



IMPACT REPORT

2024-2025



Who we are

At Youth Insearch, we believe every young person deserves the opportunity to heal, belong and thrive.

Since 1985, we've supported thousands of young people aged 12-25 through peer-led, trauma-informed programs that break cycles of harm and disadvantage.

Our work is grounded in the power of peer support. We know real change happens when young people are supported by others who truly understand their experiences. Every day, we walk beside young people facing significant challenges, including trauma, mental health distress, family breakdown, and disconnection from work and their education.

Many have experienced entrenched disadvantage, homelessness or contact with the justice system. But with the right support, these young people go on to transform their lives and support others to do the same.

our legacy

Youth Insearch began in 1985 at the Riverstone Community Neighbourhood Centre in Western Sydney, driven by a Youth Development Counsellor who believed young people could lead their own recovery.

Within two years, youth crime dropped dramatically in the area, so much so that Riverstone Police Station was reduced to a shop front.

This impact captured national attention and sparked our expansion across Australia.

Now, 40 years on, we continue to build on that history, creating safe spaces where young people feel seen, supported, and empowered to change their lives.

With your support, we can continue delivering meaningful impact where it matters most.

Our vision

All young people have a safe space to heal and thrive.



our mission

We create safe spaces, where young people with lived experience support each other to heal from trauma, improve mental health, overcome life challenges and live a fulfilling life. In doing this we break negative cycles, develop young leaders and create lasting change in communities.

Programs are delivered through four key streams:

- Weekend Workshops: Peer-facilitated healing spaces to process trauma and build trust.
- Weekly Support Groups: Ongoing, goal-focused peer support in local communities.
- Individual Case Management: Tailored one-on-one psychosocial support.
- Leadership Training: A pathway for young people to become accredited Youth Insearch Leaders.



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.



Youth Insearch is 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.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



SHANE FITZSIMMONS, AO AFSM
CHAIR OF THE BOARD



KASY CHAMBERS
BOARD MEMBER



SANDY BEARD
TREASURER



ELISABETH SHAW
DEPUTY CHAIR



PENNY WILLIAMS
SECRETARY



ANDREW GREGORY
BOARD MEMBER



SAMANTHA MACKIE
BOARD MEMBER



STEPHEN O'MALLEY
BOARD MEMBER



GREG SAM
BOARD MEMBER



PAUL ATTARD
BOARD MEMBER

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

SHANE FITZSIMMONS, AO AFSM, CHAIR OF THE BOARD

It is a privilege to serve as Chair of the Board of Youth Insearch and to witness the profound difference our evidence-based, peer-led program continues to make in the lives of young Australians.

It is a sobering reality that across Australia, too many young people experiencing complex trauma, psychological distress, and diverse needs are falling through the cracks of mainstream services. Youth Insearch exists to change that, and every year we strengthen our resolve and capacity to do so.

Our peer-led support model remains one of the organisation's defining strengths. By placing young people at the centre of our work, we ensure their voices shape our programs and practices. Through the leadership of our National Program Council, Youth Insearch continues to drive systemic reform in how young people engage with the mental health system.

At the heart of our mission is the creation of safe spaces. Places where young people with lived experience support each other to heal, grow, and thrive. The stories shared in this report are powerful reminders of the impact of our work.

Each year, the measurable outcomes – improved mental health and wellbeing, reduced harmful behaviours, and renewed engagement with education, employment,

and community – reflect not only the courage and commitment of the young people we serve, but also the dedication of our team, and the invaluable support of our donors, partners, and broader community.

Looking ahead, our focus is on growth, extending our reach to meet increasing demand, expanding our partnerships, and deepening our impact in communities that are most in need.

We are also investing in our people and systems to ensure the long-term sustainability of our model and to strengthen our voice in national conversations around youth mental health.

I would also like to acknowledge my colleagues on the Board for their commitment to sound governance and assurance, and for their ongoing support of Steve and the team. Above all, I want to acknowledge the resilience and determination of the young people who participate in our programs. Their willingness to confront adversity, support one another, and triumph over trauma is what drives our success.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

STEPHEN LEWIN, CEO



This past year has demonstrated the significant impact of Youth Insearch in supporting young people through our evidence-based, peer-led programs. It has reaffirmed my commitment to further advancing our impact in the years to come.

In a landscape where many young people experiencing trauma, psychological distress, and social disconnection are underserved by mainstream services, Youth Insearch remains steadfast in its mission: to create safe and supportive environments where young people with lived experience can support their peers, disrupt cycles of disadvantage, cultivate emerging leaders, and contribute to driving positive change within their communities.

Each year, we enhance our capacity to meet young people where they are, providing consistent, credible, and compassionate support that enables them to rebuild their lives and pursue their futures. Over the past year, we have expanded our presence and now serve 41 local government areas, strengthening our connections within local networks and establishing safe, inclusive environments where young people can support one another to heal, grow, and thrive.

Our evidence-based, peer-led, trauma-informed model, designed with and for young people, continues to be delivered in partnership with local communities. This ensures our work remains accessible, relevant, and sustainable.

As someone who has personally benefited from this support, I understand its transformative power. Coming to Youth Insearch with my own experiences of disconnection and disengagement, I found not only guidance but also a profound sense of belonging. That experience shaped my perspective and drives my dedication to ensure that other young people have the same opportunity to heal, find hope, and thrive.

These efforts are reflected in measurable outcomes, most notably significant reductions in psychological distress and suicide risk within just three months of program participation. Looking ahead, Youth Insearch is poised for targeted growth, expanding further into regional communities and growing our peer-led workforce to reach more young people.

To our team, board, volunteers, partners, and supporters, thank you. Your unwavering commitment makes this work possible. Together, we are empowering young people to build meaningful, connected, and hopeful lives.



DAVID'S STORY

LAKE KEEPIT PROGRAM PARTICIPANT



The program really helped me so far with my mental health and being able to open up about myself to others to seek support.

Just under four hours northwest of Newcastle lies the small township of Gunnedah. With a population of fewer than 15,000, mental health resources for young people in this rural community are limited.

Fortunately for program participant David, Youth Insearch hosts a Weekend Workshop in nearby Lake Keepit. "My life was complicated and confusing before joining the program. I wasn't too sure what made me join, to be honest. I just thought I'd give it a go," said David.

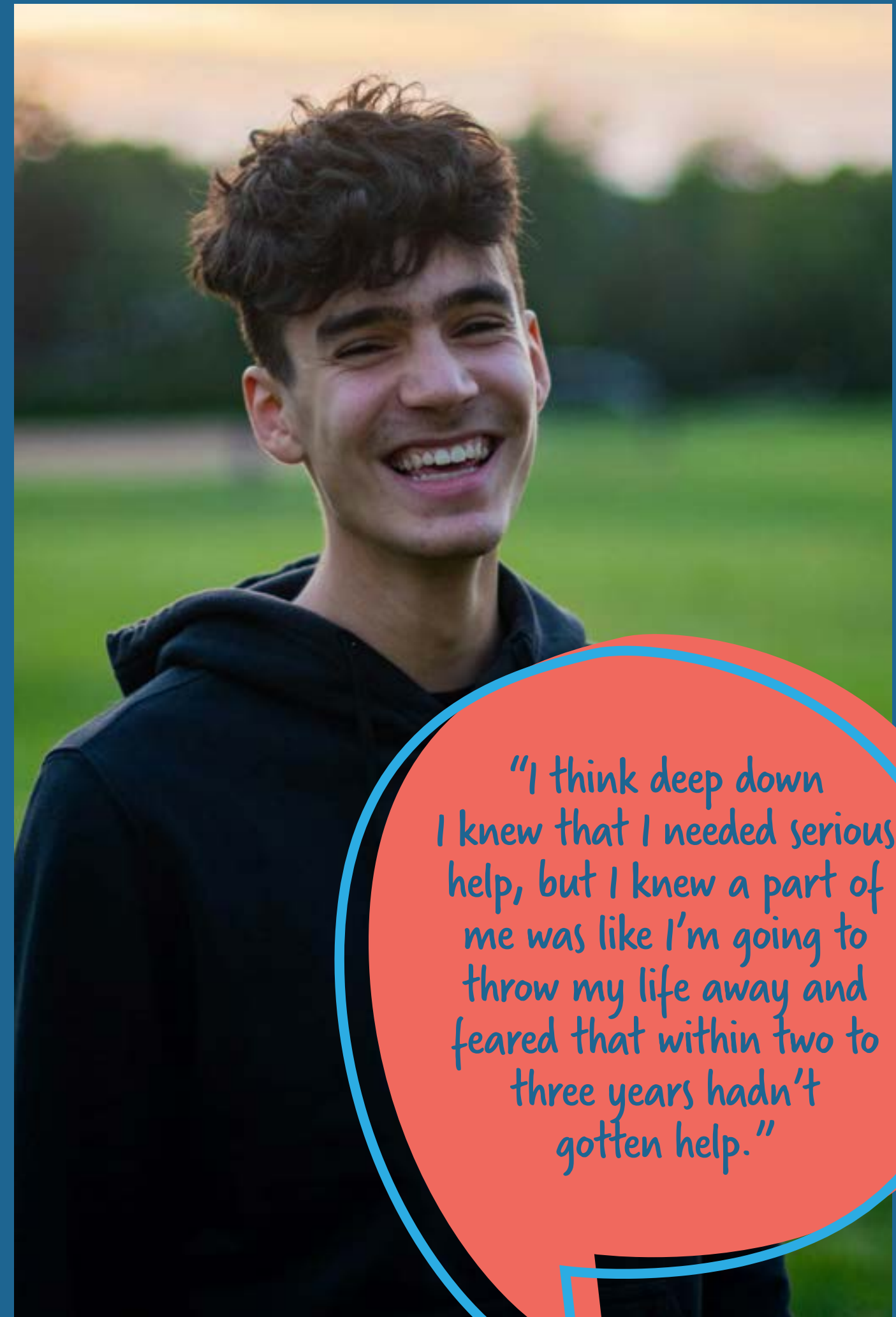
After attending three Weekend Workshops, David has noticed a dramatic improvement in his mental health. "From the very first camp, I felt like I belonged and connected. Being surrounded by people who had dealt with similar issues to me made me realise I wasn't alone, and that

sense of support meant a lot. Since joining, one of the things I am most proud of is recognising that it's ok to need help. I've taken steps to sort counselling and seek support, which has been a big change for me."

The relationships David has formed through these transformative experiences highlight the program's impact through peer support. "Knowing that [the leaders] have gone through a lot themselves, and that they are there for me, has made me think about becoming a leader one day too.

More importantly, having people like them in my life has helped me realise something vital: I can't let my past control my future. No matter what I've done before, I can always move forward."

This story is shared in the young person's own words to preserve authenticity, including original grammar & language. Names, images, and identifying details have been changed to protect the privacy of the young people featured.



"I think deep down I knew that I needed serious help, but I knew a part of me was like I'm going to throw my life away and feared that within two to three years hadn't gotten help."

REACH & PARTICIPATION

826

YOUNG PEOPLE
SUPPORTED

339

WEEKEND WORKSHOP
ATTENDEES

694

SUPPORT GROUP
SESSIONS

2,470

ATTENDED SUPPORT GROUPS

SUPPORT

21,874

HOURS OF SUPPORT PROVIDED

7,880

INDIVIDUAL SERVICES PROVIDED



LEADERSHIP

20

NEW LEADERS
COMMENCED TRAINING

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION



69% 2% 29%

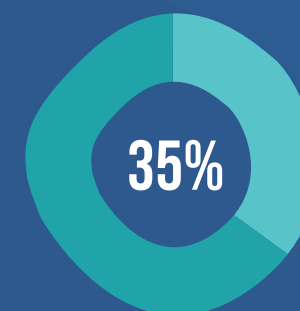
FEMALE

NON-IDENTIFIED

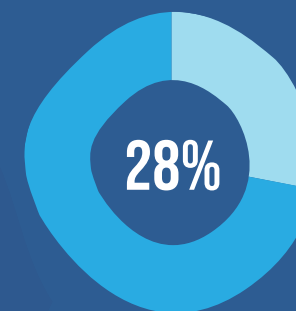
MALE

16

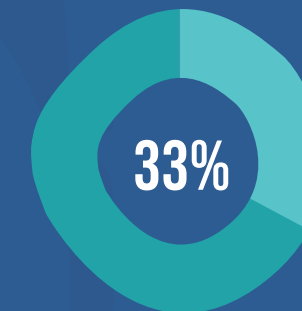
AVERAGE AGE OF
PARTICIPANTS



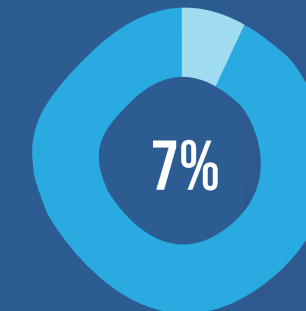
ABORIGINAL OR
TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER



LIVING WITH A DISABILITY



CULTURALLY AND
LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE



LGBTIQA+

YOUTH INSEARCH PROGRAMS

111

VOLUNTEERS
ENGAGED

34

LOCAL
GOVERNMENT
AREAS SERVED

34

SCHOOLS
REFERRED
YOUTH

23

PLACE BASED
MODELS
IMPLEMENTED

OUTCOME DATA

80%

YOUNG PEOPLE REDUCE THEIR PSYCHOSOCIAL DISTRESS FROM SEVERE TO MODERATE AFTER PARTICIPATING IN THE PROGRAM

70%

YOUNG PEOPLE AT SIGNIFICANT RISK OF SUICIDAL BEHAVIOUR REDUCED THIS RISK, WITH SOME HAVING NO SIGNIFICANT RISK AFTER ATTENDING THE PROGRAM.

THE YOUTH INSEARCH PROGRAM SIGNIFICANTLY IMPACTS THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE BY FOSTERING:



CONNECTION
BELONGINGNESS
IDENTITY

THIS HOLISTIC APPROACH EMPOWERS YOUNG PEOPLE TO OVERCOME ADVERSITY, THRIVE PERSONALLY AND SOCIALLY.



LEADERS GRADUATION

On Monday 27 October, Youth Insearch's graduating leaders came together at Admiralty House in Sydney to mark the completion of a transformative 18-month journey of healing, growth, and leadership.

The ceremony was a powerful celebration of resilience, peer connection, and the unique model that defines Youth Insearch, young people supporting young people.

These young leaders have undergone intensive training to become facilitators, equipped not only with skills, but with lived experience that allows them to walk alongside others on similar journeys. They create a space where young people feel truly seen and heard, often in ways that traditional clinical settings cannot achieve.

The graduation ceremony was held in the presence of Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC, Governor-General of Australia, who delivered a heartfelt address:

"Youth Insearch is all about hope and optimism. So many of your stories talk about walking into Youth Insearch and finally finding your tribe, finding a sense of deep belonging, finding a community where you feel cared for."

The day was also an opportunity to honour the unwavering support of our community, many of whom have stood by Youth Insearch for decades. One such supporter, Daryl "Dasher" Allen, was recognised with a special award for his incredible fundraising efforts, including completing the 42.2km Huskisson Marathon and raising over \$12,000 to support our mission.

Congratulations to our graduating class. Each leader has shown remarkable commitment, and their journey is only just beginning.





NATIONAL PROGRAM COUNCIL

YOUTH-LED LEADERSHIP

The National Program Council (NPC) is a youth-led advisory body that plays a central role in shaping the direction of Youth Insearch's programs. Comprised of peer-elected young people from across Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria, the NPC ensures that Youth Insearch remains responsive to the needs and experiences of the young people it serves.

Each member is selected from their respective State Program Councils, bringing regional perspectives and lived experience to the broader, national discussions.

The NPC meets regularly to provide feedback, make decisions, and contribute to the continuous improvement of program delivery. All youth members hold voting rights, while staff, including the CEO and Practice Lead, attend in a non-voting capacity to support governance and implementation.

Over the past year, the NPC has contributed to several key developments. These include refining workshop guidelines, introducing new formats for open dialogue, approving new leaders for training, and making decisions around participant and leader conduct. These contributions have helped strengthen the quality, safety, and inclusivity of Youth Insearch's peer-led programs.

Participation in the NPC also provides valuable leadership development opportunities. Members gain experience in facilitation, decision-making, and collaborative problem-

solving, skills that support their growth both within and beyond Youth Insearch.

A particular highlight in 2025 was NPC members presenting newly accredited leaders to the Governor-General, a moment that recognised the Council's role in championing youth leadership.

The NPC continues to be a vital part of Youth Insearch's commitment to youth-led practice. By placing young people at the centre of decision-making, we ensure our programs remain relevant, empowering, and grounded in lived experience.



Where we are

At Youth Insearch, our impact starts in local communities. Our place-based model is supported by three Regional Managers who lead operations across Queensland, New South Wales, and Victoria, regions where the need for youth mental health support is urgent and growing.

On the ground, our team of staff, peer workers and leaders are walking alongside young people every day. They're showing up in schools, communities and local services, building trust, breaking down barriers, and creating real pathways into support. Many of these team members have lived experience themselves, which helps young people feel seen, heard and understood from the very first connection.

Our model brings together Social Workers, Youth Workers, and Peer Workers to deliver flexible, trauma-informed support that meets young people where they are—both physically and emotionally. It's youth-led, community-rooted, and designed to create long-term, life-changing outcomes.

34
LOCATIONS

Bairnsdale	Logan Central
Blacktown	Maffra
Bomaderry	Maryborough
Brisbane	Miles
Bundaberg	Moree
Caboolture	Morwell
Castle Hill	Narrabri
Chinchilla	Newborough
Churchill	Nowra
Dalby	Orbost
Gatton	Sale
Gladstone	Sanctuary Point
Gunnedah	Tamworth
Gympie	Tannum Sands
Inverell	Vincentia
Laidley	Warrawong
Lakes Entrance	Yarram

KARLY'S STORY

TRAINEE PEER LEADER

Perhaps the greatest reward for many young people in our programs is not only healing from their own challenges but also using their lived experience to help others through our peer support model. This was certainly true for 16-year-old Karly who, after attending multiple Weekend Workshops to work through her own adversity, began training to support other young people with theirs.

"My life before the program had been pretty hectic. I had constantly been living between different places which often left me around unsafe people and situations. I struggled with what to do in these situations and didn't know where to turn to when I needed support when struggling with others or my own emotions."

Now equipped with the skills and support needed to regulate her emotions, Karly feels confident in her ability to keep herself safe. "I am proud I'm no longer put (sic) myself in unsafe and harmful situations."

This growth gave Karly the confidence to return as a Trainee Leader. She is no longer only receiving support but is now providing it, guiding young people in the program and those in her personal life. By drawing on her own lived experience, Karly helps others avoid the cycles of harm she once faced.

Karly has also developed a deeper connection to her culture, engaging in practices she hopes to share with others through Weekend Workshops.

"When I was at a workshop... a leader gave the opportunity for the participants to write some letters to some people that they cared about and burn it. I felt very supported in that moment and felt more connected to my culture in the way of the 'smoking ceremony' which I have had little opportunity to in the past."

"I wish to support others and help them grow out of being stuck in repetitive cycles. I also want to continue down this path and create a stable life for myself."

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Research & Evaluation

L < TITUDE
NETWORK

Youth Insearch is working with Latitude Network to measure the broader value of our programs and the impact they create for young people and the community. This research examines how engagement with Youth Insearch influences the way young people interact with health and social services. Early analysis shows that our peer-led, trauma-informed model reduces reliance on high-cost crisis responses and instead enables healthier, more sustainable pathways forward.

The 2023 Avoidable Costs Report, developed by Latitude Group, applied economic modelling to quantify these outcomes. Findings revealed that for every \$1 invested in Youth Insearch, there is a \$7.36 return in avoided downstream costs. Key savings are generated through:

Reduced hospitalisations from suicide and self-harm

Reduced criminal justice involvement

Decreased youth homelessness

Improved education retention and employment participation

By combining this evidence with ongoing evaluation, we can demonstrate that Youth Insearch not only delivers profound personal outcomes for young people, but also measurable benefits for the wider system. This positions our program as one of the most economically efficient early intervention models in the youth mental health and wellbeing sector, strengthening the case for investment in approaches that unite lived experience, early intervention, and long-term support.



Participants to Peer Leaders

BUILDING A YOUTH-LED WORKFORCE

Our Leaders Training pathway turns lived experience into community leadership. Through staged intensives and supervised practice, graduates become Peer Leaders who co-facilitate workshops, run support groups, and provide one-to-one mentoring, extending impact across regional Australia.

1

Virtual Intensive

Dialogical practice, self-awareness, communication, feedback, safety & ethics; sets expectations for the Leader role.

2

Residential Intensive

Deep dive into facilitation, conflict resolution, group dynamics, trauma-informed care; practice scenarios; wellbeing strategies.

3

Practicum & Assessment

Supervised delivery at weekend workshops and support groups; reflective journals; evaluation rubric.

100+

PEER LEADERS
TRAINED TO DATE

92%

INCREASED
CONFIDENCE
& LEADERSHIP
ABILITY

73%

ENGAGED IN STUDY
OR EMPLOYMENT
WITHIN 12 MONTHS

QUALITY & SAFETY

Training is assessed against an evaluation framework covering self-awareness, group dynamics, facilitation competency, and safe practice.

TANGIBLE IMPACT

Graduates immediately extend delivery capacity, co-facilitating weekend workshops, weekly support groups, and 1:1 mentoring, increasing reach in rural and regional communities.

CALLUM'S STORY

PEER LEADER IN LAKE KEEPIT, NSW



There's been many times that program has helped me however there was one time that I was going through a really hard time and had made an attempt on my life.

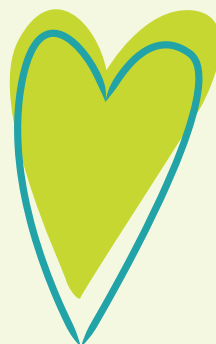
Before I joined Youth Insearch, I felt lost, and had no one to reach out to for support about what I was feeling and what I was going through.

I was referred to Youth Insearch by a Peer from my School. I met with a Peer worker who was working out of the school and they explained what support they could provide me. I was hesitant at first but made the decision to go on camp at the chance to have my feelings heard and to be around others like me. On my first camp, when I opened up for the first time and told my story, I felt very supported by the leaders and fellow participants after worrying no one would want to listen to me.

The team was very supportive and helped me identify my struggles and work through those with their support. I was too afraid to ask for help, but they gave

me help without asking. Being able to now help other young people as a leader and give them the chance that I was given is something that I'm proud of.

Being a leader has changed my perspective when going through tough times and what it means to be human, I feel more mature and have a better understanding of myself. One of the stand out (sic) moments for me was when I first went on camp. I was told it's ok to cry and I'm not less of a man for it, being accepted for who I am in the moment when I needed the support. I hope to continue work with Youth in the mental health space and continue to support young people like me.



PROGRAM PARTNERSHIPS

LARITA ACADEMY

Since 2023, Youth Insearch has partnered with Larita Academy, an initiative that empowers young people to develop entrepreneurial skills, build confidence, and create meaningful connections that help them find their community.

It continues to play a pivotal role in equipping emerging leaders with the skills, confidence, and networks they need to thrive. The 2025 Graduation brought together graduates, alumni, coaches, supporters, and corporate leaders to celebrate a year of growth and achievement. A standout moment was the recognition of our own Youth Insearch Program participant, Katarzyna, as Student of the Year. Reflecting on her journey, Katarzyna shared, "My life may have not changed, but I certainly have. And now that I realise, I have the power to write my story the way I want to, I know I can have a bright future ahead of me." Her words capture the essence of what Larita Academy delivers, fostering ambition, resilience and leadership capability that will carry these young people forward with purpose and impact.

This year also marked the launch of the Larita Academy Alumni Program, giving graduates the chance to keep building their skills, expand their networks and use their leadership to create change in their communities. Participant Sal Wilson shared, "I want to say how incredibly grateful I am to Youth Insearch and Larita Academy for giving me this opportunity. Youth Insearch has been such an important part of my journey, and being part of this experience has meant more than I can put into words... It reignited a fire in me — a passion I thought I had lost somewhere along the way. If I had the chance to do it all again, I wouldn't hesitate for a second."





BRIGHTER DAY Snapshot



Brighter Day 2025 brought communities across Australia together to create measurable change for young people experiencing trauma, disconnection and psychological distress.

Throughout the campaign, Youth Insearch delivered a range of events and initiatives, including community fundraisers and school-based activities. Each activity was designed to spark informed conversations about youth mental health and raise vital funds for our peer-led, trauma-informed programs. These programs are evidence-based and have demonstrated significant reductions in psychological distress and suicide risk within three months of participation.

Supporters, partners and local champions played a critical role in amplifying our message, ensuring more young people could access safe spaces, peer support and the tools needed to recover and thrive. Their contribution directly strengthened program reach and impact, enabling us to connect with young people who may not otherwise have received support.

Brighter Day showed the incredible impact we can have when we come together for young people. Next year, we want to take that even further by reaching more communities and building even stronger connections. With your continued support, we can ensure more young people have the safe spaces, peer support and opportunities they need to heal, grow and thrive.

Open Dialogue

FOUNDATIONS COURSE

Open Dialogue is a therapeutic and community-based approach to mental health that emphasises collaboration, transparency, and shared decision making.

This approach brings together the person experiencing distress, their family, friends, and a multidisciplinary team in open network meetings.

Instead of focusing solely on diagnosis or treatment, Open Dialogue values every voice and lived experience, fostering mutual understanding and trust. Dialogue is prioritised over immediate solutions, allowing meaning to emerge collectively. This process helps reduce power imbalances, supports recovery, and strengthens social connections.

Youth Insearch has entered its third year of partnership with the Open Dialogue Centre. Our staff are being trained in Open Dialogue with the goal of embedding this approach across every level of our organisation. This involves adapting our service delivery model to incorporate Open Dialogue principles in one-on-one support, weekend workshops, support groups, and in the way we manage staff and operations.

By prioritising people-centred approaches and embracing the ethos of “Nothing about me without me,” we ensure that lived experience is valued and that therapeutic practices and trauma-informed care remain at the core of everything we do.



GRANT FAMILY CHARITABLE TRUST

Since 2016, the Grant Family Charitable Trust has played a pivotal role in strengthening Youth Insearch's therapeutic group work and trauma-informed practices.

Their support enabled the appointment of a full-time Clinical Lead, who developed the Youth Insearch Case Management Framework and integrated Open Dialogue principles into peer-to-peer programs. This investment laid the foundation for a two-year initiative to embed Open Dialogue across national operations. In 2023, over 100 staff and volunteers across NSW, VIC and QLD completed multi-stage training, enhancing skills in responsive listening, network meetings and polyphonic dialogue.

Donors & Partnerships

In 2024, the partnership evolved. Staff completed advanced Open Dialogue training, and three became internal champions, embedding the practice into weekly support groups and weekend workshops. Monthly intervention sessions, co-facilitated by the Practice Lead and Open Dialogue Centre experts, now sustain practice quality.

Alongside these initiatives, the Grant Family Charitable Trust gifted substantial funds to expand Youth Insearch's Salesforce platform, enabling improved case management, data integration and reporting. This partnership shows how targeted philanthropic investment drives systemic change in youth support.

VINCENT FAIRFAX FAMILY FOUNDATION

Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation (VFFF) chose to support Youth Insearch because of its deeply embedded commitment to youth-led change, particularly in rural and regional communities.

Youth Insearch's model empowers young people who have experienced trauma to become leaders and role models. VFFF saw strong alignment with its “Contributing to Society” focus area, especially in Youth Insearch's efforts to genuinely embed youth voices and equip young people to shape better futures. VFFF's connection to Youth Insearch has remained strong due to the organisation's robust evaluation culture and its responsiveness to continuous improvement. The development and rollout of a redesigned Leaders Training Program—guided by lived experience and peer work best practices—demonstrates Youth Insearch's commitment to quality and safety.

Through its support, VFFF has witnessed tangible outcomes: higher retention and satisfaction rates among trainee leaders, increased leadership readiness, and the emergence of a new generation of peer workers contributing to Australia's evolving mental health system. The program's expansion signals a scalable and sustainable future.





HOLLY'S STORY

PEER LEADER IN FOREST EDGE VIC

“It was either I was going to get help and heal, or I was most likely going to end up a part of the numbers of teen suicide.”

When Holly talks about her life before Youth Insearch, she doesn't shy away from the truth about her past. “Life for me was quite dark and there was a lot of self-destruction. I was very suicidal and quite heavily affected by drugs and alcohol.”

Her destructive behaviour started when she was just 12. By 15, she was “quite aggressive at school and getting into a lot of fights... always under the influence of something.” A teacher noticed the warning signs and referred her to Youth Insearch.

Within a week, she had met a peer worker and social worker and attended her first camp. “Deep down I knew I needed serious help, but a part of me was like I’m going to throw my life away.”

The turning point came at her third camp. “I got a chance to share my story about my sexual assault, and everyone listened to me and no one judged. They encouraged me to heal in a healthy way.”

Today, Holly has been clean for over a year. “I haven’t thought about self-harm in a year... I’ve continued to stay clean, and that’s what I’m most proud of.”

She has also found purpose in her lived experience. “I’ve been able to turn my past, my healing, into knowledge. I can be that person someone else needs.”

And she’s found lifelong connection:

“I met my best friend on camp... ever since then we’ve been inseparable.”

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OUR VALUED SUPPORTERS



GOVERNMENT SUPPORT

FEDERAL

Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
Department of Industry, Science and Innovation

STATE

NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet
QLD Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
VIC Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

LOCAL

Tamworth Regional Council

PRIMARY HEALTH NETWORKS

Darling Downs and West Moreton PHN
Hunter New England and Central Coast PHN

COMMUNITY CLUBS & SERVICES

Inner Wheel Australia Club of Tamworth
Q3 District Lions Club - Queensland
Q4 District Lions Club - Queensland

Rotary District 9650

Rotary Club of Bundaberg Sunrise

Rotary Club of Castle Hill

Rotary Club of Gunnedah

Rotary Club of Tamworth

Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light

Rotary Club of Tamworth Sunrise

Rotary Club of Tamworth West

V3 District Lions Club - Victoria

CORPORATE

Australian Food and Fibre Moree
Collin Biggers & Paisley
Commercial Credit Services Group
Cook Medical Pty Ltd
Lewis Land Group
Macquarie Bank Limited
Nous Group | International Management Consultancy
Officeworks
Tait Toyota Moree

Winten Property Group

COMMUNITY IN-KIND SUPPORT

BCR Communities
Beyond Empathy
Briagolong Community House
Bundaberg Neighbourhood Centre
Chinchilla Community Centre
Cooinda Craft Group
CWA Tannum Sands
Firefly Bay and Basin
Headspace Bundaberg
Headspace Nowra
Headspace Tamworth
JobLink Plus New England
Mindcare Gladstone
Murilla Community Centre
Myall Youth Community Network Centre (MYCNC)
North Coast Aboriginal Corporation for Community Health (NCACCH)
Nowra Youth Centre
Open Ground
PCYC Gladstone
Youth Space - Latrobe Valley

SCHOOLS

Bomaderry High School
Bundaberg North State High School
Bundaberg State High School
Caboolture State High School
Chinchilla State High School
Dalby State High School
Gladstone State High School
Gunnedah High School
Kurnai College - Churchill, Morwell, University and Flo Campuses
Kingswood High School
Laidley State High School
Lockyer District State High School
Lowanna College
Maffra Secondary College
Maryborough State High School
Moree High School
Narrabri High School

Orbost Secondary College

Sale College - Junior and Senior Campuses

Tannum Sands State High School

Vincentia High School

Woodridge State High School

Yarram Secondary College

TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

Freemasons Foundation Victoria
Hand Heart Pocket the Charity of Freemasons Queensland
Matana Foundation for Young People
People First Bank Foundation (formerly Heritage Bank Foundation)
Queensland Gives (Queensland Community Foundation)
Smith Charitable Trust
The Benevolent Society
The Howarth Foundation
The James N Kirby Foundation
The Lansdowne Foundation
The Lionel and Yvonne Spencer Trust
The Rodney & Judith O'Neil Foundation
The Shirley Ward Foundation
The Tim Fairfax Family Foundation
The Trustee for the Burton Taylor PPF Foundation
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Whether you donate, volunteer, fundraise, or simply share our message, your support helps young people feel seen, heard, and empowered to change their lives.

You can support Youth Insearch by:

Becoming a regular donor

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Every action counts. Together we can make sure no young person feels invisible.

Learn more by visiting youthinsearch.org.au



Thank you



To every donor, partner, volunteer and supporter who made this year possible, thank you.

Because of you, 826 young people across the country had the chance to heal, connect and take real steps forward. Your support helped fund 21 weekend workshops, 694 support group sessions and over 7,880 one-on-one check-ins with our peer and social workers. You made sure young people had someone they could trust. Someone who had walked a similar path and could say, I see you, and I am here for you. That kind of support is powerful, and it would not exist without you.

You helped us reach regional communities that often go unseen. You gave peer leaders the confidence to share their stories with government and community leaders. You made sure young people felt safe enough to speak, to listen and to start rebuilding their lives. This is what impact looks like. It is real and lasting, and it only happens because you chose to walk alongside us.

From all of us at Youth Insearch, thank you. You are part of every story in this report.





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