



Annual Report

Financial year ended
30 June 2022



childhood.org.au

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Acknowledgement

Australian Childhood Foundation acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the land and waters across Australia in which we share. We pay our respects to Elders past and present and to the children who are leaders of tomorrow. We acknowledge the histories and living cultures and the many thousands of years in which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have raised their children to be safe and strong. We recognise and accept it is the oldest continuous living culture in the world and that their sovereignty has never been ceded.

We are an inclusive, safe and respectful organisation which celebrates diversity and actively supports the inclusion of children, young people and adults from LGBTIQ+ communities, people with disabilities, people from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds and people with diverse religious beliefs or affiliations.



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Make an impact for children

Australian Childhood Foundation started in 1986 by a small group of professionals and community advocates who wanted to fix major problems in child protection.

The Foundation became the body to give children, whose pain was unacknowledged, a voice to ensure their safety and care became a priority within the community. Today, Australian Childhood Foundation’s focus has not wavered.

Australian Childhood Foundation is the leader in driving collective change in the care and protection of children and young people, keeping them safe from harm and helping them heal in safe and loving relationships.

Your gift and support can ensure we can help stop the violence, abuse and neglect against children before it happens.

Donate today. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.


Australian Childhood Foundation
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childhood.org.au

* Where stories feature children, young people and families, names and identifying details of have been changed and stock photography has been used to protect their privacy. Thank you for your understanding and support.

A message from the CEO

Dear supporters,

More children and young people are being abused and exploited than we have ever seen. The online environment is now a major risk to children. They are targeted by adults who pretend to be children. They manipulate them into becoming their friends. They distort the truth and eventually find ways to violate them.

We have made the fight against online child sexual abuse and exploitation a key problem that we will prioritise as an organisation over the coming decade.

We cannot do this on our own. We need the help of the community to stand up for children. And we need important partnerships with governments, police, services and researchers to have an impact.

This last year has seen us continue to do some amazing work that will all help in our vision to make our community a safer place for children and young people. You will read about Emma's Project, the National Centre for Action on Child Sexual Abuse, and the many programs and services that have continued to run and grow nationally.

Children need us. They need us to offer them relationships which nurture them and help them to thrive. They need us to comfort them when they are distressed. They need us to share in the laughter and fun of childhood. Most of all they need us to keep them safe.

I cannot think of a more important ambition than for all of us to do whatever we can to keep childhood precious.

Thank you so much for your support and collaboration over the past year.

It has meant a lot to us and the children and young people we support.

Dr Joe Tucci
CEO
Australian Childhood Foundation



Our impact this year

3,000 

children, young people and carers and families have received therapeutic support.

95% of children



have improved after receiving a service from us.

80% of children



have improved academically after receiving a service from us.

72% of children



have built a friendship network when they didn't have one before after receiving a service from us.

84% of children



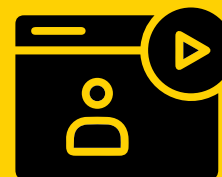
experience a reduction in the severity of the pain they carry with them as a result of experiences of abuse and neglect.

More than **40,000**



individuals participated in our online training about child safety.

Over **300,000**



downloads globally of our learning content, tools for working with children and young people and reports.

Over **400**



training sessions were delivered nationally and online.

More than **80**



organisations were supported to review their safeguarding policies and systems. This is to ensure they are more effective in protecting children from abuse by their employees and volunteers.

72% of children



have experienced the same placement for longer than 3-5 years in some of our programs. This is reversing the trend they experienced in the lead up to starting with our services.

More than **8,000**



professionals working with children have been reached by our training and resources to understand trauma and how to best support children and young people who have experienced abuse and neglect.

Advocacy

Advocating for children in the media is not something new for us. It is an area we have focused on over the years as it's vital for progress. Over the past financial year, as we continue to amplify the voices of children and young people, we have featured advocacy media pieces in the Herald Sun on community attitudes towards abuse, helping children process tragedy and on the wider flow on impact from the pandemic.

Vulnerable kids' lives matter, too



What would you do if your teenager went missing from home?

Your mind would start racing. You would run through all the possible reasons for them not being home – they had been in a car accident or kidnapped or been attacked. You would retrace what you knew about their plans. You would try to convince yourself that you were not over-reacting.

But as the time ticked by, you would panic. You would become desperate. You would ring the police. You would want them to turn up and help you. You would want them to fill in a Missing Persons Report straight away. You would want them to ask you for as much information as you could. You would want them to take it seriously. You would want them to help you look for them.

You would hardly sleep that night. You would cry. All you would want is for them to come back.

What about if they were still missing after a week? Or after three months? How hard would it be? What would you want the community around you to do to help?

Last month, the Victorian Commissioner for Children and Young People told Parliament there were children as young as 10 years old under the responsibility of the state, living in the residential care system who go missing for days, weeks or months at a time.

On average each month, there are 452 children and young people living in residential care in Victoria. They are some of our most vulnerable kids. They have suffered abuse and violation over extended periods of time.

They want to be understood. They want to feel like they belong. They try their hardest to live up to expectations, but sometimes

the pain they carry with them from their trauma makes it hard for them to respond positively to being looked after.

They can find it difficult to trust. They were missing and return them to their residential unit. That is almost one court order per month for every child in residential care. It makes them 75 times more likely to be classified as a missing person than other children aged 13-17 in the community.

When they were missing from care, these kids were found to be exploited by creeps who see them as easy prey. They were offered drugs and money for sex. They were manipulated into committing burglaries or other types of crimes.

The commissioner highlighted that rather than believing these kids were at significant risk, they were just as likely to be seen as street smart and able to look after themselves. She found that there is complacency about how actively the police follow up with some children. There is fatigue and frustration in the system. Often, these young people are seen as undeserving of protection. Sometimes, everyone just gives up trying to find them.

The residential care system needs an overhaul. It needs a government response that is willing to face up to how much danger these young people are in. These are people the government is responsible for. High quality residential care can and does turn young people's lives around.

More than a decade ago, a previous government started reform that was intentional and clear. It set out to make

all residential care more therapeutic. It believed understanding the trauma these young people had suffered would help residential carers, child protection workers and police to respond better.

It was committed to improving funding so care agencies could provide better quality of care.

In the last three years, the commissioner has repeated that there are significant flaws in the current model of residential care in Victoria. It leaves many young people without meaningful connections with their carers, homes and fellow residents. It leaves many feeling unsafe.

The government needs to go back to the lessons from the past and commit to making changes.

The worst that could have happened for these young people is COVID19. It has sucked out money from government departments that very much need it.

We have learnt what happens when you stop making investments in areas like public health. It only makes it harder when there is a crisis like a pandemic.

The Commissioner for Children and Young People has shown us that there is a crisis right now in residential care.

These kids cannot wait.

Tonight, as you turn off your lights to go to bed, you know your teenagers are safely home. However, there will be a lot of hurt and frightened young people who are not. They are our kids too.

Dr Joe Tucci is the CEO of the Australian Childhood Foundation, a national charity that provides specialist trauma counselling to children and their families.

Every child is precious



There is a list of children whose names we know because they have disappeared not to be seen again - Madeline McCann, William Tyrrell, Daniel Morcombe.

This year, we added little Cleo Smith. For eighteen days, we all forgot to breathe. We hoped and hoped. And for once, she came back.

We couldn't believe it. We thought she was lost forever, but when she was rescued, we shared the joy as though she was our own.

While the police and courts figure out what happened, we cannot lose sight of how childhoods can so easily disappear. The reality is that many children are hurt every day, but don't capture the attention of our community.

In recent research by the Australian Childhood Foundation, child abuse ranked lower as a community concern than problems with roads and public transport.

More than half of the people surveyed were so poorly informed that they could not even hazard a guess at the number of reports of child abuse made last year in Australia.

If you didn't know, the accurate number is 486 300.

Children face barriers to being safe. They are blamed for the behaviour of abusive adults.

Children are not trusted to tell the truth. Only 1 in 3 people said they would definitely believe a child who disclosed abuse.

Research has shown that children who are not taken seriously when they first tell someone can take over 20 years before they dare to speak of it again, if at all.

Many were worried about reporting abuse to authorities. They did not believe it was their business to interfere. They did not want to make things worse for the family. They thought the system would not hold the perpetrators accountable and only retraumatize children.

Looking away makes children vulnerable. Hoping that child abuse disappears is not realistic.

Switching off because it is too horrific to tolerate does not make children safer.

Finding little Cleo Smith was a happy ending to what could have been a tragedy. It was a story that made us cry with relief. It has also given us the chance to make sure it counts for much more than that.

It can be the impetus for us to become more aware of the dangers that many children face every day. It can help us commit to believing children when they tell us that they are being abused.

And above all, it can make us celebrate the preciousness of children in the life of a community. After all, we tend to protect what we treasure to most.

Dr Joe Tucci is the CEO of the Australian Childhood Foundation.

HELP KIDS PROCESS TRAGEDY



JOE TUCCI

CHILDREN die in wars. Families have to run away to be safe. Parents and children need rescuing from floods. Pets do too.

These are the distressing truths facing all of us now.

Children listen to and watch everything we do. They hear what we say to each other about Ukraine and Russia. They see the images of rivers flowing into people's houses.

They see people crying about what they have lost. They become aware of the destruction caused by missiles.

Right now, it is a jumble to them. For young children, the two stories may combine into one.

They may start to think that war causes floods. Imagine how scary that would feel for a six-year-old.

Some children may start to worry about their own neighbourhood being flooded with rain. They might even be frightened that Australians are going to have to fight in a war.

For older children and teenagers, they will know the difference. For them, the two events happening at the same time may serve to intensify other worries they already carry.

The effect of each story may compound the other.

These are the young people who were so affected by Covid. And now they are surrounded with more uncertainty and fear.

We need to realise our kids have had very little break from a world that has been filled with a sense of danger and looming threat for a while.

The death of Shane Warne has added to a sense of loss for many children and adolescents as well. He was a hero to them. He was someone they admired. He was a father too. His children and his family were openly crying in the media.

Many young people would be devastated too. Because his death was so unexpected, some may have started to worry about the health of their own parents and grandparents.

Grief is visiting us all a little too much recently.

Now is the time for us to reassure them.

We need to see their concerns as legitimate and avoid trying to dismiss them because they are too young to understand. We need to try to not stop trying.

Let them know it is OK for them to have their own reactions to what



A refugee fleeing Ukraine arrives at the Slovakian border.

they are seeing and reading. Tell them they are not alone in feeling the way they do. They are others around them who will be responding in the same way, even if they don't let on.

It is also certain that adults are worried about all these things too.

Encourage them to talk to you or other adults they trust. Show them you can handle their feelings no matter how strong they are.

Listen to them. Be prepared to answer their questions directly. Ask them if you can ask them questions too.

Focus on exploring their thoughts and views. It doesn't matter if they are not well formed or don't quite make sense.

Reinforce how important it is for them to share what is going on inside their heads and tummies.

Keep your answers simple and truthful.

Remind them that there are people out there who are trying to make things better. In Queensland and NSW, where the floods are, there are police officers, ambulance officers, soldiers and lots of volunteers who are rescuing people and pets. These are also the people who will help the clean-up after the water goes away.

Explain to them there are many countries that are trying to stop the war in Ukraine. Many governments around the world (such as the US, Britain, France,

Germany and Australia) are working together to put pressure on the Russian government to stop the war as soon as possible.

Give them something to believe in and be hopeful about. Big problems will eventually be fixed.

It may take some time. It may take a lot of effort. But we will get through it, especially if we work on these problems together.

Do more caring things in your family and neighbourhood. Show your children that kindness still exists in the world.

Make sure they know the people who have always loved them still love them with all their hearts. Tell them they are important to you no matter what happens in the world. Help them really know that you and the whole family want them to keep having fun, learn and enjoy their friends.

Let them feel sad about Warne. Share some stories about him with them. Pick up a bat and ball and let your backyard become the MCG. Remind them that fond memories of people are comforting to hold on to.

It is important to help empower them to take some action together.

Make a donation to a charity that helps children in disasters. Write a letter with them to the Prime Minister so they can tell him what they think should happen.

Join a petition with them against the war.

The world is cruel. It is terrifying. But it is the relationships around children that help them to make sense of it all. It is these relationships that can make us feel safe.

We could all do with a little of that right now.

DR JOE TUCCI IS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHILDHOOD FOUNDATION, A CHARITY THAT PROVIDES SPECIALIST TRAUMA COUNSELLING TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

“**Our kids have had very little break from a world that has been filled with a sense of danger and looming threat for a while**”

Program spotlight: Strong Ways

The Strong Ways program is part of the Northern Territory Government – ‘Back on Track’ initiative, providing trauma-informed assessment and case management to justice-involved young people in Darwin, Katherine, Tenant Creek and Nhulunbuy.

Through the program, our Northern Territory Therapeutic Services team continues to support approximately 60 young people and their families at any given time across the Territory.

Following a comprehensive assessment process, clinicians and Aboriginal liaison support workers, work together with a care team to support young people to reduce their involvement with the youth justice system.

Strong Ways works within a system where young people are presented with an intersectionality of adversity including community perceptions, transgenerational trauma, disadvantage and adverse childhood experiences.

This requires an approach informed by the impacts of trauma and colonisation that is relational, predictable, consistent and patient.

Over the last 12 months, Strong Ways staff have demonstrated their creativity, persistence and unwavering commitment to young people. A Prosody blog article written by Liam Flanagan, Aboriginal Liaison Support Worker, illustrated the importance of grounding our young people in culture and the importance of responsive relationships. Estella Huppatz, Aboriginal Liaison Support Worker, identified mothers felt disempowered in the face of the youth justice system and formed a support group, Strong Ways Always, which is continuing to develop. One mother has spoken about Strong Ways being different to other services as she does not feel blamed for what her boys are doing, instead, she feels heard.

From clearing their calendar to support a young person who is anxious about attending court, to beginning the days early to support school attendance, our clinicians and Aboriginal liaison support workers have continued to work tirelessly to support young people to get back on track.



“
You’re always there when needed. You never blamed me for the trouble they (my boys) make. You treat us with respect.”

Mother in Strong Ways program

Program spotlight: Emma's Project

The Foundation has partnered with a survivor of child sexual abuse and child protection advocate, Emma Hakansson, to invite others with lived experience of child sexual abuse to offer their views and insights about how adults and the community can do more to keep children and young people safe.

Speaking about her own experience Emma, aged 22, says, "When I was a small child, I was sexually abused. It happened somewhere I was supposed to be safe, and it happened at the hands of someone who my parents trusted. Someone my community trusted. There is a lot of scar tissue on my heart, and there are a lot of people walking around with the same scar tissue on their hearts – there are a lot of people who have survived child sexual abuse".

Aptly named Emma's Project, the initiative has begun collecting responses from child sexual abuse survivors and those who care about them, to hear directly about more that could have been done to prevent the abuse from occurring and how all adults in their community could have ensured they were listened to, validated and effectively protected.

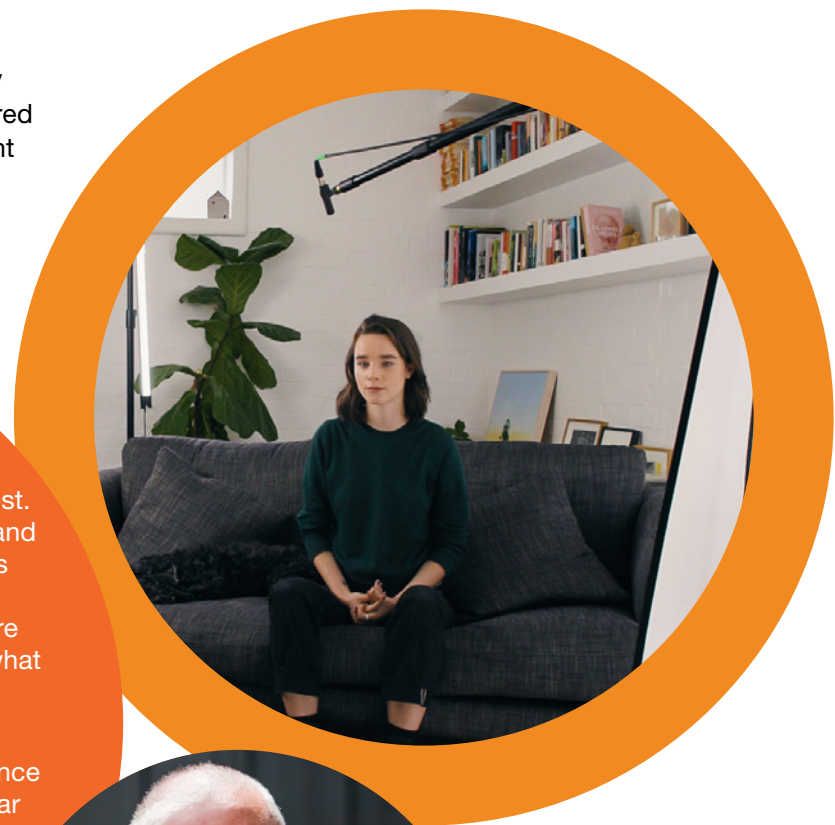
Australian Childhood Foundation's 2021 Community Attitudes Report, Still Unseen and Ignored, discovered one in six people feel uncertain or would be reluctant to report a child being abused or neglected, even if they were sure of the facts. It also found that one in five people were not confident they could recognise a vulnerable child.



This reluctance and lack of knowledge leaves children unprotected at a time they need it the most. The overwhelming majority of Australians understand the harmful implications of not believing a child's disclosure of abuse. Yet, two out of every three Australians believe children make up stories or are uncertain whether they are telling the truth about what has happened to them.

This remains a devastating result for children. It means that children only have a one in three chance of finding an adult who will be on their side. It is far more likely that children will be disregarded and seen to be lying. These statistics only heighten the importance of Emma's Project.

Dr Joe Tucci
CEO, Australian Childhood Foundation



Program spotlight: Emma's Project

Emma invited child sexual abuse survivors, their families and industry professionals to participate in a national survey and to share their unique insights about child sexual abuse. The confidential survey is completed anonymously to protect the privacy of all respondents.

So far, we have received over 400 responses to the survey. After the survey is closed, Emma and Australian Childhood Foundation's researchers and counsellors will work together to turn the invaluable insights into freely available resources and training materials that will galvanise and inform the Australian community. They will involve a strong call to action for everyone with children in their lives to make children's safety from sexual abuse an ongoing and critical priority.

In what the 22-year-old hopes will be a positive, but possibly difficult, exercise, Emma says the input into the research from child sexual abuse survivors is crucial to the creation of comprehensive community resources. ***"To make a meaningful difference and to help those impacted by child sexual abuse, we need to be listening to and hearing from the survivors themselves – it can't just be a theoretic exercise that generates rhetoric. I know just how difficult it is to think back to such a dark time in our lives as survivors, but I also know that nothing makes me feel more hopeful than the certainty I have that when we are heard, we can utterly change our communities for the better, keeping children safe from abuse."***



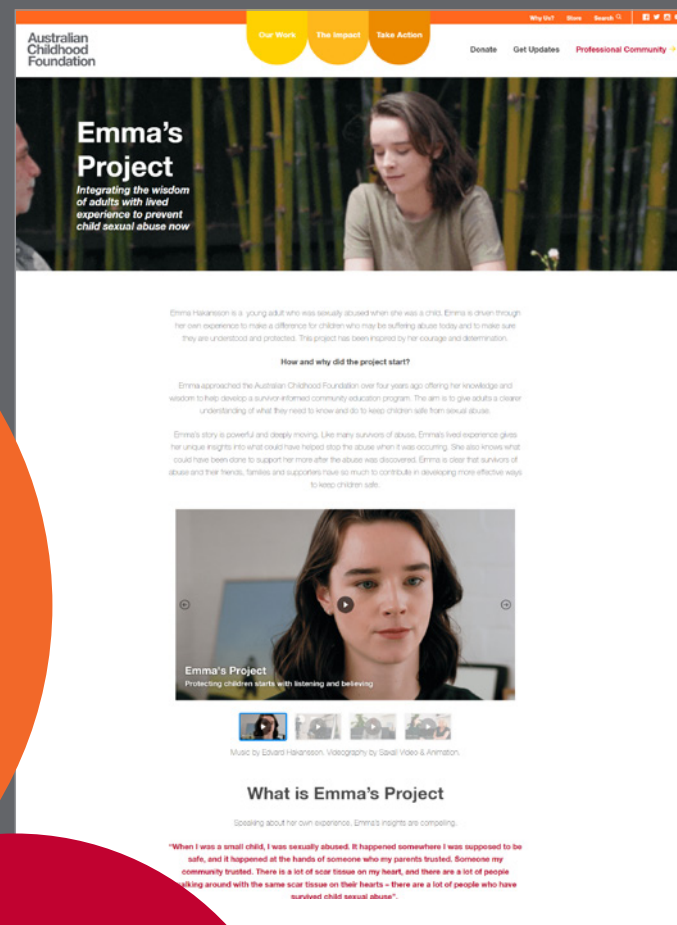
Emma's Project is an opportunity to make a real and sustained change to the way the community is able and willing to protect children and young people from abuse. There is so much that people with lived experience of child sexual abuse can offer to the community's effort to prevent and respond to child sexual abuse. Their involvement and support will only make our work far more effective.

"It is one of the first times in Australia that a project like this has been attempted. It can only now be done because of the strength and courage of survivors like Emma who are unwilling to stay silent any longer.

Dr Joe Tucci
CEO, Australian Childhood Foundation



Find out more or sign up for updates by visiting the web page for Emma's Project: childhood.org.au/emmas-project



Program spotlight: National Centre for Action on Child Sexual Abuse

The National Centre for Action on Child Sexual Abuse was a key recommendation of the Royal Commission. Of the 136 Royal Commissions conducted since federation, this was the first relating to children. It was a watershed inquiry that helped the nation understand the real and enduring effects of the trauma stemming from child sexual abuse. It also made it clear that “the number of children who are sexually abused in familial or other circumstances far exceeds those who are abused in an institution.”

The National Centre is a partnership between Blue Knot Foundation, The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Healing Foundation and Australian Childhood Foundation with initial funding from the Australian Government. The three organisations have united to form an Australian-first partnership that will commission critical research, evaluate interventions and therapeutic programs, raise community awareness, reduce stigma and provide training.

The vision of the National Centre is a community in which children are safe, and survivors of child sexual abuse are supported to heal and recover – a future without child sexual abuse.

The National Centre has a leadership role separate and independent from government. The role includes:



Providing leadership on holistic responses to child sexual abuse and its impacts across the country.



Increasing community understanding and recognition of child sexual abuse.



Promoting effective policy and practices to protect children from child sexual abuse.



Building the evidence base through driving a national research and evaluation agenda.



Maintaining a national focus on child sexual abuse.



Increasing professional expertise through workforce capability building to improve service responses to child and adult victims of child sexual abuse.



Reducing the harm and stigma that child sexual abuse causes.



Strengthening pathways to healing for victims and survivors, including strategies to improve service coordination.

The National Centre will give voice to the experiences of survivors of all ages, life stages and communities. It will work in collaboration with survivors, major research institutions, representatives from state and commonwealth governments, service providers, schools, and law enforcement agencies.

Australian Childhood Foundation CEO, Dr Joe Tucci, is the inaugural Chair of the Board of the National Centre. Over the next five years, the National Centre will make a significant contribution to the way that child sexual abuse is responded to in Australia.

Program spotlight: Navigator Program

Shaping trauma-informed responses to young people in the education context

The Navigator Program is a Department of Education funded and led partnership across Victoria designed to work with young people aged 12-to-17 who have become chronically disengaged from school.

Through the Navigator Program, young people, their families and support networks are assisted through case management to attend to issues contributing to their experiences of disengagement so they can re-engage in their education. The program also works closely with local schools and area teams to support the re-engagement process.

Australian Childhood Foundation has a role within the Navigator Program in two Victorian regions – Outer East Metropolitan Melbourne and Outer Gippsland (which both include regional and rural areas).

The role involves the completion of Educational Needs Assessments by therapeutic specialists. The assessments work to support an understanding of the young person's development, education and trauma history, current functioning, sensory, emotional and relational needs, and family and cultural context. The goal of the assessment is to support the family,

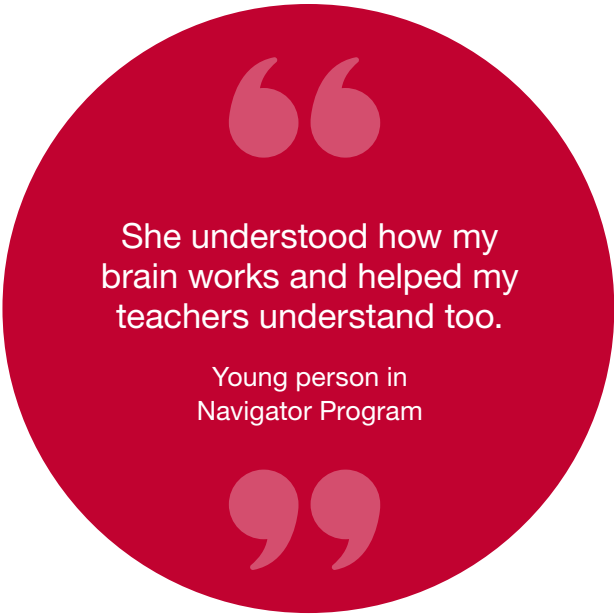
school and broader service network to understand and shape a pathway that will scaffold the young person back into an education program. Alongside this, the therapeutic specialist offers classroom coaching to support educators to create safe and nurturing learning environments using trauma-informed approaches, as well as embed recommendations from Educational Needs Assessments. Professional development sessions are also made available to local schools.

Before COVID lockdowns there were some children who had no trouble going to school or achieving, albeit presenting an 'anxious disposition'. However, the experience of lockdowns has heightened a lack of safety in the outside world including at school. The 2019 bushfires have also had a significant impact on school attendance in Outer Gippsland.

Therapeutic specialists at Australian Childhood Foundation have found the broadening and strengthening of attuned, understanding, responsive, reciprocal and neuroceptively safe relationships within their family, their school, their support networks and their peers is what paves the way back for young people into an education program.



Young people need platforms of safety, stability and nurture in their familial worlds in order to feel safe and curious enough to venture back into an education setting. Due to the intergenerational experiences of disengagement that many have presented with, supporting families to move towards more positive views about education and the value it can have for their child has also been an important part of this work. Incorporating learning into everyday activities or exploring areas of interest with the family and Navigator Program case manager helps the young person see learning as enjoyable and supports them to experience competence and confidence in all areas of their lives.



Factors contributing to educational disengagement for the young people referred to the Australian Childhood Foundation component of the program include:



Early and ongoing experiences of family violence.



Early childhood anxiety.



Disengagement during early primary years that was not addressed.



Early experiences of feeling 'dumb' or not being at peer level.



Limited relational networks.



Reduced or no access to support - multidisciplinary support services magnified in regional and rural areas.

Impact

Navigator Programs are seeing great outcomes for the young people involved.

Outcomes range from:

- Young people re-engaging with traditional education.
- Young people meeting benchmark attendance.
- Young people moving to alternate learning settings that better meet developmental and relational needs.
- Resourcing educators' capacities to build and maintain the safe, nurturing and responsive relationships that enable a sense of belonging.
- Educators being able to foster a capacity to learn.

Program spotlight: Childsafe Business Initiative

Childsafe Business Initiative is a new program for Australian Childhood Foundation. Through funding from Westpac Group's Safer Children, Safer Communities Program in October 2021, Australian Childhood Foundation, in partnership with the Y, have received \$3 million over three years to drive action on safeguarding children across Australian businesses and improve outcomes for children and young people.

The funding will be used to work with Australian business sectors such as telecommunications, travel and tourism, finance and technology platforms to assess risks to children and young people and enact policies and practices to help enhance organisational child safeguarding.

In May, Australian Childhood Foundation appointed Brigitte McGuire to lead the national cross sector initiative that seeks to bring together key decision makers and influencers from organisations that may not directly work with children and young people but may impact upon their rights and safety through their products, services and operations. Several leading businesses have already indicated their intention to join the co-design process.

The program is run by a steering committee chaired by Australian Childhood Foundation's CEO, Dr Joe Tucci, and includes representatives from Australian Childhood Foundation, the Y, Westpac, business partner Nous and the Childsafe Business Initiative's evaluator, Sydney University.

The need for a childsafe culture within Australian businesses is a community priority, as noted by a recent consumer poll conducted by Forethought Research Australian Childhood Foundation Consumer Poll. It was found that 88.5% disagreed or strongly disagreed that Australian businesses already give enough consideration to how their organisations can impact on vulnerable children.

The program's research and analysis took place this year, its impact in the business community will be more visible over the coming 12 months.



87%

disagreed or strongly disagreed that, in general, the majority of Australian businesses are acting on national child abuse awareness and prevention initiatives.

Forethought Research Australian Childhood Foundation Consumer Poll 2022

CETC – Centre for Excellence in Therapeutic Care

The Centre for Excellence in Therapeutic Care (CETC) is a division of Australian Childhood Foundation.

This year, the CETC evolved into a nationwide intermediary, mobilising knowledge about what works in out-of-home care (OOHC).

Our team of research, practice and lived-experience experts were successful in developing a program with the eSafety Commissioner for OOHC organisational leaders. This program was a training project for foster and kinship carers with the Government of South Australia, and continued to offer expert advice and services to guide best practice in therapeutic residential care.

We supported the SafeCare House project in Northern Territory and participated in the Cross-Sectional Oversight Group in Tasmania regarding OOHC reform for children and young people with complex needs.

The CETC has provided direct training services to 1,500 professionals and carers, evolving knowledge of trauma-informed care and building the capacity to respond to the diverse needs of children and young people in care.



96%
of participants

said the foundational training in therapeutic care provided them with ideas on how to work with young people in residential care.



100%
of participants

surveyed said the foundational training in therapeutic care helped them to apply trauma-informed approaches in their care and support of young people.



81%
of participants

surveyed said they felt very or extremely confident in their level of understanding about child sexual exploitation after the online training.



471
participants

in Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation.



386
participants

in Foundational Training in Therapeutic Care.



114

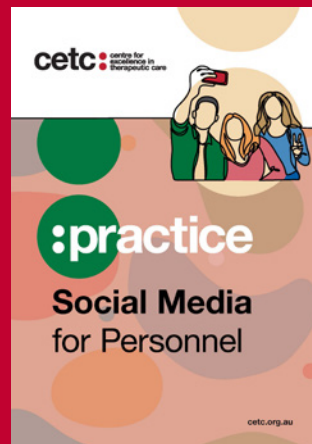
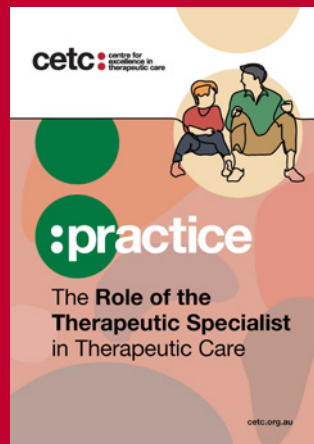
organisational bodies

engaged in our training, including over 10+ government departments.

CETC – Centre for Excellence in Therapeutic Care

Looking forward

Throughout the 2021-2022 financial year, CETC have been working on a new brand and fit-for-purpose website to make knowledge of what works in OOHHC accessible, engaging and meaningful for different audiences. The work also included the evolution of a collection series that allows us to showcase essential resources on important subjects in one place, such as behaviours that challenge, vicarious trauma and self-care. The brand and website are to launch early in the 2022-2023 financial year.



Participant feedback

I have gained more clarity about the nuances of child exploitation. The course has made learning more meaningful with scenarios and different types of training and learning materials. It was a brilliant training opportunity for me. Thank you!

As I am just starting in this space, it was helpful to be part of this group and hear more about the underlining practices that support therapeutic approach.

Children don't present as they read on paper. You have to be adaptable and cannot form preconceived ideas about them.

Therapeutic Services

In the 2021-2022 financial year, we asked for support in providing feedback about our therapeutic services from children and young people, and from parents, carers and professional partners. The feedback gathered is invaluable to helping us continue to improve the services we provide.

Children and young people feedback

Children are at the heart of everything we do. Through the survey, children and young people highlighted their experience with Australian Childhood Foundation therapeutic services as positive, with 46% of those surveyed saying we cannot do anything better. However, several children and young people asked for more games, activities and time with their worker. We will continue to listen to ways that we can improve our work and make sure to involve lots of fun activities as we continue to help.

46% said doing activities with therapeutic specialists was most helpful.

27% found therapeutic specialists listening to them was most helpful.

“

You listened to my stories.
I never told this to anyone.

Child response on
therapeutic care

”



Therapeutic Services

Parents, carer and professional partner feedback

Our therapeutic services were highlighted in many positive comments throughout the feedback survey, indicating the value seen in the flexible and relational nature of the services we provide.

The key area identified as needing improvement was the expansion of resources to reduce waiting times, increase staff and services to clients and create greater training for carers.

We have taken onboard concerns and some of our services now have active waitlists to provide limited support whilst waiting to be allocated to an Australian Childhood Foundation worker. We are continuing to expand the range of training options available including shorter and cheaper online training sessions for carers and professionals which can be accessed in an easier way, particularly for those living in rural and remote communities. We have also developed a range of free resources for children, young people and parents and carers and professionals.

60%

of parents and carers said support and understanding has been the most helpful from our therapeutic services.

35%

of professionals said collaborative practice was the most helpful from our therapeutic services on par with education and support.



“

Australian Childhood Foundation's flexible approach is an eye opener for many of us who used to work with a one-size-fits-all approach.

Professional

”

Therapeutic Services: ACT

Therapeutic Services in Canberra continues to be part of ACT Together (ACTT), a large consortium of three agencies – Barnardos, OzChild and Australian Childhood Foundation.

In the last financial year, the ACT Therapeutic Services team provided therapeutic support and interventions to 118 children and young people, and their carers and staff.

Of this 118, 37 children and young people lived in kinship care, 36 in foster care and 45 spent various periods of time in therapeutic residential care or semi-independent placements. Our work included intensive support of foster and kinship carers, and residential care staff in creating safe, nurturing and healing environments for children and young people in their care. Additionally, 42 children and young people were engaged in dyadic or individual therapy with one of our therapeutic specialists.

ACTT - Quality Assurance and Practice Development Model

In 2021-2022, the team progressed the implementation of the ACTT - Quality Assurance and Practice Development Model, developed by Australian Childhood Foundation for the consortium.

There are four key activities in the model that support best practice and continuous quality improvement in ACTT:

1. Therapeutic consultations
2. Professional development and training
3. Reflective practice
4. Care plan reviews

ACT Therapeutic Services team carried out 324 therapeutic consultations, 18 training and professional development sessions and monthly reflective practice for all consortium staff. A range of practical support options and strategies were also provided, including assistance with safety planning, support and education for carers and schools, care team consultation, therapeutic support for the child or young person and referrals to other services.

Outcomes for the model included increased consistency and strengthening of trauma-responsive practice, enhanced skills and confidence of the consortium staff in the delivery of therapeutic care.

Concerns about a child or young person's behaviour and needs were the most common reason for a caseworkers' or carers' request for a therapeutic consultation. Raising such concerns with the therapeutic specialists provided them with a reminder that children's behaviours, however challenging, are a means of communication. This offered staff the opportunity to be curious and explore the underlying meaning and expressed needs of those behaviours.

Looking forward

In June 2022 we were successful with a proposal to the Family Safety Hub of the Community Services Directorate for a group program for children and mothers who have experienced domestic and family violence. This 12-month pilot will allow the Foundation to work collaboratively with the domestic and family violence sector, focusing on the needs of children and their recovery from trauma associated with domestic and family violence.



Therapeutic Services: ACT



Jackson

An Australian Childhood Foundation therapeutic specialist commenced working with Jackson, a young boy, to help him move from a crisis placement to his long-term foster carer.

Prior to moving to his new placement, Jackson had lived in six different placements, some of which Jackson enjoyed but a few which broke down due to Jackson's distress and complex emotional needs.

The transition was carefully planned and implemented by the therapeutic specialist. Its central goal was to prioritise Jackson's sense of safety and awareness about the transition and include his views and wishes to minimise any adverse impacts of the transition. Second to this, was a goal to help facilitate stronger relationships within the care team and to ensure Jackson was involved in the development of his cultural plan with his cultural needs and identity prioritised.

Jackson now continues to happily reside with Marie, his current carer, and it is likely he will stay there until adulthood. Jackson and his carer enjoy one another's company and Jackson reports being happy in Marie's care. They are both being supported by Jackson's therapeutic specialist to ensure a high level of engagement and attunement between them is reached and sustained so Jackson can start to heal from his earlier experiences.

Since the involvement from the Foundation's therapeutic services, Jackson's care team has been able to help repair the relationship between Jackson and his teachers and peers at school, extend his school timetable, engage him in swimming lessons with other children and support regular family time with his siblings and mother, who are very dear to Jackson.

Jackson's care team are a collaborative force who put him at the centre of all their decisions and plans, and above all have made great progress towards meeting his needs.

Therapeutic Services: ACT

Emma

Emma is a young girl who loves unicorns with her favourite colours being purple and pink.

Emma has a complex trauma history which includes transience, family violence, exposure to drug activity and neglect. Emma was reported to have struggles at school and in afterschool care. There was risk of Emma being excluded or even expelled as a result of her behaviours. There were also concerns of her becoming isolated and not having any friends.

Emma was referred for therapeutic work with her foster carer, Linda.

At the start of their work together, Emma's therapeutic specialist created a box for Emma, brought along to every session, which includes things Emma may like to do with her therapeutic specialist that day.

Our Therapeutic Dolls have been used consistently throughout sessions since work commenced. Ellen, Morty and Percy have been clear favourites. Emma has used the dolls in various ways. This includes using them as friends and as regulating

tools, to externalise her feelings and learn about them. This helps her learn about how her body responds to feelings and allows her to play out how she and the dolls feel on different days.

The work with Emma and Linda has included modelling and prompting curiosity, and activities that promote connection and opportunities to be with each other. For example, learning and helping each other using Lego, sand play, storytelling, reading books together and sharing ideas about feelings.

Over time, Emma has increased her ability to identify and name feelings, become more aware of how she experiences feelings in her body and, in an age-appropriate way, learnt how her brain works. She has been making steady progress and is now participating in learning and enjoys school. Mostly, she is the happiest and most proud about having friends and other children wanting to play with her!



Therapeutic Services: NSW

OurSPACE NSW

OurSPACE is an outreach specialist trauma therapeutic service provided to children and young people in foster and kinship care. The service recognises placement stability and relationships as the most significant factors leading to positive developmental, education and health outcomes for children and young people in out-of-home care. OurSPACE operates statewide with a team of six Aboriginal and 12 non-Aboriginal staff members. They have a total caseload of over 200 children at all times, 60% of whom are Aboriginal.

Government data demonstrates 70% of clients who have been referred to the program are safer and have stability in placements. It is also shown that children and young people receiving the service have carers who better understand their trauma needs and can provide relationally-attuned responses in times of stress.

Thank you

Finding ways to strengthen connection to culture is essential to our Aboriginal team and the children they work with. Thank you to Callaway Golf Australia who donated over 50 hats to us which have been hand painted and given to each Aboriginal child in the program. The therapeutic activities they use also have foundations in culture and connection to kin and country.



Over
half

of the children OurSPACE has supported live in remote and regional areas.

89%

of carers had a good understanding of trauma and how it is expressed after OurSPACE.

62%

of all children in OurSPACE had a Connection to Learning Plan developed to support their engagement at school.

71%

of Aboriginal children increased their connection to their siblings as a result of OurSPACE support.

“

If you hadn't been able to be my counsellor when I moved houses, I wouldn't have had anyone.

Young person in OurSPACE

”

“

I can't believe you follow the client. It is great that they have a familiar person, they will be safe with, when they move.

Department of Criminal Justice NSW Caseworker

”

“

I love that you are writing your reports to the child. I think we forget this is their story and they should be able to read it.

OOHC NGO Caseworker

”

Therapeutic Services: NT

Our NT work spans across Medical and Allied Health Specialist Services (MAHSS) and the Strong Ways program. To learn more about the Strong Ways program visit the 'Spotlight programs' in this report.

Clinical Services – MAHSS

MAHSS is a fee-for-service funded by Territory Families (Child Protection) where we are selected to provide therapy, assessments and reflective practice to children, young people and the community.

MAHSS in action

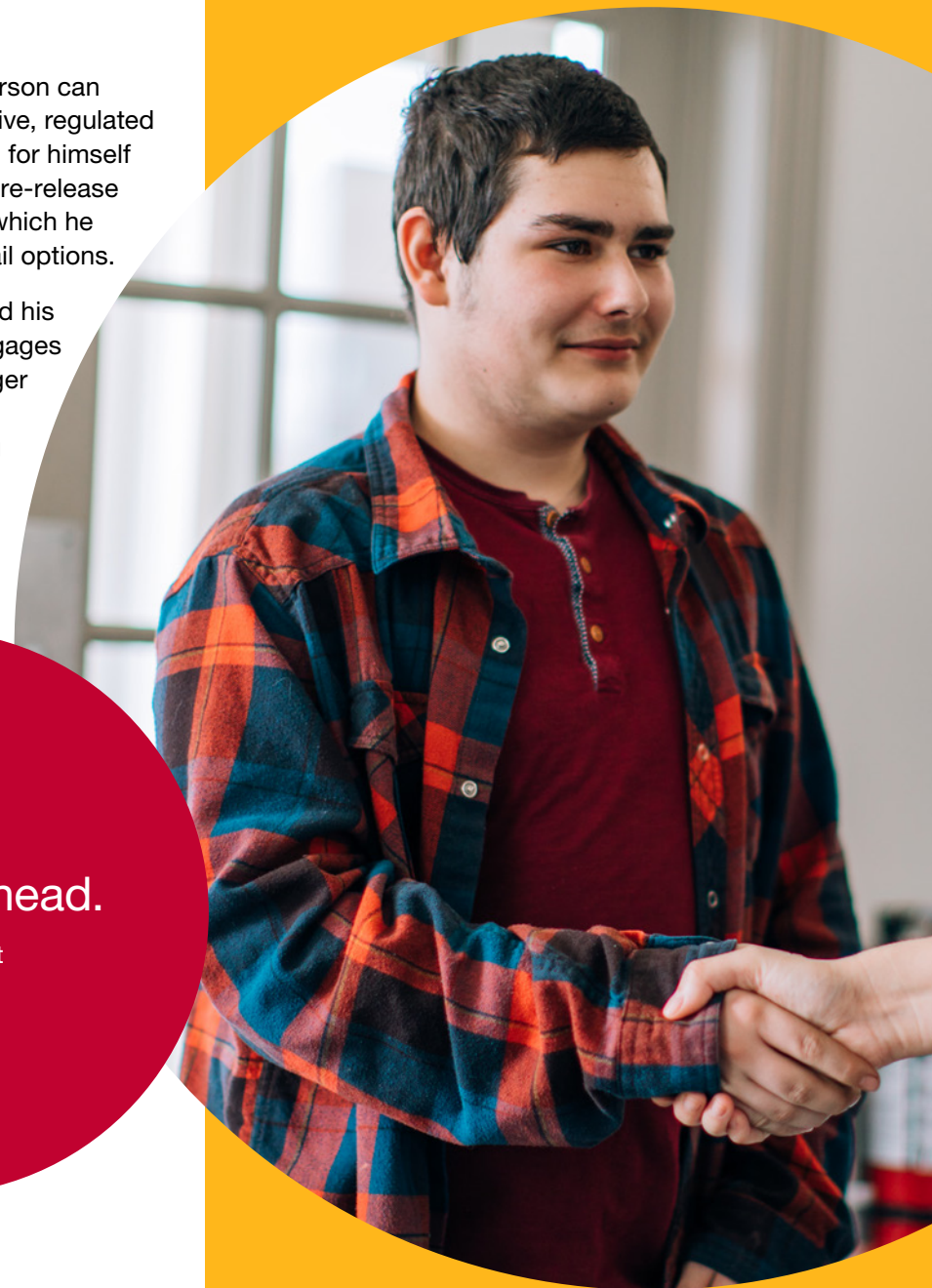
A young person has been in therapy for 16 months through the MAHSS program while in a youth detention centre. Upon commencing his therapy, he presented aggressive, regular assaults on staff, limited reflective capacity and displayed a chronic history of disengagement towards professionals.

From his time with MAHSS, this young person can now be described as emotionally expressive, regulated when stressed and capable of advocating for himself effectively. For example, he requested a pre-release meeting from the youth detention centre which he led and facilitated around exploring his bail options.

This young person has continued to attend his therapy sessions regularly and further engages with other service providers. He is no longer detained in youth detention and has not assaulted any residential staff since being released. The therapeutic provisions from MAHSS continues with the young person no matter where they reside, including remote community outreach.

“ It helps my head. ”

MAHSS client



Therapeutic Services: TAS

Out-of-home care

Our therapeutic out-of-home care program provides outreach support to case managers, carers and children across Tasmania.

Our training is designed to increase their understanding about the neurobiology of trauma, impacts of developmental trauma and to build their skills in responding therapeutically to children whose experiences of developmental trauma are expressed through behaviours which can, at times, be challenging and complex.

In addition to direct counselling with children and young people, we involve carers in dyad counselling with the child they are caring for, focusing on developing attunement between the carer and child, and supporting co-regulation for the child.

Our therapeutic out-of-home care program also supports the broader care system working with children by providing consultations around children's

needs in placements. These consultations tend to involve one or two meetings with individual Child Safety Officers and/or the care team around the child, listening to the key themes relating to the child's experiences and needs, and offering therapeutic interventions to guide placement and support planning.

Special Care Package assessment and review

Children in Tasmania with complex trauma needs sometimes require a tailored therapeutic support package of care that is not readily available through the existing family-based care system.

Special Care Packages provide additional resourcing to support children in their care placements. Our team of therapeutic specialists are regularly involved in the creation and sustainability of therapeutic care environments for children and their care teams. In addition, where we are not engaged in directly

supporting a child's placement, we are specifically funded to review Special Care Package placement providers to assess their provision of therapeutic care to children who have complex needs. As part of this process, we meet with the placement organisation to discuss their process and review their written policies, procedures and care plans. We meet with the children's carers to understand the support they provide to

children and the support they receive to enable them to practice therapeutic care approaches. And, most importantly, we meet with the child to hear about their experience of care, and to help us understand their hopes and wishes for the future.

Feedback from carers / parents:

Thank you for keeping me informed... usually I'm left out of all that goes on with my kids and that is an awful feeling.

I'm so glad I talked to you because instead of judging me you really understood. I feel so good about it.

We provided counselling to **86** children living in care.

Our therapeutic specialists delivered training to **53** case managers working in out-of-home care services and **17** child safety officers.

Our therapeutic specialists worked with **198** carers to provide ongoing support around their therapeutic parenting of children in their care.

We were involved in **126** consultations about children in care.

Therapeutic Services: TAS

Children's Family Violence counselling program

Our skilled, experienced team of therapeutic specialists based in Hobart, Burnie and Launceston provide counselling for children who have experienced family violence.


An integral part of our work is including the primary caregiving parent in our therapeutic work with children. We know a lot of the therapeutic healing process occurs outside of our counselling sessions within the safe attachment relationships children have with significant adults. Including parents supports them to understand how their child has been impacted by trauma associated with family violence and equips them to respond to the needs being expressed by their child. In this way, parents are our 'co-therapists' through the healing journey of their children and themselves.

Where it is safe to do so, we also engage with parents who have used family violence and are continuing to have contact with their children. It is important for children to experience neuroceptive safety when in contact with their parent who has used violence. Our work with parents is aimed towards supporting them to connect with their children safely.

Bringing Up Great Kids after Family Violence and Popping Bubbles groups

Demand for our family violence counselling service exceeds our resourced capacity, causing many families to have to wait for counselling to commence. We offer support for children and their parents to begin their healing journey while they wait for counselling through our tailored groupwork programs Bringing Up Great Kids After Family Violence (BUGK-FV) and Popping Bubbles.

BUGK-FV groups provide a friendly and safe environment for parents to learn from each other and deepen their understanding and healing for children following the impacts of family violence. All parents who attended the groups spoke about feeling more confident, more connected to their children and able to offer support to their children.

A circular photograph of a young child with dark hair, wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, blowing bubbles. The child is looking down at the bubbles with a focused expression. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting an outdoor setting. Several colorful bubbles are visible in the air around the child.

"This program is helping me learn how to play with my child."

Parent in Popping Bubbles group

12

mother and child dyads attended the Popping Bubbles groups.

14

parents attended Bringing Up Great Kids after Family Violence groups.

304

children were engaged in our family violence counselling program.

2,543

hours of counselling were delivered.

Therapeutic Services: VIC

Child Trauma Service - Eastern Metro Region Melbourne

The Child Trauma Service in the Eastern Metro region of Melbourne supported many children, young people and their families throughout 2021-2022 financial year in their healing from sexual abuse, family violence and harmful sexual behaviours.

The program received over 700 calls from family members and professionals seeking counselling for children and young people. Along with individual, dyadic and family work, the team have delivered a number of groups including Bringing Up Great Kids and our recently developed group called Stepping Up.

Stepping Up

The Stepping Up group is for young people who have engaged in harmful sexual behaviour.

Throughout the year, young people engaged extremely well in the program, enjoying mindfulness, building social peer connections and sitting in the space of some difficult conversations. At the end, a celebration allows parents the opportunity to reflect and share on the changes they had seen in their children following participation in the group.

One parent commented, “Our family is back together again”, whilst another noticed their child’s anxiety had decreased. Through the peer connection and provision of a containing, and sometimes challenging space, the young people were able to explore their own boundaries, respect and relationships.

Wimmera

Australian Childhood Foundation has been partnering with Uniting Wimmera’s out-of-home programs, providing therapeutic support to foster care and residential care for seven years.

We have recently embarked on a new therapeutic model of residential care funded by the Department of Families Fairness and Housing with Uniting. The new model offers therapeutic, educational and vocational specialisation. It recognises young people in the out-of-home care system need a therapeutic,



trauma-informed response, whilst holding hope for their future planning and orientation by building educational and/or vocational opportunities.

Australian Childhood Foundation and Uniting plan to deliver a two-bed therapeutic residential house, building on the strength of a solid partnership. The Foundation will be working within the home to deliver a therapeutic environment for young people that is responsive, inclusive and purposeful.

The young people are engaged in developing their individual goals, recognising and building on their strengths and being part of a home where they belong. The team is working collectively to build hope and empower the young people for a positive and bright future ahead.



Therapeutic Services: VIC

Trauma Responsive Care - The TrACK Program

The TrACK Program (Treatment and Care for Kids) is a joint initiative between the Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing in the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne, Anglicare Victoria and Australian Childhood Foundation. It is a program grounded in the neuroscience of trauma, attachment and child development, and meaningfully centralises and resources relationships as the site of healing and empowerment.

Background

Piloted initially in 2002, under the original name 'Catalyst', the TrACK program successfully pioneered therapeutic foster care placements in Australia for young people who were previously living in residential care and engaging in harmful sexual behaviour. The program later expanded to include children with a range of complex and challenging trauma-based behaviours for whom family reunification was not possible and other placement models had proven unsuccessful. Key elements of the TrACK model also ended up shaping the development of the Victorian Circle Therapeutic Foster Care Program.

The program has been evaluated on two separate occasions, with the most recent by Southern Cross University in 2017. This evaluation showed positive outcomes for young people in the TrACK program,

including strong connections with their community and support team, good engagement with school, positive peer relationships and holding aspirations for themselves and their future.

The evaluation also identified key factors in the TrACK program contributing to these positive outcomes for young people such as placement stability and the centralised focus on supporting the carer-child relationship so it could remain the site of healing.

Today

We continue to learn from the young people and carers in this program that it is the experience of being accompanied, of walking alongside and offering relational presence and stability, that is what is most therapeutic and healing on every level.

Showing up again the next day (or the next week) and hopefully changing the expectation of rejection is what so many of the young people come to us with. This is what we ask of carers, and what we offer as practitioners. We expect pain, conflict and ruptures, alongside the joys of connection, hope and discovery, all the while demonstrating a commitment to repair and the possibilities of what may come as a result.



Participant feedback

You supported my carer so she could support and not give up on me. Carers need more support.
Alex, now 25

The TrACK program workers supported you with what you needed. I knew I could ask for help when I needed it. The carers opened up their homes to us and made us feel like one of them.
Jack, now 20



Carer feedback

Having the regular, ongoing support from a team of skilled, caring professionals meant we were able to deal more confidently with the challenges of looking after our beautiful but deeply traumatised teenager. Regular meetings offered a listening ear to lighten the load and enabled us to understand the effects of trauma and the most effective methods of building positive relationships.

The strength of long-term relationships makes a huge difference.



Therapeutic Services: VIC

In one week, **77** adults and children attended ChildSPACE.

Some parents schedule their weekly activities around when ChildSPACE is open.

ChildSPACE Victoria

ChildSPACE works to resource the formal and informal networks around children and young people who have suffered bushfire related trauma.

The primary goal of the program is to strengthen the knowledge, confidence and commitment of community members to notice, care and support children and young people and their families as they navigate the recovery process, paying particular attention to the consequences of trauma on children over time.

Australian Childhood Foundation developed this program in partnership with Professor L Gibbs & Dr K Marinkovic, University of Melbourne, and Brett Ellis with funding from USA based philanthropic organisation, Direct Relief.

Our work in the Towong Shire of Victoria has continued to evolve this past year with community collaboration in co-developing a program to meet the needs of children and their families in the community.

We physically located ourselves in a building that offered a safe space where families felt welcome, connected with each other and where they would be able to access support from different services. The space is filled with messages and activities to strengthen connection and support children and families to heal through play, not just between a parent and child, also between friends, siblings, partners, colleagues and beyond.

It also provides an opportunity for parents, carers and children to meet and socialise through incidental catch ups with other families that they would not typically connect.

A toy library was created to provide children and families access to quality toys to support children's development, growth and exploration of the world. Play is used by children to explore everything about their world, the physical environment, relationships, and to understand themselves. The field of neuroscience tells us that play is the key to many neurobiological, physical and developmental benefits for the child.

“ Play is a powerful resource for children and parents. It helps strengthen relationships. After the impact of the last 12 months, experiencing a shared sense of enjoyment will remind everyone about how precious childhood really is.

Dr Joe Tucci
CEO, Australian Childhood Foundation

Local feedback

Your approach has been a breath of fresh air.

Thank you to all involved, what a brilliant idea.



Therapeutic Services: VIC

Working with fathers who use violence, to support their children's healing

Trauma-responsive practice with children is about the experience of a felt sense of safety, the reparation of relationships and, where safe to do so, the rebuilding of connection with people who have hurt and harmed them. These are the same principles we apply to the therapeutic work we do with children, their mothers and families, and the fathers who have been violent to them in our Victorian family violence counselling programs.

The children we work with need to experience reparative healing from this violence that has been inflicted upon them and their mothers, irrespective of whether they will ever see or have a relationship with the father who has hurt them. This becomes even more crucial when children are having regular contact, and in many cases, continuing to live at least half the time with the person who has caused – and perhaps continues to cause – harm.

This work is not about promoting the inclusion of fathers who are unsafe and violent in direct work with children and their mothers. This is about engaging fathers who use violence in parent work which has a focus on establishing safety for their children and ex-partner, supporting meaning making and healing for their children, and offering opportunities to help them consider what kind of safe and responsive relationship they would like to be able to have with their child.

In the family violence counselling programs across Victoria, we use clear decision-making principles to carefully assess and determine:

- If or when we have contact with a father who has used violence.
- If or when we seek his consent to therapeutically support his child.
- If or when we invite him to engage in parent work.

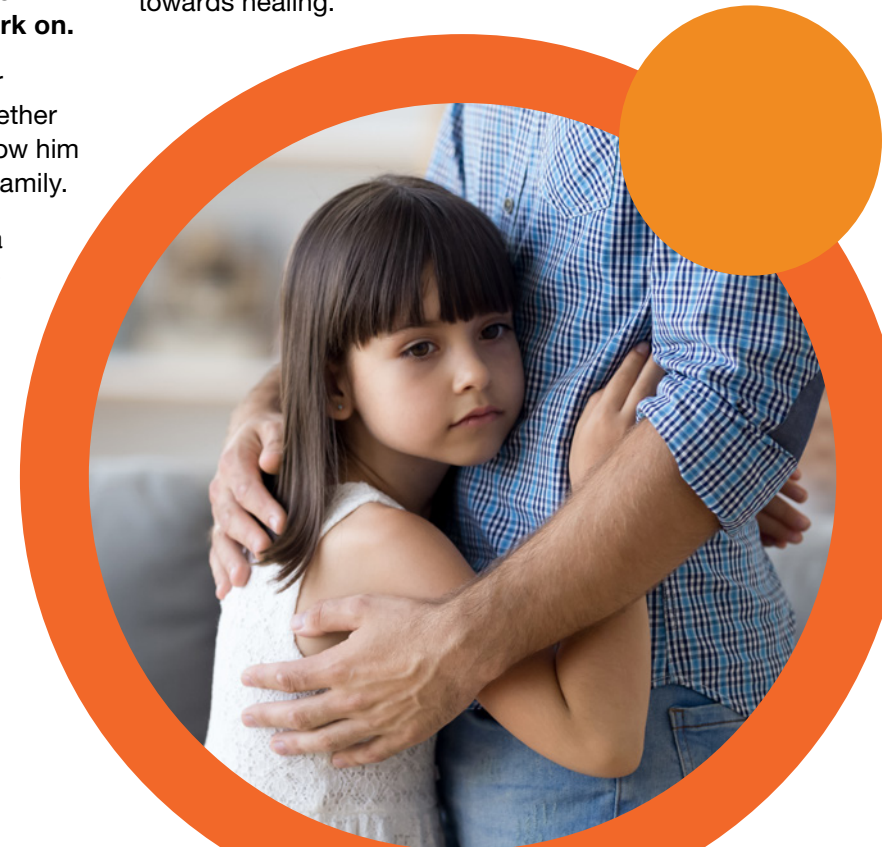
The safety of children and their mothers remains paramount and at the forefront of any decision-making and therapeutic processes we embark on.

These principles and processes regularly trigger conversations in the broader system around whether inviting a father into the therapeutic work will allow him to continue to exert power and control over his family.

Some early findings from a recent survey, over a three-month period in our counselling programs located in the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne, revealed where consent to work therapeutically with a father's child/ren was sought, he generally provided it. In fact, the withholding of such consent was not a factor in children not being able to access a therapeutic response from our programs in this region. Instead, relocation of a family out of region, lack of therapeutic engagement, other similar services being involved resulting in a response from Australian Childhood Foundation not being

needed, and family law court related complications were the most common factors impacting a child's access to our counselling programs.

This is a small dataset and broader conclusions are not able to be drawn. However, it has been another important moment for us to consider how we can safely engage fathers who use violence in particular ways that offer them opportunities to develop safe ways of being with their children. Ways that help their children and ex-partners feel safe and perhaps over time, move towards healing.



Therapeutic Services: WA

OurSPACE

Australian Childhood Foundation has been delivering statewide counselling, therapeutic consultation and support service for Department of Communities family and foster carers since OurSPACE WA was initially funded as a pilot program in late 2020.

Due to the success of the program in the community, OurSPACE WA has been extended until June 2023 with a \$640,000 grant from the Western Australian Government to enhance the long-term stability of care arrangements where children have heightened support needs.

As a result of our service, many family and foster carers across WA say they are less stressed and have an increased confidence in their ability to support the complex needs of the children in their care. It is thanks to the support from Department of Communities we are able to continue offering this service to family and fosters carers in WA.

Foster and family carers come to us with a wide range of questions and needs. Sometimes we need to listen, sometimes translate carer’s knowledge into practical parenting responses or accompany them to a meeting with the Department. There is no one-size-fits-all. We know the importance sits in responding to carer’s specific needs and will support them in their capacity to care for vulnerable children and young people.

To date, OurSPACE has worked with a total of 132 carers, in person and through telephone and videocalls. This easy support access is helping strengthen the relationship between carers and the children they care for.



“

I am proud to support carers through the continuation of funding for the OurSPACE program which provides counselling services to help them continue caring for young people with complex needs. Through providing a responsive care system, we will provide the best outcomes for children in care.

Simone McGurk, Child Protection Minister

.....

You’ve given me a reason to work on my frustration about the kid’s behaviour and increase my understanding of why they behave like they do. To hang in there.

Family carer

”

Therapeutic Services: WA

Naala Djookan Healing Centre

Since late 2020, the WA Therapeutic Service team has continued to provide integrated practice lead and senior counsellor positions at the Naala Djookan Healing Centre.

The Foundation works with ten other organisations sharing the one vision - to provide a culturally rich and strong community, safe and free from violence.

Our team is responsible for providing evidence-based, culturally strong, trauma-informed practice direction. The team also provides support and supervision for the staff at Naala Djookan Healing Centre, as well as trauma-responsive individual and group counselling for children and mothers who have experienced family violence.

Throughout the 2021-2022 financial year, the centre supported over 600 women and their children, including over 420 new referrals. The services accessed included participation in 31 programs offered over 221 different sessions, engagement in our financial counselling and legal advice services and individual support provided in our therapeutic advocacy services.

In late 2021, the centre was also recognised for the excellent outcomes for the community as the Bronze Winner for the IPAA WA, Achievement Awards 2021 – Best Practice in Collaboration between Government and any other organisation.

NAIDOC Perth Carer Award

Australian Childhood Foundation were honoured to present the NAIDOC Perth 2022 - Carer Award to Kelly Bentley and runner-up to Jeff Farrell and Brooke Olive.

Kelly is a proud Wardandi Noongar woman. In 2009, she took on the care of seven of her sister's children following her tragic murder. Over the years, Kelly also took on the care of four of her sister's grandchildren so they would not enter the child protection system. Kelly is a tireless advocate for systemic changes for women experiencing family violence. She has changed the lives of many and continues to inspire women within the Aboriginal community.

Jeff and Brooke became carers at Aboriginal foster care agency, Yorganop to make a difference and support family reunification. Together they have created a safe, nurturing and culturally supportive home for many children, including their own. Jeff also volunteers with Clontarf and Brooke runs yoga/dance therapy classes for children with developmental delays and occupational therapy needs.

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to Kelly, Jeff and Brooke, as well as all the incredible Aboriginal family and foster carers, caring for their children in family, culture and community.



IPAA WA, Achievement Awards 2021



NAIDOC Perth - Carer Award 2022

Safeguarding Children Services

Australian Childhood Foundation's Safeguarding Children Services exists to support organisations working with children and young people to build a safeguarding culture that keeps children safe from abuse and prevents trauma.

Supporting stronger safeguarding cultures in organisations

In the 2021-2022 financial year we provided consulting to nearly 60 organisations. This supported them to meet best practice through the Foundation's Safeguarding Children Accreditation Program, the only Australian Competition and Consumer Commission endorsed child safety program in the country. Recently accredited organisations included Chabad Glen Eira, Camp Quality, CatholicCare Tasmania, Starlight Children's Foundation, Scotch College Melbourne, De La Salle College, Warrambui Retreat and Conference Centre, St Michael's Collegiate School and The Hutchins School.

The team provided policy development and advisory services to nearly 10 organisations completing our Safeguarding Children Certification program. Recently certified organisations included City of Boroondara and The Humour Foundation.

Partnering for best practice

In the 2021-2022 financial year, we engaged in a renewed partnership with YMCA through a co-design process to develop an independent review and validation model for the Y Safeguarding Children and Young People Licence Standards. This aims to deliver a best practice approach to child safety and wellbeing across the YMCA's national network of over 15,000 employees and volunteers and nearly 600 sites.

We also partnered with the University of Western Australia's Centre for Social Impact to conduct an independent impact assessment of our Safeguarding Children Services. Insights from the research indicate Australian Childhood Foundation and its partners are helping to shape an Australian and global story of the evolution of safeguarding practice and impact.

Central to this is an emerging understanding of the decisive enabling factors and barriers within institutions that serve to create safety for children, their families, and the staff that engage with them. These insights are paving the way to an even deeper understanding of best practice in building a strong and lasting safeguarding children culture in organisations, equipping leaders and practitioners to ensure that the children and young people in their care are safe and valued.

Safeguarding Children Online Training was delivered to over **100,000 users** from over **125 organisations** globally.



Professional Education Services

The goal of Australian Childhood Foundation's Education Services is to support professionals to better meet the needs of the children and young people they are working with. This year we continued to transform our approach to providing practical, evidence-based learning opportunities by introducing new courses, co-designing new resources and expanding new and old partnerships.

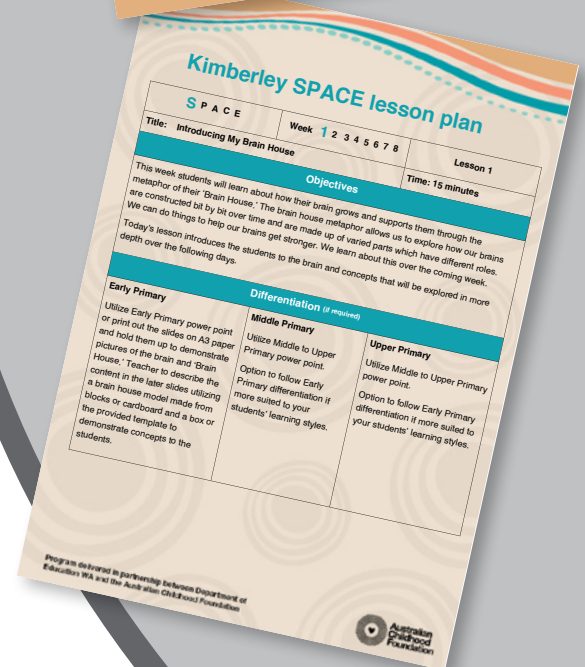
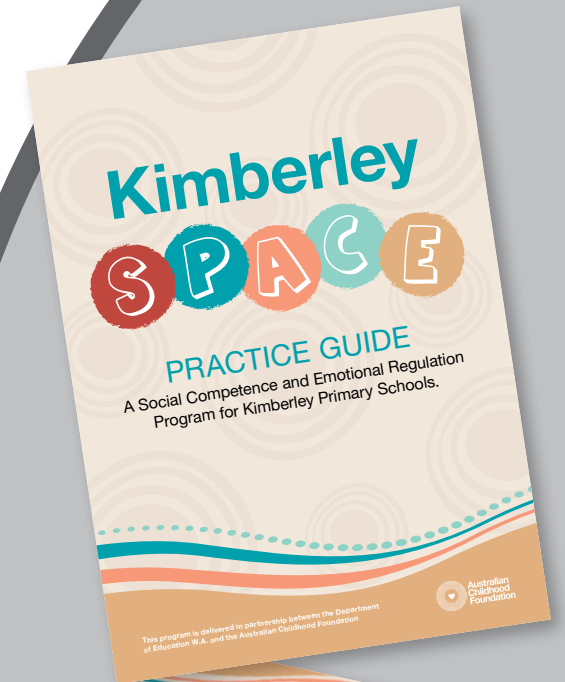
Accessible learning

Education Services provided direct training – in-person and online – to almost 1,000 professionals over the past year.

Training spanned over 15 topics, from the neuroscience of leadership to trauma responsive classrooms, with an increased focus on delivering learning through virtual classrooms in order to reach every state and territory in Australia, including remote and rural areas.

The team continued to enhance its training offerings for education settings through Australian Childhood Foundation's Making SPACE For Learning framework. The framework is grounded in over 15 years of training and practice throughout Australia, including in partnerships with the Departments of Education in WA and SA, as well as schools in VIC, NSW and TAS. In 2021, a pilot was launched in the Kimberley region of Western Australia, where a consultative committee of education professionals assisted in the creation of a culturally responsive curriculum for primary-aged students to grow in social and emotional literacy. The pilot program included seven primary schools in regional and remote settings.

In partnership with the Dyadic Developmental Psychotherapy Institute and Compass Australia, the team has enabled over 70 therapeutic professionals to access the emerging field of dyadic development psychotherapy, providing rich insights into the neuroscience of caregiving – critical to responding to the needs of children and young people at risk or experiencing trauma.



Professional Education Services

Accredited and advanced training

The Graduate Certificate in Developmental Trauma reached 196 new professionals and had 374 continuing their studies from last year's enrolments.

The unique qualification represented part of Australian Childhood Foundation's Nationally Accredited Training portfolio, offering students across Australia, and internationally, the knowledge and skills to respond to the needs of children and young people affected by the cumulative developmental and neurobiological harms caused by abuse and violence.

Our ongoing partnership with Territory Families saw us help 60 new students start their Certificate IV in Youth Justice, with another 45 students continuing from last year.

Mobilising new ideas, research and resources



The team was commissioned by the Department of Communities in Western Australia to develop a Trust, Safety and Participation online practice guide and training series for professionals supporting children and young people affected by domestic and family violence during the

COVID-19 pandemic. The resources were developed through a consultation process including professionals and young people with lived experience of family and domestic violence. Over 4,000 people accessed the online practice guide resource, and the core training session was attended by 172 professionals (across face-to-face, live online and recorded webinar platforms) from a range of organisations, including frontline response, brief intervention, family support, advocacy, counselling, health and education.



The team partnered with Karla Kuliny Aboriginal Corporation and the Youth Affairs Council of Western Australia to co-design new counselling services for young people who have experienced family and domestic violence. The project involved significant input and oversight from young people with lived experience of family and domestic violence, including the employment of a Youth Steering Group.



Parenting and Early Years

A productive year of Bringing Up Great Kids

Bringing Up Great Kids (BUGK) training continues to be in high demand with all training sessions offered at capacity. Since responding to the pandemic with the move to online training, we have continued to use online platforms where teams have co-facilitated BUGK groups for parents and carers both within Australian Childhood Foundation and with outside organisations.

We took on several projects with the focus on supporting early childhood educators in NSW, ACT, SA and VIC to adopt a more trauma-informed way of working with young children and their families.

We are working with Eton House International School in Singapore to provide online, BUGK based, parenting support to the English-speaking parents whose children are attending the school.

1,311 BUGK facilitators in total.

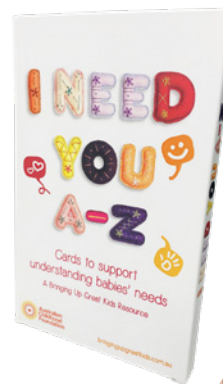
659 Early childhood educators in total.

BUGK support

Our corporate partnership with Target is supporting Australian Childhood Foundation with the growth and development of the BUGK program. The Foundation has provided talks to Target staff and stakeholders on our work and supported Target's Mother's Day campaign. Target in return, has provided parents attending counselling and BUGK groups boxes of self-care products.

New resource: A-Z Cards

A new A-Z resource was developed to extend on the booklet and poster encouraging reflection and discussion. This set consists of 26 double-sided cards for every letter of the alphabet. One side has the voices of babies and young children to help parents reflect on their child and themselves. The other side has questions for parents to reflect on the love, care and support they can give their child as they grow and develop. The questions ask parents to reflect on the feelings, words and actions they may experience with their child and can be used in both individual situations and group work.



Staff feedback

The impact of 'pausing' through the 'Stop, Pause, Play' sequence, and responding as opposed to reacting, has had a positive impact on a mum's interactions with her children.

The family soup provides opportunities for families to discuss their culture, family traditions, values and beliefs and celebrate rituals of connection like meals together, activities together, talking at the table and having fun together.

National Corporate Partnerships

Target Australia

Thanks to our major partnership with much loved Australian brand, Target, we are supporting more mothers and their families through our Bringing Up Great Kids (BUGK) program. Through a donation of over \$250,000 this new partnership will enable the development of a specific adaptation of our BUGK program that will focus on vulnerable young mums as they build positive and nurturing relationships with their children.

Target designed two highly successful fundraising campaigns throughout the year, one at Christmas and the other for Mother's Day. The aim was to not only raise funds to support our work but to raise the profile of our important work amongst the Australian community. They also brought the Target community together across different states to bring joy to parents accessing our services by packing beautiful gift bags at local Target stores for them.



“

The Target team are a passionate bunch of people, as passionate as our customers! We knew that the team had enjoyed long standing partnerships with charity partners in the past however, this was certainly a celebrated refreshment on our commitment to being part of our communities – and a greater cause to get behind. It was an emotional moment receiving wonderful feedback after announcing our partnership with Australian Childhood Foundation. I can't wait to deliver more opportunities for our team members to get involved with this program.

Kate Thiedeman
Head of Community Corporate Affairs & Sustainability
Kmart Group (Kmart Aust, Target Aust & Catch)

Rosie Batty and Target

Rosie Batty AO, Australian Childhood Foundation Patron, author and advocate, generously fronted the 'All that she is' Mother's Day campaign that celebrated all the women that hold important roles in the lives of children.



“

To me, Mother's Day is a time to celebrate and acknowledge the many women, no matter their role or title, who have positively impacted children's lives. We see you.

Rosie Batty

”

Our heartfelt thank you

Australian Childhood Foundation is deeply appreciative of our partners and donors for their support of our work throughout the 2021-2022 financial year.

Together, we are building a community willing to take a stand to protect and defend childhood.

Thank you to our corporate partners:



Thank you to our key funding supporters:

Government funders

- Black Summer Bushfire Recovery Grants (Federal Government)
- Commonwealth Department of Social Services
- Department of Child Protection (WA)
- Department of Communities (TAS)
- Department of Communities and Justice (NSW)
- Department of Community Services (ACT)
- Department of Education (SA)
- Department of Education (TAS)
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (VIC)
- Safer Communities Fund - Early Intervention Grants (Federal Government)
- Territory Families (NT)

Major supporters

- D. Westblade
- Estate of Gladys Vera Hughes
- Estate of June Florence Weller
- Mr & Mrs Bueker
- Mr J Burns
- Mr L Ashlin
- Mr L Browne
- Mr T Breen
- Mrs C Watson
- Mrs J Muster
- Ms C Cheah
- Ms M Poole-Johnson
- T.I.G. Freight Management Pty Ltd

Trusts and foundations

- Annie Rose and Andrew Lazar Foundation
- Baker Family Charitable Foundation
- Brian M Davis Foundation
- Helen Grant Charitable Gift, a giving fund of the APS Foundation
- JBWere Charitable Endowment Fund
- Loftus-Hills Fund, a Charitable Fund Account of Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation
- Pethard Tarax Charitable Trust
- The Finkel Foundation

Fundraising - supporters making a difference for children

Appeals

We are so grateful for the ongoing support of our amazing donors. Together, we raised more revenue from fundraising appeals than ever before throughout 2021-2022 financial year.

The Christmas campaign featured a story about Ava, a little girl who had suffered considerable trauma from family violence. In response to community concern over the ongoing COVID crisis we also included the true story of Edna Mae who lived through the Spanish Flu over a century ago. This appeal raised \$61,885.

At tax time we featured a story about Liam, a deaf child who was severely affected by early childhood trauma. His carer Melanie, herself deaf, found it very difficult to access appropriate support services to help Liam heal due to their communications issues. Thankfully our therapeutic specialist was willing to work with an Auslan interpreter and even picked up a few signs himself so he could communicate directly with Liam.

Today, Liam is doing really well. He is making friends and allowing Melanie to cuddle him when he is sad.

We are honoured to share Liam's story as a fine example of the transformative work done by Australian Childhood Foundation. His story also reminds us that we can all feel "unheard" and overwhelmed at times.

To help our donors support the children and young people in their lives we included an article from Dr Joe Tucci about making sense of troubling times as well as a Times Like These communication aid.

Thankfully our supporters heard our need and donated a record breaking **\$125,527** Tax appeal



Fundraising - supporters making a difference for children

Bequests

Every donation is precious but there is no greater gift than gifts in wills, also known as bequests. These gifts to the future allow supporters to ensure their passions are continued well beyond their lifetimes. This year we were proud to accept five bequests totalling \$300,180. We sincerely thank the families and loved ones of these remarkable bequestors. We will ensure the funds are used appropriately to continue our important work.

Community fundraising

It is so rewarding to witness the wide variety of ways our supporters raise money for the Foundation – community fundraisers are often the most creative!

Ayesha's amazing act of community fundraising

Regular giver since 2005, Ayesha, embraced her strong connection to her family and to Australian Childhood Foundation and held a fundraising event, courageously shaving her head. Ayesha's incredible act motivated her family and friends to support her, resulting in \$750 raised for the Foundation.



“I was motivated by my childhood experiences and fears. Also, since I became a grandma, I felt somewhat responsible too. I also wanted to build awareness for the Foundation.”

We thank Ayesha so much for her support of Australian Childhood Foundation with her remarkable fundraising efforts. Her gift means we can support more children who have suffered violence, abuse and neglect once again feel joy, warmth and love.



We support Australian Childhood Foundation because it helps others who can't always help themselves. We feel it is vital for anyone who suffers from abuse, violence, neglect, trauma, but especially for children who suffer in this way, to have the support and help that is needed to, not only, move through that suffering, but to heal from it. We want to help break the cycle of abuse, stop it in its tracks and support a Foundation that can bring healing to the most vulnerable. These children have a bright and wonderful future, if only they can get the help they need to get away from the abuse, get support and therapy to move through the trauma and start to heal.

Rhoda and Tom Bueker



We have been sponsoring Australian Childhood Foundation for over 14 years. Our continued support stems from being fully aware that if we don't provide support, then many more children will fall through the cracks. It's very easy to be distracted by other media publicised social issues and events. The sad thing is it's even easier for the innocence of children to be damaged and go unnoticed. Protect our future!

TIG Freight Management Pty Ltd



Ambassador highlight: Love thy neighbour

Yiayia Next Door's cookbook brings kindness and connection front of mind

This year, we were honoured to support our Ambassadors, Daniel and Luke Mancuso from Yiayia Next Door as they launched their highly anticipated cookbook.

The Yiayia Next Door cookbook aims to spread kindness and bring people together through the power of a homecooked meal. The connection between their goal of building connections with those around you, and our greater purpose of restoring childhood through relationships that guide and support is not lost on us, and was only amplified through the release of this cookbook.

Daniel and Luke have been Ambassadors of Australian Childhood Foundation since 2020 and through their role have been a part of many initiatives designed to support children, young people, and their families. In the last financial year alone, they have raised over \$10,000 in donations that have gone directly towards helping children and young people heal.

The cookbook was no exception, with 50% of profits made from the sale of each book coming directly to Australia Childhood Foundation.

While exact figures raised are yet to be determined, the cookbook has been the number one selling cookbook in Australia for at least two weeks since launching in April 2022.

The popularity and sentiment behind the cookbook inspired many people to share their cooking with loved ones and resulted in gelato chain, Gelato Messina, jumping onboard to create a special Yiayia Next Door flavour for Mother's Day weekend, with profits from each scoop of the special flavour coming to Australian Childhood Foundation.

About Daniel and Luke

Daniel and Luke founded Yiayia Next Door, a social enterprise committed to inspiring kindness and encouraging people to 'love thy neighbour' as the most powerful antidote to violence. When Daniel and Luke lost their beloved mother Teresa to domestic violence, the Greek grandmother next door stepped in and started looking after them, passing homecooked meals over the fence. This simple act of kindness helped Daniel and Luke navigate the fog of grief that followed and captured the hearts of Australia when they started to share the meals and their special relationship with 'Yiayia' on social media.

Today, their social enterprise supports and inspires communities where people feel safe, and neighbours connect and care. Yiayia Next Door are committed to inspiring kindness and encouraging people to 'love thy neighbour' as the most powerful antidote to violence.

The cookbook has been dedicated to their late mother.



Photo by Mark Roper

Community attitudes study: Still Unseen and Ignored


Tracking community knowledge and attitudes about child abuse and child protection in Australia

This financial year, Australian Childhood Foundation research concluded that child abuse is still out of sight and out of mind. The results echo findings over the past two decades that indicate child abuse is of less concern to the community than problems with public transport and roads. Not only is there a lack of awareness of the issues children face, but also a lack of belief of children who disclose abuse. The community at large remains ambivalent about trusting children and lacks all of the building blocks required to prevent child abuse and adequately act to protect them from abuse and neglect.

People are not aware of the true scale and impact of child abuse and do not believe that it is as widespread as it really is, or the level of risk children and young people face in their own homes. These attitudes allow for the continued abuse of children and young people. These community insights have further fuelled our drive to create change in Australia, ensuring children and young people are better protected and supported.

1 in 3 
respondents

do not believe child abuse is a problem that they need be concerned about.

67% 
of respondents

believe that children make up stories about being abused or are uncertain whether to believe children when they disclosed abuse.

1 in 5 
respondents

were not confident of being able to recognise that a child was being abused or neglected.

22%-38% 
of respondents

had witnessed a child or young person being physically abused by an adult family member over the past five years.

Of most concern
1 in 6 
respondents

who reported having witnessed abuse did nothing to protect the child or young person, leaving them in real danger.

Our people

Patrons

Chris Hemsworth, AM

Actor

Rosie Batty, AO

Domestic Violence Advocate and Australian of the Year (2015)

Ambassadors

Liam Hemsworth

Actor

Nadine Garner

Actress

Stefan Dennis

Actor

Matt Johnson

Radio and Television Personality

Daniel and Luke Mancuso

Yiayia Next Door

Casey Burgess

Entertainer

Robyn Moore

Actor and Public Speaker

Clint Newton

Rugby League Players' Association President

John Xintavelonis

Actor and Entertainer

Vanessa Low

Athlete

Georgie Parker

Actress

Olivia Molly Rogers

Author, Artist and Mental Health Advocate

Board

President

Mr Mark Thomas

Communications

Honorary Treasurer

Mr Rod Naismith

Accounting

Directors

Mr Justin Smith

Media

Mr Nick Pelham

Infrastructure

Dr Ciara Earley

Paediatrics

Mr Rod Lamplugh

Law

Mr Cliff Weeks

Aboriginal Affairs

Ms Claire Boussioutas

Consultancy

Life Governors

Mr Jamie Perrott

Communications

Ms Susan Halliday

Business

Mr David Rosback, AM

Retail and former Rotary District Governor

Mr Laurie Wilson

Commerce

Dr Anne Small

Medicine

Mr Ted Garland

Accounting



Thank you to the wonderful people who make our support of children and young people possible

National Executive Team

Dr Joe Tucci

Chief Executive Officer
Chair, National Centre for Action
on Child Sexual Abuse

Janise Mitchell

Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Director, Centre for Excellence in
Therapeutic Care

Noel MacNamara

Executive Manager
Deputy Director, Centre for Excellence
in Therapeutic Care

Craig McMillan

Executive Manager – Partnerships /
Fundraising / Marketing

Trevor Irwin

Chief Financial Officer

Lyn Millett

Executive Manager - Education and
Safeguarding Services

Brigitte McGuire

Executive Manager - Childsafe Business
Initiative

Frank Borg

Executive Manager - Organisational
Capability and Operations

Senior Management Team

Angela Weller

Lead - New Training and Resource
Development

Blythe McAuley

Senior Manager

Brendan Bailey

Manager - Operations

Chris Byrne

Manager - Business Development
and Strategy

Cyra Fernandes

Senior Specialist - Therapeutic Care

Daniel Howell

Program Manager

Donna Richards

RTO Coordination and Business
Development Manager

Edward Murphy

Marketing Manager

Felicity O'Meara

Account Manager - Corporate Partnerships

Georgia Pattison

Program Manager

Glenda Kickett

Manager - Aboriginal and Torres Strait
Islander Engagement and Partnership

Glenys Bristow

Senior Specialist - Therapeutic Care

Jacqui Jones

Training and Digital Learning Manager

Jana Sarnovski

Program Manager

Jenny Wing

General Manager

Jessica Carter

Lead - Knowledge Mobilisation

Joanne Wicks

Program Manager

Karen Kipling

Manager - Accredited Training

Kathryn Lenton

Program Manager

Kelly Royds

Head of Knowledge Mobilisation and
Innovation, Centre for Excellence in
Therapeutic Care

Lauren Thomas

Senior Project Lead

Liliana Inguanti

Program Manager

Lydia Kali

Program Manager

Marina Dickson

Organisational Lead - Course and Content
Development

Mary Ann Delaney

Program Manager

Milon Islam

General Manager

Monica Robertson
Program Manager

Nicole Balfour
Program Manager

Pat Jewell
Program Manager

Pauline Lodge
Program Manager

Renee Smart
Internal Systems Support Manager

Rhiannon Wright
General Manager

Shaun Chandran
Program Manager

Shelley Calopa
Fundraising Manager

Susan Buratti
Program Manager

Timothy Sillcock
RTO Manager

Safeguarding Children Accreditation Panel

Susan Halliday
Former Chair of the Victorian Institute
of Teachers

**Superintendent
Andrew Allen**
Victoria Police (Retired)

Celebrating our people

At Australian Childhood Foundation, our teams are committed to making an impact to support children and young people through the trauma of abuse, family violence and neglect around Australia. We're built of like-minded, talented individuals who aspire to be the best and do their best.



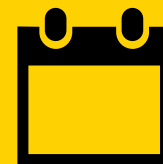
Australian Childhood Foundation Executive Team



230

employees

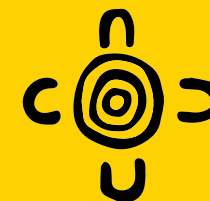
including 84 new starters in last 12 months.



10%

of employees

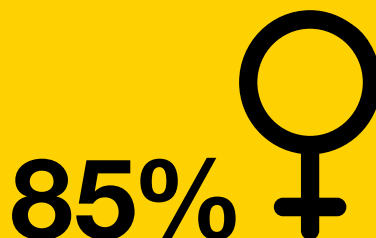
have been part of Australian Childhood Foundation for over 10 years.



4%

of our team

are proud Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people.



85%

of our workforce

identify as female.



92%

of staff

are actively engaged in helping the Foundation achieve it's purpose and goals.



6%

of our workforce

speaks English as a second language. 9% of our team being fluent in two or more languages.



98%

of employees

recognise that the Foundation fosters an environment of inclusiveness, where individual differences are celebrated.



94%

of employees

feel their health, safety and wellbeing are valued.



92%

of employees

have accessed flexible working arrangements over the past 12 months.



Get involved

Australian Childhood Foundation relies on the support of the community to continue to provide counselling services for children to help them heal from the devastating impact of violence, abuse and neglect.

You can help transform the lives of children, and assist the Foundation in running prevention programs that help stop violence and abuse before it happens, by making a donation at:

- **Australian Childhood Foundation**
- **PO Box 3335, Richmond VIC 3121**
- **Phone: 1300 381 581**
- **Email: support@childhood.org.au**
- **childhood.org.au**

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible.

Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Directors' Report

30 June 2022

The directors present their report on Australian Childhood Foundation for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

General information

Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during, or since the end of, the year are:

Names	Position
Mark Thomas	Corporate Affairs Consultant
Justin Smith	Media
Nick Pelham	Infrastructure Manager
Ciara Earley	General Paediatric Consultant
Rod Lamplugh	Solicitor
Claire Boussioutas	Consultant
Rod Naismith	Accountant
Cliff Weeks	Public Servant

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Information on directors

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

Mark Thomas	is currently the Chairperson of the Foundation having joined as a Director in 2005. He has been a political adviser to a range of government Ministers. He has senior community and corporate communications experience.
Justin Smith	is a senior producer and broadcaster with Fairfax Media. He brings significant media and communications experience to the Board. He joined as a Director in 2011.
Nick Pelham	joined as a Director in 2011. He has worked in infrastructure management for government and corporate sectors. He is a member of the Finance and Governance subcommittee of the Board.
Ciara Earley	joined as Director in 2014. She is a qualified Paediatrician and works as a Consultant at Monash Medical Centre. Ciara holds Masters in Forensic Medicine from Monash University and The Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine.
Rod Lamplugh	joined as a Director in 2015. He is a commercial lawyer and company director. He has over 25 years' experience assisting organisations with legal and media related matters particularly in the areas of acquisitions, contractual matters and compliance issues.
Claire Boussioutas	joined as a Director in 2018. Claire has been working with global and Australian organisations over 25 years as they undergo business transformation enabled by technology. She is a Partner at EY and married with three children
Rod Naismith	joined as a Director in 2018. Rod is a Chartered Accountant and a Graduate of the Institute of Australian Company Directors. Rod has worked in public practice for over 17 years and is a Partner at the global firm, BDO. He advises on a range of business, accounting and taxation issues for start-up, private and family owned businesses and not for profit organisations. He is a member of the Finance and Governance subcommittee of the Board.

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Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Directors' Report

30 June 2022

General information (continued)

Information on directors (continued)

Cliff Weeks	joined as a Director in 2016. He is currently working for the Department of the Chief Minister as a senior executive based in Alice Springs. A former member of the Western Australia Police Service, Cliff has over 15 years of experience in the public sector and was Director General of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs in Western Australia from 2011 until 2016.
-------------	--

Principal activities

The principal activities of Australian Childhood Foundation during the financial year was to provide services which effectively reduced the incidence of child abuse and the harm it causes children, families and the community. It provided direct services to children who have suffered or were at risk of abuse and neglect and their families in the form of counselling, practical assistance, emotional support or material aid. It also conducted research, prevention and education programs aimed to raise public awareness about the problem of child abuse and family violence.

Objectives and Strategy

The Australian Childhood Foundation's objectives are to:

- prevent child abuse in Australia;
- support children to recover from the trauma arising from experiences of abuse and neglect; and
- build the confidence and capacity of parents.

The Foundation's strategy for achieving these objectives includes:

- establishment of specialist therapeutic programs throughout Australia;
- provision of parenting education activities;
- undertaking research into child abuse and child protection;
- delivery of training to health, welfare, education and legal professionals;
- implementation of programs that build the capacity of organisations to protect children from harm and exploitation by volunteers and employees.

Performance Measure

The Foundation measures its performance through the number of children and families supported by its specialist programs, the amount of income funds raised and the number of projects delivered to the community.

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Directors' Report 30 June 2022

General information (continued)

Members' guarantee

Australian Childhood Foundation is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of, and for the purpose of winding up of the company, the amount capable of being called up from each member and any person or association who ceased to be a member in the year prior to the winding up, is limited to \$ 100 for members, subject to the provisions of the company's constitution.

At 30 June 2022 the collective liability of members was \$ 2,000 (2021: \$ 2,300).

Operating results

The operating surplus of the company amounted to \$709,304 (2021: \$2,367,744). No provision for income tax is necessary, as the company is endorsed as an income tax exempt charitable entity under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Significant changes in state of affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company during the year.

Events after the reporting date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

Meetings of directors

During the financial year, 6 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

	Directors' Meetings	
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Mark Thomas	6	6
Justin Smith	6	3
Nick Pelham	6	5
Ciara Earley	6	6
Rod Lamplugh	6	6
Claire Boussioutas	6	6
Rod Naismith	6	6
Cliff Weeks	6	3

Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of Australian Childhood Foundation.

Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Directors' Report 30 June 2022

Proceedings on behalf of company

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company or intervened in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purposes of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or any part of those proceedings.

Auditor's independence declaration

The auditor's independence declaration in accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* for the year ended 30 June 2022 has been received and can be found on page 5 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Director: *A. Mark Thomas*
Mark Thomas

Dated this 3rd day of October 2022

Summary Financial Statements



Nexia Melbourne Audit
Registered Audit Company 291969
Level 12 31 Queen Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000
T: +61 3 8613 8888
F: +61 3 8613 8800
nexia.com.au

Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Directors of Australian Childhood Foundation

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as lead auditor for the audit of Australian Childhood Foundation for the year ended 30 June 2022, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Nexia

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd
Melbourne

Dated this 3rd day of October 2022

Chapman Wan
Director

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd (ABN 88 005 105 975) is a firm of Chartered Accountants. It is affiliated with, but independent from Nexia Australia Pty Ltd. Nexia Australia Pty Ltd is a member of Nexia International, a leading global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. For more information please see www.nexia.com.au/audit. Neither Nexia International nor Nexia Australia Pty Ltd provide services to clients. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Revenue		
Fundraising and Donations	3,275,752	3,249,106
Government assistance	-	1,524,500
Interest income	17,012	17,854
Other Income	189,275	167,584
Professional education services	2,526,597	2,334,261
Research	99,813	230,014
Safeguarding children services	1,011,083	1,038,300
Therapeutic Services	20,688,087	18,263,703
	27,807,619	26,825,322
Expenditure		
Amortisation of right-of-use assets	(1,593,638)	(1,415,448)
Depreciation	(588,221)	(521,506)
Employee benefits expense	(19,972,639)	(17,652,154)
Finance costs	(5,386)	(20,568)
Foreign exchange gain/(loss)	106	1,289
IT expenses	(703,167)	(523,016)
Lease interest	(105,211)	(133,822)
Motor vehicle expenses	(103,585)	(235,732)
Offices and Facilities	(586,344)	(279,775)
Organisational expenses	(1,023,522)	(918,211)
Program expenses	(1,606,257)	(1,958,035)
Telecommunications	(241,861)	(223,799)
Travel expenses	(568,590)	(536,142)
Loss on disposal of assets	-	(40,659)
	(27,098,315)	(24,457,578)
Surplus before income tax	709,304	2,367,744
Income tax expense	-	-
Surplus for the year	709,304	2,367,744
Other comprehensive income		
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss		
Revaluation changes for property, plant and equipment	-	192,224
Items that will be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss		
Gain/(Loss) arising from revaluation of financial assets at fair value	(5,374)	18,955
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year, net of tax	(5,374)	211,179
Total comprehensive income for the year	703,930	2,578,923

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2022

Note	2022 \$	2021 \$
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	4 2,572,248	2,509,327
Trade and other receivables	5 1,909,917	1,217,753
Inventories	6 204,643	234,977
Financial assets	7 2,084,622	2,079,807
Other assets	8 719,115	546,026
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	7,490,545	6,587,890
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	9 4,415,179	3,758,944
Right-of-use assets	10 1,653,532	2,190,625
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	6,068,711	5,949,569
TOTAL ASSETS	13,559,256	12,537,459
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	11 1,347,420	1,312,774
Employee benefits	13 1,840,082	1,466,194
Lease liabilities	10 1,277,186	1,471,443
Other liabilities	12 2,066,271	1,392,448
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	6,530,959	5,642,859
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Employee benefits	13 103,092	160,712
Lease liabilities	10 457,082	969,695
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	560,174	1,130,407
TOTAL LIABILITIES	7,091,133	6,773,266
NET ASSETS	6,468,123	5,764,193
EQUITY		
Reserves	14 2,132,715	2,138,089
Retained earnings	4,335,408	3,626,104
TOTAL EQUITY	6,468,123	5,764,193

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2022	Retained Earnings \$	Asset Revaluation Surplus \$	Financial Asset Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2021	3,626,103	2,118,315	19,775	5,764,193
Surplus for the year	709,304	-	-	709,304
Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the year	-	-	(5,374)	(5,374)
Balance at 30 June 2022	4,335,407	2,118,315	14,401	6,468,123
2021				
2021	Retained Earnings \$	Asset Revaluation Surplus \$	Financial Asset Reserve \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 July 2020	1,258,359	1,926,091	820	3,185,270
Surplus for the year	2,367,744	-	-	2,367,744
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	192,224	18,955	211,179
Balance at 30 June 2021	3,626,103	2,118,315	19,775	5,764,193

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

	2022	2021
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from customers	27,771,925	27,024,124
Payments to suppliers and employees	(24,597,700)	(21,918,701)
Dividends received	341	323
Interest received	17,012	17,854
Finance costs	(110,597)	(154,390)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>3,080,981</u>	<u>4,969,210</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(1,244,456)	(590,891)
Purchase of financial assets	(10,189)	(2,003,625)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	<u>(1,254,645)</u>	<u>(2,594,516)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Repayment of borrowings	-	(259,999)
Repayment of lease liabilities (principal)	(1,763,415)	(1,529,622)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	<u>(1,763,415)</u>	<u>(1,789,621)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	62,921	585,073
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	2,509,327	1,924,254
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	4 <u>2,572,248</u>	<u>2,509,327</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

The financial report covers Australian Childhood Foundation as an individual entity, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Australian Childhood Foundation is a company limited by guarantee.

The principal activities of Australian Childhood Foundation during the financial year was to provide services which effectively reduced the incidence of child abuse and the harm it causes children, families and the community. It provided direct services to children who have suffered or were at risk of abuse and neglect and their families in the form of counselling, practical assistance, emotional support or material aid. It also conducted research, prevention and education programs aimed to raise public awareness about the problem of child abuse and family violence.

The functional and presentation currency of Australian Childhood Foundation is Australian dollars.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

The financial report was authorised for issue by the Directors on 3 October 2022.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*. The Company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue and other income

Revenue recognised under AASB 15 is measured at the amount which the Company expects to receive in consideration for satisfying performance obligations to a customer. A performance obligation is the distinct good or service defined within the contract with a customer. The transaction price is allocated to one or more performance obligations contained within the contract, with revenue being recognised as or when the performance obligation is satisfied.

Where consideration comprises variable components, the amount recognised as revenue is constrained to that amount that would not result in a significant reversal of the cumulative revenue recognised when that uncertainty is resolved.

Timing of Revenue Recognition

Revenue is recognised either at a point in time or over time, when (or as) the Company satisfies performance obligations by transferring the promised goods or services to its customers.

If the Company satisfies a performance obligation before it receives the consideration, the Company recognises either a contract asset or a receivable in its statement of financial position, depending on whether something other than the passage of time is required before the consideration is due.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(a) Revenue and other income (continued)

Specific revenue streams

The revenue recognition policies for the principal revenue streams of the Company are:

Fundraising and donations

Donations collected including cash and goods for resale, are recognised as revenue when the Company gains control of the asset.

Grant revenue

Grant revenue is recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive Income when the entity obtains control of the grant and it is probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant will flow to the entity and the amount of the grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions are attached to the grant which must be satisfied before it is eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue will be deferred until those conditions are satisfied.

When grant revenue is received whereby the entity incurs an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this is considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue is recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service has been delivered to the contributor, otherwise the grant is recognised as income on receipt.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

Education programs

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers i.e. when the performance obligation has been satisfied.

Government assistance

Government assistance has been received during the year under the Cash Flow Boost program and Jobkeeper payments. Payments under this program are recognised as revenue once the Company is entitled to receive the payments. A receivable is recognised at year end for any payments that the Company is entitled to that have not been received. Payments received are included as part of 'Government assistance' in the statement of comprehensive income.

Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Company is entitled to it.

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Australian Childhood Foundation

ACN: 057 044 514

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(a) Revenue and other income (continued)

Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised depending on whether the outcome of the services can be estimated reliably. If the outcome can be estimated reliably then the stage of completion of the services is used to determine the appropriate level of revenue to be recognised in the period.

If the outcome cannot be reliably estimated then revenue is recognised to the extent of expenses recognised that are recoverable.

(b) Income Tax

The Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(c) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

(d) Inventories

Inventories acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration are valued at the current replacement cost as at the date of acquisition, which is the deemed cost.

(e) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

Property

Freehold land and buildings are shown at their fair value based on periodic valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation of buildings. This is reviewed every three years. Last revaluation date was 25 May 2021 by Charter Keck Cramer.

Fair value is determined by reference to market-based evidence, which is the amount for which the assets could be exchanged between a knowledgeable willing buyer and a knowledgeable willing seller in an arm's length transaction as at the valuation date. Fair values are confirmed by Independent valuations which are obtained with sufficient regularity to ensure that the carrying amounts do not differ materially from the asset's fair values at the balance sheet date.

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(e) Property, plant and equipment (continued)

In periods when the freehold land and buildings are not subject to an Independent valuation, the directors conduct directors' valuations to ensure the carrying amount for the land and buildings is not materially different to the fair value.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation reserve in equity. Revaluation decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of assets shall be recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus. All other decreases are charged to the statement of profit or loss and comprehensive income except where a credit balance exists in the revaluation reserve, in which case it is debited to that reserve.

As the revalued buildings are depreciated the difference between depreciation recognised in the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, which is based on the revalued carrying amount of the asset, and the depreciation based on the asset's original cost is transferred from the revaluation surplus to retained earnings.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the asset's employment and subsequent disposal.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets in excess of \$1,000 including buildings and capitalised lease assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Fixed asset class	Depreciation rate
Buildings	2 - 4%
Office Furniture and Equipment	10 - 25%
Computer Software	20%
Leasehold improvements	20 - 33%

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

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Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

Financial assets

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

Classification

On initial recognition, the Company classifies its financial assets into the following categories, those measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through other comprehensive income - equity instrument (FVOCI - equity)

Financial assets are not reclassified subsequent to their initial recognition unless the Company changes its business model for managing financial assets.

Amortised cost

Assets measured at amortised cost are financial assets where:

- the business model is to hold assets to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

The Company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment. Interest income, foreign exchange gains or losses and impairment are recognised in profit or loss. Gain or loss on derecognition is recognised in profit or loss.

Fair value through other comprehensive income

Equity instruments

The Company has a number of strategic investments in listed and unlisted entities over which they do not have significant influence nor control. The Company has made an irrevocable election to classify these equity investments as fair value through other comprehensive income as they are not held for trading purposes.

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Financial instruments (continued)

Financial assets (continued)

These investments are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income (financial asset reserve). On disposal any balance in the financial asset reserve is transferred to retained earnings and is not reclassified to profit or loss.

Dividends are recognised as income in profit or loss unless the dividend clearly represents a recovery of part of the cost of the investment. Other net gains and losses are recognised in OCI.

Impairment of financial assets

Impairment of financial assets is recognised on an expected credit loss (ECL) basis for the following assets:

- financial assets measured at amortised cost
- debt investments measured at FVOCI

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial assets has increased significant since initial recognition and when estimating ECL, the Company considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information and analysis based on the Company's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward looking information.

The Company uses the presumption that an asset which is more than 30 days past due has seen a significant increase in credit risk.

The Company uses the presumption that a financial asset is in default when:

- the other party is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Company in full, without recourse to the Company to actions such as realising security (if any is held); or
- the financial assets is more than 90 days past due.

Credit losses are measured as the present value of the difference between the cash flows due to the Company in accordance with the contract and the cash flows expected to be received. This is applied using a probability weighted approach.

Trade receivables

Impairment of trade receivables have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The Company has determined the probability of non-payment of the receivable and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

The amount of the impairment is recorded in a separate allowance account with the loss being recognised in finance expense. Once the receivable is determined to be uncollectable then the gross carrying amount is written off against the associated allowance.

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Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(f) Financial instruments (continued)

Financial assets (continued)

Where the Company renegotiates the terms of trade receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

Other financial assets measured at amortised cost

Impairment of other financial assets measured at amortised cost are determined using the expected credit loss model in AASB 9. On initial recognition of the asset, an estimate of the expected credit losses for the next 12 months is recognised. Where the asset has experienced significant increase in credit risk then the lifetime losses are estimated and recognised.

Financial liabilities

The Company measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Company comprise trade payables, bank and other loans and lease liabilities.

(g) Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period the Company determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where an indicator exists and regardless for indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash-generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss.

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(h) Intangibles

Software development

Software development costs are capitalised and recorded at cost until such time the project is complete and costs can be measured reliably. Once completed it is transferred to computer software. Software has a finite life and is carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. It has an estimated useful life of five years. It is assessed annually for impairment.

(i) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(j) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is considered to contain a lease if it allows the Company the right to control the use of an identified asset over a period of time in return for consideration.

Where a contract or arrangement contains a lease, the Company recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the commencement date of the lease.

A right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost, which is the present value of future lease payments adjusted for any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, plus any make-good obligations and initial direct costs incurred. Lease assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the shorter of their useful life and the lease term. Periodic adjustments are made for any re-measurements of the lease liabilities and for impairment losses.

Lease liabilities are initially measured at the present value of future minimum lease payments, discounted using the Company's incremental borrowing rate if the rate implicit in the lease cannot be readily determined, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate.

Minimum lease payments include fixed payments, amounts expected to be paid under a residual value guarantee, the exercise price of purchase options for which the Company is reasonably certain to exercise and incorporate the Company's expectations of lease extension options.

The lease liability is remeasured when there are changes in future lease payments arising from a change in rates, index or lease terms from exercising an extension or termination option. A corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the lease assets.

Short term leases (lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets (\$10,000 or less) are recognised as incurred as an expense in the statement comprehensive income.

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Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

(k) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Those Cashflows are discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows.

On Costs

Employee benefit on-costs are recognised and included in employee benefit liabilities and costs when the employee benefits to which relate are recognised as liabilities.

Superannuation

Contributions are made by the Company to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(l) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

(m) Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are initially recorded by applying the exchange rates ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rate of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Foreign currency differences arising on retranslation are recognised in profit or loss.

Foreign exchange gains and losses that relate to borrowings are presented in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, within finance costs. All other foreign exchange gains and losses are presented on a net basis within other income or other expenses.

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other various factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

Significant accounting judgements The company has entered into leases of premises, motor vehicles and office equipment as disclosed in Note 10. Management has determined that all of the risks and rewards of ownership of these premises, motor vehicles and equipment remain with the lessor and has therefore classified the leases as operating leases.

Significant accounting estimates and assumptions The key estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing material adjustment to the carrying amounts of certain assets and liabilities within the next annual reporting period are:

Property The freehold land and building at Mitcham was independently valued on 25 May 2021 by Charter Keck Cramer. The valuation was based on the market value.

Provisions for employee benefits payable after 12 months from the reporting date are based on future wage and salary levels, attrition rate and periods of service. The amount of these provisions would change should any of these factors change in the next 12 months.

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Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

4 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>2,572,248</u>	<u>2,509,327</u>
	<u>2,572,248</u>	<u>2,509,327</u>

5 Trade and other receivables

CURRENT		
Trade receivables	1,621,149	1,136,997
Other receivables	<u>288,768</u>	<u>80,756</u>
	<u>1,909,917</u>	<u>1,217,753</u>

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of each class of receivable in the financial statements.

6 Inventories

CURRENT		
At cost:		
Finished goods	<u>204,643</u>	<u>234,977</u>
	<u>204,643</u>	<u>234,977</u>

7 Financial Assets

CURRENT		
Term deposits	2,013,815	2,003,625
Shares in listed companies - fair value through other comprehensive income	<u>70,808</u>	<u>76,181</u>
	<u>2,084,623</u>	<u>2,079,806</u>

8 Other Assets

CURRENT		
Prepayments	393,458	223,803
Security deposits	<u>325,657</u>	<u>322,223</u>
	<u>719,115</u>	<u>546,026</u>

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

9 Property, plant and equipment

	2022 \$	2021 \$
Land		
At fair value	<u>2,255,029</u>	2,255,029
Buildings		
At fair value	521,933	521,933
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(283,830)</u>	(268,968)
	<u>238,103</u>	252,965
Furniture, fixtures and fittings		
At cost	1,056,165	911,095
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(848,962)</u>	(727,337)
	<u>207,203</u>	183,758
Computer software		
At cost	2,268,961	1,594,976
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,124,501)</u>	(727,634)
	<u>1,144,460</u>	867,342
Leasehold Improvements		
At cost	359,172	359,172
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(292,348)</u>	(237,481)
	<u>66,824</u>	121,691
Work in progress		
At cost	<u>503,560</u>	78,159
	<u>4,415,179</u>	3,758,944

Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.

	Land \$	Buildings \$	Furniture, Fixtures and Equipments \$	Computer Software \$	Leasehold Improvements \$	Work in progress \$	Total \$
Year ended 30 June 2022							
Balance at the beginning of year	2,255,029	252,965	183,758	867,342	121,691	78,159	3,758,944
Additions	-	-	145,070	673,985	-	425,401	1,244,456
Depreciation expense	-	(14,862)	(121,624)	(396,868)	(54,867)	-	(588,221)
Revaluation increase	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at the end of the year	<u>2,255,029</u>	<u>238,103</u>	<u>207,204</u>	<u>1,144,459</u>	<u>66,824</u>	<u>503,560</u>	<u>4,415,179</u>

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Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

10 Leases

Company as a lessee

The Company has leases over a range of assets including buildings and motor vehicles.

Terms and conditions of leases

Buildings

The Company leases land and buildings for their corporate offices and other buildings, the leases are generally between 1 - 6 years and some of the leases include a renewal option to allow the Company to renew for up to twice the non-cancellable lease term.

The corporate office lease contains an annual pricing mechanism based on CPI movements at each anniversary of the lease inception.

Motor Vehicles

The Company leases vehicles and equipment with lease terms varying from 2 - 5 years, the lease payments are fixed during the lease term.

Right-of-use assets

	Buildings \$	Motor Vehicles \$	Total \$
Year ended 30 June 2022			
Balance at beginning of year	1,441,565	749,060	2,190,625
Additions and reassessments	715,316	460,437	1,175,753
Leases completed	(96,913)	(22,295)	(119,208)
Depreciation charge	<u>(1,024,136)</u>	<u>(569,502)</u>	<u>(1,593,638)</u>
Balance at end of year	<u>1,035,832</u>	<u>617,700</u>	<u>1,653,532</u>

Lease liabilities

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

	< 1 year \$	1 - 5 years \$	> 5 years \$	Total undiscounted lease liabilities \$	Lease liabilities included in this Statement Of Financial Position \$
2022					
Lease liabilities	1,175,210	654,165	-	1,829,375	1,734,268

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

10 Leases (continued)

Extension options

A number of the building leases contain extension options which allow the Company to extend the lease term by up to twice the original non-cancellable period of the lease.

The Company includes options in the leases to provide flexibility and certainty to the Company operations and reduce costs of moving premises and the extension options are at the Company's discretion.

At commencement date and each subsequent reporting date, the Company assesses where it is reasonably certain that the extension options will be exercised.

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

The amounts recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income relating to leases where the Company is a lessee are shown below:

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Interest expense on lease liabilities	105,211	133,822
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	1,593,638	1,415,448
	<u>1,698,849</u>	<u>1,549,270</u>

11 Trade and Other Payables

CURRENT

Trade payables	346,450	639,323
GST payable	125,162	113,026
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	875,808	560,425
	<u>1,347,420</u>	<u>1,312,774</u>

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

12 Other Liabilities

CURRENT

Training - income in advance	-	160,741
Other - income in advance	2,066,271	1,231,707
	<u>2,066,271</u>	<u>1,392,448</u>

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Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

13 Employee Benefits

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Annual leave and long service leave	1,840,082	1,466,194
	<u>1,840,082</u>	<u>1,466,194</u>
NON-CURRENT		
Long service leave	103,092	160,712
	<u>103,092</u>	<u>160,712</u>

14 Reserves

Asset revaluation reserve	2,118,314	2,118,314
Financial assets reserve	14,401	19,775
	<u>2,132,715</u>	<u>2,138,089</u>

The asset revaluation reserve records the revaluation of freehold property at Mitcham.

The financial assets reserve records the revaluation of financial assets classified as fair value through other comprehensive income.

15 Financial Risk Management

Financial assets

Held at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents	2,572,248	2,509,327
Trade and other receivables	1,909,917	1,217,753
Term deposits	2,013,815	2,003,625
Fair value through Other Comprehensive Income (OCI)		
Shares in listed companies	70,808	76,181
Total financial assets	<u>6,566,788</u>	<u>5,806,886</u>

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities at amortised cost	1,347,420	1,312,776
Total financial liabilities	<u>1,347,420</u>	<u>1,312,776</u>

16 Members' Guarantee

In the event of the company being wound up, ordinary members are required to contribute a maximum of \$100 each. The total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the company is wound up \$2,000, based on 20 current ordinary members (2021: 23 members).

The Company is incorporated under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$ 100 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2022 the number of members was 20 (2021: 23).

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Summary Financial Statements



Australian Childhood Foundation

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2022

17 Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel of the Company is \$ 1,384,681 (2021: \$ 1,434,299).

18 Auditors' Remuneration

	2022	2021
	\$	\$
Remuneration of the auditor Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd, for:		
- auditing the financial statements	20,100	18,250
- other services	9,200	9,750
	<u>29,300</u>	<u>28,000</u>

Other services includes assistance with the preparation of the financial statements and audit of acquittal statements.

19 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2022 (30 June 2021: None).

20 Related Parties

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

The following transaction occurred with related parties:

Board member Rod Naismith is a Partner at BDO. In the course of the financial year, BDO provided accounting services to the value of \$16,170 (2021: \$142,696).

21 Events after the end of the Reporting Period

The financial report was authorised for issue on 3 October 2022 by the Directors.

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

22 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the is:
Australian Childhood Foundation
Level 1
675 Victoria Stret
Abbotsford Victoria 3067

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Australian Childhood Foundation

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Directors' Declaration

The directors declare that in the responsible persons' opinion:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013*.

Director *A. Mark Thomas*
Mark Thomas

Dated this 3rd day of October 2022

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Summary Financial Statements



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Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Australian Childhood Foundation

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Childhood Foundation, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2022, 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 directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Australian Childhood Foundation, is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2022 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (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.

Other information

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information in Australian Childhood Foundation's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2022, but does not include the financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information we are required to report that fact. The annual report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this independent auditor's report.

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd (ABN 86 005 105 975) is a firm of Chartered Accountants. It is affiliated with, but independent from Nexia Australia Pty Ltd. Nexia Australia Pty Ltd is a member of Nexia International, a leading global network of independent accounting and consulting firms. For more information please see www.nexia.com.au. Neither Nexia International nor Nexia Australia Pty Ltd provide services to clients. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the Australian Childhood Foundation are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibility 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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Nexia

Nexia Melbourne Audit Pty Ltd
Melbourne

Dated this 3rd day of October 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chapman Wan".

Chapman Wan
Director



Australian
Childhood
Foundation



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