

**Marrickville Youth Resource Centre**  
**Annual Report 2020**

**MYRC  
VALUES**

**Inclusion and  
Accessibility**

**Independence  
and Resilience**

**Develop  
Connections**

**Community  
Contribution**

**Empowerment**

**Diversity**

**Advocate for  
Change**

**Closing the Gap**

## ABOUT US



Marrickville Youth Resource Centre (MYRC) is a not-for-profit incorporated community organisation which provides a safe and creative place for young people, aged 12 to 24 years, living in the Inner West area. We are a centre for young people that celebrates the diversity of youth culture and provides a safe place for young people to engage in creative activities and develop vocational skills. We specialise in individualised support and case work for young people and their families, alternative education and providing recreational activities, including after school and school holiday programs. All programs provided are at low or no cost.

MYRC was established in 1985 and has built up a service that provides support based on an understanding of the needs of young people in the Inner West area. MYRC aims to be the catalyst to empower young people to be their most independent and resilient selves. To achieve this, MYRC leans on a number of well established programs, including Recreational Afternoons,

Residential Brunch, Girl's Club, School Holiday Programs, and Ready for Work courses. Street Art workshops have also proven to be a well established and popular program at the centre. Throughout this year, MYRC has also established a stronger online presence which assisted with continued service delivery throughout the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

MYRC has a team of experienced and passionate staff and is governed by a voluntary board of local people with skills in finance, law, business, community services, technology, education, program and policy development and strategic planning. We collaborate with other community associations in the area to enable us to provide the best possible services for the young people in the Inner West. We have also forged partnerships in local council, government and education to help address the needs of our youth.

# CONTENTS

**5**  
President's  
Report

**7**  
Treasurer's  
Report

**9**  
Director's  
Report

**11**  
Programs and  
services

**20**  
Families &  
Communities



**21**  
MYRC Strategic  
Priorities

**22**  
Partnerships

**23**  
Board of  
Directors, Staff  
& Volunteers

**25**  
Income &  
Expenditure  
Statement

**27**  
2020-2023

**24**  
Funding  
Bodies

**26**  
Assets &  
Liabilities  
Statement

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT DON SMITH

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting is held, the Gadigal and Wangal people of the Eora Nation, and pay respect to elders past and present.

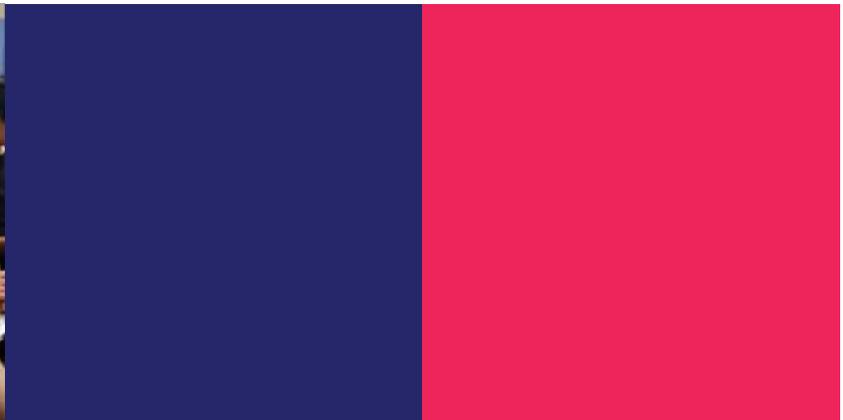
This will be my last report as President and as a Board Member; I have asked Treasurer and Acting President Tim Jurd to table this report as I am unable to be present today. You may be aware that I was diagnosed in late December 2019 with a serious illness that requires ongoing treatment for the foreseeable future. As a result I stood down as President and from Board duties from January and Tim graciously took on the role of acting President in addition to his role as Treasurer. I know that Tim and Tom will be reporting on MYRC activities and outcomes for 2020 and future plans for 2021 and beyond, one of the main purposes for the AGM. The other key purpose is for the election of the Board. I will not be nominating for the MYRC Board for 2021 and I seek your indulgence to table what is my farewell message.

Tim has done a magnificent job as both Treasurer and President, and together with the Board has led MYRC through one of its toughest years. In addition to the ongoing stewardship they have maintained programs and delivered an outstanding service to the community. In addition the Board and Tom have developed a strategic plan to take MYRC into 2021 and beyond with confidence and sound governance. I especially pay tribute to the hard work and leadership of Tom and to the dedicated and hardworking MYRC team. Tom has been with MYRC for over ten years. In 2015, another tough year with significant funding cuts, MYRC underwent a major restructure with significant staff losses. Tom was appointed Interim Service Coordinator and subsequently was appointed Director. He has performed that role with distinction, keeping the service on track and developing an expanded program and increasing funding. He continues to perform this role leading and developing his team, supporting and mentoring our young people and taking the service from strength to strength. MYRC is fortunate indeed to have Tom and his staff to lead it into the future.

As I said earlier, I will not be nominating for the Board into 2021. I joined the Board on 17 April 2012, becoming Secretary/Treasurer in December 2012 and President in December 2015. It has been a

pleasure and an honour to serve MYRC in these roles and I leave with a mix of sadness and satisfaction. However, the time is right for Board renewal, an important part of the health and good governance of organisations. I am confident the new Board will lead MYRC in exciting new directions while continuing to deliver its great service to the young people of our community. I wish the Board, Tom and the staff and especially our young people a successful 2021 and a great future.

Don Smith  
President  
MYRC



## TREASURER'S REPORT TIM JURD

Within this Annual Report is a summary of the Audited Financial Reports for MYRC for the year ended 30 June 2020. The Audited Financial Report identifies a surplus of \$21,211 which is a decrease from \$37,767 at the end of 30 June 2019. In the opinion of the Board, this represents a true and fair view of the financial position of MYRC.

As a not-for-profit organisation, MYRC seeks to ensure that its spending does not exceed its income. As appropriate, any surplus from year to year will be accumulated and applied to initiatives in support of programs and activities to meet MYRC's mission objectives and longer term strategic plan.

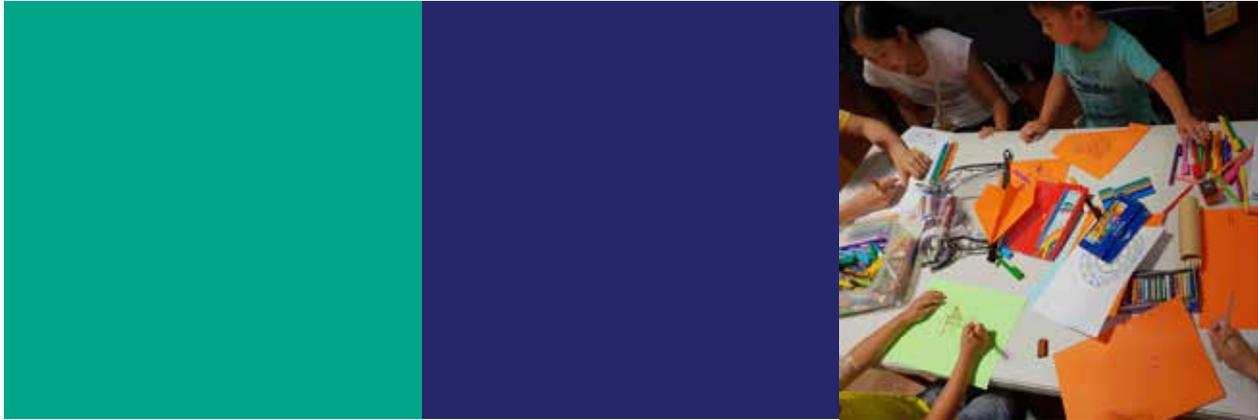
The decrease (44%) in the surplus was due to increases in expenses, in particular those related to employee benefits, depreciation and amortisation, and professional costs. These increased expenses, although significant, were offset by an increase in revenue largely due to COVID-19 stimulus packages offered to small not-for-profit centres like MYRC. This has enabled the Board to maintain and enhance existing programs and services to the community. Evidence of the sound financial position of MYRC is further demonstrated by the increase in Total Equity of 8% to \$278,495.

During the financial year 2019-20, the Board and staff of MYRC looked towards expanding the reach of our services as a goal in our Strategic Plan, whilst continuing the program objectives of:

- Access to wellbeing and mental health services
- Encouraging cultural identity and promoting value in diversity through activities and programs that celebrate these differences
- Increasing community participation and engagement and
- Improving community partnerships and highlighting the value of young people's peer networks and the role they play in responding to needs.

In the next financial year, MYRC will continue to seek grants that support ongoing and new programs and services for the community.

I wish to thank the financial team of Igor Likhovitch, Hasan



Chowdhury and Renan San Jose of accounting firm Take Care of Books for their valuable assistance to MYRC director Tom McDonald and myself.

Further, MYRC thanks our Auditor Andrew Hunt, of Audit Only, for the preparation of the Financial Report for year ended 30 June 2020.

This year I will be concluding my role as treasurer and my membership of the Board of Management. It has been a privilege to serve with exceptional community leaders, such as President Don Smith and Secretary Sam Altman.

Don encouraged me to stand in June 2015 with my first meeting in July. After the AGM that year Don was elected President and I took on the role as Treasurer. For 5 years, Don has assisted and supported me. I thank him for his knowledge, diligence, patience and exceptional sense of humour. It has been a pleasure to work with such a leader. Sam joined the Board at a challenging time and he immediately took up leadership of the successful Solar and Beyond program. As our secretary, he proved a successful and resourceful colleague, adding depth and voice

to our acknowledgement of the traditional owners, the Gadigal and Wangal people. Together with Sam and Don, we formed a quorum, enabling the staff to continue their important work in the community. The past 12 months has seen the Board strengthened by the inclusion of talented, capable and experienced members of the community. I am confident that MYRC will continue to work and champion for the youth of the Inner West.

Finally, Tom McDonald is the “heart and soul” of MYRC. He is kind and sensitive with a strong understanding of the scope and importance of his role. He is a strong advocate for the youth in this community. He is a true team player and leads by example.

It has been a pleasure to work with Tom, his team and the Board.

Tim Jurd

Treasurer  
MYRC

**DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT  
TOM  
MC DONALD**

What a year 2020 has been. We now find ourselves in our 35th year of service. Under normal circumstances we would be celebrating this worthy milestone, but seeing as our main focal point has and will always be the young people within the Inner West, our present distractions are well justified.

I've spent the last few days looking back through my monthly reports to gain a better sense of this period. At the outset we were, as always, a busy bunch, with all staff heavily engaged in their various projects and commitments. We had a new recruit in Hila who was quickly learning the ropes, and dived in to host one of our Retail courses in partnership with the Australian Retail Association (ARA). We had Emile invested in our ongoing 'Tweens' pilot program in partnership with Wilkins Public School, co-facilitating with their support officer Jay Reddy.

Our Casework and Counselling services were then at capacity, and thankfully able to accommodate all incoming referrals.

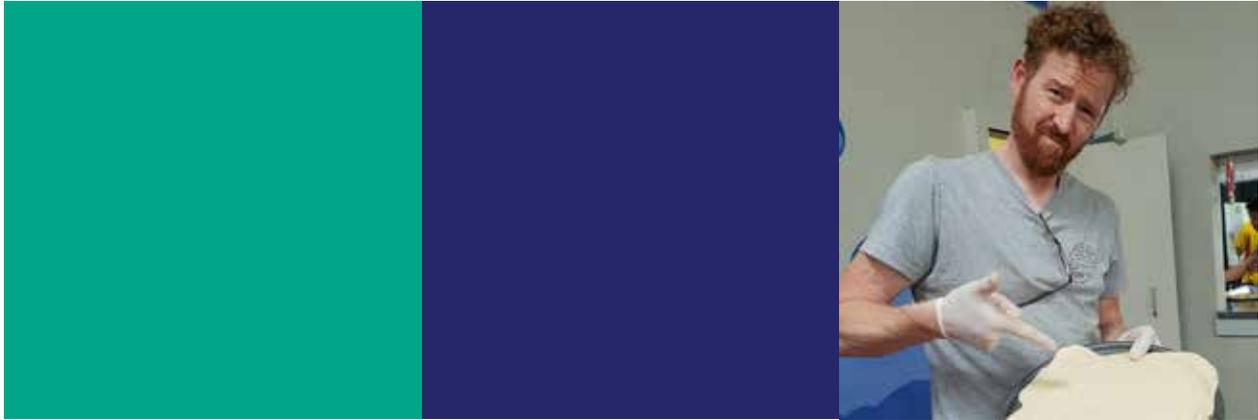
In-house we had the continuance of Recreational Afternoons in partnership with our on-site neighbours Barnardos Australia. Both Resi-Brunch and Girls Club were running beautifully with all the goals of soft entry and rapport being achieved within these important cohorts.

On a broader scale our commitment to various networks was also gaining momentum. We had the Planet Youth Pilot Program (an Inner West Local Drug Action Team (IWLDAT) Initiative) finally gaining departmental ethics approval which meant we could then roll out surveys to all enlisted schools throughout the LGA. This eventuated to some 450 students across six schools taking part in this worthy initiative.

Equally important was our involvement within the Marrickville South Collective, a network of local services working towards better engagement with community members within the Marrickville south region. I'm proud to be part of the backbone of this particular network with such great workers in Charlie, Elaine and Vivi.

We had our work cut out for us and just had to stay the course.

Then came the flux in provision that in time would become our norm. I had some health issues which impacted on my duties and forced me to take some time off for convalescence. With other staff also in need of time off we went through a short period of impact on our capacity.



As the year drew to a close, the bushfires were now starting to affect our daily lives here in Marrickville. As a manager I could see this impacting on my staff and through them hear how it was impacting our target groups.

At the beginning of the year we had an equally busy time ahead of us with our recent Planet Youth survey results fresh in and a consultation with two of its key personnel from the Icelandic Institute present to the IWLDAT and community members.

Our focus over the next few months was to get our strategic planning well under way with the help of Robin Milles from Equityworks who has been absolutely incredible with sharing her knowledge and insights for how we should look to introduce change in a relevant and capacity-driven way.

With a number of staff changes, saying farewell to some good people along the way and also gaining some new recruits, it has definitely been a challenge to stay on track with our obligations and as a result we've had to make changes in our delivery, as have most in our sector. This said, I must commend all our funders as we've had nothing but understanding and

support which has made this transition much easier.

I'd like to thank my great staff who represent everything we aspire to do every single day, our fantastic neighbours in Barnardos Australia who have been so supportive and a great partner in so many initiatives and our incredible board who have been so supportive to our needs. They have definitely been tested this year in particular and I have great optimism for how things look to transpire over the coming year.

Lastly I'd like to extend my immense respect and gratitude to both Don and Tim who have tirelessly given so much of their precious time to the board and this service over the past eight years. They have always been consistent with their support and expertise. All our past successes have been on the back of their great work and they will be sorely missed by all.

Tom McDonald  
 Director  
 MYRC

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

### RECREATION AFTERNOONS

Recreational Afternoon (Rec Arvo) is a vocational program where young people aged 12-24 are able to 'drop-in' at our centre every Tuesday and Thursday after school. 'Rec Arvos' are a long established and successful program at MYRC, run in partnership with Barnardos Australia, and this year has seen once again changes in the general cohort. With a total of 58 participants attending throughout the year, the average number of young people attending each session was 21 young people.

#### Gender

83% Male

12 % Female

5% not stated

#### Ages

88% aged 11-17 years old

12% aged 18-25 years old

### SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the NSW Health guidelines, the School Holiday Program (SHP) for Term 2 and Term 3 were held online, providing young people to take part in a number of free activities, events and competitions.

MYRC School Holiday Program (SHP) coincided with the school terms holidays. In January, SHP consisted of an array of face-to-face activities. In early March, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and NSW Health guidelines, SHP activities in April were held online, with July following suit with only two in-house face-to-face activities.



In comparison to SHP 2019 registrations, it was evident that shifting the face-to-face activities to online, had influenced the outcome of 2020 SHP. This was evident in the number of registrations, activities, the 'group' dynamic as well as the nature of rapport building with young people and the community.

Comparisons were further highlighted while referring to the consensus of the SHPs in January, April and July this year. January registrations were five times more than the April's registrations. Combining January and April, 68% of registrations were by those who identify as male, followed by 28% who identify as female and 5% who identify as gender fluid. Majority of the participants identified as Australian or CALD backgrounds with an affiliation with the local schools. The decline of registrations in April may have been influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic increasing, further restrictions on youth centres due to NSW Health guidelines, medium of the activities hosted (online) and/or the physical disconnection between young people and the community. However, hosting online provided the opportunity to outreach young people from different communities as well as those who prefer this form of medium; online activities and competitions. Registrations steadily increased in July SHP, rising by 66% in comparison to April. Majority of activities were held online with two in-house face-to-face events, most popular being the Open Day BBQ event.

Overall, the SHP provided young people aged 10–24 years old the opportunity to participate either in-house face to face and/or online. Despite a modest number of registrations this year, unlike previous SHP, MYRC were able to extend their services for 10- and 11-year-olds due to hosting age-appropriate, relevant and interactive activities online. Also, contests were run throughout each SHP with a large number of submissions receiving prizes. Furthermore, a broader selection of activities were available for young people to participate in which showcased the community's creativity and imagination. Some of these activities were; drawing, photography, create your own meme, Flips 'n' Tricks, Street Art and 'Get it Rolling: Create your own Gozleme'. Introducing prizes in April had a positive effect on the number of registrations in July, with an increase of 66%.

## SMART RECOVERY

SMART (Self-Management and Recovery Training) Recovery is a free drop-in style group program assisting people with any problematic behaviors, such as addiction to drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, gambling, food, shopping, Internet and others. During Covid-19 groups have moved to an online format to allow support to those wishing to change their behaviors to continue.

The Wednesday SMART Recovery group began in 2020 and was run in partnership with Newtown Neighborhood Centre (NNC). NNC provided a meeting room space on King St in Newtown which is close to the Newtown train station and a co-facilitator for the weekly group. This group runs on Wednesdays at 4:15pm and was facilitated by Jodee Wetherell (MYRC Lead Counsellor) and Colin Hughes (NNC).

In the January to June period we ran seven face-to-face groups at the NNC meeting space. The meeting was just beginning to gather momentum when COVID-19 hit. Following SMART Recovery guidelines, the group was then moved to an online format in April and 14 online groups were held. There was a total of 30 registrants and 20 attendees with a number of attendees returning from week to week. There were almost even numbers of males and females attending. Altogether the Wednesday meetings have offered more than 25 hours of support via these groups.

The common reasons youth attend SMART meetings include: binge drinking, regular overuse of alcohol, aggression due to alcohol use, illegal drug use (particularly marijuana), prescription drug use, preparation for court appearances due to

charges brought on by problem alcohol and drug use. A number of participants have requested court support letters to document their attendance at meetings. Most participants have been interested in harm minimisation strategies to help them gain more control over their problem behaviors.

Feedback from participants has been that small groups are attractive as it allows more time to talk about individual circumstances. Our participants have also liked having a group dedicated to under-25s.

Due to the success of the online format and the continuation of COVID-19 risks, the group continues as an online group into July 2020.

## RESI BRUNCH

The Residential Brunch (Resi Brunch) program ran from 6th February to 5th March 2020, being cut short as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. Resi Brunch is a free in-house program for young people aged 12 to 24 years who may be at risk of homelessness, and as a result, are currently living in temporary or transitional accommodation. Resi Brunch is held once a week at MYRC, providing young people with the opportunity for 'soft-entry' outreach, rapport building with other services and young people as well as further developing their life skills and social skills. Resi Brunch also gives young people the opportunity to interact and engage by providing recreational activities as well as sharing a meal that is prepared by the services and young people.



The program is governed by the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), established to entrust that all take-part services adhere to the mission and goals of the program. These services are; Youth off the Streets (Don Bosco House and Knight Street), Girls Refuge and Stepping Stone, which are all homelessness services in the Inner West. The delivery of Resi Brunch is modified based on a needs to needs basis, which is influenced by the current interests, needs and orientation(s) of the young people.

MYRC organised guests from services that young people had expressed interest in. Guests who attended Resi Brunch during this year were WEAVE, WEAVE Youth Mentor, Youth Liaison Officers (YLO, Marrickville) and Catholic Care. This followed on with providing young people the opportunity to attend and participate in youth events and enrol in workshops. In 2020, attendance by those who identify as male was 68%, while those who identify as female was 32%. The young people, aged 17–21 years, were supported by staff to access and take part in a number of programs and youth-orientated events with the intention to further develop their social skills, confidence, education and upskilling for future employment. The program also contributed to an increase in casework referrals at MYRC.

Throughout Resi Brunch, MYRC delivered a free music workshop funded by the Recreational Grant which provided young people to explore and workshops from a staff member that specialises in music and music engineering. On average, 90% of young people who attended Resi Brunch had also utilised the Music Studio at least twice. MYRC are hoping to continue the Music Studio with the support of external grants and funding this reporting period.

### **INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT & CASEWORK**

As part of our new service provision developed in conjunction with MYRC's new strategic plan, casework now falls under both our targeted support and our community early intervention

and prevention work. Apart from a dedicated caseworker, we utilize our youth workers here in offering casework to our Retail and Hospitality course participants if needed. With a small team of caseworkers MYRC has assisted over 60 young people aged 12-24 years and families in casework over this financial year. We have seen a significant increase in both our Government agencies and Police/Juvenile Justice referrals.

## COUNSELLING

For July to December 2019 MYRC counselling program housed two counsellors, Jodee (volunteer) and Angela (Western Sydney masters student) for two days a week on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

In 2020 the MYRC counselling program expanded from two days a week to three days a week with counselling available on Thursday as well. MYRC also created a dedicated counselling position (Lead Counsellor) and hired Jodee to lead this. Angela finished her time at MYRC and Erin began in February as the new masters level placement student for 2020. To accommodate two counsellors onsite, the old case manager's office (Lizzie's room) was converted into a second dedicated counselling space. The meeting room and the music room also continued to be used as counselling spaces.

In the period of January to June 2020 the counselling program has engaged with 19 young people and provided 154 counselling hours. There have been four male, twelve female and three transgender clients. Six clients within this group identify as LGBTI. There have been six clients

between 12-16 years and 13 clients between 17-25 years. Three young people identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Referrals have mainly come through Barnardos Australia, YWCA, Marrickville High School, Dulwich Hill High School, DCJ, local doctors, the MYRC casework team and self or family member referral.

Some of the main issues arising in counselling included: family conflict and risk of violence, anxiety about personal or family circumstances (parent's losing jobs, fear of sick or elderly family members catching Covid-19, increase in family members using alcohol or drugs, finances), friendship and intimate partner relationship difficulties, challenges engaging in school online while at home, depression due to social isolation during Covid-19, grief and loss, anger, emotional regulation, shame and guilt, as well as destructive coping methods such as drinking, drugs, gaming and online shopping.

### Impact of COVID-19 on Counselling

Counselling at MYRC since Covid-19 has been very busy. Young people accessing our service increased during this period and clients sometimes needed to wait a number of weeks before accessing counselling. During lockdown young people seemed to seek out counselling to help with covid related anxiety, conflict/violence at home, financial stress regarding job loss, stress about online learning and difficulties due to social isolation. Young people also seemed to attend weekly counselling sessions as a way to engage and connect during isolation.

The development of new and flexible ways to provide counselling sessions during Covid-19



needed to be incorporated to accommodate public health concerns. This included phone counselling, online counselling (Zoom, Facetime), counselling outside in the park as well as using a private partitioned section of the MYRC hall for sessions. In some cases, visits to offsite locations (like Don Bosco House) also took place. Clients who could engage in counselling remotely were moved to phone/online methods to reduce risk of virus transmission. A number of clients with more vulnerable circumstances (risk of DV at home, no private space to talk at home, no reliable phone or internet, higher risk mental health concerns, etc.) continued to attend sessions at MYRC, utilising safe distancing practices, hygiene and review of symptoms each time they arrived.

We have not needed to advertise our counselling service this year with a constant stream of new referrals coming through various sources. Self and family member referral increased during Covid-19 lockdown. There has also been an increase of referrals from local high schools, Barnardos Australia and local refugees.

### COUNSELLING'S STUDENT PLACEMENT

For the first few weeks of my counselling student placement, I spent my time learning about the organization and engaging in youth group activities including Girls Club and Recreational Afternoons. In March I began to see young people for counselling, one-on-one. From February to June, I worked with four counselling clients, ranging from the age of 12 – 23yrs.

As COVID-19 restrictions began to intensify, the service adapted quickly by including zoom and telephone calls as a substitute for face-to-face counselling, unless face-to-face was deemed more appropriate in certain cases. At a time of great uncertainty and chaos, this flexibility made the much-needed support and stability I aim to provide clients, more accessible to them. For most of my clients, it was having the option to meet over zoom or phone that ultimately meant that they engaged in counselling, on those days that leaving their home was too anxiety provoking.

Further into my placement, the restrictions increased and became a lockdown. It was during this time, that I noticed engagement was the most difficult for my clients and our referrals reduced. After the lockdown, when restrictions relaxed I began to notice my clients returning to sessions, both on Zoom and in the centre. We also saw a significant increase in referrals to our counselling team. It almost felt like an aftershock, as when restrictions had relaxed the full effects of the lockdown were being felt by the community and there became a greater need for mental health support.

Erin Kenna

Student Counsellor

## SCHOOL & TRAINING INITIATIVES

### GIRLS CLUB

Girls Club is an MYRC and Marrickville High School (MHS) / Marrickville Intensive English Language Centre (MIEC) collaboration which provides a safe 'girls only' space to hang out during Wednesday lunchtimes from 1-1:30pm throughout school terms. Light snacks are provided as well as the use of sporting equipment (basketball, table tennis, pool), craft and games activities.

MYRC counselling staff and university placement students are available to engage with and support high school attendees. A teacher from MHS / MIEC attends with the group to supervise participants.

Girls Club ran according to the usual weekly schedule for the later part of 2019. Each week

about 35-40 girls from MHS and MEIC visited the youth service. We noticed an increase in the number of year seven students returning each week. We also had an increase in the number of students from the MHS support unit who came to enjoy a chat, craft activity and some food. Staff from Ability Links came to assist during this period of time.

In 2020 Girls Club began in term one and then was put on hold due to COVID-19 risks. MYRC held four Girls Club groups with approximately 30 girls at each group. As COVID-19 concerns came into play, we modified food provision to only serve pre-packaged individual portions to limit the risk of virus transmission. The program was then stopped before the end of term one when students began on-line learning from home.

In term two the Department of Education and Training restricted off-site activities of students so the program has not been able to run since. It is anticipated that the program will run again in term 4, following COVID-19 safe guidelines.

### HOSPITALITY PROGRAM

To assist young people in upskilling, improving their resumes and increasing their potential job opportunities, MYRC offers a hospitality training program 'Get Yourself Hospitality Ready' in partnership with the Canterbury School of Hospitality (CHP).

The program has been very popular over the past few years. Key components of the program includes work experience at Lentil as Anything



Newtown, a visit to Dress for Success and Dress for Work to prepare the young people for work and interviews, and participating in work ready and resume writing workshops in partnership with Petersham TAFE.

Eight young people enrolled in the course offered in November of 2019. The participants attended seven training sessions, with the majority of the training occurring offsite at CHP. The program is funded through Smart and Skilled. In the program, 3 young people were aged between 11-17 years, and 5 were aged 18-25. 75% of the attendees identified as male. Unfortunately due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Hospitality program was put on hold at the start of 2020.

## STRENGTH 2 STRENGTH PROGRAM

After the severity of the COVID-19 pandemic increased, on site programs such as Rec Arvo were at a standstill. Youth workers Emile and Hila from MYRC partnered with Vicki Papageorgopoulos from headspace Camperdown and Jodie Bergsma from Dress for Success Marrickville to develop a new online pilot program, Strength 2 Strength. The program aimed to provide a service for young people aged 15 to 24 years old who were experiencing vulnerability, anxiety or social disconnection in their life due to the current circumstances of the pandemic. The topics that will be explored include; wellbeing, resilience, outreach services, pursuing new opportunities as well as transitioning between studies and employment.

The objectives of the program are to;

Provide young people the opportunity to develop relevant and transferable life skills in context to resilience and positive wellbeing through interactive workshops and activities,

Develop MYRC outreach partnerships, liason with external services that have expertise knowledge or experience in facilitating

workshops about resilience and positive wellbeing,

Create an interactive social platform for young people and the facilitators connect in ongoing chats about specific topics and of interests that arise through the workshops,

Provide young people with a diverse range of resources, information and tools that offer professional support within their local area and,

Build and strengthen rapport with young people and guest facilitators, with the intention that future outreach can be maintained and/or provide a soft entry of the services to the young people

gender focused groups, with Emile working with boys from year six, and Hila working with girls from both year five and six. The girls' group focused on themes surrounding wellbeing, transitioning, self-esteem and support networks. The boys' group focused on the theme of anger management as this was an issue identified by the school, and used evidence-based tools and strategies.

## WILKINS PRIMARY SCHOOL: TWEENS

A Transitioning Program named 'Tweens' was piloted based on an identified gap in MYRC's service delivery, younger people in transitioning periods, such as from primary to high school. After the success of the initial pilot that was launched in early 2019, a second program was run in August of 2019 with an attendance of nine girls and ten boys who were chosen by the Principal, Deputy Principal and Stage 3 teachers. The Transitioning Program targeted young people aged 10 to 12 years old, known as 'tweens', exploring topics in context of transitioning into high school as well as healthy friendships, identity, personal wellbeing and mental health. In addition, the program provides the school community with a soft entry to MYRC, and broadens the young people's knowledge of services in the area.

In this round of Tweens, the program was run with

## FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES



### MARRICKVILLE SOUTH COLLECTIVE (MSC) Outreach BBQs:

Throughout the year MYRC has continued to play a lead role, acting as one of the ‘Back Bone’ agencies for the MSC along with Connect Marrickville, Newtown Neighbourhood Centre and Inner West Council.

As part of our main initiatives we have helped staff the Monthly BBQ’s “Touch Base Thursday” held off-site at Louisa Lawson Reserve in Marrickville South.

This has been a great opportunity for staff to take time out and be the face of a bigger entity in MSC.

Marrickville South Collective is a network of local services working together using a ‘Collective Impact’ model, the Harwood Model from the Harwood Institute for Public Innovation.

Since adapting this approach the team within the network have been actively developing strategies to better engage with our community and in time become the true voice of Marrickville South residents.

The BBQ has served as a fantastic tool to both reach out and be there for a variety of different community members. It’s important as a youth service to have the capacity to meet with other age and cultural groups within the community and answer any questions people might have about their families.

It’s also worked as a great strategy to improve our staffs’ knowledge of local services. Working on the front line and being potentially the first person someone may encounter has put our staff in a good position to be a consistent source of referral to our partners within the network.

Wearing the by now recognisable black tee-shirt with our bright yellow Logo has been a great way to show camaraderie between these services and help put a face to the name for a lot of our community members.

## MYRC STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Building on our new mission statement, “MYRC will be a catalyst to empower young people”, MYRC staff and Board Members will be reviewing our current service delivery and programs, in order to develop a new Strategic Plan for the remainder of 2020 until 2023.

### Strengthen Governance

By December 2020, MYRC aims to improve the overall governance through a clear sense of strategic direction for the next three years of service delivery. This involves the development of a new strategic plan, to be developed and endorsed by the board, that identifies and addresses any gaps in the service. This will create a high sense of purpose for staff, and high satisfaction for members of the Board.

### Redesign Service Delivery

MYRC aims to implement a service redesign to meet the requirement of funders, including Targeted Early Intervention (TEI) reforms from the Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) and a realignment of service focus from Marrickville Council to Inner West Council and catchment area. This is estimated to be completed by December 2020, and ideally will secure DCJ funding for five years.

### Consolidate Systems

In line with the redesigning of our service delivery, we aim to review all policies and procedures and other applicable systems to support the new service model, such as financial systems and marketing. The Board will be considering the funding impact of new service system requirements, and ensure that the systems meet the requirement of Australian Service Excellent Standards (ASES) Quality Assurance for the sector.

### Deliver to New Target Groups

We have identified that we have a gap in our service, which is the transitioning period. After the success of the Tweens pilot program, we aim to expand our service delivery to 10-12 year old’s as well as in new locations, such as Balmain PCYC, if the evidence supports the growth.



## PARTNERSHIPS

MYRC values the knowledge and expertise of other organisations, institutions and businesses that we work in partnership with. We acknowledge that when community works together we see better outcomes for young people.

MYRC would like to thank the following organisations, institutions and businesses for their continued support and efforts; Barnardos Australia, Weave Youth & Community Services, Inner West Council and Inner West Youth Alliance, Take Care of Books, Waranara School, Youthblock Youth Health Service, Marrickville Intensive English Centre, Marrickville High School, Dulwich Hill High School of Visual Arts and Design, Tempe High School, Ashfield Boys High School, Newington College, Christian Brothers High School Lewisham, Wilkins Public School, Marrickville Public School, Marrickville West Public School, Newtown High School of Performing Arts, St Maroun's College, Juvenile Justice NSW, Red Cross Save-A-Mate, Launchpad Youth Community, Mission Australia, Marrickville Legal Centre, OzHarvest, Petersham TAFE Outreach, MTN Australia, Marrickville PCYC, Marrickville and Newtown Police,

Newtown Neighbourhood Centre, Radio Skidrow, Hepatitis NSW, Inner West Community Drug Action Team (IWCDAT), Stepping Stone House, Youth off the Streets (Don Bosco and Knight Street), The Girl's Refuge, Dress for Success Marrickville, Lentil as Anything, Australian Retail Association, Canterbury School of Hospitality, The Lillian Howe Project Inc., Addison Road, Addison Road Food Pantry and Plumtree.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS, STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS



		Meetings attended	Meetings held
Don Smith	President	4	10
Tim Jurd	Treasurer	10	10
Sam Altman	Secretary	7	10
Sue Taylor	Member	7	10
Eleesa Collis	Member	7	10
Terry Meader	Member (resigned)	1	3
Caitlyn Dwyer	Member	7	10
Anthony Hiscox	Member	6	6

### STAFF

Tom McDonald	Director
Elizabeth Kruse	Casework Manager (resigned)
Jane Tucker	(acting) Case Manager (resigned)
Melissa Leaudais	Caseworker
Aracely Barerras	LDAT Coordinator (resigned)
Emile Dupont-Louis	Youth Worker
Hila Sukkar	Youth Worker
Jodee Wetherell	Lead Counsellor
Vuli Mkwanzani	Casual Youth Worker
Pan Park	Casual Youth Worker
Jazzie Lee Quinn	Casual Youth Worker
Chelsea Theda	Casual Youth Worker
Joel Thuner	Casual Youth Worker
Jerome Price	Casual Youth Worker
Stella Heally	Casual Youth Worker

### VOLUNTEERS

Troy Crotty	IT Specialist
Jodee Wetherell	Counsellor

### STUDENTS

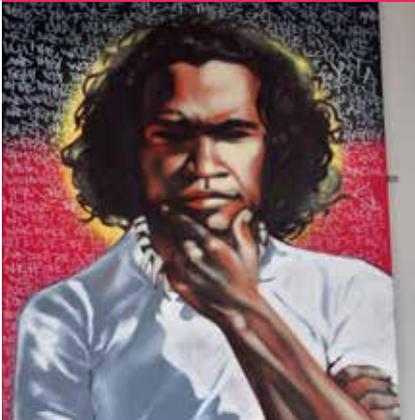
Angela Hernandez	Counsellor
Erin Kenna	Counsellor
Natalie Dufour	Social Work
Juan Gabriel Ayala	Social Work
Stella Healy	Youth Worker
Jerome Price	Youth Worker
Joel Thurner	Youth Worker

## FUNDING BODIES

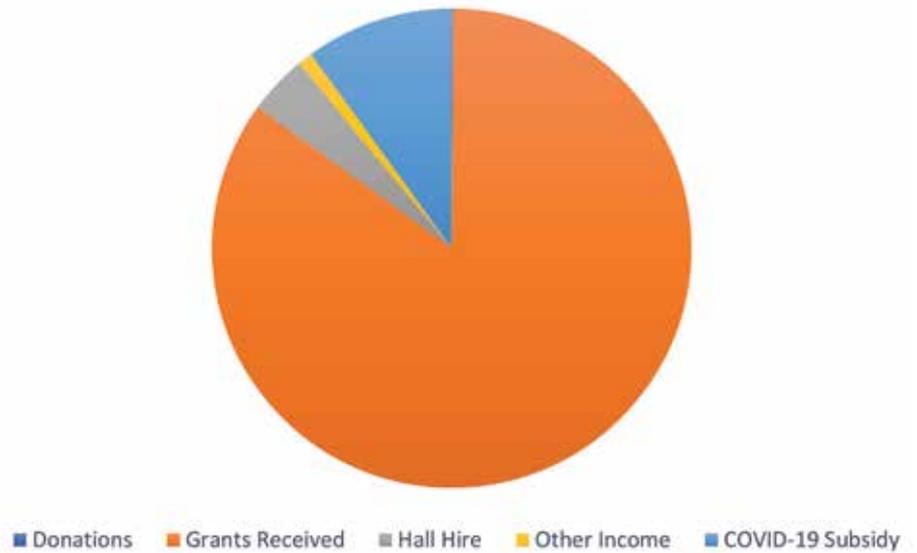
MYRC thanks the following funding bodies for supporting the work of the service through the 2019-2020 year:

- Department of Community and Justice (DCJ)
- Inner West Council
- Alcohol & Drug Foundation
- Office Of Responsible Gambling

Additional funding is generated through our covid-19 subsidy, hall hire, donations and fundraising activities.



MYRC FUNDING 2019-2020



# INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT



Marrickville Youth Resource Centre

ABN: 62 752 648 048

## STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
Revenue and other income	579,946	515,878
Activities & programs expense	(9,327)	(4,577)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(21,573)	(10,552)
Equipment expense	(2,179)	(3,424)
Employee benefits expense	(419,144)	(359,162)
Other expenses	(65,232)	(64,981)
Professional fees	(41,280)	(35,415)
<b>Surplus before Income tax</b>	<b>21,211</b>	<b>37,767</b>
Income tax expense	-	-
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<b>21,211</b>	<b>37,767</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of Income tax	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>21,211</b>	<b>37,767</b>

A full audited financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020 is available from MYRC, which includes the accompanying notes.



Marrickville Youth Resource Centre ABN: 62 752 648 048  
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020	2019
<b>ASSETS</b>	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	238,679	288,911
Trade and other receivables	50,647	16,846
Other assets	12,615	12,617
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>301,941</u>	<u>318,374</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Property, plant and equipment	91,139	91,977
Intangible assets	2,820	5,900
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>	<u>143,959</u>	<u>97,877</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>445,900</u></u>	<u><u>416,251</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Trade and other payables	57,299	67,359
Other liabilities	68,682	35,074
Employee benefits	41,424	56,534
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<u>167,405</u>	<u>158,967</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Employee benefits	-	-
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>164,405</u>	<u>158,967</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>278,495</u></u>	<u><u>257,284</u></u>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Accumulated surplus	000,000	000,000
	<u>000,000</u>	<u>000,000</u>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<u><u>278,495</u></u>	<u><u>257,284</u></u>

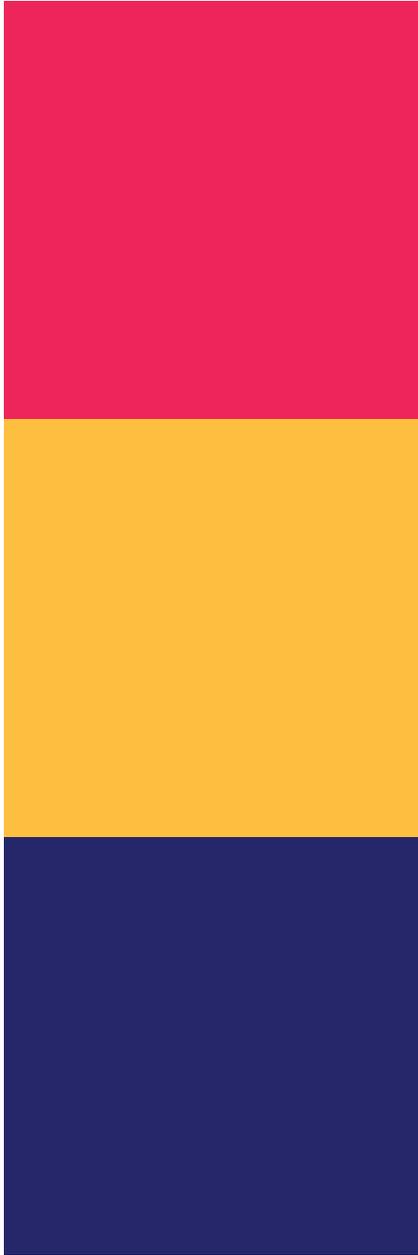
A full audited financial report for the year ended 30 June 2020 is available from MYRC, which includes the accompanying notes.

## 2020-2023

With the 2018-2019 strategic plan due for a revision, MYRC has completed a total refresh of not only the strategic plan, but the vision, mission and values of the centre. The new vision, “MYRC will be a catalyst to empower young people” encompasses the values and mission of the centre, including providing an accessible, safe and welcoming place to explore what they want, develop connections with others and realise their potential, a platform to have their voice heard, to tell us what they want and trust that they will be listened to, the opportunity to invest in their future and make a positive contribution to their community.

A significant focus area of the strategic plan is the goal to deliver to new target groups. By the end of 2023, MYRC will expand its delivery to 10-12 year old’s, and young people in new locations if the evidence supports this growth. We hope to expand our programs to other Inner West Council locations.





Marrickville Youth Resource Centre Incorporated

ABN: 62752 648 048

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Website: [www.myrc.org.au](http://www.myrc.org.au)

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

MYRC is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient.  
All donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible.