



Annual Report 2010–2011

Statement of Comprehensive Income

Year Ended 31 October 2011

	2011 (\$)	2010 (\$)
Revenue		
Operating Revenue	508,307	248,281
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Less Expenses		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	-183,828	-181,720
Employee benefits expense	-292,583	-241,019
Occupancy expenses	-23,465	-30,408
Building repairs and maintenance expense	-3,316	-4,669
Cleaning expense	-20,483	-18,705
Gas and electricity expense	-35,439	-29,161
Telephone and IT expense	-21,149	-31,226
Other expenses	-66,894	-53,761
	-647,157	-590,669

Extra Ordinary Revenue

Grants received	571,165	200,392
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	432,315	-141,996

Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	684,742	224,153
Receivables	6,677	0
Other Assets	23,343	23,883
Total Current Assets	714,762	248,036

Non-Current Assets

Property, plant and equipment	923,074	1,062,927
Total Non-Current Assets	923,074	1,062,927
Total Assets	1,637,836	1,310,963

Current Liabilities

Payables	98,744	71,573
Provisions	15,886	12,351
Other Liabilities	73,130	143,763
Total Current Liabilities	187,760	227,687

Non-Current Liabilities

Payables	0	65,515
Provisions	7,809	7,809
Total Non-Current Liabilities	7,809	73,324
Total Liabilities	195,569	301,011
Net Assets	1,442,267	1,009,952

Members Funds

Accumulated surplus	1,442,267	1,009,952
Total Members Funds	1,442,267	1,009,952

Auditted by Pitcher Partners.

Case studies

Homework Zone

The Homework Zone is an out of school learning program delivered by The Youth Junction Inc. and funded by the Optus Foundation. Many of the young people struggle with basic numeracy and literacy and find it easier to participate in a program that is removed from their everyday schooling, but has other recreational and health programs that they can engage in to support their learning and social interaction with their peers.

^{[[} Jane was a Homework Zone participant through her final year of high school. At the time she was 17 years old and living in supported accommodation due to her family circumstances that led her to leaving home at the age of 15. She started attending Homework Zone for support with her English essay writing skills and for her mathematics subject. By the end of the year Jane was consistently attending Homework Zone every Wednesday and Thursday to get support with her 5 VCE subjects. Jane’s aim and motivation for completing year 12 successfully were driven by her desire to be a journalist. Jane finished year 12 with an ENTER she was happy with, however it was significantly lower than the 95 ENTER required for entry into Journalism. Jane and I filled in a SNAP application for entry into the RMIT Bachelor of Communication (Journalism) course outlining her disadvantaged status. Unfortunately, Jane’s English score was 1 point lower than required, however after a conversation with the course coordinator, during which the facilitator stated how hard Jane had worked, and the dedication she had, Jane received a first round offer into the course. Jane later came back to the program to express her sincere thanks to all the support she had received at the Visy Cares Hub and Homework Zone, saying she would not be in this position or have this great opportunity without it. At that time she was in her second year at university and loving it.

Jane is a true success story. She is an amazing young person who has been able to overcome all her barriers to pursue her dream of becoming a journalist.]]

In 2011 on the Homework there were:

- 490 young person contacts in the evening sessions
- 350 contacts through phone calls, sms's and emails.
- 840 contacts for the school year assisted with out of school learning

Chair's Address

For 2010–2011

The past year has been our busiest and most challenging to date. This is in terms of both program delivery to young people by our licensees, and our own staff with in excess of 38,000 youth contacts covering a wide range of services and programs delivered in the reporting period. Coupled with this a governance review was undertaken including the refreshing of the existing Business Plan to ensure the ongoing sustainability of the integrated service model that has been operating successfully at the Visy Cares Hub for the last five years.

A revised Action Plan completed in May 2011 provided direction in four key areas of endeavour, Profile, Partnerships, Product and Profitability. Each area has associated Objectives and Performance Measures which are reported on at each Committee of Management meeting. Progress is being made in achieving those objectives; however the pressure to secure additional funding through grant applications and donations in an ever increasing competitive market remains an area of concern. This is in

GM Report

2011 and Future Direction

This year has been marked by rapid progress and development at The Youth Junction Inc. on two distinct levels; youth programming and infrastructure development, in order to improve services for young people.

We received in excess of 38,000 youth contacts from across the western region indicating an extremely high level of demand for targeted and relevant services, provided through the integrated youth service model at the Visy Cares Hub.

Young people involved in our community justice and crime prevention programs such as the Youth Community and Law Program and the Crime Choices and Consequences Program have taken up the many opportunities available to them and have benefitted from the positive results of the interventions centered around education, employment, health

and housing. For many of these young people who present with complex and multiple needs, the proven benefits of the colocated model are obvious.

In 2012 The Youth Junction Inc. will take the organisation to a new and exciting level by extending the Visy Cares Hub building and integrated model, to create additional space to be able to work with greater numbers of young people across Melbourne’s Western Metropolitan Region. We very much look forward to the end result.

Given the steady increase in young people accessing our services from the neighbouring municipalities across the region and in many cases traveling great distances to have needs met, we are cognizant of the demand to help provide local solutions to local problems for young people. In order to achieve equity and access of the specialist services such as the Justice

Metropolitan Western Region. Challenges will no doubt present themselves at the local level and in addition, the federal government’s reform agenda for the NFP sector which is aimed at achieving a new and transparent regulatory environment is an item that we will need to follow closely and adjust and plan for as appropriate.

We are proud of our progress during what has been at times a difficult year and I would like to thank all committee members for their contribution, with special thanks to Leanne Spiteri. 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
Chair

Our priority as an organisation is to stay true to our mission and to ensure that young people are provided with the opportunities to transcend circumstances that rob them of their talents, resilience and enjoyment of adolescence and young adulthood. We very much look forward to enabling young people to do just that in 2012.

I thank the staff and volunteers for their wonderful work and commitment and the Board of Directors for their sound governance, guidance and support throughout 2011.

Karen Hart
General Manager

“ 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.”

Mission Statement

Integrated Youth Services

The Youth Junction Inc. offers the vibrant Visy Cares Hub for young people aged 12–25 years and provides easy access to a range of colocated youth services and programs in the heart of Sunshine. The model was established in 2006 to respond to the growing number of young people falling through the net and failing to take up opportunities to improve outcomes in education, health, housing, employment and crime prevention. Together, we have made significant impact in their lives, proving the benefits of integrated youth services for Melbourne’s Western Region.

Youth Services accessed through the Visy Cares Hub integrated model are:

- Ardoch Youth Foundation
- Brimbank Youth Services
- Centre for Multicultural Youth
- Centrelink
- Headspace Western Melbourne
- Open Family Australia/Whitellion
- Robert Stary Lawyers
- Sunshine Youth Housing
- Sunshine Youth Legal Centre
- Victoria University

The Youth Junction Inc. also delivers the following services and programs:

- Daily drop-in internet
- Social Justice, Health and Wellbeing Program to Schools
- Australian Bureau for Integrated Youth Services
- Police for Youth Help Desk
- Sheriff Support Desk
- Intake & Referral
- Unified Outwest
- Youth Action Committee (YAC)

To find out more about The Youth Junction Inc. visit youthjunctioninc.net.au, or call on (03) 9091 8200.

Crime, Choices and Consequences Program

Funded by POCA (Proceeds of Crime Act)

The Crime Choices and Consequences Program with partners from the Alfred Hospital, Royal Melbourne Hospital, Victoria Police and the Magistrates Court continues its robust partnership approach to reduce injury and recidivism with young people involved in risk taking behaviours leading to crime and trauma. There have been 346 young people go through the program and only 9% have reoffended. The combination of educating young people about the consequences of risky and criminal behaviour, coupled with therapeutic intervention has been effective in helping them avoid further offending.

^{[[} John is a 20 year old young man, from Delahey, whose girlfriend is expecting their second child.

After undergoing a psycho-social assessment with TYJ Inc., he was linked with 3 other services located at the Visy Cares Hub—including the Sunshine Youth Legal Centre, for debt/financial counselling and management; Headspace Western Melbourne, to address various traumatic incidents in his life; and Robert Stary Lawyers, for legal representation and advice for previous court matters. John has also attended the PARTY (Prevent Alcohol and Risk Related Trauma in Youth) program, at the Alfred Hospital, which he stated afterwards, 'I think I have learnt enough to stop fooling around'.

At the same time, John continued to have regular contact with staff from TYJ Inc., for Offence Focused Counselling and general advice. John returned to court in August 2011, for offences that he had previously committed before CCCP, and with the assistance of TYJ Inc. and Robert Stary Lawyers, was able to avoid a prison sentence, because of his effort to work with program staff to get his life back on track. He is now on an Intensive Corrections Order, working full time and focusing on his family.

He has not committed any further offences on his 6 month follow up.]]

Youth, Community and Law Program

Funded by Legal Services Board

The Youth, Community and Law Program for young adults at the front end of the justice system that require intensive support to get their lives back on track, is in its third year. A sharp increase in referrals from the Sunshine Magistrates Court over the last six months indicates a program that can demonstrate ability and capacity to provide young people with meaningful and purposeful interventions, leading to sustainable outcomes.

^{[[} Lisa is a young woman aged 24 years old who was referred to the Youth Community and Law Program because of concerns about her risk taking and vulnerable behaviour coming to the attention of the police and courts.

When she commenced the program she was homeless and couch-surfing at friends’ houses, as she had been subjected to domestic violence by her boyfriend and needed to seek safe refuge. She has two small children, aged 3 and 5 years old. Whilst Lisa was on the program, she engaged with numerous services, both within the Visy Cares Hub and externally—including; accessing Headspace Western Melbourne, both for physical health and mental health to deal with DV issues; Victoria University, to pursue the possibility of further study; the Sunshine Youth Legal Centre, for debt/financial counselling and management; Sunshine Youth Housing and Yarra Community Housing, to be assessed for immediate housing needs; and Melbourne City Mission: Family Homelessness Service, for long term housing and support.

Having accessed these interventions, Lisa was able to secure private rental and get her children into the local school. She is also now continuing with further study and still keeps in contact with staff of TYJ Inc. when she needs general or service advice.

Twelve months on Lisa is doing extremely well and has not committed any further offences.]]