

Our Mission

Every young person is entitled to a safe, healthy and fruitful life. The Youth Junction Inc. will endeavour to provide the opportunities to achieve this.

The Youth Junction Incorporated launched the Visy Cares Hub in 2006. The Visy Cares Hub is a co-located youth services centre for young people aged 12–25 years and was constructed in response to a growing need to consolidate youth services in the ever changing and complex youth demographic that makes up the Western Region of Melbourne. In November of this year we celebrate our 10th anniversary of youth service provision.

The Youth Junction Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation with deductible gift recipient status that does not receive recurrent government funding and therefore relies on the support of organisations and sponsors to deliver our programs.



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Managing a not-for-profit co-located youth centre in Melbourne's West provides a unique insight into the breadth and depth of interventions and treatments required by young people. This year we have focused our attention on data collection methods that highlight more realistically our collaborative effort and collective impact by the 20 not-for-profit youth services at the Visy Cares Hub. Whilst we offer a diverse range of services to young people, we are unified to provide the best opportunities possible to meet their needs.

Our two crime prevention programs continue to attract high numbers of young adults aged 18–25 years who are being supported to address the barriers in their lives that prevent them from transitioning smoothly towards adulthood, particularly in the current economic climate, against a backdrop of structural inequalities in housing, health and employment. Indicative of the interconnectedness and complexity of the social justice challenges faced by these young adults is their need to access, on average, seven different services simultaneously within the centre. This year therefore, we focus on the financial sustainability of those programs in order to provide a compelling argument that enables us to expand operations into other parts of Victoria for young adults involved in the criminal justice system.

We have added new programs this year to respond to gaps in the sector; The Young Dads Project is a pilot project that has been established as a result of the increasing numbers of young males aged between 18–25 years who are not only transitioning to adulthood, but also into fatherhood. Out of a cohort of 300 young males, 65 of that group have in total 99 children under the age of 6 years. The Young Dads Project assists them to build resilience through a range of face to face sessions, workshops and activities.

During 2016 there are a number of projects that The Youth Junction Inc. will focus on:

- Constructing a not-for-profit Incubator to develop the emergence and capacity of small not for profit organisations with a youth specific focus.
- Creation of early intervention programs involving sport, recreation, social justice, health and well being for young people aged 18 years and under.
- Enhancement of our multi-purpose, co-working and shared spaces to maximise the collaborative potential for youth services within the co-located model at the Visy Cares Hub.

I thank the staff and volunteers for their wonderful work and their commitment to the Visy Cares Hub during this last year. I also express my gratitude to The Youth Junction Inc. Committee of Management for their sound governance, guidance and support throughout 2015. Together we have made an enormous contribution to the success of the Visy Cares Hub, and this gives us great confidence in embracing our prospects for the next year.

Karen Hart
General Manager

General Managers Biography

Karen Hart has over 25 years of experience in working with government and not-for-profit organizations in both direct service delivery and management. Throughout her career, she has become an expert in the fields of grant funding, program design, delivery and evaluation. Karen has worked for the past ten years as General Manager of The Youth Junction Incorporated. In the course of her work, she is responsible for all executive duties on behalf of the Committee of Management and oversees the day to day management of the Visy Cares Hub operations, organisational development, HR, fundraising and program design. Karen has a BA Hons in Applied Social Work, MSc in Social Science Research Methods and is completing a Ph.D. in preventative measures to reduce recidivism for young adults through the School of Law and Justice at Victoria University. Karen is also an Australian-American Fulbright Alumni in not-for-profit leadership since 2014, having carried out a research study into the critical success factors of not for profit co-located centre's in the U.S and Canada.

OUR PROGRAMS IN 2015

✦ **The Youth Community and Law Program (YCLP)** works intensively with young adults involved in the criminal justice system at the point of pre-sentence with the aim of reducing risk factors and causes of offending behaviour (76% non-reoffending rate).

✦ **Crime Choices and Consequences Program (CCCP)**, which includes Prevent Alcohol & Risk-Related Trauma in Youth (P.A.R.T.Y) provides groups of 30 young people involved in the criminal justice system with the opportunity to attend The Royal Melbourne Hospital where they meet patients, listen to presentations from some of Melbourne's leading surgeons and emergency service personnel, and actively participate in the trauma related activities within the hospital environment. This program reduces injury and recidivism (96% non-reoffending rate).

✦ **Better Outcomes Project (BOP)** – is an indoor soccer for young males aged between 16–25 years involved in the justice system.

✦ **Fix the Cycle** accepts donated cycles so that young people can learn cycle mechanics and safety skills to on-donate the bikes with helmets and locks to disadvantaged young people.

✦ **Young Dads Program** – For young males aged between 18–25 years to create resilience and strengthen relationships in fatherhood.

✦ **Intake & Referral** – The Youth Junction Inc. offers Intake and Referral services for young people seeking professional assistance, advice and intervention from services most relevant to their needs. We adopt a 'no wrong door' approach to enable easy access to the services at the Visy Cares Hub.

Committee of Management

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Marilyn Duncan | President |
| Stuart Bensley | Vice President |
| Leanne Spiteri | Treasurer & Secretary |
| Andrew Grech | Member |
| Grant Dreher | Member |
| Andrew Williams | Member |
| Sandra Nicholson | Member |

Co-located Youth Services

- 01 Ardoch Youth Foundation
- 02 Big Brother Big Sister
- 03 Breakthru
- 04 Brimbank Youth Services
- 05 C-Collective
- 06 Centre for Multicultural Youth
- 07 Centrelink
- 08 Charis Mentoring
- 09 Community West
- 10 Headspace Western Melbourne
- 11 HYDDI
- 12 Inclusion Melbourne
- 13 Jesuit Social Services
- 14 Melbourne City Mission
- 15 Orygen Youth Health
- 16 Samoan Community Network Leadership
- 17 Sunshine Youth Legal Centre
- 18 The Youth Junction Inc.
- 19 Youthnow
- 20 Youth Support & Advocacy Service

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Throughout 2015, we have been guided by the following principles that underpin our five year strategic direction, to always strive to put the best interests of young people first. The Youth Junction Inc. does this by:

- Priding ourselves on achieving incremental improvements in service provision for the most marginalised young people in our community
- Protecting our independence whilst working collaboratively with all levels of Government, philanthropists, youth service providers and private organisations
- Supporting the efforts of other non-government organisations to learn from our experiences and valuing the experiences of others
- Developing a sustainable and replicable model for the provision of youth services with an aim to achieve the best opportunities for young people

We have also continued to develop our governance policies, as well as strengthen our governance role and practice of supporting operations and management, particularly in relation to the Visy Cares Hub. We have provided the General Manager with challenges and support, continued to act as a sounding board for innovative ideas, with appropriate delegated authorities, in order to facilitate and support applications for Government grants and private funding. Exploration of the development of social impact bonds and other alternative funding streams will continue, as the pressure and expectation to continue to innovate and create with limited financial resources in the not-for-profit sector continues to prevail.

We can all be proud of our ongoing progress this year and I would like to thank all committee members for their contribution. Our General Manager Karen Hart continued to manage the centre with all the competing demands of her role with enthusiasm, drive and humour and her dedication to providing opportunities for at risk youth has been an inspiration to staff, stakeholders and the broader community.

Marilyn Duncan

President, The Youth Junction Incorporated

We appreciate the organisations that have provided grant funding and material donations throughout 2015, including:

Victorian Legal Services Board Grants Program

RACV Foundation

Kids and Families Foundation

Westpac Foundation

Court Fund (DoJ)

Statement of Comprehensive Income for the year ended 31 October 2015

Revenue & other income

| | Note | 2015 \$ | 2014 \$ |
|-----------------|------|----------------|------------------|
| Grants received | 3 | 50,530 | 764,025 |
| Other revenue | 3 | 485,156 | 501,864 |
| | | 535,686 | 1,265,889 |

Less: Expenses

| | | | |
|---|---|------------------|--------------------|
| Depreciation expense | 4 | (454,116) | (546,195) |
| Employee benefits expense | 4 | (271,668) | (343,634) |
| Occupancy expense | | (22,665) | (23,127) |
| Building repairs and maintenance expense | | (2,059) | (26,394) |
| Advertising expense | | (880) | (6,840) |
| Cleaning expense | | (27,273) | (29,453) |
| Gas & electricity expense | | (21,062) | (33,643) |
| Telephone and IT expense | | (17,191) | (16,142) |
| Other expenses | | (89,355) | (62,050) |
| | | (906,269) | (1,087,478) |
| | | (370,583) | 178,411 |
| Surplus / (deficit) before income tax expense | | (370,583) | 178,411 |
| Other comprehensive surplus / (deficit) for the year | | - | - |
| Total comprehensive surplus / (deficit) | | (370,583) | 178,411 |

Results The loss of the association for the year amounted to \$370,583. If the non cash item of depreciation and amortisation totalling \$454,116 is ignored then Youth Junction Incorporated would be in a surplus position of \$83,533.

This is an extract of our audited Financial Report - the full report may be downloaded from www.acnc.gov.au

Contact Details

E info@youthjunctioninc.net.au

P (03) 9091 8200

W <http://www.youthjunctioninc.net.au/>