



Laverton Community Integrated Services

Annual Report 2022-2023

From The Chair

Congratulations to Volunteers, Staff and service users for a fabulous year!

The organisation has proven it is a strong supporter of the community with a presence at a number of Volunteer, Community, Education and Disability seminars and events during 2022/23. There have also been presentations to Hobsons Bay Council on the successful formula for Crisis and Emergency Relief. LCIS has also maintained strong partnerships with CISVIC and been supported by Bendigo, Our Community Bank, with donations and strategic developments to improve service delivery within our community. We still don't own the Child Care Centre; we still need a bigger venue for our Education Centre; we still are not running the Community Hub however – we as a Board continue to plan for these events in the future.

Raelene Passarini	Chair Person
Tanya Singh	Vice Chair Person
Troy Eley	Secretary
Colin Li	Treasurer
Nasif Mustaffa	Ordinary Member
Alex Jedlicko	Ordinary Member
Amy Duggan	Ordinary Member until May

I would like to thank all Board members and the CEO and his senior management team for their exceptional service during 2022/23. The board worked through the fluctuations in interest rates, changes to EBA's and the impact changing regulations in Child Care and Education would have for the Organisation. Overall, the changes were minimal for staff and service users alike and the organisation, under the expert stewardship of the CEO and his management team, have been able to continue to provide excellent care and service to the Laverton Community. It is worthy to note that LCIS turned over in excess of \$5M in the 2022/2023 financial year – a first for the organisation now entering its 50th year.....

Kind regards and many thanks to volunteers, staff and the community for a solid years work!

Raelene Passarini

CEO Report



Dear members, staff and volunteers,

Another successful year concludes and LCIS is in a very sound position, not just financially but with increased participation rates across all programs offered by the organisation. We continue to stay ahead of the pack by challenging ourselves by introducing new initiatives or expanding existing programs to address the needs of the community we serve, in turn, we empower people!

This year's annual report is very comprehensive with all arms detailing their programs at length, please take the time to have a read of what WE actually do. This saves me repeating what is already in print.

I would like to acknowledge the support of our diligent and professional Board members, their contributions are invaluable and ensure that governance is adhered to, and they ensure that our strategic direction is on course.

I would like to thank our Managers and their respective teams, Bill Daly from the Laverton Community Education Centre coordinating over 300 students in a multitude of pre-accredited and accredited courses, Emily Wright from the Laverton Community Centre coordinating Community Services assisting all demographics of our diverse community, and Krystle Hills and Michelle Bradley looking after the over 130 families that utilize our Children's Centre from long day care through to Kindergarten.

Finally, I would like to thank our 90 odd volunteers, without who, many of our programs would not be so successful.

I would like to our partners, Hobsons Bay City Council and the myriad of funding bodies, state and federal that fund the work that we do.

Michael Pernar

Laverton Community Integrated Services

Real Impact. Real Value.

INCOME \$4,368,257
VALUE \$19,175,352

This figure includes the value of:

Improved quality of life through social connection:
\$861,675

Volunteer contributions:
\$1,480,679

Emergency relief provided:
\$308,453

Services provided:
\$215,690

Adult Community Education:
\$14,073,395

Early childhood education and care:
\$1,703,160

Kinder provided:
\$531,034

This community value equates to:

\$4.39 for every \$1 of income

\$132.06 for every \$1

of Neighbourhood House Coordination

Program funding

Over **\$7,688.59** for every hour the
neighbourhood house is in use

Emergency relief value includes:

- Food and groceries: \$112,841
- Food vouchers: \$107,160
- Bill payments: \$24,576
- Fuel Vouchers: \$5,700
- Clothing: \$26,904
- Personal care & hygiene items: \$26,088

Services value includes:

- Auspicing other organisations: \$1,265
- Community lunch, frozen or other meals: \$129,600
 - Fee for service activities: \$63,090
 - Power Saving Bonus: \$23,000

Employment value

47.0 FTE jobs

including 33.8 direct and 13.2 indirect

Full Time Equivalent positions

These values are produced by Neighbourhood Houses Victoria based on data provided by Laverton Community Integrated Services in the 2022 Neighbourhood Houses Survey. Only a limited range of activities where a determinable valuation method exists are included.

Managers Report Krystle Hills and Michelle

The Children's Centre has undergone many changes and celebrations over the duration of June 2022- July 2023. Krystle and myself would like to take the opportunity to thank the board and Michael, for welcoming us into the management position and assisting us through a particularly arduous year of learning, of which we had endless support throughout, so again, thank you.

Our numbers of children attending LCCC have increased by 87% over the duration of the 22/23 fiscal year. They have since increased and we are almost at capacity. We currently have a waitlist for the first time. The main influx of children has been in our babies rooms and our 3 year old programs thanks to the 'free 3 year old kinder' roll out from the Andrews government. The influx of children has meant we have increased our educators and welcomed them to our team.

Our casual pool of educators has been largely sourced from the education centre, strengthening the relationship between the two arms. Similarly, we have taken on 3 cert I, work education students from the education centre and a volunteer from LCIS which has been an incredible help to us. One of our goals coming in was to strengthen the relationships between the three arms so we can work together where possible.

With fresh eyes upon the centre we noticed that there were a few elements that looked a little tired. With the dedication of our maintenance team, Bobby and Brendan, we have been able to make small but effective changes to the presentation of the building. This is a work in progress, and will require regular check ins, however, so far, we have updated the following:

- Covering the fence with shade cloth so that passers by could not see nappy changing facilities and eliminate the risk of dangerous interactions.
- A new sandpit for the children to enjoy as the previous one had blocked drains, we were able to repurpose timber from a members carport that was being replaced.
- Repair of the water feature in the kinder yard for diverse sensory experiences.
- Replacement of cots that were no longer safe.
- Trimmings of trees to keep the integrity of the building.
- Heating and cooling in the foyers and halls.
- Air purifiers.
- We have increased the cleaning schedules and have included deep cleans roughly every three months which brings down the amount of sickness.
- Signage has gone up for presentation and professionalism throughout the centre.

Laverton Community Children's Centre



Internally, all policies and procedures have been updated. A tireless effort by Krystle. These have been forwarded to both families and educators to read. This also coincided with the child safe standards updating for Victoria and training all staff in the new elements.

The introduction of bush kinder was trailed this year with great success and will be a permanent outing for next years kinder program terms 2 and 3. Visits from the dental van, Science incursions, Team building outing to the You Yangs, and much more

Budgeting is an area that Krystle and I will be upskilling in, as budgeting at this level is a new experience for us. We have been happy with the outcome and are hoping to eradicate all

unnecessary expenses, so that we can invest further into staffing and resources in the years to come.

Lastly but by no means least, we are extremely proud of receiving exceeding in all 7 quality areas

from the department of education and training. The team is very grateful for the celebration that we experienced and to the board members and Michael whom attended. Staff moral appears to be at a very high level, and we are very excited about what this next year will bring.



Program Focus – Rooms

Babies

Building Great Relationships with Parents and settling the babies

In the babies' room fostering a strong connection between educators and parents is of paramount importance. Building great relationships with parents, and how these aspects influence the well-being of both children and parents.

- Welcoming children with warmth and enthusiasm to create a comfortable and welcoming atmosphere. Regular and open communication with parents about their child's progress, daily activities, and any concerns. Encouraging parents to actively participate in their child's learning experience by checking the daily reports, individual observation, Summative assessments etc.
- Building strong relationships with parents is a vital component of early childhood education. Building trust by sharing information openly and addressing concerns promptly. Listening to parents' concerns, needs, and feedback to provide tailored support for their child. Working together with parents to create a supportive learning environment both at home and in the centre.
- The process of settling babies in the centre is a critical phase. Transition Period: Allowing ample time for a gradual transition, where babies and parents get used to the new environment and routine. Maintaining consistent routines and educators to create a sense of security for the child. Providing a nurturing and soothing atmosphere to ease separation anxiety.
- Parents' Emotional Well-being' significantly impacts their child's development. Educators can support this by Offering resources and guidance to help parents manage the emotional challenges of separation and their child's growth. Encouraging parents to connect with each other, fostering a sense of community and support. Providing strategies for parents to manage stress and find balance in their lives.
- Early childhood contact and building strong relationships with parents are foundational for children's well-being and development. By focusing on positive interactions, open communication, and support for parents, we can create a nurturing environment that benefits both children and their families.

Laverton Community Children's Centre



These efforts contribute to a holistic approach to early childhood education, promoting positive outcomes for all stakeholders involved.

•We aimed to accomplish this through the development and refinement of the babies' sensorimotor skills, presenting them with fun activities relevant to various festivities and seasons. From learning about colours to the natural environment around us, the babies embarked on their journey to explore the various scenery, plants, animals, and critters. The senses of sight, listening, smelling, and touch were emphasised to draw more interesting connections to these concepts. The most successful part of the past year has been taking the babies on excursions to experience nature amongst the changing seasons, and getting in touch with the friendly local community. To be able to welcome families together to chat and support each other was great for our community and for precious, valuable family bonding time.

Big Yard Creating a close relation with families and the community.

We believe that as educators, developing a close bond with the families has been a huge help when settling new children into care, helping children feel safe and secure, and having a sense of belonging to the room with their familiar educators. Throughout the year, we have really focused on making the families feel welcome into the room, which we have implemented by holding activities for families on special occasions to spend time in the room and with the staff and their children. We have received excellent feedback on the room's inclusivity for not just children but also families, as we love having their thoughts, ideas, and suggestions in order to form an even stronger bond with the children. We've reflected on this through the cheerful smiles in the morning when children come into contact their familiar educators, to the goodbye smiles, hugs, and waves, and the constant positive communication with their parents about how much they love their educators. We believe that every child has the potential to become an active and informed citizen who values their environment and community. Our approach to childcare places a strong emphasis on teamwork, sustainability, and fostering a sense of social responsibility in the children we serve.

Laverton Community Children's Centre



Our room program's success can be attributed to the exceptional teamwork among our educators.

Our team, comprised of passionate and caring individuals, work collaboratively to create a warm and nurturing environment for our children. Through regular meetings and open communication, we ensure that every child's needs are met, and their development is a shared priority. Teamwork enables us to adapt and tailor our approach to each child's unique strengths, interests, and challenges.

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Our program's foundation is continuous reflection, which makes sure every child is encouraged and motivated to play, grow and learn every day, our educators constantly reflect on the interests of the

children throughout the year. This year, we have been focused on outdoor activities and experiencing the community. We are building on this by creating play-based experiences that involve the outdoor world, such as reading books about trucks, animals we see in the environment, collecting loose parts, etc. Children are naturally curious and engaged by the play-based learning we set out for them.

Promoting Sustainability

In our program, we emphasize the importance of sustainability, teaching children to be responsible stewards of our environment. We integrate sustainable practices into our daily routines, such as recycling, reducing waste, and conserving resources.

Through hands-on activities, children learn about the interconnectedness of all living things and how their actions can positively impact the world around them. We believe that instilling these values from an early age will lead to a more sustainable and environmentally conscious generation.

In conclusion, the success of the program is a testament to the dedication and hard work of our team, the strong relationships we've built with families, and our commitment to sustainability.

We take pride in providing a nurturing and enriching environment where children can learn, grow, and develop into socially responsible and respectful citizens, all while appreciating the importance of our environment and their role in its protection. Our journey continues, as we remain committed to supporting each child's unique path of growth and development.

Laverton Community Children's Centre



Kinder Program

Our program is underpinned by pedagogical research and ongoing reflection to ensure each child is encouraged to reach their full potential. We use the 'emergent curriculum' whereby the curriculum is based on children's interest, needs and wants. We plan play-based experiences and extend children's interest in a certain topic and teach them about their area of interest to create a 'child-centred' education with some teacher intentioned activities.

For example, if children were interest in insects and bugs in the yard that they found, we extend their interest by setting up a play experience based on that by setting up a sensory insect tray with 1 or 2 books factual books and pictures about the importance of insects and minibeast and the ecosystem that live in the garden such as ants, spiders, bees, lady bugs, beetles, wood grubs, caterpillars, millipedes, earthworms, frogs and so on.

Sustainability

We believe children develop self-confidence and positive relationships with others by joining in the shared experience of creating and construction using old recycled materials such as kitchen paper towel rolls, old tissue or cereal boxes, old bottle caps and soon to create new art work and creations.

We also set up visual arts activities and offer opportunities for sensory play for children to create their own potions using mortar and pestle, by setting up an art easel in the Laverton native garden' outdoor area behind the kitchen. Box construction, the ideas for the box constructions displayed come out of the children's own interest. Sometimes it is the boxes or recycle cardboard cones themselves, their shape or size that provides starting point for children to ignite their imaginations.

We as kinder teachers and educators support the children's endeavours by encouraging them to focus their design, consider and source appropriate materials the reflect and modify if they wish. Recycled box construction and cylindrical role construction is also a valuable opportunity to acquire and redefine individual children's skills.

We have been singing 'The Whole World in Our Hands' song and using AUSLAN signs to sign the words in the song that children are very engaged. Discussions after singing the song were quite insightful and children contributed how we could take care of our world and our land.



Bush Kinder

We also believe that children nurture a sense of care for living things and the world around them through engaging in nature. Connecting to the natural world develops respect for the environment and allows children to learn to assess risks, use their senses and fosters a sense of wonder for the world they are part of .e.g. Bush Kinder.

Children develop a strong sense of identity by developing their emerging autonomy, interdependence, resilience and sense of agency by climbing trees for instance and exploring natural environment (Outcome 1- VELDYF).

New research shows children who go through bush kinder, gives them a head start in school. Children who spend more time in the great outdoors get a head start in their education. Bush kindergartens are in the spotlight after research shows that nature play leads to better marks in school.

Between 2022 to 2023, we have also brought children out on excursions to 'Laverton creek', 'Point Cook Coastal Park', 'Newport Lakes', 'A B' Shaw Reserve', The 'Laverton Community Hub' to witness 'an Aboriginal cultural dance' to commemorate 'Reconciliation week, 'R U OK Day'. Children learn lifelong skills in nature such as self-regulation and taking short moments being at peace and calm out in the bush. A sense of serenity and calm embraces children with discussions about what they see in the natural environment with teachers and educators.



Support emotionally intelligent children

We have also incorporated cooking activities (waffles and making our own bread and cookies with

the children and our fantastic music teacher Helen, has incorporated music and movement sessions with our kinder children that they so love. Through encouraging children to explore these creative avenues, children develop skills to share their thoughts and emotions with others.

We also support children social and emotional development by talking about different emotions and how to express them appropriately. We understand that positive social and emotional development is important.

Therefore, we aim support the children to develop self-confidence, empathy, the ability to develop meaningful and lasting friendships and partnerships through reading books about emotions and using the coloured emotion chart in our daily routine.

Laverton Community Children's Centre



Partnership with community

We worked with families and the local community to achieve a high-quality education and positively engage with issues which affect young children today. For instance, we spoke about the litter we found at the bush site, collected them with the children and placed them in a bag and discussed how these materials destroy the natural environment and it works the same in the ocean with many micro-plastics in the ocean which kill our natural wild life. Children become socially responsible and show respect for the environment and this is evident through our discussions we have during group time.

We also looked at for examples of interdependence in the environment and discuss ways the life and health of living things we see are interconnected. Children developed an awareness of the impact of human activity (littering) on natural environments and the interdependence of living things.



Laverton Community Education Centre



Managers Report Bill Daly

Laverton Community Education Centre (or LCEC as we are known) is the education and training arm of LCIS. We have been a Registered Training Organisation since 1999 and we offer a range of Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses including Diploma in Early Childhood Education and Care, Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care, Certificate III in Individual Support, Certificate IV in School Based Education Support and Certificate I in Transition Education courses.

We are also contracted to deliver the Commonwealth funded Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program and Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP). SEE offers 650 hours of free English language, literacy and numeracy tuition to eligible job seekers. The AMEP provides free English language programs to eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants to help them successfully and confidently participate in social, economic and community life in Australian society.

LCEC is also a Learn Local Organisation registered with the Adult Community and Further Education Board (ACFEB). This provides funding to deliver a variety of ACFE pre-accredited programs for disadvantaged learners, including English language and literacy, digital literacy and programs for young people with an intellectual disability.

We understand that learning and education journeys are rarely straight, continuous lines. Our clients have usually experienced disruption and/or disadvantage in their varied and complex lives. The reasons may be migration, structural changes in the labour market, the demands of child-rearing or interrupted or unsatisfactory schooling, to name just a few. Starting a new life in Australia, returning to study or preparing to re-enter the workforce is very daunting for anyone.

But at LCEC we aim to make this challenge as smooth, relaxed and comfortable as we can.

We can do this by

- (1) being local and accessible;
- (2) minimising bureaucratic and administrative hurdles;
- (3) responding quickly to student needs;
- (4) maintaining small classes with higher ratios of teachers to students;
- (5) supporting pathways between our programs; and
- (6) organising our different programs so that they complement each other to maximise support for student success.

While our office at 12 Crown St Laverton remains our primary location, we also deliver our education and training programs at a number of other sites: Laverton Community Hub, Laverton Community Children's Centre, Seabrook Community Centre, Woods Street Arts Space, Old Laverton School, Neville Avenue and Joan Kirner House in Williamstown.

Laverton Community Education Centre



Our First Year After The Pandemic

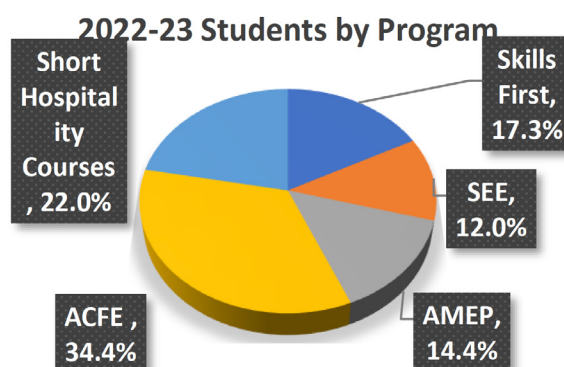
After the COVID-19 pandemic and associated lockdowns Laverton Community Education Centre bounced back in 2022-23 with vigour. Demand for our programs quickly recovered.

At the end of 2022-23 our course enrolments were nearly 70% higher than at the end of 2021-22. Our Skills First VET enrolments had increased by 55%, AMEP by 44% , SEE by 44% and ACFE by 98%.

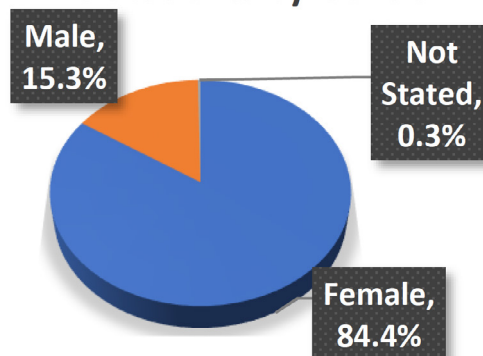
The recovery also took our enrolments well beyond pre-pandemic levels. Our total current enrolments at end of 2022-23 were 82% higher than at the end of last financial year before COVID (2019-20). Skills First VET enrolments were 57% higher, AMEP 64% higher, SEE 15% higher and ACFE 145% higher.

We could not have achieved this remarkable turn-around without the dedication of the teaching and administrative teams at LCEC. We employ 17 teachers (15.5 EFT) and 8 administrative staff (6.1 EFT) plus one invaluable volunteer (who assists student administration for one day per week). This team carried us through the difficult days of the pandemic and ensured we came out the other side bigger, better and brighter. Their commitment to our students is remarkable and unwavering, We are extremely proud of our outstanding student satisfaction results (See Table on page 13) which speak very strongly to the quality of teaching delivered and the high level of service and support students receive from administration. We thank all LCEC staff for their consistent dedication to LCEC students and to our organisation over the past year.

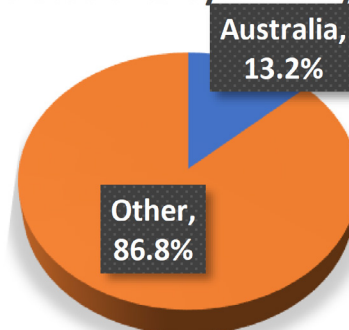
Our Student Profile



2022-23 Students by Gender



2022-23 Students by Country of Birth

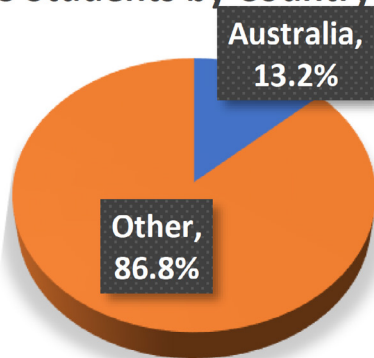


Laverton Community Education Centre

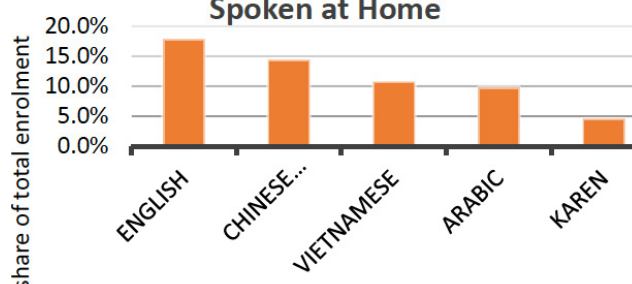


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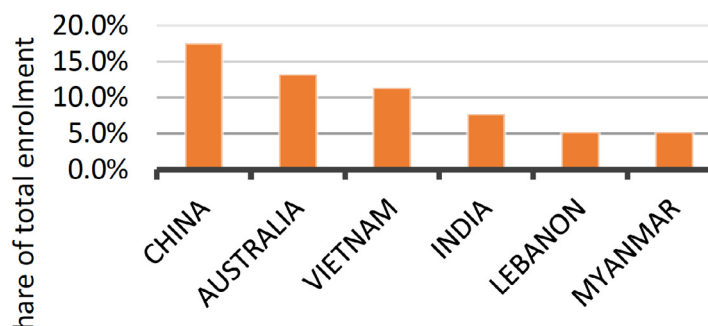
2022-23 Students by Country of Birth



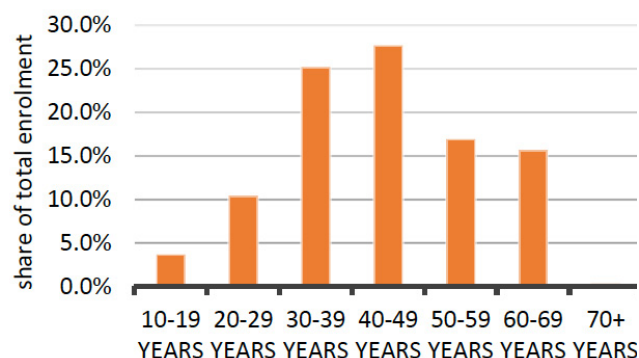
2022-23 Students - Top 5 Languages Spoken at Home



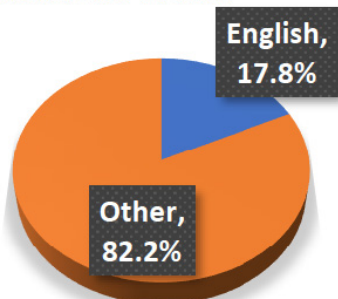
2022-23 Students - Top 6 Countries of Birth



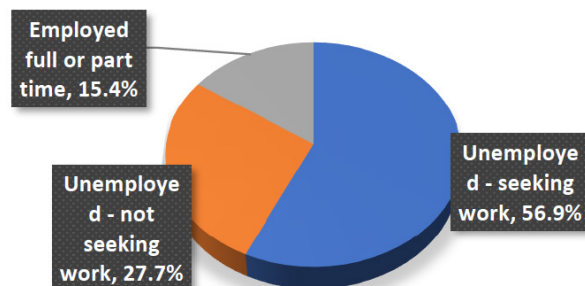
2022-23 Students by Age Group



2022-23 Students by Languages Spoken at Home



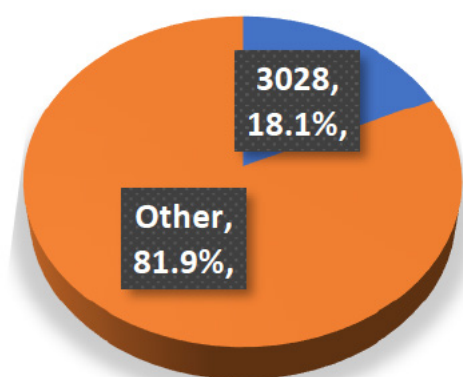
2022-23 Students by Employment Status



Laverton Community Education Centre



2022-23 Students by Postcode



2022-23 Students - Top 5 Postcodes



Our Student Satisfaction Results

Early each year the Victorian Skills Authority surveys our students to check on their education and training experience at LCEC. As with previous years, we achieved much higher levels of student satisfaction than the Victorian average. We thank all our students for their confidence in us. But there is always room to do even better and that's what we are aiming for in 2023-24.

2023 DET Student Satisfaction Survey - Selected Measures	LCEC	VIC AVERAGE
Would recommend LCEC	94%	77%
Satisfied with training	90%	78%
Positive perception of teaching	88%	73%
Positive perception of assessment	88%	72%
Improved employments status after training	70%	58%

Laverton Community Education Centre



OUR FAVOURITE HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2022-23

1. Our new mural

With generous support from the Victorian Government through Hobsons Bay City Council we installed a fantastic new mural on the front of our premises in Crown St. SEE and AMEP students worked with Dan Waters and other artists from CARA to design individual artworks that have been combined into the mural.



We are very proud of our new mural. (If you look closely you can see the individual student artworks)

2. Light Ability in Laverton

The Stepping Forward to independence class worked with Skunk Control, an arts/science creative group from Footscray to produce a light installation of trees and insects which was exhibited at Woods Street Arts Space in May and June. This project, combining creativity and science education, was made possible through a Make it Happen Grant from Hobsons Bay City Council



Stepping Forward students at the launch of Light Ability in Laverton

3. Placements for VET students

In the pandemic and lockdown period practical placement opportunities for VET students across the country and here at Laverton became very difficult to secure. In 2022-23, with the generous support of local aged care providers, early childhood centres and school, we successfully rebuilt our placement list and we also expanded it to cater for the increase in our student enrolments. We also developed formal agreements with some large providers to secure placements for our students into the future.



Certificate III in Individual Support students visiting an aged care provider before their placement.

4. AMEP 75 Anniversary Event

The Adult Migrant English Program has been supporting English language training and settlement services for immigrants to Australia since 1948 and turned 75 this year. At Laverton we celebrated this milestone in style with a fun community event at the Laverton Community Hub which was attended by hundreds of people and featured student performances, speeches and a birthday cake that was large enough for everyone to have a slice.



Students and staff at the AMEP75 celebration.

AND FINALLY

We sincerely thank the hundreds of Western suburbs learners who chose LCEC as their Learn Local RTO in 2022-23. LCEC would not exist without you and your dedication to lifelong learning.

Laverton Community Centre



Managers Report Emily Wright

What an eye-opening past 12 months!
On the back of Covid, who could predict what this year would bring us.
At the Laverton Community Centre, this year meant adjustments, flexibility and our everyone's favourite word – pivoting.

We were lucky enough that our programs went back to usual quite quickly, with many new programs starting in 2022-23. We spent a lot of time navigating the 'new normal', and assisting our community at a time, when they needed us most.

We started the year off at the annual Laverton Festival, where all local organisations and businesses come together to share the work they are doing, recruit and just celebrate being part of a wonderful community!

As the year went on, we saw an increase in Emergency Relief, with over 400 new clients, proving the impact the cost of living and covid was having on our households.

Laverton Community Centre received visits from our partners such as Foodbank, CISVic and local MP's to help advocate for extra funding for Emergency Relief and discuss the direct impacts organisations were experiencing.



The team at the Laverton Festival!

Laverton Community Centre



Laverton Community Centre was also lucky enough to be successful in grants.

- Alcohol and Drug Foundation for our Local Drug and Alcohol Team.
- Bendigo Bank for Emergency Relief hampers.
- Hobsons Bay Make It Happen Grants for Café Cook up and the Wellbeing Program.
- Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions for the purchase of a new freezer.
- Hobsons Bay Community Fund for the purchase of a new fridge.



Kate Wheller from CISVic with Emily and Michael from LCIS.

\$250 Power Saving Bonus.

During 2022 and 2023, Laverton Community Centre provided the Hobsons Bay community, assistance with applying for the \$250 Power Saving Bonus. From March 2023, we assisted 91 community members to receive the bonus.

This also came with assistance:

- To change energy providers if appropriate and how to do so.
- To apply for Seniors or Concession Cards to reduce the cost of future bills or be reimbursed for previous costs.
- Check energy bills had the 'Best Offer Notice'
- Referrals to other organisations and to LCIS Emergency Relief.
- The PSB program, which was delivered by 32 agencies in total, provided just over \$1.3 million dollars of cost-of-living relief to vulnerable Victorians.

Laverton Community Centre



Café Cook Up Program

Laverton Community Centre applied for a Make it Happen grant through Hobsons Bay City Council, to provide the Café Cook Up program. The program aimed to provide community members with access to food relief through frozen meals. The meals were cooked by our wonderful volunteers who would cook over 200 meals every week. Our volunteers would then organise distribution to partnering community centres.

The Café Cook Up program, was very successful allowing many community members access to food relief through their usual access to community centres. We heard many stories about the benefits of the meals.

"The frozen meals from LCIS have been able to support a lot of young people experiencing homelessness across Hobsons Bay and Moonee Valley. The meals have assisted some young people who are at risk or experiencing homelessness the basic day to day living tasks of how to heat up a nutritious meal, wash dishes and clean up after a meal- all of which may seem very simple however can be challenging for someone experiencing homelessness. The meals are highly nutritious and the young people absolutely love them as it's not something they have access to on a day to day basis. Having access to the frozen meals have also allowed young people staying in emergency accommodation an opportunity to be able to heat up a meal which they have reported as being 'amazing' as they don't have access to kitchen facilities"



Some of the Frozen Meals cooked by our Volunteers for our Community.

Laverton Community Centre



Finally, I would like to send my sincere appreciation and thanks to my staff in the Laverton Community Centre. This past twelve months has proven to be tricky on this community and every day you turn up and do anything you can to help Hobsons Bay. I am very thankful that we have such a welcoming and wonderful team who work very hard in their roles.

To the volunteers, who selflessly give up so much of their personal time to make Laverton Community Integrated Services what it is today, words can't express how lucky we are to have your ongoing commitment and dedication to this organisation. I want to also express my heartfelt gratitude for each and every one of you.



Laverton Youth Foundation



Laverton Youth Foundation is a not-for-profit service for young people in Hobsons Bay and Wyndham, established in 2007 by the Bendigo Community Bank branches in Altona, Laverton/ Altona Meadows and Point Cook along with the Victorian Government's Office for Youth. The project works in partnership with local organisations and businesses to provide free activities for disadvantaged and disengaged young people aged 12 – 25, providing a safe space to learn, grow, and have fun. Our aim is to make a real difference in the lives of local young people in the Hobson's Bay and Wyndham communities by increasing the number of opportunities available to them to become actively involved.

The youth-led projects that we run help to grow young people's connections within their local

community, increase skills and employment opportunities and reduce social isolation. Our main projects include

- Holistic Mindfulness and Wellbeing.
- 8 week Nutritional Cooking programme.
- Friday night Soccer programme – Galvin Park.
- 8 week Swimming Programme.
- Meet UP – Headspace drop in.
- Youth Leadership Programme.
- School Holiday programmes & Cultural events.
- Youth Training opportunities – Construction Induction, Responsible Serving of Alcohol and Customer Service.



One of the biggest highlights for the year was the Harmony Day Celebration which attracted over 400 people and included 14 cultural performances with more than 60 performers from around the world. The event had many cultural activities inc. a smoking ceremony, Elders teaching Cane Ball (national game from Myanmar) tribal body art and Henna tattoo, African Drumming and an audience participation Haka! 18 young people took part in a fashion runway, showcasing outfits from their country and explaining the significance of the outfit to their culture.



Swim program

24 students have taken part in the programme, with lessons including basic strokes, breathing techniques, diving in and how to save a friend. Each participant that completes the course receives a goodie bag with some essential swim items and freebies kindly donated by our partners.

Youth training

This year, LYF supported 46 young people to gain their Construction Induction Course, 46 youth to gain their RSA certificate and 35 youth to complete Customer Service training.

Another highlight for the year was the Refugee Week celebrations which included a youth-led family event, where the Youth Leaders organised an event for more than 30 friends and family. 14 young people performed, sang songs, told stories and designed a quiz for the audience before everyone sat down to enjoy a meal together.

Refugee Week celebrations also included a Soccer Tournament organised by the WHN, which was hugely successful, with 344 participants making up 24 soccer teams and 6 cane ball teams. More than 200 youth and families came to support on the day, along with 14 stakeholders, helping to make it a true community event.

Cooking program

The 8 week Nutritional Cooking programme consists of 6 weeks of cooking, one week training and one Community Cook. The participant also receive a pack with all the utensils they need to complete the recipes at home as well as an apron and fire blanket/ smoke alarm. The course includes a fire safety talk from Fire Rescue Victoria on cooking safely in the home or in a commercial kitchen.

Participants learn how to work together to cook delicious meals in a commercial kitchen, gain valuable knowledge taking part in the Customer Service training and then showcase all the recipes during the Community Cook where they prepare and serve all the recipes for their friends and family or their whole school.



School holiday program

LYF works in partnership with the Wyndham Humanitarian Network to provide free school holiday activities for CALD youth, with around 380 youth taking part across all the activities.

This years highlights include Melbourne Zoo, Australian Open, Lifesaving Victoria, Health and Wellbeing workshop, Roller skating, Soccer Tournament and tobogganing at Lake Mountain Alpine Reserve.



Leadership group

LYF partnered with MiCare Settlement Services and Western Bulldogs to deliver the Leaders of the West programme to 30 young people, building life skills to create strong community minded young leaders.



Meet Up

MeetUp is a social group, based at Headspace Werribee for youth aged 16 – 25 years, who are interested in meeting new people, hanging out and participating in fun activities including excursions such as bowling, movies or archery. It's a casual group so youth are welcome to join whenever they can!

Program Focus – L2P



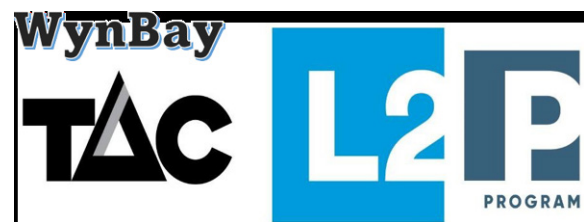
Context

In 2007, Victoria introduced a Graduated Licensing System (GLS) requiring learner drivers under the age of 21 to undertake a minimum 120 hours of supervised driving practice before being eligible for a probationary licence. While the research demonstrates that 120 hours practice can significantly reduce the likelihood of crash involvement for young drivers, the mandate created a barrier for some young people who do not have access to a supervising driver, vehicle, or both. To prevent further disadvantage to these young people, the TAC L2P Program was initiated and funded in the 2006/07 budget, aiming to help them meet the GLS mandated 120 hours via mentor guidance. It has since become the largest youth mentoring program in the state.

Overview

The LCIS TAC L2P Program is funded by the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) and managed by the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP, formerly VicRoads) since 2017. The TAC L2P Program has delivered a considerable number of benefits – primarily road safety, increased mobility, and important social benefits. Evaluations from 2012, 2014, and the 2018 evaluation (conducted by Deloitte Access Economics), all attest to this broad range of benefits.

The L2P evaluation found that there may be up to 25,000 young people who are eligible for the program across Victoria (Deloitte Access Economics, 2018)



Objective

The primary objectives of the TAC L2P Program are: Improve road safety by facilitating participation in the GLS
Increase equity of opportunity for all young Victorians to obtain a driver licence – this includes providing enhanced support to young people placed in out-of- home care or at risk of involvement in the justice system.

Relative to other drivers on Victorian roads, young drivers have a higher risk of being involved in a crash resulting in a fatality or serious injury. Studies have shown that the 120 hours of supervised driving experience (and other requirements of the GLS) has improved the road safety outcomes of young, newly licenced drivers.

Program Focus – L2P



The TAC L2P program is estimated to prevent almost two fatal and serious injury (FSI) crash involvements and over six casualty crash involvements per year by reducing the prevalence of unlicensed driving (Deloitte Access Economics, 2018). As a result, the L2P program directly supports the Victorian Government's Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan.

The L2P program, if it was operating with 2,800 participants has been estimated to deliver the following benefits over four years:

- 42 casualty crashes avoided: and
- 13 serious injury crashes avoided.

The secondary objectives of the TAC L2P Program are: Improved access to employment opportunities; Opportunities for increased social connection; Enhanced mobility for the young.



Community Partnerships

- Victoria Police- mentoring recruitment through Facebook Eyewatch and active members
- Hoppers Motor group- Free servicing of cars and guiding young people to buy safer vehicles.
- Werribee Car wash- Premium car wash for all our L2P cars.
- Hobsons Bay City Council and Wyndham City Council- has been in our advisory groups.
- Community Bendigo Bank partnership funded again to replace our two old L2P vehicles.

Community Bank
Laverton and Altona

 Bendigo Bank

Program Focus – L2P



Local Drug and Alcohol Team – Youth

Holistic Wellness Program Laverton Education Centre

Laverton Youth Foundation have been delivering a Holistic Wellness Program through the Alcohol and Drug Foundation's Local Drug and Alcohol Team (LDAT). This program is being delivered to the Stepping Forward to Independence program through our Education Centre and has been designed to help young people and adults, with intellectual disabilities, to have more input and knowledge around their own health and wellbeing. During these sessions we explore basic exercises, healthy food, Alcohol and Drug information sessions, mindfulness, meditation, and mental health.

The participants have been making healthy lunches daily from donations from Coles and catering from Laverton Youth Foundation.

It been very successful with participants feedback been very positive.



Holistic Wellness Program Laverton P- 12 College

In partnership with Micare, Laverton Youth Foundation also deliver a holistic wellness/ homework club. The program assists Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) young people with their study and education goals.

The holistic wellness element teaches students about nutrients, mindfulness, and exercise. It upskills our participants with the tools to make more informed and healthier life choices. The young people are also able to play sports like soccer, volleyball, and basketball to help influence and build fitness, confidence, and social engagement.

Galvin Park Reserve Friday night social soccer

Engaging Communities Through Sport (ECS) using the power of Soccer, aims to bring people together, create connections and improve their physical and mental well-being.

ECS provides young people that live, study, work and recreate in the municipality with the opportunity to participate in a free and fun Soccer program in their own neighbourhood. The program is open to all youth aged 12 - 25 years to achieve positive health & well-being outcomes.

Laverton Community Integrated Services



Volunteering

What makes a difference is our Volunteers! This year as of October 2023 117 Volunteers participated in our multiple LCIS programs including Emergency Relief, L2P Learner Driver Mentors, Community Café, Tutor/Education Support, Fundraisers, Childrens Centre and Youth Program.

We continue to provide a quality service to our community, giving back through our Volunteers, this has shown many benefits for LCIS and the volunteers, an inclusive positive outcome. This is made possible with training, mentors and ongoing support for our volunteers.

My participation in the Emerging Stronger CISVic [Community Information & Supporting Victoria] Research Reference Group enabled me to see how other organisations managed their Volunteers and an insight to other programs and resources.

Volunteers are a vital link in our overall operation of our organisation and we would not be able to deliver many of our programs without them. This year we celebrated Volunteer Week with an appreciation night and end of year celebration to recognise and acknowledge our Volunteers for all their hard work and commitment. It is a pleasure to part of this team!

Community Café

Laverton Community Centre ran two cafes in Hobsons Bay. The aim of the Café is to allow community members access to a hot, nutritious meal for those most in need. However, our café has now expanded to be a meeting place for those who are socially isolated and for those that love the chance to share a meal and chat. The Community Café is ran by our volunteers, who create/send out menus, set up the room, prep, cook and serve and so much more!

The Café is hosted over two locations. Wednesdays 12pm (during the school term) Laverton Community Hub 95-105 Railway Avenue, Laverton 3028

Friday 12pm (during the school term) Altona Meadows Community Centre 28-36 Trafalgar Avenue, Altona Meadows 3028

Over the past twelve months, our wonderful volunteers have served just over 5000 people 3-course lunches through our community café. Equivalent to 15,000 individual meals!

This is just another example of how lucky LCIS is to have volunteers and show of the very real impact our programs are having on our community.

They are amazing!

Our volunteers provide a huge 715 volunteers hours per week!

If volunteering sound like something you would like to participate in visit www.lcis.org.au and click Volunteering for more information.

Laverton Community Integrated Services



Emergency Relief and Crisis Intervention

Our program provides free and confidential support to individuals, couples and families who are in an emergency or crisis situation. Our staff are qualified workers with many years' experiences in the areas of Social Work and counselling.

The support counsellor can refer you to other services that may be able to further assist you with advocacy, material/ financial aid, housing support, alcohol / drug specialists, mental health practitioners, general practitioners or Family and domestic violence specialist services.

We also offer form filling (but not any legal documents) and advocating on behalf of the client whether it be utility companies or Centrelink and DFFHS application forms. Our service aims to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and families by focusing on and supporting you in time of need.

Thanks to a Hobsons Bay Make It Happen Grant, LCC was lucky enough to pilot a series of Wellbeing Workshops, facilitated by a psychologist. The aim of the program was to educate our community on certain topics and learn skills to look after our Mental Health and Wellbeing.

The program had just over 20 participants overall and feedback was positive, which we hope will allow us to run more programs leading up to next year.

.Our Emergency Relief program and pantry is supported by FoodBank, OzHarvest, Fareshare, Breadhaus and the generosity of our community through donations.

LCIS is thankful for the work that these food organisations put in, every day to ensure our community is being supported.

Statistics

From June 2022 – June 2023, LCIS has provided Emergency Relief just under 2000 instances of Emergency Relief.

We saw an increase of approximately 300 new clients and helped (directly or indirectly) to just under 4000 people.

Crisis Intervention has supported 300 vulnerable clients through their services, many benefiting from more than one visit.

Over 2022/2023 the main trends LCC saw were

- Food Relief
- Material Aid
- Utility Bills/Assistance
- Rental Arrears
- Family and Domestic Violence.

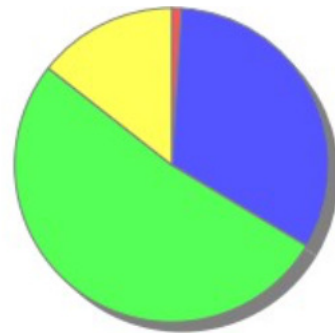
Laverton Community Integrated Services

The main reasons for seeking for Emergency Relief:



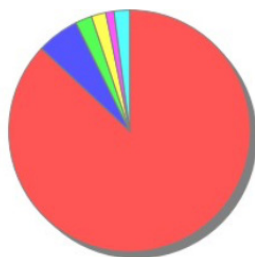
● Material Aid - Food ● Utility / phone ● Housing - Rent
● Transport Expenses ● Medical Expenses ● Other

Client by age:



● 13-19 ● 20-39 ● 40-64 ● 65+

The main source of income:



● Government benefit/pension ● No income ● Wages - Part time
● Wages - Casual ● Wages - Full time ● Other

Laverton Community Integrated Services

Testimonials

Client 1 *

"You guys are the bomb you have helped me so much and guided me through all my issues and now I am on top of the world, new job, a secure place to live and I am very happy and settled."

Client 2 *

"If it wasn't for you guys, I would still be experiencing FV (family violence). Thank you so much my life is a lot less complex now and I appreciate all LCIS have done."

**Names have been removed for privacy reasons*



FINANCIALS

LAVERTON COMMUNITY INTEGRATED SERVICES INC
ABN 46 782 938 029
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	2023 \$	2022 \$
<u>Income</u>		
Childcare fees	2,150,606	1,703,160
Grants	3,013,687	2,464,261
Course fees	29,965	12,323
Tuition fees	8,990	15,154
Fee concessions	15,891	10,147
Dividends received	3,386	4,210
Donations	15,349	26,232
Fundraising income	24	186
Lease income	45,436	45,436
Projects	6,897	4,877
Sponsorship	720	9,000
Student fees	4,455	2,200
Venue hire	5,063	300
Work placements	-	-
Interest income	21,600	3,738
Other/miscellaneous income	69,421	67,033
Total income	5,391,490	4,368,257
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Accounting and audit fees	11,032	13,523
Administration	46,133	37,563
Advertising and promotion	29,378	6,543
Amortisation	-	13,689
Bank charges	1,218	952
Café/centre supplies	35,247	15,373
Cleaning	29,341	25,717
Depreciation	53,185	53,428
Donations made	-	8,182
Equipment	11,249	0
ER expenses	117,313	181,352
Food	51,054	38,831
Insurance	25,861	21,150
IT maintenance	30,817	31,267
Kitchen supplies	1,306	2,814
Low cost write off	38,401	13,774
Other/miscellaneous expenses	168,392	174,021
Office supplies	14,688	7,454
Professional development	2,765	1,009
Project costs	164,039	65,613
Registrations	27,928	26,704
Rent	22,000	18,155
Repairs and maintenance	17,866	14,895
Resources	56,268	41,444
Superannuation	375,294	306,419
Travel expenses	523	667
Tutor fees	27,439	17,825
Utilities	17,054	16,315
Venue hire	100,816	17,592
Website	7,568	9,340
Wages, salaries and employment	3,660,901	3,172,601
Total expenditure	5,145,076	4,354,213
Movements In Venue Improvement Reserves	-	-
Net surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Association	246,414	14,045

The Statement of Comprehensive Income is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes to the financial statements and the auditor report.

LAVERTON COMMUNITY INTEGRATED SERVICES INC
ABN 46 782 938 029
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2023


	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	2	2,562,017	2,385,371
Trade receivables	3	147,330	140,215
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>2,709,347</u>	<u>2,525,586</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Investments	4	22,471	22,471
Property, plant and equipment	5	914,343	913,399
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		<u>936,814</u>	<u>935,870</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>3,646,161</u>	<u>3,461,456</u>
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade payables	6	231,080	283,266
Sundry creditors	6	12,000	12,000
Provision for employee entitlements	7	267,770	264,852
Other provisions	7	60,000	30,714
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>570,830</u>	<u>590,832</u>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provision for employee entitlements	7	92,799	51,363
Loan - Hobson's Bay Council	8	84,872	127,309
Loan - other	8	6,000	9,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>183,671</u>	<u>187,672</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>754,501</u>	<u>778,504</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>2,891,660</u>	<u>2,682,952</u>
EQUITY			
Accumulated funds		1,908,565	1,683,590
Asset revaluation reserve		775,000	775,000
Venue improvement reserve		208,095	224,362
		<u>2,891,660</u>	<u>2,682,952</u>

LAVERTON COMMUNITY INTEGRATED SERVICES INC
ABN 46 782 938 029
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

	Accumulated funds \$	Venue improvement reserves \$	Asset revaluation reserve \$	Total equity \$
Balance as at 1 July 2021	1,669,545	230,000	775,000	2,674,545
Surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Association	14,045	-	-	14,045
Transfer from Venue Improvement Reserves	-	(5,638)	-	(5,638)
Revaluation of Land & Buildings	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2022	<u>1,683,590</u>	<u>224,362</u>	<u>775,000</u>	<u>2,682,952</u>
Surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Association	246,414		-	246,414
Transfer from Venue Improvement Reserves	-	(16,267)	-	(16,267)
Transfer from Venue Improvement Reserves	(21,439)	-	-	(21,439)
Revaluation of Land & Buildings	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2023	<u><u>1,908,565</u></u>	<u><u>208,095</u></u>	<u><u>775,000</u></u>	<u><u>2,891,660</u></u>

This year, Laverton Community Intergrated Services is proud to have partnered with.....

- Alcohol and Drug Foundation
- Altona Meadows Community Centre Altona College
- AMES Australia AtWork
- Community Bank Altona and Laverton (Bendigo Bank)
- Bread Haus (donations)
- BrandFX Co Health
- Community Information and Support Victoria (CISVic)
- Department of Education and Training
- Department of Families, Fairness and Housing
- Department of Health
- Department of Transport and Planning Digital Marketing specialist
- DOW Chemical (Australia Pty Ltd) Fizzics Education
- Fire Rescue Victoria Foodbank
- Grill'd Point Cook Gowrie Victoria
- Greater Western Water Healthy Harold Headspace
- Hobsons Bay City Council Hobsons Bay Maternal Health
- Hobsons Bay Community Enterprise Foundation
- Hobsons Bay Community Fund
- Hobsons Bay Inter-agency Network
- Hobsons Bay Youth Services

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- Hobsons Bay Inter-agency Network Hobsons Bay Youth Services
 - Hoppers Motor Group
 - Latitude: Directions for Young People Laverton Community Hub
 - Laverton P-12 College
 - Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre Melbourne Building Maintenance MiCare Settlement Services
 - Minute Press MinuteMan
 - Mr. Mac Landscaping Naiko
 - Neighbourhood Houses Victoria Newport Outlets
 - Network West Red nose Australia
 - Safe Seats Program.
 - Salvation Army
 - Share the Dignity
 - St Vincent De Pauls Signorama- Truganina
 - South Kingsville Community Centre Williamstown Rental Housing Cooperative
 - VicRoads
 - Victoria Police
 - Victoria University
 - Volunteering Victoria
 - Werribee Car Wash
 - Werribee Kia
 - Wyndham City Council
 - Wyndham Youth Services
- 