

A R A L U E N

Annual
Report
2018

From the Chair

Araluen continues to thrive! We have seen an increase in participant numbers, who have many more options available, allowing them to follow their dreams and aspirations. Additionally, Araluen has strong and ethical governance and is in a solid financial position that helps us to achieve the best possible outcome for participants as well as for the organisation as a whole.

From this positive base, Araluen is able to plan for a bright, viable future. At present, we are developing our new Strategic Plan. This will ensure we continue to Imagine Better for our participants as we position ourselves to be a premier organisation providing high quality services.

Weekend programs have been introduced, and there has been a very good take-up by participants. Our Chancez Café brand continues to be highly regarded with more organisations looking to partner with us. The work with Melbourne Polytechnic has moved from strength to strength, particularly at the Greensborough site. Participants work alongside other students in classroom settings and are obtaining workplace-recognised qualifications.

It's exciting to see that over 30 participants have explored widely and found new housing that suits their particular needs and lifestyle. Many more are interested in pursuing the option of moving to a better home.

But, it is not just about our new supports. This year, we celebrated 10 years of our fabulous Arts Connects initiative at Montsalvat. Again this was another outstanding showing of our talented artists' work. It is a wonderful achievement for our artists to be recognised in such an iconic and amazing gallery.

Of course, none of these achievements just happen. Our participants are looking for new opportunities. Araluen staff are up to the task, providing exceptional support for people to take new and exciting steps towards achieving their goals.

I would like to thank all of our staff and the Leadership team for their continued dedication and commitment to Araluen. It is always interesting to look back on where we have come from, where we are now and where we are heading. Araluen has grown in size, but we have not lost our vision, compassion and care for participants.

The years ahead will provide many challenges for us. We are ready for them and we are looking forward with excitement to what lies ahead for us.



Bruce Martyn
Chair - Araluen



imagining and achieving better lives

The year that was

The NDIS is changing the way Araluen operates and the supports we're offering. After facing the challenges that any major systemic change brings, the results of careful management and imaginative planning are emerging.

Participants can - and are - really starting with their dreams and forging new paths that will lead to their own uniquely designed "better life."

In a year of change and innovation, some achievements stand out. Araluen Primed has commenced providing supports from a dedicated base at Melbourne Polytechnic Greensborough, making higher learning within the mainstream education framework accessible to our participants.

The Melbourne Polytechnic partnership has also provided a state-of-the-art commercial facility where our third Chancez Cafe is now based. From here, participants are receiving industry-recognised Certificates and we will be able to expand Chancez offerings to include catering and baking services.

Chancez Cafes are in demand and another new alliance, this time with Whittlesea Community Futures Partnership, resulted in the opening of Chancez Cafe Mill Park Library. This is the first step to providing future supports in this rapidly expanding growth corridor.

It's exciting to see so much belief in the realisation that positive change is possible. Participants could not pursue their goals without the dedication and care of our staff who are as imaginative as they are passionate when it comes to plotting individual support paths and achieving great outcomes for each person. Once again, I thank Araluen's staff for another year of outstanding commitment to their work.



Ross Coverdale
Chief Executive Officer - Araluen



"My path has led to a new favourite place to hang out with my friends and other students"

- Sarah

58 people have made themselves at home at Melbourne Polytechnic Greensborough.



**MELBOURNE
POLYTECHNIC**

-Winner -
'Inclusive Training Provider of the Year'
- 2018 Victorian Training Awards -

presented by the Victorian State Government
Department of Education & Training

What we do

aspire, imagine and evolve

Araluen supports hundreds of individuals to imagine and achieve a better life. We do this by providing supports that build on individual strengths, creating opportunities for meaningful social and economic participation and forging rich relationships.

Our community is vibrant and people's opinions matter. Personal dignity matters here. It is the diverse aspirations of participants, and the unique vision each holds for a better future, that directly shapes the supports we deliver.

Araluen is the only service for adults with intellectual disability to have obtained internationally-recognised autism accreditation, and we hold HDAA certification as evidence of our ongoing commitment to maintaining high standards of quality assurance and safety.

Our Vision

Imagining and achieving better lives

Our Mission

Inspiring, empowering and supporting people to have great lives

Our Values

People-Focus

 in our approach

We facilitate, support, listen to, advocate for, encourage and enable participants to fulfil their goals and become their best. We maintain open, honest communication with family members and support networks. We are guided by respect for individual dignity in our decision making and interactions. We value our staff and their development.

Integrity

 in all our interactions

We adhere to our Code of Ethics and are committed to positive, trusting and respectful long-term relationships between all members of our community. We are determined to achieve our stated goals (as far as possible). We have a reporting culture that does not tolerate abuse and neglect.

Passionate

 about our work

We undertake our roles with enthusiasm and a positive attitude. We are committed to achieving great outcomes with our participants and their support networks, creatively developing new and unimagined opportunities for each individual.

IMAGINING



Classroom-based learning that results in recognised qualifications

15 people completed pre-vocational, accredited certificates

Key Result Areas

1



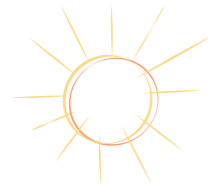
Imagine better supports so our participants achieve their goals

2



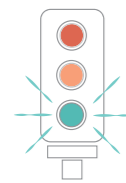
Develop, increase, and diversify quality supported accommodation

3



Maximise funding packages to enable participants to have a great life

4



Build efficient business systems, staff teams and financial sustainability

At a glance

Araluen in 2017 - 2018

230 participants

180 staff

3 Chancez Cafes

Epping Community Services Hub
Mill Park Library
Melbourne Polytechnic Greensborough

11 support hubs

7 day sites | 4 residences

Melbourne Polytechnic,
Greensborough
Lower Plenty
Milley Lodge
Rosanna
Primed, Rosanna
Diamond Creek
Hurstbridge

120+ supports

Specialities

Melbourne Polytechnic

Making accessible, accredited and non-accredited vocational learning opportunities in a mainstream education framework possible

Chancez Cafes

Serving up life-changing opportunities for people who want to work more independently

Araluen Housing Options

Industry leaders in investigating and designing housing options for people who want to move out of the family home or live somewhere better

Chancez Skill Development

Intense-focus support to achieve specific life goals in a set timeframe

Support Coordination

Providing expertise to make the most of NDIS funding and connect you with the right supports to fulfill and manage your plan

Art Connects

Training for 100 visual artists to make high-quality, contemporary artworks in three studios and developing markets for their work

Recreational Saturdays

Fun group activities for people who wish to participate on a Saturday



Work placements that deliver the skills sought by industry and real confidence

“I loved work experience. It was fun and didn't feel like work. I know now that I can get a job one day”

- Danielle

Board and Advisory Committees

Araluen's volunteer Board and Committee members generously contribute invaluable expertise, passion and experience in their leadership roles.

Board Members

Bruce Martyn
- Chair of Araluen Board
- Chair - Executive Committee
- Development Committee
- Family & Carers Network
- Finance Committee
- Housing Support Network

Linda Peterson
- Deputy Chair of Araluen Board
- Executive Committee
- Development Committee

Trevor Norman
- Araluen Company Secretary
- Chair - Finance Committee
- Executive Committee

Alison Allen
- Chair - Family & Carers Network
- Housing Support Network

Linda Bencic
- Chair - Housing Support Network

Ian McMenamin
- Chair - Development Committee
- Executive Committee
- Finance Committee

Michael Nelthorpe
- Development Committee

Jim Pasinis
- Development Committee

Julie Watson
- Development Committee

Advisory Committee Members

Ross Coverdale
- Chief Executive Officer
- Attends all Advisory Committees

Tamara Cattach
- Finance Committee

Sarah Chapman
- Secretary - Development Committee

Chris De Paiva
- Secretary - Housing Support Network
- Development Committee

Edda Lyons
- Finance Committee

Peter Mildenhall
- Development Committee

Julie Morgan
- Secretary - Finance Committee

Andrew Newland
- Development Committee

Kyle Prasser
- Board Secretary

Helen Ryan
- Secretary - Family & Carers Network

Court Walters
- Housing Support Network

Consistent with Araluen's inclusive approach, the Housing Support Network and Family & Carers Network hold open meetings that are attended by a range of people.



Araluen's Housing Options Team helped Shane successfully apply for Specialist Disability Accommodation funding - only 6% of NDIS recipients will achieve this. Shane now has a new home that meets his complex support needs and lifestyle goals.

**A more ordinary life
outside the family
home**

30 people have
explored new housing options
and moved to better homes
designed to meet their
lifestyle goals

2017-2018

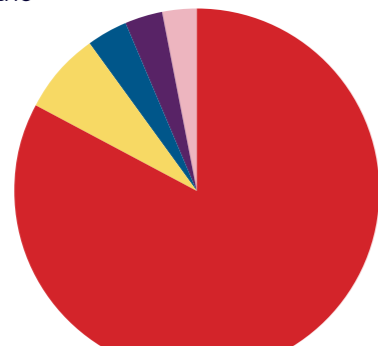
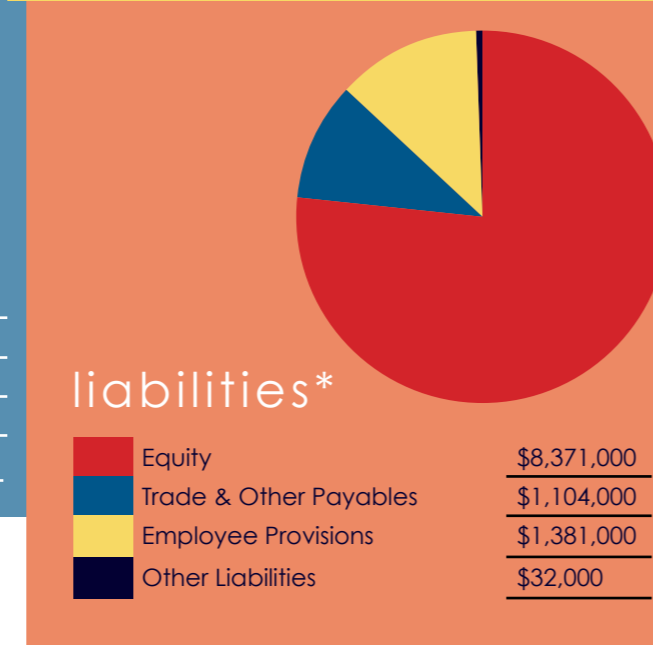
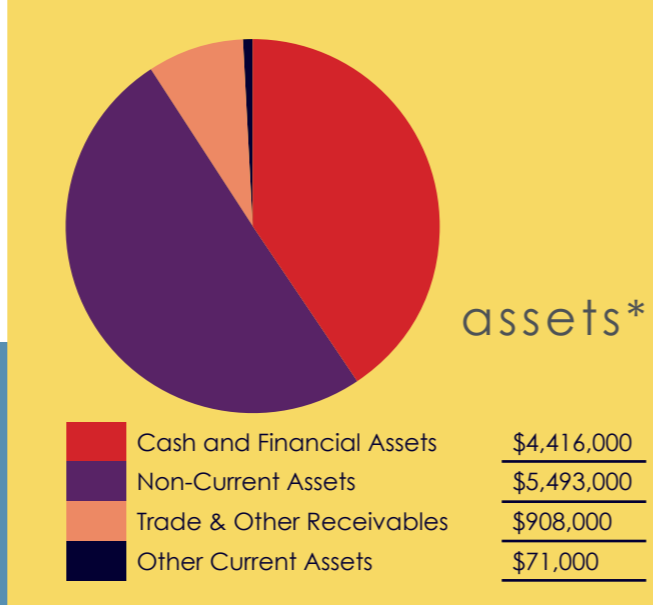
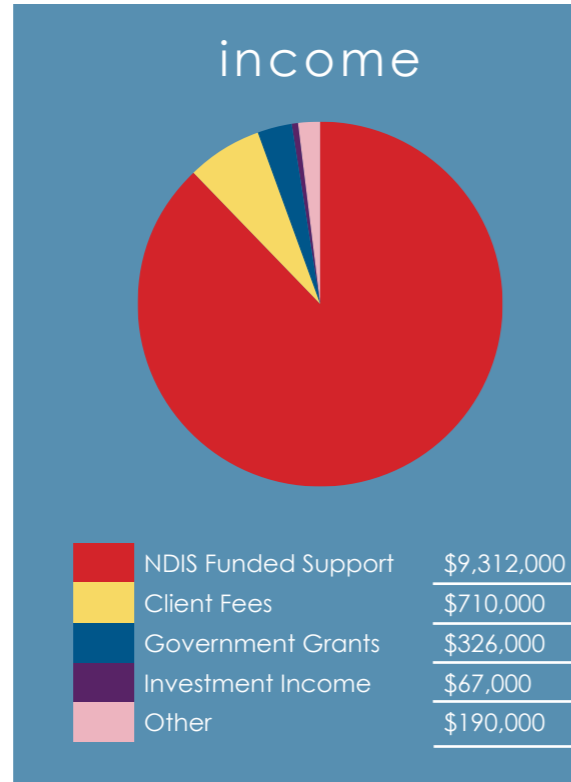
financial performance

A surplus of \$1,409,717 was recorded for the year ended 30th June 2018 (prior year \$765,843).

Government Grants provided \$326,000 in operational funding for the year (prior year \$2,745,000) and the NDIS funded supports provided \$9,312,000 (prior year \$4,540,000). Araluen completed the transition from state-based block funding to NDIS funded support and is now providing participants with additional supports that were not previously funded under the old block funding model.

financial position

Cash and Financial Assets increased by 70% compared to the prior year. This is largely due to the increase in surplus experienced in 2018. Trade and Other Receivables reduced 69% compared to prior year. Participants of Araluen are successfully working within the NDIS Portal and settling debts in a timely manner compared with the previous year.



expenditure

Employee Benefit Expenses	\$7,612,000
Other	\$683,000
Client Service Expenditure	\$331,000
Maintenance and Repairs	\$296,000
Depreciation	\$273,000

*as at 30th June 2018



Training to become job-ready whilst fulfilling roles that are valuable to the community

30 have completed hospitality-industry recognised certificates in Chancez Cafes.



With gratitude

Our Volunteers

Throughout the past year, Araluen was again fortunate to receive the time, skills, enthusiasm and care of a dedicated and diverse volunteer contingent who enhance the learning experience for our participants in a wide range of programs every week.

Araluen would like to thank the following individuals for the much loved and meaningful support they so generously offer:

Louise Barbon-Elliott
Anna Bunn
David Bunn
Garth Fragopoulos
John Handley
Nayana Jayatissa
John Kessar
Marion Oakley
Carl Prowse
Jane Shore
Staffan Thuringer
Lesley Westerman
Alex Zraika

14.

Art Connects & Montsalvat Pozible Campaign Donors

Angelique Loverso
Bec Hilton
Belinda Rogers
Bev McClure
Carmel Ritchie
Charlotte Hill
Creina Lee Budge
Dianne Miller
EDDA
Elizabeth Patterson
Emmy Bowers
Enid Ratnam-Keese
India
Jack Milne
Jane Russ
Jane Miller
Jeannette Davison
Jenny O'Keeffe
Karen Moore
Karen Souter
Kathrine Krombach
Kristine Boyle
Luise Adams
Seren Little
Michael Larratt
Miranda Russell
Morag Fraser
Morgan
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Peta Kalnin
Petra Nicel
Rhonda Willersdorf
Rob Hauser
Ross Coverdale
Rossella Picciani
Ruth Twardy
SENIA KAZAR
Sally & Jeff Freeman
Samantha Martin
Sharyn Lowe

SheEarth
Susie Monte
Tim Rolfe
Patricia Weight
and other anonymous donors

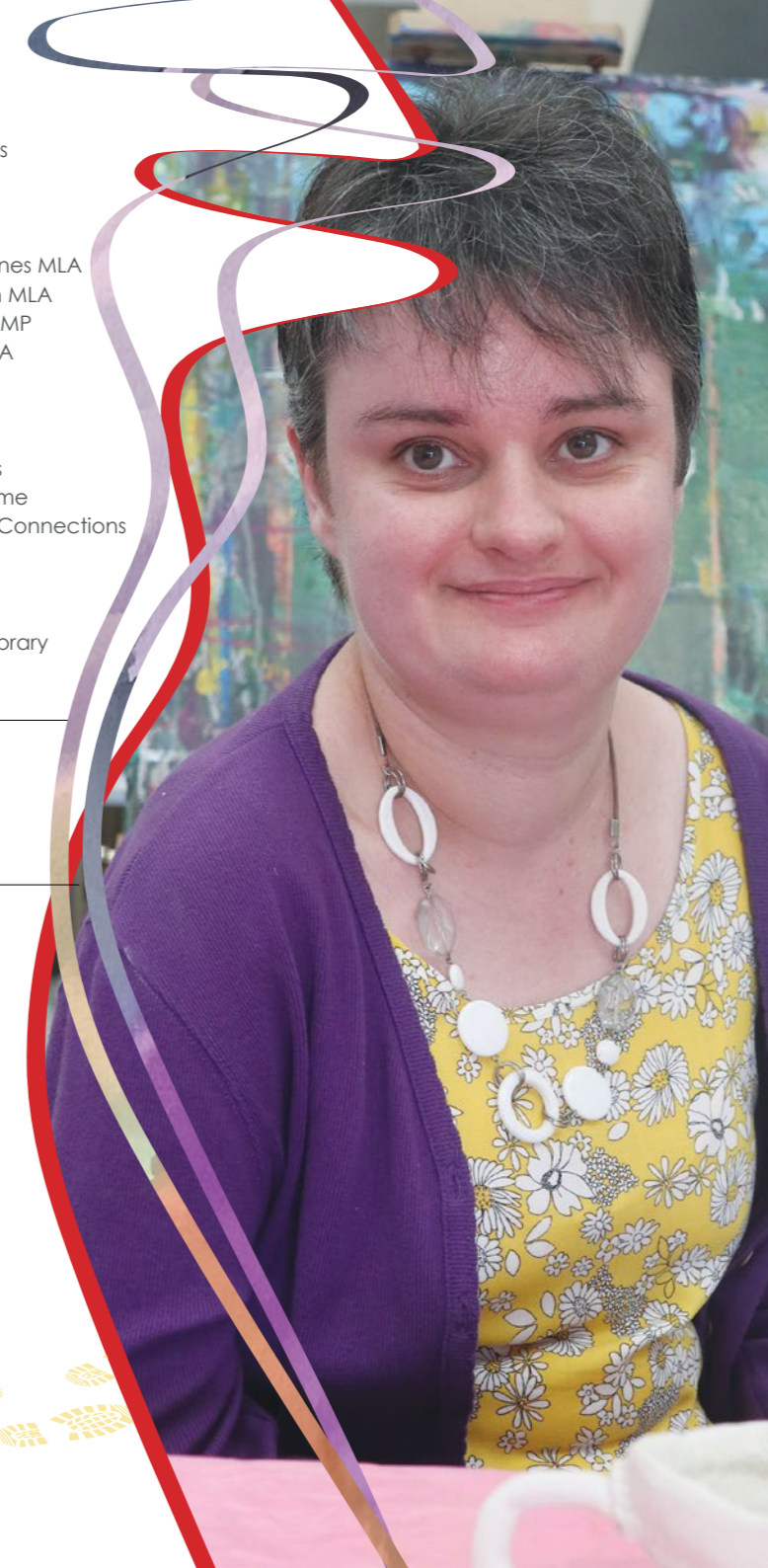
Our Supporters

All Saints Anglican Church Greensborough
Amaze (Autism Victoria)
Ashwood Park Riding School
Banyule Council
Banyule Community Health Service
Banyule Nillumbik LLEN
Banyule Nillumbik Technical School
The Barden Family
BCK Mechanic
Beaurepaires
Bendigo Bank
Boots for All
Brotherhood of St Laurence
Bulleen Special Development School
CarerLinks North
Career Education Association of Victoria
Communication Resource Centre (Scope)
Community Sector Banking
Concord School Bundoora
Joseph Connellan
Department of Health and Human Services
Des Lyon Builders
Diamond Creek Living and Learning Centre
Diamond Creek Men's Shed
Diamond Creek Rotary
Diamond Creek Tyrepower
Diamond Creek YMCA
Diamond Valley Special Development School
Eltham Community Market
Eltham Rural Group
Eltham High School
Enablis
Epping Community Services Hub
Everyday independence
Freehills
Rev David Fuller
First Choice Gourmet Catering

Gift a Bike Project
Greensborough Foodshare
Andy Griffiths
Di Gow
Hurstbridge Bowling Club
Hurstbridge Community Hub
Hurstbridge Football Club
Ilowra Housing Projects
Jets Studio Bundoora
Owen Jourdan
Leader Newspapers
Lloyd Plumbing
Lower Plenty Football Club
Lower Plenty Pharmacy
Melbourne Polytechnic
Paramedical
Paul Mahon
PLS Electrical Services
Macleod YMCA
Dr Andrew Martel
Prof Keith McVilly
Melaleuca
Mernda Football Club
Mirror Image Framing
Montmorency Service Centre
Montsalvat
MS Readathon
National Disability Insurance Agency
National Disability Services
Natural Timber Décor
Natures Harvest Hurstbridge
Nillumbik Living and Learning
Nillumbik Shire Council
Justin Nix
Nordens
North East Primary Care Partnership
Northern Support Services
Northside Medical Clinic
Planning Great Futures
Dr Kerrie Punshon
Dr Kate Rayner
Response Services
Ronco Mini Bins
Sacred Heart Primary School
Dr Prem Saranathan
Dr Ian Sharrock

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The Hon Vicky Ward MLA
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VALID
Victorian Artists Supplies
Wattle Glen Nursing Home
Whittlesea Community Connections
Whittlesea Council
Whittlesea YMCA
Dr Ilan Wiesel
Yarra Plenty Regional Library

artwork based on an image by Steven Grant



Achieving recognition and success from the determined pursuit of individual passions

“This year, my artworks were chosen to be exhibited at Federation Square, Melbourne, and Montsalvat”

- Kate



15.

An aerial photograph of a forest with a path of footprints overlaid. The path starts in the bottom left and curves towards the top right. The footprints are in various colors: blue, orange, yellow, and purple. A red wavy line is also overlaid on the path.

www.araluen.org



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