking about how the system need to be changed or updated and how kids aren't getting the learning that they need. Because of these reasons for some people mainstream school can be very difficult. So today I am here to talk about an alternative school, Anchor point which is focused on engaging students in social situations as well as preparing them for their future careers when they leave Anchor Point. Although this isn't a traditional learning route the school still focuses on getting their students a certificate for general education at their own pace.

One of my favourite things about Anchor Point is the excursions we go on. At the end of last year, we went to Adventure World. It was so much fun and gave the students an opportunity to talk to people in their class that they hadn't spoken to before or to talk to someone new at Adventure World. Anchor Point is always on the move, this gives students lots of perspective and information about other options as well as encouraging them to ask questions.

The school is very routine driven. Every student is expected to sign a code of conduct when they start at Anchor Point. Some of the things this code states are "I will arrive at school at 9 o'clock every day I am expected to attend." Another is, "I will not play computer games during book work hours." These rules are expected to always be followed. If a student breaks a rule a written warning will be given, 3 written warnings and you will be removed from the school indefinitely. This sets a precedent that everyone is expected to be on their best behaviour and always attend school unless they are ill or absent for other personal reasons.

Self-paced learning is good for people who aren't always able to stay focused on one task. This helps students feel less stressed about schoolwork and there are no deadlines for work. Although this is the case, students are always encouraged by trainers to keep working and to do more every day.

If you or someone you know is struggling in mainstream school, then Anchor Point can be a great alternative option for you. They offer so many cool and great things for people who struggle in mainstream schools and need help. Anchor Point offers this help in ways no other school can."

Futures Education and Training (FEAT)

Established: 2018

FEAT is a Registered Training Organisation (RTO 52833) assessing nationally recognised qualifications delivered through Youth Futures education programs Anchor Point, Comet Connect and Youth Futures Community School (years 10, 11 and 12).

Qualifications delivered are:

22476VIC - Certificate I in General Education for Adults (Introductory)

22472VIC - Certificate I in General Education for Adults

22473VIC - Certificate II in General Education for Adults

22474VIC - Certificate III in General Education for Adults

BSB20120 - Certificate II in Workplace Skills

FSK20119 - Certificate II in Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways

FEAT ensures the integrity of the RTO by providing RTO services and support to Youth Futures staff, including compliance management, support and training, curriculum support and development, professional development and facilitating internal and external auditing requirements. In 2023 FEAT provided 8 one-to-one specialised consultations with staff, multiple site visits and informal trainer consultations, 7 professional development sessions to training staff, facilitated 2 RTO specific workshops with managers and site leaders, conducted 4x RTO meetings for each site, recorded 0 non-compliances in the annual AVETMISS audit and led multiple file audits supporting RTO and organisational compliance and best practice.



634

enrolments

2,577

units passed

199

students completed
one or more CGEA
Certificates

Our Services

Support and Wellbeing

Young people facing adversity often have complex needs that require a holistic approach. We are guided by an understanding that addressing these needs during the pivotal moments of one's youth can profoundly influence that individual's future. That's why we strive to remove as many obstacles as we can, empowering young people with the necessary tools and opportunities needed to build a brighter future.

1,314
young people
supported



Emergency Relief

Established: 1997

How it works:

Young people experiencing financial hardship can collect hampers filled with essential items such as food, personal hygiene items, transport passes and supermarket vouchers. If needed, young people are also assisted with other essentials such as prescription glasses, medication, and clothing. The Emergency Relief program is a vital engagement tool and allows us to link young people into our programs or external services.

Who we help:

Young people aged 15-24 who are in financial stress.

524
young people
supported



Youth Settlement Service (SETS)

Established: 2015

How it works:

This service aims to help newly arrived young people improve their wellbeing, independence, and community connectedness. A dedicated Youth Support and Development Worker offers one-on-one intensive support, life skill workshops, and recreational activities like art sessions and sport.

Who we help:

Young people aged 12-25 who arrived in Australia on a humanitarian visa.

169

young people supported

25

ethnicities represented

27

young women supported to address family and domestic violence

Youth Needs Assessment Service (YNAS)

Established: 2015

How it works:

A team of Psychologists and Clinical Psychologists provide in-house mental health support. Shorter waiting periods reduce the risk of a young person's mental health deteriorating further whilst they wait for support and an in-house service increase individuals willingness to engage as they're familiar with staff and the environment. 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. In addition to 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.

Who we help:

Young people aged 12-19 who are accessing a Youth Futures education or training program. Sessions are also held for parents and staff to better equip them with engaging with young people experiencing poor mental health.

124

young people supported

1,788

sessions held

161

sessions held with parents



345

young people
supported

24

group sessions
held

50%

experiencing
food insecurity

3,619

meals distributed

Altone Youth Centre

Established: 2019

How it works:

Located in Beechboro, Altone Youth Centre is a one-stop shop for local young people who need a safe social space after school. Delivering a mix of drop-in and structured sessions throughout the year, young people can use computers, grab a meal or engage in meaningful conversation with a Youth Worker. Group workshops are delivered throughout the year to support life skill development and educate young people on topics relevant to maintaining good health and wellbeing. Youth workers offer informal counselling, practical support, advocacy, case management and referrals to additional support services.

Who we help:

At-risk young people aged 11-24 who are residing in the Altone region of Perth's east metro.



Keys 2 Employment

Established: 2012

How it works:

A driver's licence can open doors to education, training and employment. It also promotes independence. Our Keys 2 Employment program is delivered from our Youth Futures Community School campuses and in partnership with Balga Senior High School. The program assists young people to successfully navigate the licensing system, including the completion of their logbook.

Who we help:

Young people aged 16-19, attending a Youth Futures education program, who may struggle to get their driving licence due to financial difficulties or the lack of a responsible adult to teach them.

18
young people
supported



Drug Education Support Service (DESS)

Established: 1997

How it works:

DESS provides a safe, non-judgemental space where young people can participate in private counselling or group sessions to discuss alcohol or drug use. Our DESS worker provides young people with accurate information on topics such as harm minimisation strategies, the law, communicable diseases, and mental health.

Who we help:

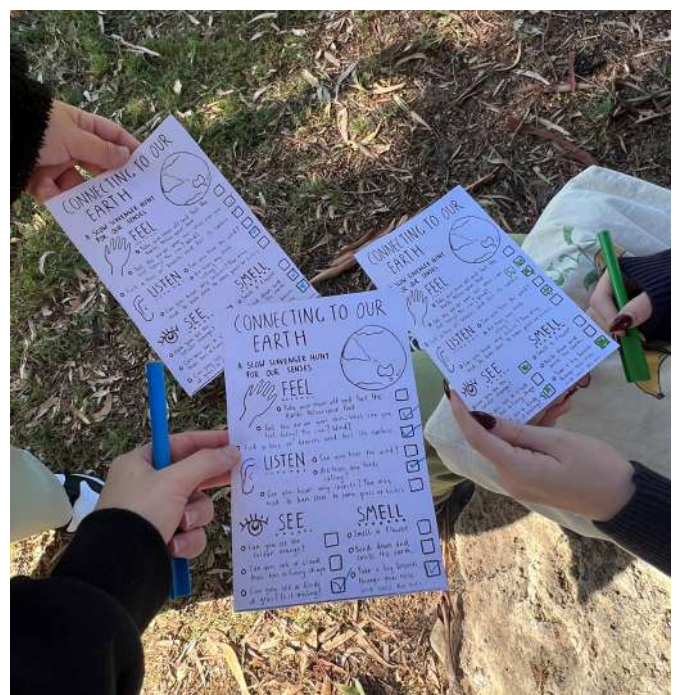
Young people aged 12-24 who are engaged in our Homelessness and Education programs.

116
young people
supported

44
group sessions
held in homelessness
services

503
individual
sessions delivered
in homelessness

86%
of young people
accessing DESS
(Homelessness) diagnosed
with one or more mental
health challenges



Literacy Learning Support Program (LLSP)

Established: 2018

How it works:

Many young people were not meeting the literacy requirements to enrol in alternative education. Literacy Officers provide intensive and individualised one-on-one support to young people in our education programs displaying significantly lower literacy and numeracy skills than their peers. The program ensures that young people have the skills they need to start and successfully complete their Certificate I in General Education for Adults.

1,889

individual
sessions held

Who we help:

Young people aged 12-24 who are engaged in our Education programs.

Pathways

Established: 2022

How it works:

With initial support from Bendigo Community Bank Bayswater, we introduced a pilot program, Pathways, into Anchor Point Bayswater; supporting positive transitions out of Anchor Point.

18

young people
supported

8

group sessions
held

Providing weekly work readiness sessions young people are able to develop resumes, interview techniques and other vital skills to be successful from interview to long-term placement in education or employment. The Transitions Officer builds relationships with local businesses and key stakeholders, to formalise placement processes and match businesses to individuals to ensure the best outcome for all involved. Supporting students to experience workplace settings or try a job before committing to a qualification greatly increases the instance of longevity in their next step.

Additionally, support is provided post transition to assist in the navigation of a new venture.

The success of this program has seen us deliver it across more of our sites to support more young people to make positive transitions into employment.

Who we help:

Young people aged 14-19 who are attending Anchor Point Bayswater and looking to engage in further education, training, or employment.



Individual Outcomes



Education and More

2023 Anchor Point Student

"Such kind and caring staff make my life at Anchor Point amazing. We don't just study. We go out on fun excursions and have speakers come to us to talk to us about such useful topics. I also enjoy the cookery and art lessons. I am happy that I have a Youth Worker to talk to when I have problems. Anchor Point supports and encourages me."

Outreach Support in Freo

Twenty-one-year-old Emma and her partner attended Youth Place during an Emergency Relief drop-in session, living out of a car and couch surfing between friends' houses. Emma had been living in a private rental with her girlfriend until they were both terminated from their full-time employment and no longer had a source of income. The increase in price of private rentals, losing their jobs and the current cost of living meant Emma and her partner were not able to sustain a private rental, leaving Emma having to return to dysfunctional family dynamics which she had escaped from previously.

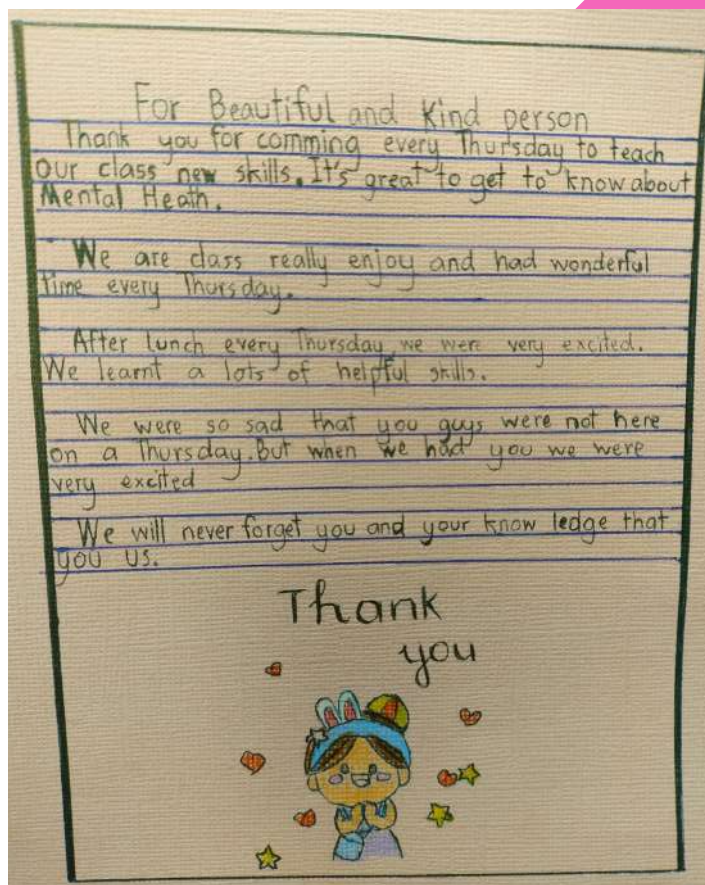
Youth Place provided outreach support for both Emma and her partner; making referrals to crisis accommodation services and after much persistence, Emma was accepted into a short-term accommodation property. Emma was then accepted for a transitional accommodation through the crisis accommodation. Youth Place continues to assist Emma with an application for disability support pension and enrolling in a Certificate III in Horticulture. Emma successfully completed the course at the end of the year and recently accepted full-time employment in her dream job. Despite previous mental health challenges, Emma stated that since having stable accommodation she was able to focus on her well-being, which improved her mental health significantly. Emma is looking forward to returning to the private rental market soon.

Shaylee

"I don't really know where to start. I was at a mainstream school where me and a lot of other kids were not able to learn due to learning difficulties, bullying, homelessness, and addictions. It's hard for anyone to go through such a thing. I was struggling with learning problems like not being able to understand what they were trying to teach me. They call it dyslexia and I am one of many who struggle with it. Therefore, the learning difficulties lead to wagging. I got in a lot of trouble. So one day, John the participation coordinator helped me transition from this mainstream school to Youth Futures.

I gotta admit, I was scared and I didn't want to transition, but the day I did transition to Youth Futures I never looked back. Moving schools was the best thing I could have done for myself. I can definitely say I was happy with the school because it made me believe that whatever I struggled with I can always be helped by Youth Futures. I can tell you one of the hardest things about moving schools was getting adjusted to everything. Thanks to the staff and really nice students in the school, they made it really easy for me to get adjusted quickly. About one year in I was really comfortable with the school. I moved class to an upstairs class and I loved being with my new teacher, her name is Shane. She has helped me get through a lot. She helped me get through my dyslexia and I can now learn in ease without thinking I'm worthless and pathetic, just because I couldn't do what most kids could do. In fact, dyslexia isn't bad at all. We dyslexics have many impressive skills. We think very differently to other people that don't have dyslexia.

Being a part of this school have changed me for the better. They are there to help anyone in need with struggles and if I could give them money to support to community I would. Ever since joining Youth Futures they have provided me with clothes, driving lessons, transport to school, food served to me every day, and happiness. I am so happy to be a part of such a great community such as Youth Futures (Midland). Because I am so happy, I love to tell people my story about moving schools. I tell people they should go to this wonderful school if they can get a chance because I really have had a blast, instead of being nowhere in life. I really do appreciate being accepted into Youth Futures Community School. Thank you to all for this experience."



Kasem (SETS Program Participant)

"I have had a lot of help from the Welcome Hub since arriving in Australia and it was so helpful for me and my family. I feel like the Welcome Hub is achieving in helping migrants to settle in Australia and I'm thankful for everyone's help."

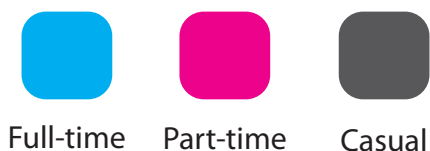
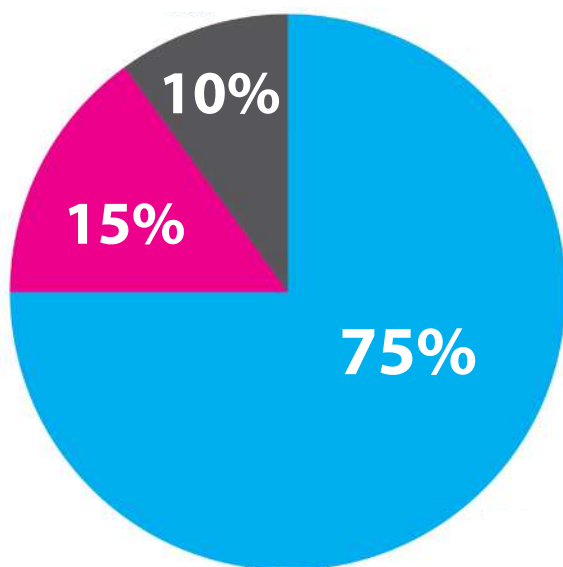


Our Team



COMPASSIONATE. REAL. DYNAMIC. WELCOMING. FERVANT.

Youth Futures employs a multidisciplinary team of 124 staff across multiple locations. We are also supported by amazing volunteers who give up their time to help us achieve our mission.



“YNAS is a unique program that has the capacity to reach some of the most socially vulnerable young people in the community, at a developmentally critical time. There are very few programs that have the flexibility to offer longer term psychological support, even though this is often what is required for positive outcomes. Having the capacity to work with young people not only over several months, but in some cases, for several years is a major asset of the program. It allows time to build meaningful relationships, a critical prerequisite for meaningful and lasting change amongst the client demographic.”

– **Alyssa, Clinical Psychologist**

“The DESS program provides a safe and supported space for young people to openly discuss and learn about AOD use and discuss any other wellbeing concerns. Often this is the first-time young people have been in a setting where they can openly ask questions free of judgement and receive accurate information on AOD use. The DESS worker program uses a harm minimisation approach to drug education and provides young people with information to allow them to make informed decisions.”

– **Emily, Drug Education Support Worker**



“TAP is a great program as it allows vulnerable young people access to safe and secure medium-term housing while continuing to grow their independent living skills and receive support from Youth Workers. TAP is able to support young people in a variety of ways including, assisting with employment and education, finding long-term accommodation options, building support networks, budgeting, self-care, learning about maintaining a tenancy and a household and assisting with relevant referrals to other services to ensure positive and successful engagement with the community. TAP allows young people to have a safe space to continue to develop and grow and sets them up for success moving forward.”

- **Lara, Youth Support and Development Worker**

Board of Directors

The Youth Futures Board is comprised of seven directors who oversee corporate governance and provide strategic direction for the organisation, ensuring sustainability and excellence.

Kellie Benda	Chairperson	Joined 2023
Jenny Devine	Chairperson	Joined 2015
James Sutherland	Deputy Chairperson	Joined 2017
Colleen Borger	Treasurer	Joined 2020
Kristie Robinson	Secretary	Joined 2020
Scott Quayle	Director	Joined 2019
Mark Waite	Director/CEO	Joined 2011

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.



Office Solutions Pipeline IT Challenge

Since 2015, each May, mountain bikers and volunteers from across the state, country and overseas come together to raise awareness and funds for youth homelessness.

2023 saw the event smash its fundraising target, raising over \$200k for the second year in a row. This amount allows the Nest program to continue for another year; providing accommodation and support to young mums and their babies. Donations are acquired through corporate partners, such as Office Solutions IT who were, once again, our naming rights sponsor and through people sponsoring their determined (crazy!) friends for riding 600kms over 5 days.

Teams of young people from Youth Futures Community School also attend to experience WA's great outdoors. The experience challenges them physically and emotionally whilst bolstering relationships with their peers and meeting the supportive Youth Futures community.

"Before I went on Pipeline, I was worried that I wouldn't be able to do it because I hadn't ridden a bike in 4 or 5 years. I felt like this leading up to, and when, I started riding. I had only gotten 2 km in, before I fell. I felt like giving up at the time, and that all my fears were confirmed. After I had a break, I got back on and only went another 3 km. However, the fact that I got back on filled me with enough confidence that I managed to do 10 to 15 km each day for the rest of the trip. Doing Pipeline taught me that if I persevere, I can exceed my expectation of myself."

– Violet, Youth Futures Community School student (2022)

Giving Machines Christmas 2023

Giving Machines are a vending machine like no other. Instead of picking up a treat for yourself you choose a charity you'd like to support. Three machines were placed at Joondalup Gate shopping centre for the month of December, with helpful elves assisting supporters with their donations. The machines not only collected much-needed funds for the charities but also provided the local community with insight into the needs in their area. Youth Futures was delighted to receive \$11,563 for our homelessness services covering things like essential medication and meals for young people.



Working Together

When we come together, connect, and collaborate good happens.

Youth Futures could not achieve the meaningful outcomes in this report by working in isolation. We would like to sincerely thank our partners and supporters across the Government, corporate, charity and philanthropy sectors for sharing our vision.

Together, we can continue to create brighter futures for young people facing adversity.



Community Partnerships

Balga Senior High School
Binar Futures
Driving West Motor School
Foodbank
Givit
Good360
Jetts Fitness

Kids First Australia
Motivation Foundation
OzHarvest
Recfishwest
Reclink
SecondBite

Share the Dignity
StreetSmart
Swan City Youth Service
The Nappy Collective
The Essentials Collective
Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia

Consortium Partners

Association for Services to Torture and Trauma Survivors (ASeTTS)
City of Canning
City of Stirling
Foundation Housing
Housing Choices Western Australia
Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Services
Multicultural Services Centre WA
St Patrick's Community Support Centre

Trusts, Foundations and Corporate Partners

Alcock Family Foundation
BADGE Construction
Bendigo Bank Bayswater
Beyond Bank
Collier Charitable Fund
Dale Alcock Homes
Homes for Homes
Perth Airport
Soroptimist International Joondalup
Stephens Family Trust
Wind Over Water Foundation

Government Partners

City of Stirling
City of Swan
Department of Corrective Services
Department of Communities
Department of Education WA
Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources
Department of Justice
Department of Social Services
Lotterywest
Mental Health Commission
Sporting Schools
Watercorp

Major Event Partners

Office Solutions IT
CCIWA
BMS
Scarboro Toyota
Boulder Dash Entertainment Group (The Rec)

Event Supporters

Aqualyte, Classic Hire, CLIF Bar, Elmstock Tea, JCDecaux, Little Owl Coffee Roasters, Northern Star Resources Limited, Shire of Northam, Shire of Yilgarn, The West Australian

Looking Ahead

In alignment with our 2021-25 Strategic Plan, we are continuing to expand our offering to ensure Youth Futures continues to be a united force of empowerment for young people marginalised by adversity and institutional discrimination.

Reducing Youth Homelessness

Djinda Crisis Accommodation

With the house slab laid in March 2023 and construction continuing throughout the year our fingers are crossed that 2024 is the year we finally get to open Djinda, to support more young people experiencing homelessness. It's been a long journey to get here, that has included eight years of lobbying the State Government, finding a suitable block of land during a land shortage and a purchasing frenzy because of the housing stimulus package. The West Australian government committed to funding the operational costs of a second youth crisis accommodation service in Perth's northern corridor, while Youth Futures committed to fundraising and seeking support from corporate, philanthropic organisations and individuals to fund the build. A lot of hard work and support from a large number of people has made this project a reality and one we are really excited about opening in the near future.



Increasing Opportunities for Educational Attainment and Transitional Outcomes

Anchor Point Swan View

Responding to a growing need, Youth Futures opened its fifth Community-Based Course in Swan View in term one 2023, located at the Swan View Youth Centre. The site continued to grow throughout the year with additional staff being recruited for 2024 to enable our capacity to increase and help more young people requiring a holistic alternative education option.

Anchor Point Mirrabooka

Mirrabooka opened its doors in 2021, supporting young people in the area access alternative education. Since opening we have awarded over 30 Certificates of General Education and this year we will expand the site, doubling its capacity in response to the community need and enabling us to support more young people obtain an appropriate education.

Anchor Point Program

As the only organisation approved to deliver Community-Based Courses in Western Australia and with the growing need for young people to access alternative education, we have received permission from the Department of Education to open two additional Anchor Points sites. 2024 will see us working to secure suitable buildings for delivery of the program to more young people.

Youth Futures Community School

With Perth's population expanding and the northern suburbs growing we decided to open another school to keep up with demand. This year we secured a site in Merriwa and 2024 will see us starting construction and fitout of the new site.

Youth Futures Community School Midland

Inheriting this school site in 2019 has meant we've needed to make adjustments along the way to cater for the needs of our cohort. We have almost completed an innovative outdoor classroom which will soon be usable by students onsite. This unique learning environment will assist many young people who find the confines of a traditional classroom challenging. Planning is also underway for some exciting building works to further enhance the facilities available onsite.

Youth Futures Community School Caversham

Our Caversham site is heritage listed, part of the Native Title Land Disbursement Program and currently on a short-term lease. Those three things make it near impossible to make changes to the site to keep up with growth and improve the facilities. We are constantly looking for a dedicated site close by where we'll be able to accommodate more young people and provide better facilities for staff and students. This is a big priority for 2024 and we look forward to securing our own site soon.



Financial Overview

This Financial Overview is based on the audited Financial Statements of Youth Futures for the Year Ended December 2023. This overview does not detail the day-to-day financial operations of the Organisation. The audited Financial Statements are available on the ACNC website: www.acnc.gov.au.

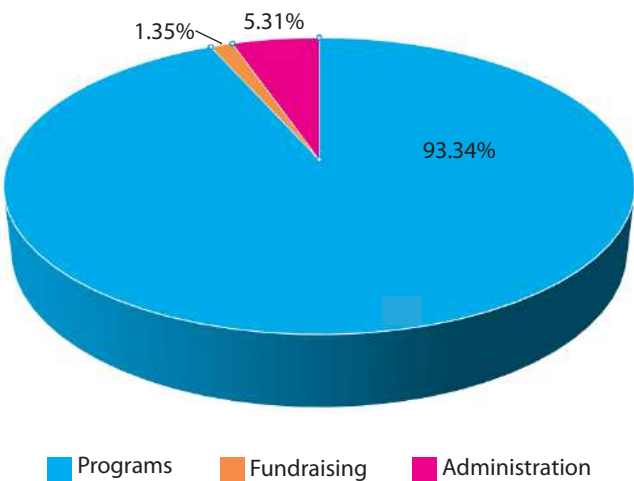
Youth Futures’ Financial Year coincides with the Calendar Year. The audited Financial Statements cover the period January through December 2023. Reliance Auditing was appointed by the Board of Directors as the independent auditor for Youth Futures. Naz Randeria, the Managing Director, brings a wealth of knowledge and years of experience in auditing including in the not-for-profit sector, to ensure the organisation complies with Australian Accounting Standards and any other statutory requirements.

Youth Futures finished the 2023 Financial Year in a robust financial position and continues to operate with a sturdy asset base. The effective financial management of the organisation continues to drive its long-term financial sustainability, a trend that has continued throughout 2023. Management prioritises operating in a manner that ensures all donations, and a greater percentage of funding is used directly for client services and programs. In an environment of rising costs, management have successfully maintained the delivery of services to our young people at our usual high standard through effective expense management.

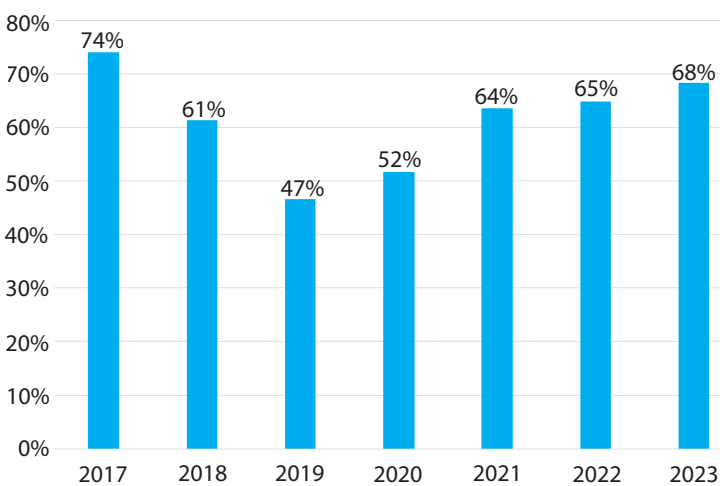
The Organisation is funded by the State and Commonwealth Governments, grants, philanthropy, and donations. The Pipeline Challenge (established in 2015) is an annual fundraising event hosted by Youth Futures, proceeds from which continue to fund desperately needed programs run by the Organisation. Funding received from all sources enable Youth Futures to continue to deliver existing programs and essential services, as well as new initiatives, for the benefit of the most vulnerable of young people in the community.

Colleen Borger
TREASURER

Where the Money Goes



Employment cost as a % of Operating Income





Join Us

United, we can achieve so much more. Join our movement to empower young people disadvantaged by adversity and institutional discrimination.

Give. You have the power to show young people that someone cares. Whether it's a one-off donation, a regular gift, bequest, or simply giving old furniture a second life, your contribution is so greatly appreciated.

Ride. Grab some mates, jump on your bike, and join us for a five-day adventure through WA's countryside on the Pipeline Challenge. After, you can sleep well knowing your blisters, sweat and tears have helped young families rewrite their future.

Sponsor. With opportunities to sponsor the Pipeline Challenge and student scholarships, we would love to speak to you about creating a bespoke package to meet your social responsibility and marketing needs.

Volunteer. We offer a variety of volunteering opportunities ranging from event support on the Pipeline Challenge to corporate volunteering days that see teams bond over a busy bee at one of our properties. If you have a particular skill set that you think would benefit the young people we support, get in touch with our Development team.

Fundraise. What you do is up to you. As we say, 'the possibilities are endless'. Host a morning tea, shave your head, host a golf day, or trek up a mountain! Curious? Request a Fundraising Kit to get started.

Follow. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn @youthfutureswa to stay up to date with our latest announcements and good news stories. Better yet, become an unofficial ambassador by sharing our posts with your community.

Want to get involved? We'd love to hear from you. Email info@youthfutures.com.au or call 08 9300 2677.







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