



Aboriginal Family Support Services

Together with the community



Annual Report 2020 - 2021

*AFSS acknowledges the traditional owners
of country throughout South Australia.
We pay our respects to all language groups and
their cultures and to Elders past, present and
emerging.*



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are advised that this publication contains images of deceased persons.



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Our Aspiration

We aspire to

Build strong futures for Aboriginal children and young people in South Australia

Sustain safe, supportive and resilient Aboriginal communities

Be a courageous, knowledgeable, effective, professional, hardworking and respected organisation that is strengthened and nourished through culture

Our Values

Our values guide our behaviour - this is what we all believe in and will stand up for

People

We believe Aboriginal children have the right to be raised in a safe and healthy environment, preferably within their own community

We believe everyone should be treated with dignity and respect

We believe everyone has a right to be heard

Culture

Our culture gives us strength, stability, wisdom and power

We have an obligation to share our culture within our communities and with others

Integrity

We are truthful and honourable in everything we do

We are accountable/responsible for our actions and decisions

Sustainability

We are committed to achieving lasting, positive change

We believe we are creating our future through our current actions and decisions

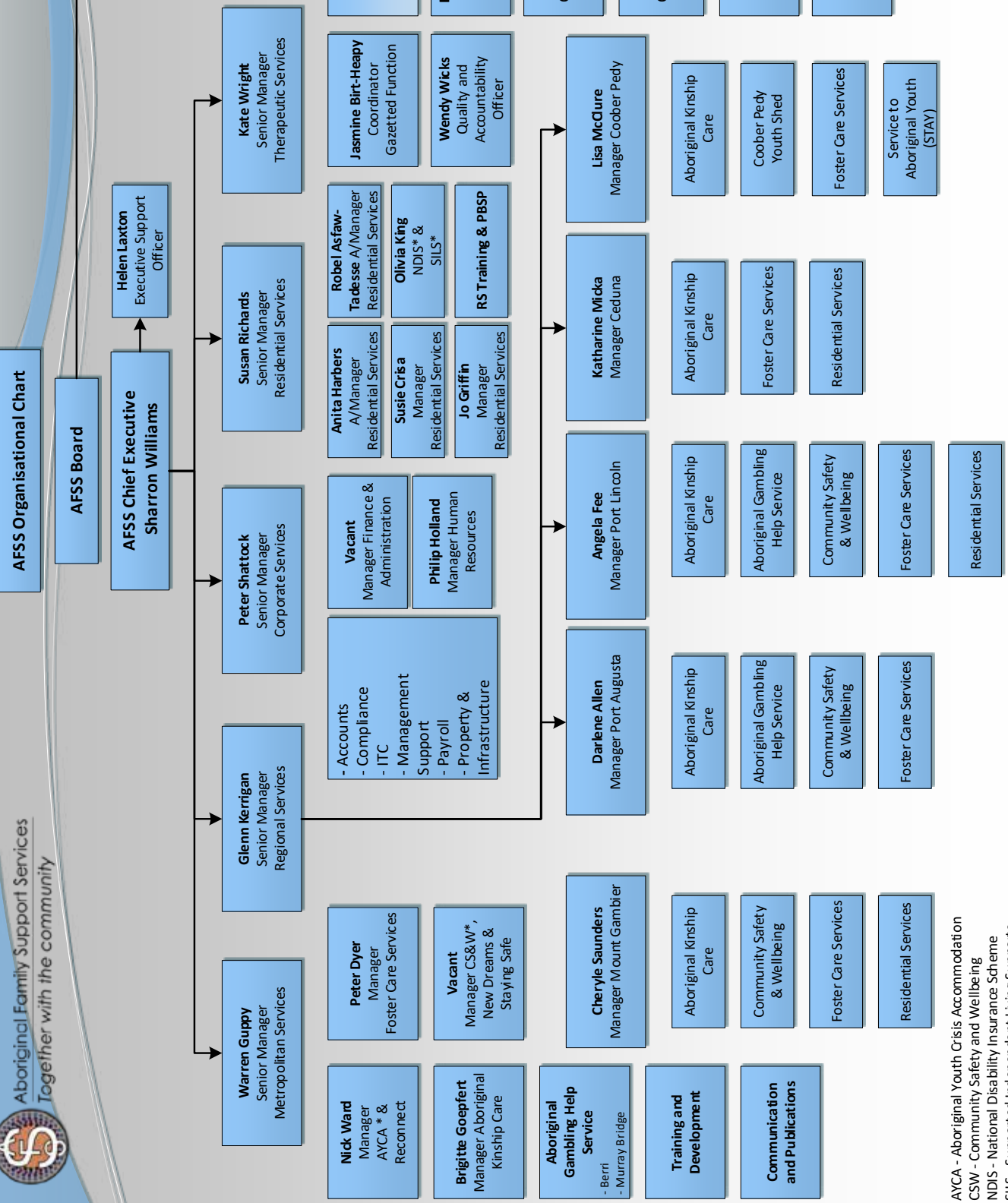


Aboriginal Family Support Services
Together with the community

Organisational Chart

Board Members:
 - Andrew Birtwistle-Smith
 - Donna Henry (Chair)
 - Dennis Rigney
 - Vacant
 - Ivan Copley
 - Margaret Nelson
 - Wayne Rigney

Stronger Families



June 2021

* AYCA - Aboriginal Youth Crisis Accommodation
 * CSW - Community Safety and Wellbeing
 * NDIS - National Disability Insurance Scheme
 * SILS - Supported Independent Living Supports

The AFSS Board 2020-2021



*Donna Henry
Chairperson*



*Deputy
Chairperson/
Treasurer Ivan
Copley, JP OAM*



*Wayne Rigney
Secretary*



*Margaret Nelson
Executive Member*



*Greg Sinclair
Executive Member
(deceased)*



*Dennis Rigney
Executive Member*



*Sharron Williams
Public Officer*



Chairperson's Message

The Board has been extremely busy this year. Highlights during this reporting period include working with Dana Shen of DS Consultancy, our Chief Executive and staff in a range of areas, including the Cultural Supervision Framework and NDIS. We are committed to ensuring that we support and further strengthen the cultural frameworks within AFSS.

The Board team is very dedicated and each member brings a wealth of knowledge to the table; We continue to ensure that Aboriginal culture is at the forefront of AFSS business. I thank all Board members for volunteering their time and continuing to support AFSS in any way they can.

The review of policies and procedures with our Chief Executive and staff is an important part of our role as Board members, and we have been pleased to learn more about AFSS's new programs.

These programs help community members to stay strong, make good decisions, and empower families to stay connected to culture and community.

During these uncertain times AFSS has ensured the continuation of outstanding service provision to the wider Aboriginal community and the young people who are unable to be with their families at this time.

On behalf of the Board I would like to acknowledge the great work of AFSS staff right across South Australia. Thank you for continuing to give your all to Aboriginal families and children.

Thank you, too, to our Kinship and Foster Carers for the dedication and love you give to the children in your care, ensuring they remain connected to culture, language and community. We really appreciate everything you do.

Child Protection in South Australia can be very challenging and at times very difficult, so please ensure you take care of yourself and others – and thank you for caring for our community.

*Donna Henry
Chairperson*

Vale Greg Sinclair

A strong Ngarrindjeri man, Uncle Greg was a gentle soul who touched many with his loving, caring, thoughtful and straight-up personality.

Greg was a member of the AFSS Board from 2013 - 2021. His cultural knowledge and community connections were invaluable. He was our secretary in 2015-16, Interim Chairperson 2016-2017 and Deputy Chairperson 2017-2018. He was a great asset and always willing to support and help in any way he could.

Greg was a part of other Aboriginal organisations and had a passion for justice to ensure Aboriginal children, young people and community were treated fairly, and reconnected to family and culture. We will miss his presence, his beautiful smile, and caring, positive attitude.

From the AFSS Board and AFSS community rest peacefully with your ancestors.



Chief Executive's Message

Welcome to the Annual Report for the 2020-2021 financial year.

As with last year, AFSS has felt the effects of working under the restrictions presented

by the Covid-19 pandemic.

We have risen to the challenges this has presented to ensure as little impact as possible on service provision, achieving many positive outcomes and maintaining the growth and expansion of the range of services we are able to provide to Aboriginal people in South Australia.

A highlight of the year was the opening of our new office in Mount Gambier and the full licensing of our Mount Gambier Residential house.

There is a full complement of staff in this new regional office, including a Manager, three Support Workers, Team Leader and Community Engagement Officer. We look forward to a long and positive working relationship with the Aboriginal families and communities of the Limestone Coast.

We are pleased to have received Accreditation for NDIS, and our services under the NDIS banner are now up and running.

AFSS has also been appointed to a position on the panel of Supported Independent Living Services for young people. This service provides accommodation for young people once they transition from residential

care. Our role will enable us to ensure that Aboriginal youth are well supported in addressing their cultural and social needs as they transition to adulthood and independence.

In an exciting new pilot that began on 1 July 2020, AFSS, along with KKY and Incompro, in partnership with DCP, now provides an Aboriginal Kinship Care program across South Australia. The program aims to ensure Aboriginal children and young people who have been removed from the care of family are placed in a culturally responsive, safe, nurturing, stable and secure kinship environment. There is a significant focus on ensuring that Aboriginal children and young people in a kinship placement maintain a strong connection to family, culture and community.

Our team of dedicated staff across all services and programs has grown to number more than 300, and we are proud of the commitment and hard work that each team member demonstrates to ensure the highest possible levels of service.

My sincere thanks go to all our staff, to the AFSS Senior Management Team, who provide leadership for the organisation and support to me, to the AFSS Board for their commitment to, and passion for the organisation, and to our funding bodies and the many service providers with whom we work to provide services of excellence to Aboriginal children, young people and families in South Australia.

*Sharron Williams
Chief Executive*



Treasurer's Report



I have pleasure in submitting the Treasurer's report for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2021. The full year result was a surplus of \$1,618,289 from a revenue base of \$29,174,198.

This is an increase on the previous year's surplus of 151% and an 18% increase in revenue, which represents solid growth in our business. It underpins our ability to provide services to the communities we serve.

Expenses increased by 15.2%, which again partly reflects the reduced level of activities we were able to undertake due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We are engaging in a growing number of fee-for-service programs, which some government departments are beginning to utilise more, as well as commencing services in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

To meet the requests during the year from the Department for Child Protection for additional services, we acquired three house properties which were set up as Residential Services, including a property in Mount Gambier, another in the northern metropolitan area and a third in the southern metropolitan area.

The northern suburbs office property, contracted for conditional purchase last financial year, was subject to our being successful with a Development Application to the Salisbury Council for approval to utilise this property as a Community Support facility (with offices). This was required as it is an area zoned "Residential".

The Development Application was subsequently approved and we moved to full purchase. Significant internal and external renovations were commenced, with completion expected by mid-November 2021.

Additional government service contracts were acquired during the year, to be based in the northern suburbs. This led to the lease of further properties to accommodate the programs and staff.

AFSS now has 20 properties for Residential Services under finance, as well as the four regional offices, one northern suburbs office building and the Head Office building. We also lease a further 13 properties to accommodate our services – eight for office space, three for Residential Services and two for Homelessness Accommodation services.

I am pleased to advise that AFSS has continued to build a solid foundation for future growth and opportunities. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank the Chief Executive and staff of AFSS for their continued efforts.

*Ivan Copley
Treasurer*

Senior Management Team



AFSS Senior Management team, from left (back row): Peter Shattock Senior Manager Corporate Services; Kate Wright Senior Manager Therapeutic Services; Warren Guppy Senior Manager Metropolitan Services; (front row) Glenn Kerrigan, Senior Manager Regional Services; Susan Richards Senior Manager Residential Services.

AFSS Funding Bodies and Partners

Department for Child Protection

- Aboriginal Kinship Care Pilot
- Family Group Conferencing Program
- Foster Care Services
- Gazetted Function (Cultural Consultancy)
- Intensive Reunification Service
- Placement and Support Package (PaSP)
- Residential Services
- Supported Independent Living Services (SILS)

Department of Human Services

- Aboriginal Gambling Help Service (Office of Problem Gambling)
- Family Preservation
- Intensive Family Services
- Services to Aboriginal Youth (STAY)

Department of Social Services (Services Australia)

- Emergency Financial Relief
- Reconnect

National Indigenous Australians Agency

- Community Safety and Wellbeing
- Coober Pedy Youth Shed
- New Dreams
- Staying Safe

National Disability Insurance Scheme

- Be With Me

SA Housing Authority

- Youth Accommodation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Specific Homelessness Services

Sponsors and Donors

- Adelaide Fringe Festival
- AGL (Employees)
- Backpacks 4 SA Kids
- Bank SA (West Lakes)
- Brian Headland
- Complete Personnel
- Dolores Divine
- Eoin and Denise Loftus
- Iluka Resources
- Ivan Matovimovic
- Jarvis Cars
- Lucia Schwenker and Scott Bleckly
- Operation Flinders
- OZ Minerals
- Remote School Attendance Program
- Revenue SA (Social Club Casual Day)
- Variety - the Children's Charity
- Zonta Club of Adelaide



AFSS Service Summary

Aboriginal Family Support Services Ltd (AFSS) is a lead Aboriginal child protection agency in South Australia and plays a pivotal role in the care and protection of Aboriginal children and young people who come into contact with the child protection system. Celebrating over 40 years of working with Aboriginal communities, AFSS aspires to “build strong futures for Aboriginal children and young people in South Australia”.

AFSS works hard to keep families together and helps to build the capacity of families to grow up strong, healthy children and young people. Employing more than 350 staff at over 30 locations across South Australia, AFSS's broad range of services and programs aims to equip Aboriginal families with the skills and knowledge they need to navigate life's challenges.

These services and programs include Foster Care Services, Aboriginal Kinship Care, Cultural Officers, Community Safety and Wellbeing, Family Violence, Youth Work and Gazetted functions under the *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017*.



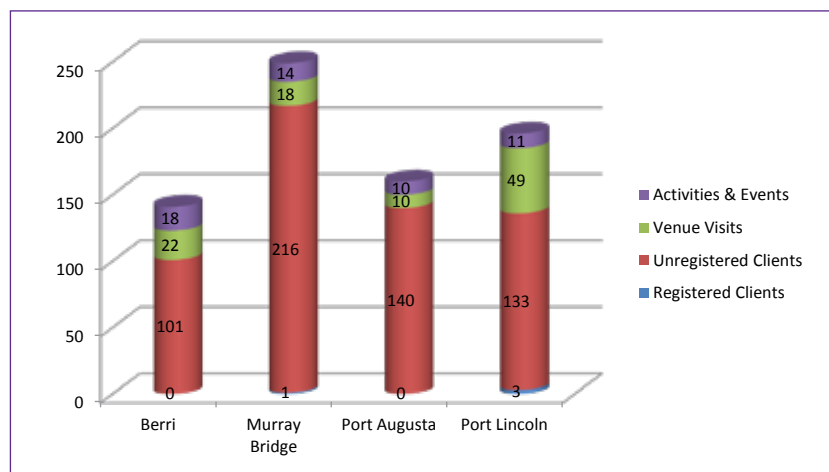
The Office for Problem Gambling (OPG) hosted a Community of Practice 2021, "Thinking Together" event in Adelaide. The Communities of Practice event was an opportunity for services to "think together" and propose strategies to coordinate better delivery of service and ensure a strong and sustainable workforce by increasing the uptake of evidence-based practices which align with professional standards. Pictured from left to right are: Rory Spreckly, Manager OPG, Darlene Allen – Manager Port Augusta, Angela Fee – Manager Port Lincoln, Russell Coulthard – AGHS Port Augusta, Anna Angus - AGHS Port Lincoln, Bronte Warneke – AGHS Murray Bridge, Glenn Kerrigan – Senior Manager Regional Services and Alban Kartinyeri – AGHS Berri.

Aboriginal Gambling Help Service

The Aboriginal Gambling Help Service is an education, awareness and support program for Aboriginal people and their families who are exposed to the harmful effects of gambling. Gambling Support Workers provide education, awareness and casework services, and work closely with community and the gaming industry. Service is provided in Berri, Murray Bridge, Port Augusta and Port Lincoln.

The Year's Highlights

AFSS Gambling Support Workers participated in



several Office for Problem Gambling initiatives during the 12-month period, including a Communities of Practice gathering in Adelaide and a targeted Aboriginal Gambling Help Services Consultation Forum.

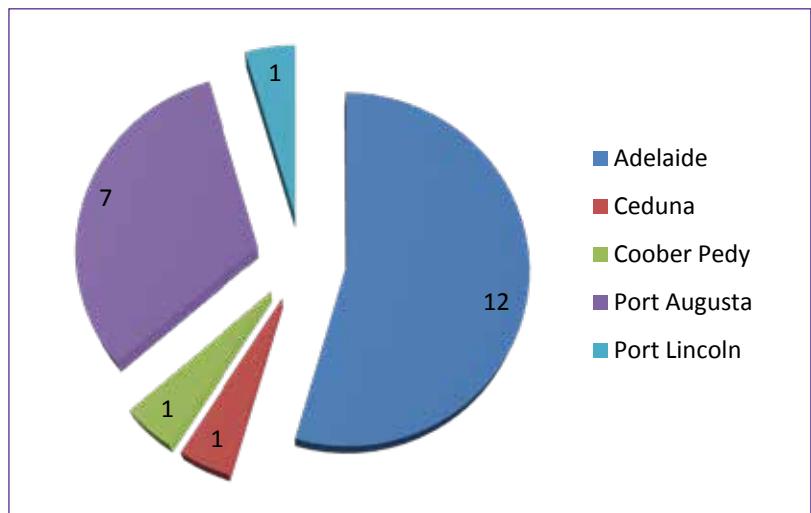
COVID-19 restrictions reduced the ability of Gambling Support Workers to engage with industry including licensed venues, Club Safe and Gaming Care but these activities are now back on track.

Aboriginal Kinship Care

Aboriginal Kinship Care is a state-wide, culturally responsive service providing kinship carers who care for Aboriginal children, with assessment, support, advocacy, referrals and training.

Kinship carers are supported to keep the children in their care safe, healthy and connected to their Aboriginal cultures and communities. The Service is provided across South Australia.

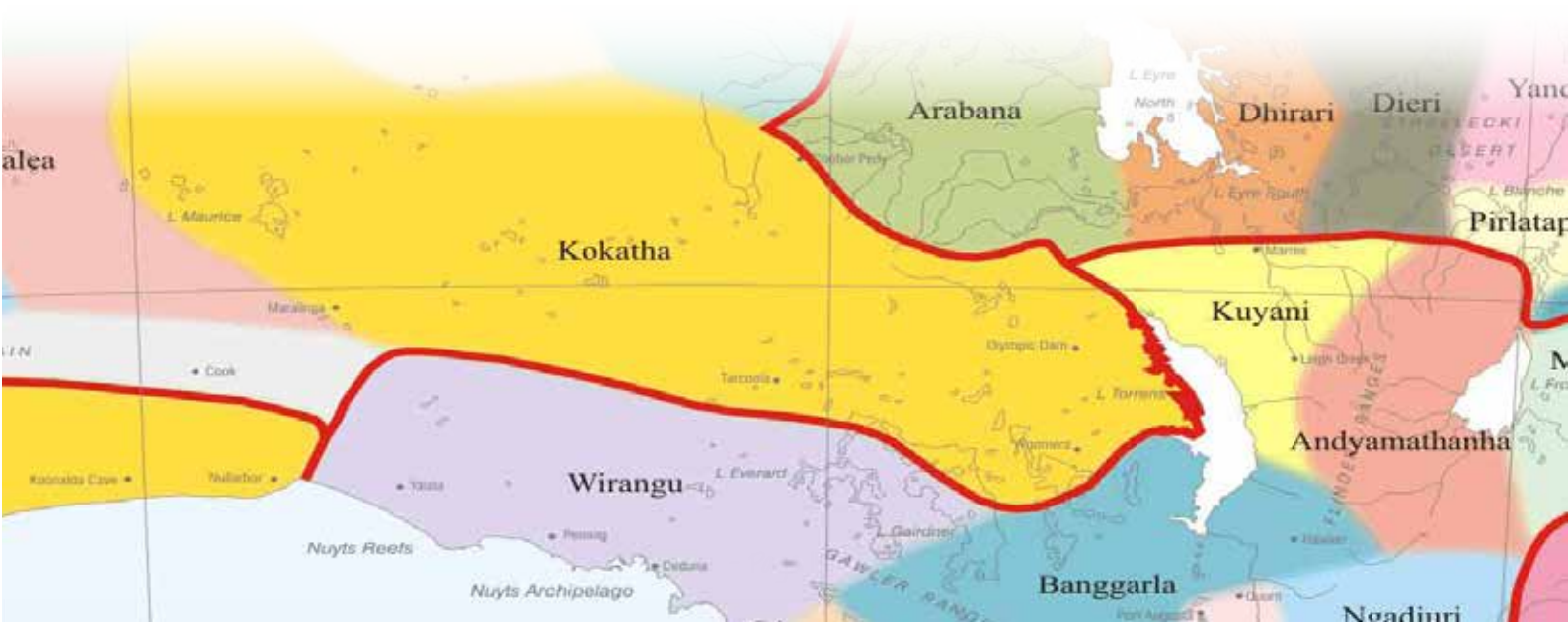
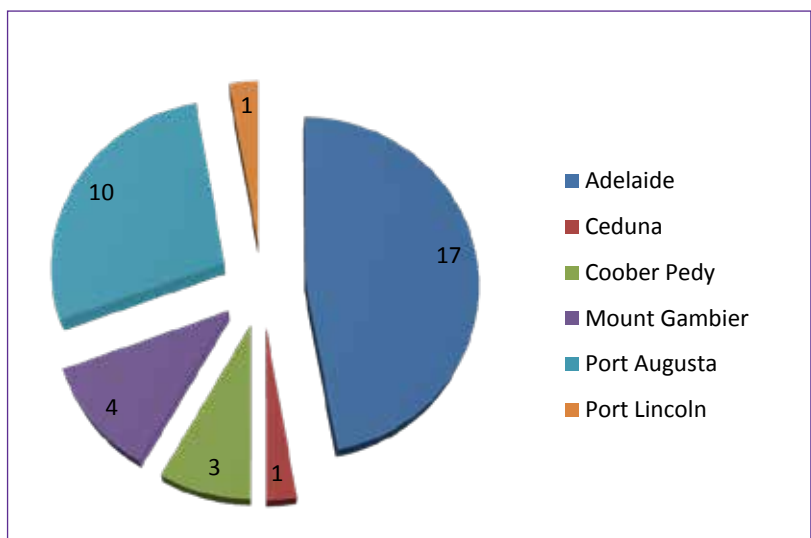
Kinship Households



The Year's Highlights

AFSS participation in DCP's Aboriginal Kinship Pilot has been an outstanding success with AFSS achieving the initial KPI targets set by DCP within 12 months (from July 2020 - June 2021). Aboriginal kinship carers are now located across all AFSS regions including Adelaide, Berri, Ceduna, Coober Pedy, Mount Gambier, Port Augusta, Port Lincoln, Port Pirie and Whyalla.

Children in Kinship Care



Community Safety and Wellbeing

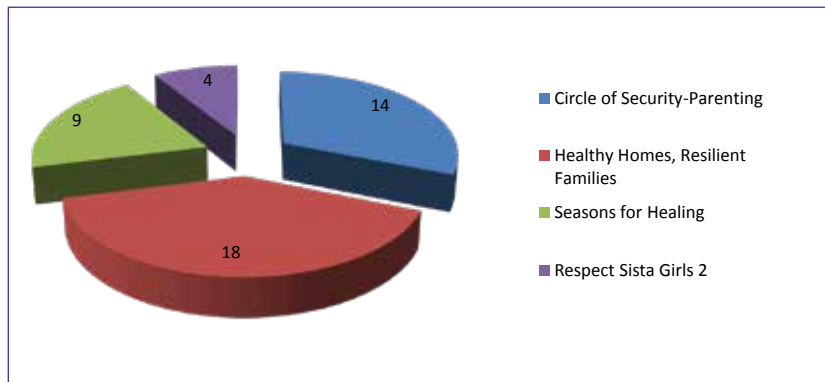
The Community Safety and Wellbeing (CSW) suite of programs equips families with the skills and knowledge they need to deal with life's challenges. Structured programs are delivered by skilled Facilitators with a focus on grief and loss, connection to culture, nutrition, health, wellbeing, routines and rules and parenting. Service is provided across South Australia.

The Year's Highlights

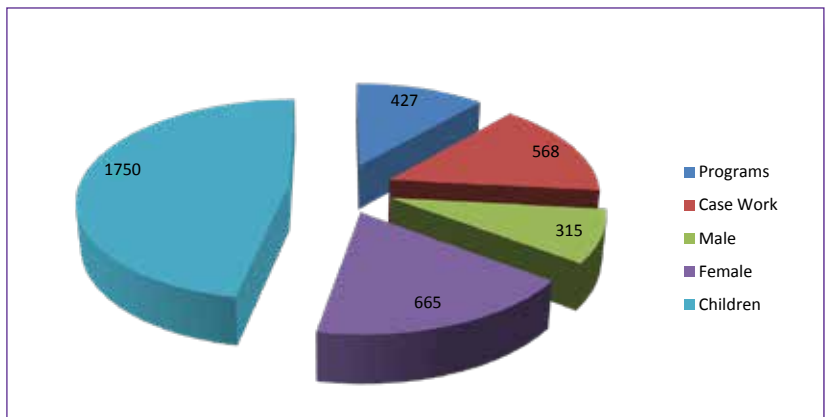
Demand for the delivery of the CSW suite of programs continues to build. The challenges of delivery during COVID-19 restrictions and lockdowns resulted in the team having to transition some program delivery to an online platform.

Increase in demand for general casework services was a clear feature of the reporting period as the South Australian community

Program Delivery



Number of Participants



grappled with the impact of the pandemic on vulnerable individuals and families, including loss of employment and reduced income.



Our clients were really patient and waited over a year for the delivery of Seasons for Healing in the Whyalla area due to COVID-19. Pictured with AFSS Facilitator Corey Slade are graduates from a number of programs.

Back Row: Corey (CSW Companion), Monica (4th program), Georgie (6th program), Naomi (5th program), Fiona (CSW Facilitator). Front Row: Cindy (1st program), Shamaya (4th program), Sharna (4th program), Tracy (CSW Companion). Absent: Kiara (1st program). Congratulations to everyone!



Connection to Culture

The AFSS Cultural Officer provides cultural services across AFSS, including cultural awareness training for carers and employees, cultural plans for Aboriginal children, assistance with carer assessments, cultural resources, and organising cultural events and activities for children and young people and their carers and families.

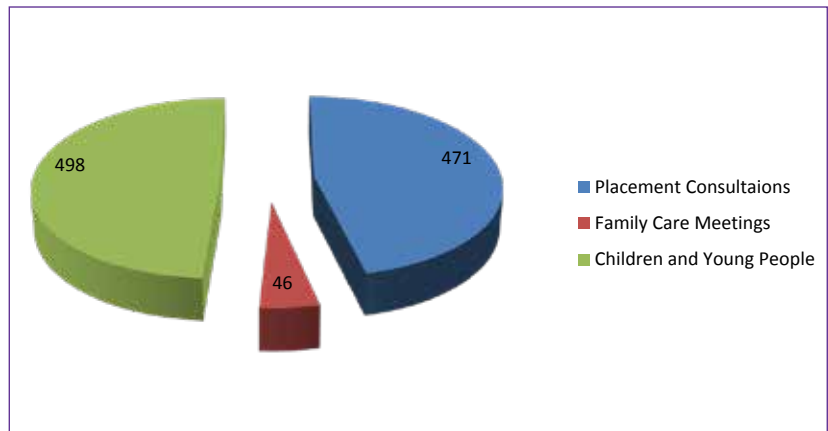
The Year's Highlights

Connection to Culture activities focused on the development of cultural plans for children and young people in foster and residential care. The AFSS Cultural Officer also developed and has been delivering cultural awareness training to AFSS employees and to AFSS Foster and Kinship Carers. The AFSS Cultural Officer also participates in a number of activities across AFSS and provides a cultural perspective on much of the work that AFSS does with Aboriginal children, families and communities.

Cultural Consultancy - Gazetted Service

AFSS's Cultural Consultants provide cultural advice and consultancy on matters relating to the placement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in South Australia. This includes formal responses to placement consultations and participation in Family Care Meetings. Service is provided across South Australia.

Gazetted Service Statistics



Emergency Financial Relief

AFSS provides Emergency Financial Relief, mostly in the form of food vouchers, for families in need. Emergency Financial Relief is provided in greater metropolitan Adelaide (Adelaide Plains, Barossa,

Gawler, Light, Playford, Port Adelaide Enfield, Salisbury, and Tea Tree Gully), Coober Pedy and Mount Gambier.

Additional funds from the Australian Government over the last 18 months provided further

Emergency Financial Relief to both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal clients across Adelaide (northern metropolitan), Coober Pedy and Mount Gambier.

Family Group Conferencing Program

AFSS is excited to be launching a new Family Group Conferencing Program (FGCP). The Department for Child Protection has funded AFSS to establish an Aboriginal-specific FGCP and this will be developed and launched during the 2021 calendar year.

The Family Group Conferencing Program provides a culturally safe and independent

process for families to come together and create plans that will address child protection concerns. These child-focused plans seek to involve all relevant family members and can draw in support from other community members or services as identified by the family.

The aim of the FGCP is to support families to lead, and be central to, decision-making that will

help to keep Aboriginal children safe in family, community and culture. The FGCP accepts referrals from DCP and initially will be working across the northern Adelaide, Port Pirie and Kadina regions.

Foster Care Services

AFSS Foster Care Services recruit, assess, train and support both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal households to become carers for Aboriginal children and young people. This includes generalist foster carers and Specific Child Only (SCO) carers for emergency, respite, short-term and long-term placements. Service is provided across South Australia.

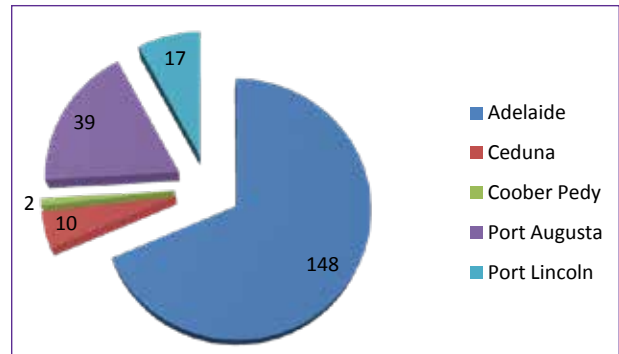
The Year's Highlights

The growth in Foster Care Services across all AFSS regions has seen a significant increase in the number of both general Foster Care and SCO households.

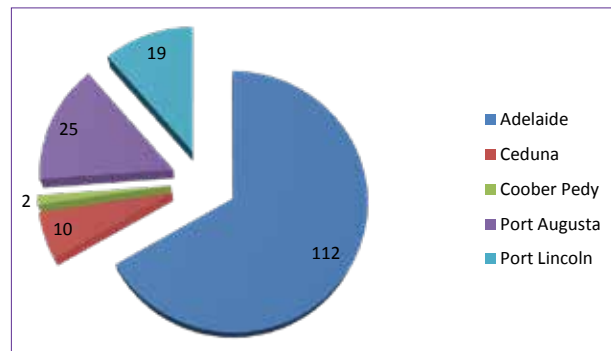
Since June 2020, AFSS has extended its geographical coverage by establishing dedicated foster care services in Murray Bridge and Mount Gambier. Foster Care Services continue to develop new systems and processes to assist in managing the growth in this space and to respond to the ongoing implementation of child protection reform as required by the *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017*.

AFSS was pleased, in between COVID-19 restrictions, to convene a three-day, face-to-face Foster Care Services Forum, from 10-12 November, for AFSS Managers who have a role in the delivery of foster, kinship and Specific Child Only (SCO) services. Smiling for the camera, from left to right are (back row): Cheryle Saunders, Mount Gambier; Glenn Kerrigan Regional Services; Warren Guppy, Metropolitan Services; Katharine Micka, Ceduna; Darlene Allen, Port Augusta; Peter Dyer, Adelaide; Front Row: Angela Fee, Port Lincoln; and Lisa McClure, Coober Pedy. Brigitte Goepfert, Aboriginal Kinship Care, left the forum to complete a kinship assessment – that's dedication for you!

Children in Foster Care and Specific Child Only Care



Foster Care and Specific Child Only Households



National Disability Insurance Scheme

AFSS's disability services are person-centred and goal-focused. National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) supports can be provided for support coordination, early childhood supports, plan management and a range of core and capacity building supports in a person's home, including assistance with daily living, travel and support with education and employment.

The Year's Highlights

As an organisation dedicated to supporting Aboriginal young people, AFSS recognised a need for more culturally

sensitive NDIS services to help cater for Aboriginal children and youths.

With limited NDIS experience in-house, AFSS connected with Community Business Bureau (CBB) as successful grant winners in 2020. The grant supported a CBB staff member, Andrew Ellis, to provide one-on-one coaching to AFSS to support our NDIS preparedness, our registration process and business planning.

This facilitated the development of our NDIS business plans and service model.

"Be With Me" is a South Australia-wide project



that is part funded by the Department for Social Services Information Linkages and Capacity Building, and Morialta Trust. The aim of the project is to connect Aboriginal people with a disability to a more included and full life facilitated by our Navigators.

We have had great success in the initial rollout of the project, supporting six families to connect to the NDIS during the pilot stage.

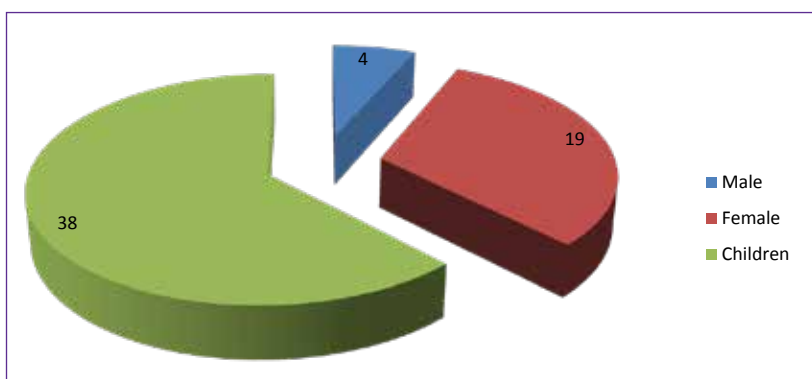
New Dreams

New Dreams provides Aboriginal women and their children who have already escaped from family violence with an opportunity for a fresh start and support as they move towards stable housing, education, training and employment, whilst supporting their efforts to ensure their children are fully participating in school. Service is provided in Adelaide.

The Year's Highlights

New Dreams has experienced some

New Dreams Clients



unprecedented changes in this reporting period - mainly how we communicate and work with families because of COVID-19 restrictions. In the face of adversity, many clients have reported an improvement

in the quality of their lives as a result of being in the New Dreams program, including receiving grants, sustaining education for their children, working out better budgets and extreme resilience in times of hardship.

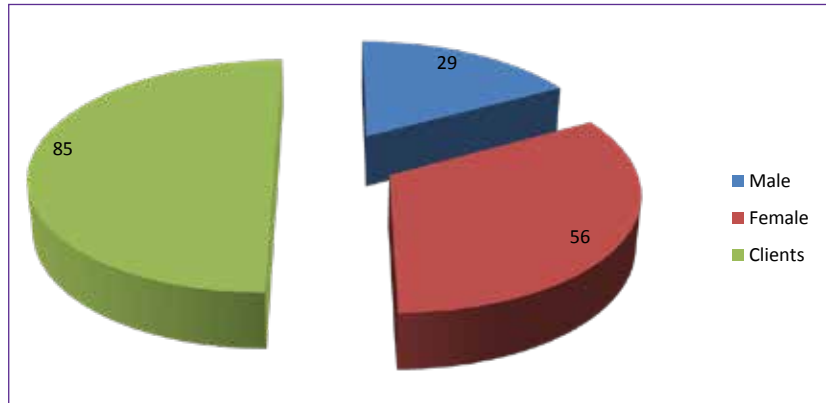
Reconnect

Reconnect Case Workers engage with young Aboriginal people aged 12 - 18 who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Youth Workers engage with young people and their families to strengthen relationships, improve the wellbeing of children and young people and strengthen family, community and cultural relationships. Service is provided in Adelaide.

The Year's Highlights

Highlights over the last 12 months include a Connection to Culture workshop held at Marra Dreaming with 10 young people connecting with their culture through art,

Reconnect Clients



basket weaving and stories with Aboriginal Elders. The program is supporting a young girl who was disengaged from her education, to re-engage with school, increase her school attendance and ultimately become a part of the Kaurna Boomerangs Ice Hockey Team, which included a trip to Darwin to

showcase her talents. Reconnect has also delivered Respect Sista Girl 2 as part of a collaboration with the AFSS Community Safety and Wellbeing team and three primary schools, to empower participants to make better choices and reconnect with their cultural identity – with a 100% participation rate from start to finish.



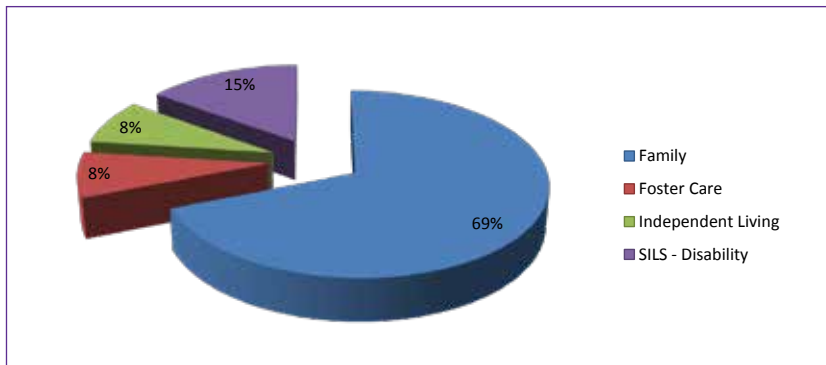
Residential Services

Residential Services provides residential care for Aboriginal children and young people who are under guardianship of the Chief Executive, Department for Child Protection (DCP). The service is provided 24 hours, seven days a week. Support Workers actively engage in all elements of the lives of the Aboriginal children and young people in AFSS's care, with a strong focus on safe home environments and connection to culture. AFSS operates a total of 23 Residential Services across South Australia (Adelaide 19, Ceduna 1, Mount Gambier 1 and Port Lincoln 2).

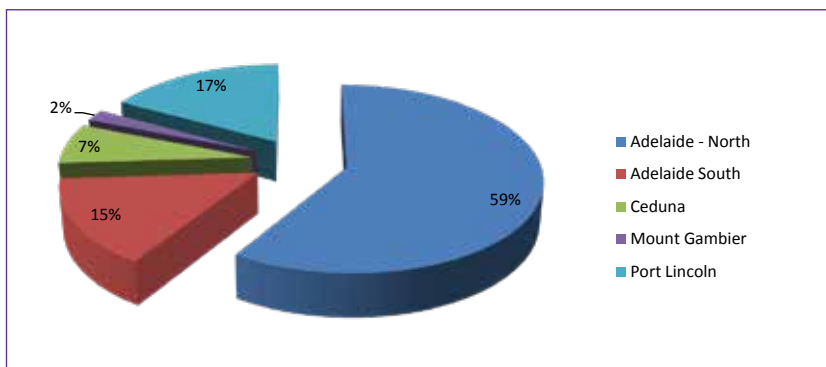
The Year's Highlights

AFSS has supported 69 young people in Residential Services during the 2020 - 2021 period. There are currently 40 young Aboriginal males and 29 young Aboriginal females residing in one of AFSS's Residential Services across northern and southern Adelaide and in Ceduna, Mount Gambier and Port Lincoln. Sixteen young people have transitioned out of a Residential Service to independent living, a foster care placement or back to family.

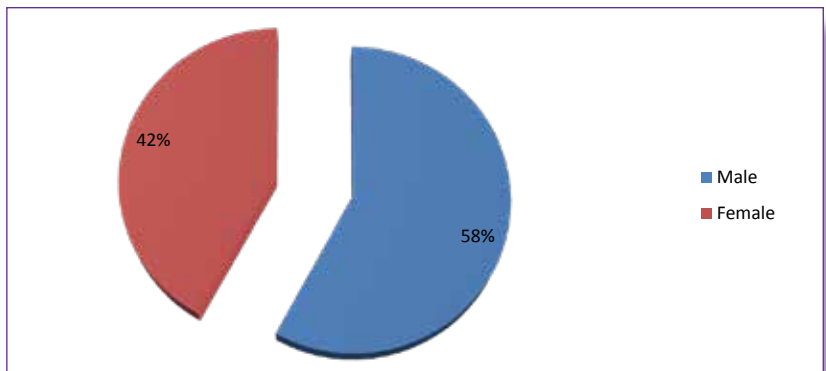
Residential Services - Transition Outcomes



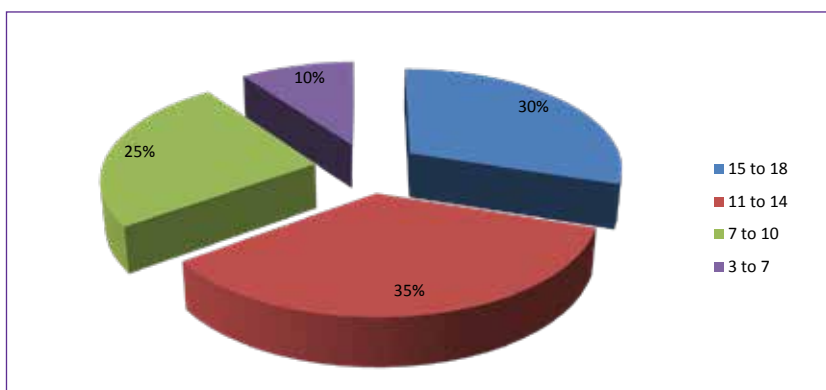
Residential Services - Geographical Breakdown of Placements



Residential Services - Client Gender



Residential Services - Client Age Range



AFSS
and
Maxx
Employ-
ment
Local



Job Program embarked on an exciting new program to recruit residential staff in the metropolitan area.

AFSS and MAXX presented at a launch day which was well attended by Launch Day interested candidates, Department of Education, Skills and Employment and a number of other Job Active providers.

The project aims to employ at least 20 Aboriginal Youth Support Workers by October. Key to the program is the wraparound supports for successful candidates and access and support to complete Certificate IV Child, Youth and Family Intervention.

AFSS won a Fringe grant to provide young people in Residential Care opportunities for healing through art and music. TIPU, a program to spark young people's creativity, provides a series of workshops run by an Adelaide performer and videographer to work with young people to write, direct and edit a short video based on their strengths and passions.

This pilot project has been a huge success, with young people engaging well. Their films will be shown at a small Fringe event in March 2022.



Top photo: The children in AFSS's Residential houses love to do craft. These little critters were made out of toilet rolls and were proudly displayed for all to see by their clever creators.

Middle photo: A gorgeous "We are One" art wall was created by the children in Residential Care to celebrate their culture as well as Reconciliation Day, and in anticipation of the upcoming NAIDOC Week.

Bottom photo: Outdoor activities are a feature of life for the children in AFSS's Residential houses. They recently spent lots of time outside in the fresh air helping to create garden beds, as well as a number of other outdoor projects.

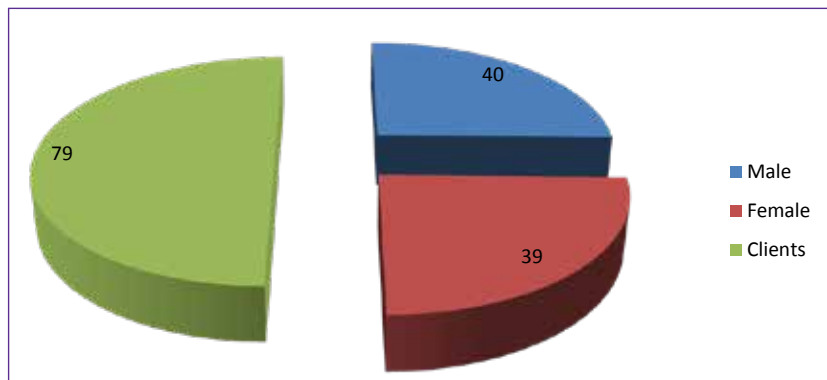
Service to Aboriginal Youth

Service to Aboriginal Youth (STAY) engages with young Aboriginal people in Coober Pedy and encourages and supports them to participate in programs and activities that provide assistance around education, training and employment, life skills development, relationships and better connections to family, community and peers. Service is provided in Coober Pedy.

The Year's Highlights

The number of active case-managed clients for the period is 79. A decrease in client numbers over the last six months of the reporting period was due to

Stay - Clients and Gender



COVID-19, isolation, Sorry Business and community transience. Clients reflected 100% young Aboriginal people. Youth Workers engaged clients to build connections to their families and communities and connections with positive peer groups. Work also focused on education,

training and employment opportunities, including exposure to the Prominent Hill site for employment opportunities. Clients participated in two Operation Flinders Camps (see picture below) which have fostered team building skills, leadership, encouraging others and overcoming challenges.



Staying Safe

Staying Safe supports families in Adelaide experiencing, or who have previously experienced, family violence.

There is a focus on a Safety Plan and working with clients and their children to keep them safe from harm in order to reduce the likelihood of all forms of abuse and violence. Service is provided in Adelaide.

The Year's Highlights

Family Violence Workers had to be creative in their communication methods, both with families and with other service providers.

With a limited ability to do home visits and check face to face with clients, it was

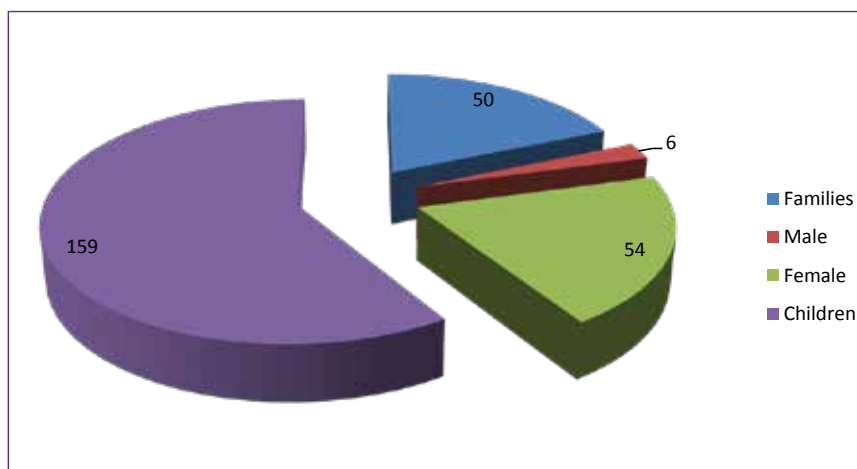
a challenge to fully understand a client's needs and to ensure that family violence was not occurring in households.

Many households were placed under additional stressors due to COVID-19 restrictions, children not able to go to school,

underemployment and financial stress.

While social distancing was necessarily implemented as a health and safety measure, the last 12 months have seen increased pressures on the families that AFSS engages with through this program.

Staying Safe - Clients



Supported Independent Living Service

Supported Independent Living Service (SILS) provides support to young Aboriginal people aged 16 - 18 who are preparing to leave formal care arrangements.

Services are provided in dual placement homes that are secured through a partnership with Aboriginal Community Housing Limited (ACHL).

Young people are supported to build independent living skills and a solid foundation ensuring a successful experience post-care.

The young people remain in these homes when the AFSS service period ceases.

Stronger Families

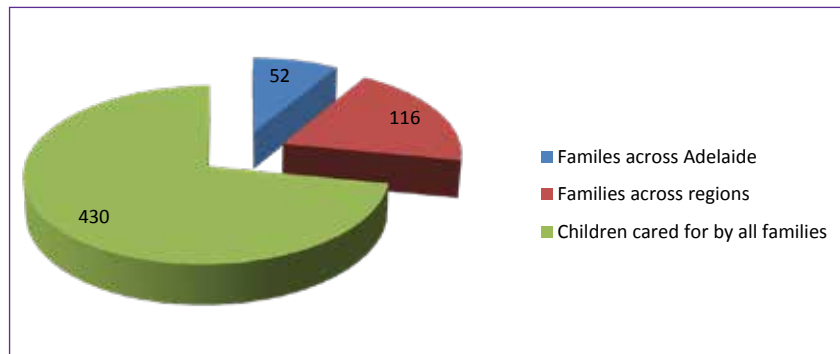
The service works with families, through the Intensive Family Service and Reunification Service, to keep families together or, where Aboriginal children have been removed from families, works with the family and other support services towards the children being reunited with their families. Service is provided across South Australia.

The Year's Highlights

Stronger Families has undergone some major changes over the last year.

Following a significant sector review and reform process undertaken by the Department for Human Services (DHS) there was a full recommissioning of early intervention services. AFSS, as one of only two Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations (ACCOs) in this space, participated in the review. The DHS, with the support of the sector, made the decision that a percentage of funding should be allocated specifically to ACCOs to provide services for and with Aboriginal communities. AFSS participated in a recommissioning process that has seen the ending

Stronger Families - Clients



of the Family Preservation and Targeted Intervention Services and the launching of the new Intensive Family Service. AFSS will be providing this service to families in Salisbury, Playford, Marion and Onkaparinga in the metropolitan area and also Ceduna, Whyalla, Port Augusta, Port Pirie, Copper Coast, Coober Pedy, Port Lincoln, Berri and Murray Bridge. This means that AFSS has expanded into some new regions and will be able to support families across a wider area of SA. Another considerable change over the last 12 months has been the recommissioning of DCP's Reunification Services. This process went out to general tender with

announcements of successful submissions in May. This program has undergone some significant changes, the largest of which is a move to a fee-for-service funding model. AFSS will continue to provide Reunification Services to the Adelaide, Port Augusta, Whyalla and Ceduna regions. In spite of all these changes, and the impact of adjustments to program criteria and locations, the Stronger Families team has continued to work closely with families and communities throughout the year.

The programs supported more than 160 families and 430 children and young people.



Youth Accommodation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Specific Services

Youth Accommodation Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Specific Services (YAATSISS) provides crisis accommodation to young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people between the ages of 15 and 25 who are at risk of, or who are experiencing homelessness. Clients are assisted with practical day-to-day supports and the Service works

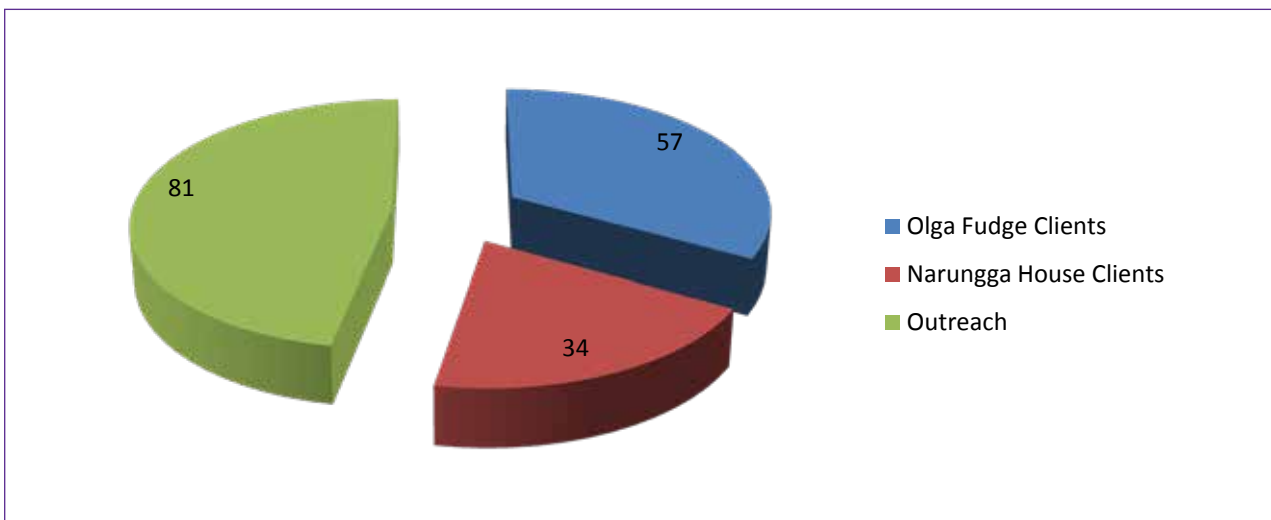
closely with Baptist Care SA to provide case management services to all clients (and their children).

The Year's Highlights

Significant reform of the South Australian homeless sector took place from early November 2020 - May 2021. AFSS participated earnestly in the reform process aimed at streamlining

homelessness services right across South Australia. While AFSS was not part of a successful Alliance for the ongoing delivery of homelessness services, the Lutheran Community Care-led Towards Home Alliance, through Baptist Care SA, has committed to funding AFSS Olga Fudge Lodge and Narungga House homelessness services until June 2023.

YAATSISS - Clients



YOUTH SHED



Youth Shed

The Youth Shed provides a safe place where young people in Coober Pedy can be engaged in recreational, wellbeing, diversionary and employment programs.

It aims to provide young people with the opportunity to build connections with peers, community and other service providers in Coober Pedy.

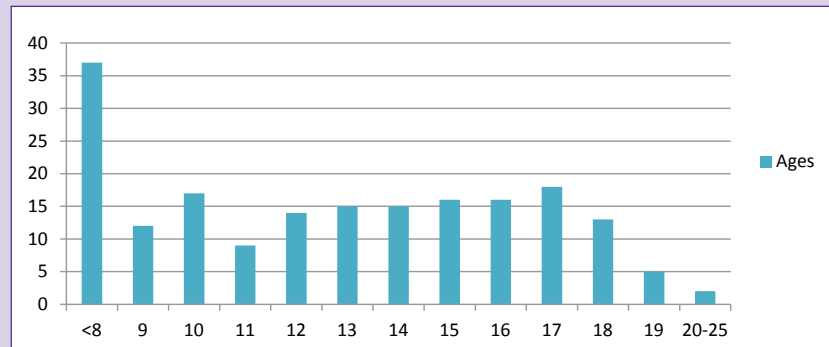
The Year's Highlights

The Youth Shed was open for 169 days during the reporting period, due to strict COVID-19 restrictions. Participants engaged in a number of activities including (while at the Shed) playing games, cooking, football, pool and painting.

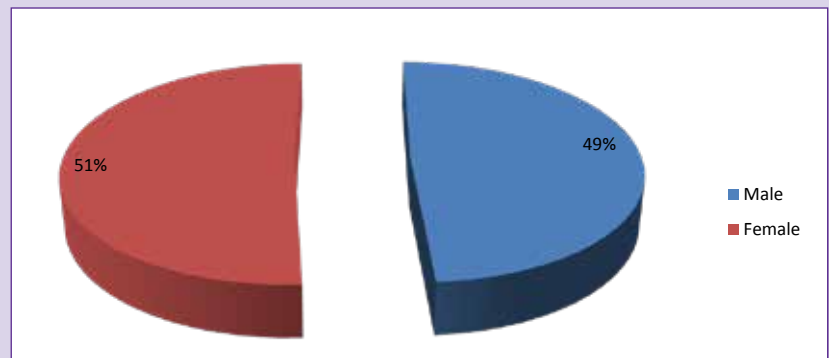
Sporting activities were held on Tuesdays after school at the school gym and included swimming.

Other activities included financial literacy, training in the Alternative Learning Centre, Coober Pedy Area School and school holiday programs that included tennis clinics by Tiger Tennis, a basketball clinic run by Fabian Johnston and Ambah Kowcun, and a singing and songwriting clinic run by Nathan May.

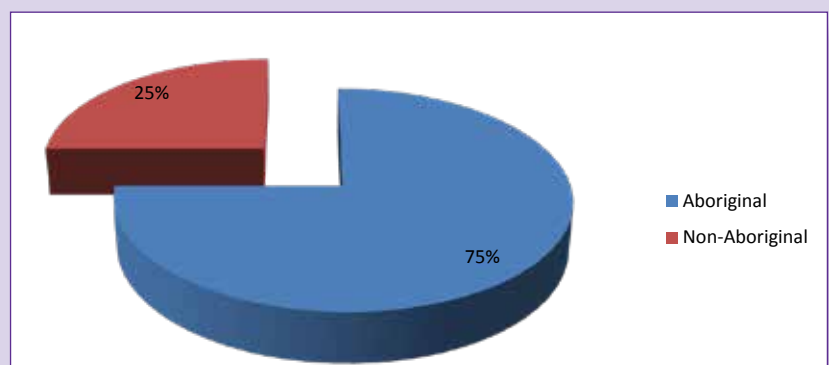
Youth Shed - Client Age



Youth Shed - Client Gender



Youth Shed - Client Cultural Background



Corporate Services

Corporate Services incorporates the following areas:

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

We have continued to expand our services over the last 12 months, requiring additional staffing, infrastructure and properties.

The Corporate Services team has embraced the additional challenges and taken on the growing demand on their services. We are in the early stages of expanding our team to not only allow us to cater to this increasing demand but to enable us to absorb future growth opportunities.

With over 350 staff and a regular stream of new staff, our Payroll and Recruitment area is kept fully occupied. Similarly in our Accounts area, the challenges around COVID-19 were met by introducing contactless cards to replace the



use of petty cash at all sites, as well as the use of e-cards to remove the need for physical interactions. During the pandemic lockdown periods, the Corporate Services team quickly adapted to working from home and alternating teams at work, to ensure the seamless provision of services was maintained.

A milestone was reached in November 2020, with Philip Holland (Manager, Human Resources) celebrating 10 years

service with AFSS. Pictured above, Philip (*left*) is receiving his certificate from Peter Shattock, Senior Manager, Corporate Services.

In the coming year, we are focussing our attention on consolidating our team and processes, as well as looking to update or introduce technology to streamline and further improve our efficiency.

*Peter Shattock
Corporate Services
Manager*

AFSS Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021

The following pages provide an abridged version of the Financial Statements. The full report is available from AFSS upon request.

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN : 82 853 278 164

**STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue and other income	2	29,174,198	24,559,178
Employee benefits expenses		(23,385,360)	(19,891,112)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses	6,7	(771,041)	(822,675)
Finance costs		(182,246)	(124,854)
Repairs, maintenance and vehicle running expenses		(1,263,019)	(1,320,375)
Fuel, light and power expense		(185,814)	(161,350)
Rental expense		(119,351)	(109,068)
Training expense		(218,729)	(199,334)
Audit, legal and consultancy fees		(135,289)	(199,226)
Administration expense		(980,929)	(795,376)
Fundraising expenses		(13,661)	(106,700)
Program service expense		(300,470)	(184,548)
Current year surplus (deficit) before income tax		1,618,289	644,560
Income tax expense		-	-
Net Current year surplus (deficit)		1,618,289	644,560
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be classified subsequently to profit or loss			
Fair value gains on land and buildings at fair value through other comprehensive income, net of tax		-	326,443
Total other comprehensive income (losses) for the year		-	326,443
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity		1,618,289	971,003

The above Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN : 82 853 278 164

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	3	4,959,215	1,640,979
Accounts receivable and other debtors	4	333,866	1,033,871
Other current assets	5	23,568	31,580
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>5,316,649</u>	<u>2,706,430</u>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	6	11,717,827	9,659,580
Right of use assets	7	934,847	635,158
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>12,652,674</u>	<u>10,294,738</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>17,969,323</u>	<u>13,001,168</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and other payables	9	1,143,364	1,289,387
Contract liabilities		3,233,063	1,430,152
Lease liabilities		421,360	344,670
Borrowings	8	338,649	285,171
Employee provisions	10	1,598,746	1,387,976
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>6,735,182</u>	<u>4,737,356</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease liabilities		527,781	300,147
Borrowings	8	4,080,055	3,017,146
Employee provisions	10	346,648	285,151
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>4,954,484</u>	<u>3,602,444</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>11,689,666</u>	<u>8,339,800</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>6,279,657</u>	<u>4,661,368</u>
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		3,212,328	1,596,832
Reserves	11	3,067,329	3,064,536
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>6,279,657</u>	<u>4,661,368</u>

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN : 82 853 278 164

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Retained Surplus	Asset Revaluation Surplus	Strategic Funds Reserve	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2019	1,593,974	1,402,806	693,585	3,690,365
Comprehensive income				
Net surplus (deficit) for the year	644,560	-	-	644,560
Other comprehensive income for the year				
Fair value gains on land and buildings at fair value through other comprehensive income, net of tax	-	326,443	-	326,443
Total comprehensive income for the year	644,560	326,443	-	971,003
Transfer to Reserve	(641,702)	-	641,702	-
Balance at 30 June 2020	1,596,832	1,729,249	1,335,287	4,661,368
Balance at 1 July 2020	1,596,832	1,729,249	1,335,287	4,661,368
Comprehensive income				
Net surplus (deficit) for the year	1,618,289	-	-	1,618,289
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	1,618,289	-	-	1,618,289
Transfer to Reserve	(2,793)	-	2,793	-
Balance at 30 June 2021	3,212,328	1,729,249	1,338,080	6,279,657

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN : 82 853 278 164

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from members, customers and funding bodies		31,710,053	23,514,852
Payments to suppliers and employees		(26,496,951)	(22,693,571)
Interest received		1,983	41,398
Interest paid		(182,246)	(124,853)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		<u>5,032,839</u>	<u>737,826</u>
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(2,369,619)	(3,206,999)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment		-	9,636
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(2,369,619)</u>	<u>(3,197,363)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Repayment of lease liabilities		(461,370)	(555,475)
Proceeds from Borrowings (net of repayments)		1,116,386	1,327,552
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		<u>655,016</u>	<u>772,077</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH HELD		3,318,236	(1,687,460)
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		<u>1,640,979</u>	<u>3,328,439</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	3	<u>4,959,215</u>	<u>1,640,979</u>

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes



ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
ABN 82 853 278 164
DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

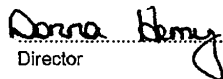
The board of directors declare that, in the directors' opinion:

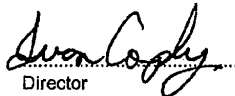
1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 1 to 14, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and:

- a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements ;
and
- b. give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited as at 30 June 2021 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This statement is made in accordance with subs 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 and by resolution of the board:


.....
Director


.....
Director

Dated this 21 day of October 2021



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

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited ("the entity") which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

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

- a) giving a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards–Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

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

**basso
newman**
audit
chartered
accountants

Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd
ABN 98 618 562 824
286 Flinders Street
Adelaide, South Australia
PO Box 7033 Hutt Street,
South Australia 5000
Telephone: (08) 8224 0066
Facsimile: (08) 8224 0670
bnc@bassonewman.com.au
www.bassonewman.com.au
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED**

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

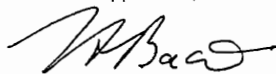
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that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

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

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

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

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



**Trevor Basso - Director
Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants
286 Flinders Street, Adelaide
Dated this 22nd day of October 2021**

**basso
newman**
audit
chartered
accountants



ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED
AUDITORS INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER S 307C OF THE
CORPORATIONS ACT 2001 AND SECTION 60-40 AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND
NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012
TO THE DIRECTORS OF
ABORIGINAL FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES LIMITED

To the board of Aboriginal Family Support Services Limited

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2021, there have been no contraventions of:

- the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

T A Basso - Director
Basso Newman Audit Pty Ltd
Chartered Accountants
286 Flinders Street, Adelaide
Dated this 22nd day of October 2021

basso
newman
audit
chartered
accountants

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ABN 98 618 562 824
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Adelaide, South Australia
PO Box 7033 Hutt Street,
South Australia 5000
Telephone: (08) 8224 0066
Facsimile: (08) 8224 0670
bnc@bassonewman.com.au
www.bassonewman.com.au
"Liability limited by a scheme
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Where to find us

Adelaide

134 Waymouth Street
Adelaide SA 5000
8205 1500

Berri

23 Denny Street
Berri SA 5343
8582 3192

Ceduna

28 Poynton Street
Ceduna SA 5690
8625 3466

Coober Pedy

Lot 1991 Aylett Street
Coober Pedy SA 5723
8672 3066

Cross Road

503 Cross Roads
South Plympton SA 5038
8351 2661

Mount Gambier

68 White Avenue
Compton
Mt Gambier SA 5291
0438 142 064

Murray Bridge

67 Adelaide Road
Murray Bridge SA 5253
8532 1790

Port Augusta

8 -10 Victoria Parade
Port Augusta SA 5700
8641 0907

Port Lincoln

21 Washington Street
Port Lincoln SA 5606
8683 1909

Salisbury

20 Ann Street
Salisbury SA 5108
8281 3440

Smithfield

39a Anderson Walk
Smithfield SA 5114
8254 1077

