

# Annual Report

2016-17



“

Without Youth Insearch I am not sure I would be alive to be honest. It came along at a time when I was very suicidal. Now I have finished university and I am working in public relations. It made such a huge impact on my life.

-- Nicole, 33, Sydney

”



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Heath Ducker, CEO

Garry Rothwell, Chair

# CEO's Message

## Heath Ducker

CEO

Youth Insearch is not afraid of a challenge. Youth Insearch works with some of Australia's most troubled youth, intervening to empower them through our program of weekend workshops, support groups and mentoring.

Youth Insearch adamantly believes all young people, especially those that have experienced extreme disadvantage, can achieve great things. The work of Youth Insearch is about unleashing that potential, breaking the bonds of disadvantage, to ensure these young people in particular can lead full and rewarding lives. We say, "turning their disadvantages, into their advantages".

The evidence is in our achievements over the past year, and the stories of the young people we have helped, detailed in this report. This includes 1,183 weekend workshops registrations, 1,920 support group sessions and leveraging 238,789 volunteer hours. It includes 84% of participants no longer feeling suicidal and 83% establishing new goals. These are massive achievements for a group of youth considered most at risk.

The young participants themselves sum it up best. Like Nioka who says, before Youth Insearch, "Life felt cold,

I felt alone, I felt I would never know what real love was, I felt I would never amount to anything", but after, "Youth Insearch made me for the first time feel like part of a family. I felt I could be myself, I knew I wasn't alone. Youth Insearch gave me a different perspective on life."

Key to the delivery of the program are our program partnerships, with further significant additional partnerships being delivered in YE2017, including those with Brotherhood of St Laurence Foyer's in Melbourne, Joblink Plus Transition to Work participants in the New England, and the Red Cross Night Café in Brisbane.

This has been backed up by a strong financial performance for the year, with Youth Insearch raising over \$1.6 million from fundraising revenues, with a surplus of \$91,626 to apply toward the furtherance of our essential work. This is the culmination of a building fundraising program, with revenues increasing by an average of 27% year on year since 2015.

Of course, we could not do this without the generosity of our many donors and pro bono contributions, which are listed at the end of this report. We extend our deepest gratitude

to these supporters. Equally, we could not have achieved anything this year, without the team of staff, volunteers, and directors, who we extend our sincerest thanks, for their efforts and commitment.

We feel a great privilege, leading this exceptional, and powerful organisation, intervening in young people's lives at the lowest point, and being able to see them take inspired and positive steps towards much brighter futures.

Thank you for being with us on this journey, and for believing in the potential of all these young people.



Youth Insearch is an independent charitable organisation that runs one of the most successful youth intervention programs in the country. Over 31,000 young people have participated in our programs nationwide.

## About Us

### History

Youth Insearch was founded in 1985 by a Youth Development Counsellor at the Riverstone Community Neighbourhood Centre in North West Sydney. He believed that individual counselling was slow and had little impact on the community as a whole. He met with the young people he was counselling to discuss what would be more effective. Together they wrote the Youth Insearch program.

The outcomes in Riverstone were outstanding and profiled by the late Andrew Olle in a radio interview with the founder on 2BL in 1987. Mr Olle then interviewed a local police commander who stated

the Riverstone Police Station was closing half its operations because youth crime, delinquency and alcohol and drug use and dealing had hit an all-time low as a result of the program. This was the start of national media coverage and a rapid expansion of the program across Australia.

In the 1990's, Youth Insearch was established in the United Kingdom in partnership with the United Nations Child Development Fund and in New Zealand in partnership with a NZ police officer.

### Purpose

To empower young people to take control of their lives by giving them the opportunity and skills to develop their self-esteem and play a positive role in society.

### Patron

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret'd), Governor of New South Wales.

## Objectives

- Reduce the incidence of crime, violence, drug & alcohol abuse, self-harm and suicide in young people
- Relieve the suffering and helplessness of young people affected by distressing issues
- Break the cycle of family breakdown by giving young people some of the skills essential to be a successful parent
- Teach young people the positive values of life
- Teach young people the value of education and increase education and employment

## Program Components

The Youth Insearch program consists of two core components:

- Weekend Workshops
- Local Support & Mentoring – in the community

Peer-to-peer support and leadership is an essential part of the program. All these elements combine to create significant change in the young people.

## Accolades

The success of Youth Insearch is recognised nationwide. Youth Insearch has featured extensively in the media. This includes 60 Minutes, A Current Affair, 7:30 Report, 4 Corners and Sunday Night programs. Youth Insearch is the recipient of the Australian Crime and Violence Prevention Award, Sydney Morning Herald Youth Award and Promising Practice Profile from the Australian Institute of Family Studies.

**32 Years in Review**  
(1985-2017)

**31,000**  
Individual Participants

**70,000**  
Support Group  
Sessions Held

**800**  
Weekend Workshops  
Held

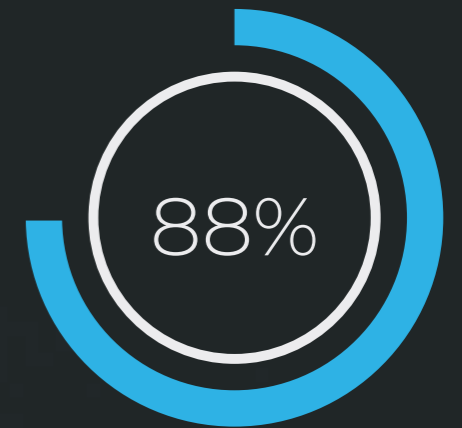
**110**  
Leaders Training  
Workshops

**300**  
Support Adults Trained

**900**  
Youth and Adult  
Leaders Trained

## Referral Service Satisfaction

88% rated the Youth Insearch program to be effective and very effective.



Youth Insearch is available to all young people aged 14-20. Youth Insearch brings young people of all walks of life together to help each other navigate life and reach their full potential. Many young people come to us when they are struggling to find a way forward.

## Who We Help

This includes young people suffering from:

- family separation, conflict, neglect and domestic violence
- sexual abuse
- emotional abuse
- grief and loss
- bullying
- low self-esteem

Young people referred often exhibit the

following behaviours:

- suicidal thoughts
- suicide attempts and self-harm
- drug and alcohol abuse
- committing crimes
- violence towards others
- truancy from school
- lack motivation to participate in society
- uncooperative at home

Youth Insearch is often successful for young people that have failed to improve through mainstream interventions.

## Referral Agencies

Young people are referred from a wide variety of groups:

- Departments of Families, Community Services, Health
- Departments of Juvenile Justice, Police, Courts
- Youth Services, Community Centres
- Counsellors, Psychologists, Social Workers
- Schools, TAFE's, Job Agencies
- Youth Refuges, Shelters



# 2017 Snapshot

**198**  
Volunteers  
(Youth Leaders, Adult  
Leaders & Supports)

**238,788**  
Volunteer Hours

21 Weekend  
Workshop Hosted  
+  
48 Support  
Group Locations

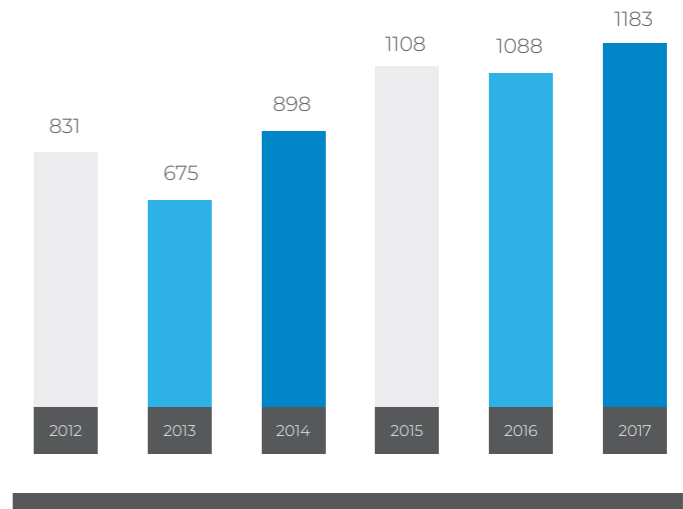
**1,920**  
Support Group Session  
Held in 2017

**485**  
Individual  
Participants

**1,183**  
Weekend Workshop  
Registrations

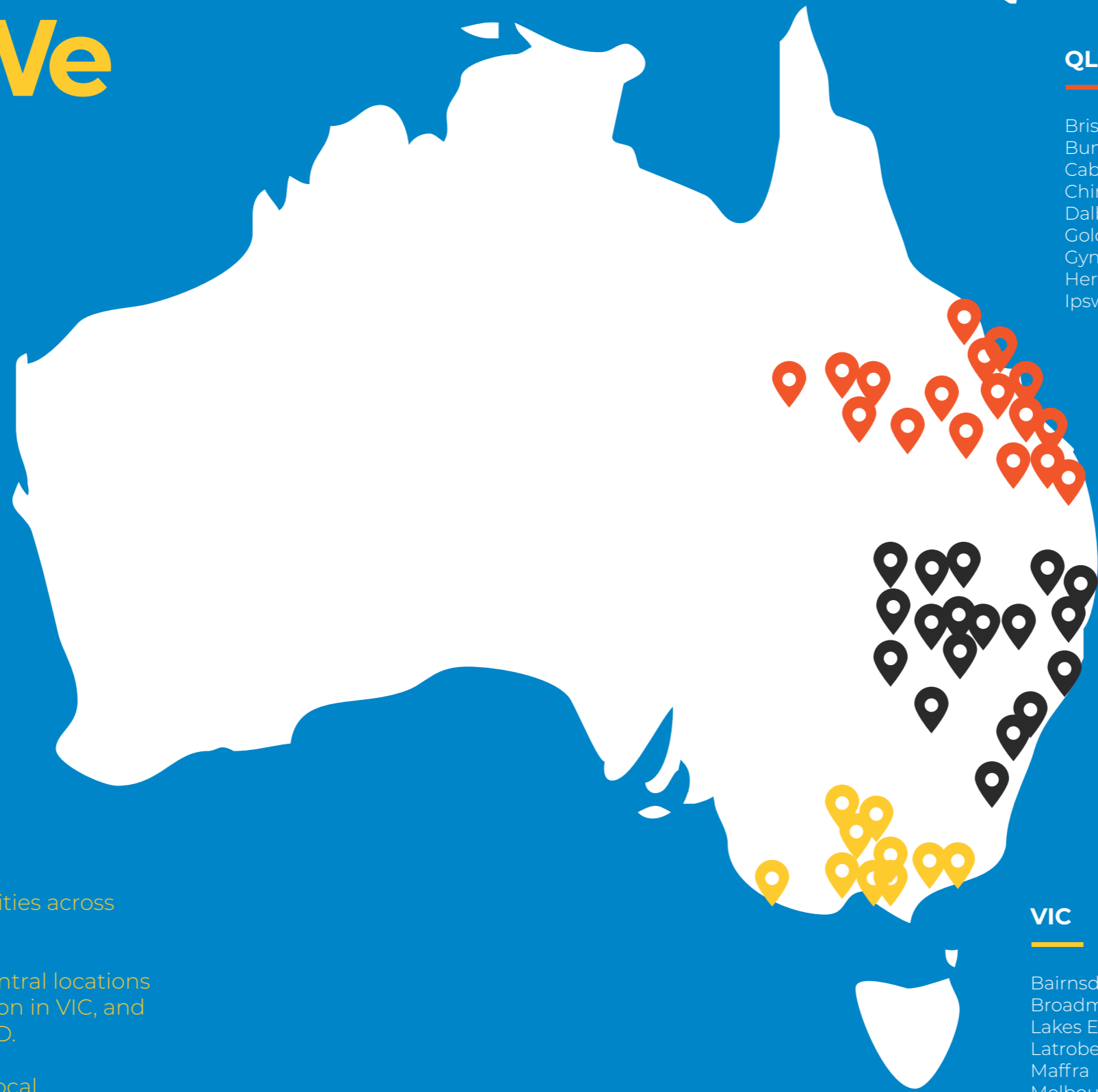
## Total Program Registrations

Total attendance at the program has increased consistently since 2012, evidencing the increasing reach and demand for the program.



Total Registrations Per Year (2012-2017)

# Where We Help



## QLD

- Brisbane
- Bundaberg
- Caboolture
- Chinchilla
- Dalby
- Gold Coast
- Gympie
- Hervey Bay
- Ipswich
- Kingaroy
- Logan
- Maryborough
- Miles
- Noosa
- Roma
- Tara
- Tin Can Bay
- Toowoomba

## NSW

- Armidale
- Bingara
- Brisbane
- Castle Hill
- Coffs Harbour
- Coonabarabran
- Coonamble
- Grafton
- Gulgong
- Cunneah
- Inverell
- Manilla
- Moree
- Nambucca Heads
- Narrabri
- Newcastle
- Port Macquarie
- Quirindi
- Salamander Bay
- Tamworth

## VIC

- Bairnsdale
- Broadmeadows
- Lakes Entrance
- Latrobe Valley
- Maffra
- Melbourne
- Morwell
- Portland
- Rosedale
- Sale
- Sunshine

Youth Insearch operates in 48 communities across NSW, QLD and VIC.

Weekend workshops are delivered in central locations in Tamworth and Toukley in NSW, Rawson in VIC, and Bundaberg and Duckadang (Esk) in QLD.

Support groups operate in each of our local operational areas.

# Justin's Story

Justin, NSW

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Justin's story proves, those that attend Youth Insearch are not bad kids. They're kids that have had bad things happen to them.

Justin, 18, lives in a small house with his two young brothers, his ice addict parents and up to four of their ice-addicted friends.

His mother first showed him what drugs were when he was four. When he was 12, his dad introduced him to smoking marijuana. Walking past bags filled with kilograms of ice in the living room is part of his normal reality.

Justin's home life is volatile. He has arguments with his father every other day, which usually end in a fist fight on the front lawn – but since starting Youth Insearch, occasionally they'll "hug it out" instead.

It's not hard to see the path that led Justin to Youth Insearch. He's been in trouble with the law many times, mainly assault and property damage. Instead of being shipped off to prison or juvenile detention, which would set his feet firmly on the path he was on, Justin was offered the chance to turn his life around through Youth Insearch.

"Youth Insearch is like the family I never had," Justin says. "It's the first time I've sat in a room of people who actually give a f\*\*\* about me." Justin is so starved of love and affection, to him the feeling of a hug was like "a high" he would get from drugs.

It is clear Justin had made progress since coming along to the workshops – "I don't want to be this person anymore" – but he was struggling to see anything other than the downward trajectory his life was on. A happy life was a foreign concept to him.


But at one of the workshops, he heard one of the young Youth Insearch leaders told their story. The circumstances were different, but the themes were the same. "I was looking at all these leaders who had been through the same sort of things I had been through. I was finding out how they dealt with it and how they coped with it. I started using those people as role models."

After hearing the leader's story, Justin's mindset began to shift – here was someone of a similar age, who not that long ago was in a place as dark and low as his. Someone who, while still fighting their own battle, was living a happy and fulfilling life.

After experiencing the program, Justin says he is "calmer, my anger has been drained and I'm more open to change." Justin has significantly reduced his drug use and is asserting more control over his life. Those around him say he has transformed from an angry young man to a happy, smiling adolescent.

The move forward is ongoing, but Justin has come a long way.

<sup>1</sup>Not his real name. Story courtesy of Jamieson Murphy, Northern Daily Leader.



It's the first time I've sat in a room of people who actually gave a f\*\*\* about me.

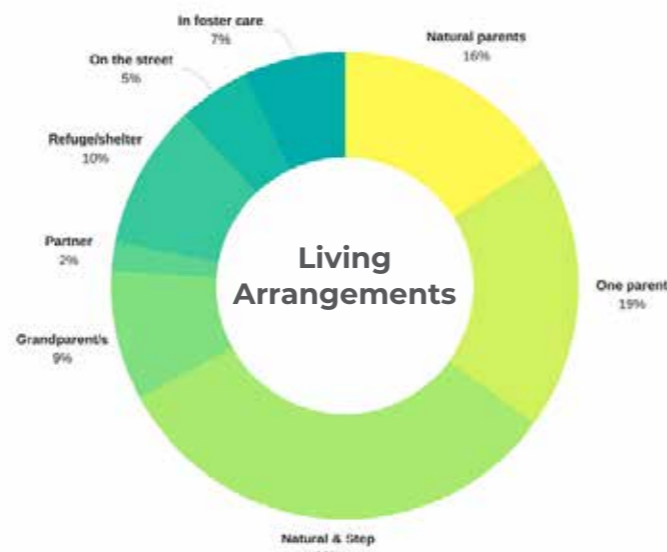
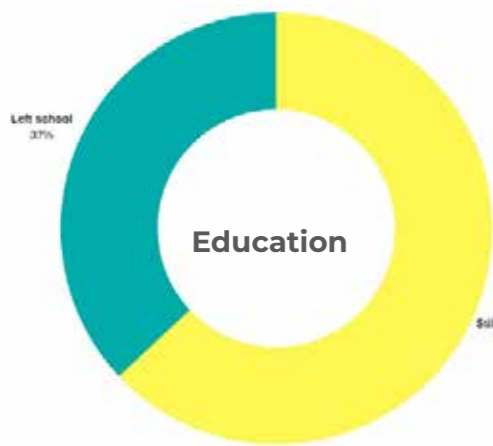
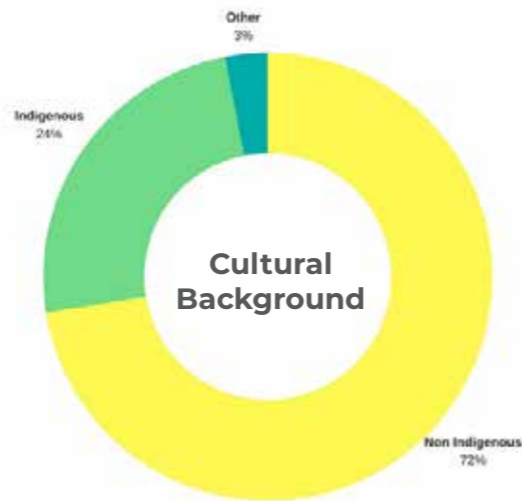
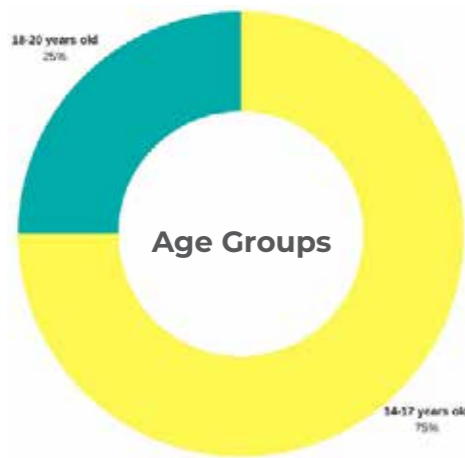


# Participants

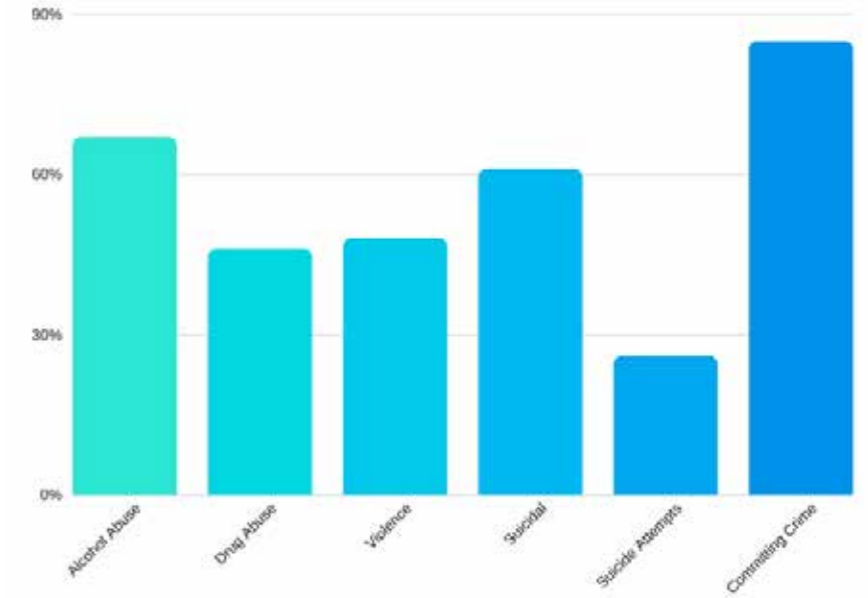
## DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILES

This year the program assisted 485 individual young people to take control of their lives and reach their full potential. This was achieved through over 2,590 instances of support in our weekend workshops, support groups and mentoring interactions.

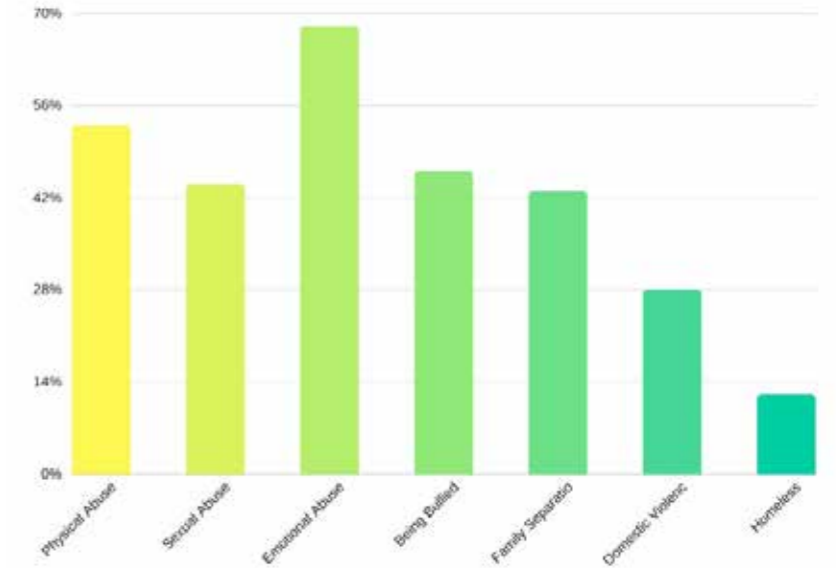
### Male vs Female



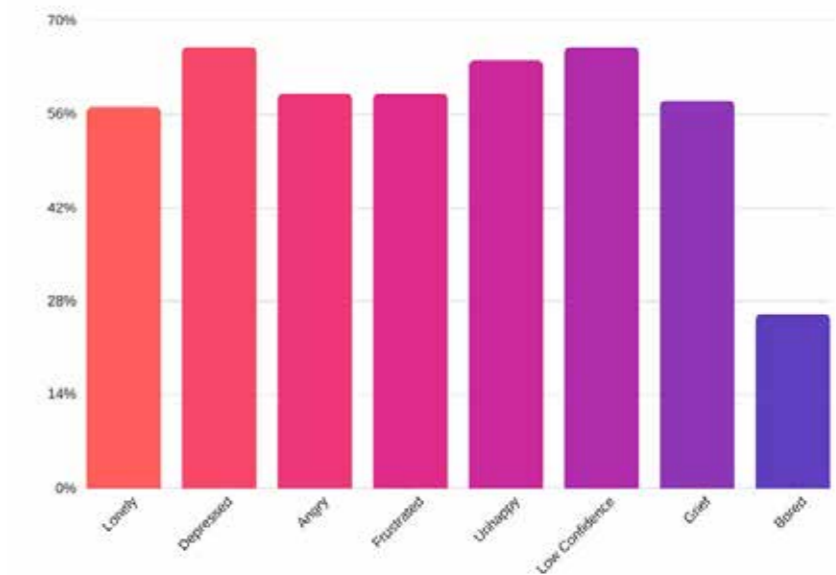
## BEHAVIOURS



## SITUATIONS



## FEELINGS



# Impact

## HOW WE HELPED

Youth Insearch had a significant impact in the lives of young people that participated in the program. These outcomes are expressed as a percentage of the young people that had these problems on intake.

Alcohol / Drug Use	Program Outcomes	%
Stop Drink	Those who don't drink now as % of those who drank before	15%
Drink Less	Those who drink less as % of those who drank before	26%
<b>Drinking Overall</b>	<b>Combined % stopped and drink less</b>	<b>41%</b>
Drugs Stopped	Those who don't use drugs anymore as % of those used drugs before	36%
Drug Less	Those who use less drugs as % of those who used drugs before	26%
<b>Drugs Combined</b>	<b>Combined % of stopped and use less drugs</b>	<b>62%</b>

Problems	Program Outcomes	%
Physical	Physical abuse NOT happening as a % of those who were physically abused prior to Youth Insearch program participation	77%
Sexual	Sexual abuse NOT happening as a % of those who were sexually abused prior to Youth Insearch program participation	91%
Emotional	Emotional abuse NOT happening as a % of those who were emotionally abused prior to Youth Insearch program participation	48%
Suicidal Attempts	NOT attempted suicide since last program as % of those who were suicidal	79%
Suicidal Thoughts	NOT felling suicidal after attending the Youth Insearch program	84%
Criminal Behaviour	Pledged not to commit crime after attending Youth Insearch program for the first time	73%

**88%** made new friends  
**84%** learned to help others  
**83%** established new goals

**Other benefits experienced by Youth Insearch Program participants:**

- Met others with similar problems 76%
- Have support when needed 71%
- Feel loved 73%
- Feel respected 75%
- Now respect others 65%
- Feel better about myself / life 64%
- Changed attitude towards school 62%
- New feel calm 78%



# Nioka's Story

Nioka, NSW

Before Youth Insearch, Nioka's childhood was full of traumatic experiences relating to sexual assault, drug and alcohol abuse, family violence, domestic violence, neglect and physical assault. Nioka came to Youth Insearch when she was 12 years old because she was looking for a place that could accept and support her through a very challenging life.


Growing up in a home where the life that was only known to her, Nioka experienced neglect, hatred, being exposed to drugs and alcohol on a daily basis and being sexually abused at a very young age. Nioka says, "Life felt cold, I felt alone, I felt I would never know what real love was, I felt I would never amount to anything." Through Youth Insearch Nioka has been able to acknowledge that it is possible to overcome your past to create a brighter future – the future that you want and that we can use our experiences to help others.

Youth Insearch made me for the first time feel like part of a family. I felt I could be myself, I knew I wasn't alone. Youth Insearch gave me a different perspective on life.

Nioka is now a mum of two beautiful children and they live in a loving home. There is no smoking, drinking or drugs in the family which Nioka acknowledges that many of the people that she grew up with have resorted to that lifestyle. She has now come back to Youth Insearch after a few years as a support adult supporting young people that

she works with. Nioka has recently started a new job as the Indigenous Support Worker for St Phillips where she works with young mums and dads aged 14-22 years old. Her role is to support them in all areas of their life and at first Nioka thought to get them involved with Youth Insearch as it was a big part of her life transformation when she was younger and is one of the reasons why she is so passionate in helping young people.

Without her involvement with Youth Insearch, Nioka believes that she would be stuck in the same cycle that she was getting in to when she was younger where she was shutting down and withdrawing from family, friends and life in general. Nioka says, "Youth Insearch made me for the first time feel like part of a family. I felt I could be myself, I knew I wasn't alone. Youth Insearch gave me a different perspective on life." Nioka believes it is now her job to show other young people that it is possible to overcome their pasts and to also help them realise that you can turn any negative into a positive.



Life felt cold, I felt alone,  
I felt I would never know  
what real love was, I felt  
I would never amount to  
anything.



# Weekend Workshops

Our weekend workshops are a 48-hour retreat commencing at 6pm on a Friday and concluding at 3pm on a Sunday. A typical workshop consists of up to 70 young people, 10 to 15 support adults, and the leadership team. The objectives of the workshops are to:

- Create a safe environment enabling young people to experience trust and care and develop communication skills.
- Give young people an opportunity to talk about the issues that are affecting their lives.
- Support participants to deal with personal trauma.
- Empower young people to find positive solutions, by drawing on their peers who have experienced similar issues.

The workshops involve highly structured group work processes, administered by extensively trained Youth and Adult Leaders. Youth Leaders facilitate group work on general life skills. Adult Leaders facilitate group “hassles sessions” on emotional issues. Each workshop is overseen by a clinical psychologist. Sessions conducted on the weekend include:

- Communication
- Self-Esteem
- Trust
- Entertainment
- Parent/adolescent, drugs & alcohol, sexual assault and grief hassles
- Relaxation

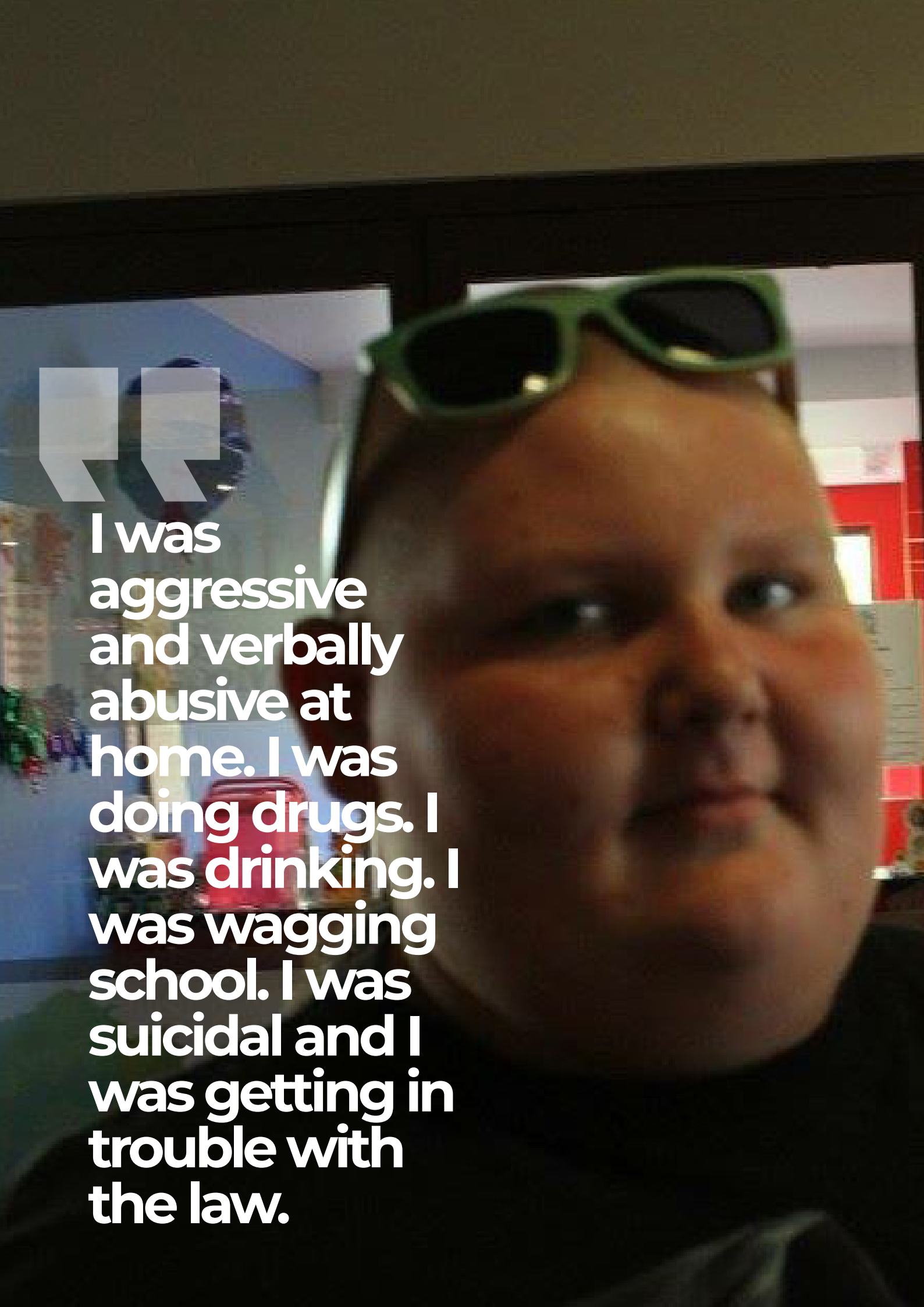
## Referral Agencies

Young people are referred from a wide variety of groups:

- Departments of Families, Community Services, Health
- Departments of Juvenile Justice, Police, Courts
- Youth Services, Community Centres
- Counsellors, Psychologists, Social Workers
- Schools, TAFE's, Job Agencies
- Youth Refuges, Shelters

# Rhylee's Story

Rhylee, QLD



I was aggressive and verbally abusive at home. I was doing drugs. I was drinking. I was wagging school. I was suicidal and I was getting in trouble with the law.

When I started attending Youth Insearch in December 2015 I was aggressive and verbally abusive at home. I was doing drugs. I was drinking. I was wagging school. I was suicidal and I was getting in trouble with the law.

I started attending Youth Insearch in December 2015 at first I thought this would be a magical camp that would solve all of my problems. I attended 6 more camps and my family support officer noticed that after the 2nd camp I had stopped making progress. She said to me "you have all the support this area can provide and you aren't using it to the best of your ability" so we both decided it would be best if I stopped going on Youth Insearch for a little while which turned into an 8 or 9 month break.

Youth Insearch is truly changing my life for the better.

I finally came back on Youth Insearch earlier this year but 2 days before camp I got suspended so my youth worker decided as a punishment I had to miss the next camp. After this break I came back with a clearer mindset and a goal. My first camp back was a bit tough as I didn't really involve myself as much as I should because my mind was focused on the residential where I lived.

So I came back on the September camp in Duckadang just after being kicked out of home because of my behavioural patterns so on this camp I really tried my hardest and I knuckled down. I spoke on one of the final sessions on Sunday and Heather challenged me with the word commitment. This had been the hardest part of my journey so far but I do not regret this tough conversation as this had inspired me to grind to be where I want to be. I came home and lived at my friends for 3 more weeks and UCC IFS called a meeting with the support services my mum and me.

This meeting was tough as we established boundaries for me to be allowed to move home. I am now residing at home trying to remind myself to keep these boundaries but I will soon be moving out to become independent to give mum and myself some space so we are not constantly clashing. I would not have been able to make this progress if not for Heather Cummings talking to me about commitment. It is truly changing my life for the better.

# Community Support

Youth Insearch offers local support for the young people, ensuring each young person can embark on a program of change while remaining within their own home and school environment. This is comprised of the following elements.

## Post-Workshop Assessments

The Community Coordinators immediately review the evaluation forms completed by the young people at the end of each weekend workshop to identify any issues that require immediate follow up and actions the help required.

## Weekly Support Groups

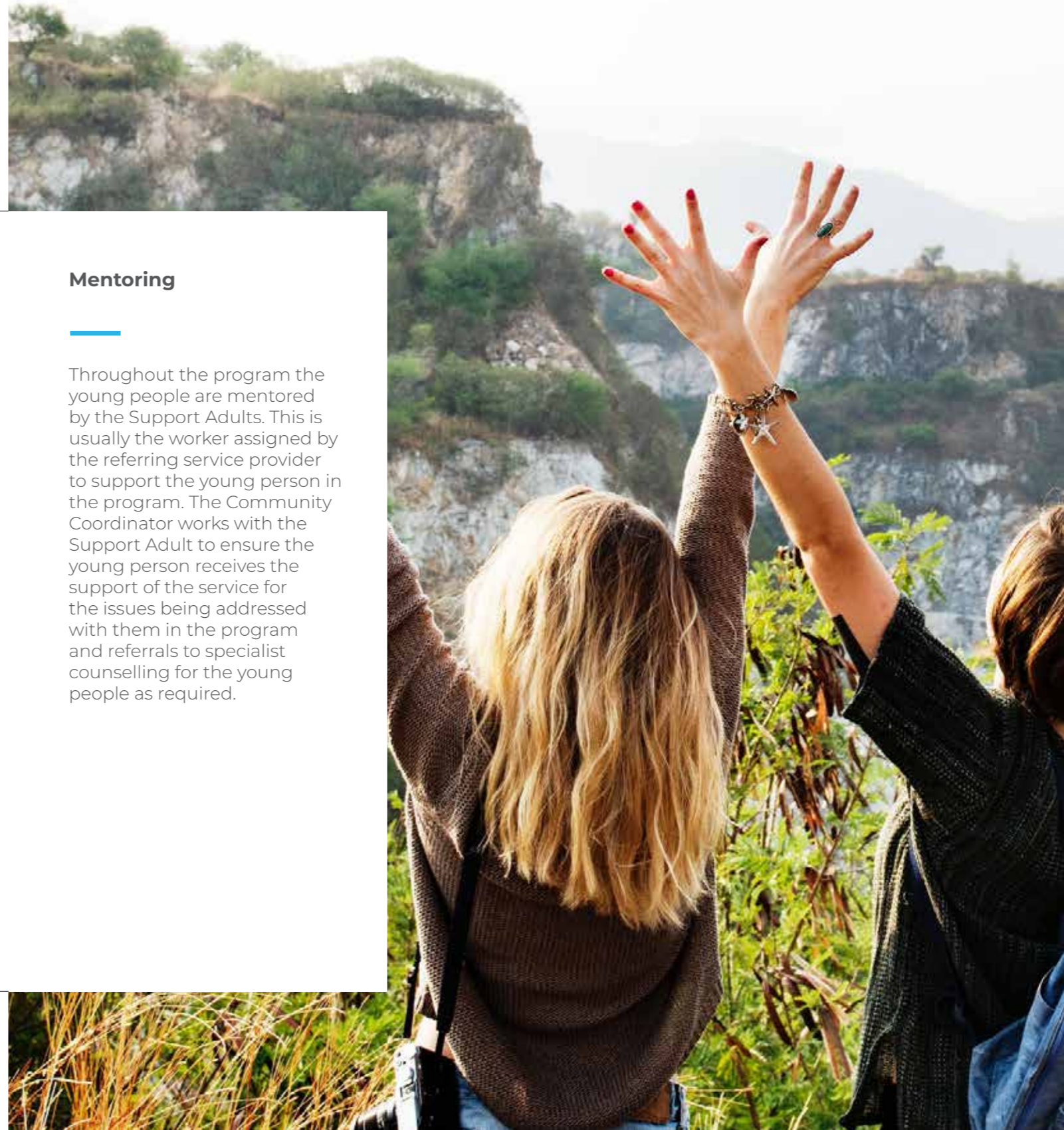
Between the weekend workshops the young people attend weekly support groups in their local area. The support groups are held within a few days of each workshop and then at the same time and place each week. Support groups continue the process of positive change. They ensure a structured means by which participants can integrate their new awareness with the reality of their situation. As the workshops are generally held every four to six weeks this enables the young person to remain connected between the workshops. The groups are run by the Youth Leaders with the support of the Community Coordinator, Adult Leaders and Support Adults.

## Peer Support Networks

Young people in the program from the same area form close friendships with each other as they have experienced the same issues and can relate to each other. They form a positive peer support network outside of the workshops and support groups. They assist each other each day in their local community to continue to make positive changes in their lives and withstand negative peer pressure. These networks include the Youth Leaders from the area who act as role models for the young people and offer advice and can refer difficult issues up to the Community Coordinator.

## Mentoring

Throughout the program the young people are mentored by the Support Adults. This is usually the worker assigned by the referring service provider to support the young person in the program. The Community Coordinator works with the Support Adult to ensure the young person receives the support of the service for the issues being addressed with them in the program and referrals to specialist counselling for the young people as required.





# Program Theory

Overall, the Youth Insearch program works by allowing young people to deal with the pain in their lives. Through drawing on the resources of other young people that have experienced similar issues, and being empowered to confront the real problem or underlying issue, the young people seek positive alternatives in their lives, turning away from a life of despair and destructive behaviour. Youth Insearch believes young people have the solutions to their own problems. This is role modelled by the Youth Leaders in the program.

## THEORY OF CHANGE

The Youth Insearch theory of change is comprised of the following three parts:

### Context for Change

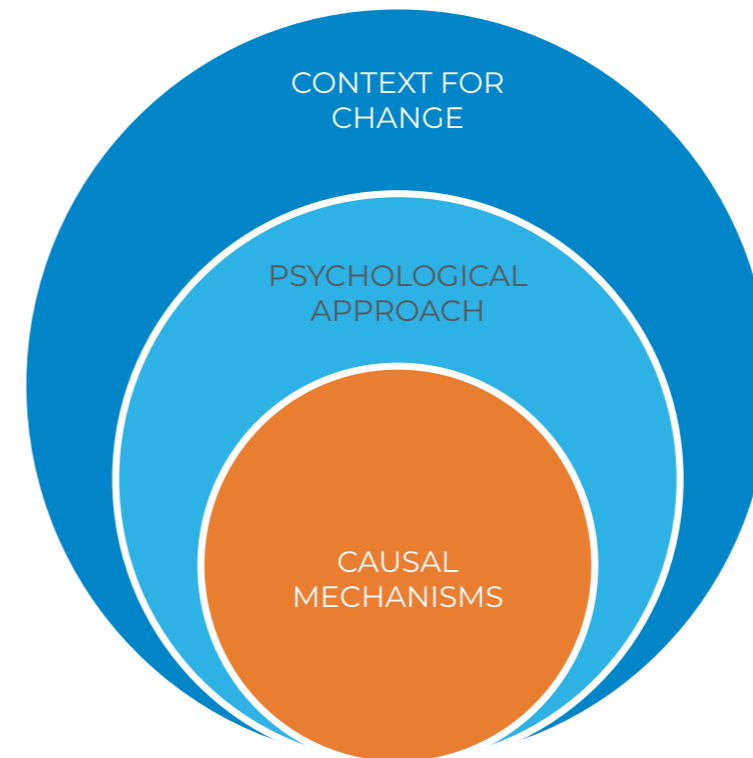
This is the carefully created overall structure of the program, which forms the group dynamic, and generates a holding space to support young people across the course of their journey. This provides a new, loving and enabling environment. This structure draws on systemic therapy, narrative therapy and social models of change.

### Psychological Approach

This refers to the basic philosophy or approach that guides the culture and activities of the program. This philosophy is that young people are basically good, flourish when they are seen as positive and capable, and are the experts in their own lives. This draws on person-centred/ Rogerian therapy and narrative therapy.

### Causal Mechanisms

These are the individual sessions and activities throughout the workshops and support groups that target different issues or areas for growth. Youth Insearch draws on a range of therapeutic modalities to generate specific outcomes for young people. These include attachment theory, schema therapy, dialectical behaviour therapy, solution focused therapy, interpersonal therapy and systems therapy.



# Brad's Story

Brad, NSW

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Brad comes from a broken family where sexual assault, drugs, alcohol and domestic violence was common. After his parents separated it was tough for Brad as he was made aware that one parent was wealthy and didn't seem to have problems while the other struggled to get by with all the bills that comes with caring for kids.

Before attending a Youth Insearch weekend workshop, Brad was diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder and suffering from depression, anger issues, frustration at life, low self-esteem and feeling suicidal. Due to these issues, Brad turned to crime and alcohol to attempt to hide his pain as he struggled to talk about his past and how he was feeling. One day in particular changed Brad's life as he was caught for stealing petrol after taking a couple of people who he barely knew to Melbourne and given most of his money to them instead of keeping it for fuel on the way home. He says in hindsight, "I didn't think of calling for a parent to pay over the phone. \$70.36 a number I will never forget." Also, while Brad was in Melbourne his mother had been admitted to hospital and didn't know that her son was in Melbourne although Brad says he couldn't go home straight away as he couldn't leave his "friends" behind. After his case being adjourned twice in court, Brad was finally issued with a 6-month good behaviour bond on the 8th May 2017.


Since participating in the program in April of this year, Brad has been given the chance to take a look at everything that has been bothering him and been able to work through his issues to move on with his life. After his first program Brad says that his life changed. For once he felt comfortable in his life and with other people. He felt safe. He also felt that he was able to share the torment and abuse that he had faced daily as a child at the hands of his father. Even after everything that he had suffered because of his father, Brad gave his father another chance and initiated the relationship between them again.

Brad says, "Youth Insearch has helped me by making me realise that I do have support and it's okay to talk about my problems... Coming to camp has made me realise that my feelings were normal and it is okay to feel like this."

Brad has been in and out of jobs due to his temper and attitude. These jobs included random jobs that he could get at Grill'd and laboring jobs but also studying to be a personal trainer and an electrical apprenticeship – two things that he has a passion for. After his most recent job with another company to complete his electrical apprenticeship, Brad was made redundant however he says, "that wouldn't stop me from finishing it."

If it wasn't for Youth Insearch, I think I would be in a Mental Health Clinic, kicked out of home, in the crime and justice system or living on the streets with no family and being addicted to alcohol and gambling.

After his most recent weekend workshop, Brad says that he feels loved, respected and better in general about himself and his life while not feeling suicidal anymore. Throughout his involvement with Youth Insearch, Brad has found a stable job as an apprentice in his chosen career, aims to move out of home to become more independent and has a long-term goal of becoming a Youth Insearch Leader because he, "want to help other people and be a part of such a great organization." If it weren't for Youth Insearch, Brad suspects that he would be in a Mental Health Clinic, kicked out of home, in the crime and justice system or living on the streets with no family and being addicted to alcohol and gambling.



**Youth Insearch has helped me by making me realise that I do have support and it's okay to talk about my problems... Coming to camp has made me realise that my feelings were normal and it is okay to feel like this.**





# Leaders Training



**The Youth Insearch program is delivered by extensively trained Youth & Adult Leaders who are held in high regard. The leader's graduation ceremony is conducted by the Governor of NSW at Government House each year. There is an alumni of hundreds of Youth Insearch Leaders from 30 years of operation of the program.**

## LEADER SELECTION

Youth Insearch's leaders (both youth 14-25 and adult's over 25) are selected by the National Program Council. To become a Trainee Leader applicants must have:

- attended 3 weekend workshops
- overcome the issues in their lives
- demonstrated leadership potential
- agreed to abide by the Youth Insearch Leaders Code of Ethics written as a guide to their lifestyle

## TRAINING PROGRAM

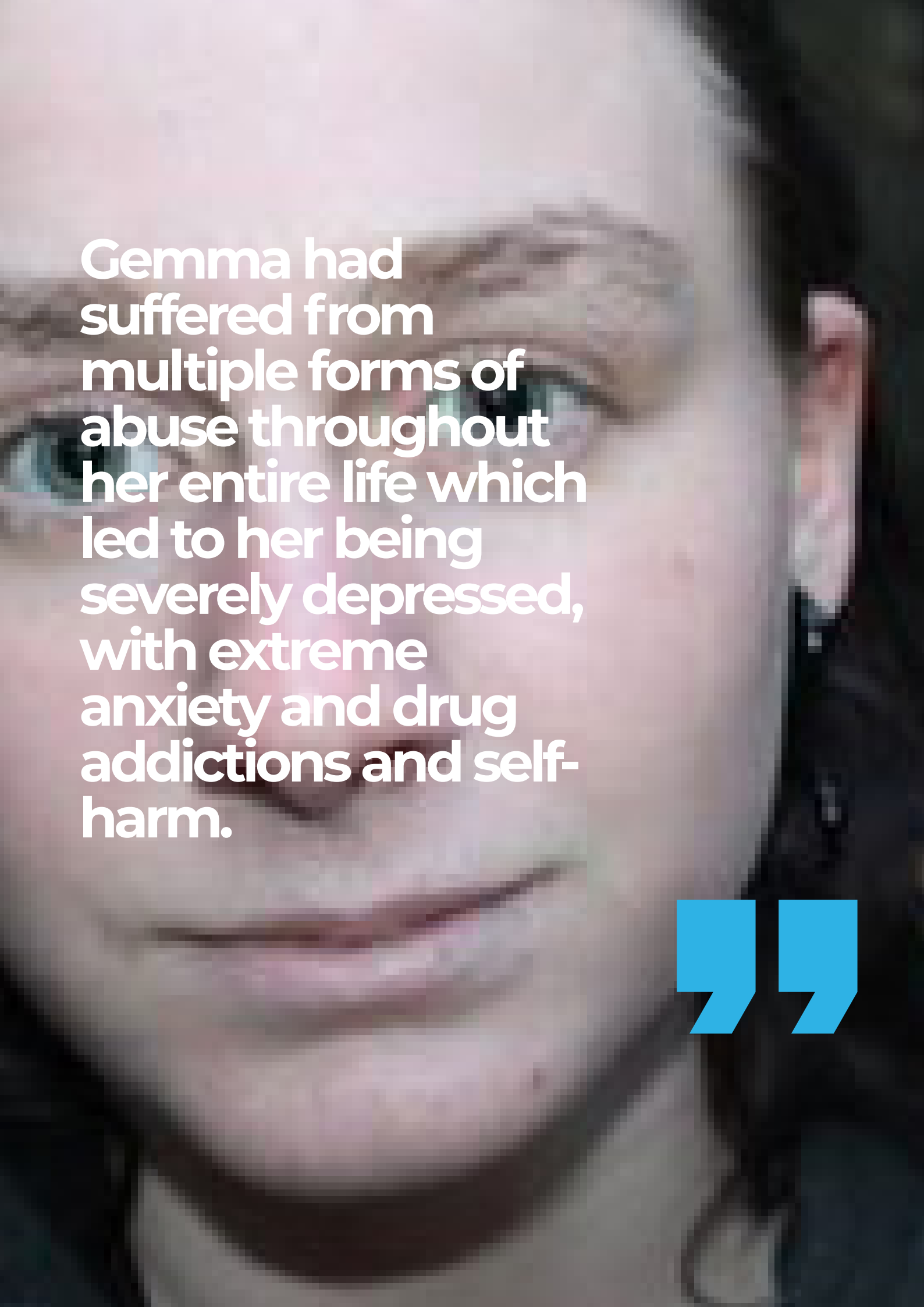


**Youth Insearch Leaders undergo an intensive 12-month training course consisting of:**

- 2 separate week-long residential workshops
- 12 months of practical training and assessment in the Youth Insearch program

Youth Insearch is fortunate to have high level corporates and professional trainers donate their time to conduct this training for us. The training workshops include sessions on:

- Mind Mapping & Taking Notes
- Leadership & Team Building
- Motivation & Leadership
- Presentation Skills
- Communication Skills
- Resolving Difficult Situations
- Conflict Resolution & Team Work
- Mental Health First Aid & Understanding Mental Illness
- Health, Nutrition & Exercise
- Personal Presentation & Appearance
- Values, Beliefs, Breaking Free & Goal Setting
- Cultural Awareness
- Meditation & Relaxation Techniques
- Youth Insearch Organisation Overview & Structure
- Youth Insearch Leaders Standards & Code of Ethics
- Youth Insearch Program & Theory
- Presenting & Preparing a Youth Insearch Session
- Leaders Roles in Youth Insearch



Gemma had suffered from multiple forms of abuse throughout her entire life which led to her being severely depressed, with extreme anxiety and drug addictions and self-harm.

# Gemma's Story

Gemma, NSW

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Before participating in Youth Insearch weekend workshops, Gemma was in a very bad place. Gemma has suffered from multiple forms of abuse throughout her entire life which led to her being severely depressed and had extreme anxiety. Instead of dealing with these issues, Gemma became addicted to drugs, getting high every day instead of attending school and she also had a severe self-harm problem.

Gemma attended her first program in June of 2015 and has since attended regular weekend workshops, going from a participant to a Trainee Leader and at the start of this year graduating to an Accredited Youth Leader. Since starting her journey with Youth Insearch, Gemma has been able to see the potential within herself and has been helped in understanding that she is worth more than what she was putting herself through.

Gemma has now gotten a stable job, attending Grade 12 at school and is planning on attending university after she has graduated. Gemma says that through her journey, "Youth Insearch has helped a great deal. Meeting other young people with similar issues who had come out the other end with happy and successful lives," inspired her to try better in hers.

Youth Insearch has helped a great deal. Meeting other young people with similar issues who had come out the other end with happy and successful lives inspired me to try better in mine.

Gemma aims to have several applications in for universities by the end of the year and to continue saving for a Europe trip next year for two weeks. As well as the short-term goals, Gemma is also looking towards her simple but fulfilling future where she is wanting to do what makes her happy and wanting to travel.

Without Youth Insearch Gemma predicts that she would either be on heavy drugs or potentially dead from a drug overdose or ill from mental health issues. Youth Insearch made me more independent, giving mum and myself some space so we are not constantly clashing. I would not have been able to make this progress if not for Heather Cummings talking to me about commitment. It is truly changing my life for the better.





# Leader's Training 2017

The 2017 trainees began the intensive 12-month leaders training course on 1 April 2017. The residential training weeks were conducted on 3-7 July and 25-29 September 2017.

During the training, the young people have been pushed to their limits and stepped up to the challenge, proving they have what it takes to be a Youth Insearch Leader. This year's trainee leaders are an amazing group of adults and young people who have participated in regular weekend workshops during the year.

Week 2 of the training program started off a bit rocky with the radar towers at Sydney close delaying all flights, but in true Youth Insearch Leader style, everyone handled it with absolute grace and understanding. Over the two weeks of training, the trainees showed immense team work and leadership skills while continuing their personal development and kicking their goals out of the park.

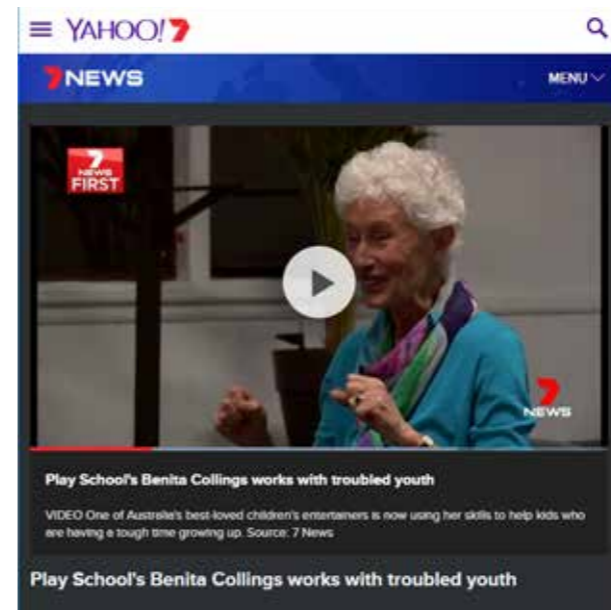
The second training week ended with a celebration dinner for guests, family and friends, which the trainees organised. By coordinating the evening, they were able to put into practice all the skills they had learnt culminating in a speech from them all about their individual journey with Youth Insearch. All these skills will give them what they need to support more young people going through the program to tackle the challenges life has given them and the belief that they can make their life what they want it to be.

Congratulations to all the trainees and a big thank you to the Accredited Leaders, who gave their time to train and mentor the trainees.



# Youth Insearch in the Media

Youth Insearch has received a great deal of media attention for its work over the last year. Here are some of the main stories.



# Julie's Story

Julie, VIC

---

I was employed as a disability practitioner for twenty years and in 2013, that career came to an abrupt end; due to the nature of work and complex needs of clients. I was suffering from PTSD, anxiety and depression. At the end of 2015 my almost twenty-one-year marriage also ended and I was in a very bad head space. I was a single mum raising my two girls 13 & 16 and trying my best to deal with my then 18-year-old son who began a path of self-destruction and criminal behaviour. The fall out of the separation affected all my children and myself immensely.

In 2016, I was asked if I would assist on a weekend program as I had my current first aid certificate. This became my accidental arrival with this fantastic organisation, Youth Insearch.

The first program I attended I was welcomed, appreciated and accepted for just being me, something that I had been struggling with for years because of my poor mental health. The young participants on that program showed pure guts and determination to succeed with the tools they were being offered by the program. I was inspired. I was amazed. The determination that they showed to change their own lives gave me the same encouragement, that I could do it, that I could do whatever I wanted to, I was just getting in the way of myself because of the severe loss that I had experienced in my life.

In the last 18 months, since joining Youth Insearch, I have set goals for myself and have begun to achieve what I want my future to look like. I am currently studying a Diploma of Nursing and about to start my first student placement. I have participated in the Youth Insearch Leaders Training program and continue to give my time to attend support group meetings and weekend programs.

The belief that I have in myself is increasing and that in itself is hard work but is something that I need to continue to work on. The Youth Insearch program gives participants the courage to be brave and that then has a flow on effect that is indescribable for those that become empowered to change their own individual life course for the better. I originally went to the weekend program to "help" them out, but what I received in return was much more and I am extremely grateful and proud to be a part of this wonderful Youth Insearch organisation.



**I originally went to the weekend program to help "them" out, but what I received in return was much more and I am extremely grateful and proud to be a part of this wonderful Youth Insearch organisation.**



# Newly Accredited Leaders

## Class of 2016

On July, the 2nd, the beautiful boat "Feldor" headed out on Sydney Harbour to celebrate the Accreditation of the 2016 Trainee Leaders. After 12 months of training, they joined the ranks of many before them, an alumnus of 32 years of Accredited Leaders.

It is no easy task to get this far and it was an occasion worth celebrating. Thank you to Chairman of the Board Garry Rothwell for providing his beautiful boat, staff and delicious food to help us with the celebrations.

Our newly accredited leaders were each presented with their Youth Insearch t-shirt, personalized name badge and a certificate for completing their training.

Being a Leader with Youth Insearch means so many different things to different people. All our Youth Leaders have been through the program

and have come so far on their journey since they first participated in the weekend workshops. They started with Youth Insearch as participants and have taken back their lives. They have worked hard, set goals and achieved them.

Adult Leaders are passionate and give not only their time but their hearts and skills to the program. They are all positive role models for all young people and are a shining light for those who need it.

Congratulation to the "Class of 2016!"

### Cassandra

*Being a Youth Insearch Leader to me means that I'm able to give back to an organization that has helped save my life and gave me the skills to overcome some of my biggest barriers. Youth Insearch has become my family and I couldn't ask for a better group of people to call my family.*

### Gemma

*To me leadership is more than just my chance to give back to the organization that saved my life. It's a chance to be a part of a family that will never give up on each other.*

### Joanne

*Being a Youth Insearch Leader is about empowering young people to be the best they can be, acknowledging their past, sharing their journey, to encourage growth and change and provide a safe space for all of this to happen.*

### Megan

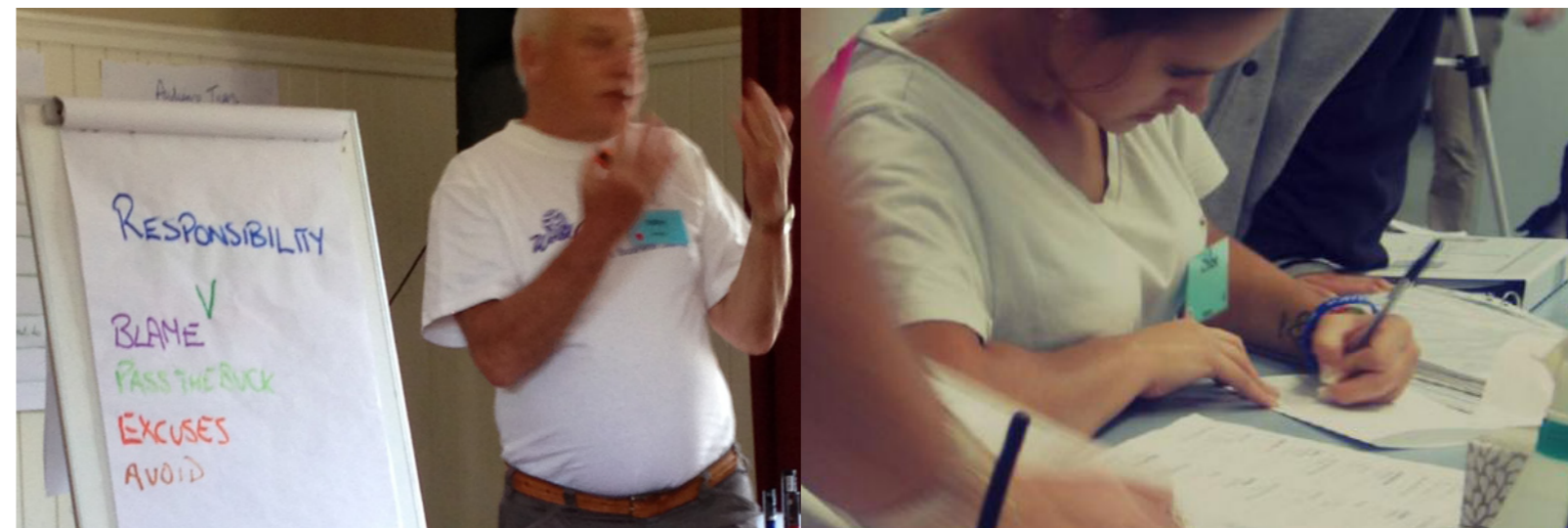
*Being a Youth Insearch Leader to me means that I can give back to the program that saved my life and many others.*

### Natasha

*Being a Youth Insearch Leader is about empowering and motivating young people to make a change and being somebody they can look up to as they start to walk their path to success.*

### Rebecca

*Being a Youth Insearch Leader means that I am able to give the power, strength and courage to young people that have had that taken from them. I also am able to give them back the sparkle in their eyes, the possibilities to achieve dreams and goals and a family.*





# Program Partnerships

## BROTHERHOOD OF ST. LAURENCE

Youth Insearch & Education First Youth Foyer Project (YEP), HUME, VIC

The YEP Project is a partnership between the Youth Insearch Program and the Brotherhood of St Laurence's Education First Youth Foyer (EFY) Program. The EFY Foyer Model is designed to work with young people aged 16–24 who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

**Young people living at EFY Foyers occupy a high-quality, self-contained apartment for up to a two-year period, and housing & living skills.**

Through the personal planning and coaching of Youth Development Workers who staff the EFY Foyer 24/7, young people participate in goal-setting and action-planning in six key service offer areas: education, employment, health and wellbeing, social connections, civic participation and housing & living skills.

The YEP Project is designed to engage 30 young people connected to the Foyer at Broadmeadows, in the Hume Region of Victoria. This includes young people living in the Foyer and young people who have applied for the Foyer to get them "Foyer ready".

The project draws on the successes of the existing Youth Insearch weekend workshops and subsequent support group model. It also incorporates the expertise of the Education First Youth Foyer concept, using their key six service offers of education, employment, health and wellbeing, social connections, civic participation, housing and living skills and where appropriate, the Certificate 1 in Developing Independence modalities to widen the EFY Foyer's reach into the Hume community and beyond.

The project contains two key elements:

1. interactive and immersive Youth Insearch weekend workshops held in rural Victoria, where the 30 young people take part in life skills workshops led by both peer and adult facilitators
2. ongoing, structured, peer supported group meetings within the Hume area that enhance all participants' abilities to progress toward life goals they set out for themselves.

Phase one of the YEP Project is taking place from March 2017 to March 2018 and includes an evaluation piece to assess its impact and inform future phases of the project. Results of the pilot project will be used to inform strategies for use at other Education First Youth Foyers.

Using philanthropic funds, the pilot project will aim to trial these approaches in the Hume region of Northern Melbourne. It is hoped that learnings from this geographic context can be used to create a blueprint for widening the footprint of EFY Foyers into their local communities, providing further reach to young people in a given location.



## JOBLink PLUS - NEW ENGLAND, NSW

The partnership between Youth Insearch and Joblink Plus in Tamworth started organically, with some of the Joblink TTW consultants recognising the opportunity for the Youth Insearch Program to strengthen the work that they do with young job seekers. The success was recognised by the CEO Christine Shewry and after discussing the success of the program with Malcom MacPherson, Ms Shewry decided that Joblink was going to support Youth Insearch with a \$40,000 donation.

Following this contribution, senior managers of Youth Insearch met with Ms Shewry and her senior team to discuss a formalised approach to leverage the impact of the value created by the two organisations working together. So far 11 Transition to Work Participants from Joblink Plus have attended the Youth Insearch program.

The young people that have attended the Youth Insearch Program have doubled the success rate of sustaining employment for more than 26 weeks. A recent review conducted by Joblink Plus, collated conversion rate data of Transition to Work participants who attended the Youth Insearch program and Joblink Plus TTW found that:

- the percentage of young people employed after 13 weeks increased by 44% compared to the Joblink Plus average and increased 47% compared with the Regional TTW average.
- the percentage of young people employed after 26 weeks increased by 79% compared to the Joblink Plus average and increased 92% compared with the Regional TTW average.

The Youth Insearch program works with TTW participants to address the deeper barriers to employment, which the standard TTW program is not equipped to address. Addressing the psychological impact of trauma stemming from abuse, family breakdown and grief, so that the young people are emotionally ready to accept and fully participate in the job readiness activities provided by Joblink Plus.

Joblink Plus and Youth Insearch are working together to formalise the offer of Youth Insearch to all TTW Participants in the Hunter and New England.

## RED CROSS YOUNG CENTRE - BRISBANE, QLD

The Red Cross Night Café located in Fortitude Valley was opened in 2001 as a joint project between the Australian Red Cross (Young Centre) and Brisbane City Council. The main aim for the café was for young people aged 12-25 years old who are experiencing homelessness to have access to a safe space at night.

The Young Centre, through the Night Café, refers and support young people to participate in the Youth Insearch program. As Youth Insearch works with young people who have experienced trauma and/or challenges in their life, homelessness, disengaged from family, friends, school and work; Youth Insearch and the Red Cross Night Café work together to reengage the young people of Brisbane with their family, friends, school and work and to continue supporting them through their life when no one previously has.


There have been many successes. In fact, one of the participants has just completed the residential part of his leadership training with Youth Insearch and is fast becoming a great leader and role model to other young people.





# Amal's Story

Amal, QLD



I've seen a **huge improvement** and many changes that have taken place for the young people we've referred due to the program.

Amal is a case worker at CTC Youth Services in Kingaroy who got involved with Youth Insearch when her Team Leader incorporated Youth Insearch into their case plans with young people. Amal's first weekend workshop was in May of 2016 and since has been on several programs as a Support Adult and now a Trainee Leader.

Amal's original reason for coming to the weekend workshops was to find a program that helps them build positive relationship and find the support they need to change and improve their lives. After attending her first program, Amal knew that Youth Insearch was that program.

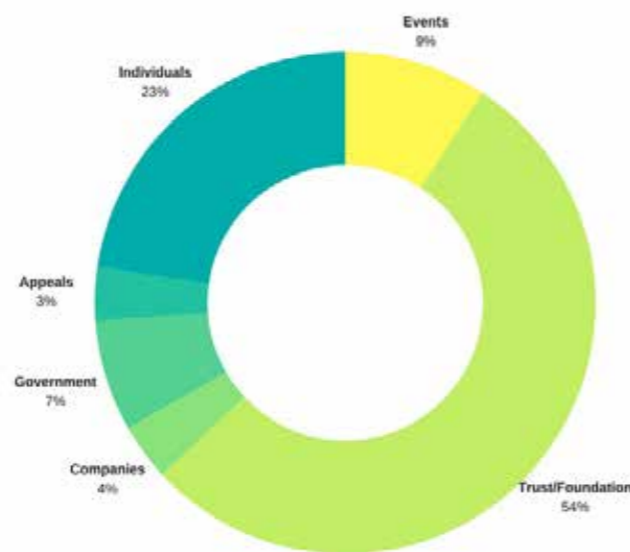
Amal also started helping with the running of the support group in Kingaroy for the ongoing support of the participants of the program and has seen a huge improvement and many changes that have taken place due to the program. These changes and improvements that the young people have gone through, not just as individuals but also for their families and communities have inspired Amal to continue with Youth Insearch. Continuing with her journey with Youth Insearch, Amal has just completed the residential part of Leader's Training and will further her personal growth and leadership skills improvement in not just her professional life but also her personal life.

Amal grew up in a very unstable home, where domestic and family violence were common, was physically and emotional abused which caused her to suffer from depression, grief and loss in silence. Amal states that because of her involvement with Youth Insearch she has, "gained the courage to deal with my childhood experiences and it has allowed me to gain strength in my weaker areas."

In the future, Amal would like the Youth Insearch family to be known and accessible to every young person in Australia. Before getting involved with Youth Insearch, Amal describes her life as "challenging" and since becoming a part of the Youth Insearch family, Amal says things have started to look "hopeful". Despite the obstacles at the start of trying to get the young people engaged in the program in the shape of fear of starting again, fear of building trust, fear of being let down again, fear of not finding what they are searching for or worst finding what they are looking for but not being used to it, Amal says that she sees a "very bright future" ahead.

# Fundraising

Our fundraising efforts made up the bulk of our revenues and ensured Youth Insearch ended the year with a surplus of \$91,626 to invest in our programs. The fundraising sources and results are summarised below. The last page of this report contains a list of all donors in recognition that every contribution played an essential role in enabling Youth Insearch to help the number of youth it did this year.



## Fundraising - In Focus

### PROPERTY LEADERS FUNDRAISING LUNCH

As part of our fundraising events program, in June the Chair of Youth Insearch Garry Rothwell hosted a Property Leaders Luncheon. The lunch was attended by a veritable "who's who" of the property industry, raising an impressive \$250,000. Regular fundraising lunches form a key part of the Youth Insearch fundraising strategy.



### TIM FAIRFAX FAMILY FOUNDATION



A special mention also goes to the Tim Fairfax Family Foundation, who joined Youth Insearch as a significant donor in 2016. The TFFF are providing three-year funding for Youth Insearch to consolidate and

expand their program reach into many of Queensland's regional and remote communities, and assist 300 young people in these areas over the 3 years.

## DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BARNABY JOYCE BECOMES AN ADVOCATE

The Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce has lent his voice of support of Youth Insearch, with a glowing letter of endorsement, backing the local youth support program for federal funding.

Mr Joyce said the importance of the charity to the local community "cannot be overstated". "I was pleased to have the opportunity to attend a Youth Insearch weekend workshop held at a Lake Keepit near Tamworth earlier this year,"

Mr Joyce wrote. "I am very much aware of the profound impact this excellent program has on changing the lives of

young people who have been impacted by a broad range of issues."

In his letter, the Deputy Prime Minister wrote the outcomes of the Youth Insearch program were "impressive" and the organisation was "to be commended" for developing an "outstanding program" which had "helped to change and save thousands of young lives since its inception".

"The program certainly makes the community stronger and more resilient by reducing the burden of disaffected youth and bringing together the community to help solve its own problems," Mr Joyce said.

"I may once again commend Youth Insearch upon the outstanding support the organisation plays in helping save and change the lives of young people through this excellent program."



### THYNE REID FOUNDATION



A notable mention must go to the Thyne Reid Foundation, who for the last two years have provided gap funding to make up the reduction of Federal Government funding in 2016. This has enabled Youth Insearch to continue to assist

the hundreds of youth that would have missed out on the program without this funding.

### ROTARY DISTRICT 9650



Rotary District 9650 has supported Youth Insearch by assisting with transport, coordination of local services, provision of support adults, and covering the attendance fees of participants for over

17 years. We are very grateful for this support that has enabled hundreds of youth to participate in the program over the years.

### LIONS DISTRICTS Q3 & Q4



Youth Insearch has had a long partnership with the Lions Districts Q3 and Q4 in QLD extending back over 20 years. The Districts provide the venues, transport and catering for all our weekend workshops in QLD. These efforts combined are estimated to be worth over \$80,000 per year.

Over the 20 year period, this amounts to over \$1.6 million and around 7,000 young people assisted through about 160 weekend workshops. We are very grateful to these Lions Districts for this level of support over such a long period of time.

# Simon's Story

Simon, QLD

While growing up, I was sexually assaulted from the age of 6 to 10 years by someone I trusted and lived just down the road from me. Following that, I had issues with my family because of what was going on and by the time I was 13, I had started going to a counsellor as I was suffering with depression, anxiety, self-harm and suicidal ideation. At the age of 15, I was being treated like a sex slave by some of the boys at school. Although I knew it was wrong, I did it to protect my friends and my younger sister. This abuse continued for about 6 months.

Towards the end of it, my older sister went off the rails and got into the drug and alcohol scene which she began to blame on me. This led to my first hospital admission due to self-harm, within a week of going home, I was admitted again because of the same reason. During this time, I started being groomed from people I had met on the internet which led to another hospital admission in a Mental Health Ward and at the age of 16, I was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Afterwards, my mental health severely declined and I was constantly being suspended from school for self-harm. Over the next year things got even worse as I had multiple admissions to several Mental Health Hospitals.

At the age of 17, I had finally been diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder and was having weekly planned hospital admissions. I then left home because while I had all of this going on, I was being emotionally abused by all my family and friends. They explained it away as I was like a stranger in my own home. I then became homeless in May 2014 and spent three months in a shelter. After that I moved to an extended Mental Health Rehabilitation Program. Whilst I was living there I came out as being transgender and then had to fight for them to call me by my preferred name instead of my original name. They went on to tell me that I had to set up a meeting just so I could be called the name that I preferred


and to be recognized for who I wanted to be. After a while I began to not answer to the name they were calling me as that was not who I identified as. Following a long battle, they reluctantly changed my name on the board to what I wanted to be known as.

By the time I had finished in the Adolescent Mental Health. I had over 40 hospital admission and was moving around as I didn't have somewhere stable until I eventually linked in with the Brisbane Youth Services and the Red Cross Night Café in Brisbane which is where I first heard of Youth Insearch. I was then referred to Jennie Linton who convinced to attend my first weekend workshop where I met Sharyn who was the new QLD Coordinator and has supported me as well as other friends I've made along the way.

After my first program in 2016, I got so much out of it that I returned and it was at the end of my third program that I realised that I really wanted to become a leader. I wanted to support other young people like me as I was support through my journey with Youth Insearch.

**“All I can say is that without Youth Insearch I don't know how far in life I would have gotten or even if I would still be alive. Youth Insearch saved my life.”**

I had ended up needing 5 surgeries for self-inflicted injuries but I am now self-harm free and I know how and where to get the support when I need it. As a Trainee Leader I now have been given the opportunity to support others and be a part of their journey. All I can say is that without Youth Insearch I don't know how far in life I would have gotten or even if I would still be alive. Youth Insearch saved my life.



**I was suffering with depression, anxiety, self-harm and suicidal ideation.**

# National Program (Youth) Council Report

The National Program Council is the youth representative body of Youth Leaders and Adult Leader mentors drawn from the national program. The members of the National Council for YE 2017 were:

- Chloe Foley – Chair - VIC Youth Representative
- Samantha Clayton – Secretary - QLD Youth Representative
- Luke Mitchell - QLD - Youth Representative
- Natasha Hildebrand – VIC - Youth Representative
- Tyler Nagle - NSW - Youth Representative
- Rebecca Shaw – NSW - Youth Representative
- Heather Cummings – QLD – Adult Leader Representative
- Mark Garven – NSW – Adult Leader Representative
- Liesel Albrecht – VIC – Adult Leader Representative
- Heath Ducker – CEO – Management Representative
- Jennie Linton – Program Manager - Management Representative

The Council makes decisions on changes to the Youth Insearch program and manages all program leadership related matters. State Councils operate in each state (NSW, QLD, VIC) managing local matters and reporting to the National Council. In total, the Councils engage over 20 youth leaders, 6 adult leaders and management staff together in the management of the Youth Insearch Program.

This year the National Program Council has met over 20 times. The Council has worked in conjunction with State Councils on many topics to help improve and maintain the high level of the program we continue to provide to the youth of tomorrow. Topics deal with include:

- Selection of leaders - with 15 having just completed the residential phase of training
- Developing the Youth Insearch Strategic Plan with the Youth Insearch Board
- Managing leaders and making decisions which encourage growth, integrity and retention
- Organisation of the leaders' summit and agenda – with particular focus on building leader's skills
- Review of the Program Guidelines to maintain its effectiveness and value
- Review of program sessions – such as Teen Scene – to ensure we can grow and move into the future

The National Program Council is very proud of its achievements this year and recognize the hard work of all leaders and staff within Youth Insearch; to continuing to help the young people of the future become the best "Me" they can be.

## **Chloe Foley**

*Chair, National Program Council*

(written together with all Council Members)



## Staff & Leader's Retreat 2017

In February, the Staff and Leaders came together on a week-long retreat.

The staff attended a one-day training with RogenSi in Sydney to work on the 'pitch' for when presenting the organisations value proposition to Service Providers, Families and Young People. The staff were trained in the core fundamentals of the sales process and practiced repeatable formats in preparing for meetings, elevator pitch and selling the program to organisations.

The staff then travelled to Morisset, NSW, where they enjoyed an Italian Banquet at a beautiful old bake house restaurant, thanks to a generous board member picking up the tab. Onto Lake Macquarie Conference Centre, the staff were trained in the new IT system and then presented the projects that they had developed during Deep Work Week, which was held on their first week back in 2017. The projects developed and the self-reflection had a significant impact on the focus of their work in 2017. The staff also received training in the Child Protection Policies and Procedures and other administrative policies.

The Leaders arrived on Friday afternoon and the intensive work began. During the welcome session, expectations were set and an overview of the weekend was laid out. Following this professional trainer Alan Kuczynski conducted a four-hour training workshop on difficult and confronting conversations. This session gave all involved the opportunity to develop skills and processes to understand others from their own paradigm; diffuse intense confrontations; and respectfully give and receive feedback to others. A primary intention is to build an open feedback culture throughout Youth Insearch.

The Leaders at the retreat also had the opportunity to go sailing with the CEO and were taught some more life skills from Alan Kuczynski, learning two methods on how to think differently and innovate. The leaders spent the night out bowling, further building the team culture.

# Board



**Garry Rothwell**  
Chair

Garry is the Chair and Founder of Winten Property Group, one of Australia's premier property development companies. Garry has numerous awards, including "Property Person of the Year" in 2011.



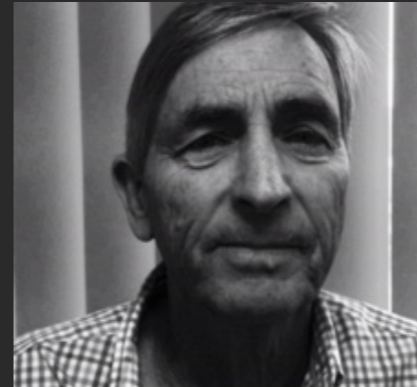
**Andrew Gregory**  
Treasurer

Andrew is Head of Financial Planning for NAB and a Director and Chair of Audit for a large Private Health Insurer, Peoplecare.



**Malcolm McPherson**  
Secretary

Malcolm McPherson is a Children's Court Magistrate, and was NSW Deputy State Coroner for several years.



**Robert Smith**  
Director

Bob is owner of Halix Pty Ltd a large property development company in Manly NSW. He was formerly President of the Manly Chamber of Commerce.



**John Moore**  
Director

John was an Executive Director of ING Bank and was responsible for managing various departments. (Appointed 27 Sep 16)



**Luise Pastrello**  
Director

Luisa was in operations management at Qantas, and Etihad Airways and was a Director at Tourism NSW. (Appointed 30 Nov 16)



**William Gill**  
Director

William is a business analyst and consultant and has held many senior management positions.



**Jared Goodwin**  
Director

Jared is a past participant in the program and currently a senior business development manager with Maybell Group. He is the winner of Cartus global citizen of the year award.



**Alan Kuczynski**  
Director

Alan was owner of APM Training Institute, a highly regarded business college. Other directorships include the Australian Marketing Institute and Australasian Promotional Marketing Association.



**Jodie Sangster**  
Director

Jodie Sangster is CEO of ADMA (Australian Digital and Marketing Association). (Resigned 29 Sep 16)

## MEETING OF DIRECTORS

The number of meetings of the Foundation's board of directors during the year, and the number of meetings attended by each director were:

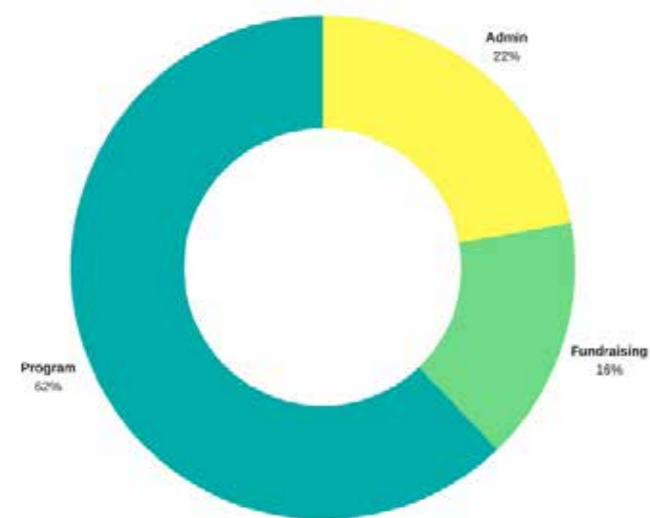
Board Member	Meeting Eligible to Attend	Meeting Attended
Garry Rothwell	4	4
Andrew Gregory	4	3
Malcolm McPherson	4	2
William Gill	4	2
Jared Goodwin	4	4
Alan Kuczynski	4	3
Robert Smith	4	4
John Moore	3	3
Luisa Pastrello	3	3
Jodie Sangster	1	0

# Financial Performance

## FINANCIAL POSITION

A solid fundraising performance saw Youth Insearch finish the YE2017 in a strong financial position with a surplus of \$91,626 and net assets of \$1,186,872. The financial audit that details the financial results is attached to this report.

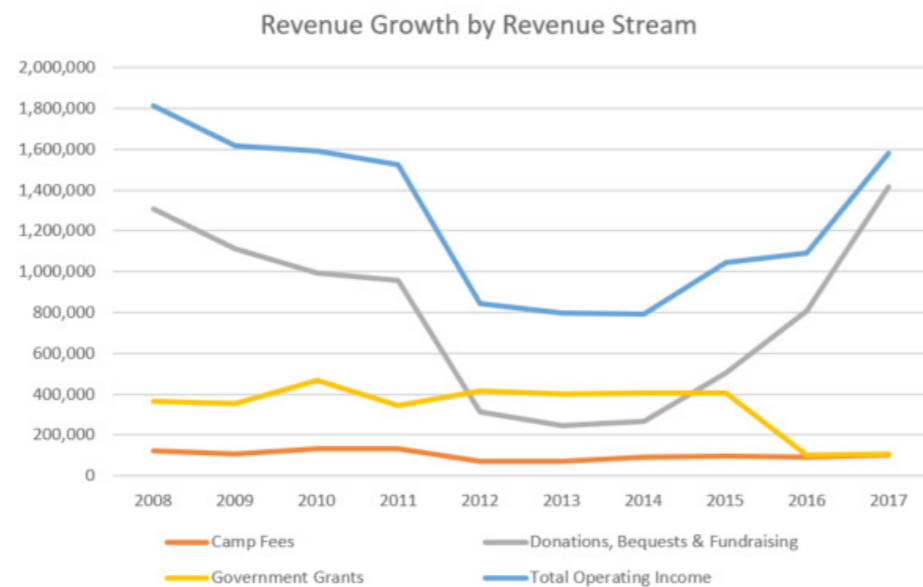
**REVENUE:** \$1,642,650  
**EXPENSES:** \$1,551,024  
**SURPLUS:** \$91,626



## BY CATEGORY

Admin 22.15%  
 Fundraising 15.67%  
 Program 62.18%

## HISTORICAL PERFORMANCE



# Our Supporters

Thank you to our supporters in YE2017. We simply would not have been able to help so many young people without your support. That applies to every single one of you.

### Government

- Federal Government - Department of Social Services
- Brisbane City Council

### Community Clubs

- Lions QLD - Districts Q3 and Q4
- Rotary NSW - District 9650
- Lions Club of Ashgrove The Gap
- Lions Club of Sussex Inlet
- Lions Club of Crestwood
- Lions Club of Buderim
- Lions Club of West Pennant Hills Cherrybrook
- Lions Club of Tamworth Peel Valley
- Rotary Club of Calala
- Queensland Blue Light Disco Association
- Calala Fishing and Social Club

### Companies

- Winten Property Group
- Stockland Corporation

- Joblink Plus
- RogenSi
- Heliflite
- Arrow Energy
- Shaw and Partners
- Viva Energy
- World Games
- The Delowen Partnership
- Hancocks Chartered Accountants
- Myer's Blacktown
- Gadens Lawyers
- iPlace Recruitment
- Grill'd
- Curwoods Lawyers
- Buckandoor Investments
- Colin Biggers & Paisley
- Toyota Australia
- Challenge Community Services
- Rebel Property Group
- Bowermans Office Furniture
- Dylam Developments

### Individuals Major Donors or Supporters

- Garry Rothwell
- Roderick McAllery
- Robert Smith
- Peter Rockey

- Robert Lewis
- Lang Walker
- Andrew Roberts
- John Grant
- Angela Holstein
- Benita Collings
- Alan Kuczynski
- James Wilkinson
- Greg Meyer
- Charlie Lynn
- Rene Buhler
- Prue McSween
- Judith Barr

**Bequests**

We recognise with eternal gratitude the following bequests made:

- The Late Pat Woollam
- The Late Gladys Wallace
- The Late Raymond Lewis Debus

**Trusts and Foundations**

- Thyne Reid Foundation
- Tim Fairfax Family Foundation
- Smith Charitable Trust
- Matana Foundation
- Fairbridge Foundation
- Grant Family Charitable Trust
- Danks Trust
- Collier Charitable Fund
- Besen Family Foundation
- Gandel Philanthropy Foundation
- RACV Community Foundation
- Tenix Foundation
- Campbell Edwards Trust
- R E Ross Trust
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Youth Insearch helped me realise just how much damage I was doing to myself and those around me. If I had not of gone to the workshops I don't know what direction my life would have taken. Thank you for showing me what love is.

-- Dimitri, 14, Sydney



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