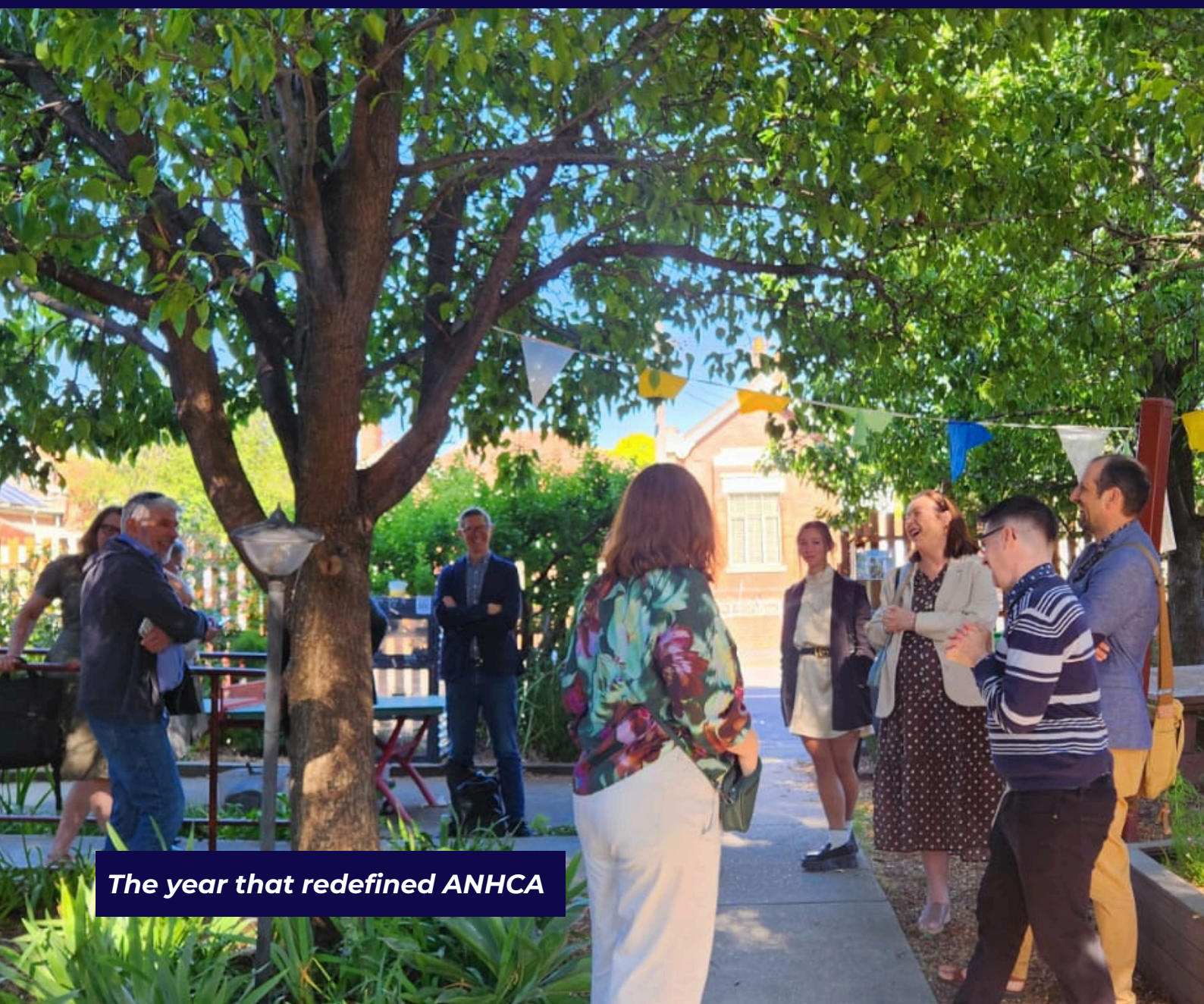




# AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION

## ANNUAL REPORT 2025

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*The year that redefined ANHCA*

“

***Alone we can do so little;  
together, we can do so much.***”

***Helen Keller***



### **ANHCA would like to Acknowledge the Traditional Custodians across Australia.**

Australia is one land mass made up of many Countries. The mountains, valleys, waterways, desert, flat Country, bush, wind, rain, fire, animals, and all the diversity that Country brings. We would like to Acknowledge sovereignty was never ceded and we are all now a part of the ongoing healing journey that we all need to take together moving from the pain and atrocities of the past, into a thriving and healing future. We would like to acknowledge the Elders from the past and their love of Country, the Elders here now supporting us and showing us how to live with love and honour.

***Kathryn Coff, First Nations Community Education Liaison***

### **About this report**

As the national peak body for Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres, ANHCA is committed to the highest standards of transparency, accountability, and integrity in its governance and reporting. Our financial statements are prepared as general purpose financial reports and are externally audited each year.

The ANHCA Annual Report 2024-25 provides an overview of our advocacy, partnerships, and impact across the sector, as well as our financial performance for the year ending 30 June 2025.

**Report published November 2025.**

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[www.anhca.org](http://www.anhca.org)



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# Our Strategy

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I am delighted to have been appointed by the ANHCA board to partner with Jarrah in leading the 3-year strategic plan FY27 to FY29 and the pivotal implementation delivering a new vision for ANHCA with service to its membership base.


My background experience and wheelhouse as a CPA and Business Coach is to transition organisations from potential decline or flatlining to identifying opportunities and objectives to new growth, developing channels of success and ultimately achieving sustainability and strategic objectives. At the end of FY25, my optimism for ANHCA's future grew as the board decided as a group to approve the new strategy for the period to the end of FY29.

## This is the turning point.

As the major impetus for change, we identified the opportunities for ANHCA to be more than a DGR funds distribution channel to Neighbourhood Centres and Houses. The key strategic opportunities revolve around promotion of national identity, sector capacity building, accessing quality data for sound decision making, influencing National policy and creating partnerships and developing collaboration. The strategy will act as an enabler for state peak members bodies to align common purpose through a synergistic framework.

We identified the need to implement a new core funding as a key element in order to achieve these objectives. The incredible connections and relationships that Liz, Jarrah, Paul, Tomas and the board have built since I have joined ANHCA is amazing. This will prove to be crucial to the future success of ANHCA creating an incredible pipeline of potential discussions around funding partnerships and new advocacy opportunities.

The 3-year ANHCA strategy is summarised below and is a conservative view to achieving a strong retained earnings base whilst delivering key organisational objectives. The forecast for FY26 is for a surplus and the entire 3 year strategy period is based upon annual surplus results.



**Hal Hiramatsu**

**Consultant and Chief Financial Officer**

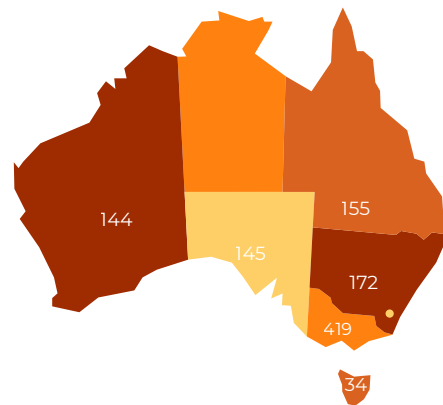
*Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association*



## Mission

We amplify the voice and impact of Australia's Neighbourhood House and Centre sector by driving policy influence, building sector capacity, and championing place-based approaches to create a stronger, more connected and resilient sector.

Through strategic partnerships, evidence-based advocacy, and place-based approaches, ANHCA sets a national standard of value, guidance, and leadership, connecting State Peak bodies and developing reach to members as one unified sector. By doing so, ANHCA empowers local communities to build capability, sustainability, driving collective impact and delivering growth.



1,069 NHCs in our national network



400,000 Australian's engage with NHCs each week

# About ANHCA

ANHCA is the national peak body harnessing the collective strength of over 1,000 Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres (NCHCs) through six state sector peaks across six states, the **country's largest place-based social infrastructure**.

With more physical locations than McDonald's, NCHCs are embedded in the heart of local communities, including some of the most geographically isolated and disadvantaged regions in the country. We work in partnership with six state-based peak bodies and are also a member of the International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres, the global peak for place-based work.

## Strategic Objectives

### National Identity and Awareness



Develop targeted training, resources, and support programs to enhance the skills, knowledge, and leadership capabilities of neighbourhood house and centre staff and volunteers, improving service quality and community impact.

### Sector Capacity Building



Implement a comprehensive and consistent communications strategy to promote the neighbourhood house and centre sector's national identity, values, and achievements, increasing public awareness and recognition of the sector's contributions to Australian communities.

### Data-Driven Decision Making



Establish a robust data collection and analysis framework to track the sector's impact, outcomes, and trends, informing evidence-based policy advocacy, sector development, and resource allocation.

### Influence National Policy



Strengthen ANHCA's advocacy efforts to ensure the neighbourhood house and centre sector's voice is represented in national policy discussions, driving systemic change and resource allocation to support community development.

### Community Partnerships and Collaboration



Foster strategic partnerships between the State Peak bodies, government agencies, businesses, and other community organisations to leverage resources, expertise, and funding, driving collaborative solutions to local challenges.



# The Year at a Glance



**6** State Peak body members



**8** Board members

**1,069**

NCHCs in our national network



**400,000**

Number of people visited NCHCs per week

**\$150,000**

Grant funding administered to the sector



**\$492,000**

Funding distributed through our Public Fund for DGR

**6**

Meetings held with members of Federal Parliament



**23**

Federal MPs contacted



Commenced the transition to  
**Company Limited by Guarantee**



Began building a 3-yr  
**Strategic Plan**



**2,127**

Facebook Followers



**452**

LinkedIn Followers



**851**

Instagram Followers

# Our President

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**Across the country, communities rely on this network every day, and our role has been to elevate that strength, make it visible, and ensure national leaders understand the scale and significance of what we collectively deliver.**

**Stepping into this year as President of ANCHA has reaffirmed just how powerful our neighbourhood house and centre sector is. Over the past twelve months, we have pushed forward with confidence, making it clear that without our work the consequences would be felt well beyond a ripple.**

Continuing the foundations laid in previous years, we made a deliberate decision to grow ANCHA's capacity as a national peak body, strengthen our voice, and make our impact visible. This has meant refining our governance and strategic direction, sharpening our risk awareness, and securing the resources needed to lead effectively at a national level. Throughout this, we have kept our mission front and centre: to amplify the sector's voice, build capability, and champion place-based approaches that foster stronger, more resilient communities.

Our six state peak members sit at the heart of this work. By resourcing and elevating their voice, we strengthen the entire sector, ensuring local knowledge, priorities, and achievements are recognised and valued nationally.

Advocacy and profile-raising have been major focus areas this year. This work culminated in our August delegation to Canberra, where we met with federal ministers and advisers to progress our call for core funding for ANCHA and the broader sector.

Securing this support is vital, as without it our capacity to lead nationally, coordinate initiatives, and advocate effectively remains constrained. We also continued to press the case for Deductible Gift Recipient status for neighbourhood houses and centres, a reform that would open new funding pathways and support long-term sustainability.

The response from members, partners, and federal stakeholders has been overwhelmingly positive. ANCHA's clearer direction, stronger presence, and steady advocacy are being recognised. Notable support came from the Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS) and Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles, whose willingness to champion the sector and host our visit was a significant endorsement.



Hearing our value reflected back by federal ministers is encouraging, but we must now convert that acknowledgement into firm resource commitments.

Looking ahead, ANCHA is well placed to build further cohesion, deepen our national influence, and help shape a future where neighbourhood houses and centres thrive in every community. I want to acknowledge the commitment of our operational staff, volunteer Board, and state peak members. Their dedication, expertise, and belief in the purpose of this movement have made everything we achieved this year possible



**Elizabeth Bonner**

**President**

*Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association*

“ *We should know more about Liz Bonner, because she is an incredible person. She is deeply inspiring. I am reminded that there the issues at hand do play in the space of life and death. That's actually what Liz is doing.* ”

*Deputy Primister, Richard Marles*



# Our Manager

**2024/25 was the year that redefined ANHCA: a year of profound change, renewal, and purpose. It marked the rebirth of an organisation ready to step into its full potential.**

Over the past year, I have come to truly understand what it means to be part of this sector: *“strong communities don’t happen by accident: they are built, nurtured, and sustained by people who care.”*

Across Australia, Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres are doing extraordinary, place-based work every day, connecting people, strengthening communities, and responding where need is greatest. Yet too often, this vital sector remains under-recognised and under-resourced in national policy and funding conversations.

This year, we began transforming ANHCA into the strong, united national voice our sector deserves: professional and influential. We are building an organisation that not only represents our collective strength but also drives the recognition and investment needed to secure our future. With the right people, partnerships, and purpose, ANHCA is stepping forward to shape the future of community-led impact in Australia.

Building on the work of previous years, we made a strategic decision to embark on significant transformation. We committed to growing our capacity as a national peak body, unifying the sector, and unlocking the collective strength of our network. This has involved redesigning systems and processes to ensure financial sustainability, strengthening our risk awareness, and positioning ANHCA to meet the needs of the members we serve. At the same time, we refocused our services to align more closely with our strategic objectives.

Central to this work was asking ourselves a simple question: what do our members most value in a national peak body? With that in mind, we began shaping a three-year strategic plan designed to bring our mission to life and create cohesion across states that are diverse yet deeply connected by shared purpose.

Our new strategy has been met with strong support from current and potential partners and federal parliamentarians, all recognising the growing role of ANHCA as a trusted voice for the sector.



As we look ahead, we have a unique opportunity to strengthen the sector's impact through unity. I want to acknowledge the efforts of our current and past board members in laying the foundations of who ANHCA is and what we stand for. In particular, I thank our President, Liz Bonner, whose exemplary leadership has guided us through a period of significant change.

To our members: thank you for being the voice of your state and for helping us build a national narrative that highlights the vital role of neighbourhood and community houses and centres across Australia.

It is a privilege to be leading ANHCA at such a pivotal time. The passion, resilience, and commitment of this sector is inspiring. It gives me confidence that together we are on the right path to building cohesion, strengthening our collective voice, and shaping a future where every community can thrive.



**Jarrah Kelly**  
**Operations Manager**

Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association



# Sector Advocacy

## Year in Review



Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles emerged as a strong champion for the sector, recognising the vital role NCHCs play federally across Australia.



Received an invitation from Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles to host parliamentary meetings in Canberra in August 2025.



Secured support from the Age and Disability Commissioners for neighbourhood and community centres.



Achieved ANHCA's first federal funding through the Supporting Stronger Communities (SARC) grant and successfully amended the program guidelines.



Hosted Minister Amanda Rishworth's visit to Derwent Valley Community Centre.



Joined ACOSS and the Renew Australia for All campaign, strengthening national advocacy partnerships.



Began working with Justice Connect on a campaign fairer, more accesible DGR for our sector.





## Outlook

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Annual visit to Canberra to continue building national visibility and momentum for the neighbourhood and community house sector.



Federal Budget submissions will be strongly supported by Deputy Prime Minister Richard Marles and Assistant Minister Ged Kearney, reflecting growing recognition of the sector's importance.



Securing core funding for neighbourhood and community centres remains ANHCA's top advocacy priority.



Continued leadership on DGR reform, ensuring equitable access for all neighbourhood and community centres across Australia.



Development of comprehensive sector advocacy materials, including shared messaging, resources, and tools to strengthen national collaboration and amplify our collective voice.



Approved to participate in Westpac's Observe Program to strengthen ANHCA's strategic capability.







***We strongly support Neighbourhood Centres being recognised and funded as a formal part of social infrastructure to deliver sustainable and flexible place based supports and solutions. They are capable of nurturing social connectedness and inclusion, offering valuable support to help people navigate complex care systems and providing locally based and flexible foundational and other supports.***

**Robert Fitzgerald & Rosemary Kayess**  
**Australia's Disability and Age Discrimination Commissioners**

# ATO Self-Assessed NFP Register & DGR Advocacy

In 2024–25, ANHCA supported NCHCs to navigate changes to charity and tax-exemption requirements, which can be complex for small organisations with limited resources. Together with Deakin University, we developed a tool to help NCHCs review their constitutions and meet updated ACNC requirements.

ANHCA supported 187 Neighbourhood and Community Houses to navigate the ATO's self-assessment tool, completing this initiative and gathering insights that informed a strategic shift towards national advocacy for a dedicated Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) category for the sector.

A dedicated DGR category would:

- Ensure equitable access to philanthropy and corporate support,
- Reduce administrative barriers to fundraising, and
- Unlock millions in untapped community investment, strengthening long-term sector sustainability.

As part of this advocacy, ANHCA has actively engaged with Federal Parliament, including meetings with Andrew Leigh's office, and is collaborating with Justice Connect to explore broader reform options for DGR status. These efforts aim to secure lasting, systemic change that benefits the entire sector.



**We're joining the call for a fairer, simpler DGR system.**



# Public Fund for DGR

**ANHCA provides Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres (NCHCs) with access to Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status, following successful advocacy that led to an amendment to the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth).**

This enables NCHCs across Australia to receive tax-deductible donations and apply for grants from philanthropic foundations, trusts, and corporations that require DGR status. The ANHCA Public Fund, overseen by a dedicated committee, acts as a trusted vehicle for NCHCs to attract and manage donations and funding, strengthening their capacity to deliver vital community-led programs.

## *Empowering Communities Through DGR Access*

we approved  
**32**  
applications for DONATIONS

we approved  
**61**  
applications for GRANTS

ANHCA distributed  
**\$300,000**  
DONATIONS

ANHCA distributed  
**\$192,000**  
GRANTS



Dorset Community House | Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania



# Rebrand

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As part of ANHCA's transformation, we undertook a rebrand this year to better reflect our identity as the national voice for the Neighbourhood and Community House and Centre sector. This included the development of a refreshed logo and visual identity designed to capture the strength, connection, and collective impact of our network.



In creating the new logo, we sought to highlight the common threads that unite our sector nationally, while also incorporating a universal symbol that reflects the warmth and inclusivity at the heart of every Neighbourhood House and Centre.



This rebrand marks an important step in positioning ANHCA as a more visible, professional, and contemporary peak body, one that reflects both our roots in community and our growing national leadership.



We are deeply grateful to **Neighbourhood Centres Queensland** for their generous contribution in designing the new logo, which beautifully represents the unity of our national network.



President, Liz Bonner, and Manager, Jarrah Kelly with Cassandra Goldie, CEO of ACOSS

# Partners

**ACOSS**

**Renew Australia for All**

**Australian Institute of Disaster Relief**

**Adult Learning Australia**

**Play Groups Australia**

**Minter Ellison**

**Justice Connect**

**Settlement Council Australia**



# Impact

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Philanthropic giving is more than supporting the work of today, it strengthens the capacity of our sector to meet the challenges of tomorrow. Funding provided to ANHCA is an investment in the long-term sustainability of NCHCs nationwide, ensuring they remain a strong foundation for communities for generations to come.

**Community Refugee  
Sponsorship Australia**

**Department of Social Services**

**Helen MacPherson Smith  
Trust**

**Pau Ramsay**

**Sidney Myer**



*We sincerely thank all donors for their generosity and commitment. Your support empowers our sector to continue making a meaningful, lasting impact across Australia.*



# Supporting Stronger Communities Grant Program

**In partnership with Sidney Myer and Helen MacPherson Smith Trust, ANHCA established the Supporting Stronger Communities (SSC) grant program to promote equity and inclusion in communities all across Australia.**

During the 2024–25 financial year, the SSC program ran Rounds 15 and 16, supporting a total of 21 successful applicants across Australia.

- Round 15: 6 grants awarded (all funded by the Sidney Myer Foundation) totalling \$60,000. Recipients were located in NSW (4), QLD (4), SA (3), TAS (3), VIC (34), and WA (2).
- Round 16: 15 grants awarded (9 in VIC funded by the Helen Macpherson Smith Trust) totalling \$150,000. Recipients were located in VIC (38), NSW (8), QLD (2), WA (3), SA (1), and TAS (2).

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

we have funded  
**163**  
community projects!

The SSC program has awarded  
**\$1.50 million**  
to place-based community projects



## SSC Grant Evaluation



ANHCA has partnered with Deakin University to undertake a detailed evaluation of the SSC grant program. This research will provide valuable insights into the impact that Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres have on social connection, belonging, and sense of community.

The findings will be used in ANHCA's advocacy to philanthropic partners and in federal advocacy, as we work to attract further funding and policy support for the sector.

The Building Stronger Communities: SSC Evaluation Project is progressing on schedule, led by Deakin University's HOME Research Centre in collaboration with ANHCA and HMST.





## Victoria Park Community Centre

### Noongar Language After School

This after school activity introduced young participants and their families to the Noongar language and context through storytelling, games, song, sport, artefacts and more. The creative and welcoming environment to learn the language of the oldest continuing living culture in the world from talented cultural custodians, primary teachers and performers.



## East Devonport Neighbourhood House

### Bus with Us

Bus with Us was opportunity for members of the community to foster connections with one another and explore destinations they may not typically have the means or inclination to visit. The excursions encompassed a range of locations and details, featuring visits to thrift stores, economical nurseries, affordable lunch spots, and various other destinations chosen by the participants.





## Jika Jika Community Centre

### Gathering for Good

Gathering for Good addressed the harmful effects of loneliness in our community through a series of social initiatives. The project brought people together to foster meaningful connections and harness their energy for positive impact. It included three components: community outreach through door-to-door engagement, “Creating for Good” where participants made items for social benefit, and “Meals for Good,” hosting community lunches to celebrate events such as International Women’s Day, Refugee Week, and NAIDOC Week.



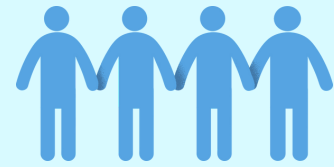
## Warrnambool Neighbourhood Community Centre

### Feeding Bodies, Minds & Spirit - Healthy School Lunch Program

This program addressed food insecurity and promoted healthy eating in East Warrnambool. Warrnambool Neighbourhood & Community Centre, located in a DFFH-owned community housing area, partnered with three local schools to support children who often missed lunch. Building on the schools’ existing breakfast clubs, they provided a variety of lunch items to ensure students in need had reliable access to meals each day.



# Strong & Resilient Communities Grant



ANHCA was approved by the Department of Social Services (DSS) to administer \$989,000 in grants dedicated to the NCHC sector in 2025-26 - marking ANHCA's first-ever federal funding. This program enables NCHCs to access funding that strengthens the social and economic participation of vulnerable and disadvantaged people within their local communities.

In previous years, many NCHCs were excluded from SARC funding provided by the Department due to only entirely new projects being eligible, despite many NCHCs already delivering effective, community-led initiatives.

ANHCA successfully advocated for this barrier to be removed, with DSS now recognising the importance of sustaining proven local programs, marking a significant policy win for the sector.

When the announcement was made, the then Minister for Social Services, Amanda Rishworth, and Tasmanian Minister Rebecca White visited Derwent Valley Community Centre in Tasmania to highlight the impact and importance of the neighbourhood and community house sector.



Amanda Rishworth MP and Rebecca White MP at Derwent Valley Community Centre (TAS)



# Rochester Community Access Flood Relief Fund



## Rochester Community House: Responding to Floods and Supporting Our Community

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

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

Community members impacted by the floods could apply for financial support payments of \$500. In recognition of the additional challenges faced by Bendigo Bank customers, an additional \$200 was made available to them.

ANHCA and RCH, in collaboration with Neighbourhood Houses Victoria (NHVic), worked together to create an efficient system for processing and tracking applications.

Across the 2024–25 financial year, ANHCA distributed a total of \$697,500 in emergency relief funding to flood-affected residents across two rounds. This included \$588,100 in regular payments and \$153,350 in Bendigo Bank top-ups — with \$447,000 distributed in Round 1 (including 352 Bendigo Bank payments) and \$141,100 in Round 2 (including 553 Bendigo Bank payments).

The support reached hundreds of displaced residents, 75.7% of whom were forced from their homes, with 27.9% receiving no other financial relief and 48.6% reporting inadequate insurance coverage. Funds were primarily used to replace essential household goods such as furniture, white goods, and personal items, providing timely and tangible assistance to those most affected.

**The fund represents a collaborative and effective model for managing community crisis support.**



# Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia

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

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

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

During the 2024–2025 financial year, ANHCA supported 45 Community Support Groups across Australia, helping them raise a combined total of \$448,962 to welcome and support refugee families.







## Governance

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The story of ANHCA began in 1986 as the Collective of the National Link of Neighbourhood Houses and Community Centres INC. While some of the early history has been partially lost over time, key milestones mark the organisation's evolution and growth.

In 2024–25, ANHCA entered a new chapter of transformation. This period has seen a comprehensive restructure, the professionalisation of governance and operations, and a renewed strategic focus on uniting and amplifying the sector's voice. These changes mark not just an evolution, but a rebirth, positioning ANHCA as a stronger, more agile, and influential peak body, ready to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future.

## Board

At the heart of ANHCA is a passionate and experienced leadership team, dedicated to advocating for and strengthening the sector nationally. The volunteer Board governs the organisation and sets strategic direction in response to the evolving needs of our members. We acknowledge their dedication and vision, which have been central to driving ANHCA's transformation and laying the foundations for a stronger, more influential national peak.

# Organisational Structure

## Members

## The Member Reps

Advocate for and reflect the voices of the NCHC sector within their state

Provide sector feedback and priorities.

## Management



**Hal Hiramatsu**  
Consultant CFO

CFO while supporting the development of a sustainable business model



**Jarrah Kelly**  
Operations Manager

Works in collaboration with the board to implement strategy

## The Board

Governs the organisation and sets strategic direction based on the evolving needs of the members

Share decisions, updates, and reports.



# Our Board



**Elizabeth Bonner**  
PRESIDENT

Liz is a long-time grassroots community development advocate and CEO of Cloverdale Community Centre based in Geelong Victoria. She has a background that spans science, education, and not-for-profit leadership. Liz is deeply embedded in the Neighbourhood House sector, having contributed to governance across all levels, from local centre committees to the national peak.



**Paul Sekfy**  
VICE PRESIDENT

Paul is the treasurer of Local Community Centres Australia (the peak body in NSW), the International Federation of Settlements (the global peak body) and Coffs Harbour Neighbourhood Centre. Paul also serves on the board of East Coast Accessibility Experts.



**Michelle Ewington**  
SECRETARY

Michelle is president of Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania and has over 15 years of board experience, including leadership roles with Volunteering Australia, Volunteering Tasmania, and the Australian Children's Contact Services Association. In 2023, she was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for her service to communities.



**Tina Reynolds**  
TREASURER

Tina is the CEO of Orana Support Service in NSW and a board member of Local Community Services Australia (the peak body in NSW). Tina is also the Chair of Hera Mine Project.



**Jane Harwood**  
BOARD MEMBER

Jane is CEO of Linkwest, the peak body in WA. Jane brings her extensive experience in volunteer management, stakeholder engagement, and for-purpose leadership to the national table. She has over 20 years experience in the health and community sector both in Australia and in the UK.



**Tomas Passeggi**  
BOARD MEMBER

Tomas has served as the Community Development Coordinator at Caloundra Community Centre, and Coordinator of Baringa Community Centre. An Honorary Senior Fellow of USC, Tomas also lends his expertise to several sector-wide initiatives, including The Coalition of Community Boards and the Community Development Institute Initiative.



**Kerrie Akkermans**  
BOARD MEMBER

Kerrie is the CEO of Community Centres South Australia. Kerrie has over 30 years of leadership experience driving organisational transformation, revenue growth, and stakeholder engagement.



**Keir Paterson**  
BOARD MEMBER

Keir is the CEO of Neighbourhood Houses Victoria and an experienced leader with a strong background in public health, mental health, and community services. He has held senior management and board roles across the sector and is deeply committed to community connection and advocacy.

# Our Members

## Community Centres South Australia (CCSA)

[communitycentressa.asn.au](http://communitycentressa.asn.au)  
[info@communitycentressa.asn.au](mailto:info@communitycentressa.asn.au)



## Linkwest Western Australia

[linkwest.asn.au](http://linkwest.asn.au)  
[office@linkwest.asn.au](mailto:office@linkwest.asn.au)



## Local Community Services Association (LCSA, NSW)

[lcsansw.org.au](http://lcsansw.org.au)  
[admin@lcsansw.org.au](mailto:admin@lcsansw.org.au)



## Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania (NHT)

[nht.org.au](http://nht.org.au)  
[nht@nht.org.au](mailto:nht@nht.org.au)



## Neighbourhood Houses Victoria (NHVic)

[nhvic.org.au](http://nhvic.org.au)  
[info@nhvic.org.au](mailto:info@nhvic.org.au)



## Neighbourhood Centres Queensland (NCQ)

[ncq.org.au](http://ncq.org.au)  
[info@ncq.org.au](mailto:info@ncq.org.au)



## Western Australia (Linkwest)

Jane Harwood

## Queensland (NCQ)

Tomas Passeggi

## New South Wales (LCSA)

Tina Reynolds

## South Australia (CCSA)

Kerrie Akkermans

## Victoria (NHVic)

Keir Patterson

## Tasmania (NHT)

Simone Zell



# Community Centres South Australia



The CCSA Adaptive Futures 2024 Conference exemplified our commitment to profile-raising and member engagement. Held at the ever-inspiring National Wine Centre of Australia, this sold-out event brought together hundreds of community service professionals to reimagine service delivery models and build resilience. The conference featured a compelling panel on Social Prescribing that combined lived experience with professional expertise, generating innovative approaches to community support.

Participants actively engaged in networking and collaborative problem-solving sessions, developing practical strategies for more inclusive, community-led initiatives.

This aligns perfectly with our core strategy of advocacy, capacity building, and profile-raising.



The conference created valuable connections with over 250 NFPs, government departments, and community organizations.

The Adaptive Futures 2024 Conference wasn't merely an event—it represented a significant advancement in our mission to strengthen communities across South Australia through collaboration and shared purpose. As we continue to address resource constraints and cost of living challenges, the ideas generated at this conference will inform our ongoing work to support Community Centres in delivering exceptional grassroots outcomes.

# Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania



This year, Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania held an event to officially launch Neighbourhood House Week celebrations for 2025. The event was a success, with over 60 attendees from Neighbourhood Houses, both Houses of Parliament, and partner community service organisations.

Three wonderful speakers from Neighbourhood Houses reflected on what the theme 'Ripples of Change' meant to them. Peta from Starting Point Neighbourhood House, Freya from Kingston Neighbourhood House, and Louise from West Moonah Community House all shared stories of connection, belonging, safety, and giving back, demonstrating the impact their Neighbourhood House has had on their lives and the lives of the community around them.



The Minister for Community Services, the Honourable Roger Jaensch MP, also spoke about the importance and power of connection, and shared his personal gratitude for the collective impact Houses have across Tasmania.

The event was a fantastic way to start Neighbourhood House Week, and to hear stories directly from our members about the small, everyday actions happening in Neighbourhood Houses that build up to create positive change in our communities.





## Linkwest

The trusted role a Centre plays in its community was foundational to the End of Life Planning project, delivered through 26 Linkwest member Centres over 2024/25. Centres are well recognised as places where people can feel comfortable to seek information and to have difficult conversations. Monthly online community of practice sessions were hosted in collaboration with Palliative Care WA to increase the knowledge of Centre staff and volunteers in end of life planning and build skills around starting conversations and documenting end of life wishes. The project was funded by WA Primary Health Alliance, as part of the Australian Government PHN Program, aiming to increase completion of Advance Health Planning documentation.



Small grants through Linkwest were used by Centres to 'meet their community where they were at' and to engage people in the most appropriate way for their own community. As a result of new-found connections and confidence in the topic, Centres have added new initiatives to their program calendar, including death cafes, round table events with local stakeholders, death literacy workshops and expos of local service providers, leaving a lasting impact from this one year project.

# Neighbourhood Houses Victoria



2024/25 was a year of transformation for NHVic, marked by significant restructuring to align resources with funding and strengthen governance. Despite a challenging start, the organisation achieved a surplus from January 2025, positioning the sector for long-term sustainability.

NHvic continues to demonstrate the immense value of neighbourhood houses, which deliver \$922M in community benefits annually. In partnership with the sector, NHvic conducted its first comprehensive Participant Survey since 2017, capturing insights from 28,000 participants. The results highlighted improved physical and emotional wellbeing, increased social connection, and strong community engagement.

NHvic launched the KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN campaign to secure sustainable support for Victorian houses.



The campaign advocates for increased funding, support for underfunded houses, and establishment of new centres in growth areas. Community-led actions, signatures, council support, and media engagement, have already exceeded expectations.

NHvic's achievements are a testament to the dedication of its Board, staff, and volunteers, as well as the resilience of houses across Victoria. Together, they continue to strengthen communities, champion local needs, and ensure neighbourhood houses remain vital hubs for connection, learning, and support.



# Local Community Services Association



On 20 August 2024, LCSA celebrated its 50-year anniversary with a special evening of acknowledgements, storytelling, photographs, food and entertainment. Held at our Connecting Communities Conference event in Sydney, those in attendance included representatives from our 175-member organisations, key stakeholders, other state peak bodies, LCSA staff and volunteers, invited guests, plus a number of previous staff and board members of the organisation going back many years.

To coincide with this significant milestone occasion, where we reflected on the origins and achievements so far as an organisation and as a movement,

LCSA launched an updated version of the NSW Neighbourhood and Community Centre Policy – a publication that provides an important framework to guide the role and function of neighbourhood and community centres (NCCs) in NSW.

Developed in consultation with LCSA members, this foundational document outlines the core principles and a vision for the future of independent, locally-governed, place-based, community-led approaches that NCCs provide through its far-reaching network of essential social infrastructure.



# Neighbourhood Centres Queensland



FY 2024-25 was a year of significant growth and impact for NCQ. The organisation more than doubled its income, welcomed a new CEO, and launched its first federal election policy platform, reaching every state MP and Queensland-based federal representative. With over 150 member centres, NCQ represents the largest community-led infrastructure in the state.

This year, NCQ strengthened its advocacy, representing centres in government consultations, submissions, and direct meetings with Ministers and Members of Parliament.

NCQ's project work was diverse and impactful, including micro-credentials to upskill the workforce, disaster readiness initiatives, energy literacy programs, women and girls' health projects, and community food initiatives.



These projects showcased the creativity and responsiveness of centres to emerging community needs.

The organisation's growth in staff capacity enhanced its ability to support members, deliver projects, and represent the sector statewide. NCQ remains committed to amplifying the voices of Queensland's neighbourhood centres, ensuring they are recognised, resourced, and empowered to continue building strong, resilient communities across the state.



# Neighbourhood House Week

**Neighbourhood House Week, celebrated across Australia in the second full week of May each year, recognises the work of over 1,000 Neighbourhood and Community Houses and Centres.**

The 2025 theme, “Ripples of Change,” celebrates the power of small actions to create lasting impact. Every act - a smile, a shared story, learning a new skill, or volunteering - contributes to stronger, more connected communities. Across NCHCs, these everyday moments combine to drive meaningful change that extends far beyond local neighbourhoods.

We celebrated the collective impact of these “ripples,” inviting communities to get involved through local events, classes, and initiatives, and to share their stories under the theme “From small ripples grow big waves of change.” Together, the sector demonstrated how small, community-led actions build momentum and inspire positive change nationwide.

In Queensland, Neighbourhood Centre Week 2025 united communities statewide, raising awareness of the vital role of Neighbourhood Centres. Now in its 20th year, the celebration saw unprecedented engagement from politicians, further highlighting the sector’s significance.



# Financials

## Chief Financial Officer Report

FY2025 was a tough year for ANHCA, with challenging sector conditions and operational issues impacting our financial performance.

### Key Financial Performance Overview

- Total revenue: \$131K
- Total expenses: (\$167K)
- Net surplus/deficit: (\$36K)
- Key revenue sources:
  - Grant management fees: \$63K
  - Donations admin fees: \$61K
  - Other: \$7K

### Financial Position

Total assets:	\$1,635K
Total liabilities:	\$1,668K
Net assets:	(\$34K)
Cash on hand:	\$52K
Public funds on hand	\$1,578K

### Key points of note:

- Portable Long Service Leave was never paid to the authority until a review and subsequent registration was lodged for FY25. The expense in FY25 was (\$17K).
- An FY25 management fee Income was recognised in FY24 for \$18K
- Despite these obstacles with resulting in a (\$36K) deficit,
- The normalised result without the above anomalous amounts would reflect a deficit of (\$1K)

### Key Ratios and Metrics

1. **Current Ratio:** Current assets / current liabilities (liquidity) 0.98%
2. **Debt-to-Equity Ratio:** Total liabilities / total net assets (leverage) (0.049%)

### Challenges to overcome

- Negative net equity reserve
- High reliance on single revenue source
- Increasing debt or liabilities
- Unclear or inadequate governance and oversight due to previous accounting of funds under management



Please refer to the Strategic Outlook section for the plan to overcome the prior year's challenges and transition to a sustainable peak body to benefit all members.



**Hal Hiramatsu**

**Consultant and Chief Financial Officer**

*Australian Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Association*









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## AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION A.B.N. 47 588 370 196 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

### **Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2025, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by the members of the Board.

In my opinion, the financial report of the Association is in accordance with *the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012* and *the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*, including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the year ended; and
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards as per Note 1, *the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012* and *the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

### **Basis for Opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. I am independent of the Association 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 my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

### **Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution**

I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012* and *the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association'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 management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

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



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As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I 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 my 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 registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities 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 registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered 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.

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

**Auditor:** Frederik Ryk Ludolf Eksteen

**ASIC Registration Number:** 421448

**Address:** Collins & Co Audit Pty Ltd, 127 Paisley Street, FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011

**Signature:**

**Date:** 13 November 2025



**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**

**ABN 47 588 370 196**

**SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

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**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**COMMITTEE'S REPORT**

---

Your committee members present the special purpose financial report on the entity for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

**Committee Members**

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

Elizabeth Bonner	President	
Paul Sekfy	Vice President	
Tina Reynolds	Treasurer	
Michelle Ewington	Secretary	
Jane Harwood		
Tomas Passeggi		
Melinda Reed		Resigned
Kerrie Akkermans		Resigned July 2025
Keir Paterson		Resigned May 2025

**Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were to support and promote the activities of Neighbourhood Hoses and Centres in member represented Australian states.

**Significant Changes**

No significant changes in the nature of the entity's activity occurred during the financial year.

**Operating Results**

The deficit for the year attributable to the entity amounted to \$36,182 (2024: \$13,690 - deficit).

**Significant Changes in State of Affairs**

No significant changes in the entity's state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

**After Balance Date Events**

No matter has evolved since 30 June 2025 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect:

- (a) the entity's operations in future financial years, or
- (b) the results of those operations in future financial years, or
- (c) the entity's state of affairs in future financial years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Committee Members.



---

**Elizabeth Bonner**



---

**Michelle Ewington**

Dated this day: **06 November 2025**

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION  
TRADING AS**

**ABN 47 588 370 196  
INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>REVENUE &amp; INCOME</b>		
Donations	-	135,277
Philanthropic Grants	-	182,254
Administration Fee from Public Fund	22,502	16,344
Grants Received - Sidney Myer	-	134,167
Interest received	4,806	3,820
Other Income	24,038	25,000
Melbourne Airport Grants	-	52,500
Management Fees	60,412	87,833
Other Revenue	19,140	10,032
<b>TOTAL REVENUE &amp; INCOME</b>	<b>130,898</b>	<b>647,227</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Administration Expenses	165,858	148,031
Employee Benefits Expense	1,222	10,764
Donations Disbursed	-	149,549
Philanthropic Grants Disbursed	-	150,573
Sidney Myer Distributions	-	152,000
Melbourne Airport Disbursed	-	50,000
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>167,080</b>	<b>660,917</b>
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>	<b>(36,182)</b>	<b>(13,690)</b>

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION  
TRADING AS**

**ABN 47 588 370 196  
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year</b>	<b>(36,182)</b>	<b>(13,690)</b>
Other Comprehensive Income for the Year	-	-
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Association</b>	<b>(36,182)</b>	<b>(13,690)</b>

*In the 2025 Financial Year, Management changed the process for the recognition of revenue and distribution of funds, the explanation is summarised below:*

*Recognition of grant revenue and distributions to 30 June 2024:*

*Previously when donations or grants were received for distribution, the grant component was recognised as income under Donations or Grants to Public Fund, and the administration component was recognised both as income and an expense. When funds were subsequently distributed, payments were recorded as an expense under Donations/Grants Disbursed. This distorted the income and expense items in the P&L as a prior year comparison will reveal.*

*Recognition of grant revenue and distributions from 1 July 2024:*

*From the 2025 Financial year, donations or grants received for distribution are allocated to current liabilities under Donations or Grants Held on Trust. The trigger point to recognise fees and income is when grant or donation funds are distributed. This is when payments are deducted from the liability accounts - Donations or Grants Held on Trust. The administration fee and income component retained by ANHCA is also recognised at this time as income under Donations/Grants Admin Recognised – also deducted from fees or income held in advance.*

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	2	1,630,785	511,561
Prepayments		4,113	-
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>1,634,898</b>	<b>511,561</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>1,634,898</b>	<b>511,561</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and Other Payables	3	184,029	6,783
Contract Liabilities	4	1,485,091	489,670
Employee Entitlement Provisions	5	-	13,148
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,669,120</b>	<b>509,601</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,669,120</b>	<b>509,601</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>(34,222)</b>	<b>1,960</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Accumulated Funds/ (Losses)		(34,222)	1,960
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>(34,222)</b>	<b>1,960</b>



**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

	<b>Accumulated Funds/ (Losses) \$</b>	<b>Total \$</b>
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2023</b>	<b>15,650</b>	<b>15,650</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Association	(13,690)	(13,690)
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2024</b>	<u><b>1,960</b></u>	<u><b>1,960</b></u>
Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Association	(36,182)	(36,182)
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2025</b>	<u><u><b>(34,222)</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>(34,222)</b></u></u>

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

	Note	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from Customers and Other		1,121,513	869,758
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(7,095)	(682,046)
Interest Received		4,806	3,820
<b>Net Cash Generated from/(used in) Operating Activities</b>	<b>(i)</b>	<b><u>1,119,224</u></b>	<b><u>191,532</u></b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Payment for Office Equipment & Office Furniture		-	-
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities</b>		<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held		1,119,224	191,532
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		511,561	320,029
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>(ii)</b>	<b><u><u>1,630,785</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>511,561</u></u></b>

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

	2025	2024
	\$	\$
<b>Note (i). Net cash generated from/(used in) operating activities</b>		
Net Surplus/(Deficit) Attributable to the Association	(36,182)	(13,690)
<b>Changes in assets and liabilities:</b>		
- (Increase)/Decrease in Prepayments	(4,113)	-
- Increase/(Decrease) in Trade And Other Payables	177,246	(18,579)
- Increase/(Decrease) in Contract Liabilities	995,421	226,351
- Increase/(Decrease) in Employee Entitlements Provisions	(13,148)	(2,550)
	<u><b>1,119,224</b></u>	<u><b>191,532</b></u>
<b>Note (ii). Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>		
Cash at Bank	<u>1,630,785</u>	<u>511,561</u>
	<u><b>1,630,785</b></u>	<u><b>511,561</b></u>



**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

---

**Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies**

This financial report includes the financial statements and notes of the Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association, an incorporated association, which is incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act

**Basis of preparation**

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

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

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

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

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

**Accounting Policies**

**a. Cash and Cash Equivalents**

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

**b. Income Tax**

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

**c. Employee Entitlements**

***Short-term employee benefits***

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

**d. Accounts Payable and Other Payables**

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

---

**Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (*continued*)**

**e. Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the Association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

**f. Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the entity reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is an indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is recognised in the income and expenditure statement.

**g. Revenue Recognition**

The incorporated association recognises revenue as follows:

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

**AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities**

The Association applies Australian Accounting Standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058, using the cumulative effective method..

AASB 15 involves the use of a five-step recognition model for recognising revenue, the steps are:

- Step 1 – Identify the contract with the customer
- Step 2 – Identify the sufficiently specific performance obligations to be satisfied
- Step 3 – Measure the expected consideration
- Step 4 – Allocate that consideration to each of the performance obligations in the contract
- Step 5 – Recognise revenue

AASB 1058 measures income by reference to the fair value of the asset received. The asset received, which could be a financial or non-financial asset, is initially measured at fair value when the consideration paid for the asset is significantly less than fair value, and that difference is principally to enable the entity to further its objectives. Otherwise, assets acquired are recognised at cost.

Where the asset has been measured at fair value, AASB 1058 requires that elements of other Accounting Standards are identified before accounting for the residual component. These standards are:

- AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- AASB 16 Leases
- AASB 1004 Contributions
- AASB 137 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities & Contingent Assets
- AASB 9 Financial Instruments

**Contributed assets**

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

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

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**Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (*continued*)**

**g. Revenue Recognition (*Continued*)**

***Operating grants, donations and bequests***

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

When both these conditions are satisfied, the association:

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

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

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

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

***Capital grants***

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

***Other revenue***

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

***Interest Revenue***

Interest revenue is recognised using the effective interest rate method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

**h. Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the assets and liabilities statement.



**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

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**Note 1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (*continued*)**

**i. Comparative Figures**

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

**k. Current and non-current classification**

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

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

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

**l. New Accounting Standards and Interpretations not yet mandatory or early adopted**

Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have recently been issued or amended but are not yet mandatory, have not been early adopted by the incorporated association for the annual reporting period ended 30 June 2025. The incorporated association has not yet assessed the impact of these new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations.

**m. Going Concern**

The Board of Governance acknowledges that the Association has reported a deficit of \$36,182 for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Two key drivers behind this deficit relate to prior year activities. The first being a back payment of \$17K owing to the Portable Long Service Leave Authority and associated fees and penalties due to ANHCA being unregistered from July 2019 and has been a non-compliant entity up to and including the 2025 Financial Year. The second relates to the potential early recognition of revenue of \$38K prior to the 2025 Financial Year. In response to these challenges, the Association has appointed a dedicated Chief Financial Officer to implement financial and strategic measures.

During the latter part of the 2025 Financial Year, new accounting practices ensuring compliance with AASB15 have been implemented to ensure accurate reflect revenue recognition. The Association has also adopted a new strategy across 2026 to 2029 Financial Years including a new business model of core funding and less reliance upon administrative and management fees delivering DGR services.

The latest forecast for the 2026 Financial Year reflects a surplus of \$24K and this will reduce the negative equity significantly coupled with a stronger surplus planned for the 2027 Financial Year and as a result the negative equity will revert to a positive amount for this reporting period.

Accordingly, the Board is of the opinion that the use of the going concern basis of preparation remains appropriate.

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION  
TRADING AS**

**ABN 47 588 370 196**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

	2025 \$	2024 \$
<b>Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>		
Cash at Bank	1,630,785	511,561
	<u>1,630,785</u>	<u>511,561</u>
<b>Note 3. Trade and Other Payables</b>		
Trade Payables	52,214	-
Accrued Expenses	26,524	-
GST Payable	98,008	(386)
PAYG Withholding payable	7,283	7,169
	<u>184,029</u>	<u>6,783</u>
<b>Note 4. Contract Liabilities</b>		
Contract Liabilities (Grants & Income in Advance)	1,485,091	489,670
	<u>1,485,091</u>	<u>489,670</u>
<b>Note 5. Employee Entitlement Provisions</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Annual Leave	-	10,363
Long Service Leave	-	2,785
	<u>-</u>	<u>13,148</u>
<b>Note 6. Remuneration of Auditors</b>		
During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by the auditor of the incorporated association:		
<i>Audit services - Frederik R.L. Eksteen of Collins &amp; Co Audit Pty Ltd</i>		
Audit of the financial statements	2,800	-
<i>Audit services - Connect National Audit Pty Ltd</i>		
Audit of the financial statements	-	2,850
<b>Note 7. Events after the reporting period</b>		
No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2025 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the incorporated association's operations, the results of those operations, or the incorporated association's state of affairs in future financial years.		

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION  
TRADING AS**

**ABN 47 588 370 196**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025**

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	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Note 8. ANCHA Public Fund</b>		
In February 2014, the Association established and now maintains a Public Fund ("the Fund") with Deductible Gift Recipient Status (DGR status). The fund receives gifts of money and property made to the Association to support the activity and work of Neighbourhood Houses and Centres throughout Australia. The Fund receives Philanthropic Grants and Donations and distributes the funds to Neighbourhood Houses and Centres less a 5% Administration Fee.		
Donations	-	135,277
Philanthropic Grants	-	182,254
Interest received	4,806	1,129
Administration Fee paid to ANCHA	(4,667)	(15,776)
Donations Disbursed	-	(149,549)
Philanthropic Grants Disbursed	-	(150,573)
<b>Net Surplus (Deficit) attributable to Public fund</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>2,762</b>



**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

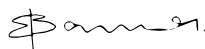
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The Committee Members have determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee Members, the financial report as set out on pages 2 to 12, satisfy the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 and:

- 1 a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards applicable to the association; and  
b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association as at 30 June 2025 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- 2 At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This declaration is signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022.



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**Elizabeth Bonner**



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**Michelle Ewington**

Dated this 6th

day of November 2025

**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS**

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**Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association (the Association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2025, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by the members of the Committee.

In my opinion, the financial report of the Association is in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012* and the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*, including:

- i. giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the year ended; and
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards as per Note 1, the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

**Basis for Opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. I am independent of the Association 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 my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

**Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution**

I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association. to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act 2012 and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

**Emphasis of Matter - Going Concern**

I draw attention to Note 1(m) "Going Concern" to the financial statements, the financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis and is dependent on the continued financial support from its grantors. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association'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 management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

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

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

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

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I 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 my 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 registered entity's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the responsible entities.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities 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 registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered 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.

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

Name of Auditor: Frederik R. L. Eksteen

Address: Collins & Co Audit Pty Ltd  
127 Paisley Street  
Footscray VIC 3011

Date:



**AUSTRALIAN NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES AND CENTRES ASSOCIATION**  
**ABN 47 588 370 196**  
**CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

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I, **Elizabeth Bonner** and I, **Michelle Ewington** hereby certify that:

- (a) We are members of the Committee of Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association.
- (b) We attended the annual general meeting of the association held on 26 November 2025.
- (c) We are authorised by the attached resolution of the committee to sign this certificate.
- (d) This special purpose financial report was submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.



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**Elizabeth Bonner**



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**Michelle Ewington**

Dated this

day of November 2025









# Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association - Special Purpose Financial Report - 30 June 2025 (signed)

Final Audit Report

2025-12-01

Created:	2025-11-27
By:	Jarrah Kelly (jarrah@anhca.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAi-Rba5-AcMpR0MjDqhYTLP-NLi4EM2I

## "Australian Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association - Special Purpose Financial Report - 30 June 2025 (signed)" History

-  Document created by Jarrah Kelly (jarrah@anhca.org)  
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-  Signer president@nht.org.au entered name at signing as Michelle Ewington  
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-  Document e-signed by Michelle Ewington (president@nht.org.au)  
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