

**YOUTH**  
INSEARCH

# IMPACT REPORT 2021-22

## OUR STORIES







Youth Insearch and its services operate across New South Wales, Queensland and Victoria, in metropolitan, regional and rural areas, supporting young Australians to heal from trauma, be mentally healthy and engage in their communities.



Youth Insearch acknowledges Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as Australia's First People and Traditional Custodians. We value their cultures, identities and continuing connection to country, waters, kin and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging and are committed to making a positive contribution to the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people, by providing services that are welcoming, safe, culturally appropriate and inclusive.



Youth Insearch is committed to embracing diversity and eliminating all forms of discrimination in the provision of its services. Youth Insearch welcomes all people irrespective of ethnicity, faith, sexual orientation and gender identity.



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# 2021-2022 HIGHLIGHTS

**486** YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED

**240** YOUNG PEOPLE REFERRED

**144** VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED

**23** STAFF EMPLOYED FTE

ACROSS **3** STATES  
WITH **19** PLACE BASED MODELS,  
REACHING **36** LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT AREAS

## WEEKEND WORKSHOPS

**20** PLANNED

**11** IN-PERSON DUE TO COVID-19  
AND FLOODING

**05** WEEKEND  
WORKSHOPS **QLD**

**04** WEEKEND  
WORKSHOPS **NSW**

**02** WEEKEND  
WORKSHOPS **VIC**

**105** VOLUNTEERS ATTENDED

**58** VOLUNTEER LEADERS AND  
TRAINEE LEADERS ATTENDED

**47** VOLUNTEER SUPPORT  
ADULTS ATTENDED



# SUPPORT GROUPS

<b>13</b>	SUPPORT GROUP LOCATIONS IN QLD, NSW, VIC & NATIONAL	<b>188</b>	INDIVIDUAL YOUNG PEOPLE ATTENDING SUPPORT GROUPS
<b>9</b>	SUPPORT GROUP LOCATIONS IN PERSON	<b>139</b>	IN PERSON
<b>4</b>	SUPPORT GROUP LOCATIONS ONLINE	<b>78</b>	ONLINE
<b>219</b>	TOTAL SUPPORT GROUP SESSIONS IN QLD, NSW, VIC & NATIONAL	<b>1496</b>	SUPPORT GROUPS ATTENDED BY YOUNG PEOPLE
<b>113</b>	SUPPORT GROUP SESSIONS IN PERSON	<b>1006</b>	IN PERSON
<b>106</b>	SUPPORT GROUP SESSIONS ONLINE	<b>490</b>	ONLINE
<b>55</b>	SUPPORT ADULTS AT SUPPORT GROUPS	<b>98</b>	VOLUNTEERS AT SUPPORT GROUPS
<b>522</b>	SUPPORT ADULT ATTENDANCES RECORDED	<b>66</b>	VOLUNTEER LEADERS (LEADERS & TRAINEE LEADERS)
		<b>32</b>	VOLUNTEER SUPPORT ADULTS

# INDIVIDUAL SUPPORT

<b>3123</b>	INSTANCES OF SUPPORT
<b>1142</b>	INSTANCES OF SUPPORT HOURS

# REFERRERS

<b>156</b>	REFERRERS WHO REFERRED YOUTH
<b>53</b>	REFERRERS <b>NSW</b>
<b>69</b>	REFERRERS <b>QLD</b>
<b>34</b>	REFERRERS <b>VIC</b>

# REGIONS

IMPLEMENTED **19** PLACE BASED MODELS WITH **5** REGIONAL COORDINATORS WORKING ACROSS QLD, NSW AND VIC, SUPPORTING A TOTAL OF **36** LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS.

**9** NO. OF CASE WORKERS (SOCIAL WORKERS & YOUTH WORKERS)

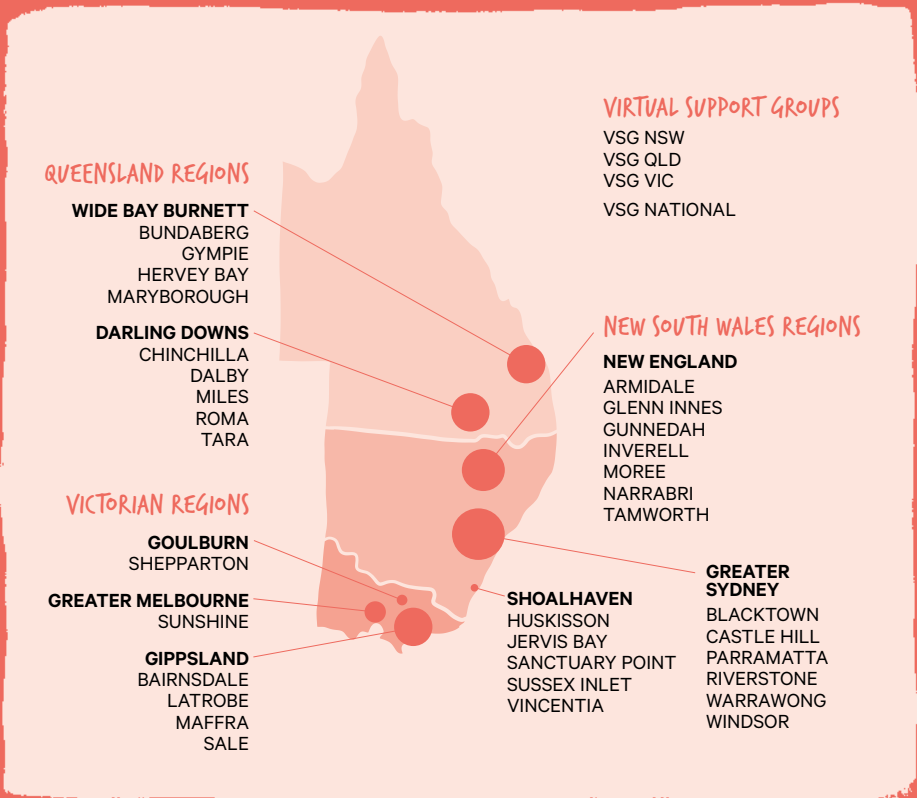
**31%** YOUTH FROM WIDE BAY BURNETT, QLD

**16%** YOUTH FROM DARLING DOWNS, QLD

**14%** YOUTH FROM GREATER SYDNEY, NSW

**15%** YOUTH FROM NEW ENGLAND, NSW

**24%** YOUTH FROM GIPPSLAND, VIC





# SCHOOLS

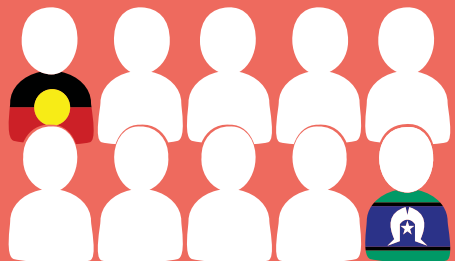
- 18** SCHOOLS WITH REFERRED YOUTH ACROSS
- 3** STATES - **QLD, NSW, VIC**
- 35** REFERRERS FROM EDUCATION SECTOR
- 210** REFERRED YOUTH FROM EDUCATION SECTOR
- 9** CASE WORKERS WITHIN THE EDUCATION SECTOR

# DIVERSITY - YOUNG PEOPLE

- 27%** IDENTIFY AS ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER
- 57%** IDENTIFY AS FEMALE
- 35%** IDENTIFY AS MALE
- 8%** IDENTIFY AS NON-BINARY/OTHER
- 17** AVERAGE AGE OF YOUTH
- 14%** WITH A DISABILITY OR IMPAIRMENT

# DIVERSITY - VOLUNTEERS

- 18%** IDENTIFY AS ABORIGINAL OR TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER
- 59%** IDENTIFY AS FEMALE
- 29%** IDENTIFY AS MALE
- 8%** IDENTIFY AS NON-BINARY/OTHER
- 74%** CAME THROUGH THE YOUTH INSEARCH PROGRAM
- 41%** ARE YOUTH VOLUNTEERS
- 59%** ARE ADULT VOLUNTEERS
- 5%** WITH A DISABILITY OR IMPAIRMENT



# LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

**31** LEADERS GRADUATED AT ADMIRALTY HOUSE, INCLUDING GRADUATES FROM 2017-2020

**16** GRADUATES IN THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR

**9** NEW LEADERS STARTED THEIR TRAINING IN 2021-22

# TEAM PHOENIX

**8** TOTAL NO OF YOUTH LEADERS TRAINED COMPRISING;

**3** VIC

**4** QLD

**1** NSW

**1** TOTAL NO OF ADULT LEADERS TRAINED VIC

**48** HOURS TOTAL NO. OF LEADERS TRAINING SESSIONS – ONLINE

**93** HOURS TOTAL NO OF LEADERS TRAINING SESSIONS – IN PERSON

# TEAM QUARANTEAM

2020 Trainees who did their entire Training Virtual due to COVID-19 Restrictions and Lockdowns, finally were able to meet for the first time in person and have their Celebration Dinner and Graduation in February 2022, at Elanora Heights, NSW.

**16** TRAINEES

**11** YOUTH AND **5** ADULTS



# DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

## FACEBOOK

**37,158** REACH

**13,223** FOLLOWERS

**13,085** TOTAL LIKES



## INSTAGRAM

**7132** REACH

**2698** TOTAL FOLLOWERS



## LINKEDIN ENGAGEMENT

**1393** PAGE VIEWS (1641.3% INCREASE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD)

**644** FOLLOWERS TOTAL ORGANIC FOLLOWERS



# FOLLOWER DEMOGRAPHICS

## TOP LOCATION DEMOGRAPHICS

**39.8%** GREATER SYDNEY

**8.1%** GREATER MELBOURNE AREA

**7%** GREATER BRISBANE

**2.5%** GOLD COAST

## YOUTUBE

**1.9K** VIEWS



# #ENDYOUTHSUICIDE



# CAMPAIGN DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT

## FACEBOOK

**7372** REACH (236.2% INCREASE FROM JAN 22)

**691** PAGE VISITS (301% INCREASE FROM JAN 22)

**71** NEW LIKES (787.5% INCREASE FROM JAN 22)

## INSTAGRAM

**4188** REACH (705.4% INCREASE FROM JAN 22)

**3466** PROFILE VISITS (3.5K% INCREASE FROM JAN 22)

**663** NEW FOLLOWERS

## LINKEDIN

**272** PAGE VIEWS (262.7% INCREASE FROM JAN 22)

**101** UNIQUE VISITORS (165.8% INCREASE)

**49** NEW FOLLOWERS (444% INCREASE)

## YOUTUBE

**246** VIEWS

**3.9** WATCH HOURS

**152** UNIQUE VIEWERS

# OUTCOME DATA

**OVER 1 IN 3** YOUNG PEOPLE ARE AT HIGH RISK OF SUICIDE ON INTAKE

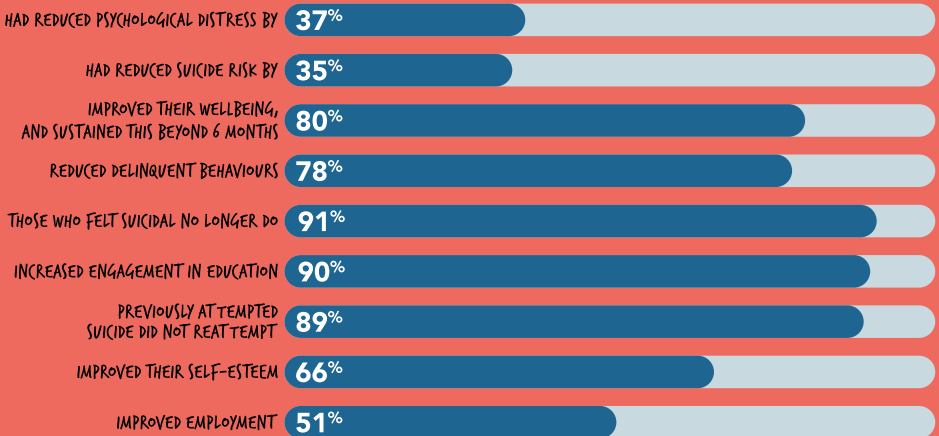
**AFTER 90 DAYS** ON A YOUTH INSEARCH PROGRAM, THEIR **RISK REDUCED TO SAFE**

**81** NO OF PARTICIPANTS ON INTAKE WITH SUICIDE ALERT TRIGGERED DURING THE PERIOD – OVER 7 ON THE SBQR

**38%** PARTICIPANTS ON INTAKE AT RISK OF SUICIDE IN THE FY PERIOD

- Among participants, 90% experienced trauma as a child, leading to lasting impacts on mental health.
- Internal Youth Insearch data finds 2 out of 3 participants planned to complete suicide in the past, and half of those had attempted suicide, with 1 in 5 stating on intake that they felt it was likely they would complete suicide in the future.
- Youth Insearch evaluations found that 91% of participants who felt suicidal prior to attending the program, no longer felt suicidal, and 89% of participants who had attempted suicide previously did not attempt suicide after attending the program.
- Current outcome data shows that the average young person, on intake, scores severe psychological distress on the Kessler 10 and high suicide risk on the Suicide Behaviour Questionnaire (Revised).
- Within 90 days participating in the Youth Insearch program, the average young person's psychological distress reduces to mild to moderate and suicide risk below the safe level.

THE YOUTH INSEARCH PROGRAM ACHIEVES RESULTS IN THESE DOMAINS –  
on average, over their first 90 days, participants:





# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

This year has been a transformation year for Youth Insearch. We have continued to roll out our Place-Based Model approach, working with communities to identify the unique needs of young people locally and developing implementations that can leverage our peer-to-peer approach to support young people to heal from childhood trauma and thrive.

By June 2022, our Place Based implementations have expanded from 6 to 19, extending our ability to reach more young people and demonstrate the impact of our programs.

The Introduction of our case work framework has extended our capacity to support young people from ages 12 to 24. Enabling us to support students in schools from year 7 to 12, while supporting young adults who are transitioning from school age to tertiary education and the workforce. Our expansion across schools has been significant, implementing our peer support program in eight regional and rural schools across Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria.

We continued to lobby both State and Federal governments over the year, highlighting the findings and recommendations from the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Mental Health; House of Representatives Select Committee on Mental Health and Suicide Prevention; Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System; Mental Health Select Committee Inquiry Into The Opportunities To Improve Mental Health Outcomes for Queenslanders; and the NSW Government Fifth National Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan all point to the effectiveness of lived experience in supporting young people's mental health.

Thankfully, the Federal Government has responded by funding Youth Insearch through the National Suicide Prevention Leadership Support Program, \$4.6 million over the next 3 years. This funding is to deliver and measure a pilot, where we will employ 6 of our lived experience leaders to complete Mental Health Peer Worker traineeships and work within their communities to support their peers to improve mental health and work through life challenges.

This pilot will be evaluated by the University of Sydney through a participatory action research study and an avoided cost modelling by Latitude Network, enabling us to demonstrate what we already know – that young people with lived experience are best

placed to support their peers who are experiencing mental health and life challenges.

We have been leveraging this through our volunteer leaders over the last 37 years of operation and stand ready to support State and Federal Governments to build a new workforce of young, lived experience peer workers.

In the New England Region we have been funded through the Federal Governments Safer Communities initiative to place 4 Social Workers across 7 communities, to work within the local children's court and with police to divert young people from the youth justice system. This is something that I am passionate about as this was the intervention that diverted me away from youth crime 28 years ago.

In Victoria we are working with Latrobe Valley Youth Space Incorporated through Black Summer Bushfire Funding to deliver two mobile outreach units, to engage young people in the communities across Wellington and East Gippsland impacted by the bushfires. Youth Insearch will provide a youth outreach worker on each mobile unit to support young people identified as needing extra support, embedding our peer support in each community.

I would like to thank all our committed supporters and volunteers. We could not do what we do, or create the impact we do, without your support. Whether you are a philanthropic funder, supporting our expansion of the Place Based Model; an individual providing pro bono expertise, a support adult locally supporting young people or a Leader delivering our program; thank you for all that you do.

I would also like to thank and acknowledge our amazing, committed staff and extend a warm welcome to all the new staff in our organisation, as we rapidly grow and expand our reach to many more young people. The problem is so big, however we have a unique approach that delivers life changing results for young people who have been let down by society. Together we can make a significant dent in the problem and save many young lives in the process.

**Stephen Lewin**  
Chief Executive Officer



*Ramona Wynne NPC  
Chair introducing the  
Graduates to His and Her  
Excellencies and our CEO  
Stephen Lewin*



# MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PROGRAM COUNCIL CHAIR

It has been an honour to serve as Chairperson of the NPC throughout this term. I have been included in so many unique opportunities and have further developed and strengthened my skills.

I have been able to take into my professional career, the decision making skills I have learnt, as well as the skill of running flowing meetings!

I am proud of the work we have achieved, as a result of having a voice and our significant involvement in the strengthening group practices workshop development and implementation.

Throughout my term as Chairperson, the NPC implemented the following key changes:

- Amended weekend workshop guidelines
- Introduced open dialogue with a new structured format to weekend workshops
- Made significant behavioural decisions regarding leaders and participants
- Approved new leaders for their leaders training and then their accreditation

A personal highlight for me was the absolute honour I had as Chairperson, to announce all the newly accredited leaders not only from the current year, but also previous years at Admiralty House in front of the Governor General. This was truly a special moment that I will always treasure.

I wish the incoming NPC Chairperson all the best with their term and for the year ahead. On behalf of the NPC, I thank all Leaders for their continued support and commitment to assist us in delivering our programs and advocating for Youth Insearch.

## **Ramona Wynne**

National Program Council, Chairperson  
March 2020 – March 2022

## **OUR NATIONAL PROGRAM COUNCIL**

The National Program Council (NPC) is the youth voice that leads youth-related decisions at Youth Insearch. It is a council of peer-elected representatives from every region we operate in. They provide advice and direction direct to our staff and CEO. The NPC is core to our commitment to be resolutely youth-led.

The NPC is made up of representatives from each State Program Council and works closely with each State Program Council to help improve and maintain the high standard of the programs that Youth Insearch delivers – from a peer led perspective.

Each State Council is made up of five Youth Leaders, two adult Leaders and program staff who attend and assist with the logistics of the meetings. All youth on a Council have voting rights and all adults have an advisory role.

The NPC is comprised of two youth and one adult representative from each State Program Council. For this reporting year, we had 9 members on the NPC.

In addition, Stephen Lewin, CEO and Sharon Schofield, Program Quality and Partnerships Manager provide governance over meetings and provide advice if requested, however, they do not have voting rights.

# OUR FOUNDATION

*"We exist to create a safe place for young people to heal from trauma. Our aim is to see young people heal and thrive."*

## Stephen Lewin, CEO

Youth Insearch is Australia's leading peer-led youth intervention organisation, dedicated to supporting at-risk youth. Since 1985, Youth Insearch has supported 32,000 at-risk youth to overcome trauma and mental health issues, and protect them against suicide, drug and alcohol abuse, and delinquency.

We are an independent not-for-profit organisation that is governed by a professional, committed and forward-thinking board.

## THE MODEL

The Youth Insearch program is designed and delivered with youth that are supported by expert adults. Through the Place Based Model staff work in young people's communities with local partners to support young people to recover and reconnect with their community.

The program comprises modules centred around individual Case Management, Weekend Workshops, Support Groups and Leadership Training. Currently the program runs in 36 communities across Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria, and employs 23 FTE staff and 144 volunteers who support over 486 at-risk youth to create their own better future.

## THE FOCUS

Our purpose is to empower young people to take control of their lives and play a positive role in society. To achieve this, our proven program addresses disadvantaged youths' underlying mental and social challenges, to overcome their trauma and reconnect with services and society.

## YOUTH INSEARCH PARTICIPANTS

Of the 32,000 young people Youth Insearch has supported, 56% identify as female, 20% are Indigenous, 14.5% are from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse communities, and 20% identify as LGBTIQ+.

Among participants, 90% experienced trauma as a child, leading to lasting impacts on mental health. Internal Youth Insearch data finds 2 out of 3 participants planned to complete suicide in the past, and half of those had attempted suicide, with 1 in 5 stating on intake that they felt it was likely they would complete suicide in the future.

Youth Insearch evaluations found that 91% of participants who felt suicidal prior to attending the program, no longer felt suicidal, and 89% of participants who had attempted suicide previously did not attempt suicide after attending the program.

Current outcome data shows that the average young person, on intake, scores severe psychological distress on the Kessler 10 and high suicide risk on the Suicide Behaviour Questionnaire (Revised).

Within 90 days of participating in the Youth Insearch program the average youth participant achieves significant outcomes. Their psychological distress reduces to the 'mild to moderate' level and their suicide risk drops out of risk into below 'safe' level.

Despite this success, the work is far from over as suicide remains the leading cause of death in young Australians. Youth Insearch is committed to changing this by increasing its capacity, to reach more young people.



# OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

OUR PURPOSE IS TO  
EMPOWER YOUNG PEOPLE  
TO TAKE CONTROL OF THEIR  
LIVES, AND PLAY A POSITIVE  
ROLE IN SOCIETY

OUR VISION IS  
TO HAVE THE MOST  
IMPACT ON YOUTH  
IN AUSTRALIA

## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

### PEOPLE

STRATEGIC  
ALIGNMENT, VALUES  
AND STRENGTH  
BASED

STRIVING FOR  
EXCELLENCE,  
PROFESSIONAL  
SUPERVISION,  
LEARNING AND  
DEVELOPMENT

### PROCESS

EFFICIENCY, RISK  
MANAGEMENT

ENTERPRISE  
SYSTEMS, ROBUST  
ACCOUNTING,  
CUSTOMER SELF-  
SERVICE

### PARTNERSHIPS

SCALE, CREDIBILITY

EDUCATIONAL  
INSTITUTIONS,  
MENTAL HEALTH  
ORGANISATIONS,  
COMMUNITY CLUBS,  
PHILANTHROPIC  
SUPPORT

### PLACE

REGIONAL IMPACT,  
SUSTAINABLE  
FUNDING

PLACE BASED  
MODEL, VIRAL  
GROWTH, ADAPTIVE  
STRUCTURE

## OUR VALUES

### COLLABORATION

We achieve more working together than working alone

### LOVE

Our love and faith in each other is unconditional and we take the time to show it

### GROWTH

We fail fast, we value feedback, and we celebrate the small wins every day

### EQUALITY

We treat each other with respect, independent of background, status, or opinion



MOUNTAIN  
TOP RIGGS PA 18000  
LIZ

Evelyn  
29

Despina  
24

# WHAT WE DO



It's certainly been an eventful and exciting 12 months for Youth Insearch.

August to October 2021 saw more COVID-19 lockdowns across several States, especially in Victoria and New South Wales. As global COVID-19 'fatigue' kicked in, our ability to pivot to virtual operations meant that we were able to continue reaching those young people who were isolated and in need of support.

With an evolving core model of service delivery, an increasing number of staff and more funding opportunities, we (re)emerged post COVID-19 into a significant growth phase. Our focus became fixed on how we can reach more young people. To achieve this, we needed a clearly formulated and articulated model with robust clinical governance and evaluation frameworks.

This process began with Dr Moensted delivering her final report in August 2021; '*A Qualitative Evaluation of Youth Insearch*'. This independent report represented a critical point for the organisation, as it identified which aspects of the program promote change for young people. This report, and the peer reviewed journal articles that have so far been published from this research have provided a solid foundation for us to expand our evidence base.

Moving into 2022 saw the addition for more Place Based Models, extending our reach into more communities. This allowed us to bed in our

program logic and really hone in on our strength - trauma informed peer to peer support through group work. Through our impact measurement we also began to see the real impact of individual support provided by our Case Workers in leveraging the benefits of our peer led workshops and support groups. What has emerged is an innovative and unique model of care for young people with complex mental health needs.

The year ahead will undoubtedly see further expansion, enabling us to reach even more young people. Our hope is that we continue to offer an alternative for young who have lost trust in adults and the mental health system in many more communities. This alternative is firmly centred around the development of a workforce of young people with lived and living experience.

Through clinically supported peer to peer connection we can reach the 'forgotten middle', those young people who have been left behind by an adult driven system which is deficit based, has extended waiting times and is largely inaccessible for young people in disadvantaged and regional locations.

Instead, we believe that a community based and trauma informed approach which provides peer connection, validation and a sense of belonging provides young people with a safe place to heal from their trauma.

**Leanne Hall, Clinical Lead**

# OUR PROGRAM

Our comprehensive program provides young people with trauma-informed, localised case management and peer facilitated support.

Youth Insearch works to empower communities so they can support their young people towards a brighter future. To provide holistic support, we partner with youth services.

Since founding in 1985 we have co-designed our program with disadvantaged communities, leading experts and at-risk young people.

Our program is wrap-around support. Each young person is supported by a local Social Worker or Youth Worker and a network of peers (young people and trained Youth Leaders) and has access to Local Support Services, Workshops, and Leadership Training opportunities.

## PEER LED

We utilise a LIVED-EXPERIENCE peer workforce, supported by adults and mental health professionals to empower young people to work through their trauma and equip them with practical tools to rebuild their lives and reach their full potential. The impact of our program has shown that the tragedy of youth suicide is preventable.

## OUR PARTICIPANTS

Our young participants are aged 12 to 24, many of whom have experienced complex trauma.

To provide effective support, our program is tailored to specific cohorts and their needs.

Our Social Workers and Youth Workers provide individual support and weekly peer support groups for young people aged 12 to 24.

Weekend Workshops are for ages 14 to 20 years and our leadership program is accessible to anyone aged 14+ who has attended at least three Weekend Workshops.

## PLACE BASED APPROACH

The Youth Insearch program is designed and delivered with youth, supported by expert adults.

### Our model is Place Based.

A paid, permanent Social Worker is placed into the community, supported by a regional coordinator.

One of our greatest assets at Youth Insearch is our Leaders who come through our extensive Leadership program. The application process for the leadership program includes endorsement from their State Council and then the National Program Council and all Leaders are highly regarded on Weekend Workshops and other events.

## OUR PROGRAM APPROACH is WRAP-AROUND SUPPORT.

Each young person is supported by a Social Worker and network of peers (young people and trained Youth Leaders) and has access to **Local Support Services, Workshops, and Leadership Training Opportunities.**



# LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Youth Insearch Leadership Development program is designed to help young people develop their skills as a leader, while further extending their self-awareness and personal development skills.

The program builds on communication and problem-solving skills including; public speaking and presentation, conflict resolution and breaking habits. It facilitates strategies for resilience and managing triggers and it incorporates learning from professional community leaders and mentors.

The 12-month course consists of 3 stages of three-day residential workshops and an ongoing 12-month practical training and assessment program. The application process involves assessment from the both the State and National Program Councils. Each participant makes life-long impactful learning and connections and embarks on a successful journey delivering Youth Insearch Weekend Workshops, supported by expert adults.

## GRADUATIONS AND CELEBRATIONS

A major highlight of the program is the Graduation Ceremony, where our patron, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Rtd) acknowledges and presents each leader with their Graduation certificate. We were honoured to have His Excellency host us in February 2022 at Admiralty House, accompanied by a fabulous morning tea on the lawns, overlooking the stunning Sydney Opera House. This is truly a significant moment after our leaders complete their comprehensive training.

Prior to an 'official' graduation ceremony, each leadership cohort ends their formal training with a celebration dinner. It was a joy to host these celebration dinners throughout the year, as previously, COVID-19 and lockdowns had prevented us from doing so.

Thank you to our 2021-22 leader's cohort for putting in the hard work to become incredible leaders to support young people to come. We are proud of you and celebrate your achievements.

Thank you to our training partners for your outstanding knowledge and commitment to our program and our young people. You form an integral part of our Peer Led Training Team. Special thanks to Alan Kuczynski, Kathy Morrison, Rene Buhler, Greg & Vera Meyer, Tactician, and Talent International, for imparting your knowledge in communication, handling difficult situations, understanding mental health, meditation, public speaking and personal presentation skills.



*Ethan Peno, Trainee Leader - Bundaberg, shares his story with guests and fellow leaders, the person who referred Ethan to the program travelled to see him celebrate this occasion.*





*Team Phoenix proudly poses for their Celebration Dinner photo.*

# LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

## LEADER STORY

Before joining Youth Insearch I was suffering from anxiety and depression. I was having panic attacks left, right, and centre and I didn't know how to cope. I couldn't leave the house and I didn't know how to live my life. My studies were failing, and I didn't know who I was.

During Youth Insearch I learnt coping strategies for anxiety and depression, like square breathing and actually opening up and talking about my feelings. I learnt more about myself and learnt how to be a better person. Now I've been a Youth Insearch leader for the past 3 years.

As a leader, I now facilitate sessions for people in need and I'm paying it forward. I am proud that I have gone onto complete my studies and my leadership training. I now have goals and I would like to be a park ranger or to mix horticulture and psychology together and I want to help others. Plants have certainly been a big part of my therapy and have helped me to cope, together with Youth Insearch.

*"Youth Insearch to me is a place for self-discovery in an inclusive, peer led community."*

**Matthew Hay, Victoria**

*RIGHT: Matt Hay receiving a well earned handshake from His Excellency. Matt had been looking forward to this moment for a long time, recognition that you can overcome your adversities and anxieties and rise above them.*

*BELOW: Matt Hay with fellow leader Kylie Jarmain at Admiralty House for their graduation, February 2022*



*Sebastian Bessent Trainee Leader receives that much sought after Leaders shirt from our CEO Stephen Lewin. The smile says it all.*

# YOUNG PROGRAM PARTICIPANT STORY

It was my first camp and I got so much out of it. The main thing I learnt was about opening up to people. I kept things to myself a lot and worried about them a lot. But when I listened to other young people's stories at Youth Insearch I realised I was not the only person going through difficult things, and when we talked about it or shared it, it made me feel not so alone. I learnt a lot about trust.

I loved that I met a lot of new people and from all different backgrounds. I learnt so much from those other young people - about stuff I had never really heard about.

The whole thing made me feel real comfortable... like I could be myself.

Out of our group coming from Warrawong... almost all of us have been kind of homeless in the past couple of years... staying with different relatives or friends, sleeping where we can. There's all kinds of reasons why things in our families are complicated: mental illness, drug and alcohol use, people in our families who have died.

I remember on the first night of the camp they said someone was coming around to do tuck ins... and I was like... what is that? These two adult Leaders came in when were in bed... and they said to me, did I want a tuck in and I said, what is that? And they said, we'll just make sure you're all ready to go to bed... that you're safe and ready for a good night's sleep. They asked if I wanted some nice smelling spray on my pillow that was relaxing... and I thought... yes, I want everything. I don't think I've ever had a tuck in ... in my whole life.

When I got back from the weekend... I came straight back into a situation. It was the kind of situation where normally I would have got angry, probably said things to others that I would regret. It was stressful. I didn't really

know what to do or how to feel about it. But I knew one thing. I knew who would listen to me. I rang up the other young people who went on the weekend with me... and went over to see them. I knew that they would understand. It was still stressful the next few days, but I reckon because I had their support and I was able to talk about it... I didn't make the situation worse... and you know what... it worked out good for me in the end. It worked out how I really wanted it to work out. I didn't push anyone away. And I could stay calm in myself.

That is what I got out of Youth Insearch... from just one weekend.

I can't wait to go again. I want to make progress. I want to push myself. I want to contribute more.

So thank you Jemena for helping to get us there.

From the bottom of our hearts. We all say thank you.

***Young program participant, aged 15***

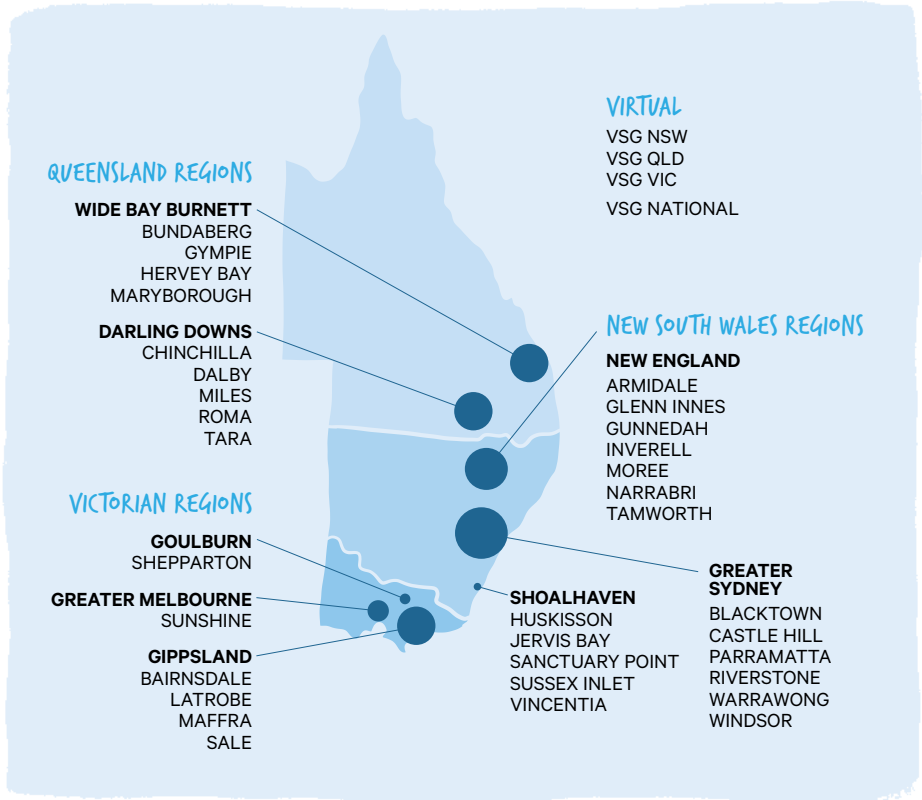


# WHERE WE WORK

## OUR COMMUNITIES

We currently have 5 Regional Coordinators operating across Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria who manage partnerships, program activities and Social Workers within their region.

We have teams on the ground in 19 Place Based Models within these 5 Regions. Our teams are dedicated to reaching and supporting as many young people as possible in their community. Our aim is to build a network of support, enabling young people to have better access to the support they need.



Youth Insearch has now established strong partnerships with schools and service providers across Australia who share our vision to bring the Place Based Model to more communities across Australia.

We know that when Social Workers assist young people in a single community, they are able to provide tailored support to each young

person on a one-on-one basis and connect them with appropriate support services.

The communities our Social Workers work from are diverse and flexible, resulting in unique partnerships and consistent services for young people, and a directly connection into the Youth Insearch program as well as other services available.

## NATIONAL SUPPORTERS



### NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LEADERSHIP SUPPORT PROGRAM

The Commonwealth Government Department of Health has provided Youth Insearch \$4.74 million over three years as part of the competitive National Suicide Prevention, Leadership and Support initiative. This enables Youth Insearch to develop our lived experience Peer Support Trainees approach across Australia. Our Peer Support Trainee approach is the next step in building a lived-experience workforce.

### GRANT FAMILY CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Grant Family Charitable Foundation has continued their 8 years of support for Youth Insearch and our young people. This year they generously donated \$234,000 to integrate Open Dialogue Practice into our service – a research-backed approach to provide trauma-informed support.



### TENIX FOUNDATION

Tenix Foundation has continued their 13 years of support for Youth Insearch with a generous donation of \$750,000 over three years to expand our Place Based Model across Queensland. This supports us to embed Social Workers in Queensland rural communities to empower youth access to our youth-facilitated program. Long-term support provides us the opportunity to refine our approach and grow community connections. Together this supports us to secure local investments that embed our program long-term.



### THYNE REID FOUNDATION

Since 2021, the Thyne Reid Foundation has supported our General Manager Marketing and Development position to enable us to leverage our work and secure funding support to reach more young people across Australia. This support is critical to our long term financial sustainability.

### YARRANABBE FOUNDATION

#### YARRANABBE FOUNDATION

Long-standing supporter, Yarranabbe Foundation provided multi-year support for our Clinical Lead position. This support has been instrumental in allowing us to further develop and extend our clinical governance and practice framework.

### QUEENSLAND



### HAND HEART POCKET THE CHARITY OF FREEMASONS QLD

Youth Insearch has continued to receive generous support from Hand Heart Pocket – the Charity of Freemasons Queensland. We are in the second year of our over \$730,000 three-year project to expand our Place Based Model across Queensland and spread hope one heart at a time.



### TIM FAIRFAX FAMILY FOUNDATION

Tim Fairfax Family Foundation have awarded Youth Insearch \$720,000 over three years to improve the mental health of Queensland young people. We are in the second year of the project which has seen five Social Workers embed in communities to engage local youth in our peer-facilitated program of lasting change.



## HERITAGE BANK FOUNDATION

Heritage Bank Foundation provides free bus transport for all young people attending a Youth Insearch weekend program hosted in Queensland throughout 2021-2022. Transport to and from our programs was previously a logistical challenge not only for our staff, but also for our young participants. Now, with this support we are able to coordinate a couple of pick-up locations for each program and know that the young people are safe and will arrive on time.



## LIONS DISTRICT Q3 & Q4

Youth Insearch has had a long partnership with the Lions Districts Q3 & Q4 in QLD extending back around 27 years. The Districts provide the venues, transport and catering for all our weekend workshops in Queensland. These efforts combined are estimated to be worth over \$100,000 per year. Over 27 years, this amounts to over \$2 million and around 9000 young people assisted through about 200 weekend workshops. We are very grateful to these Lions Districts for this level of support over such a long period of time.

## NEW SOUTH WALES



### RELATIONSHIPS AUSTRALIA NSW

Thanks to the generous support of Relationships Australia, NSW, our head office was able to relocate to a beautiful, brand-new purpose-built office located in Blacktown, NSW in May 2022.

After 35 years at our Castle Hill location, which incidentally was also supported by major donors, Lyndsay and Gail Edmonds (thank you so much!), our administrative team had the fun task of sorting through years of storage and memorabilia. We are now a lot more minimalist with our storage and we are happily working alongside staff from Relationships Australia, Blacktown in a shared office.



Australian Government  
Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources

## SAFER COMMUNITIES

The Commonwealth Government Safer Communities initiative kindly selected Youth Insearch to divert 480 New England youth from crime over two years. We have already recruited key staff and started working in the local courts network. We extend special thanks to our local supporters who made this possible.



Communities  
& Justice

## NSW DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITIES & JUSTICE

The NSW Government supported us with much needed Covid-19 funding to help relieve the impact on our business as a result of the pandemic. We received a total of \$250,000 with funding not only directed towards Covid-19 relief, but also towards case management implementation into our Salesforce CRM, our outcomes readiness assessment project with SEFA and Latitute Network; and support towards our digital transformation project with Infocchange.



## MATANA FOUNDATION

Matana continues 20 years of generous support for Youth Insearch. Currently, we are in the second year of our project to empower more New England young people to access Weekend Workshops. Matana has provided \$180,000 over three years to support our young people. This year we have supported 51 local youth to access the program and start their journey to overcome their life-limiting poor mental health.



## NSW DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH – HEALTHY TRANSITIONS TO HIGH SCHOOL

Youth Insearch has partnered with NSW Department of Health to trial an innovative program called “Healthy Transitions to High School”. The aim is to tailor our proven program to support Shoalhaven primary school students to better transition into high school by overcoming their underlying social and mental health challenges. Youth Insearch Social Worker, David has started this project by supporting grade six students. Our next step is to expand the program to grade three and four students to support more students to improve their lives long-term.



## ROTARY DISTRICT 9660

Rotary District 9660 (formerly 9650), in Northern NSW, continues to support Youth Insearch by assisting with transport, coordination of local services, provision of Support Adults, and covering the attendance fees of participants in NSW for over 18 years. We are very grateful for this support that has enabled hundreds of youth to participate in the program over the years.

## VICTORIA



## LATROBE YOUTH SPACE

Youth Insearch is supporting Latrobe, Wellington and Gippsland young people to overcome their trauma after the Black Summer Bushfires. We have been contracted by Latrobe Youth Space to provide our proven support in an innovative format – outreach buses filled with service partners coming to isolated young people. We are excited to improve access to mental health support and continue working with communities to make a lasting difference in young lives.



## WEST VICTORIA, PRIVATE FUNDING

West Victoria is our latest region to join the rapidly growing Youth Insearch family. Thanks to the kind support of a long-standing supporter, Bob Lewis, and the Lansdowne Foundation, Youth Insearch is embedding a Regional Manager to co-design a full rollout with local services and young people. This project leads us to supporting young people across all of Victoria by 2025 with proven community-centred care. This is integral to our goal – end youth suicide.



## VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT OF FAMILIES, FAIRNESS AND HOUSING

The Victorian Government has provided Youth Insearch \$135,000 to support Youth Insearch Leaders Training in Victoria over three years. This supports 7 Victorian Youth Leaders every year to access our industry-leading Leaders Training. This develops the personal and professional skills for program alumni to safely bring their lived-experience into our program. This builds the lived experience workforce essential to create lasting improvements to youth mental health.

## OUR SCHOOLS

We have implemented dedicated Youth Insearch Social Workers in selected schools within the communities we operate. The wellbeing of students and families is core to the successful operation of a school. Without this foundation in place, students cannot build solid structures for learning. Organisations and opportunities such as Youth Insearch provide a vital link between school and home and provide the chance for that foundation to be found and built upon.

# OUR VOLUNTEERS

Since our inception, volunteers have always been at the heart of all we do at Youth Insearch. Our volunteers are a much needed and critical part of our organisation and we are all so truly grateful for all that they do.

Our volunteer engagement is extensive and ranges from youth and adult Leaders, Support Adults right through to pro bono support and expertise that we receive from corporate partners and individuals.

Volunteers support in a wide range of ways. We have adult and Youth Leaders trained to lead

program sessions. There are Support Adults from the communities we work with providing positive role models and local champions for our participants. There are also corporate and individuals that provide material support to help us reach youth sooner. The support is truly varied – mentoring to Clinical Advisory Committee to knitting love wraps to far beyond words can capture!

Thank you to all of our highly valued volunteers. We couldn't do our work without you and we know that together, we are spreading hope, one heart at a time.

## Volunteer story

### **KATHY MORRISON** **Celebrating 30 years of service**

We are truly honoured to have Kathy Morrison by our side. Kathy is one of our longest standing adult support volunteers and can always be relied upon when assistance is needed.

In February 2022, Kathy was acknowledged with a 30-year volunteer award by His Excellency the Governor General, at a ceremony at Admiralty House.

Kathy has dedicated countless hours of volunteering over the past 30 years, including Team Leader, Clinical Lead on programs and support leader to Trainee Youth Leaders. Kathy also volunteers her time as a member of the Youth Insearch Clinical Governance Board.

We are grateful for Kathy's extensive knowledge of the human brain and mental health, and her experience and knowledge in

dealing with difficult situations. Kathy is always available and shares her kind and caring heart to help young people heal their trauma. Kathy often tells us, 'You have to name it to tame it and take the wind out of its sail'. Sound advice we have all used over the years.

Thank you, Kathy, – you have made such a positive difference to so many young lives.







## Volunteer story

### HEATHER CUMMINGS

For almost 20 years Heather Cummings has been a pillar of the Youth Insearch community. In 2005 she worked with Uniting Care in Queensland. She attended our Weekend Workshop to bring her young clients to our program. This continued for almost 10 years.

The Weekend Workshop must have left

an impression – in 2013 Heather joined the Youth Insearch team. She became our Community Coordinator for Wide Bay Burnett, Darling Downs, Fitzroy, Moreton and Brisbane. She built networks across the region to embed our program and support the young people in her community. Of course Heather helped on so many fronts beyond the program including helping to get Salesforce running (a cornerstone of our operations). Later her focus was sharpened as she stepped into the Regional Coordinator Wide Bay Burnett role. Heather was (and is) a force of excellence to embed our growing organisation.

Heather stepped down to try retiring. She still works hard volunteering with our program as a much-loved part of the Queensland team. Heather is a regular at the Weekend Workshops as a Support Adult for our Gympie young people. Heather is our resident music desk volunteer that helps set the mood and tone of the weekends with her expertise on what to play at the right time. She also brings decades of wisdom and kindness to support the program.

Heather has attended over 70 Programs with Youth Insearch, including Weekend Workshops, Leaders Training, virtual Weekend Workshops and Support Groups through COVID-19 totalling well over 4,000 hours giving back to our young people.

When I recently asked her peers to give me words to best describe Heather, I was told she is one in a million with a lot of love to give, a compassionate soul that has supported young people and changed many lives. Overwhelmingly Loving, Caring, Inspirational shines through.

Thank you, Heather, you're a champion.



*Cobains CWA members donating more of their crocheted and knitted goods.*

## Volunteer story

### **LOVE WRAPS and COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION, Cobains Victoria**

A beautiful part of our Weekend Workshops is when first time participants receive their 'love wrap'. Love wraps are a long-standing tradition at Youth Insearch that started when Sonia Gidley-King was watching the TV program, 'A Current Affair'. The program was airing a story about war torn Mogadishu and all of the atrocities local people were facing.

This story inspired Sonia to start an organisation called 'Wrap With Love', where she and many supporters that she enlisted – began knitting 15cm x 15cm squares, that they then join together to form into blankets. Sonia initially began sending her love wraps to the people of Mogadishu, however she was watching another 'A Current Affair' program, where this time, a Youth Insearch story was on air. Our story inspired Sonia to provide a love wrap to every person attending their first

weekend workshop program. A tradition that continues today.

Now, not only do we receive Love Wraps from Wrap With Love, but Country Women's Associations around Australia also contribute and make these gorgeous blankets for our participants. Long-time supporters of our program, the Cobains CWA continues our tradition and lovingly make these blankets for us. Our Program Quality and Partnerships Manager, Sharon Schofield recently visited the ladies at the Cobains CWA, where her nan, Mavis Mackay was a member and now Sharon's aunt carries on the tradition on behalf of Youth Insearch.

Each 'Love Wrap' takes on average, 180 hours to make and could be knitted by one person or many people. Each square has had love knitted into it - and that is the most special part of the wraps.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who help to keep this tradition going. There are many of you out there and we know that your work is making a difference in the lives of the young people receiving this most beautiful gift – a love wrap, made with love.

Thank you.



# YOUR IMPACT

## Thank You

Thank you to all of our supporters, standing by our side and joining us on our journey to help rebuild young lives. We could not do our work without you.

The generosity of our supporters is key to our Foundation growing and reaching more young people, spreading hope. Our Annual Giving program underpins the Foundation's everyday activities and contributing to it is one of the most significant ways you can play a part in the future of our vital work.

Although this financial year began being affected by COVID-19 lockdowns and restrictions, we shared many wonderful moments with generous supporters in our community. We were reinforced and motivated by generous increases of in-kind support, successful grant applications and gifts from generous individuals. We remain focused and dedicated to our work with our aim for continued and sustained growth, reaching more young Australians into the future.



### PATRON

Thank you to our Patron, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd), Governor-General of the

Commonwealth of Australia. Your support helps us bring greater awareness and support to our work in helping young people and strengthening families and communities.

# #ENDYOUTHSUICIDE



## END YOUTH SUICIDE WEEK, 14 – 18 FEBRUARY 2022

In February we held our fourth annual 'End Youth Suicide Week' that reached over 110 million Australian viewers. This week brought together community, social media influencers, and Federal Government to defy the stigma around poor mental health.

This year, we held an online event, primarily for Federal Government representatives which saw an outstanding parliamentarian turnout. We also ran a public media campaign to raise awareness around youth suicide and encouraged people to start a conversation and reduce the stigma around mental health. Our campaign was picked up across 172 media publications, reaching an audience of over 110 million. Which equates to an advertising equivalent of \$1, 569, 717.

Together we encouraged Australians to have open conversations about suicide and share their mental health journey with others.

Thank you to our corporate suppliers and partners for helping us raise awareness and greater engagement across our audience sectors for this campaign.



## BOB LEWIS, MAJOR DONOR, PORTLAND, VICTORIA

Some of you would have met (or know of) long-standing, support adult, Bob Lewis, based in Portland, Victoria.

Bob is passionate about helping young people and has been attending our Weekend Workshops for the past 20 years. Bob would love to see a Youth Insearch Place Based Model focusing on young people in West Victoria. So much so that he personally made a significant contribution towards us employing a Regional Manager, based in West Victoria.

The aim of this role is to help us start working on how to best secure further funding and support for this region. Additional support is still required before we can appoint a full-time resource in this role, but what an inspiring start. Thank you, Bob!

# YOUR IMPACT

## END OF FINANCIAL YEAR FUNDRAISING EVENT

In June we held an EOFY event, generously hosted by the Winten Property Group at their offices in North Sydney. This event gave us a chance to connect and share with our invited guests and to raise much needed funds to support our work.

Facilitated by Leanne Hall, Clinical Lead, we hosted a panel of young speakers to demonstrate the journey of the Youth Insearch experience. Our panel speakers included three young participants currently going through our program, Ramona Wynne, current Youth Insearch leader and previous Chair of our National Program Council, and Steve – our very own CEO and alumni.

This event gave us a wonderful opportunity for our guests to learn more about our work, connect with the young people in the room and to network together in a beautiful environment. There were tears, but also laughs and many generous commitments for greater engagement with us.

Thank you to the Winten Property Group (and the Rothwell family) for hosting this event and for your continued support. And a very special thank you to our Chair, Garry Rothwell, for matching every gift committed on the evening. We are all so blown away by your support!

Thank you also to the staff that helped to make this event a success.







## PAUL OLDS, HERITAGE BANK FOUNDATION SUPPORTER

I recently attended a Youth Insearch Weekend Workshop. I've wanted to share this incredible experience for a while now, but I've struggled to give it justice in writing. Hopefully this conveys just how special the experience was.

Youth Insearch is one of the Foundation's charity partners. They run programs that allow young people to help young people. Their aim is to empower those aged 12 to 24 to turn their disadvantages into their advantages, enabling them to reach their full potential. These programs are an important part of their overall program which also includes weekly support groups, leadership training and social work case management.

The program was held just outside Kilcoy in South-East Queensland. It was your standard school camp set up with cabins, a meeting hall and dining room. It was attended by 22 youth (approx. 50/50 male/female) from Dalby, Bundaberg, Chinchilla, Hervey Bay and surrounding areas. The youngest was 14 and the eldest was 18 years old. This camp was facilitated by two Youth Leaders who are previous attendees who have undergone extensive leadership training. The Youth Leaders were extremely well supported by two Youth Insearch staff, a psychologist, two Social Workers and two adult support workers.

You can't hide from it, the youth who attend these programs are there for a reason. They have all faced significant trauma in their lives - domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse, sexual abuse, death, severe bullying or extreme

social isolation. They are there to support each other and move forward on their journey to reclaiming their potential.

I found many of the topics discussed and the experiences shared by the kids extremely difficult to hear and confronting. In the safe space created, both the participants and the support team courageously shared very personal stories. It would have been very easy for emotions such as anger, shame, frustration and resentment to control the weekend. Thankfully the environment created and the structure of the program didn't allow that happen. There was time to vent, but the focus was on supporting the participants to move forward. Everyone had each other's back providing insights, encouragement and reassurance that could only come from personal experiences learnt from dealing with similar situations.

It was very obvious attendees were all at different stages of their journeys. Through the expertise of the facilitators, they were able to interact at a level that supported their needs. Some mainly observed and derived strength from the group, while others communicated with a level of emotional intelligence and self-understanding well beyond their age.

It is impossible to leave an experience like this without some reflection:

1. I won the lotto with my parents, family and friends. The opportunities, values and role modeling provided during my youth definitely provided me a massive head start in life and help set my trajectory.
2. There is no quick fix to the trauma these kids have endured. Organisations like Youth Insearch are critical in helping them rebuild their lives, they are providing that connection many of the participants are searching for.



3. Given the right platform and structure, kids are really good at helping other kids. They are insightful and compassionate.
4. Both the Youth Insearch staff members participated in Youth Insearch program's during their teens. Having that lived experience of the program brings an elevated level of belief and confidence in the organisation.
5. You have to be bold and be prepared not to skirt around the difficult topics. Challenging and inspiring the attendees to be that intergenerational change was an extremely powerful message.
6. The Youth Insearch program saves lives.

I often say I'm in a very privileged position as I get the opportunity to witness first-hand how our contribution to our charity partners is making a difference. I sincerely hope this brief overview of my weekend with 22 courageous kids has given you a small glimpse into the power of the Youth Insearch program. I'm very proud that the collective Heritage Bank community, which the Foundation is a part of, has been able to play a role helping Youth Insearch build stronger communities.

Cheers,  
Paul



## IMPACT 100, SYDNEY NORTH

Thank you to all members of Impact 100, Sydney North for your support and your belief in young people. Your support to provide 50 young people with access to our peer-led support program late last year has to date, exceeded our expectations. Our work was focused on assisting youth from Greater Sydney who have experienced domestic violence and abuse.

Since November 2021, our Social Worker, Stephanie Ervin has supported a total of 62 young people across Greater Sydney. Each of these young people has had access to clinical support, Peer Support Groups and peer-facilitated Weekend Workshops.

This number of young people has exceeded our initial project goal, which although is a positive outcome, also sadly demonstrates the clear need and demand for programs such as ours.

Unfortunately, domestic and family violence is a persisting and significant challenge for many young people.

One of the young participants, Calum shared that

“[When] I... engaged with Youth Insearch... I had some things going on at home and relationship struggles with my parents... I was sad and alone but now I am more motivated and hopeful”.

This is just one of many stories made possible with the support of people like the Impact 100 Sydney North community.

# OUR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

**\$2,964,265**

**REVENUE**

**\$3,000,842**

**EXPENSES**

**\$36,577**

**DEFICIT**

**\$2,405,541**

**Net ASSETS**

Although Youth Insearch is showing a deficit for the FY2022, the surplus from the prior year of \$892k was allocated to covering the obligations in this current financial year.

In line with accounting standard AASB 1058: Income of Not-for Profit Entities, \$1m of this \$2.9m is recognised in 2022, however is tied to future year obligations.

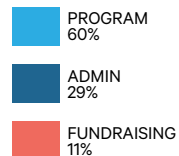
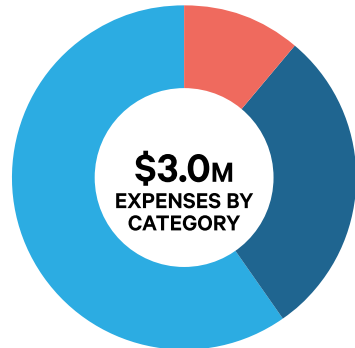
Overall revenue has decreased by 11% in part to the COVID-19 financial support received in FY 2021 being phasing out and government funding from Department of Social Services Try Test Learn pilot program ceasing.

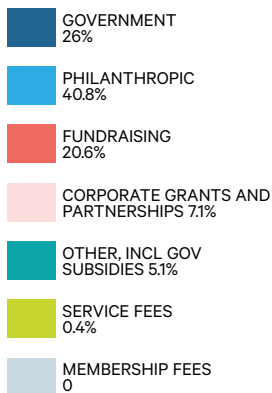
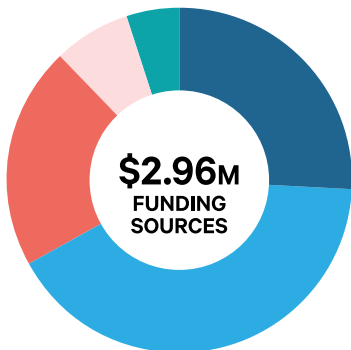
Thanks to our generous donors, donations have increased by 77% and again COVID-19 restriction pressure limited our ability to hold fundraising events.

Expenses have increased by 23% in line with the embedding and expansion of the Place Based Model and the employment of new Social Workers in Hervey Bay, Chinchilla/ Tara and Maryborough QLD. With the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, we were able to recommence face-to-face programs with program expenses 75% higher than the previous year.

Youth Insearch continues to maintain a healthy balance sheet with net assets of \$2.4 million.

A copy of the audited statutory financial report is available on our website and has been lodged with the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC).





## EMPLOYEES

Youth Insearch is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer and has a unique mix of people working and volunteering within the Foundation, with the shared purpose to support the young people we serve.

As at 30 June 2022, we had 24 permanent employees, of which 17 were full-time and 7 were part-time. Our staff turnover was 18% compared to 44% in the prior year.

## REVENUE GROWTH BY REVENUE STREAM

### PHILANTHROPY AND FUNDRAISING

Youth Insearch continues to build out its fundraising revenues from Trusts and Foundations, major gifts and donations from appeals and fundraising events, with a 77% increase from major gifts and donations and a 4% increase in revenue from Philanthropy efforts. A major focus of the year has been on targeting the Government with the securement of two significant grants which will be implemented in FY2023 and is expected to see revenue from Government grants increase by 220%.



## **GOVERNMENT - FEDERAL**

Department of Health  
Department of Industry, Science and Innovation  
Department of Social Services

## **GOVERNMENT - STATE**

NSW Department of Communities and Justice  
NSW Department of Health  
Service NSW  
QLD The Office of Liquor and Gaming  
Regulation Community Benefit Funds Unit  
VIC Department of Families, Fairness and  
Housing  
VIC Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions

## **GOVERNMENT - LOCAL**

Brimbank City Council

## **INDUSTRY**

headspace  
Hervey Bay Neighbourhood Centre  
Joblink Plus  
Latrobe Youth Space Inc (LYS Inc)  
Relationships Australia NSW

## **ORGANISATIONS IN-KIND**

Addisons Lawyers  
BornBred  
Colin Biggers & Paisley Lawyers  
Connected Media  
Fifty Acres  
Halkin Business Partners  
Humans@Work  
Passionberry Marketing  
Smiths Pty Ltd  
Super K Group  
Usher Group  
Wells Haslem Mayhew

## **ORGANISATIONS**

Adheseal Pty Ltd  
Bowermans Office Furniture  
Brickfields Consulting  
Fund My Challenge  
Harvey Norman Commercial  
Home & Land Agency  
Jemena  
Latrobe Community Health Service  
Lewis Land Group

Macdoch Group  
NewQuest Property  
Smiths Pty Ltd  
South Burnett Suicide Prevention Working Group  
Trenton International  
Usher Group  
Walker Corporation  
Wildlife Unlimited Pty Ltd  
Wrapped with Love

## TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

APS Foundation  
Band Family Foundation  
Bob Eatt Foundation  
Global Awakening Fund Australia  
Grant Family Charitable Trust  
Hand Heart Pocket The Charity of Freemasons Queensland  
Harris Charitable Foundation  
Heritage Bank Foundation  
Herrman-Golan Childrens Trust  
Impact 100 Sydney  
Impact 100 Sydney North  
James N Kirby Foundation  
Lewis Foundation  
Marshall Family Foundation  
Matana Foundation For Young People  
Milton Corporation Foundation  
Ottomin Foundation  
Smith Charitable Trust  
Tenix Foundation  
The Howarth Foundation  
The Lansdowne Foundation  
The Lionel & Yvonne Spencer Trust  
The Rali Foundation  
The Rodney & Judith O'Neil Foundation  
The Shirley Ward Foundation  
Thyne Reid Foundation  
Tim Fairfax Family Foundation  
Yarranabbe Foundation

## COMMUNITY CLUBS

Ashgrove/The Gap Lions Club  
Bundaberg Central Rotary Club  
Country Women's Associations (Various)  
Dayboro Lions Club  
Lions Club of Bundaberg Hinkler Inc  
Lions Club of Caloundra  
Lions Club of Clifton Inc  
Lions Club of Mooloolah Valley  
Lions Club District 201 Q3  
Lions Club District 201 Q4  
Parramatta ClubGrants Local Committee  
Rotary Club of Greater Hills  
Rotary Club of Maffra  
Rotary Club of Port Macquarie West  
Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise  
Rotary District Club 9660  
Teneriffe Lions Club

## SCHOOLS

Bundaberg North High School  
Bundaberg State High School  
Carnity Education - Glendyne  
Chinchilla State High  
Dalby State High School  
Maffra Secondary College  
Maryborough High School  
Roma State College  
Vincentia High School



# VOLUNTEERS

## LEADERS - YOUTH

Alec Paton  
Ali Street  
Andrew Bullers  
Constance Halstead Charlesworth  
Courtney Seach  
Dyllan Anderson  
Jaala Priddle  
Joe Horvat  
John Honer  
Josh Camilleri  
Kaleb Hendrikse  
Kate Hornick  
Lachlan Maddison-Tonks  
Luke Mitchell  
Maddi Lewis  
Matt Hay  
Minnie Knight  
Molly Moroney  
Nel Botha  
Rhi Mustapic  
Rikki Whyte  
Rikki Whyte Hoyland  
River Furdenhan  
Shania Anderson  
Tash Hildebrand

## TRAINEE LEADERS - YOUTH

Angel Davidson  
Baylee Tierney  
Bree McManus  
Chris Taylor  
Ethan Peno  
Georgia Smith  
Iszack Pickering  
Kaara Jackson-Watson  
Kit Reynolds  
Lillian Bone  
Rose Bennett  
Sebastian Bessant  
Shasha Ghalghovand  
Sophie King

## LEADERS - ADULT

Berni Horne  
Blake Holloway  
Chantelle Fogg  
Chris Mackie  
Deb Brient  
Dee Beswick  
Heath Ducker  
Heather Cummings  
Janice Mansfield  
Jennie Linton  
Jesse McLennan  
Liam Rushton  
Phillip Crawford  
Kathy Morrison  
Kaysy Sutton  
Kylie Dixon-Jarman  
Mark Garven  
Missy Ford  
Myer Payne  
Ramona Lee Wynne  
Rhys Berry  
Samantha Clayton  
Shendal Taylor  
Simon Walsh  
Tracey Hayes



## **TRAINEE LEADERS - ADULT**

Andrew Bull  
Jenni Pierce

## **SUPPORT ADULTS - YOUTH**

Alex Baterna  
Dani Fisher  
Noaka Rout Tai

## **SUPPORT ADULTS - ADULT**

Alison Kevich  
Bernie Farquhar Bernie Kent  
Bob Lewis  
Despina Sertis  
Di Hobson  
Elias Rees  
Emma Hollingsworth  
Glenn Collie  
Greg Cumberland  
Jacqui Sterling  
Jesse Goudge  
Kate George  
Lauren Blanck  
Mal MacPherson  
Mitch Morgan  
Nadia Donn  
Narelle Clem  
Phill Metcalfe  
Rae Alcorn  
Shaniece Igano  
Tammy White  
Teagan Brooks  
Travis Walton

## **GUESTS**

Annie Heslin  
Jewel Topsfield  
Mitchell Brody  
Paul Olds  
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Regional Coordinator, Donna Ryan  
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### DARLING DOWNS

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Social Worker - Dalby, Gursimran Kaur  
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### NEW ENGLAND

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Rebecca Brewer

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Maree May

Youth Support Worker,  
The Late Julie Proud

Youth Outreach Worker,  
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Kathy Morrison

Leanne Hall

Vale Julie Proud

Vale Drianne Deang

# IN MEMORIAM

It was with a heavy heart that we regretfully had to inform our team in early September, that one of our Youth Insearch family had left us all too soon. It was the first time that we had turned our Logo Black.

Julie (Joolz) Proud whose larger than life personality was only outshone by the size of her heart and caring, had sadly suddenly passed away.

In Joolz's words "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"

Joolz, we were the ones that were so grateful that you came to our employ and how lucky are the young people and organisations that worked with you? They know the extent of your care, empowerment and encouraging talks for them to be their best versions of themselves. You have left us all with a little piece of Joolz's wisdom in our hearts to carry with us.

Joolz's first love was and is her family and our hearts go out to her parents, siblings, children Jono, Tash and Carlee and Jono's partner Maddie, as well as the newest love of her life - her grand daughter Skylah. We also offer our condolences to her extended family and friends and her Youth Insearch family, who are still telling their Joolz stories.

Joolz's daughter, Tash who has been a leader since 2015, attended the November 2021 weekend workshop where we were able to pay tribute to her mum, and our dear friend and colleague Joolz.

Joolz was and is unforgettable and we thank her for the caring, knowledge and friendship she had given us all. It's not good-bye. It's till we meet again.

*Vale Julie Proud, Dec. 12 Sept 2021*



YOUTH INSEAH GROUP

YOUTH INSEAH  
Julie Proud  
TRAINER / LEADER



# YOUTH INSEARCH



Thanks to our generous supporters, 91% of Youth Insearch participants no longer felt suicidal after attending our programs.

89% had not reattempted suicide after participating in the program.

Sadly, young people still need more support from Youth Insearch.

Suicide is the biggest killer of Australians aged 15-24. Among the triggers are family conflict, domestic violence, alcohol and substance abuse, self-harm, and homelessness.

Please donate what you can so more young Australians can receive this life changing support and help us create a brighter future for Australia.

## DONATE NOW

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Account #: 126 318  
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Please include your name as reference and email accounts@youthinsearch.org.au once deposited.

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PO Box 422  
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