



Aboriginal Family Support Services
Together with the community



Annual Report 2016-2017

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The beautiful children from Kalaya Children's Centre were special performers at AFSS' Connection to Culture workshop in August 2016, proudly singing Aboriginal songs for the audience to enjoy.

Our Vision

Together with Aboriginal communities strengthen families to ensure safe and culturally strong futures for our children and young people.

Our Mission

Aboriginal Family Support Services acknowledges the diversity of Aboriginal communities and ensures that all services are innovative, creative and healing-based.

Through strong leadership Aboriginal Family Support Services influences change in policies and service delivery in all areas of capacity building within Aboriginal families and communities.

We maintain that our Aboriginal heritage is beyond value and no child should be deprived of its richness.

Our guiding principles

Together with the community

We work together with the community to ensure our purpose is achieved in a culturally sensitive manner.

Spirituality, culture and country

We recognise the importance of our spirituality, rich cultural heritage and our strong connection to country. We ensure that we acknowledge this as an integral part of our organisation.

Leadership

We show strong leadership that challenges and influences social change for the wellbeing of our communities.

Equity

We treat all people in an ethical and professional manner.

Respect

We treat all people with respect, honour cultural sensitivity and promote an environment based on these principles.

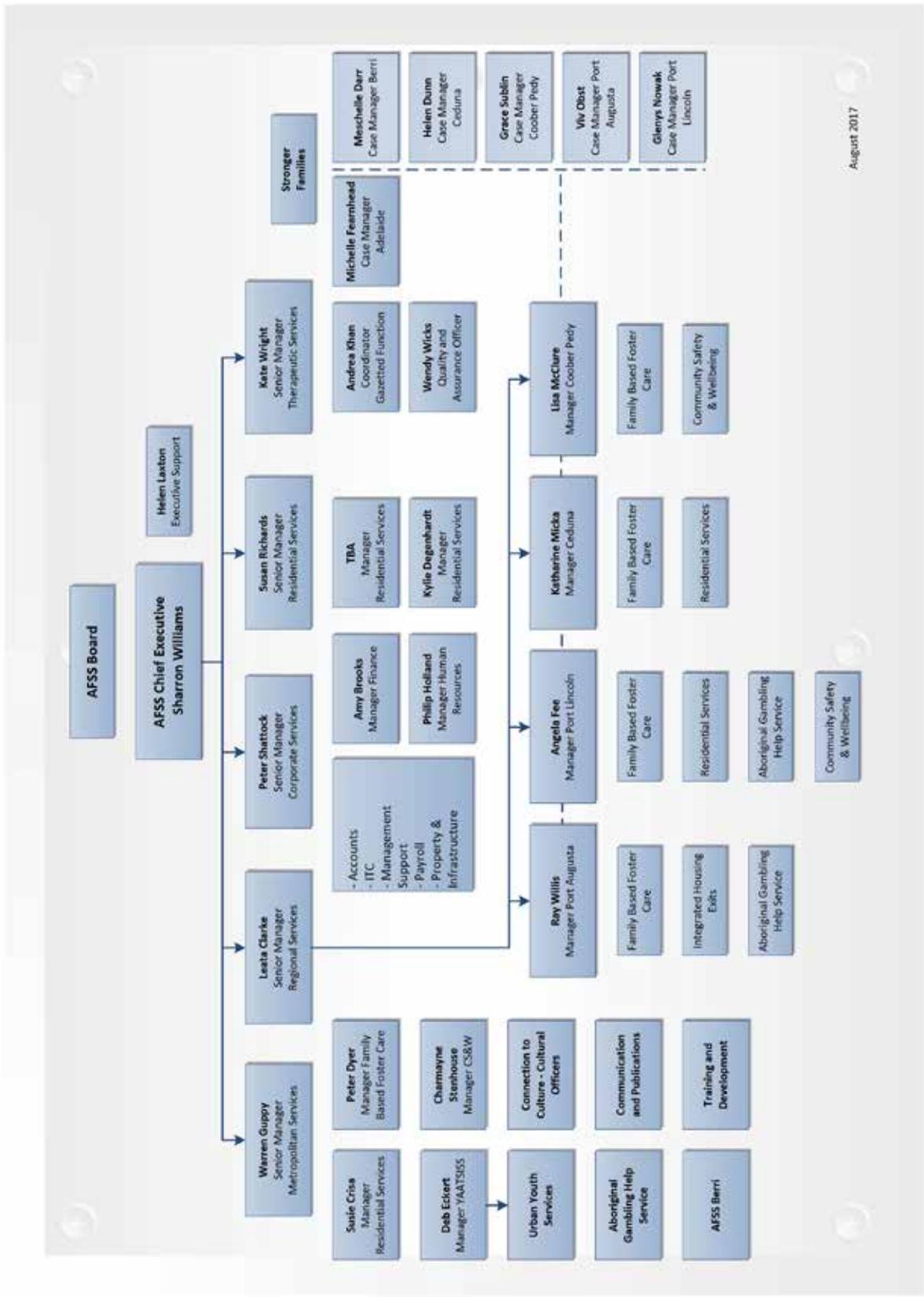
Responsibility

We are responsible for the decisions we make and for our actions. We are responsible to each other and to our clients.

All employees are supported and valued

As an organisation, we value our staff and their contribution.

Organisational chart

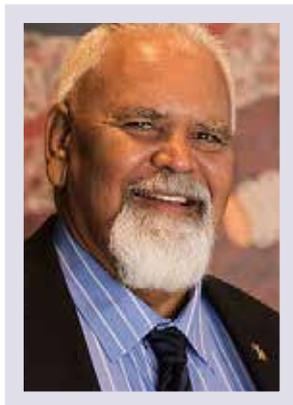


August 2017

The AFSS Board 2016-17



The AFSS Board, from left, Greg Sinclair (Chairperson), Wayne Rigney (Secretary), Margaret Nelson (Executive Member), Ivan Copley (Executive Member), Sharron Williams (Public Officer).



*Tauto Sansbury
(Treasurer)*



*Bev Ewen (Past Board
Chairperson)*

Chairperson's message



Having served on the AFSS Board for a number of years, currently as Chairperson, I have been proud to witness the organisation go from strength to strength as it works to provide positive outcomes for Aboriginal children and families.

This year is no exception. While it is of great concern that the number of Aboriginal children in care is at crisis point, it is important to assure South Australian Aboriginal community members that at AFSS we work round the clock to ensure that the children and young people in our care are given every opportunity, and the encouragement and support they need, to reach their full potential.

Our Community Safety and Wellbeing programs and the Aboriginal Gambling Help Service are empowering Aboriginal community members so that they too, are able to reach their full potential, for the benefit of themselves, their families and their communities.

In addition, Stronger Families works to keep children safely at home and strengthen families to cope with the challenges they face.

I encourage you to read this Annual Report, which showcases the important work that we have been undertaking this year through all our programs.

It has been a pleasure for the Board to visit some of our regional offices during the reporting period, namely Ceduna, where we held last year's AGM, and Port Lincoln for a Board meeting. We were able to meet staff and community members and share, not only information about our work, but also to enjoy spending time together in an informal atmosphere.

I take this opportunity to thank Bev Ewen, immediate past Board Chairperson, for the leadership she provided to the Board in this role. Bev was an enthusiastic and passionate advocate for AFSS. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

I also take this opportunity to thank my fellow Board members – Margaret Nelson, Tauto Sansbury, Wayne Rigney and Ivan Copley; Sharron Williams – Chief Executive; the Senior Management Team; and all AFSS staff for their hard work and dedication in undertaking what is a rewarding and sometimes difficult role.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "G. J. Sinclair".

Greg Sinclair
Board Chairperson

From the Chief Executive



I am pleased to present to you my report for the 2016-17 financial year. Once again it has been a year of growth for AFSS. We have seen the number of residential houses grow from four to 11, necessitating the employment of three new Managers, and 120 new residential care workers. There has also been considerable growth in the area of Community Safety and Wellbeing.

Community Safety and Wellbeing programs are extremely well accepted by community and are in great demand right across South Australia. Our facilitators are certainly kept busy, and there have been many positive outcomes for those who have taken part.

We were pleased this year to hold our inaugural Connection to Culture day at Tandanya on 4 August, in celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day. The event was such a great success that it will become a regular feature on the AFSS calendar. You can view highlights of the day's activities on You Tube, under the title "AFSS Connection to Culture Workshop, August 2016".

Keeping the children in AFSS' care connected to their culture is vital. It is widely recognised that Aboriginal children who are connected to culture achieve better outcomes through to adulthood. To help us achieve this aim AFSS has appointed two Cultural Officers whose roles are focused on this important aspect of care.

Our goal is to ensure children and young people in family based and residential placements are supported to maintain a connection to their families and culture through an active and rigorous approach to creating and sustaining cultural connections. I encourage you to visit our website, www.afss.com.au to find out more.

Extensive consultations were held in Berri, Port Augusta and Raukkan through the AFSS Aboriginal Gambling Help Service to help us determine the needs of our communities with regard to assisting community members, their significant others and families experiencing the issues associated with problem gambling.

As well as gaining some valuable insights for future service delivery, we were able to produce a 30-second ad about the service which was aired on NITV during May and June. If you didn't get to see it on TV you can view the ad via the link on the AFSS website home page.

It is significant for AFSS that we have been required to change our legal structure, and with Ministerial approval AFSS became incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*. To facilitate this change endorsement was received through a members' Special General Meeting as well as the relevant government bodies, resulting in AFSS becoming a Company Limited by a guarantee. This means that we are now officially known as *Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited*.

In closing, I thank our Board and staff for their commitment to AFSS and our clients; the Aboriginal community of South Australia; our funding bodies; and the agencies with whom we work, for their support throughout the year.

I look forward to the challenges that will be presented to us in the future as we strive to ensure positive outcomes for Aboriginal children and families in South Australia.

Sharron Williams
Chief Executive

The Senior Management team



AFSS Senior Management team, from left, standing: Warren Guppy Senior Manager Metropolitan Services, Peter Shattock Senior Manager Corporate Services, Kate Wright Senior Manager Therapeutic Services. Seated: Leata Clarke Senior Manager Regional Services, Susan Richards Senior Manager Residential Services Metropolitan.

Aboriginal Gambling Help Service

In early 2016, the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (DCSI - Office of Problem Gambling) embarked on a major re-tendering process for all targeted gambling help services.

Agencies were able to tender for a maximum of four services and so AFSS re-tendered for the four services it has provided in Adelaide, Berri, Murray Bridge and Port Augusta over many years. AFSS won the Aboriginal Gambling Help Service tenders for Berri, Murray Bridge and Port Augusta (and lost the Adelaide tender) and subsequently won the tender for the Port Lincoln Aboriginal Gambling Help Service.

The framework for delivery of the AFSS Aboriginal Gambling Help Service is focused on building resilience, promoting connectedness, and awareness and education. The program incorporates six separate training modules that encompass all age ranges involved in the gambling arena, including the problem gambler and

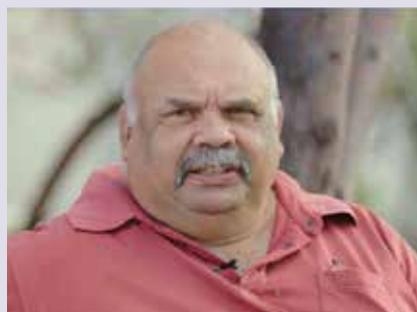


family members affected by gambling, and also for community groups to raise awareness. In addition to formal presentations on a number of gambling issues, AFSS AGHS staff also provide minor case work for individuals and families impacted by gambling.

A significant outcome over the last 12 months has been the production and airing of an AFSS Aboriginal Gambling Help Service commercial on NITV. The commercial was made possible through Office for Problem Gambling funds from the 2015-2016 period.

Above: Norman Giles (AGHS Riverland), Charles Jackson, (AGHS Port Augusta), Angela Burford (Office of Problem Gambling), Warren Guppy, (AFSS Senior Manager Metro Services) and Bronte Warneke (AGHS Murray Bridge).

Below: Three of the stars of AFSS' NITV Aboriginal Gambling Help Service ad, Kathy Rigney (left), Tony Clark (centre) and Frances Day (right).





The AFSS Circle of Security – Parenting (COS-P) program, co-facilitated by AFSS Port Lincoln and Save the Children, provided some great outcomes for participants. The program runs each school term in Port Lincoln and is also delivered across other AFSS regions. (Photo courtesy Port Lincoln Times)



Aboriginal Family Support Services Facilitators from the Smithfield Community Safety and Wellbeing team were very excited to roll out the very first module of the Respect Sista Girls 2 workshop to Aboriginal women and girls in Port Augusta at the Carlton Community Centre.



Proud graduates of the Healthy Homes – Growing Up Healthy program, from left: Marcia Harris, Jazmine Glancey and her children, Brian and Judy Law.

The NITV commercial was put together using footage from significant community consultations led by Tony Lawrence (former Coordinator - AFSS Aboriginal Gambling Help Service). It first aired during Responsible Gambling Awareness Week in May 2017 with NITV also sponsoring extra airtime for the commercial as part of their community services agenda.

Community Safety and Wellbeing

The demand for the Community Safety and Wellbeing (CSW) suite of programs has been very encouraging. AFSS is excited about being able to work closely with many young Aboriginal families across South Australia, working to ensure that families stay together. Funded by the Department for the Prime Minister and Cabinet (through the Indigenous Advancement Strategy), the CSW suite of programs provides an early intervention and prevention approach, often resulting in positive outcomes for the families the CSW team works with. CSW receives many referrals from the Department for Child Protection (DCP) which provides an opportunity to assist families and ultimately, divert their involvement from South Australia's child protection system.

Over the last 12 months, the CSW team has added additional community-based programs, which now include: Circle of Security-Parenting, Healthy Homes - Resilient Families (Growing up Healthy), Healthy Homes - Resilient Families (Routines and Rules), Seasons for Healing (Grief and Loss Program) and Respect Sista Girls 2.

AFSS CSW team often partners with other agencies where AFSS' role is to facilitate the program and often provide catering, or the food to be prepared where the program requires participants to increase their healthy food cooking skills on a tight budget.

Our partners can often provide the venues and transport, and on some occasions child care, so that parents are free to fully participate. This has worked well in all areas and also continues to develop AFSS' partnerships and collaborative approaches in achieving positive outcomes for Aboriginal families and communities across South Australia.

Connection to Culture

With the support of the DCP, AFSS was successful in securing funding to employ two Cultural Officers. A key role of the Officers is to ensure that all Aboriginal children in care with an AFSS carer or in an AFSS Residential Service have a rigorous Cultural Plan to ensure they maintain a strong connection to their language group, culture and community.

Significant outcomes during the first 12 months of the new program have included the development of Cultural Plans for 72 Aboriginal children and convening an AFSS inaugural Connection to Culture event at Tandanya to recognise and celebrate National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day.

A key role of AFSS' Cultural Officers is to ensure that all Aboriginal children in care ... have a rigorous Cultural Plan to ensure they maintain a strong connection to their language group, culture and community.

Attended by representatives from Government, NGOs and foster carers, the day provided a focus on the range of Aboriginal services that can provide cultural connection activities and events for Aboriginal children in the Out of Home Care system.

AFSS Cultural Officers also provide a cultural lens across many areas including participating on interview panels, representing AFSS at community events, developing strong networks with Aboriginal communities across South Australia and reviewing foster carer assessments to ensure that potential carers are equipped with relevant knowledge and awareness about the cultural needs of Aboriginal children placed in their care.

Out of Home Care – Family Based Foster Care

The current risk-averse approach to child protection in South Australia is concerning and has seen a significant increase in the number of Aboriginal children and young people being removed from families and placed in Out of Home Care settings.

Consequently, the demand for foster carers has remained as a key focus for the AFSS Metropolitan Out of Home Care team.

The Team is continually recruiting, training and supporting our dedicated foster carers across metropolitan Adelaide. The ongoing support of our foster carer households requires three dedicated staff who assist their respective carers to navigate the complexities



The AFSS stand at the Strong Aboriginal Children's Health Expo, where a great time was had by all.

associated with fostering children and young people.

The 260 recommendations from the SA Child Protection Royal Commission may provide a catalyst for change, particularly to ensure mainstream services work more closely with Aboriginal service providers.

More importantly, AFSS hopes to see an increase in the ability of Government to consider a significant shift in how they do business with Aboriginal people across South Australia, along with the provision of adequate resources for Aboriginal community-controlled agencies to take care of child protection matters.

AFSS has continued its use of the Winangay Aboriginal

Foster Carer Assessment Tool in the assessment of foster carers. AFSS Assessment Officers are now able to use both the Winangay and Step by Step 2012 Assessment Tools.

While Step by Step 2012 is a mainstream assessment tool, the Winangay Aboriginal Foster Carer Assessment Tool is a culturally strong and robust process that reflects more of a yarning and visual approach to the assessment, making it a more appropriate process for many Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal families wishing to become foster carers.

Out of Home Care – Residential Services

Since the last reporting period, AFSS was successful in tendering for an additional

seven Residential Services located across metropolitan Adelaide (five in the northern suburbs and two in the southern suburbs). The establishment of seven new services required AFSS employees across many program areas to step up and contribute to this substantial growth phase.

All new services are now fully operational and it is a credit to AFSS Chief Executive, Senior Managers and all staff who worked tirelessly to ensure additional placements for Aboriginal children became available as a priority.

AFSS now operates 11 Residential Services for children and young people across South Australia. The Management of AFSS Residential Services is shared between three Senior Managers – Senior Manager Regional Services, Senior Manager Residential Services and Senior Manager Metropolitan Services. More information about AFSS Residential Services is provided elsewhere in this report.

Training and Development

With the substantial increase in staffing numbers, primarily due to Residential Service expansion, AFSS appointed an additional Training Officer to assist with an increasing demand for the training of new staff. Significantly, all new staff employed in an AFSS Residential Service are required to complete a two-week block of training prior to undertaking shifts. This ensures that all staff receive the same level of training and are better equipped to respond to the varying and diverse needs of the Aboriginal children and young people they provide care for.

The AFSS Training Facilitator and Training Officer also maintain an ongoing calendar of training for AFSS staff in all program areas including CSW, Foster Care Program and Youth Accommodation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Specific Services (YAATSISS). More general and ongoing training delivered to AFSS staff has included Child Safe Environments, Infant Safe Care, Hazardous Manual

Tasks, Self Care, Trauma Informed Practice, and Seasons for Healing (Grief and Loss Education and Awareness), Maybo (Safer Physical Intervention) and a number of other AFSS specific induction packages.

Urban Youth

The AFSS Urban Youth Support program is delivered across the metropolitan region through a consortium partnership with Re-Engage Youth Services and Uniting Care Wesley Port Adelaide. AFSS' role is to provide support to Aboriginal young people between the ages of 10 - 25 years who are at risk of emotional, social and/or physical harm.

In particular the program focuses on Aboriginal young people who are, or were under the Guardianship of the Minister and who are experiencing multiple risk factors including: being at risk of homelessness or being homeless; at risk of being in contact with the Youth Justice system; developing behaviours that place them at risk, or at risk of disengaging



YAATSISS program

A highlight of the year – as in previous years – has been the ongoing support provided by The Zonta Club who are part of a global organisation of women in business and the professions working together to advance the status of women through service and advocacy. Zonta has donated various amounts of funding for playground equipment, art supplies, manchester and household goods which improve our service and what we can to offer our clients.

Zonta provided funds for AFSS to purchase quilts and pillows for clients to take when they transition to longer term accommodation.



from school early. AFSS Urban Youth Project also offers group work and case management services in order to facilitate learning to increase social skills, enhance independence and develop core life skills.

AFSS' Urban Youth Service is at capacity, with a steady flow of referrals. AFSS Urban Youth workers participate in community events, engage in drop-in centres and participate in sports-led events involving their clients.

YAATSISS

The overall aim of the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) Specialist Homelessness Services is to provide supported accommodation and related support services to help people who are homeless, or at imminent risk of homelessness, achieve the maximum possible degree of self-resilience and independence. Further within this aim the goals are to resolve crisis, to re-establish family links and to re-establish a capacity to live independently of specialist homelessness services.

AFSS Youth Accommodation Aboriginal Specific Homelessness Service (YAATSISS) provides in-centre and outreach support and case management to people staying in either of our accommodation services, Olga Fudge Lodge and Narungga House. YAATSISS is a short term emergency accommodation service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people from 15 - 25 years of age.

The last 12 months has also seen an increased focus on the development of a Business Continuity Plan, Service Principles and a review of the suite of policies and procedures that apply to the YAATSISS service. The next 12 months will focus on finalising the YAATSISS Service Model to ensure we are providing the best possible service for clients and that as an Aboriginal agency, our service delivery reflects culturally appropriate service responses.

*Warren Guppy
Senior Manager
Metropolitan Services*

Members of the AFSS metro Family Based Out of Home Care team, Becky Matthews and Peter Frankcom, attended the Royal Adelaide Show to be part of a foster carer recruitment stand run by the Department of Education and Child Development. The day was a success with several families expressing their interest in becoming foster carers with AFSS.

Regional Services

I am pleased to present this year's highlights for the regional Out of Home Care – Family Based Care and Residential Services; Integrated Youth Housing; Youth Support Coober Pedy; Emergency Relief; Aboriginal Gambling Help Service; and Family Matters South Australia.

Out of Home Care – Family Based Foster Care

Ceduna, Coober Pedy, Port Augusta and Port Lincoln

AFSS' Regional Services currently has a total of 47 registered carer households providing placements for emergency, respite, short and long term care across the State. An increase in referrals overall has been noted especially for respite for kinship carers. The Winagay assessment tool has been a positive experience both for the potential carers going through the assessment process as well as staff.

In 2016-2017, the AFSS Out of Home Care - Family Based Care Recruitment Strategy entered the second year of its Statewide approach. The Recruitment campaign focused on regional radio advertising, information stalls, open days, Aboriginal community events and presentations.

Good news story

Residential Services Ceduna has had one child placed for almost a year with exceptionally high complex needs and behaviour due to extreme trauma. The child has now been placed in supported kinship care.

It has been noted that an increase of carer enquiries is directly linked to the radio advertising.

The new AFSS Facebook page is gaining momentum with 425 followers, and provides links and information around fostering.

In recognition of the valuable contribution AFSS carers provide to our communities and young people, all AFSS offices provided three opportunities throughout the year to win a Shorts Holiday voucher in their region. These have been well received by our carers.

Out of Home Care – Non Family Based (Residential) Care

Ceduna and Port Lincoln

Residential Services Port Lincoln has seen two stable placements maintained throughout the year. The additional two beds have been utilised for respite, emergency and short term placements.

Good news story

A child placed with a carer household in Ceduna, for almost four years, has been reunified with her mother and sibling. This good work was done in collaboration with the AFSS Stronger Families program.

Port Lincoln continues to encourage young people to participate in regular cultural activities, with staff engaging in cook outs, collecting bush tucker, identifying animal tracks and fishing. Young people participate in local Aboriginal community events and AFSS sources local businesses when organising holiday activities.

Lack of specialist education and therapeutic services for children and young people continues to be a challenge in providing the best possible care. Ceduna has noted a decline in referrals this year with most vacancies being used for short respite and emergency placements.

Ceduna office encourages children and young people to participate in regular cultural activities, learning life skills and activities such as bush days, fishing, crabbing, beach days, swimming, art and craft. Regular special outings to Denial Bay, Smoky Bay, Streaky Bay and a trip to the Wudinna show have added to their experiences throughout the year.

Both AFSS Ceduna and Port Lincoln permanent part-time staff successfully completed the three-day Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI) training. The TCI goal is for support workers to develop new responses that will enable them to support young people through a crisis as well as help the young person to develop and improve new coping strategies.



On 2 December the Ceduna office held a Christmas function for AFSS foster carers and their birth and foster children in the back yard of the office. Ceduna AFSS Manager Katharine Micka is pictured with one of Santa's little helpers.



AFSS Coober Pedy ran Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day on 4 August at their Coober Pedy office, attended by more than 62 children from Coober Pedy Area School.



The AFSS team gets ready for the Port Lincoln NAIDOC march with a mass of balloons in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colours for staff, families and kids to proudly hold aloft.

Integrated Youth Housing

AFSS, in partnership with Service to Youth Council (SYC), re-signed a Memorandum of Understanding for 2017-18. AFSS continues to provide casework support for up to two young people who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness and/or in the juvenile justice system in South Australia. Two independent living units in Port Augusta are made available to these young people, and AFSS works closely with SYC in terms of identifying and supporting tenants for the program.

AFSS' role is to assist young people to set themselves up in accommodation including the purchasing of new furniture and appliances, which they take with them when they move on. Once the young people are set up, AFSS will provide case work services for up to 12 months to assist the young person with day-to-day support, advocacy and referrals to available services.

During the year two tenants have worked well to gain independence with a few challenges along the way, however it is anticipated they may well be on their way to relocating into private sector housing in the future

Youth Support Coober Pedy

Overall the program engaged 65 young people. The program has worked intensively with them to ensure positive outcomes for participants. This has been achieved through the young people being able to reflect on their actions in community, positively working in the community garden and participating in cultural bush trips. These activities have enabled conversations for equipping the young people with strategies to abstain from at risk and offending behaviours.

The mentors and youth mentors have had opportunities to engage with projects that build their capacity and to assist other young

people. Mentoring has been conducted through footy coaching, working in the community garden and seeking other opportunities to contribute to the wider community. The Youth Advisory Group has received training in good governance and leadership skills for the betterment of the participants and the wider community through economic development and good structures in Coober Pedy.

A key to a sustainable program was the development of positive working partnerships across all of community, the government and non-government sectors including the DCP, District Council of Coober Pedy, Youth Justice, Coober Pedy Area School, Centacare, and Red Cross.

The youth justice clients successfully completed all their community service obligations, with two young people successfully gaining employment, as tour guide and restaurant worker, and two enrolled in further education at TAFE.

In December 2016, the funding of the Youth Support program ceased. However, AFSS continues to seek future funding opportunities for a Youth Worker.

Emergency Relief

AFSS continued to provide emergency relief to clients in Coober Pedy. AFSS' focus for Emergency Relief is provided through vouchers for the purchase of food items only at the IGA store. With such a small allocation of emergency relief, AFSS was keen to ensure that any Emergency Relief funds were used to purchase food for households with children and young people.

For the period 2016-2017, a total of 177 people were provided with emergency relief and 2 per cent were referred to Financial Wellbeing Counselling.



The Youth Advisory Committee was set up so Youth in Coober Pedy had a say. The committee consisted of five Aboriginal and five non-Aboriginal students from Coober Pedy Area School. The group came together to showcase reconciliation, develop leadership skills, develop governance skills and build positive teams.

The Coober Pedy office has spent time working with clients on financial issues and developing referral pathways with the Department for DCP, AFSS Community Safety Wellbeing programs and other agencies providing financial assistance to families, and assisting clients to not become reliant upon Emergency Relief.

AFSS successfully received an extension of the Agreement from Department of Social Services (DCS) for 2017-2018.

Aboriginal Gambling Help Service

Port Lincoln AFSS continues to grow, with the establishment of the Aboriginal Gambling Help Service (AGHS). In May 2017, AFSS accepted the tender in Port Lincoln and quickly appointed the new Community Development Worker in mid-June. AGHS has already established working relationships with the Australian Hotel Association Gaming Care Manager, Club Safe and Uniting Care Wesley. Presentations to external service providers and community awareness will be the focus in the coming year.

Port Augusta continues to provide the community and service providers with educational presentations on a monthly basis on problem gambling issues, and offers advocacy and referral services to clients and community for those seeking assistance or information. The service regularly attends community functions and distributes handouts and information, and engages with those making enquiries. The Community Development Worker conducts regular visits to all licensed venues and provides brochures and cards for patrons who may wish to seek help for themselves or family and friends.

Family Matters Working Group South Australia

The Family Matters South Australia Working Group drives change efforts at a state level in accordance with the National Family Matters Campaign change priorities and targets, by ensuring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people enjoy their right to grow up safe and cared for in family, community and culture.

During the past 12 months Family Matters SA developed and implemented a number of inter-related strategies and activities aimed at building the capacity of the Working Group to influence change priorities across the political, organisational and corporate sectors.

This was in accordance with the "scope of change" requirements fundamental to progressing the building blocks of the campaign's overarching goal. Pivotal achievements include:

- Minister Susan Close MP hosted a Parliamentary Morning Tea and reinforced her support for the campaign.
- National Week of Action events occurred in metro, regional and remote regions of South Australia with the key event being hosted in Rundle Mall on 19 May 2017. Visitors to Rundle Mall were treated to inspiring performances from Yellaka, Kalaya Children's Centre and the Dusty Feet Mob from Port Augusta. Jackie Huggins AM, Co-chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples, shared with those present



After many years in the AFSS Commercial Road office, AFSS Port Augusta moved to new, spacious premises at 8-10 Victoria Parade.



Friday 19 May was a special day in Adelaide and around South Australia for Family Matters SA when a number of activities took place as part of the Family Matters National Week of Action. The Dusty Feet Mob from Port Augusta provided a great performance for the watching crowd in Rundle Mall..

the need for change and the importance of connection to culture for all Aboriginal children, particularly those in out of home placements.

- South Australian political “powers of influence” who signed the Family Matters Campaign – Statement of Commitment include Hon Susan Close MP – Minister for Education and Child Development, Hon Steven Marshall – Leader of the State Opposition, Hon Vickie Chapman – Deputy Leader of the State Opposition, Hon Rachel Sanderson – Shadow Minister for Child Protection and Hon Tammy Franks MLC – The Greens.

I thank the AFSS Regional Managers Katharine Micka (Ceduna), Angela Fee (Port Lincoln), Ray Willis (Port Augusta), and Lisa McClure (Cooper Pedy) and their teams who are committed to ensuring that innovation, engagement and

operational management support the organisation in order to deliver in the best way possible for our children and young people, carers and communities.

I look forward to continuing to provide a culturally appropriate service, as we assist our children and young people to be safe and connected to culture.

*Leata Clarke
Senior Manager
Regional Services*

Family Matters South Australia works to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people enjoy their right to grow up safe and cared for in family, community and culture.



FAMILY MATTERS SA
Strong communities. Strong culture.
Stronger children.

Residential Services

AFSS provides care for Aboriginal children and young people who are under the Guardianship of the Minister in 11 Residential Houses across the State.

Expansion of Metropolitan Residential Services

In 2016 AFSS was successful in securing funding through the DCP to set up seven new residential houses, expanding AFSS' Metropolitan Residential Services to nine houses spreading across Adelaide's Northern and Southern suburbs.

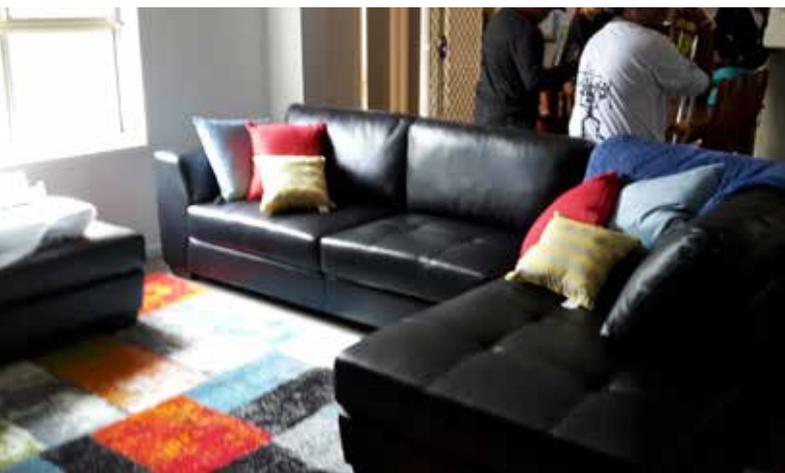
To accommodate this expansion of AFSS Residential Services and to upgrade the accommodation for an existing group of children, AFSS purchased and set up eight new properties.

In October 2016 a new Senior Manager and two Residential Services Managers joined the current AFSS Residential Services Management team to set up and manage seven of the additional houses.

As well as the new management team over 100 Support Worker staff were also employed in the ensuing months. AFSS Residential Services now provides homes for an additional 21 Aboriginal children and young people.

The team is extremely passionate about making a difference for Aboriginal children in Out of Home Care.

Key to AFSS residential houses and the services and supports AFSS provides is the fact that the children and young people in AFSS Out of Home Care have a culturally safe home.



In setting up the new houses AFSS has ensured that they are welcoming, comfortable and that each child has their own bedroom which they can decorate as they please. The houses must also meet the Regulations and Licensing Standards of our funding body, the DCP and compliance requirements of the Office of the Guardian.

Connecting young people to Culture in Residential Services

Paramount to the work we do is providing a space that facilitates healing and proactively supports the children and young people's connection to culture. Each child or young person is involved in developing their own Cultural Plan which is done in consultation with AFSS Cultural Officers and Support Workers. Cultural Events are attended and celebrated and are included as part of the individual Cultural Plans.

All of our Residential houses have the map of Aboriginal Australia which shows the Aboriginal Country and regions across Australia. The map facilitates opportunities for children, young people and staff to discuss clan groups, in particular referencing where children originate.

The houses are decorated with Aboriginal artwork and some furnishings are covered in Aboriginal prints. The maps, the artwork and cultural connections are regular points of conversation between children, young people and the staff who support them.

The children and young people from AFSS houses are also provided with the opportunity to get together regularly and participate in cultural events outside of the houses. The houses have set up cultural gardens, growing a variety of native plants, and have a strong focus on the environment, recycling and composting waste.



TCI training was delivered on 23-25 January by AFSS Trainer Tania Elliot, Managers Angela Fee and Susie Crisa and Ceduna Residential Services Coordinator, Sophia Thompson. Pictured, back: Robel Asfaw, Olivia Wells, Doraleen Warrior, Joanne Griffin. Middle: Sophia Thompson, Chelsea Stokes, Anna Tate, Susan Richards. Front: Tania Elliot, Angela Fee, Susie Crisa.

Implementing Therapeutic Crisis Intervention (TCI) in Residential Services

AFSS Residential Services teams are very excited about the TCI training and AFSS has been preparing for the rollout and implementation of the TCI model across AFSS Residential Services. TCI provides a crisis prevention and intervention model for residential services that will assist in:

- preventing crises from occurring
- de-escalating potential crises
- effectively managing acute crises
- reducing potential and actual injury to children and staff
- learning constructive ways to handle stressful situations and
- developing a learning circle within the organisation.

This year the Leaders of the Residential Houses were trained in the TCI approach, which has enabled them to develop their skills and assist with the implementation of a therapeutic approach across the houses. TCI supports staff to respond effectively to children and young people in crisis situations and support a safe environment that promotes healing, growth and development. The Senior Manager Therapeutic Services works closely with the Residential Services Leadership team and regularly facilitates Reflective Practice sessions for leaders and staff to reflect on individual situations and explore alternative responses to working with young people displaying challenging behaviors due to the effects of trauma. In addition to this work it is vital that we set up houses to support the sensory needs of children and young people who have experienced trauma. To support this houses have sensory sand, play dough, Lego and many other activities to engage and support young people.

Training AFSS Residential Staff

To ensure that children and young people are truly supported AFSS is committed to delivering training that is evidence-based and is designed to assist our staff in gaining skills to provide high quality care for children and young people in AFSS houses.

AFSS trainers facilitate a comprehensive two weeks of training for all AFSS Residential Support Workers. The training covers mandatory training such as Trauma Informed Practice, WHS and Child Safe Environments. Also included in the training are professional development sessions on staff self care, team building sessions and planned opportunities for new recruits to work alongside experienced AFSS staff in existing houses.

Internal and External Partnerships

AFSS Residential Services and the Foster Care team have been working extremely hard together to provide the best opportunities for children in Residential Services to transition into AFSS Foster Care placements.

A recent example of this is where AFSS was able to source an appropriate foster carer and facilitate two young people to move from AFSS Residential Care into a new AFSS foster carer's home. The children have settled in really well and are enjoying not only living with an Aboriginal foster family who support their connection to culture, but also their new puppy! This placement was only made

possible by the collaboration between the two areas within AFSS.

Other examples include working in partnership with AFSS Regional Services and exploring possibilities for young people to live with relatives in some of our regional areas.

Finally I'd like to thank our dedicated Management and Staff teams for the fantastic work that they've undertaken since October 2016. Their commitment and passion for working with Aboriginal children and young people is outstanding and I look forward to another year working together.

*Susan Richards
Senior Manager
Residential Services
Metropolitan*

Therapeutic Services

2016-17 has been a big year in the Stronger Families program. We have welcomed new staff, farewelled some moving on, or taking time off to welcome new additions to their families. All our teams continue to be busy and actively involved in their communities.

With the release of Commissioner Nyland's Report, *The Life They Deserve*, there has been a great deal of talk of change to the way in which child protection work is carried out in South Australia. I, and the other members of the Senior Management team, have been actively involved in numerous consultations and provided a great deal of feedback regarding some of the changes to legislation and practice that will come over the next few years.

I am excited to see what these changes will be and I am confident that AFSS will continue to be a strong and powerful voice advocating for the needs of Aboriginal children and families.

This year has seen us reach near 100% Solution Based Casework (SBC) certification, an achievement that speaks to the commitment of the staff, our SBC trainers and coach. This has also allowed us to focus on skill development across the team and we have used this year to engage in some training that has supported our staff to develop these skills further.

The whole team participated in *Mental Health First Aid for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People* training. The team also attended a full day workshop with Alan Jenkins¹ to explore ways to start conversations about family violence, including with the person using violence. Alan's extensive skills and knowledge gave the team invaluable insight and ideas around how to have these very challenging conversations. We will continue to focus on the development of skills and the solidifying of SBC practice to ensure all families referred to the AFSS Stronger Families team receive the highest quality service.

¹ Alan Jenkins is registered as a clinical psychologist and has 25 years experience working in the area of violence and abuse within families and communities and in workplace harassment.



Footsteps – road to recovery, is the only drug and alcohol residential rehabilitation facility for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the north west region of South Australia. Established in Port Augusta, Footsteps supports individuals and families with after care and case coordination, to strengthen their capacity to address alcohol and drug problems and reconnect with their families, communities and cultures. Pictured, Teleah enjoys her first visit from her daughter whilst a resident of Footsteps. Teleah is our first Port Augusta client to go through the residential rehab program.



Port Augusta

Port Augusta Stronger Families continues to work with Aboriginal families using the SBC model providing clients and staff with an excellent road map of what they have committed to do and how they are going to do it, to remove the child protection concerns that brought about the DCP involvement in their lives.

This year we have had more men than usual within our client list and have developed an excellent working relationship with Kornar Winmil Yunti, a relatively new service to Port Augusta that provides the ARC program (Accountability, Responsibility to Change) and counselling services to address male domestic violence.

One client was so successful the facilitator would have loved to have him as a mentor for other males. Port Augusta continues to enjoy strong and positive working relationships with external service providers and meets with the DCP on a monthly basis to ensure positive outcomes for our clients through maintaining clear communication.

Port Augusta Stronger Families team has experienced a few changes in staffing since the last Annual Report. Client numbers have

Talking around the fire at Yalata has helped to build trust allowing for respectful work and better outcomes.



been steady with regard to Reunification and Family Preservation but no referrals for Targeted Intervention have been received. That is explained to some degree by the local DCP having its own Aboriginal Family team that deals with Targeted Intervention. Information about AFSS Stronger Families Targeted Intervention Services has been provided to Housing SA, Lakeview Accommodation Centre and the local Aboriginal prenatal service, and it is hoped that referrals from these other pathways will start to come through to our team.

Ceduna

Ceduna Stronger Families has maintained the same four staff this year. This stability has allowed a firm embedding of SBC in practice and has seen some very sound work in successfully designing pictorial action plans to assist clients for whom written plans are not helpful. Ceduna AFSS has a friendly,

open house for all our clients and Yalata clients often call for a catch up and a cuppa, providing our team with the chance to build good working relationships and help to keep clients engaged.

Case work has been steady and each case has its challenges, however, our workers are very skilled and are always keen to learn more and build on their current knowledge base.

The team continues its weekly visits to Yalata and has built strong relationships within the community. While in community the Stronger Families team usually works out of the Mothers' and Babies' Centre at the Tullawon Health Service as the women are comfortable there, and workers are able to join the women whilst they are bathing and feeding their babies.

The Stronger Families team has built sound and culturally respectful relationships within the Yalata Community. This year some of the women from the Community invited the Stronger Families team to join them in a bush cooking day.

The team enjoys the bush cooking days as they provide the women with the space and opportunity to yarn and talk about how they can grow their children up to be strong Aboriginal people and keep them safe from grog. This talking around the fire has helped to build trust between the women, allowing for respectful work and better outcomes.

Many community members tell us that they are pleased with Stronger Families' work

as many children are being returned to family and community enabling their community to grow stronger, and families will know their connections and land.

Regular partnership meetings with the DCP are an opportunity to discuss cases openly and honestly and the Stronger Families team continues to have a strong and positive relationship with the DCP.

A team member from Stronger Families attends fortnightly Safer Families meetings and AFSS has strong relationships with all other agencies in Ceduna.

There has been a steady increase in referrals to AFSS Targeted Intervention Service (TIS) from other services and agencies now that the referral pathways have been expanded beyond the DCP.

Port Lincoln

Stronger Families Port Lincoln has had a busy year working closely with the DCP and other referring agencies. During the year the team has worked hard at establishing

and maintaining partnerships with other services such as Yarredi Services (Family Violence), Port Lincoln Aboriginal Health Service (PLAHS), West Coast Youth Services (WCYS), Drug & Alcohol Community Health, The Bargain Centre and others. These partnerships assist the Stronger Families team to support families in achieving the best outcomes.

This year has seen much complexity in the referrals that have been received, with significant issues around alcohol and drug misuse, mental health concerns and family violence being common child protection concerns for many families.

The Stronger Families team participates in a number of committees within the community and these include the Family Safety Framework, Housing SA interagency meeting and regular meetings with the DCP. The team has also participated in a range of events during the year including Sister, Sister Day;

The Department for Child Protection (formerly Families SA) and AFSS Coober Pedy staff discuss how they can work together better, establishing clearer lines of communication and training opportunities, strengthening their partnership in working for Aboriginal children and families.



NAIDOC celebrations;
National Aboriginal & Torres
Strait Islander Children's Day;
White Ribbon day and a
local school sports day.

Coober Pedy

The Coober Pedy Stronger Families team has had a few staffing changes since last year with the previous Case Manager going on maternity leave and then resigning thereby creating the space for the Case Worker to be appointed permanently to the Case Manager role. Towards the end of 2016 a new Case Worker was employed and since then the team has been consistently working at capacity.

The Stronger Families team is proud to be fully certified in SBC. Certification was reached shortly after training and the current Case Manager is the first of the Stronger Families broader team to be certified, firstly as a case worker and subsequently as an SBC Supervisor. The Stronger Families team is dedicated to continuing to master the SBC framework and embedding it within the practice to ensure that families are provided the best support possible to ensure that they meet their goals.

The alternative referral pathway for the TIS has also been proving to be beneficial to the community. The first self referral for the TIS program was received at the start of the year and there has also been an increase of TIS referrals coming through self-referrals, agencies and service providers. Members of the community have now identified that they can receive early intervention support with the developmental challenges their families face, thereby keeping them out of the child protection system.

The Coober Pedy team continues to build strong relationships with the community, the DCP and other service providers and agencies to ensure positive long term outcomes for our families. Workers from the DCP in Coober Pedy have provided positive feedback to the Stronger Families team in relation to the high level of support that the team has been providing to Aboriginal families.

The Stronger Families team is motivated by the willingness of our families to embrace change and grow stronger and safer families.

Berri

The Stronger Families team in the Riverland has had a very productive year, as they endeavour to strengthen our partnerships with other community services and agencies in the region. The Stronger Families team is very proud to be certified in the SBC framework and while it was a challenging task, the team persisted and the results are shown in the daily case work of the clients.

The SBC tool has helped client families in the community identify their strengths and triggers and to successfully manage high risk situations.

The team has had several successful case closures to date and is in the process of securing referrals through local schools and other agencies now that the referral pathways have opened up the opportunity to receive referrals from sources other than the DCP.

Stronger Families has a strong and respectful relationship with the DCP and the teams meet once a month to discuss client families' strengths, progress and challenges.

The Stronger Families team gathered in October to share knowledge and develop skills. During this workshop the team worked at strengthening exploring skills



The Stronger Families team has participated in several major Aboriginal events throughout the last 12 months and looks forward to continued participation. In February 2017 AFSS attended the launch of the Women's Group in the Riverland and enjoyed joining other community services at this event.

Metro

The Metro Stronger Families team has undergone some changes in the last year and welcomed two new Case Workers to the team. They bring experience of working with drugs and alcohol in community as well as sound social work practice. The Metro team also has a new Case Manager who brings a richness of skills and experience from working in mental health with Aboriginal families in Alice Springs.

The Metro team attended Train the Trainer for Respect Sista Girls 2, which is an empowering program for Aboriginal women, for delivery to Stronger Families clients. In addition, one Case Worker attended Reflective Parenting training, which was then shared with the Stronger Families team at their team workshop in June 2017.

During 2016-2017 there was an increase in the number of families asking for the AFSS Stronger Families service resulting in a substantial wait list over the course of the year. Metro Case Workers have worked with high case loads of 5-6 families and have travelled extensively over the metropolitan area to provide the service. The dedication and commitment of Metro Case Workers is at the very heart of the Stronger Families work.

The Stronger Families program continues to link families to the AFSS Community Safety and Wellbeing program for workshops as well as build sound working relationships with the DCP in helping Aboriginal families create sustainable change so that their families are strong and children are safe in their care.

Gazetted Service

AFSS provides the Gazetted Cultural Consultancy program for South Australia. The Cultural Consultants provide written responses to all DCP and Protection applications before the Youth Court of South Australia. These responses are focused on the cultural safety of the proposed court order and provide recommendations to improve the cultural outcomes for the children and families involved. The Consultants also attend Family Care meetings as a Cultural Representative within South Australia regarding Aboriginal children who have come to the attention of the child protection services in South Australia.

The Program is enhanced through relationships between the Care and Protection Unit, Youth Court of South Australia, DCP's Principal Aboriginal Consultants and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal Alternative Care service providers.

During this financial year the Cultural Consultancy program saw changes; Joanne Else left the program and Trish Laccos joined the team. Trish acted in the consultancy program from January 2017 and was the successful applicant and secured the position in March.

From 1 July 2016 - 30 June 2017, the Cultural Consultancy program responded to 235 Care and Protection applications and attended 81 Family Care meetings.

*Kate Wright
Senior Manager
Therapeutic Services*



Corporate Services

Corporate Services incorporates the following areas:

- Administrative Support
- Human Resources
- Accounts Payable/Receivable
- Payroll
- Information Technology
- Finance & Reporting
- Records Management
- Property & Infrastructure

As has been reported elsewhere in this Annual Report, our organisation was requested in mid-2016 to establish seven Residential Care services in the Metropolitan area, to provide for 21 children currently residing in Commercial Care. This was a huge challenge but one we happily accepted. We moved quickly through the planning stage and got onto looking for suitable residences. It became obvious very quickly that the best option was to acquire our own properties and so quite a number of hours were spent poring over real estate websites, then attending open inspections.

We were able to identify appropriate properties and with the Board's support, were able to make successful offers on all of them, with finances approved and settlements occurring from October through to December.

AFSS Head Office staff celebrated Reconciliation Week with a morning tea. It was a great opportunity to come together to share with each other and reflect on the 50th anniversary of the 1967 Referendum.



Then came the set-up phase where each house needed to be made ready for occupation and to pass licensing requirements. At the same time, staff recruitment was taking place and new Managers were brought on board to manage the establishment and furnishing of the houses. We also needed to arrange motor vehicles, Information & Communication Technology (ICT) requirements, telephone and internet connections and the myriad of other details that needed to be in place.

Bringing on this number of new services and the extra 100-120 staff also meant additional pressures coming to bear on our Corporate Services area – in Payroll, ICT, Accounts, Finance and Administrative support. We needed to recruit two additional team members to cater for the significant increase in activity and were pleased to have one join us in June and another planned to commence in July.

The year also saw another significant development for our organisation. As a condition of our funding agreement with the Department for the Prime Minister and Cabinet, we were required to change our legal structure. After seeking and receiving the Minister's approval, we undertook the process of incorporating under the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*. We received approval from a members' Special General Meeting and the appropriate government areas to adopt a new constitution and become a *Company limited by a Guarantee*. We are now **Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited**.

Financially, AFSS has had a successful year and will report a healthy surplus for the full year. Our growth has been significant over the last 10 years but our controls and processes remain strong to support that growth.

Our sincere thanks to the team in Corporate Services – to take on the amount of additional work and processing, as well as maintain existing services, was a superhuman effort but we are all looking forward to the next challenges.

*Peter Shattock
Senior Manager
Corporate Services*



AFSS Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2017
The following pages provide an abridged version of the
Financial Statements. The full report is available from AFSS upon request.

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN 82 853 278 164

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Revenue			
Revenue	2	16,343,453	11,198,100
Other income	2	61,782	252,326
Employee benefits expenses		(13,047,818)	(9,168,137)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	3	(226,269)	(225,375)
Finance costs	3	(45,409)	(0)
Repairs, maintenance and vehicle running expense		(1,093,941)	(680,674)
Fuel, light and power expense		(106,939)	(91,497)
Rental expense		(104,656)	(122,363)
Training expense		(238,624)	(310,903)
Audit, legal and consultancy expense		(49,740)	(45,056)
Administration expense		(773,151)	(463,788)
Fundraising expense		(66,556)	(25,558)
Program service expense		<u>(378,643)</u>	<u>(276,550)</u>
Surplus (deficit) before income tax		273,489	40,525
Income tax expense		-	-
Surplus (deficit) for the year		<u>273,489</u>	<u>40,525</u>
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit and loss:			
Gains on revaluation of land & buildings, net of tax		-	833,268
Total other comprehensive income for the year		-	833,268
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>273,489</u>	<u>873,793</u>
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the equity		<u>273,489</u>	<u>873,793</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN 82 853 278 164

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	3,428,676	3,223,410
Trade and other receivables	5	11,704	11,451
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>3,440,380</u>	<u>3,234,861</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant and equipment	6	6,280,778	3,234,598
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>6,280,778</u>	<u>3,234,598</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>9,721,158</u>	<u>6,469,459</u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and Other Payables	7	3,273,516	2,602,751
Borrowings	8	125,892	-
Provisions	9	760,965	554,204
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>4,160,373</u>	<u>3,156,956</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	8	2,118,359	-
Provisions	9	242,775	260,449
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>2,361,133</u>	<u>260,449</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>6,521,507</u>	<u>3,417,405</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>3,199,651</u>	<u>3,052,054</u>
EQUITY			
Retained Surpluses		1,922,736	1,649,248
Reserves		1,402,806	1,402,806
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>3,325,543</u>	<u>3,052,054</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN 82 853 278 164
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	Retained Surpluses	Asset Revaluation Surplus	Total
		\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2015		1,608,723	569,538	2,178,260
Comprehensive income				
Net surplus (deficit) for the year		40,525	-	40,525
Other comprehensive income for the year:				
gains on revaluation of land and buildings	6	-	833,268	833,268
Total other comprehensive income		-	833,268	833,268
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity for the year		40,525	833,268	873,793
Balance at 30 June 2016		1,649,248	1,402,806	3,052,054
Balance at 1 July 2016		1,649,248	1,402,806	3,052,054
Comprehensive income				
Net surplus (deficit) for the year		273,489	-	273,489
Total other comprehensive income		-	-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity for the year		273,489	-	273,489
Balance at 30 June 2017		1,922,736	1,402,806	3,325,543

For a description of each reserve, refer to Note 15.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN 82 853 278 164

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipt of grants and other income		16,318,246	11,368,090
Payments to suppliers and employees		(14,978,123)	(10,983,058)
Interest received		70,237	89,258
Finance costs		(45,409)	0
Net cash generated from operating activities		<u>1,364,951</u>	<u>474,289</u>
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		(3,294,544)	(412,339)
Payment for property, plant and equipment		16,500	244,900
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(3,278,044)</u>	<u>(167,439)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from borrowings (net of repayments)		2,118,359	-
Net cash generated by/(used in) financing activities		<u>2,118,359</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		205,266	306,850
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		3,223,410	2,916,560
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	4	<u>3,428,676</u>	<u>3,223,410</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN 82 853 278 164

DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The directors of the registered entity declare that, in the directors' opinion:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 13, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of the registered entity as at 30 June 2017 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.


Director
Margaret Nelson


Director

Dated this 20th day of October 2017

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited ("the entity") which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited is in accordance with Div 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2017 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards–Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* ("the Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards–Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.



**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED**

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

Trevor Basso - Director
Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants
286 Flinders Street, Adelaide
Dated this 23rd day of October 2017

basso
newman
audit
chartered
accountants

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED

**COMPILATION REPORT
ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED**



Scope

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statement of Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited which comprises the Income and Expenditure Statement.

The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statement has been prepared is to provide information relating to the performance of the entity that satisfies the information needs of the committee.

The Responsibility of the Committee for the financial report

The committee is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statement and has determined that the basis of accounting is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that the financial statement was prepared.

Our responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the committee we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statement in accordance with the basis of accounting adopted and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

Our procedures used accounting expertise to collect, classify and summarise the financial information, which the committee provided, into compiling the financial statement. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. No audit or review has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

The special purpose financial report was compiled exclusively for the benefit of the committee. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the special purpose financial statement.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T Basso', written over a light blue horizontal line.

**Trevor Basso - Director
Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants
286 Flinders Street, Adelaide
Dated this 23rd day of October 2017**

Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd
ABN 98 618 562 824

286 Flinders Street
Adelaide, South Australia
PO Box 7033 Hutt Street,
South Australia 5000

Telephone: (08) 8224 0066
Facsimile: (08) 8224 0670

bnc@bassonewman.com.au
www.bassonewman.com.au

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approved under Professional
Standards Legislation"

Where to find us

Adelaide
134 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5000
Phone: (08) 8205 1500

Murray Bridge
C/- Moorundi Aboriginal Community
Controlled Health Service
2 Clara Street Murray Bridge SA 5253
Phone: 0418 499 649

Berri
23 Denny Street
Berri SA 5343
Phone: (08) 8582 3192

Port Augusta
8-10 Victoria Parade
Port Augusta SA 5700
Phone: (08) 8641 0907

Ceduna
28 Poynton Street
Ceduna SA 5690
Phone: (08) 8625 3466

Port Lincoln
3 Gloucester Terrace
Port Lincoln SA 5606
Phone: (08) 8683 1909

Coober Pedy
Lot 1991 Aylett Street
Coober Pedy SA 5723
Phone: (08) 8672 3066

Smithfield
39a Anderson Walk
Smithfield SA 5114
Phone: (08) 8254 1077

