

The ones that rise with heart, can change it all.

Candace Kucsulian





Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association would like to Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians across Australia. Australia is one land mass made up of many Countries. The mountains, valleys, waterways, desert, flat Country, bush, wind, rain, fire, animals, and all the diversity that Country brings. We would like to Acknowledge sovereignty was never ceded and we are all now a part of the ongoing healing journey that we all need to take together moving from the pain and atrocities of the past, into a thriving and healing future. We would like to acknowledge the Elders from the past and their love of Country, the Elders here now supporting us and showing us how to live with love and honour. We would also like to acknowledge the young people who are coming out proud and deadly, look out they are the leaders of tomorrow.

Kathryn Coff, First Nations Community Education Liaison

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Linking our work to The Global Goals



ANHCA is committed to highlighting how the work of Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres (NCHCs) contributes towards progressing the United Nation's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We want to demonstrate that local community development work has a global impacteverything we do is part of a bigger picture!

Throughout this report, you will see the following icons displayed where the Global Goal is relevant to the work described.



























About ANHCA

Australian Neighbourhood **Houses and Centres Association** (ANHCA) is the national peak body for Neighbourhood and **Community Houses and Centres** (NCHCs) in Australia.

Representing over 1,000 NCHCs, ANHCA is committed to the development of place-based solutions to meet the economic, social and civic opportunities and challenges currently facing Australian communities. To achieve this, ANHCA works to support the evolution of strong local communities through empowerment of engaged local leaders and the creation of community partnerships.

Each year there are more than 14 million visits to a Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres (NCHCs) in Australia. With unparalleled reach into local communities, we strengthen the foundations of communities to enable people and their families to thrive.

NCHCs are located in some of the most geographically isolated and disadvantaged communities in Australia and work with their community members to identify needs and facilitate local opportunities. This approach is at the heart of what our sector provides: a space where people of all ages, abilities, backgrounds, and genders can come together to connect, learn, create, celebrate, and contribute.

ANHCA's purpose is to contribute to national policy and issues of common interest to NCHCs and to promote and strengthen the national identity of the sector. ANHCA seeks to enhance the quality, skills and knowledge and support the activity and work of Australian NCHCs.

ANHCA is governed by elected members from the state peaks. ANHCA also oversees the ANHCA Public Fund for DGR, which NCHCs all across Australia are able to use to accept tax deductible donations and grants.



Our Purpose



National Policy

To contribute to national policy & issues of common interest to the Neighbourhood House and Centre Sector in Australia



To promote and strengthen the national identity of the Neighbourhood House and Centre Sector in Australia



To enhance the quality, skills and knowledge of the Neighbourhood House and Centre Sector in Australia



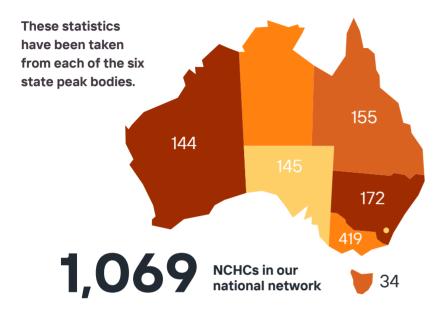
To support the activity and work of the Neighbourhood House and Centre Sector in Australia

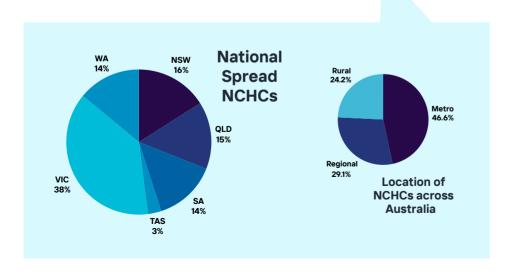
Principles & Practice

ANHCA acts as a significant platform for social inclusion and is united by its focus on:

- The practice of community development at a local level
- · Building community services controlled and managed by locals
- Building the capacity of individuals, families and communities
- Prevention and early intervention
- The practice of social inclusion at a community, grass roots level
- Building greater networks of support across our communities
- · Providing diverse learning opportunities for the community

- Fostering community leadership
- Commitment to equality and opportunity for all people
- Strengths-based practice - people who experience disadvantage should be actively engaged in the development of their own community and future directions
- Local participation and direction in social research planning
- The principles of social justice
- The value provided by trained and skilled volunteers





Our Members

There are over 1,000 individual Neighbourhood Houses and Centres across Australia, represented by six state peak bodies that make up the membership of ANHCA.





Community Centres South Australia (CCSA)

communitycentressa.asn.au info@communitycentressa.asn.au



Linkwest Western Australia

linkwest.asn.au office@linkwest.asn.au



Local Community Services Association (LCSA, NSW)

lcsansw.org.au admin@lcsansw.org.au



Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania (NHT)

nht.org.au nht@nht.org.au



Neighbourhood Houses Victoria (NHVic)

nhvic.org.au info@nhvic.org.au



Neighbourhood Centres Queensland (NCQ)

ncq.org.au info@ncq.org.au



State Representatives



Board Members

Emily James (Resigned 17/4/2024) **President**

Flizabeth Bonner

Vice President Flizabeth Bonner

Paul Sekfy

Treasurer Tina Reynolds

Secretary Keir Paterson

Ordinary Members Jane Harwood

> Melinda Reed Kerrie Akkermans

Our Staff

Our team has a deep commitment to social justice and sustainability, delivering on a diverse program of work from disaster resilience to community development.







Emily Harnett



Jenny Woang



Jarrah Kelly

NHVic Support Staff

The core staff of ANHCA collaborates closely with ongoing support from NHVic's team, with several team members employed at both organisations and engaged in joint projects. This approach effectively fosters the sharing of skills and enhances project capabilities across NHVic and ANHCA.



Victoria Larsson



Brittany Prentice



Misa Le Vo



Lola Kroger

Our President

As we reflect on the year 2023-2024, we are proud of the progress ANHCA has made in laying the groundwork for a sustainable and impactful future.

This year has been pivotal—not just in consolidating the work we have been doing but in positioning the sector for the next stage of growth. Our focus has been on establishing a strong foundation from which to build a renewed strategic direction, ensuring ANCHA is equipped to meet both current and future challenges.

In refreshing our strategic direction, ANHCA's new strategic goals are:

- 1. Demonstrate and amplify NCHC impact through national-level research, storytelling and advocacy
- 2. Empower board and staff to act
- 3. Grow our resourcing so that ANHCA is a powerful peak

As an organisation, ANHCA is committed to being responsive to the needs of the sector, while simultaneously preparing for an evolving landscape of opportunities and pressures. The development of a new strategy for ANHCA has been a key priority in this process, and we have worked to identify areas for development, as well as to build on the strengths of our existing work.

Our annual face-to-face gatherings are a cornerstone of ANHCA's work, providing an invaluable opportunity for our members to come together, share

experiences, and strengthen our collective impact. These gatherings foster a sense of community, collaboration, and shared purpose, allowing ANCHA representatives from across Australia to engage in deep, meaningful conversations about the challenges and opportunities facing the sector. The 2023 gathering, hosted by the Local Community Services Association (LCSA) in Coogee, NSW, was a standout event. facilitated by AmandaTattersall. Her facilitation brought clarity and focus to our discussions, encouraging robust dialogue and new ideas for advancing our shared goals.

Equally important to our growth and success is the need for a relationally strong Board and operations team. working together with a common purpose. The strength of our governance relies not only on the structures we have in place but on the relationships between Board members, staff, and the broader network. Our face-to-face gatherings are a vital space for nurturing these relationships, ensuring alignment and trust across all levels of ANHCA.

A key milestone in ANHCA's evolution is an exploration of the benefits of transitioning from our current structure as an Incorporated Association under Victorian law to a national Company Limited by Guarantee. This work is driven by the need to reflect the national scope and impact of our work, ensuring that ANHCA is structured in a way that supports our growing role and responsibilities as the national peak.

This transition to a national Company Limited by Guarantee will better align ANHCA's governance model with its increasing national reach, offering the legal framework necessary for continued growth, and the ability to engage with stakeholders, including government, funders, and the broader community sector, on a national scale. We thank Minter Ellison for their expertise and guidance through this process.

As a Board, we are deeply committed to fostering a culture of continual improvement within ANHCA. We recognise that our effectiveness as an organisation depends on our ability to reflect, adapt, and grow in response to both the needs of the sector and the evolving landscape we navigate. We are focused on continuously strengthening our governance practices, refining our policies, and improving the way we work together to ensure that ANHCA remains responsive, transparent, and

accountable. This commitment to improvement shapes everything we dofrom our decision-making processes to how we engage with our members and stakeholders. By prioritising ongoing learning and development, we are building a stronger, more resilient organisation that is better equipped for a sustainable future.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt thanks to the entire ANHCA team, both our dedicated operations staff and our committed governance team for their tireless work and invaluable contributions throughout the year. The progress we have made and the strong foundation we are building would not be possible without the collective effort, expertise, and passion that each member of the team brings.

Flizabeth Bonner

President

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association



ANHCA: Strategic planning meeting at Sydney, NSW

Our National Manager

It has been another amazing year at ANHCA.

I would first like to commend the ongoing work of our incredible national sector of Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres (NCHCs) whose invaluable contribution in local communities have a significant impact on the lives of people across the country.

What is outlined in this annual report is the culmination of the hard work and dedication of our amazing sector and an incredible team working tirelessly to support them. Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the work of ANHCA's COO Cameron MacRae, Cameron has been the leading force in pioneering ways to ensure that the NCHCs have been able to understand and address the impact of the ATO self-assessed Not For Profit register for income tax exemption that was coming into effect on the 1st of July 2024. His work in systemic strengthening and changing has impacted not only NCHCs across the country, but has laid the work for all NFPs and charities across Australia. His ongoing work to support NCHCs in understanding and dealing with financial, legislative and governance issues is also to be acknowledged and has been gratefully received throughout the year across our national sector.

Jenny Woang, the ANHCA Comms Magician has continued to provide exemplary work in raising the profile of ANHCA and the work of the national sector. Her skills in creating beautiful communication material across all platforms has been an asset to our work. Jarrah Kelly has brought a vivacious professionalism to her work in business systems support. She has provided exceptional support to NCHCs through the Supporting Stronger Communities grant program and the Public Fund for DGR. She has also shown outstanding leadership in administering the Rochester Flood Fund and developing our work with the Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA) partnership.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of our national board for their work throughout the year. It was a particular delight to have the opportunity to get together for a strategic planning face to face in NSW in November. The work of ANHCA throughout the year has been supported by talented individuals from NHVic. Victoria Larsson, Brittany Prentice, Misa Le Vo and Lola Kroger have all provided invaluable expertise and skills that have been essential to ANHCA and we thank them all for their contribution.

It is with sadness that this will be my last vear at ANHCA. It is hard to leave a team of such extraordinary people and the incredible work we have done in the last 5 years since I started. I know that ANHCA and the national sector will accomplish remarkable achievements and continue to have a real impact on improving the lives of communities across the country.

Emily Harnett

National Manager Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association

Communications Report

To foster a better relationship and skill/information sharing between the state peak bodies, a communications representative from each state peak now participates in monthly online catch-ups. It has been invaluable to learn from information sharing on different methods of communicating with our NCHCs, delivering annual conferences, AGMs, annual reports, annual surveys etc.

ANHCA continues to grow its digital presence with website upgrades and launching social media campaigns -Neighbourhood Houses Week, Supporting Stronger Communities Grant Program.

Members are also supported with the delivery of online information sessions. Over the year we had 492 registrations across 8 online information sessions.







Neighbourhood House Week (NHW) Across Australia social media campaign



Supporting Stronger Communities (SSC) Grant Program social media campaign

Supporting Stronger Communities Grant Program

In partnership with the Sidney Mver Fund, ANHCA established the Supporting Stronger Communities (SSC) grant program to tackle poverty and disadvantage in communities all across Australia.

Since its inception in 2019, the program has empowered Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres (NCHCs) to apply for grants of up to \$10,000 to address emerging local community needs. NCHCs are uniquely positioned to strengthen their communities, and the SSC grant program provides them with the financial resources to respond effectively to evolving challenges. Over the last five years, the partnership with the Sidney Myer Fund has enabled the successful delivery of 14 rounds of this national grant initiative, benefiting NCHCs across the country.

During the 2023-2024 financial year, the SSC program awarded two additional rounds of funding, supporting 16 successful applicants across Australia. A total of \$157,977 was distributed to NCHCs located in various states, with grants awarded to 1 centre in New South Wales, 2 in Queensland, 1 in South Australia, 2 in Tasmania, 7 in Victoria, and 3 in Western Australia.

This brings the total to 14 rounds across the past 5 years. These projects are addressing the critical and changing needs of their communities, further strengthening local efforts to combat poverty and disadvantage.

The SSC grant program continues to demonstrate the power of communitybased initiatives, and the partnership with the Sidney Myer Fund remains a vital component in supporting NCHCs across Australia to create positive change.



SUPPORTING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

House/Centre	State	ROUND 13: Projects
The Hut Community	SA	Nourishment and Nutrition
Watsonia Neighbourhood House	VIC	Watsonia After Dark
Rokeby Neighbourhood Centre	TAS	Operation Warm: Outfits for Success
Warrnambool Neighbourhood and Community Centre	VIC	Feeding bodies, minds and community spirit!
Rosewall Community Centre	VIC	Healthy Cooking on a Budget
Jika Jika Community Centre	VIC	Gathering for Good
Oakgrove Community Centre	VIC	Multicultural Mums and Bubs program
Vic Park Community Centre	WA	Noongar Language After School
House/Centre	State	ROUND 14: Projects
House/Centre East Devonport Neighbourhood House	State TAS	ROUND 14: Projects Bus with Us
·		
East Devonport Neighbourhood House Milligan Community Learning	TAS	Bus with Us
East Devonport Neighbourhood House Milligan Community Learning and Resource Centre	TAS WA	Bus with Us Homegrown Community Workshops Bright Brains Homework Club and
East Devonport Neighbourhood House Milligan Community Learning and Resource Centre Craig Family Centre	TAS WA VIC	Bus with Us Homegrown Community Workshops Bright Brains Homework Club and School Holiday Program
East Devonport Neighbourhood House Milligan Community Learning and Resource Centre Craig Family Centre Community Northern Beaches Darley Neighbourhood House	TAS WA VIC NSW	Bus with Us Homegrown Community Workshops Bright Brains Homework Club and School Holiday Program Community Hub Growth
East Devonport Neighbourhood House Milligan Community Learning and Resource Centre Craig Family Centre Community Northern Beaches Darley Neighbourhood House and Learning Centre	TAS WA VIC NSW VIC	Bus with Us Homegrown Community Workshops Bright Brains Homework Club and School Holiday Program Community Hub Growth Share to Re-wear









Markham Avenue **Community Connections** Alamein Neighbourhood & Learning (VIC)

Created opportunities for the residents moving into the new Markham Avenue housing estate to make community connections with other residents and with local services and organisations via the delivery of a series of engagement barbecues and activities. The project used existing pre-accredited funded classes to build residents' confidence, improve communication skills and raise financial literacy levels through the delivery of two innovative programs, a drama group and a cooking club.







Play, Grow and Learn Garden Paralowie R-12 Community Centre (SA)

Expanded our garden space by investing in new equipment, plants, planter boxes, and creating beautiful artworks and signage. This project enabled meaningful engagement with vulnerable families, fostering a sense of belonging and helping to build strong, lasting connections within the community.











Homegrown Community Workshops Milligan Community Learning & Resource Centre (WA)

A series of interactive workshops focused on healthy eating and gardening! These sessions educated and inspired, providing a warm, welcoming space for community members to connect, build relationships, and combat social isolation. Participants grew together and became part of a thriving, healthconscious community!









Sister Circles

Kensington Neighbourhood House (VIC) A project initiated by Somali-Australian women living in Kensington public housing and run by

Kensington Neighbourhood House, Monthly gatherings of women, facilitated by a professional counsellor and/or peer support leader - provided a safe, accessible space for women to have open and honest discussions about the issues they face negotiating their lives in Australia.







Grounded Learning Wyndham Park Community Centre (VIC)

Introduced elements of co-design and participatory planning into the development of educational programs for families in Werribee. Through engagement and partnership this project created a platform for families who face social, cultural and linguistic barriers to actively shape and adapt the content and structure of programs designed to make their transition into Australian life easier.











Supporting Access, Inclusion and Connection through Food Settlement Neighbourhood Centre (NSW)

Supported people experiencing disadvantage, poverty and associated socio-economic barriers with access to free food and essentials through the establishment of a community pantry program. Weekly community lunches and volunteering opportunities for participants to support increased social connection and community engagement.

Pottsville Beach Neighbourhood Centre, NSW: Neighbourhood Centres Week



Caloundra Community Centre, QLD: Neighbourhood Centres Week

Neighbourhood House Week

Neighbourhood House Week was celebrated across Australia from 13 to 19 May 2024 with the new theme 'Stronger Together'.

This is a nationwide initiative to celebrate the role of over 1.000 NCHCs. Across the states. Victoria and Tasmania refer to 'Neighbourhood House Week', New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia, refer to 'Neighbourhood Centre Week', and South Australia refer to 'Community Centre Week'.

NCHCs all throughout Australia are the heart of the local community. The NCHC sector strive to embody the essence of togetherness. This year's empowering theme 'Stronger Together' is a tribute to the incredible strength that blossoms when diverse individuals unite for a common purpose. As Helen Keller wisely said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

During this week, ANHCA encouraged all to join in on simple acts of togetherness from a community lunch, to a morning tea, to a collaborative project, and more.













NCW in Queensland!









NHW in Tasmania!









NCW in New South Wales!







4

CCW in South Australia!









NHW in Victoria!









NCW in Western Australia!





Rochester Community House: Responding to Floods and Supporting Our Community

Rochester, located in rural Victoria, experienced a devastating flood in January 2011. During this crisis, Rochester Community House (RCH) played an essential role in the town's emergency relief efforts. Unfortunately, Rochester was again hit by severe flooding in 2022. In response, RCH led fundraising efforts, which successfully raised over \$500,000, supplemented by additional financial support from Bendigo Bank.

To ensure that timely financial aid reached the community, RCH partnered with ANHCA to develop the 'Rochester Community Access Flood Relief Fund'. This fund was designed to quickly distribute small-value, high-volume grants to flood-affected residents.

Community members impacted by the floods could apply for financial support payments of \$500. In recognition of the additional challenges faced by Bendigo

Bank customers, an additional \$200 was made available to them. ANHCA and RCH, in collaboration with Neighbourhood Houses Victoria (NHVic), worked together to create an efficient system for processing and tracking applications.

Throughout the 2023-24 financial year, a total of \$512,900 was distributed to 887 community members, including 347 Bendigo Bank account holders who received additional financial support. This rapid response provided crucial financial relief to the affected residents.

The fund represents a collaborative and effective model for managing community crisis support. With ANHCA's assistance, RCH and NHVic were able to establish a streamlined process for eligibility assessment, application management, and fund distribution. The fund's launch in July 2023 marks a significant achievement in helping Rochester recover from the 2022 floods and highlights the community's resilience.

Learn more about the fund at anhca.org/rochesterfloodrelieffund





Notting Hill Neighbourhood House, VIC: Notting Hill Community Laneways



Geeveston Community Centre, TAS: Community Workshop

Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia

ANHCA is proud to continue its collaboration with Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA) in facilitating the **Community Refugee Integration** and Settlement Pilot (CRISP).

This groundbreaking initiative, supported by the Australian Government, enables local groups of everyday Australians to welcome and support refugee families from their very first day in Australia. The program offers refugees the opportunity to rebuild their lives in safety, with a supportive and caring community.

ANHCA's role in the CRISP program extends through its charitable status on the 'Shout for Good' platform, where it provides crucial administrative and financial management support. This partnership ensures that Community Supporter Groups (CSGs) across the country can raise funds with ease, while donors receive tax-deductible receipts, even if they are not registered charities. ANHCA also plays a vital role in linking CSGs and refugee households with NCHCs nationwide, helping to foster community connections and support.

During the 2023-2024 financial year, ANHCA supported a total of 22 CSGs, enabling them to raise a combined \$144,612 to welcome and support refugee families. These funds directly contributed to helping refugee families settle and integrate into communities across Australia, providing them with the resources and support to thrive.

The launch of ANHCA's participation in the CRISP pilot occurred in October 2023, marking a significant milestone in the organisation's ongoing efforts to facilitate refugee settlement and integration. Through its extensive network of NCHCs and community connections, ANHCA continues to play a pivotal role in empowering regional and urban communities alike to engage in this transformative community initiative.

Learn more at: anhca.org/crsa





Phoenix Community House, TAS: R U OK Day Celebrations



The Spiers Centre, WA: Community Closet

Public Fund for DGR

ANHCA provides NCHCs with access to Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status. ANHCA's advocacy led to the successful registration of DGR status through an amendment to the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth).

This enables NCHCs across Australia to receive tax-deductible donations and apply for grants from philanthropic foundations, trusts, and corporations requiring DGR status. The ANHCA Public Fund is overseen by a dedicated committee and serves as a vital vehicle for NCHCs to attract and accept taxdeductible donations or access grant funding to support their essential work.

Donations & Grants

In the 2023 financial year, ANHCA received 45 donations totaling \$223,357 for NCHCs across Australia. These donations were facilitated through 18 approved applications to access ANHCA's public fund for donations, with the majority of applicants based in Victoria (15), followed by South Australia (1), Western Australia (1), and Queensland (1).

In addition to donations, ANHCA supported NCHCs by receiving 13 grants totaling \$182,254. Grant applications were received from several states, including Victoria (13), New South Wales (3), South Australia (1), and Western Australia (1).

Funded Projects

ANHCA played a pivotal role in supporting a range of impactful community initiatives. Key examples include:

- An annual grant from the Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation to support the Brimbank community.
- Sponsorship of a Community Women's Lunch to foster connection and support.
- Funding from the Readings Foundation to establish a Community Fresh Food Market aimed at improving food access.
- Programs like Healthy & Climate Resilient Communities, which created sustainable and climate-aware communities, and a vouth-focused initiative.

The advocacy and administration of the ANHCA Public Fund continue to be critical in enabling NCHCs to access the financial resources they need to support their work. With the capacity to receive taxdeductible donations and apply for grant funding, NCHCs are better equipped to deliver programs to address local needs.





A channel NCHCs can use to accept tax deductible donations OR apply for grants that require DGR tax status



MarionLIFE Community Services, SA: Community Centres Week



The Community Place Kalinga, QLD: Neighbourhood Centres Week

Constitutions, DGR & The ACNC

There are more than 225,000 not-forprofits (NFPs) that may have been impacted by the ATO's self assessed NFP register for income tax exemption that came into effect on the 1st of July 2024. Being eligible under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 or being a registered charity are the only ways to have income tax exemption. Navigating this is complicated, especially for small organisations who have limited resources.

The charity registration has moved from being managed by the ATO to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). During this process, the need for charities to clearly state one of the 12 purposes listed in the Charities Act (2012) in their constitutions was not well communicated. As a result, many charities' constitutions do not clearly show one of these purposes. This could pose a risk to their charity status if it comes under review, as they may face the possibility of losing it. Additionally, the state refuses to include key information in state-based Associations Acts, such as the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 (Vic). This includes outlining the importance of purpose wording and fails to outline that the ATO holds authority to revoke income tax exemption status.

ANHCA has been working to assist NCHCs across Australia navigate this difficult process. Further, ANHCA is also strengthening the sector to provide this assistance to other NFPs around the country to ensure that they remain viable.

Together with Deakin University, ANHCA have developed a tool that has been designed to introduce updated requirements and regulations that are critical for gaining/maintaining income tax exemption status for not-for-profits and charities. It guides NCHCs through an initial review of their constitution and provides direction for the next steps required. This is complemented by weekly Community of Practice on Constitutions. DGR and The ACNC, to assist NCHCs to ensure their purposes and constitutions comply with the requirements.

Further, in consultation with the ACNC. ANHCA has been submitting bulk registrations for NCHCs to get registered as charities. Over 50 NCHCs across Australia have been registered through this bulk registration process (Nov, 2024).

Find out more at: anhca.org/constitution-dgr





Sudbury Community House, WA: Preparing Emergency Relief Packages



Community Centres South Australia, SA: Celebrating 40 Years

Melbourne Airport Community Grants

The Melbourne Airport offered its 5th round of their Community Grants program in 2023.

Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres (NCHCs) located within a 15kilometre radius of Melbourne Airport were invited to apply for funding of up to \$10,000 to boost various community initiatives. This includes NCHCs located within one of the following local government areas: Hume, Melton, Brimbank, Moonee Valley, Merri-bek, Darebin, Maribyrnong and Hobsons Bay.

The grant program is designed to support a wide range of community projects, including sporting club uniforms, art exhibition supplies, community events, upgrades to social enterprises, and contributions to community kitchens, libraries, or gardens. Melbourne Airport recognises the pivotal role NCHCs play in addressing the educational and employment needs of their local communities, which is why they continue to partner with ANHCA.

During the financial year, four NCHCs submitted applications through ANHCA's Public Fund for DGR, and all four received funding. Each of these successful applicants was awarded \$10,000 to support their respective community projects and were located in Taylors Hill, St Albans, Kensington and Broadmeadows. This round of funding provided a crucial boost for local NCHCs, allowing them to implement initiatives that strengthen their communities and enhance local services.

By collaborating with ANHCA and leveraging the existing infrastructure and expertise of NCHCs, the Melbourne Airport Community Grants program continues to deliver meaningful impact in the surrounding areas. The program enables NCHCs to address community needs, fostering a stronger and more resilient network of local support.

Learn more about the grant at melbourneairport.com.au/community/ community-grants





Kerrimuir Neighbourhood House, VIC: Moon Cake Day Celebration



Bucaan Community House, TAS: Community Line Dancing

State Highlights

across Queensland.

Neighbourhood Centres

Queensland are proud to have

The launch event was held on

officially launched the Queensland

Neighbourhood Centres Strategy

for Disaster Resilience 2023-2026!

Monday 10th July at the at the NCQ



Community Centres SA has achieved significant progress this year, both in financial performance and member engagement. Under new leadership, we have initiated a strategic journey focused on growth and enhanced connectivity.

We are pleased to highlight our key accomplishments. These include securing additional funding for comprehensive training initiatives, introducing the Community Conversations podcast, revitalizing our member forums to facilitate knowledge exchange, creating development programs, and increasing visibility for the valuable work of Community Centres.

Two programs deserve particular recognition. The Community Connections Program provides community-based support for individuals who may not qualify for mainstream assistance.

Additionally, our collaboration with Flinders University offers Social Work students practical experience while infusing our community centres with fresh perspectives.

These achievements underscore our commitment to advocating for our members, fostering capacity building, and showcasing the impactful work occurring within our communities.



The speakers shared first-hand

the four priority strategies to be

management sector and to be

between NCQ, Neighbourhood

Download the full strategy here.

understood by the disaster

Centres and the sector.

experiences, reiterating reasons for

implemented through collaboration

State Highlights



NHVic Conference 2024

NHVic Conference 2024: Tough Minds, Tender Hearts - took place on 20 - 22 March in Creswick.

With community need growing rapidly in a challenging funding environment, Neighbourhood Houses are increasingly having to juggle scarce resources to attempt to do more with less, while responding to the urgent needs of their local areas, developing and connecting community and

and volunteers. The NHVic Conference 2024 focused on innovative solutions, developing practice and personal wellbeing as critical issues for a sector seeking to thrive in challenging times.

Over 280 Neighbourhood House staff, volunteers, committee members, and key stakeholders in the community services sector came together to the conference be inspired, learn, network and celebrate the work of the sector.



Building connection between member Centres has been front and centre for Linkwest over 2023/24. A refreshed program of networking events, online showcase sessions and web-based forums have all contributed to strengthening peer relationships between our member Centres.

There are so many strengths across the diverse network of Neighbourhood and Community Resource Centres in WA and Linkwest wanted to make it easier for these to be shared.

Coordinators travelled up to 150km to attend the networking event in the north metro area of Perth in September 2023! Online showcases, delivered by Centres have been a platform to share their skills and knowledge in activities such as producing community newspapers and refurbishing their Centres. New online platforms have facilitated the sharing of resources and opened secure discussion forums for member to share, support and learn from each other.

State Highlights

NEIGHBOURHOOD

HOUSES TASMANIA NHT Conference 2023

The 2023 conference was located on the remote west coast of Tasmania in Rosebery, Zeehan, and Tullah. The theme was Strong Communities (resilient, connected, place-based), and our members came together to connect, share stories, explore big ideas, and identify opportunities.

The conference was spread across 3 days, 3 towns, 7 venues, and 2 Neighbourhood Houses. To say it was a logistical challenge is an understatement! We rose to the challenge, walked the walk, and really embraced what it means to be

in community and place-based, which is exactly what our Houses are and do.

In our planning and delivery we focused on the local community, using locally sourced catering, collaborating with local organisations such as the football club and school, offering free trade tables to local artists, and sponsoring community tickets. The outcomes from the conference were amazing, and the impact on the community is still being felt 12 months later. A couple of our sponsors have even joined the boards of the host Houses!

State Highlights



Formation of NSW Parliamentary Friends of Neighbourhood Centres

On the 8 February 2024, LCSA welcomed the formation of the inaugural Parliamentary Friends of Neighbourhood Centres within the NSW Parliament.

LCSA and our members have been working hard to highlight to state Members of Parliament (MP), the need to support neighbourhood and community centres (NCCs) with greater recognition and resources. This was done through

roundtable discussions, visits to Centres, one-on-one meetings, phone calls, direct emails and social media. The response from many MPs was very encouraging as they wanted to know more about the current funding and policy environment for organsations in their electorate.

This increased level of engagement with MPs led to the creation of the NSW Parliamentary Friends of Neighbourhood Centres, which is co-chaired by members of the Australian Labor Party, The Greens and the Liberal Party. A group of 23 MPs representing all the major parties have committed to participating in ongoing meetings and events with the aim to raise awareness of the work that NCCs do, and to call for ongoing and sustainable core funding in line with other states in Australia.

Treasurer's Report

The audit report has been prepared by Tony Ager who has expressed the opinion that the report presents a true and fair view of the financial position of ANHCA as of 30 June 2024.

Continued from the previous year, ANHCA has dispersed \$152,000 from the Sidney Myer Fund for our Supporting Stronger Communities Grant Program.

In addition to the Sidney Myer grants, all other grants received into Public Fund totalled \$150,573. This is an approximately 50% reduction on FY2023.

In addition to this, we received \$149,549 in donations which is a significant increase 2023 donations of \$60,658.

While it is disappointing to experience a loss of \$13,691 for the year, we are confident that an opportunity to expand the Supporting Stronger Communities Grant Program in partnership with the Helen MacPherson-Smith Trust will see us return to a break-even position for the financial year 2024-25.

Tina Reynolds

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association



Financial Report

Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association ABN 47 588 370 196

Special Purpose Financial Report For The Year Ended 30 June 2024

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The financial statements cover Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association's functional

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association is a not-for-profit incorporated association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

Shop B41, Level 4 / 744 Bourke Street Docklands 3008

A description of the nature of the incorporated association's operations and its principal activities are included in the officers' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue on 11 November 2024.

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association

Officers' report

30 June 2024

The officers present their report, together with the financial statements, on the incorporated association for the year ended 30

Committee members

The following persons were committee members of the incorporated association during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Emily James (Resigned 17/04/2024) Jane Harwood Keir Paterson Kerrie Akkermans Elizabeth Bonner Melinda Reed Paul Sekfy Tina Reynolds

Principal activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: to support and promote the activities of Neighbourhood Houses and Centres.

On behalf of the officers

11 November 2024

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the year ended 30 June 2024

Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Revenue and income 2	647,227	803,221
Expenses Administration expenses Employee benefits expense Donations Disbursed Philanthropic Grants Disbursed Sidney Myer distributions Melbourne Airport Disbursed	(37,948) (120,848) (149,549) (150,573) (152,000) (50,000)	(52,001 (82,366 (60,658 (273,764 (258,909 (60,000
Surplus/(deficit) before income tax expense	(13,691)	15,523
Income tax expense		
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year attributable to the members of Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association	(13,691)	15,523
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to the members of Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association	(13,691)	15,523

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Assets			
Current assets Cash and cash equivalents Total current assets	3	511,560 511,560	320,029 320,029
Total assets		511,560	320,029
Liabilities			
Current liabilities Trade and other payables Employee benefits Other Total current liabilities	4 5 6	6,783 13,148 489,670 509,601	25,362 9,225 263,319 297,906
Non-current liabilities Employee benefits Total non-current liabilities	7	<u>-</u>	6,473 6,473
Total liabilities		509,601	304,379
Net assets		1,959	15,650
Equity Retained surpluses		1,959	15,650
Total equity		1,959	15,650

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Statement of changes in equity For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Retained profits \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2022	127	127
Surplus after income tax expense for the year Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	15,523	15,523
Total comprehensive income for the year	15,523	15,523
Balance at 30 June 2023	15,650	15,650
	Retained profits \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 July 2023	profits	
Balance at 1 July 2023 Deficit after income tax expense for the year Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	profits \$	\$
Deficit after income tax expense for the year	profits \$ 15,650	\$ 15,650
Deficit after income tax expense for the year Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	profits \$ 15,650 (13,691)	\$ 15,650 (13,691)

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Statement of cash flows For the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash flows from operating activities Receipts from customers and others Payments to suppliers and employees Interest received	-	870,298 (682,047) 3,280	825,315 (775,533) 1,267
Net cash from operating activities	10	191,531	51,049
Net cash from investing activities			-
Net cash from financing activities	-		
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	_	191,531 320,029	51,049 268,980
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	3 _	511,560	320,029

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2024

Note 1. Material accounting policy information

The accounting policies that are material to the incorporated association are set out below. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year, unless otherwise stated.

New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The incorporated association has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

Basis of preparation

In the officers' opinion, the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements.

These are special purpose financial statements that have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and Victorian legislation the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, the Fundraising Act 1998 and associated regulations. The officers have determined that the accounting policies adopted are appropriate to meet the needs of the members of Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements specified by the Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 'Presentation of Financial Statements', AASB 107 'Statement of Cash Flows', AASB 108 'Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors', AASB 1048 'Interpretation of Standards' and AASB 1054 'Australian Additional Disclosures', as appropriate for not-for profit oriented entities.

Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Revenue recognition

The incorporated association recognises revenue as follows:

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable after taking into account any trade discounts and volume rebates allowed. For this purpose, deferred consideration is not discounted to present values when recognising revenue.

The association has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15) and AASB 1058: Income of Notfor-Profit Entities (AASB 1058) using the cumulative effective method.

Contributed assets

The association receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (eg. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

Operating grants, donations and bequests

When the association receives operating grant revenue, donations or bequests, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the association:

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2024

Note 1. Material accounting policy information (continued)

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (eg. AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138)
- recognises related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer)
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the association recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

Capital grants

When the association receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions by owners, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

Income tax

As the incorporated association is a charitable institution in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

Current and non-current classification

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the incorporated association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the incorporated association's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are always classified as non-current.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the incorporated association prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

Employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2024

Note 1. Material accounting policy information (continued)

Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the tax authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority is included in other receivables or other payables in the statement of financial

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the tax authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority,

New Accounting Standards and Interpretations not yet mandatory or early adopted

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet mandatory. have not been early adopted by the incorporated association for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2024. The incorporated association has not yet assessed the impact of these new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations.

Note 2. Revenue and income

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Donations	135,277	64,370
Philanthropic Grants	182,254	288,173
Administration Fee from Public Fund	16,344	14,959
Grants Received - Sidney Myer	134,167	286,323
Interest received	3,820	1,267
Other income	25,000	5,962
Melbourne Airport Grants	52,500	63,000
Management Fees	87,833	79,167
Other revenue	10,032	
Revenue and income	647,227	803,221
Note 3. Current assets - cash and cash equivalents		
	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash at bank	511,560	320,029
Note 4. Current liabilities - trade and other payables		
	2024 \$	2023 \$
Trade payables	-	17,006
Other payables	6,783	8,356
	6,783	25,362

Note 5. Current liabilities - employee benefits

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Employee benefits	13,148	9,225
Note 6. Current liabilities - other		
	2024 \$	2023 \$
Contract Liabilities (Grants & Income in Advance)	489,670	263,319
Note 7. Non-current liabilities - employee benefits		
	2024 \$	2023 \$
Employee benefits		6,473

Note 8. Remuneration of auditors

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by Connect National Audit Pty Ltd, the auditor of the incorporated association:

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Audit services – Connect National Audit Pty Ltd (2023 Assur Pty Ltd) Audit of the financial statements	2,850	2,640

Note 9. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the incorporated association's operations, the results of those operations, or the incorporated association's state of affairs in future financial years.

Note 10. Reconciliation of surplus/(deficit) after income tax to net cash from operating activities

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Surplus/(deficit) after income tax expense for the year	(13,691)	15,523
Change in operating assets and liabilities: Decrease in trade and other receivables Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits Increase in other operating liabilities	(18,579) (2,550) 226,351	532 10,591 1,574 22,829
Net cash from operating activities	191,531	51,049

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2024

Note 11. ANCHA Public Fund

In February 2014, the Association established and now maintains a Public Fund ("the Fund") with Deductible Gift Recipient Status (DGR status). The fund receives gifts of money and property made to the Association to support the activity and work of Neighbourhood Houses and Centres throughout Australia. The Fund receives Philanthropic Grants and Donations and distributes the funds to Neighbourhood Houses and Centres less a 5% Administration Fee.

Income and Expenditure Statement

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Donations	135,277	64,370
Philanthropic Grants	182,254	288,173
Interest received	1,129	1,200
Administration Fee paid to ANCHA	(15,776)	(14,204)
Donations Disbursed	(149,548)	(60,658)
Philanthropic Grants Disbursed	(150,573)	(273,764)
Net Surplus (Deficit) attributable to Public fund	2,763	5,117

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association Officers' declaration 30 June 2024

In the officers' opinion:

- the incorporated association is not a reporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. Accordingly, as described in note 1 to the financial statements, the attached special purpose financial statements have been prepared for the purposes of complying with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and Victorian legislation the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012, the Fundraising Act 1998 and associated regulations;
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Accounting Standards as described in note 1 to the financial statements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the incorporated association's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the incorporated association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

On behalf of the officers

11 November 2024

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association ABN 47 588 370 196

Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Board of Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association

We declare that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June, 2024 there have been

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012 in relation to the Audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit

Signed on: 6 November, 2024

CONNECT NATIONAL

Connect National Audit PTY LTD

Authorised Audit Company Number: 521888

Chartered Accountants

Registered Company Auditor Chartered Accountant

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Connect National Audit Pty Ltd is an Authorised Audit Company

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