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ANNUAL REPORT

The Youth Junction Inc



Our Mission

The Youth Junction Inc is a leading provider of holistic programs and services that support and advocate for young people with complex needs. We are passionate about helping young people strengthen their resilience, build confidence and achieve their goals.

We are committed to providing innovative, ethical, empowering, inclusive and collaborative services. Our team of experienced and qualified professionals has a deep understanding of the challenges faced by young people with complex needs, and we are committed to working with them to create a positive future.

Core Values & Beliefs

Empowering

We support our young people to take the lead, be the experts and empower them to thrive.

Welcoming

We welcome young people and collaborations that enable our youth communities to access spaces and services that are safe and suited to their individual needs.

Evidence Informed

We see that every engagement is an opportunity for development, through youth and evidence informed practise.



Community Hub

The Youth Junction has helped more than 200 young people this year, through its range of services and programs. In addition to the service offering, our Cafe Operations Workshop was attended by 46 people. Our monthly networking events had an attendance of more than 30 employees from partner VCH organisations and external organisations. These networking events provided essential networking and relationship building between non-profit organisation experts.



The Visy Cares Hub is a thriving youth service support facility and proudly occupied by the following services:

The Youth Junction
Youth Now
CMY (Centre for
Multicultural Youth)
Inclusion Melbourne
Melbourne Health
YSAS
AAFRO Ltd

Orygen
Headspace
Brimbank City Council
Brimbank Youth
Services
West Justice
Salvation Army
Charis Mentoring



Programs

Skills First Reconnect

The Reconnect program strives to support Victorians experiencing disadvantage. The program assists participants to overcome the barriers preventing them from engaging in education and training and provides support into further study or employment pathways through wrap around case management support.

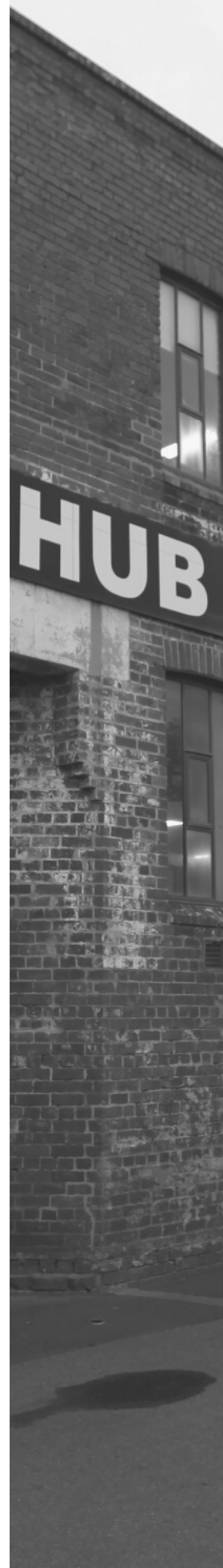
NorthWestSafe Youth Project

NorthWestSafe Youth Project (NWSYP) is an innovative pre-sentence program which works intensively with young adults aged 12 to 25, providing comprehensive early intervention case management support. Our specialist youth workers use trauma informed, strength-based practices and Family Violence practise skills to minimise risk, identify goals and needs to support the young person.

Prevent Alcohol and Risk-related trauma in youth (P.A.R.T.Y)

P.A.R.T.Y. Program is about prevention and awareness. It's about learning from real people and their experiences. This P.A.R.T.Y. is about experiencing what happens when young people make a decision that changes their life forever.

Through workshops involving the Royal Melbourne Hospital and survivors, the aim of the program is to reduce injury and recidivism in the lives of young people.



Programs

Youth Umbrella Project (Y.U.P)

The program addresses recidivism and offending behaviour of young people aged 12-24 years who have had contact with, or have a demonstrated risk of becoming involved in the criminal justice system.

Youth Behavioral Change Project

YBCP is a comprehensive early intervention program addressing the significant issue of young people who may be engaged with youth justice across the catchments of Sunshine, Werribee and Broadmeadows courts, in the Brimbank, Melton, Wyndham and Hume local government areas who are using violence in the home. The project works with 120 marginalised young people in the two year funded project.

Empowering Communities Brimbank

The goal of the project is to maximise the life potential of young people in Brimbank by connecting and reconnecting them to culture, community, school, family, economy and reduce pathways into the youth justice system. Brimbank Empowering Communities is community development project focused on supporting vulnerable young people at risk of entering the justice system and over-represented in the offending cycle, particularly Pasifika, African and First Nations communities. The Project Action Group (PAG) has spent time understanding the drivers and protective factors to system inequality and is committed to engaging with young people and their families and communities to co-design initiatives to help meet their needs. The Youth Junction serves as the backbone for the project.



The Youth Junction Inc. (AGM 30 November 2022) President's Address Nov 2021-30 June 2022.

AGM (2022-2023) 22 November 2023

As the Youth Junction Inc. continues to grow and evolve over its 18 years of operations the services of the Visy Cares Hub will need to expand and change in response to gaps identified in current service provision and to align with existing and emerging government policies. The demand for appropriate youth services is growing at a fast rate and is having a significant impact on resources within the youth sector as the Western Region of Melbourne is one of Victoria's most rapidly developing, densely populated and culturally diverse regions.

The Visy Cares Hub provides a diverse range of youth services in a welcoming environment and coupled with our ongoing commitment to working in collaboration with other specialized service providers, both inhouse and external, we aim to avoid duplication and make best use of limited resources.

Examples of our approach are the expansion of the Youth Early Intervention Behavioral Change Project (YEIBP) to include 12–17-year-olds, and our partnership with Wyndham City Council in extending the Youth Umbrella Project (YUP) into that municipality.

It is pleasing to note that the participation rate in the programs currently offered remains at a high level with the added benefit that clients can connect with other services if needed without leaving the Hub. The updated client management system will enable future evidence-based program evaluations to be undertaken to ensure that value for money can be clearly demonstrated.

The Youth Junction does not receive recurrent government funding and therefore relies on the generosity of philanthropic, business and program funding resources to enable us to continue with our partners to deliver these essential services. We are very grateful for the support we receive and are well positioned to champion the great strides that young people are able to make when they have the opportunity to access innovative and targeted programs.

The Committee of Management has ensured that we continue to maintain a sustainable financial position, have robust policies and processes in place to monitor our operations, manage risk and adjust our governance practices as needed.

Thank you to the Committee of Management for contributing their valuable experience, insights, and teamwork in achieving this years' outcomes. Finally, thank you to the outgoing CEO Jo Malcolm Black and welcome to our new CEO Blake Edwards, and to the staff many thanks for your ongoing dedication to making positive and significant changes to the youth that participate in our services and programs.

Marilyn Duncan



The Youth Junction Inc. CEOs Address. AGM (2022-2023). 22 November 2023

I am pleased to present the CEO address for the financial year 22-23. This report highlights the significant achievements of our organisation over the past year, as we continue to work tirelessly to support young people in Melbourne's west.

Key Achievements

- Increased service offerings across Melbourne's west: We have expanded our service delivery footprint, reaching more young people in more communities than ever before.
- Re-established and expanded the suite of skills-based programs from the Visy Cares Hub: We have successfully re-established a range of skills-based programs at the Visy Cares Hub, providing young people with the opportunity to develop their skills and knowledge for employment.
- Refreshed the strategic plan: We have undergone a comprehensive strategic planning process, ensuring that our organisation is well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of young people in our region.
- All funded programs on or exceeding targets: We are proud to report that all of our funded programs are meeting or exceeding their targets. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff and strategic collaborations.
- Organisational culture trending well: We have conducted an organisational culture survey, which has shown that our staff and volunteers feel valued and supported.

This is a positive sign that we are creating a workplace where people can thrive.

Challenges and Opportunities

While we have made significant progress over the past year, we also face some challenges.

The most pressing of these is the challenge of funding. With the increasing cost of living, it is becoming more and more difficult to secure the funding we need to continue providing our essential services.

Despite these challenges, we remain optimistic about the future. We are committed to working with our Committee of Management to further strengthen our organisation and position it for long-term success. We are also committed to continuing to work with our partners, including government, businesses, and community organisations, to ensure that we are providing the best possible support for young people in Melbourne's west.

A Message of Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our President - Marilyn Duncan, Treasurer - Heather Couper, Vice President - Diane Semmens and all other COM members for their unwavering support.

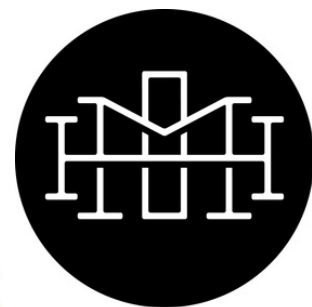
I would also like to thank our Senior Leadership team at TYJ for their exceptional work and acknowledge the outstanding TYJ staff more broadly - providing valued case management and community development initiatives across the region. Without their dedication and commitment, we would not be able to achieve the success that we have.

I am confident that The Youth Junction is well-positioned for continued success in the years to come. We have a strong team of staff, a supportive Board of Directors, and a clear strategic direction. We are committed to making a positive difference in the lives of young people in Melbourne's west.





THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS



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TOGETHER**

wyndhamcity



THE MARIAN AND
E.H. FLACK TRUST



Families,
Fairness
and Housing



Education
and Training



Justice
and Community
Safety

THE YOUTH JUNCTION INCORPORATED ABN: 53035141146

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Note	12 months ended 30 June 2023 \$	8 months ended 30 June 2022 \$
Revenue and other income			
Grants received	3	1,668,778	522,943
Other revenue	4	<u>751,393</u>	<u>456,667</u>
		<u>2,420,171</u>	<u>979,610</u>
Less: Expenses			
Depreciation expense	5	(183,989)	(200,211)
Employee benefits expense		(1,928,761)	(672,393)
Occupancy expense		(62,375)	(38,196)
Building repairs and maintenance expense		(1,858)	(1,519)
Advertising expense		(1,441)	(1,000)
Cleaning expense		(29,900)	(19,480)
Gas and electricity expense		(26,192)	(12,504)
Telephone and IT expense		(65,158)	(58,296)
Consultancy expense		(2,438)	(15,085)
Other expenses		<u>(252,425)</u>	<u>(63,887)</u>
		<u>(2,554,537)</u>	<u>(1,082,571)</u>
Deficit before income tax expense		(134,366)	(102,961)
Other comprehensive surplus / (deficit) for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive deficit		<u>(134,366)</u>	<u>(102,961)</u>