



# AUBURN YOUTH CENTRE INC. ANNUAL REPORT

2016

Designed by J (Youth at AYC)

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# Acknowledgements

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- Andrew Price
- Attorney Generals Department
- Auburn Community Development Network
- Auburn City Council (Now Cumberland)
- Auburn Girl's High School
- Auburn Library
- Auburn Diversity Services Inc.
- Auburn/Holroyd Child Protection Interagency
- Australian Afghan Hassanian Association
- Auburn Salvation Army
- Barnardo's Auburn
- Bankstown IEC
- Catholic Education Office Parramatta Diocese
- Catholic Intensive English Centre Granville
- Centrelink Auburn
- Centre for Volunteering
- Chester Hill Intensive English Centre
- Community Migrant Resource Centre (CMRC)
- Dooley's Lidcombe Catholic Club
- Foodbank NSW
- Flemington Local Area Command
- Gallipoli Mosque
- Granville Boy's High School
- Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High School
- Granville Multi-Cultural Community Centre
- TAFE South Western Sydney Institute
- Granville Youth Centre
- High Street Youth Health Service
- Holroyd City Council (Now Cumberland)
- Holroyd High School
- Holroyd Youth Services
- Information Cultural Exchange
- Joel Gudinho
- Julie Milsom
- Jumana Azeem
- Marist Youth Care
- Merrylands High School
- Mission Australia
- Multicultural NSW
- Muslim Women's Association
- Mohan Coomaraswamy
- NSW Sexual Health
- OzHarvest
- Phil Gilbert Motor Group
- Parramatta High School
- Relationship's Australia
- Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors (STARTTS)
- South West Connect
- Strathfield Council
- Strathfield South High School
- Trinity Catholic College
- The Department of Juvenile Justice
- The Department of Education and Training NSW
- The Department Family and Community Services
- The Department of Human Services-Community Services
- The Smith Family
- The Department of Sport and Recreation
- Western Sydney Community Forum
- Youth Action
- Youth Collective

(Support in 2015/16 has been amazing so sincere apologies to those who we missed)

# Contact us

## ADDRESS:

Wyatt Park

Church Street Lidcombe NSW 2141

PO Box 184 Auburn NSW 1835

## OFFICE PHONE:

(02) 9646 2122

## EMAIL:

[admin@ayc.org.au](mailto:admin@ayc.org.au)

## WEBSITE:

[www.ayc.org.au](http://www.ayc.org.au)



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# Board and staff

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>Ann Knowles</b>	Chairperson
<b>Alex Lee</b>	Treasurer
<b>Madalena Minutillo</b>	Secretary
<b>Andrew Stone</b>	Director
<b>Matthew Booth</b>	Director (Resigned, June 2016)
<b>Jai Popli</b>	Director (Commenced April, 2016)
<b>Amira Hashimi</b>	Director (Commenced April, 2016)
<b>Mannee Chew</b>	Board Member (Commenced June, 2016)

## STAFF

<b>Mary-Ann Murphy</b>	Executive Officer (On leave from December 2015)
<b>Brian Park</b>	Youth Worker
<b>Gokhan Singec</b>	Youth Worker, Sport and Recreation Project Office
<b>Krystal Mills</b>	Youth Worker (Resigned, June 2016)
<b>Chloe Motbey</b>	Adolescent and Family Counsellor
<b>Rianne Kenny</b>	Youth Community Development Officer
<b>Paul Kenny</b>	Café Coordinator (Finished, September 2015)
<b>Kelly Chan</b>	Bookkeeper (on leave, July 16)
<b>Dean de Haas</b>	Locum Executive Officer (Commenced, December 2015)
<b>Linda Smith</b>	Locum Bookkeeper

# Chairperson's Report

When I was nominated for the role of Chair of the Auburn Youth Centre (AYC) board, I knew it was going to be a challenge but with the support of the rest of the board I was ready to take it on. So in the immediate I say thank you to the AYC Board of Alex Lee, Amira Hashemi, Andrew Stone, Jai Popli, Lena Minutillo and Mannee Chew for your efforts and support. This is AYC's 30<sup>th</sup> year, our 30<sup>th</sup> AGM, so to all who have contributed to our ongoing success over the years I offer my congratulations and appreciation.

Like many small organisations AYC is constantly chasing grants and new financial streams, at this time our financial situation could be described as tight. Funding from Dooleys Catholic Club for our community café and Youth Community Development Project both came to an end in 2016, as did our Auburn Council funded Learn to Drive Program. The targeted Early Intervention funding from Family and Community Services (FaCS) was rolled over for only one year rather than the normal three year cycle as part of a review process of service delivery. As this is our major source of funding, we wait to see the outcome with baited breath. The financial challenge remains firmly on the Board's agenda, we remain alert to the issues and active in seeking solutions.

In relation to funding I would like to offer our appreciation to NSW Department of Family and Community Services for funding both our Adolescent and Family Counsellor and Coordinator and Youth Work Projects. We also offer our gratitude to Dooley's Catholic Club for their significant support in providing funds for the upgrade of the Youth Centre and for the Youth Community Development Project that ran throughout the year. We also thank Cumberland Council, Multicultural NSW and the Attorney General's Department for funding projects throughout the year. Special thanks also to Phil Gilbert Toyota who sponsor AYC with a vehicle.

AYC has been working on diversifying our sources of income. Our newly formed Revenue Diversification Sub- Committee comprising both staff and board members met regularly to plan for and explore various funding options. One option we explored is crowd funding, presently we have a "Go for the Goal" crowd funding campaign running. We are also in the process of developing a corporate fund raising strategy which will be a major activity this year.

An interesting challenge has been the Council mergers. As Auburn Youth Centre we always felt very confident in working with Auburn Council, but in 2016 the merging of Councils to form Cumberland Council has raised some uncertainty. Changing boundaries, as well as changing structures and modes of service delivery of Council related to this merger have added another level of complexity to our discussions on the future.

This year we had some changes to our board. We said goodbye to former Chair Martin Leslie. Martin was our longest serving board member and saw us through the move to our current premises. We also said goodbye to board member Matt Booth. Thanks to Matt and Martin for their time and commitment to AYC.

Lena Minutillo, our Secretary, will not be re-nominating for the board this coming year. Thanks to Lena for her questioning nature and her years of service.

Special thanks to Alex Lee, our Treasurer who will also not be re-nominating for the board. Alex informed us months ago of his intention to resign from the board but stayed on until we recruited and he completed handover and training for his replacement. Although he moved out of Sydney

last year he has driven back for each board meeting and additional times when needed for treasurer duties.

In an effort to develop our board, both in terms of demographics and skills, we advertised for new members. This year we welcomed three enthusiastic and knowledgeable board members Amira Hashemi, Jai Popli and Mannee Chew. They come with a variety of experience across the private sector.

My experience this year in the role of chair has been really positive thanks to the regular and timely communication from our Locum Executive Officer (EO) Dean de Haas. He is always ready to answer any question from the board and put in a lot of extra hours throughout the year, including resourcing and attending various board and sub committee meetings. Dean has been the EO with Mary-Ann Murphy on parental leave. In preparation for her leave, Mary-Ann undertook recruitment and planned a long handover with Dean. However her baby didn't like those plans and arrived 6 weeks early. Thanks to the flexibility of Dean and Mary-Ann and the generous support of the team our transition wasn't too bumpy.

Despite the challenges, Dean and the team have overseen a significant increase in the numbers of young people visiting and receiving support and referrals through the centre. Our school holiday program has proved particularly popular; we have run successful events focusing on national issues and cultural diversity, facilitated group work in schools and put into place structured after school programs.

If you have visited AYC lately you would have noticed we are gradually upgrading our facilities including installation of the netting around the basketball court, polishing the wooden floor, adding air conditioning and introducing a music studio and basketball hoop. The kitchen still needs upgrading, as a Board we are searching for additional finances to complete this task.

We have worked diligently on our governance processes in 2015/16, upgrading our reporting processes and accountability. The staff and board have undertaken planning for the coming year as we intend to continue (now in Cumberland) as a place where all young people belong. Thank you to all the young people and other community members and organisations that provided feedback and suggestions on our current services and future direction. We would like to sincerely thank our facility partners, Strong Minds – Woodville Alliance and Community Migrant Resource Centre for their professionalism and support in 2015/16.

In closing I would like to thank all the staff, Dean, Mary-Ann, Gokhan, Brian, Yash, Kelly, Linda, Rianne, Chloe, Paul and Krystal for their efforts. I would also like to thank our volunteers and students for their efforts. Working together over the next year we will make AYC the place of choice for young people in Cumberland.

Ann Knowles

**Chairperson**

**Auburn Youth Centre Board of Directors**

# Executive Officer's Report

**Funded: Department of Family and Community Services-Human Services**

**Program: Community Builders**

Structured after school programs, tick, partner organisations in the Centre, tick, growing participation in all programs, tick, successful events, tick, programs in schools, tick, a plan for the future, tick, strong governance, tick. It's been a successful year for Auburn Youth Centre. Just as importantly we are striving hard as unit - Board, Staff, Volunteers and young people to put structures in place to make AYC an integral and sustainable part of the service landscape in the new Cumberland LGA. Like many Non-Government Organisations, AYC must increase and diversify revenue streams; we have a number of plans in place that are being driven by our new Revenue Diversification Sub Committee. Corporate sponsorship, philanthropic partnerships, crowd funding, major fundraising events and social enterprises are presently being planned.

I commenced the role of Locum Executive Officer in December 2015 to cover Mary Ann Murphy one year's leave. Our structured two week handover was derailed by a baby who was ready for the world six weeks early. With the support of the AYC team, with special mention to Rianne Kenny, we overcame this small hiccup and achieved a smooth transition. I think the achievements highlighted in this AGM report are a testament to Mary Ann and her hard work. As her substitute I congratulate her for the achievements and efforts.

AYC moved to Wyatt Park in 2014, since then making the Centre attractive, accessible and a place of choice for young people has been a priority. We have made significant progress. With the generous financial support of Dooley's Lidcombe Catholic Club we have created an indoor sport and recreation space that is safe and adaptive. We have also created a music studio and made office and meeting spaces more functional with the addition of air conditioning. These upgrades have been the catalyst for some highlights for AYC this year including,

- ❖ Our new partnership with Community Migrant Resource Centre (CMRC) - Youth Transition Support Program. CMRC are using office space at AYC and partnering in events, activities and programs in the Centre. Extremely successful was the Sister's Iftar Dinner attended by over 80 people and our "Pathways to Success" joint project.
- ❖ A partnership with Strong Minds (Woodville Alliance), Barnardos and AYC working with 8 young people, using the music studio, that created two great pieces of music.
- ❖ A soccer tournament in partnership with the Australian Afghan Hassanian Youth Association that had over 80 participants.
- ❖ The 2016 Youth Summit, Open Minds Open Arms, attended by over 100 young people held at the Centre. Congratulations to ADSi and the Youth Collective for this event.

Without the upgrade these and other activities may not have been possible. We still have a way to go. The kitchen needs renovation to meet food handling standards, the reception area remodelling and the outside of the building and signage need revitalisation. Positively AYC has plans in place to make these goals attainable. Whilst thanking Dooley's Lidcombe Catholic Club for this grant I would also like to acknowledge their generous support of our Youth Community Development project.

At this point it is also important to acknowledge the ongoing funding from the NSW Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS). This funding resources the Executive Officers role,



youth workers and AYC's Adolescent and Family Counselling Project plus the infrastructure of the Centre. AYC is proud of the growth in participation that has occurred across all our FaCS funded projects. In comparison with 2014/15,

- ❖ referrals to the Adolescent and Family Counsellor increased 105%
- ❖ school holiday participation increased by 92%
- ❖ recorded drop in participation up 36%

AYC support levels are trending upwards; evidence shows this will continue in 2016-17. With no direct religious or cultural affiliations our Centre fosters cross cultural and interfaith connection and understanding, it is an important part of our work.

In July, 2016 we received funding from the Attorney General's Department through the Living Safely Together program. AYC used sport and recreation to target youth at risk of disengagement, increasing antisocial behaviour and or possible radicalisation. As an early intervention project we achieved positive outcomes, with 41 people being supported through case work, 121 social media connections and direct support to 168 young people. AYC continues to target disengaging and at risk youth through sport. We also have a growing demand for the delivery of group work in schools to address identified needs such as anger, isolation, bullying and healthy relationships that connects youth workers with at risk young people. We hope to grow this facet of our work in 2016/17.

2016-17 will see AYC increasing partnerships in the Centre so as to create a one stop shop for young people. Presently AYC is proud to share our space with CMRC and the Youth Transition Support Project, thanks to Priscella Mabor and her team. Our second co located service Stronger Minds – Woodville Alliance, focusing on early intervention and mental health are also greatly appreciated. Thanks to Barry Higgins, Emma South and their teams. We also acknowledge other partners with whom we've delivered projects including Granville MCC, Strathfield Council, Gallipoli Mosque, STARTTS, Human Care Welfare, ADSi, Auburn/ Cumberland Council, Barnardo's Auburn, Information and Cultural Exchange, AAHA, High St Youth Health Services, Stop Domestic Violence Action Group and all our local schools.

To the Board of AYC, led by Ann Knowles I offer gratitude for your support and efforts. As a group you bring dedication and passion, offering your time freely, this has made my role easier. One of the greatest responsibilities you can have is babysitting another person's child. The challenge of making sure the child is safe, engaged and nourished is one that can be daunting yet stimulating. In a way being the Locum Executive Officer at AYC has been like babysitting. For a short period in AYC's life I have had responsibility for another person's role, the time to hand responsibility back is fast approaching. Others will judge the ultimate success of my "baby sitting" however I feel that AYC continues to move forward in a climate of some uncertainty.

To the staff and volunteers of AYC I offer my heartfelt gratitude. Rianne, Chloe, Gokhan, Brian, Kelly, Krystal, Yashar and Linda, AYC's paid team, your commitment to AYC has made this year a success.

Happy 30<sup>th</sup> AGM, Auburn Youth Centre. May there be 30 more.

Dean de Haas  
**Locum Executive Officer**

# Youth Drop In Project

**Funded: Department of Family and Community Services- Human Services**

**Program: Community Builders**

With our new floors, nets, and basketball hoop AYC's scope to facilitate sporting and recreational activities at the Centre improved dramatically. Previously we were limited by a floor that was not properly sealed and safety issues with flying balls that made multiple activities difficult. This year we have embarked on a more structured program of activities each afternoon whilst still having drop in activities such as table tennis, pool, computers and computer games. Some of the most popular programmed activities for young people in 2015/16 were:

- ❖ Girl's only self defence program
- ❖ Boxing program (in partnership with STARTTS & Strong Minds-Woodville)
- ❖ Thursday Brazilian Jiu Jitsu program
- ❖ Friday Epic meal time program
- ❖ In-door soccer program

In the last 6 months of this year we actively targeted female participation in activities, setting up two activities solely for girls. Our self defence program had fluctuating numbers between 3 and 8 and our girl's boxercise peaked at 12 participants. At this time female participation in drop in is at 12%, our target for 2016-17 is to reach 25%. (See Chart 1)

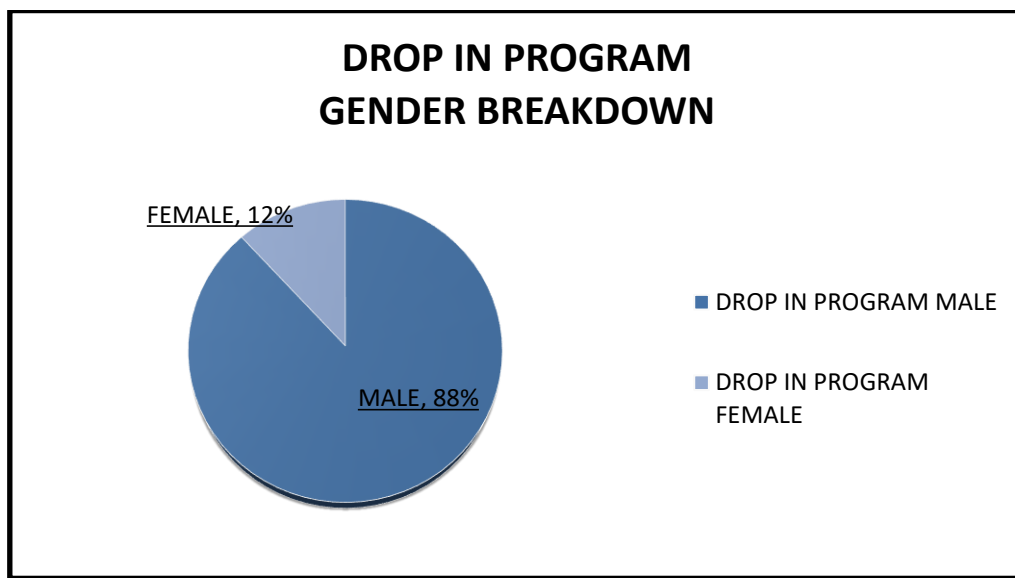


Chart 1: Gender breakdown young people accessing drop in

We view our activities at Auburn Youth Centre as a soft entry point to support young people aged 12- 24 residing in Cumberland LGA. Whilst our activities variously educate, entertain, teach skills, develop communication, build team work and leadership they also create opportunities for relationships to be developed between young people and youth workers. Through these relationships we have the opportunity to provide support, information and guidance to young people. These relationships are the core of our work at AYC.

In the 2015/16 financial year Auburn Youth Centre had approximately 3000 young people from culturally and linguistically diverse background access the centre with over 50% of participation being from young people of Afghani background. (See Chart 2) With the ever changing demographics of the region we hope to further develop participation across all cultures and backgrounds in 2016/17.

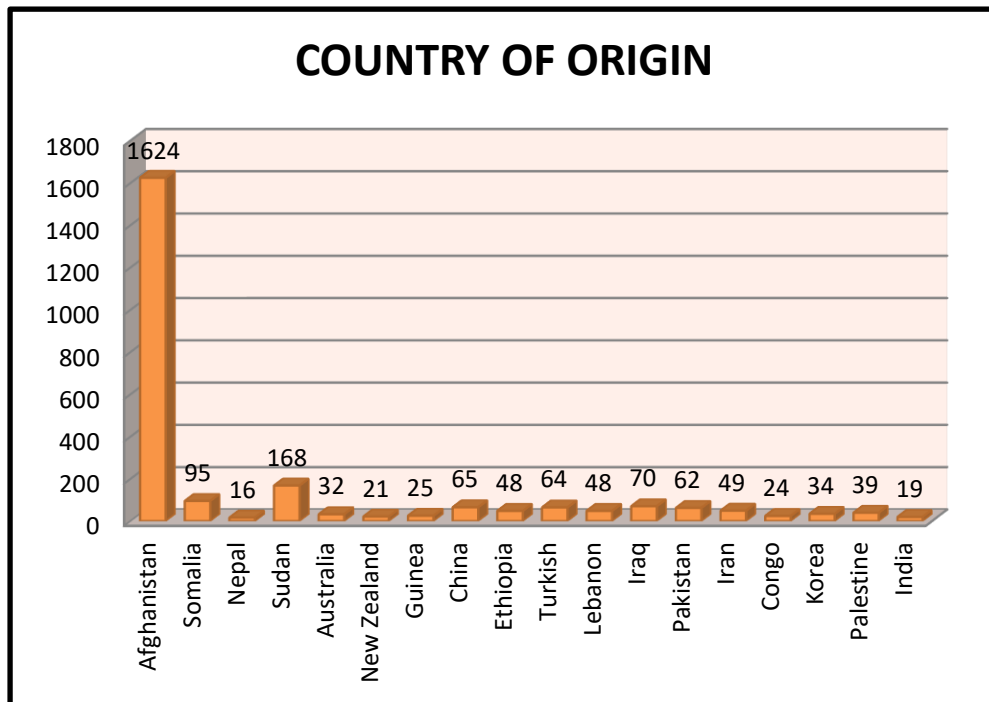


Chart 2: Break down of the background of all the participants that access Auburn Youth Centre

## School Holiday Programs

**Funded: Department of Family and Community Services- Human Services**

**Program: Community Builders**

Auburn Youth Centre expends a lot of time and an effort to create successful and exciting school holiday programs. The Auburn LGA (now part of the Cumberland LGA) was recognised as the second most disadvantaged area in Greater Sydney (SEIFA scale of disadvantage, 2011 Census figures). Our school holiday programs aim to provide experiences for young people that would normally be outside their means. All AYC activities and outings are free, we prioritise participation in outings based on equity of access and disadvantage. Unfortunately demand for outings generally outnumber available places. We do however ensure that every person registered gets the opportunity to attend at least one outing.

Our holiday programs involve both Centre based activities and outings, sometimes running concurrently to meet the needs of as many young people as possible. Like our school term programs young people can “just be” at the Centre and not participate in any structured activities. Demand for our program is growing with registrations increasing dramatically over the year, increasing by 89% from the July 2015 school holidays to the April 2016 holidays. (See Chart 3, pg 10)

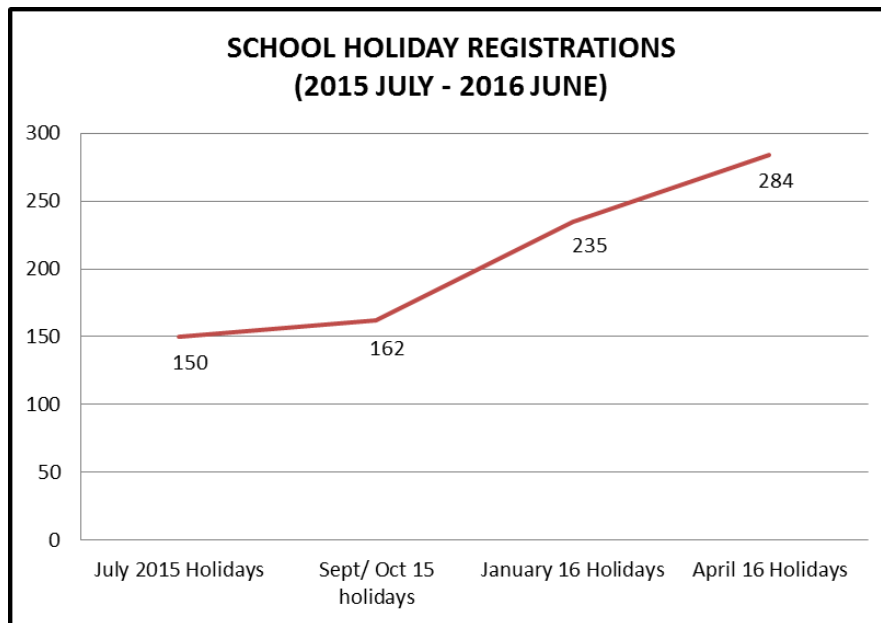


Chart 3: School holiday registrations 2015/16.

Over the year we have attempted to engage compatible age brackets and continuously made efforts to increase female participation. Some of our restricted outings and activities included:

- ❖ Cable wake park for girls (21 participants)
- ❖ Self-defence for girls (22)
- ❖ Swimming at the Aquatic Centre for girls (19)
- ❖ Taronga Zoo for 12-14 years of age (30)
- ❖ Paintball for 16+ males and females (23)

Our efforts to increase female participation are slowly having an impact. In 2015/16 20% of registrations for school holidays were girls, 126 in total. Our target for 2016/17 is to reach 30%.

We had a number of other successful activities and outing during the year including:

- ❖ Imax Cinema (30 )
- ❖ Indoor Rock Climbing (30)
- ❖ 10 pin bowling and Laser skirmish (30)
- ❖ Candle making (22)
- ❖ Auburn Movies (43)
- ❖ Indoor Soccer (85)
- ❖ Cooking (45)
- ❖ Bubble soccer (50)

I would like to express our thanks for the support of Auburn Council's community development team (Cumberland Council), partner organisations, local high schools and local media in the delivery of our school holiday programs.

Brian Park,  
**Youth Worker**





Above: Indoor Soccer tournament, April 2016.

Below: Paintball, April 2016



# Sport and Recreation Outreach Project

**Funded: The Australian Government Attorney-General's Department**

**Program: Living Safely Together Grants Program**

Auburn Youth Centre applied and received funding from The Attorney-General's Department in July 2015. This funding was to deliver a one year project creating an intervention project to address radicalisation amongst youth living in the Auburn LGA.

Our Living Safely Together Project was based on Sport and Recreation as an early intervention and diversionary project. As the project coordinator, I specifically targeted young people at risk of social isolation and escalating antisocial behaviour. I did this through connections with schools and other services such as Juvenile Justice, the police and those with fines through the State Debt Recovery Work and Development Scheme.

This was a very challenging project as the term radicalisation had become a trigger for anger in the community. In setting up activities and making connections we discussed identifying young people who displayed some of the behaviours or attitudes that could lead to extreme behaviours. Here we discussed social isolation, bullying, disengagement, mental health issues, escalating connection with the justice system and antisocial behaviour. The project then offered these identified people and others soft entry points into support through outreach activities and centre based sport and recreation programs. Once people were engaged through sport or group work they were provided ongoing support and mentoring with the aim of creating positive pathways and positive decision making.

Did this project stop the radicalisation of young people? I cannot answer. Did this project have a positive effect on the lives of young people who were disengaging or becoming isolated? The answer is yes. Through these soft entry points many young people were provided with mentoring, advocacy, information and supported referrals to services including counselling, employment, education, mental health support, life-skills programs, accommodation support and education. The following statistics outline some of the achievements of the project:

- ❖ 9 young people were supported through the Youth Justice Conferencing Process
- ❖ Ongoing 1:1 support for 41 young people
- ❖ Direct Interactions with young people through sport and recreation (168 individuals)
- ❖ Participation of young people in sport and recreation (600)
- ❖ Formal completed referrals to support services (45)
- ❖ Information provision about support services (277)
- ❖ Incoming police referrals, including 6 formal referrals and 11 informal (try to engage) referrals
- ❖ 2 young people re engaged into education
- ❖ 10 identified boys at risk of disengagement at Strathfield South Boys High, Years 9 & 10, engaged in a mentoring Program through Soccer
- ❖ Implementation of Work and Development Orders (WDO) for 34 young people

I am proud of the work and achievements of this project. I thank the schools, local police, Juvenile Justice and our local service network for their support.

Gokhan Singec,  
**Project Officer**

# Adolescent and Family Counsellor's Report

**Funded: NSW Department of Family and Community Services**

**Program: Early Intervention and Placement Prevention Program**

## Overview

The Adolescent and Family Counsellor program is a free service available to young people aged between 12-24 years and their families who reside in the Auburn Local Government Area. In addition to counselling, the program also offers psycho-educational groups, case management, advocacy, and information and referral services.

This year has shown a significant increase in the number of counselling referrals; 111 referrals received during the 2015/2016 financial year compared to 54 in the prior financial year. This may be attributed to the strategic and consistent focus on building partnerships with others in the community sector. The majority of referrals, consistent year on year, continue to be schools (57%) followed by FACS (19%). This increase has been achieved through vigorous promotion to school representatives at forums, interagency meetings and events. Promotion has also been extended towards other avenues such as GPs and self-referrals through the promotion on the centre's updated website. Education and stigma make this an ongoing and long-term project to ensure continuing presence here in the Auburn LGA. There is an identified decline in referrals received from both Juvenile Justice and NGO's. (See Chart 4)

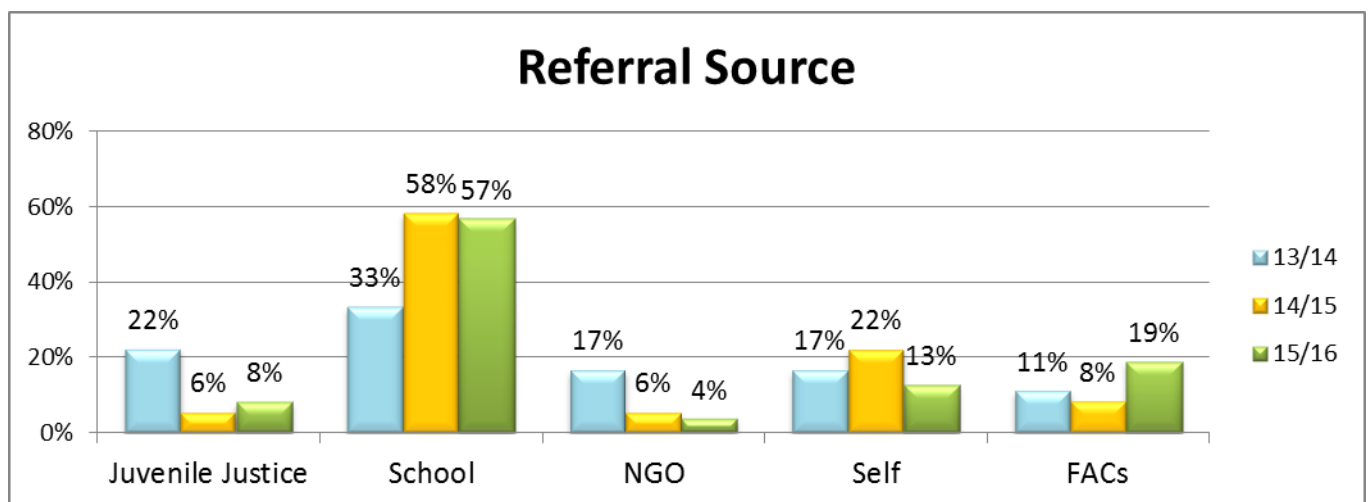


Chart 4: Comparison of referral sources in the last 3 years.

In this financial year, 526 one-on-one counselling sessions were conducted. The project also engaged 52 youths amid 18 workshops. This year we have recognised an increase in adolescents being supported for issues around family relationships and tensions. We have also seen the continued trend of young people being engaged in our program for anger management issues. Youth presenting for mental health issues has continued to decrease which is probably reflective of other services being available for this support, including Strong Minds at the Centre (See chart 5, pg 14.)

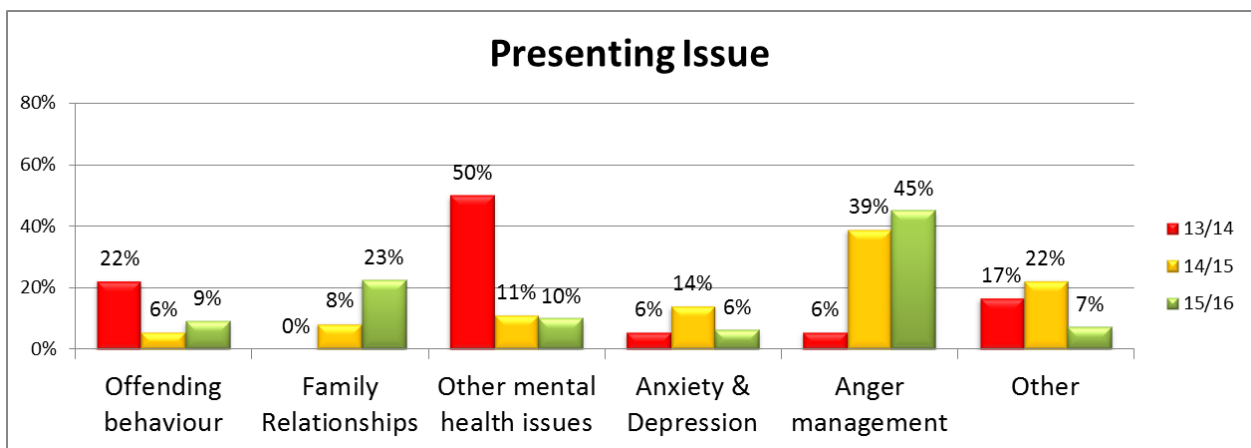


Chart 5: 3 year comparison of presenting issues

The three major nationalities supported this year were young people identifying as being of Lebanese background (33%), Australian (23%) and Turkish (14%). A broad spread of nationalities accounting for the other 30% of participants. (See Chart 6)

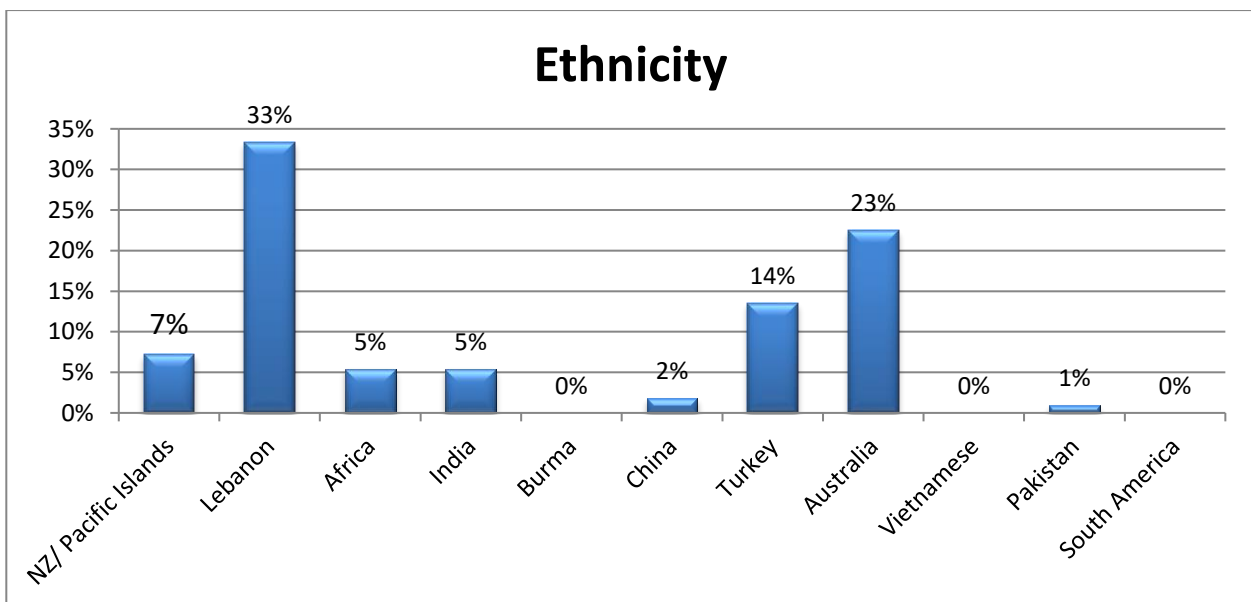


Chart 6: Participation by ethnicity 2015/16

68% of young people participating in the program were female; the steady increase in the percentage of females participating in the project could be attributed to AYC's strong links with Auburn Girls High School and the fact that our Counsellors have been female. (See Chart 7)

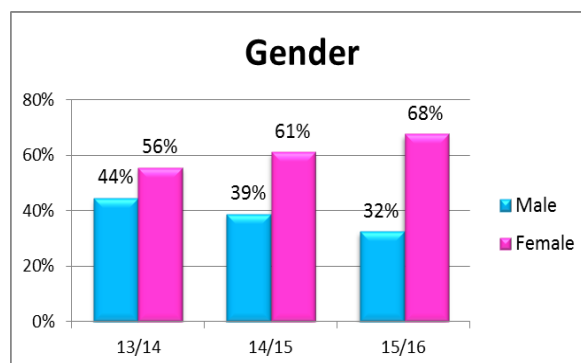


Chart 7: Gender comparisons of the participants over the last 3 years



## **Workshops**

During the year, the following workshops were run at schools, at community centres and at AYC:

- ❖ Six anger management workshops,
- ❖ Three workshops on healthy relationships,
- ❖ Two stress management workshops,
- ❖ Two creative expressions workshops,
- ❖ Two Triple P Parenting workshops,
- ❖ A “Managing Depression and anxiety” forum,
- ❖ A “Everyday Ethicist” workshop and
- ❖ One female only Zumba class

All workshops were very well received, with positive feedback from staff as well as participants.

These workshops have also created interest from other schools within the area who would like to see other psychoeducational workshops and groups run on topics such as self-esteem, resilience, healthy relationships and bullying. AYC is planning to implement these groups in 2016/17.

We have had a very successful year. Delivering an anxiety talk to over 300 senior students in a 10 minute assembly session was one of my highlights. Making this interactive was definitely a challenge.

I thank the Department of Family and Community Services for their ongoing funding and support. I also thank all the schools who have supported AYC this year.

We look forward to further success and growth in 2016/17.

Chloe Motbey  
**Adolescent and Family Counsellor**

# Youth Community Development and Community Capacity Building

Community Development and capacity building is central to all AYC activities. In 2015/16 we were excited to receive generous support from Dooley's Lidcombe Catholic Club to expand our work. We thank the Club for their generosity and support. This support combined with AYC core funding from NSW Department of Family and Community Services allowed AYC to achieve many positive outcomes in 2015/16. Throughout the year we aimed to provide young people aged 12-24 years associated with the former Auburn Local Government Area (LGA) with skill development programs, events and opportunities to participate in and contribute positively to the community.

This year we also focused on parent engagement. AYC aimed to build stronger relationships with families to break down barriers to service access for youth. AYC also undertook a number of youth consultations, completing a major consult involving 346 people. We also partnered with many small community groups to support youth and build their capacity to support their communities.

Following is a summary of activities in 2015/16.

## **Parent Engagement:**

### ❖ **Welcome Dinner 2015 for Families.**

On July 2015, AYC held a welcome dinner for families. This involved more than 60 people in attendance. This activity targeted newly arrived members of the community and was held at AYC.

### ❖ **English Language Classes:**

Commencing in Term 2 of the 2016 school year, AYC in partnership with Granville South Creative & Performing Arts High School commenced sessions for parents in daily English classes. The first session saw 13 participants and the program was continued by the school in term 3 of the 2016 school year. The aim of this program was to assist parents but to also introduce them to service availability and support.

### ❖ **Bike Rider Presentation**

This was held on the 12th September 2015 in partnership with Human Care Welfare. The event that hosted Rohullah Hussaini saw 40 members of the community in attendance.

## **Consultations**

Four consultations were held in 2015/16. One of which targeted young woman and looked at their preferred projects. A second assessed the need for creative opportunities and the third focused on how to celebrate youth week.

Our major consultation however engaged 346 people young people and some parents from April to June 2016 in order to identify:

1. The current concerns and issues of young people
2. Service gaps

### 3. Barriers to engagement in services and activities.

A report was officially released in August of 2016 and was provided to key stakeholders. Some of the issues identified in the report included bullying and harassment, family related violence. AOD, mental health and financial hardship. Of concern was the identified lack of awareness of support available in the community. This report will form the basis of our development work in 2016/17. A copy of the report is available from AYC or from our website.

## Skills Development

Skills development is integral to all activities at AYC. In 2015/2016 we aimed to provide young people with the opportunity to build and develop their skills in such areas as arts, sport, life-skills and self care.

### ❖ Art Mural Project



Held during the September/October 2015 School holidays the program saw youth use their creative talents to decorate canvases that were displayed around the centre. The project's theme was images that represented young people in Auburn.

### ❖ Creative Expressions Workshop

The series of workshops ran for 8 weeks and provided young people the opportunity to build and develop their creative skills in music and in particular, Hip Hop lyric writing. The program included a therapeutic element, allowing the young people to express their concerns and issues in a safe and creative environment. Charles Lomu facilitated the project and taught the skills of expression and beat making. The workshop had 8 participants.

Feedback gathered indicated that all participants strongly agreed the workshops were useful and interesting and that they had learnt practical skills.

"Everyone is so helpful & friendly. I loved everything, especially the sound booth because it's awesome" (Participant, aged 14.)

### ❖ Learn to Drive

The driving skills program, funded through Auburn City Council's 2014/2015 Community Grants Program ran over a period of 5 months providing young people with free practical driving lessons.

Commencing July 2015, participants attended 2 driver safety presentations; the first from Youthsafe and the second from Flemington Local Area Command. Participants received approximately 20 hours of practical driving lesson as part of the program.

### ❖ Healthy Relationships / Lovebites Workshops

AYC facilitated healthy relationship workshops based on the NAPCAN Love Bites program at schools including Auburn Girl's High School and Strathfield South High School. The

workshops aimed to develop young people's knowledge and awareness in areas such as healthy relationships, domestic violence and sexual assault.

Written feedback collected from participants from Auburn Girl's High School indicated that 100% of participants felt the workshops applied to real life and rated the overall program 8/10 or above.

*"Lovebites was a great program that was very successful with our students and was delivered in the highest standard by the AYC staff. All facilitators were well equipped to deliver the program to our students. The content of this program was highly relevant to our students and was an informed approach to the issues our students face. At AGHS we find that these types of youth driven community programs are essential. Thanking all the staff at AYC"*

*Hulia Boz, Transitions Officer, Auburn Girls*

### ❖ 16 Day of Action Program

In partnership with Auburn City Council and High Street Youth Health Services, AYC implemented a variety of programs during November's 16 Days of Action. The aim was to raise awareness for the fight against Domestic Violence (DV) and programs included:

- 16 Days of Action Launch Event at AYC's drop in program - 16 young people attended.
- Auburn Youth Interagency meeting at AYC – DV presentation (Relationships Australia)
- White Ribbon Day Festival – 60 participants
- Healthy Relationships facilitated by High Street Youth Health Services at AYC with Granville South Creative and Performing Arts High School (10 young people).
- Movie Day at AYC – clips from the movie 'Precious' with young people completing pre and post perception consultations.

### ❖ Job Club

Job Club offered young people aged 15-24 years assistance in employment skills and pathways. The program has seen a total of 23 participants with the worker providing help with:

- Resume and cover letter skills
- Job search skills and pathways
- Interview skills
- Links to further education

Below: Learn to drive



## Events



### ❖ **Sister's Iftar Dinner**

In partnership with the Community Migrant Resource Centre (CMRC), AYC facilitated an Iftar dinner for females in the Auburn LGA and surrounding areas. Held on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> June 2016, the night saw over 80 people in attendance. The dinner included a free meal, a space to pray, child minding, henna art and socialising.

Feedback gathered by staff of both CMRC and AYC indicated that those who attended enjoyed the evening and appreciated the cultural awareness in providing a female only dinner.

Others stated they enjoyed the opportunity to spend time with other females and share a meal to break fasting.

### ❖ **Africultures – Youth Zone**

On the 12th March 2016, Africultures was held in Wyatt Park. AYC worked in partnership with Africultures working party and Auburn Diversity Services Inc that ran activities inside the Centre for young people. The day saw around 100 young people in attendance at AYC.

### ❖ **White Ribbon Family and Community Festival**

On the 27th November 2015, AYC in partnership with Auburn City Council, Multicultural NSW and the Stop Domestic Violence Action Group to run the White Ribbon Family and Community Festival. Officially opened by Auburn City Council's Emeritus Mayor Le Lum we had over a 1000 members of the community in attendance.

### ❖ **Youth Fest**

YouthFest was held on the 8th March 2016. AYC was a partner organisation running activities and stalls. Approximately 1000 members of the community attended.

### ❖ **Youth Summit**

AYC were partners in the 2016 Youth Summit, "Open Arms, Open Minds" held on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Over 100 young people and dignitaries attended AYC for discussions and consultation sessions. We thank ADSi and the Youth Collective for their efforts in making this day a great success.

This has been an extremely successful year. Thank you to all the team at AYC, our partners, volunteers and young people for their efforts.

Rianne Kenny  
**Youth Community Development**

# TREASURERS REPORT

2015-16 was a very big year, following the receipt of several successful grants at the end of 2014-15. \$224k of project funding was received in advance, which resulted in lower total income this financial year compared to 2014/15. This project funding was required to be expended this financial year and is the primary driver of this year's total deficit of \$238k. The remaining deficit is attributable to maternity leave payment, which was approved by the board.

Our most significant items of expenditure are salaries (including casual support and superannuation), program costs and projects such as the Wyatt Park upgrade. The Wyatt Park upgrade has seen AYC turn a run-down basketball court into a vibrant hub of activity for young people and the community. All other expenditure has been in line with budget this year, and I acknowledge and thank managements' hard work in stringently managing expenses.

The current financial environment presents AYC with several challenges, most noticeably being the uncertainty of core funding beyond the 2016-17 financial year. However, there are various opportunities, such as the recent amalgamation of councils and the growing push for NGOs to work closer together through partnerships and consortiums. It will be vital for AYC to be dynamic and pro-actively take advantage of these opportunities and establish long-term sustainable funding. To do so, AYC is proud to have established a Revenue Diversification Sub-committee (RDS committee) which meets regular and focuses on the financial sustainability of the organisation.

Although young, the RDS committee has already established important partnerships which have already created returns. The RDS committee reports directly to the board, and will keep a focus on the financial sustainability of the organisation. AYC is vital to the life of the community, and it is essential we obtain the funding to not only survive, but to thrive.

Alex Lee  
**Treasurer**  
**Auburn Youth Centre Board of Directors**

# FINANCIAL REPORTS

Auburn Youth Centre Inc

ABN 94 080 606 344

Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2016

Auburn Youth Centre Inc  
ABN 94 808 606 344

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### **Committees' Report**

Your Committee Members submit the financial accounts of the Auburn Youth Centre Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

#### **Principal Activities**

The Auburn Youth Centre ("AYC") provides counselling, social, educational and recreational services for young people aged 12 to 24 who have a connection with Auburn and surrounding areas.

Through these programs, AYC aims to remove the barriers confronting young people. Particularly barriers associated with culture, language, education, economic disadvantage, established stereotypes and racism.

#### **Significant Changes**

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

#### **Operating Result**

The loss for the year ended 30 June 2016 was \$238,727 (2015: surplus \$211,061)

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee:

  
President

  
Treasurer

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2016

**Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2016**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>Income</b>		
State Government grants	321,144	407,916
Local Government grants	9,516	13,455
Project funding	-	223,389
Café sales	2,316	3,063
Donations	6,017	3,831
Fees received	13,160	474
Interest received	98	215
<b>Total income</b>	<b>352,251</b>	<b>652,343</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Accountancy and audit	2,690	3058
AGM expenses	1,205	980
Advertising and promotion	2,040	2,561
Bank fees and charges	27	61
Café cost of sales	731	2,279
Catering	1,093	350
Cleaning/rubbish removal	10,957	8,734
Casual support	56,504	49,354
Computer expenses	1,480	2,319
Communications	5,074	8,452
Donations	-	80
Electricity	6,507	1,448
Equipment	610	5,338
Fundraising	1,202	4,820
Holiday pay provision	5,308	-
Insurance	7,681	7,318
Other staff expenses	1,397	919
Program costs	36,590	11,851
Management committee expenses	213	134
Long service leave provision	4,139	-
M/V other	4,338	3,372
Photocopier expenses	4,830	6,182
Freight and postage	206	376
Printing and stationery	1,537	1,820
Rent on land and building	7,549	8,654
Repairs and maintenance	2,190	2,783
Security	-	126
Staff amenities	758	672
Staff training	3,024	302
Wyatt Park upgrade costs	79,035	-
Subscriptions and memberships	2,269	800
Sundry expenses	1,116	8,598

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Auburn Youth Centre Inc  
ABN 94 808 606 344

**Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2016**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Superannuation	33,457	27,649
Travel, accommodation and conference	200	4,301
Utilities	164	7,294
Wages	298,826	252,054
Workers compensation insurance	6,031	6,243
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>590,978</b>	<b>441,282</b>
<b>(Loss)/Profit Before Income Tax</b>	<b>(238,727)</b>	<b>211,061</b>

**Statement of Changes in Equity  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2016**

	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Accumulated Funds – opening balance	306,361	95,300
(Loss)/Profit	(238,727)	211,061
Accumulated Funds – closing balance	67,634	306,361

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Statement of Financial Position  
As at 30 June 2016**

	<b>2016 \$</b>	<b>2015 \$</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
ANZ Business Account	95,521	341,181
ANZ Online Saver Account	7,696	7,590
CBA Saver Account	1	-
Cash on hand	(40)	200
ANZ debit card	808	-
<b>Receivables</b>	1,273	7,970
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	105,259	356,941
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, plant and equipment – at cost	20,111	20,111
Less: accumulated depreciation	(20,111)	(20,111)
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>	-	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	105,259	356,941
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
GST payable control account	4,585	20,013
Amounts withheld from salary and wages	3,776	4,080
Grants in advance	-	6,669
Provision for holiday pay	14,705	9,397
SGC superannuation	-	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	23,066	40,159
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>		
Provision for long service leave	14,559	10,421
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	14,559	10,421
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	37,625	50,580
<b>Net Assets</b>	67,634	306,361
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated funds	67,634	306,361

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
For the Year Ended 30 June 2016**

**1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies**

This financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared for use by the members of the Association in order to satisfy the reporting requirements of the Associations Act (NSW). The Committee has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical cost and does not take into account changing money values.

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

**Employee Entitlements**

Provision is made for the Association's Liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees at balance date. Employees entitlements expected to settle within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries, long service leave, annual leave, and time in lieu which will be settled within one year, have been recognised at their normal amount.

**Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment are included at cost.

**Depreciation**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the Association commencing the time the asset is held ready for use.

#### STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

In the opinion of the Committee the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report is set out to:

1. Present fairly the financial position of Auburn Youth Centre Inc as at 30 June 2016 and its performance for the year ended on that date and
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Auburn Youth Centre Inc will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

  
President

  
Treasurer

Dated this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2016

**Independent Audit Report to the Members of  
Auburn Youth Centre Inc**

**Scope**

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose report of Auburn Youth Centre Inc (the Association) for the financial year ended 30 June 2016.

**Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The Management Committee is responsible for the financial reports and have determined that the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) and the needs of the members. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, and described in Note 1, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the Associations Incorporated Act (NSW). We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

The audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement. My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether in all material respects, is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements. These policies do not require the application of all Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements. The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed in the above basis.

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

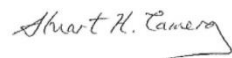
**Independence**

In conducting my audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

**Audit Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial report of Auburn Youth Centre Inc presents fairly in all material respects to the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2016 and of its financial performance for the year ended in accordance with the accounting policies as described in Note 1 to the financial statements.

KS Black & Co  
Chartered Accountants



Stuart H. Cameron  
Partner

FCA No: 75834  
Dated at, Parramatta, 3/9/2016