


the link  
youth health service



**Annual Report 2022 - 2023**



we are a service enriched by listening, employing, and valuing people with lived experience of mental ill-health, substance use, and recovery and the experience of people who have been carers, families, or supporters.

Each person's journey is unique and a valued contribution to lutruwita's commitment to mental health, alcohol and other drug support, and suicide prevention responses.

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## **In respect to the palawa and pakana people**

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land lutruwita upon which we live, play, and work on. We also pay our respects to elders of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities on these lands, past and present

## **..& hello!**

The Link Youth Health Service has been providing support to young people in Hobart since 1990. We provide free and confidential health and wellbeing services for young people aged 12-25.

We are a service that celebrates the cultures, identities, languages, and beliefs that make us who we are. We welcome all who connect with our service, and stand proud with the different lived experiences everyone brings, from diverse sexualities, genders & intersex variations, faiths, neurodiversities, careers and educations, disabilities, and all who call this island their home - either being born here, migrating, or humanitarian pathways. There are many more than we have mentioned, and we look forward to meeting you.



# Our Mission, Vision, Purpose & Values

## Our Mission

Supporting young Tasmanians to be healthy and empowered.

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## Our Vision

To provide free and confidential health and wellbeing services for young people aged 12-25.

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## What We Do

- Deliver quality whole health services and programs.
  - Provide information for young people about personal care, sexual and health management. Support young people overcome barriers preventing them from accessing services.
  - Provide referrals and support to appropriate services. Advocate for young peoples' health and wellbeing.
  - Support young people find the way that's right for them.
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## Who We Work With

- Young people aged 12 – 25. Our Youth Reference Group.
  - Families, carers, and supporters of young people. Our Staff, Board, and volunteers.
  - Other service providers. The Community.
  - Government and our funding agencies. Sector peak bodies.
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## What We Value

### Health

- All young people should have access to health services when they need them and where they need them

### Safety

- We will support and encourage young people to make safe choices and minimise harm, whilst providing services within clinically-approved models.

### Diversity

- Everyone is welcome and their opinions and ideas are valued and celebrated

### Youth Centred/Client led

- Our clients are at the centre of everything we do

### Organisation Capacity

- We will always be professional, we will develop our skills and we will build our future as a sustainable, agile and well governed Organisation

# Board Members

Rob Meredith (President)

Rory Wilson (Vice President)

Lois Jenkins (Secretary)

Erin Stephens (Treasurer)

Troy Cook

Patsy Corrick

Ben Fisher

Grace Mitchell

Kelly Pettit

Elenor Rigney

Suellen Taylor



# President Report

On behalf of the Board I am pleased to present the Link's annual report for the 2022-23 financial year.

Firstly, it is with great pleasure that we announce the addition of five new board members to the Link Board. Our new members bring a diverse range of skills, knowledge, and experience to the Link which enhances the Board's ability to govern, and ultimately ensures that the Link is effectively resourced and managed in a way that ensures it is able to effectively deliver on its mission and strategic plan, to support young people to be healthy and empowered.

I also acknowledge our ongoing strategic partnership with Xsquared Architects, a highly regarded Tasmanian architecture firm. In an admirable display of corporate social responsibility, Xsquared has generously donated life-saving defibrillators to each of our buildings in Liverpool Street, and have sponsored a member of our youth reference group, facilitating their attendance to the headspace National Forum in Melbourne. Their support has been invaluable and I look forward to our partnership continuing to develop.

On behalf of the Board I wish to acknowledge the departure of our CEO, Miranda Ashby, and extend our heartfelt gratitude for her commitment and unwavering leadership during her tenure. Miranda's contributions have been critical in reforming the Link's internal structures and governance processes, as well as its programs and services, and we wish her well in her new role. On a personal note I also wish to thank Miranda for the support and insight she provided to me as President during her time at the Link (both as CEO and earlier).

The Link's financial position remains strong as we proudly report the continuation of our core grants with our valued funding partners. We have also achieved success in securing several smaller grants, further expanding the opportunities available to us to provide support to young Tasmanians.

This year marks the second phase of our strategic plan. I am pleased with the progress we have made in phase 1, ensuring that both our internal processes and the programs delivered by the Link are effective, efficient, and built on strong foundations, while ensuring that we remain agile in responding to the evolving needs of young people and the broader communities who engage with and support them.

On behalf of the Board I extend our gratitude to our dedicated staff, volunteers/students, partners, and generous donors. I would like to acknowledge and thank my fellow Board members for their dedication, commitment and passion.

**Rob Meredith**  
President / Chair





# CEO Report

During the past twelve months (July 2022–June 2023) The Link Youth Health Service (The Link) continued to make a difference for our clients and their families, our staff and Board and for our stakeholders. The social, political, and economic contexts have also continued to impact on how The Link provides great support. We have had (like most employers) challenges with staff recruitment and retainment, and the cost of living pressures have started to impact not only The Link, but our clients and their families too.

The Organisation has continued to focus on its foundations this year, with the aim of strengthening and sustaining The Link for the future. The model of clinical leadership across all programs has continued to be embedded by our Clinical Manager Angela Waite, with Berny Carrol, Rachel Sylvester, Liam O'Loughlin, Dr Alison Edwards and Wayne Frost supporting our clinical staff and structures through the period.

Our Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs Program has grown from strength to strength during this period. Under the management of Kaz Knights, and now Peter Callendar, we have improved linkages with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre, Karadi Aboriginal Corporation, Tasmania Police and Risdon Prison.

Our Reception and Administration services had a major review during the period with a new Senior Reception position created to focus on the supervision and management of staff in conjunction with the Practice Manager. A special acknowledgement to Tania Cerritelli who retired earlier in 2023. She has been with the headspace Hobart Program for over 7 years and has been a key staff member of The Link's reception team.

We also farewellled Lesley Jandric (Project Officer) and Maggi Boughton (Quality Improvement Manager). Maggi has had a very long association with The Link, as a staff member brought in to assist The Board during the 2000s, and then returning as the Quality Improvement Manager in 2016. She worked across all programs until her retirement in March 2023. Thank you, Maggi, for all your dedication and support throughout the years.

We had huge celebrations for headspace Hobart's 10th birthday in October 2022. The Link staff opened the Centre to the public and had a range of fun activities for young people and their families and friends to participate in and celebrate with us. The laughter all day was so rewarding to hear. The smiles and dress-ups, succulent planting, clay figure making, job advice, circus tricks and skills, the fab smoothie





bike, headspace sign-up station, guided mindfulness sessions and healthy eating and sleep hygiene info sessions, as well as the great chill out space and name writing in different languages and cooking were fabulous. Staff and Board members (current and former) also had a private function to reflect and celebrate later that day.

In recognition of the great work that our Community Youth Health Team and the Open Access Program does, led by Andrew Badcock, we were semi-finalists in the Healthy Tasmania Health and Wellbeing category in the State Community Service Awards.

A key strength of The Link is to work in partnership to provide quality services and opportunities for young people:

- We support two of our reference group members to be part of an 18-month Mental Health Council of Tasmania peer work framework project for the community sector – extremely exciting times for peer work!
- In Partnership with the Migrant Resource Centre and Cornerstone Youth Services, we began our new My Community Our Future program.
- Through the B4 Early Years Coalition we have undertaken B4 Storytellers Facilitators Training to engage with and train young parents in positive parenting messages. It is hoped that the young people who undertake the training will then share this knowledge with other young people.
- In February 2023 The Link supported the three-day Party In The Paddock Festival by providing a safe space for young people on site, supported by Cornerstone Youth Services and Youth Family and Community Connections staff.
- In partnership with Cornerstone Youth Services, The Link had its first stall at AGFEST in 2023!

We now have official sponsors of The Link and headspace Hobart! Xsquared Architects have donated a defibrillator for each Link building and sponsored a Youth Reference Group member to attend the headspace National Forum in Melbourne in November 2022. We are very grateful for this partnership and look forward to working with Xsquared in the 2023-2024 Financial Year.

And lastly a big thank you to our funders who work alongside The Link. Obviously without their financial support we could not open the doors to provide our much-needed services.

This is my last report as CEO of this amazing organisation. After 7 plus years of service, it's time to move on and hand over the baton to fresh ideas and new leadership. Becoming the headspace Hobart Centre Manager in 2016 was an honour. As CEO, I am proud of what all Link programs have achieved, and how the organisation continues to be a pivotal service for young people in Southern Tasmania. I have had the pleasure to work with The Link's Board including many new Link Board members. Board renewal is always an exciting time in any organisation as you see energy levels increase, and curiosity, enthusiasm and focus swell.

I wish the staff, Board, Youth Reference Group, headspace Hobart Consortium members, partners and our clients and their families, every success and a happy and healthy life.

**Miranda Ashby**

Chief Executive Officer

# headspace Hobart: Centre Manager Report

headspace Hobart entered our 10th year of providing health and wellbeing services, across the domains of mental health, alcohol and other drugs, vocational and physical and sexual health for young people this year.

As part of our 10th year – headspace Hobart hosted an array of acknowledgements and celebrations during headspace Day and provided a formal celebration and an opportunity for Hobart community, including previous, current and future clients, families and friends to attend the Centre and participate in health and wellbeing activities throughout the day. The day was facilitated by headspace Hobart Youth Reference Group and Staff members.

The headspace Hobart hosted over 80 people during the event and was a successful day of celebrations providing attendees with healthy key messages and information about the Centre and available resources and supports.



The event provided an opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate the supports that have been provided by the headspace Hobart Centre for the previous 10 years – and time to reflect on the over 8000 young people who have accessed the service over the 10 years being over 51,000 occasions of service.

The successful event was made possible through the commitment of the headspace Hobart Youth Reference Group and The Link and headspace Hobart staff. We look forward to celebrating future milestones.

## Angela Waite

Clinical Manager / Deputy CEO

Lottie Guidici, a Youth Reference Group member and headspace Consortium Co-chair, said her role has allowed her to see the behind-the-scenes work that goes into the delivery and promotion of the essential services the centre provides.

“At headspace Hobart, staff provide a safe space for the young people who use the service. They really care about young people’s mental health,” Ms Giudici said.

“The range of free services provided to young people in the area gives a real opportunity for connection and growth for the young people who use the service, as well as their family and friends.”

“

*If these services were not available, it would be harder for young people to reach out and get help when they need it.*

Jane Montgomery,  
Youth Reference Group member

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# headspace Hobart: Community Health Educator Report

The headspace Hobart presence was taken to a wide range of audiences this year. We started the year with the Karadi 'Deadly Choices' Touch Football Carnival, a great day of sport and fun for First Nations high school students from schools across Southern Tasmania. Other community events and collaborations included Mental Health Week events at Risdon Prison, Hobart College and Clarence High School. We supported the Glenorchy Youth Task Force's RUOK Youth Forum by attending with our always popular Chill Out Space.

We teamed up with headspace Launceston, Devonport and Burnie to take the Chill Out Space to YNOT's Tasmanian Youth Forum in Launceston, and to Party in the Paddock, where we were set up next to the medical tent to provide respite, phone charging (which patrons were super excited about as it was free), sunscreen and toiletries. We also had clinicians on hand across the whole of the event for young people who required support and counselling.

Agfest saw us head north again to see our friends from the other Tasmanian headspace centres and work together to provide information, resources- and the obligatory fun activities- to a

wide range of individuals who came through the three-day event.

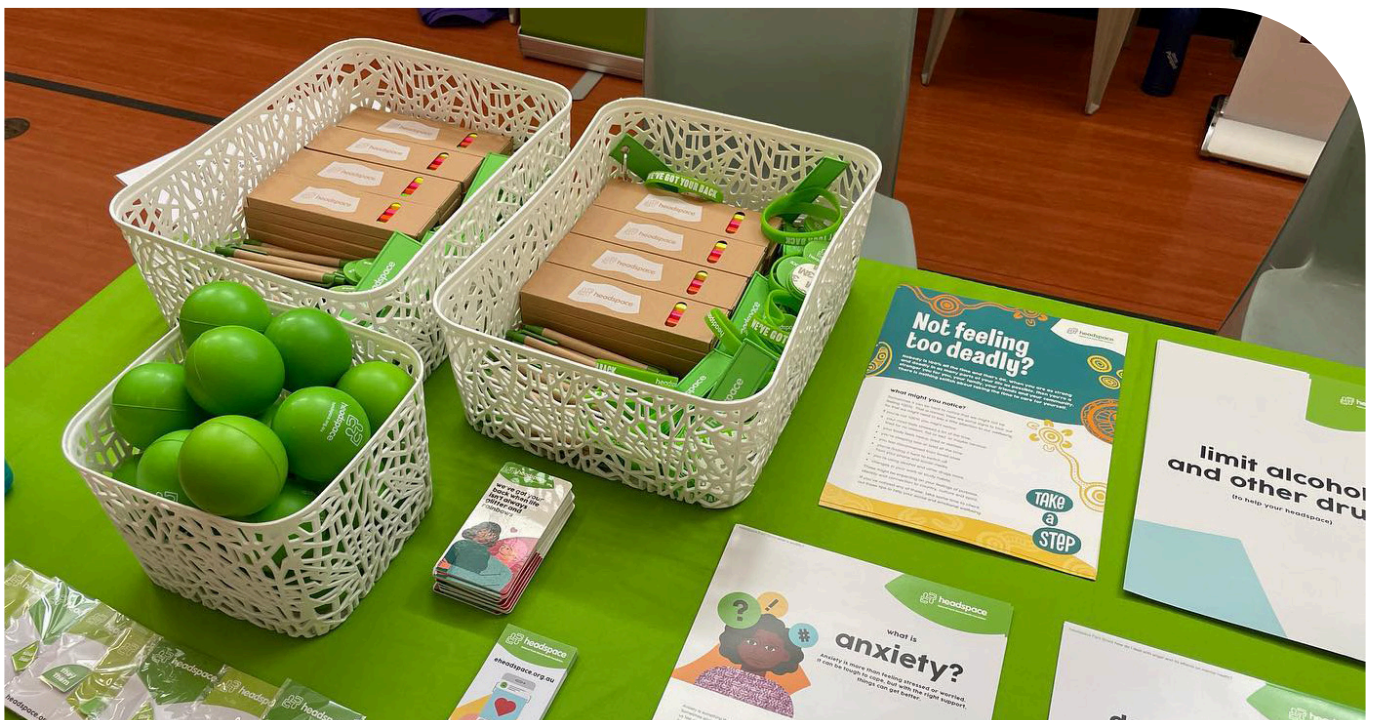
We joined forces with the Royal Flying Doctors Service and Tasman District High School to organise a Health expo for students, parents and carers on the Peninsula. It was a full day of activities and sessions, and very well received by those who attended.

Of course, we celebrated headspace Hobart's tenth birthday celebrations that were held on headspace Day 2022. The whole day was taken up with something for the whole community, starting off with a formal event in the morning, an Open Day for the public to attend in the afternoon with activities including clay sculpturing, mindfulness, jewellery making (with the help of Youth ARC), a sensory station and a circus skills workshop.

The day was finished off with an informal celebration for staff, their families and stakeholders. I'm glad we only do that every ten years (well I'm hoping that's the case).

## Shelagh Curtain

headspace Community Health Educator





## Youth Reference Group

Once again, the headspace Hobart Youth Reference Group has made amazing contributions to the organisation with their awareness and insights into what makes a great youth service. As well as providing us with their thoughts and opinions, they were called upon from time to time for input or feedback by external organisations who were highly appreciative of the wisdom that was provided to them by the group. Eloise and Mikaela attended the Derwent Valley Youth Forum which was a great opportunity for them to get some insight into the needs of young people from New Norfolk and further afield.

The group worked with the Community Health Educator when undertaking refurbishment of some of our spaces thanks to a small grant from Calvary. Again, having the insights from young people on the spaces that they use is truly invaluable.

In addition to their advisement role for headspace Hobart, members have taken on regular roles either within the organisation, or externally to provide youth insight. Frankie, Susannah and Mikaela sat on the Mental Health Council of Tasmania Youth Peer Work project advisory committee (Mikaela and Susannah continue in this role), and Frankie cofacilitated Outspace until stepping away due to work commitments.

Eloise and Mikaela put their hands up to co-facilitate our most recent staff Professional Development Day and I think all staff would agree that their contributions to the day were fantastic.



Grace continues to sit on The Link Board, and Eloise sits on the headspace Consortium. After sitting in the role of Co-Chair, Youth Reference Group member Lottie is being supported to transition to the role of Consortium Chair. Taking on these roles allows for amazing Professional Development opportunities for group members, as well as helping them to expand their knowledge of the sector.





## Work and Study

The past 12 months have seen multiple staff changes in the headspace Hobart Work and Study (W&S) team. In July 2023 two new Vocational Specialists Paddy and Grace started and we welcomed our very first Vocational Peer Worker (VPW) Shannan, as the Vocational Peer Worker Pilot Project commenced. Sadly, in August the team lost Lorelle (Program Manager) to a change of career, taking over 6 years of Individual Placement and Support (IPS) framework knowledge with her. Molly P held the position briefly and now Paddy has taken on the Program Manager role.

Unfortunately, due to the current employment climate, the team was understaffed for most of 2022/23. However, the program still had great success promoting the benefits of work for young people and our support for employers.

March 2023 was declared 'Work and Study month' by headspace National and the front window display in Liverpool Street highlighted the diversity of first jobs held by staff at the Link and headspace Hobart and success stories from young people engaging with the W&S program. The display captured the attention of pedestrians and prompted many interesting conversations both on the street and within the organisation, effectively raising awareness of the purpose of the Work and Study program in Hobart.

In June, the W & S team held an Employer Breakfast with the theme 'Rise and Shine: Cultivating Mental Wellness at Work' at Rydges Hotel in Hobart. The breakfast provided an intimate opportunity to connect with local employers of all sizes, service providers and other stakeholders. With a focus on embracing and supporting employees living with poor mental health in employment, the presentation highlighted the benefits of the Individual Placement and Support (IPS) Framework to both employers and employees.

The VPW trial brings valuable new support to the team. Shannan has connected with many young people accessing the Work and Study program and shares her lived experience to motivate and inspire hope in young people seeking their first job, support with education and sustaining employment.

Overall, the team continued to support the recovery of young people accessing headspace with over 60% of young people achieving a positive job or study placement on exit from the W & S program.

### Paddy McLaughlan

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Rachael, age 19 shared her thoughts on the Work and Study program:

"My clinician recommended me to join with work and study to help me find my first job. I have depression and anxiety made worse by my poor financial position at the time. I was scared about first entering the program, but I knew I had to get help.

Since working with Paddy, I've found a job which is flexible for my university timetable and fits into my interests within the food industry. I've gained confidence in myself as well as in my ability to conduct interviews and approaching employers.

I can now support myself and plan for the future which I couldn't do three months ago, making me feel more productive and I have a much better mental state. I can't thank Paddy and the Work and Study program enough."

**“My vocational peer worker, Shannan, has been very helpful and supportive. I really enjoy our conversations as they always put my mind at ease about everything I have coming up.**

*Brodie,  
Age 20*

**”**

## Early Career Program

The Early Career Program has continued to operate at headspace Hobart, with some fresh faces joining the team. The Early Career Program, or ECP, is now in its second year. The ECP operates in headspace centers in Tasmania, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia with the aim of supporting new graduates to develop the skills and knowledge to become excellent youth mental health workers. We had our second year Graduate Eleri start. We also said goodbye to Jason and Diego our first year Graduates and Bec our Clinical Educator.

We hired Liam the new Clinical Educator, to ensure that Eleri and other students received discipline appropriate supervision, support in direct practice work and training. Since joining the team Liam has participated in ECP seminars around Neurodiversity affirming practice, delivered training to staff and supported social work students, most recently Annie and Maggie through the University of Tasmania.

Eleri has taken on opportunities to collocate with Pulse Youth Health Centre, receive training and has become a vital member of the headspace Hobart Access Team.

Eleri and students on placement have been incredible assets to The Link and the headspace service. Their knowledge and passion for working with young people has been felt at every level of the organisation.

The Clinical Educator role continues to be fleshed out, opening opportunities for in house training to be provided to the wider organisation.

Feedback from staff has been that the training provided by the Clinical Educator has assisted them in their practice. Eleri has also been praised for the quality of her therapeutic work, particularly with young people experiencing trauma.

“*Knowing that I have consistent and targeted support and guidance throughout my placement has provided me with countless learning opportunities and peace of mind*”

”

To ensure that the graduate/s have the best set up for long term success it is vital that we get the start of their placement correct. This has meant that we have looked at improvements to the induction process of students and graduates, including information about processes and how to utilise our database systems are appropriately passed on and the graduates and students can feel secure in their knowledge from the beginning.

### Liam O'Loughlin

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Students on placement had the following to share about their experiences in the Early Career Program:

“Having a specific and dedicated role (Clinical Educator) has made my placement an extremely beneficial experience. Knowing that I have consistent and targeted support and guidance throughout my placement has provided me with countless learning opportunities and peace of mind and has allowed me to take more opportunities than I would have done otherwise.”

“By having a Clinical Educator supervising my placement, my placement this year has been filled with more opportunities and more learning. I believe this is because Liam's role outside of being my supervisor is to teach, so his focus is on my success and learning first and foremost. “

# Community Youth Health Program

The Link has been running an Open Access hub for over two decades – this drop-in space provides an opportunity for young people from a variety of backgrounds or challenges to access support and facilities when they need it (such as lockers, laundry, food, shower, WIFI, counselling), and the flexibility for where they are at when seeking help. By recognising the intersectionality of population groups and the barriers of marginalisation, some young people experience compounding barriers that impact on their ability to be aware of the program or have capacity to engage with the Open Access space in the Hobart CBD. At times, we receive feedback that people wish they had known we existed when they needed it, and sometimes asking if the program is new.

For the year, while blended funding provided capacity to do so, The Link developed a variety of ongoing/repeat outreach activities in collaboration with other service providers to do outreach for targeted populations with specific services reflecting priority population needs. A mixture of the activities came from asking the young people what they wanted via needs analysis surveying, and also stakeholder/community requests. This included:

- Outreach into TasTAFE's Youth Migrant Education Program (YMEP) classrooms.
- Offering hot drinks, phone charging, and toiletries to young people experiencing homeless and accessing the Moreton Group drop-in clinic van
- Rapport building and BBQs in Wellington Court with Mission Australia and Hobart City Council in response to community concerns of perceived anti-social behaviours.
- Exploring alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use with harm minimisation messages among young people via outreach to the YouthARC recreation centre, and party safe tents and spaces at various community and musical events.
- Co-facilitating Working It Out's (WIO) LGBTIQ+ peer group and attending various pride events.

- Wrap-around practical support for at-risk mental health presentations at Peacock Centre's Safe Haven hub, promoting non-crisis facilities and supports when needed.

To check in that we're making a difference, our program runs annual surveys with the community services sector and young people. In doing so, we capture feedback for improvement, what works well, and what we could do differently. For the previous 12-months, Open Access feedback touchscreen has received a satisfaction rating of 8.9/10 from 165 respondents. In our annual sector stakeholder survey 100% agreed collaborating with The Link helped to achieve positive health outcomes for young people. Common feedback themes from young people identify Open Access as a positive, supportive and safe environment. Youth Health Workers were repeatedly attributed as the reason. The most common improvement feedback are requests to increase services including opening hours, staffing levels, and increased capacity for engagement and events.

*“The link has been extremely helpful to me as an international student who lives alone in Australia. I have been overwhelmed by the amount of support (mentally but also financially with doctor referrals etc.)”*

In having capacity to run these off-site outreach activities, our helps the sector better offer a range of services to engage in early intervention supports, share resourcing capacities, and reach target priority populations that experience additional barriers for finding and accessing services when they need them. The Link would like to keep running these types of outreach activities in the future if funding permitted it.

**Andrew Badcock**

# Youth Health Fund

The Youth Health Fund (YHF) program financially supports young people aged 12-24 experiencing disadvantage or homelessness to receive immediate support and access to health services and/or health items to address health concerns via a network of trained Youth Health Fund Access Workers across the State.

It has been a difficult year with high demands and limited funds, but an important one for ensuring the continued access to health care and items for some of the most vulnerable young people in Tasmania. The Youth Health Fund continues to weather the challenges for rising costs and disappearing bulk-billing health services pathways within Tasmania. This challenge led to concerns of having no funds for May or June as spending approached zero, and where we had to implement staged restrictions.

Fortunately, the overspending was avoided as Tasmanian Public Health Service granted an additional \$20,000 to the program as a top up to see through to the end of the financial year. Reasons for the increase of requests and costs seem to be attributed to the: ongoing lack of bulk-billing pathways, increased costs for psychological counselling services, and increased requests for prohibitive specialist appointments with no alternative public service pathways.

The top 3 health areas were Sexual Health, General Health, and Mental & Emotional Health which relate to the limited pathway pathways in Tasmania.

In this period, the YHF provided:

- 1065 applications
- 479 toiletry kits
- 96 COVID-safe packs
- 156 dental packs

The last 12 months were also a time for reviewing effectiveness, feedback, and improvement as we conducted a state-wide feedback survey with Access Workers of the YHF. The key findings found:



- The average rating for confidence using the YHF was 8.18/10 (10 = very confident).
- A high proportion of access workers (91%) believe the YHF is effective in providing support to young people. The remaining percentage responded to 'other' and either noted they didn't use it this period, or issues with fund restrictions. No respondent disagreed on the effectiveness.
- Limited funding and restrictions for some populations with higher needs (e.g. services that cost more) were a common aspect people disliked about the YHF program. Many respondents believed more funding would improve the program.

Going forward the program will need to consider how we respond differently in the next year to ensure The Link does not experience this overspend again while also ensuring vulnerable populations can continue to get the support they need. While we continue to explore ways to increase the fund pool, we have improved mapping public pathways and barriers in our application form, which will provide greater oversight capacity and improved advocacy as we continue to support young people and the youth services sectors of Tasmania.

**Andrew Badcock**



## Calvary Grant

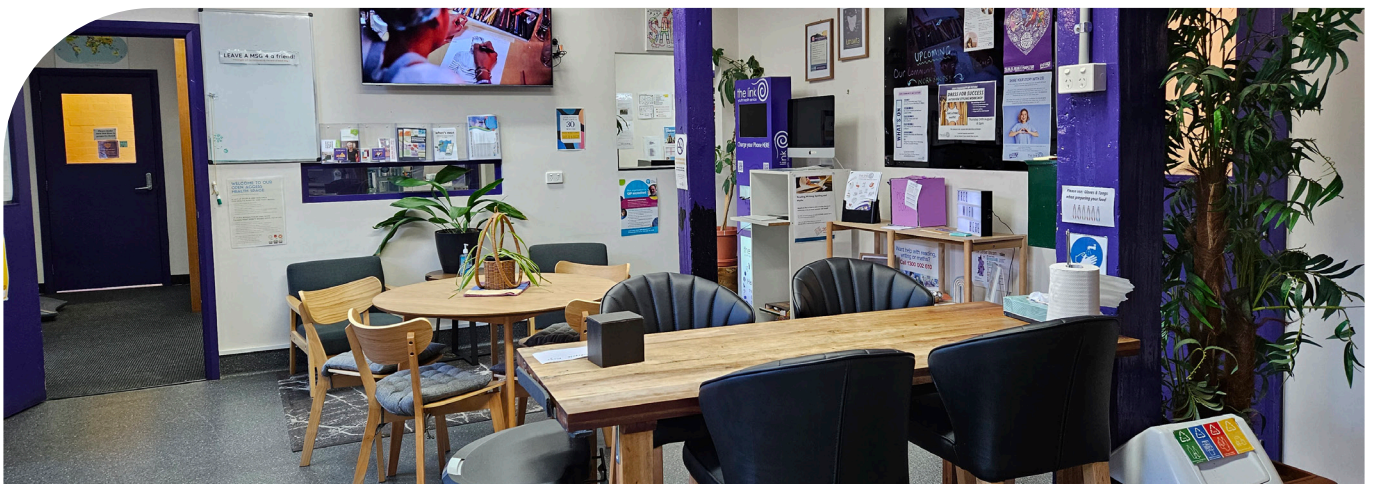
The Link Youth Health Service was a recipient of a Calvary Community Council grant and this was used to reinvigorate spaces utilised by young people visiting our services. This grant is offered to not-for-profit Tasmanian organisations to improve the health and wellbeing of marginalised and vulnerable Tasmanian communities.

Thanks to the funds received, The Link has been able to purchase a range of items from couches, to throws and cushions to update both our open access space, as well as the clinical spaces at headspace Hobart.

The refurbishment was done under the advisement of the headspace Hobart Youth Reference Group. Group member Mikaela Lunn said that this grant has made great improvements to the various spaces. "The Calvary grant has enabled young people to improve spaces that are designed by young people," they said.

"It (the grant) has provided the opportunity for a more inviting environment that promotes comfort and support. The spaces are now more considerate of sensory needs with various themes and new furniture. Ultimately, it has provided much needed improvements, so that we are able to continue creating safe spaces for young people."

**Shelagh Curtain & Andrew Badcock**





# Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs

In the last 12 months the Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drugs (ATOD) program has been trying to maximise its ability to reach and to offer services and support to some of the more socially disadvantaged young people in Hobart who may be struggling with ATOD issues

In our aim to do this we have developed and strengthened relationships and referral pathways with Tas Police, Youth Justice, Tasmanian Prison Service, the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre and youth shelters, in particular Mara House and Colville Place.

As a result of these now solid relationships, we have seen a number of referrals from Youth Justice which are continuing,

A strong collaboration with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre leading to several referrals to our program, several referrals from Tas Police, and ongoing outreach at Risdon Prison Complex and also Colville Place. The Link ATOD Service is now much more widely known about and is seen in the sector as the specialist ATOD service for young people.

We continue to receive referrals from and have regular discussions with Youth Justice, Tas Police, Tasmanian Prison Service, The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre and Colville Place.

This has meant an increased, ongoing opportunity to offer vulnerable young support around their alcohol, tobacco and other drug use and underlying issues. It has also increased our ability to collaborate with other services in most effectively meeting the needs of these vulnerable at-risk young people.



The Link ATOD program will continue to improve, maintain and strengthen relationships and partnerships with as many other relevant stakeholders and service providers as possible. This is with the aim to promote the ATOD program, explore collaborations, improve referral pathways and offer support to the more vulnerable and marginalised at risk young people with ATOD issues. The team will continue their own professional development to make sure we are offering evidence based, best practice support to these young people.

**Peter Callander**



“

*It is so much easier talking with someone who has been there (themselves)*

*Anonymous young person,  
After meeting with our ATOD Peer Worker*

”

# Our Community MY Future

Launched in October 2022 in collaboration with the Migrant Resource Centre and Cornerstone Youth Services in Launceston, the Our Community MY Future (OCMF) program aims to address the issue of potential disengagement among young people aged 12-24. The program offers one-one-one strengths-based case management focusing on goal setting, and workshops tailored to promote social cohesion and skill development. Referrals steadily began coming in from late October, with a significant surge from May onwards, coming from various organisations in Southern Tasmania, including Tasmania Police, Strong Families Safe Kids, The Department of Education, and youth emergency accommodation shelters. Internal referrals also came from headspace Hobart and other programs/services of The Link.

Early on, it was identified that many OCMF participants faced challenging issues such as homelessness, family violence, hunger, transport barriers, legal issues, poor physical health and complex mental health concerns, which hindered their ability to set goals within the case-management sessions. The program addressed these barriers by referring participants to services like Housing Connect, Centrelink, Workskills and headspace Hobart, and facilitating communication with workplaces and schools to support re-engagement in education and work. Some participants aimed to gain their drivers licences to overcome transport barriers, with the program providing driving lessons to those interested, or Metro greencards to others who are not yet ready to drive.

Other barriers were tackled through providing young people with personalised tools like ADHD-specific planners or financial assistance for obtaining identification documents. Additionally, the program had the capacity to fund external skill courses for interested participants, such as the white card course for construction industry safety, to enhance future employment prospects. The first OCMF workshop took place at Zone Bowling, where the program offered six participants the opportunity to participate in a game and share food and drink, promote social skills, team work and fostering positive connections among young people from diverse backgrounds, making it a successful workshop.

One success story from the program so far involves a 19-year-old male who faced barriers like family violence, social isolation, hunger, low self-esteem, unemployment and no financial support. With the advocacy of the OCMF program, he secured job-seek income from Centrelink, accessed a doctor for the first time in four years, escaped an abusive home, received 3 driving lessons, was referred and accepted in to Work skills Tasmania, completed a White Card Course, and is now an engaged community member who has so far participated in two OCMF workshops.

As of the end of the 22/23 financial year, the OCMF program successfully engaged 22 young people through case management and workshops. The individuals now regularly return to The Link, demonstrating their trust in the organisation and the program's effectiveness. Overall, the program has empowered young people by overcoming barriers and providing them with previously unavailable opportunities, giving them agency to shape their own futures and pursue exciting, new, and positive pathways.

To improve the program's effectiveness, it is planned that more thorough assessments will be conducted when accepting referrals. This will involve discussing potential complex mental health issues or crisis situations with the referrers and ensuring that young people have clear program goals in mind. The program has encountered situations where complete people presented with complex mental health diagnoses and were not suitable for OCMF as they were not ready or well enough for goal-setting or future planning. By implementing stricter intake criteria, we can help prevent disappointment or rejection for young people and increase the likelihood of positive engagement for all participants.

## Georgia Hardy

“

*So far I've found the program really helpful and I've felt like I've connected with all of the staff at The Link”*

”

*Anonymous Male  
Age 16*

# Short Term Psychological Intervention

The STPI program is funded by Primary Health Tasmania (PHT), supporting young people aged 12 – 25 at Bridgewater, Sorell and surrounding areas.

To access this service, young people require a referral and Mental Health Care Plan from a General Practitioner (GP). Our mental health clinicians work closely with the referring GP to provide the best possible short-term mental health support, during the young person's episode of care.

Mental Health Clinician, Aavi Desai, has provided support in Bridgewater at Greenpoint Medical Services and in Sorell at the Sorell Community Health Centre. Aavi has also provided telehealth and phone sessions.

Yalei Wilson has provided support to young people, primarily in the Bridgewater area, via telehealth. During this time, Aavi and Yalei were both provisional psychologists, who have now qualified as registered psychologists.

The Link's contract in the STPI program closed at the end of April 2023. Young people engaged in this program have been referred to other services.

## Julie Downie & Angela Waite

Practice Manager / Clinical Manager

Client feedback received during this time:

- I like how my Clinician listened, didn't judge and told me I wasn't wrong.
- My clinician has made a positive impact and influenced my life.
- You do well in supporting people in need, and the service is easy to access.
- You should continue what we're doing, supporting people's mental health.
- I love The Link and would certainly come back
- Quick appointment time – no wait time.
- Making mental health easily accessible, giving good support.
- Enjoyed session a lot, useful nice advice. Felt less stressed.
- You support people well.
- My relationships have now improved and I can support people better.





# B4 1000 - The Power of Storytelling

The Link was successful in receiving a B4 1000 Community Storytellers grant which allowed for two staff members to undertake the B4 1000 Storytellers training. These grants have been created to help share the B4 messages across Tasmania of the importance of the early years of a child's life.

headspace Hobart's Shannan, Vocational Peer Worker in the Work and Study program, and Shelagh, Community Health Educator, undertook the training at the end of 2022, with the aim of taking this concept of educating through storytelling to young people who access our service and in the wider community.

Storytelling has been shown to be a powerful method of relaying and retaining messages, and through this program we aim to empower young parents and their peers when navigating parenting in the first 1000 days of their child's life.

Our first step was to come up with a name for the project which we established after consulting with the headspace Hobart Youth Reference Group. We aim to create a story bank that will sit on The Link website with stories- relevant to young parents and carers- related to the six B4 key messages: Loving and secure relationships; healthy food and environments; opportunities for play and discovery; positive and inclusive communities; a sense of belonging; access to services and support.

By consulting with young parents at the outset of this project, teaching them the storytelling skills that we have learnt so that they can share their own stories and experiences, and asking them how they would best deliver this information, we hope to develop a range of beneficial resources for young parents.

**Shelagh Curtain & Shannan Harris**





## Horizon 47

Young people transitioning to work and in youth accommodation facilities needed support to manage their mental health which was a significant barrier to achieving their goals. There was an urgent need for a youth focussed mental health service to be provided to responsively address the needs of these young people and support our staff.

Individual therapy sessions with young people, upskilling staff to be better equipped to manage mental health and crisis presentations, DBT group work with both staff and young people (separately).

Increased knowledge and confidence in staff, improved mental health outcomes for young people.

Decrease in support requests from staff when managing a crisis, decrease in hospital presentations, improved mental health outcomes for young people.

The collaboration between Colony 47 and The Link to form Horizon 47 provided The Link with many learning opportunities. We have a better understanding of the shelter system and the complexities young people may face. The Horizon 47 program was ceased on the 28th of February 2023.

**Bernadette Carroll**  
Clinical Lead



# Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs Peer Workers / Mental Health Peer Workers

“

Being an ATOD Peer Worker has been a rewarding and lifechanging experience. Being someone who has never worked within the community sector it was a really big adjustment for me. However, I feel that I have taken to the role like a duck to water. Since my job was a pilot role it was difficult for me to find my feet but I have now finally found my space within The Link Youth Health Service.

I have gotten nothing but positive feedback from both Link staff, as well as the young people who access our service. The job has taken me out of my comfort zone at times. However, I have been able to use my lived experience as an anchor to keep me in place.

During my time at The Link I have done a variety of things such as drug education and professional development sessions around how to approach people with ATOD issues and how to best engage nslp clients, outreach to places such as Colville place and YOUTHARC, brief intervention with young people and teaching people how to spot and treat someone who has overdosed.

Peer work within the ATOD sector is integral I believe. The ability of being able to relate to people and share lived experience is a really great way of making people feel comfortable and validated. It helps break down barriers and reduce stigma around people who use or have used substances. It is also great from a professional perspective because it allows clinicians and other workers to get an insight into how someone who uses or has used drugs think.

”

**Hugh Alexander**

Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs Peer Worker

“

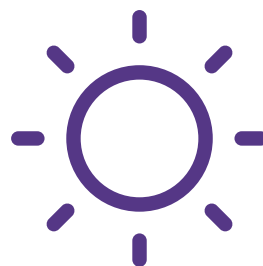
Being a Vocational Peer Worker (VPW) at headspace Hobart has been super rewarding. Whilst the role was initially challenging due to being a pilot project, it's now well-integrated & I've been receiving lots of positive feedback from young people & staff. The personal growth I've experienced has been huge as well as I'm constantly getting out of my comfort zone & trying new things.”

Vocational Peer Work is invaluable to the Work & Study program as it increases young peoples' self-confidence, independence and motivation to pursue vocational goals. Vocational Peer Work helps young people to identify and break down any barriers surrounding work and study through the shared experience of the peer worker. Additionally, the Vocational Peer Worker frequently makes connections with young people in the program that reveals a deeper understanding of their barriers that are not disclosed in the clinical setting or with Vocational Specialists.

”

**Shannan Harris**

Vocational Peer Worker





## Quality Improvement

At The Link we continually aim to improve the quality of the services we deliver. This includes ongoing research and development to ensure best practises are adhered to, and our team being well informed of current standards and regulations.

Our passion for excellent service delivery is evidenced through our headspace Model of Integrity Framework (hMIF) review cycles, our ongoing knowledge of Child Safety Standards, and our QIC accreditation.



## **The Link Youth Health Service Inc**

A.B.N. 11 770 186 878

### **Financial Report**

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

## The Link Youth Health Service Inc

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

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## FINANCIAL REPORTS

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Board members at the date of this report are:

Robert Meredith – President

Rory Wilson – Vice

President

Lois Jenkins - Secretary

Patsy Corrick

Grace Mitchell

Ben Fisher

Erin Stephens -

Treasurer

Suellen Taylor

Troy Cook

Kelly Pettit

Elenor Rigney

## Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Association during the financial year were:

- The provision of health information to young people;
- Running a walk-in holistic health service for young people 12-24 years;
- The promotion of harm reduction strategies for young illicit drug users;
- The diversion of young people with alcohol and other drug issues from the court system; and
- The provision of funds for young people to access health services statewide through a network of trained access workers
- headspace Hobart (The Link Youth Health Service Inc as the lead agency)
- Deliver flexible, friendly, relevant and practical service options at a centralised site
- Provide timely, relevant interventions to improve the overall wellbeing of young people in primary health, mental health, alcohol and drug, and vocational assistance including with partner organisations.
- Use a cost effective collaborative approach that draws on sharing resources and expertise within the health and community sector
- Establish new service opportunities that can assist young people earlier in the onset of mental health and associative substance use problems
- Ensure all work practices have a current evidence base
- Utilise pre and post qualitative measures to assess client outcomes
- Reform local service systems; implementing community awareness campaigns and community education to assist young people experiencing mental health problems and influence both policy direction and community attitude
- Individual Placement and Support Program for assisting headspace clients in employment and training opportunities



## Significant Changes

With the extra funding provided by Primary Health Tasmania, headspace Demand Management opts for a Single Session Thinking Strategy to increase SST service provision within and outside of normal working hours in the Hobart and surrounding area (including the addition of a Saturday clinic \*Note Saturday's commence on 01/07/2023). The service has contributed to reducing wait times and providing mental health services to young people accessing headspace Hobart.

A new AOD Peer Worker program, funded through the Department of Health, supports the delivery of alcohol and drug services that are strongly consumer and carer-focused, sustainable, and accessible. The AOD Peer Worker collaborates with the ATOD, Community Youth Health, and headspace Hobart teams, supporting individuals with lived experiences of drug and alcohol issues during their youth (12-25 years) and/or those supporting a young family member with alcohol and other drug use issues.

Funded by the Department for Children, Education, and Young People, the B4 First 1000 Days Storyteller involves working with young parents accessing The Link or other youth services within Southern Tasmania. The program aims to determine how they would like to engage in Storytelling training and gain skills and knowledge about the importance of the early years.

Our Community My Future, a program The Link has partnered with the Migrant Resource Center, supports social cohesion through the positive engagement of at-risk youth from refugee, migrant, and Australian-born backgrounds.

The Link has successfully secured funding provided by the Department of Health for "On Country Health and Wellness," a program that promotes active living and positive mental health and wellbeing for young people of diverse backgrounds. This initiative achieves its goals by facilitating opportunities for engaging in nature-based activities within Hobart.

## Operating Result

The Surplus for 2022/2023 amounted to \$458,789

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board.

*R. Meredith*

**Robert Meredith**

Dated on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023

President

On behalf of the Board of Management



Profit and Loss for Period Ended 30 June 2023			
2022		Note	2023
\$			\$
	<b>Income</b>		
	<b>State Government</b>		
	State Government Grants		
825,861	Core Funding	4	844,444
	<b>State/Commonwealth</b>		
309,033	Youth Health Fund	4	333,858
134,853	Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative	4	137,887
999,820	Headspace	4	1,015,817
-	Headspace – Demand Management	4	113,951
-	Headspace Early Years	4	54,250
-	AOD Peer Worker	4	75,000
108,344	Medicare Payments Headspace		125,109
-	T.O.P Grant state	4	-
288,632	IPS - DSS Grant	4	708,154
191,708	Short Term Psychological Interventions Program	4	118,574
-	PHT	4	-
106,925	Colony 47 JV – Revenue	4	53,963
-	B4 First 1000 Days Storyteller	4	3,019
-	MHCT Peer Support	4	3,280
-	MRC (Our Community My Future)	4	54,651
-	Our Country Health	4	99,983
-	Part in the Paddock	4	15,000
-	Small Grants	4	14,723
	<b>Self-Generated Income</b>		
1,270	Bank interest		9,670
110,231	Other		53,476
3,076,677	<b>INCOME</b>		3,834,809
	<b>Other Extraordinary Income</b>		
-	Cash Flow Boost		-
3,076,677	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		3,834,809
	<b>Expenditure</b>		
70,556	Audit and accountancy		54,278
57,128	Depreciation and Equipment		73,646
233,643	Property, Insurance and Office Expense		293,298
48,213	Information Technology		55,984
2,420,802	Salaries, Superannuation and Staff Provisions		2,552,199
17,267	Professional Development		34,699
41,342	Vehicles and Travel Expenses		59,367
69,223	Other Operating Expenses		84,466
-	Headspace Other Expenses		-
161,564	Youth Health Fund Services		168,083



## Financials



3,119,691	<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		<u>3,376,020</u>
(43,015)	Operating surplus/ (deficit)		<u>458,789</u>
(43,015)	Net operating surplus/ (deficit)		<u>458,789</u>



Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2023			
2022		Note	2023
\$			\$
	<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
716,994	Bank		1,134,255
-	Payments in Advance		28,845
68,833	Receivables		4,280
<u>785,827</u>	<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>1,167,380</u>
	<b>NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
190,347	Property plant and equipment		190,347
176,524	Motor vehicle		176,524
169,075	Leasehold improvements		169,075
375,785	Capital Improvements		375,785
(432,183)	Less provision for depreciation		(463,681)
<u>479,548</u>	<b>TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>448,049</u>
<u>1,265,375</u>	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>1,615,429</u>
	<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
79,100	Payables and Accruals		156,186
24,414	Staff Liabilities		30,055
66,482	GST net		61,754
30,407	PAYG		42,377
255,897	Provision for staff leave		225,130
194,914	Subsidies in advance & other liabilities		26,981
<u>651,218</u>	<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>542,483</u>
<u>614,156</u>	<b>NET ASSETS (LIABILITES)</b>		<u>1,072,946</u>
	<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>		
657,171	Balance at 1 July		614,157
(43,015)	Surplus of income over expenditure		458,789
<u>617,156</u>	<b>BALANCE AS AT 30 JUNE</b>		<u>1,072,946</u>

# Financials



Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2023	
	Retained Earnings
	\$
Balance 1 July 2021	707,621
<b>Comprehensive Income</b>	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year attributable to members of the entity	(43,015)
Prior period adjustment – PHT Recovery of unspent funds	(50,450)
Other comprehensive income for the year	
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity</b>	<b>614,156</b>
Balance at 30 June 2022	614,156
<b>Comprehensive Income</b>	
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year attributable to members of the entity	458,789
Other comprehensive income for the year	
<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity</b>	<b>1,072,945</b>
Balance at 30 June 2023	1,072,945



# Financials



Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2023		
	2023	2022
	\$	\$
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Government grants, fees and other income	3,878,006	3,336,919
Interest received	9,670	1,270
Payments to suppliers and employees	-3,325,882	-3,300,396
<b>Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>	<b>561,794</b>	<b>37,793</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Proceeds from sale of motor vehicles, property, plant and equipment		30,892
Purchase of motor vehicles, property, plant and equipment	-26,656	
<b>Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities</b>	<b>-26,656</b>	<b>30,892</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>		
Other cash items from financing activities	-118,516	113,386
<b>Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>	<b>-118,516</b>	<b>113,386</b>
<b>Net Cash Flows</b>	<b>416,622</b>	<b>113,386</b>
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Net change in cash for period	416,622	182,071
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	716,994	534,923
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>1,134,255</b>	<b>716,994</b>



## Notes To and Forming Part of the Accounts for the Year Ended 30 June 2023

### Note 1: Statement of Accounting Policies

The financial reports are a special-purpose financial report, prepared in order to satisfy the reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Tasmania. The Association has determined that The Link is not a reporting entity.

The financial reports have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act Tasmania and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AASB 1031 Materiality

AASB 110 Events after the Reporting Period

No other applicable Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views or other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board have been applied.

The reports have been prepared on an accrual basis, and are based on historic costs, and do not take into account changing money values, or except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets. These accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

The following material accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

### **Income Tax**

The Association is exempt from income tax as a charity and is also a Deductible Gift Recipient for taxation purposes.

### **Fixed Assets**

The depreciable amount of fixed assets is depreciated over their useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are amortised over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The carrying amount of fixed assets is reviewed annually by the Board to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of those assets.

### **Leases**

AASB 16 Leases came into effect 1 July 2019. The new standard requiring the recognition of a 'right of use' asset and financial liability for all leases would apply to the following leases, however the board has decided to only adopt it in the 2021 financial year.

Lease	Term
57 Liverpool Street, Hobart	5+5
49 Liverpool Street, Hobart	5+5
51 Liverpool Street, Hobart	5+5

Lease payments under operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

# Financials



## **Employee Entitlements**

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee entitlements in relation to annual leave and long service leave. Liability in relation to long service leave is calculated from the date of appointment, but is not payable in full until the completion of ten years' service, and not payable pro-rata until at least seven years' service. Our experience to date is such that we expect these commitments to be payable.

Contributions are made by the Association to employee's superannuation fund of choice and are charged as expenses when incurred.

## Note 2: Operating Lease Commitments

The Association leases premises at 57 Liverpool Street, 49 Liverpool Street and 51 Liverpool Street.

## Note 3: COVID-19

Within Australia and globally, unprecedented measures have been introduced to control the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak, including travel and trade restrictions, restrictions on public gatherings and temporary business closures. These significant measures have had a sudden and substantial negative impact on global economic activity, with certain industry sectors experiencing unforeseen financial difficulties. Consequently, the functioning of global capital markets has been impaired by increased volatility and negative investor sentiment.

The expected duration and magnitude of the COVID-19 global pandemic and its potential implications on the global economy and financial markets remains unclear. Should these circumstances become severe or prolonged, it is expected to have a material adverse impact on the global and Australian economies, which in turn may have a material adverse impact on the entity's financial performance and position.

Currently we are not directly impacted by the pandemic, and have managed to continue running our organisation as normal.





## Note 4: Government Subsidies and other Grants Received In Advance

Government operational subsidies and grants received in respect of expenses and programs are taken to income in accordance with the pattern of expenditure incurred, or on a time basis as best fits the terms of the subsidy or grant, to provide for the matching of revenue and expenditure during the year and future periods. Details of subsidies and Project Grants are shown below:

<b><u>Headspace</u></b>	
Grant income received	1,015,817
Bank Interest, Medicare Income and Other Income	140,132
Funds Available	1,155,949
less; Grant Expenditure	1,115,813
Underspend	40,136
<b><u>Short Term Psychological Interventions Program</u></b>	
Grant income received	118,574
Bank Interest and Other Income	-
Funds Available	118,574
less; Grant Expenditure	124,637
Overspend	(6,063)
<b><u>Community Youth Health - Core Funding</u></b>	
Grant income received	233,880
Bank Interest and Other Income	2,257
Funds Available	236,137
less; Grant Expenditure	225,545
Underspend	10,591
<b><u>Youth Health Fund</u></b>	
Grant income received	333,858
Bank Interest and Other Income	2,335
Funds Available	336,193
less; Grant Expenditure	322,210
Underspend	13,983
<b><u>Illicit Drug Diversion Initiative (IDDI)</u></b>	
Grant income received	137,887
Bank Interest and Other Income	1,331
Funds Available	139,218
less; Grant Expenditure	136,561
Underspend	2,656
<b><u>ATOD - Core funding</u></b>	
Grant income received	610,564
Bank Interest and Other Income	5,891
Funds Available	616,456
less; Grant Expenditure	600,007
Underspend	16,449

# Financials



<b>Colony 47 Horizon</b>	
Grant income received	38,370
Other Income	15,593
Funds available	53,963
Less: Grant expenditure	66,919
Overspend	(12,956)
<b>Headspace Early Years</b>	
Grant income received	54,250
Other Income	500
Funds available	54,750
Less: Grant expenditure	45,975
Underspend	8,775
<b>Headspace – Demand Management</b>	
Grant income received	113,951
Other Income	-
Funds available	113,951
Less: Grant expenditure	113,951
Under/Overspend	-
<b>AOD Peer Worker</b>	
Grant income received	75,000
Funds available	75,000
Less: Grant expenditure	11,096
Underspend	63,904
<b>B4 First 1000 Days Storyteller</b>	
Grant income received	3,019
Funds available	3,019
Less: Grant expenditure	3,019
Under/Overspend	-
<b>MHCT Peer Support</b>	
Grant income received	3,280
Funds available	3,280
Less: Grant expenditure	1,944
Underspend	1,336
<b>MRC (Our Community My Future)</b>	
Grant income received	54,651
Other Income	611
Funds available	55,262
Less: Grant expenditure	41,048
Underspend	14,214
<b>MyState Grant</b>	
Grant income received	-
Other Income	-
Less: Grant expenditure	6,303
Overspend	(6,303)
<b>Our Country Health</b>	
Grant income received	99,983
Other Income	-
Funds available	99,983
Less: Grant expenditure	31
Underspend	99,952

# Financials



<b>Party in the Paddock</b>	
Grant income received	15,000
Other Income	
Funds available	15,000
Less: Grant expenditure	15,028
Overspend	(28)
<b>Work &amp; Study (IPS)</b>	
Grant income received	708,154
Other Income	1,158
Funds available	709,312
Less: Grant expenditure	516,850
Underspend	192,462
<b>Small Grants</b>	
Grant income received	14,723
Funds available	14,723
Less: Grant expenditure	14,460
Underspend	263



## STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

The Board has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies stated in note 1 of the financial statements

In the opinion of the Board, these financial reports set out on pages 1 to 10:

- Present fairly the financial position of The Link Youth Health Service Inc. as at 30 June 2023 and the performance for the year ended on that date.
- At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe The Link Youth Health Service Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.



President

Date 13 October 2023



Treasurer

Date 13/10/2023



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## **INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LINK-YOUTH HEALTH SERVICE INC ABN: 11 770 186 878**

### ***Opinion***

We have audited the special purpose financial report of The Link-Youth Health Service Inc (the Entity), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2023, the profit & loss statement for the year then ended, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Board declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of The Link-Youth Health Service Inc has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2023, and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 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 ethical 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.

### ***Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting***

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The special purpose financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the Board's financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



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### ***Responsibility of the Responsible Entities for the Financial Report***

The Board of the entity is responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The Board's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

### ***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 the 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 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 Board.



- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board'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 the Board 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.



**Michael Ian Derbyshire**  
Director

Hobart

16 October 2023

# Who We Are: 2022-2023

## **headspace Team**

Abbey Lack  
Adela Marrone  
Alessandra (Sandy) Kraft  
Alison Hardinge  
Andrew Jones  
Angela Waite  
Bhargavi Desai  
Cindy Goh  
Clare Penny  
Eleanor Holloway  
Emma Bunzli  
George Williams  
Helen Shann  
Jeremy Alman  
Keilan Grey  
Lillian Brinken  
Melissa Saragih  
Shelagh Curtain  
Stefania Franja  
Yalei Wilson

## **headspace**

### **Early Career Program**

Liam O'Loughlin  
Rebecca Pettit

## **headspace**

### **Demand Management**

Rachel Sylvester

## **Senior Management**

Andrew Badcock  
Angela Waite  
Maggi Boughton  
Miranda Ashby

## **Clinical Leads**

Alison Edwards  
Bernadette Carroll  
Kellie Bryan  
Wayne Frost

## **Administration Team**

Julie Downie  
Lesley Jandric  
Yan Rayner

## **Reception Team**

Daisy McMullen  
Lucas Connors  
Madeleine Weir  
Molly Devlin  
Nellie Ryan  
Tania Cerritelli

## **ATOD Team**

Hannah Poon  
Karen Knights  
Peter Callander

## **ATOD Peer Worker**

Hugh Alexander

## **Community Youth Health Program Team**

Aaron Kwan  
Andrew Badcock  
Georgia Hardy  
Harriet Barranger  
Heetham Hekmat  
Jessica Fleming  
Mirtemaaij van Schooten  
Shuyue Zheng

## **Horizon 47**

Jasmine Appleford

## **Our Community, MY Future**

Tegan Hewitt

## **Work and Study Team**

Grace Ho  
Lorelle Taylor  
Marina Buttemer  
Molly Port  
Paddy McLaughlan  
Shannan Harris

## **Youth Health Fund Team**

Marianne Wyrsh  
Nikala Post

## **Graduates**

Diego Esquivel Alvarez, Eleri Morgan, Jason Shen

## **Students**

Aisling O'Driscoll, Andrew N, Annie Lord, Brontee Lawson, Garrett Huston, Holly Allen, Jana Panagakos, Jasmine Appleford, Laura Haines, Lauren McCulloch, Lotus Ye, Maggie Ellard, Marina Buttemer, Natalia Miranda, Nigel Moyo, Paul Bonnitcha, Thomas Lawton, Yalei Wilson

## **Youth Reference Group**

Ava Hickey, Bre (Bug) Moate, Brea Knott, Eloise Day, Frankie Niamh, Grace Mitchell, Jane Montgomery, Lottie Giudici, Mikaela Lunn, Patrick Lee, Susannah Mannie

## Our Corporate Partner



The Link Youth Health Service and our headspace Hobart program are proud to have the support of Xsquared Architects as our Corporate Partner.





[thelink.org.au](http://thelink.org.au)