

# ANNUAL REPORT

2023 - 2024



we empower people







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#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land throughout the western suburbs of Melbourne, the Bunurong and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, and acknowledge their continuing connection to this land, waters and community.

#### **Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc.**

#### **History and Growth**

LCIS is a not-for-profit community organization operating within a social justice framework. Governed by a volunteer Board and accountable to its members, LCIS is led by a CEO and supported by staff and volunteers

#### **Our Vision-"We Empower People"**

#### Early Growth and Development:

Established in 1974 by the Laverton Rotary Club with support from the Whitlam Government, LCIS has a long history of serving the Laverton community. Early growth involved overcoming space limitations through fundraising and expansion projects, including acquiring the former Progress Association Hall and a property adjacent to the kindergarten, enabling broader program offerings.

#### **Key Milestones:**

- ❖ 2000: After Hobsons Bay City Council closed the Laverton Child Care Centre in December 1999, we expanded our license and assumed its management in February 2000
- ❖ 2004: Took over management of the Civic Centre, relocating the Community Centre and establishing a dedicated Education Centre. LCIS also became a Registered Training Organisation and launched its community café program.
- ❖ 2007: Hobsons Bay City Council and Department of Human Services collaborated in building a brand new 116 place childcare centre in 2006 which we took over the management of in 2007 and proceeded to offer the community based childcare service that still runs today.
- 2010: Commenced the "Community Renewal Program" with Hobsons Bay City Council, leading to the construction of the Laverton Community Hub and the establishment of the Laverton Youth Foundation in partnership with Bendigo Bank. Operations temporarily moved to portable classrooms at the Laverton Football oval during construction.
- ❖ 2011: We became an incorporated entity, thus, 16th February 2011 Laverton Community Integrated Services (LCIS) was born.
- ❖ 2012: On 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012 we received Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) status giving us and our benefactors all the rights associated with charitable status.
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- **2013:** Moved into the completed Laverton Community Hub, providing a collaborative space for community services.
- ❖ 2016: Partnered with Hobsons Bay and Wyndham City Councils to administer the Wynbay L2P program, which has grown to include over 110 young people using five LCIS-owned vehicles.

#### **Ongoing Commitment:**

LCIS remains dedicated to empowering individuals, strengthening families, and fostering a thriving Laverton community through its diverse programs and initiatives.

#### **BOARD OF GOVERNANCE**

## Raelene Passarini (Chair)

Registered Nurse with a BA in Health Science, a Graduate Diploma in Aged Care Services, and a Masters in Health Management. Also, a qualified Quality Assessor and holds certifications in Training & Assessment, Dementia Management, and Counselling.

#### Tanya Singh (Vice Chair)

BSc in Computer Science and a Graduate Diploma in Business with a major in Human Resources

## Troy Eley (Secretary)

Bachelor of Social Science in Psychology and a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment.

#### Colin Li (Treasurer)

MBA from MIT, a Bachelor of Engineering, and a Bachelor of Commerce.

#### **Mustafa Sawar Nasif**

Master of Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering

#### Amy Duggan Egan

Bachelor of Health Science, a Graduate Certificate in Acute Care, and a Bachelor of Nursing.

#### **Chair Report**

It is a joy to be part of an organisation that values the people it connects with, and supports the community it is situated in. LCIS is a place that recognises and welcomes diversity and this year we will be celebrating 50 years of community involvement and invite you all to join us to make this year a memorable one.

2023-2024 has been successful financially, the proceeds of which will be returned to the community as we are a not-for-profit organisation. We will also continue to plan for our future with new commitments to our emergency relief program, community projects including Cherry Creek Youth Detention Centre, new education streams, innovative child care services and our highly valued L2P program.

The Board offers its sincere thanks to all who have provided their time, paid and unpaid, and all who have used the services of LCIS not just in the past 12 months but over the past 50 years. A special note that our CEO has been with the organisation for 30 of those years – an achievement in itself. For all who say 5 – 7 years is long enough in one role, we can show that vision and passion are important components in any role. If that vision and passion is nurtured, supported and allowed to flourish, you are able to achieve great things together.

#### Raelene Passarini Chairwoman

#### **CEO Report**

Dear members, staff and volunteers, we have witnessed another successful year conclude and LCIS is in a very sound position, both financially and with increased participation rates across all programs offered by the organisation. Our Community Development model that we operate upon ensures that we are constantly monitoring the "needs" of our community, and in turn introducing new initiatives or expanding existing programs to address those needs as this is the community we serve. Operating within these parameters, and utilizing our surpluses, ensures that **we empower people!** 

The last 12 months have been a challenge for all arms of the organisation as procedural audits have been a theme. The Children's Centre were rated "Exceeding" in all seven (7) standards! The Education Centre had two (2) audits, one by the Victorian Registrations and Qualifications Authority [VRQA] and the other by the Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR), both audits had excellent results. Finally, the Community Centre underwent the Australian Service Excellence Standards [ASES] audit, again with an excellent result! These results speak volumes to the high benchmark LCIS upholds within the respective sectors we operate within.

Again, this year's annual report is very comprehensive with all arms detailing their programs at length. There have been additional expansions to existing programs, as well as new initiatives that have been developed.

Our diligent and professional Board members have steered the organisation in the direction to deliver on our Vision and Mission! Their contributions are invaluable and ensure that governance is adhered to. In the next fiscal year we will be preparing our next three (3) year strategic plan to ensure that our 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 350 students in a multitude of pre-accredited and accredited courses, Krystle Hills and Michelle Bradley looking after the over 130 families that utilize our Children's Centre from long day care through to three and four year Kindergarten. Last and not least, Emily Wright, managing the Laverton Community Centre, coordinating Community Services assisting all the demographics of our diverse community that is Laverton.

Finally, I would like to thank our 110 odd volunteers that assisted throughout the year within all aspects of our programs, without who, many of our Community programs would not be so successful.

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

Michael Pernar CEO

#### LCIS impact 2023-24

## Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc.

Real Impact. Real Value.

**INCOME** \$5,391,490

**VALUE** \$20,353,202

### This figure includes the value of:

Improved quality of life through social connection: \$719,306

Volunteer contributions: \$1,896,733

Emergency relief provided: \$735,955

Services provided: \$139,865

Adult Community Education: \$14,073,395

Early childhood education and care: \$2,254,235

Kinder provided: \$533,712

#### Emergency relief value includes:

• Food and groceries: \$613,387

Food vouchers: \$83,280Bill payments: \$13,200Fuel Vouchers: \$5,976

· Clothing: \$16,440

· Personal care & hygiene items: \$3,672

#### Services value includes:

• Computer/internet usage: \$960 Auspicing other organisations: \$1,265

 Community lunch, frozen or other meals: \$137,640

## This community value equates to:

\$3.78 for every \$1 of income

\$133.48 for every \$1
of Neighbourhood House Coordination Program
funding

Over \$6,748.41 for every hour the neighbourhood house is in use

#### Employment value

52.9 FTE jobs

including 38.0 direct and 14.8 indirect Full Time Equivalent positions



These values are produced by Neighbourhood Houses Victoria based on data provided by Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc. in the 2023 Neighbourhood Houses Survey. Only a limited range of activities where a determinable valuation method exists are included.

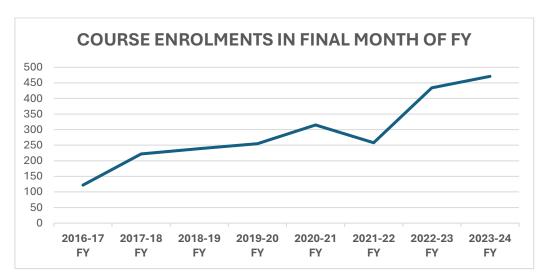
## Laverton Community Education Centre



2023-2024 was a year of outstanding success for Laverton Community Education Centre.

Revenue generated by the Education Centre increased by 23% in comparison with 2022-23. The profit margin for the Centre was very healthy, increasing three-fold over the year.

On average the Centre had over 350 individual community members enrolled in courses in any single month of the year (not including short fee-for-service courses). With some students enrolling in more than one program, the Centre had over 470 active course enrolments in the final month of the year, June 2024. This followed a pattern of consistent growth in course enrolments from 2017, interrupted only once by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2021-22, from which the Centre rebounded with renewed vitality and activity, as shown in the chart below:



The success of the Centre has only been possible because of the dedication and skill of the LCEC team. We have been extremely fortunate in attracting and retaining very good quality staff: teachers, administrators, disability support workers. This has a profoundly positive effect on the student experience, enhancing our reputation in the community, attracting new students through word-of-mouth and retaining students to completion and eventual employment.

#### RTO REGISTRATION RENEWED

During the year Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority (VRQA) renewed our registration as a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) until 2029. This ensures we can continue offering nationally accredited qualifications for a further five years. RTO registration is central to the education services we offer and is an essential requirement of our three largest program areas: Skills First, AMEP and SEE.

#### **SUCCESS IN OUR SKILLS FIRST AUDIT**

The Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (DJSIR) conducts regular audits of RTO's delivering nationally accredited qualifications under the Victorian Government's Skills First program. This ensures that providers are delivering quality assured services and are meeting the requirements of their Skills First Contract. During 2023-24 LCEC underwent its first Skills First audit since 2018. Auditors from PWC spent three days at the Centre reviewing policies, procedures and records and the results clearly demonstrated the consistent progress in VET quality assurance that the Centre has overseen in the intervening years with very few, minor exceptions identified.

#### **OUTSTANDING STUDENT SATISFACTION RESULTS**

Every year the Victorian Skills Authority (VSA) surveys students in the VET sector for satisfaction with their provider and the training it provided. In 2024, 67,500 students across 264 RTO's were surveyed. LCEC achieved outstanding results again, with significantly higher satisfaction rates than the Victoria average on key measures

MEASURE	LCEC	VICTORIAN AVERAGE	DIFFERENCE
Satisfied with training	90.40%	79.40%	+11.0%
Positive perception of teaching	86.30%	75.20%	+11.1%
Positive perception of assessment	91.80%	82.60%	+9.2%
Satisfied with generic skills & learning experience	73.50%	54.00%	+19.5%
Achieved main reason for training	86.20%	76.70%	+9.5%
Went on to further study at higher level	20.90%	14.80%	+6.1%
Would recommend LCEC	89.60%	78.60%	+11.0%

#### LEARN LOCAL AWARDS FINALIST

The annual Victorian Learn Local Awards recognise excellence in education and training in the Adult Community and Further Education sector. This year LCEC nominated student Hayley Neville for the Pre-Accredited Learner (Skills for Work) Award. This category of is highly contested across the sector and the Centre was very proud to learn that Hayley had been selected as one of the four finalists.

In 2023 Hayley was a student in the Stepping Forward to Independence program for young people with an intellectual disability. She undertook work experience at Laverton Community Children's Centre and soon secured ongoing employment there as an assistant in the kitchen preparing meals for the many children there.



Hayley at work

#### GET READY FOR SCHOOL FAMILY LEARNING PARTNERSHIP PROJECT

Get Ready for School is a very innovative program that supports parents of kindergarten children to prepare for their child's transition to primary school. The program is supported by a Family Learning Partnership grant from the Adult Community & Further Education Board and uses a learning circle methodology where participants codesign the program, working with Dr Jane Hickey, an expert in inclusive education from Victoria University.

The project runs for two years. Feedback from participants to date has been extremely positive. For example, one participant reported "We had our first





transition meeting for the school, and because of the session we did earlier in the year with the Department of Education, we knew what questions to ask about the Disability Inclusion profile ... We were so glad we knew the right questions to ask."

Our partners in this project are Assist Ability Australia and Laverton Community Children's Centre and we will be working together to deliver the program again in 2025 to parents whose children will be commencing school in 2026.

#### FOCUS ON PATHWAYS THROUGH FURTHER EDUCATION TO EMPLOYMENT

The Centre delivers accredited programs at AQF levels 1 to 5 (from Certificate I to Diploma) as well as preaccredited ACFE programs. This allows us to offer internal pathways from foundation programs to VET courses, preparing people for re-entry to the workforce in fields where there are real employment opportunities.

An important ingredient of our success in this space was the industry partnerships we developed and utilised in 2023-24. Some examples of these partnerships are:

#### **Ability Works**

We were attracted to Ability Works on the basis of its Customised Model which is committed to securing mainstream employment opportunities for people with a disability. This relationship was very successful during 2023-24 in supporting a number of Stepping Forward to Independence students into paid employment in mainstream settings.

#### **Uniting Age Well**

We secured an agreement with Uniting Age Well to give preference to graduates of Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing/Disability) when recruiting for entry level PCA positions in residential aged care. We also secured a three-year agreement with Uniting to provide practical (clinical) placements to our Individual Support students.

#### **Estia Health**

We secured a three year agreement with Estia to provide practical (clinical) placements to our Individual Support students.

#### **Home Instead**

We secured an agreement with Home Instead to give preference to graduates of our Certificate III in Individual Support (Ageing/Disability) course when recruiting for positions in home and community care.

#### Laverton Community Children's Centre (LCCC)

Being a part of the same larger organisation as LCCC provides an enormous competitive advantage in securing both placements and employment for our Early Childhood Education and Care students and graduates. Currently LCCC employs 25 former LCEC students, including six who began in the Adult Migrant English program, then went on to complete Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care and then ultimately to employment at the children's centre.

#### **Tradewind Australia**

Tradewind is a major recruitment agency for the education sector. Our relationship with Tradewind includes provision of industry-specific employment and application skills training for our Certificate IV in School Based Education students, which supports them to secure and retain employment as Teacher Assistants in schools after graduation.

#### **ANZUK**

ANZUK is another major recruitment agency for the education sector, including the early childhood education centre. ANZUK runs workshops for our early childhood education students to provide expert industry advice on finding and securing employment after graduation.

#### **Placement relationships**

At LCEC we make a commitment to finding practical placements for all our VET students so that students do not have to find placement themselves. During 2023-24 LCEC secured placements in 50 different schools, early childhood education centres, residential aged care centres and home care organisations across the western suburbs.

#### STUDENT STORIES

#### Inoka

In October 2021 Inoka joined her family in Australia and in February 2022 started in an AMEP class at Laverton Community Education Centre. After she developed more confidence in English, she enrolled in the Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care, while also continuing in her AMEP class.

Continuing in AMEP while doing the Certificate allowed Inoka to have extra support for her English. She was able to build her language abilities while getting an accredited qualification at the same time.

When she came to do the placement part of her certificate, she had the skills and language that she needed to succeed. She finished the Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care in March 2023 and immediately found employment as an early childhood educator at Laverton Community Children's Centre

Inoka then enrolled in the LCEC Diploma in Early Childhood Educator and Care. which she completed in 2024 and is now working as a Co-Educator in the kindergarten program.



#### **Jun Feng**



Jun Feng Shi moved to Australia in April 2023 after working as a Technical Director in China. Eager to resume his career, he quickly realized the importance of enhancing his English language skills. His family recommended the AMEP program, prompting him to research and discover the Laverton Community Education Centre. He commenced his AMEP studies, enrolling in a Certificate II in EAL course for two days each week, which he found incredibly beneficial.

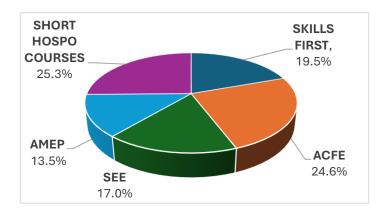
In his words, "While living in China, my English suffered due to the lack of a suitable environment for practice. ... My pronunciation and vocabulary have significantly improved. Whenever I made mistakes, my teacher and peers were there to correct me. My teacher also encouraged speaking practice and provided resources to study at

home. Thanks to the AMEP, I gained the confidence to attend job interviews."

Jun Feng successfully applied for a position at AE Smith and is now employed as a trades assistant, marking a new chapter in his professional journey in Australia.

#### SNAPSHOTS OF LCEC PROGRAMS & STUDENT POPULATION 2023-24

The following charts provide a general snapshot of students and programs at Laverton Community Education Centre in 2023-24

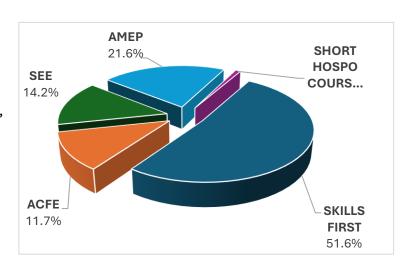


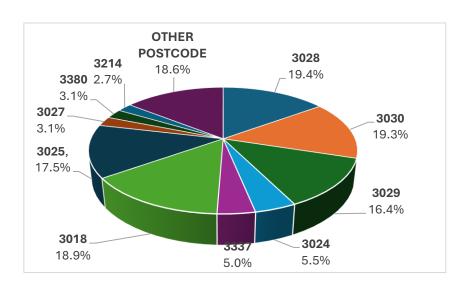
#### Students by Program 2023-24

The largest number of students participated in short hospitality courses. These are Safe Food Handling, Responsible Service of Alcohol and Customer Service. These programs are delivered in one day or less to secondary schools, community groups, businesses and sporting clubs.

#### Revenue by Program 2023-24

The largest program by revenue was Skills First. This program delivers disability courses, early childhood education courses, school based education support and individual support (ageing & disability). Courses run from eight months to one year.



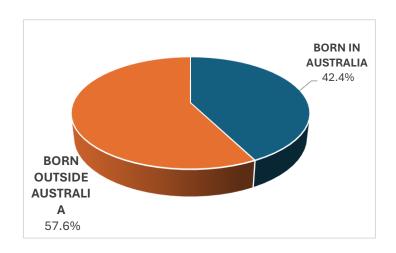


#### **Students by Postcode 2023-24**

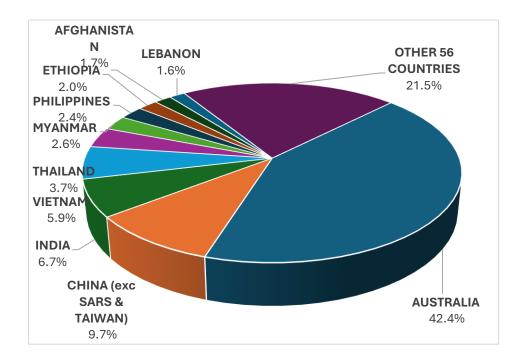
Students came from across the western suburbs. But the vast majority came from the postcodes 3028 (Laverton / Altona Meadows), 3030 (Point Cook / Werribee) 3018 (Altona / Seaholm) and 3029 (Hoppers Crossing / Tarneit / Truganina).

#### Students by Country of Birth 1, 2023-24

Most student were born overseas and a substantial minority was born in Australia.



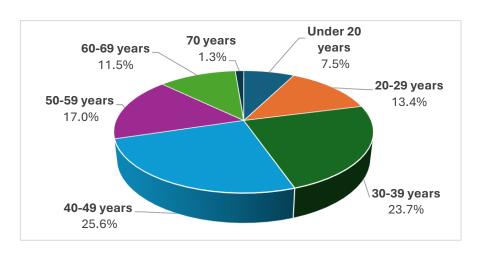
#### Students by Country of Birth 2, 2023-24



Students were born in 66 different countries.
Other than those born in Australia, the largest number came from China followed by India and Vietnam.

#### Students by Age Group, 2023-24\*

The centre delivers courses to a wide variety of age groups. The largest age group was 40-49 years old, followed closely by 30-39 year olds.



<sup>\*</sup> excluding students in short hospitality courses



2023 LCEC Christmas Party

The success of LCEC throughout 2023-2024 was only possible with the support of our funding bodies, our industry partners, the LCIS Board and, most importantly, our wonderful staff and students.

Bill Daly

Manager

#### **Laverton Community Children's Centre**



This year has been a significant one for the Laverton Community Children's Centre, marked by an exciting period of growth and renewal. We have made great strides in upgrading our facilities, revitalising programs, and strengthening the relationships that form the heart of our community.

#### **Upgrades and achievements**

This year has been filled with exciting improvements and new collaborations at the Laverton Community Children's Centre. From enhancing our outdoor spaces to embracing sustainability and strengthening local partnerships, we've worked hard to create a better environment for our children and families. Here are some of the key upgrades and milestones from the past year:

#### 1. Outdoor Yard Revamp

We undertook a major revamp of our outdoor yards, creating a more inviting and functional space for children to explore and play. By relocating the sandpit, we were able to lay down synthetic turf, which has transformed the area into a soft, safe play zone. A new pergola was also built, providing a serene and shaded retreat for both children and educators. The final touch will be the growth of vines over the pergola, which will offer natural shade as they flourish over time.

#### 2. Community Partnership with Men's Shed

Earlier this year, we connected with the local Men's Shed and had the pleasure of working closely with Carey and his team. Through their hard work and craftsmanship, they built beautiful garden beds, which are now being filled with a variety of herbs and vegetables. Our kindergarten children are actively involved in nurturing the plants, learning valuable lessons in gardening and sustainability. Additionally, the Men's Shed team crafted several painting easels that are being used regularly by the children, fostering creativity and self-expression. Their support has been invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for their contributions to our Centre.



#### 3. Solar Panel Installation

Thanks to a partnership with the local council, we were able to install solar panels on the Centre's roof. This environmentally friendly upgrade is already making an impact, reducing our energy costs and providing a real-world learning opportunity for the children. The installation ties in with our ongoing commitment to sustainability, and the kindergarten has incorporated solar energy into its educational programs, teaching the children about renewable energy and environmental responsibility.

#### 4. Website Overhaul

In an effort to improve communication and accessibility, our website underwent a major overhaul this year. The new design is more user-friendly, informative, and visually appealing. Since the update, we've seen an increase

in interest, with several new families touring the Centre and enrolling their children. On average, we now receive between 1 to 5 inquiries per week, reflecting the Centre's growing reputation within the community. We will continue to refine and develop the site to ensure it remains an effective resource for current and prospective families.

These upgrades and collaborations represent just a few of the ways we are enhancing our services and building stronger connections within the community. We're excited about the progress we've made and look forward to another year of growth and positive change.

#### 5. Meet Turbo the Turtle!

This year, we were delighted to welcome a new member to our Centre family—Turbo the Turtle! After much discussion and a few creative suggestions from our young learners, Turbo was the name chosen for our beloved pet. Thanks to the generosity of one of our educators' husbands, we were gifted a large, well-equipped

tank for Turbo to swim and explore in. The tank includes several platforms, creating a stimulating and comfortable environment for our little friend.

Turbo has quickly become a beloved member of our Centre. The children begin each day by saying good morning to Turbo and our resident bees, forming a part of their daily routine. This simple but meaningful practice has had a noticeable effect on the children's sense of security and belonging. Many have shown a reduction in separation anxiety, with the consistent routine of caring for Turbo helping to create a calming and familiar start to the day.

Our educators and visitors have also embraced Turbo, with many sharing their own advice and expertise on turtle care. This collaborative spirit has created a sense of community, and the children take great pride in being part of Turbo's care team.



Turbo has brought not only joy but also valuable learning opportunities. Children are gaining a deeper understanding of responsibility, animal care, and the importance of routines in their daily lives. He has truly become a central figure in our Centre, and we look forward to watching the children continue to interact with and care for their new friend.

#### **Programs**

This year, we've been fortunate to offer a variety of exciting and educational programs that support the holistic development of our children, promote healthy lifestyles, and engage our families in meaningful ways. Here's a look at some of the key programs we've introduced or continued:

#### 1. Dental Van

In February, we welcomed back the Dental Van, an invaluable initiative that provides high-quality dental care for all of our children. For many of the children, this was their first visit to the dentist, and the experience was made all the more positive by the fun, non-threatening environment of the van. This service helps to overcome any apprehensions children may have about dental visits, while also educating them on the importance of oral health. It's been a fantastic way to ensure that our children receive essential dental care and feel comfortable in the process.

#### 2. Healthy Harold

This year, we were thrilled to have Healthy Harold visit the Centre. For many of our educators, Healthy Harold was a part of their own childhood, so it was especially meaningful to see this program evolve over the years. Healthy Harold now delivers important messages on "Harolds big feelings" and "Super safe healthy Harold," addressing topics that are more relevant than ever in today's digital age. The children and families responded positively to this interactive and engaging program, which helps instil lifelong habits of physical and mental well-being.

#### 3. Little Sports Heroes

We introduced *Little Sports Heroes*, a physical education program that introduces children to a wide variety of team sports, catering to all age groups and abilities. The program is designed to build physical fitness, ball skills, and team-building abilities. Each long day care room receives a weekly 30-minute session, and the response from the children has been overwhelmingly positive. They eagerly anticipate their time with Little Sports Heroes, and it's been a great way to promote healthy, active play while developing important social skills like teamwork and communication.



#### 4. Bush Kindergarten

One of the standout initiatives this year has been the embedding of the *Bush Kindergarten* program into our practices. This has been a rewarding challenge, and we've made great strides in delivering this unique outdoor learning experience. Through tireless efforts, we've developed risk assessments, checklists, and communication strategies to ensure that the program runs smoothly. We've also been able to share our knowledge with other services through leadership forums and networking meetings.

The Bush Kindergarten program has become a huge draw for families, with many parents citing it as a key reason for choosing Laverton Community Children's Centre for their child's learning journey. We've found that running this program during Term 2 and Term 3 ensures the highest level of family involvement, and





we've seen a positive impact on children's engagement and connection to the natural world. The children have thrived in the outdoor environment, developing their resilience, problem-solving skills, and connection to nature.

These programs have added depth to our educational offerings, providing children with opportunities to explore new interests, learn about health and well-being, and engage with nature in meaningful ways. It's been wonderful to see how these initiatives have not only enriched the children's lives but also strengthened our relationship with families and the community. We look forward to continuing to develop and refine these programs in the year ahead.

#### **Community Connections**

This year, we've focused on building stronger ties within our community, offering valuable programs and events that benefit both children and families. From initiatives that support children with additional needs to opportunities for creative expression, here's an overview of the key community connection programs we've been proud to offer:

#### 1. Get Ready For School Program

In response to the needs of families with children who have additional needs, the Laverton Community Education Centre manager, Bill Daly, initiated a groundbreaking program in collaboration with ourselves, and Assist Ability. This program provided targeted support to both children and parents, helping them navigate the transition to school. The feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive, with many highlighting the program's positive impact on both the children and their families.

Dr. Jane Hickey, the program facilitator, has played a pivotal role in its success, offering expert guidance and fostering a supportive learning environment. Due to its success, this program will be offered again next year, allowing parents of children preparing for school to connect with others and discuss the challenges and

triumphs of the upcoming school journey. It's been a fantastic way for families to form a supportive community while gaining practical insights into their child's transition to school.



A LEARNING CIRCLE FOR PARENTS & CARERS OF CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS

#### 2. Open Day – "Laverton Come and Try Day"

On July 21<sup>st</sup>, we held our first ever Open Day, thanks to a generous Council grant that enabled us to host the "Laverton Come and Try Day." This event brought together a diverse group of local organisations, including Assist Ability, Laverton Community Education Centre, Little Sports Heroes, Hobsons Bay City Council, and CoHealth, to support our Centre and engage with the community.









The event was a great success, with over 100 attendees who enjoyed a wide range of activities, including face painting, balloon artists, and a toastie truck. It was an exciting opportunity for both current and prospective families to visit the

Centre, explore what we offer, and meet the incredible local organisations that collaborate with us. The event fostered connections and allowed families to experience the welcoming, vibrant atmosphere that defines Laverton Community Children's Centre.

#### 3. Wood Street Art Project

In collaboration with Jo Grima, we were thrilled to apply for a grant that allowed our kindergarten children to take part in a local art exhibition at the Wood Street Art Centre. The project involved our kindergarten children, together with Cooriminta North Kindergarten, working with a local artist to create unique art pieces. This initiative not only provided the children with a chance to express their creativity but also connected them with the broader arts community.

The children's artwork will be on display at the Wood Street Art Centre with the official opening on Friday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm, with other openings on Saturday, December 14th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm, and again on Thursday, December 19th from 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm. This exhibition will be a celebration of the children's creativity and a wonderful opportunity for families to connect with the local arts community.

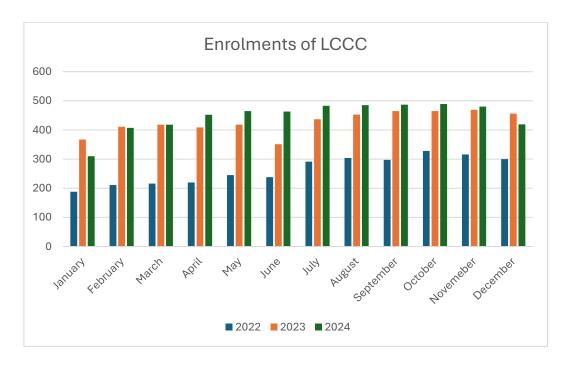
#### 4. Star Weekly International Women's Day Feature

In March, we were honoured to have the opportunity to write an article for Star Weekly in celebration of International Women's Day. The article highlighted the hard-working women who are the backbone of Laverton Community Children's Centre. Our team represents a beautiful mix of backgrounds and life experiences, coming from all corners of the globe, and each one brings their unique perspective and dedication to the Centre.

The feature gave us a chance to express our deep gratitude for our incredible educators, without whom we wouldn't be able to serve the children and families who trust us with their care. It was a wonderful opportunity to shine a light on the diversity and strength of our team and recognize the vital role they play in the daily operation of the Centre.

These community connection programs reflect our ongoing commitment to fostering inclusivity, creativity, and support for families and the local community. We are grateful for the strong partnerships and relationships we have built this year, and we look forward to continuing to serve as a hub for growth, learning, and connection in the years ahead.

#### Growth



As we reflect on the past 12 months, we are filled with pride at the remarkable progress we've made. The growth we've experienced—whether in our facilities, programs, or community connections—has been a testament to the hard work, dedication, and passion of our staff, families, and community partners. Together, we've built something truly special.

#### **Our Future Ambitions:**

Looking ahead, we are committed to continuing on this trajectory of growth and improvement. We aim to:

**Foster Stronger Relationships:** Building on the relationships we've established, we will continue to nurture connections with all stakeholders—especially the children, who are at the heart of everything we do. Our aim is to create an environment where every child feels valued, supported, and encouraged to learn and grow.

**Enhance Program Development:** We are dedicated to further developing our programs, continually seeking innovative ways to engage children in meaningful, hands-on learning. We will keep refining and expanding the programs that have been most successful, such as Bush Kindergarten, Little Sports Heroes, and Get Ready for School, ensuring they evolve with the changing needs of our community.

**Incorporate New Ideas:** We will continue to embrace innovation, seeking out new ideas and approaches that support the development of our children, staff, and the broader community. By staying open to new possibilities, we will ensure the Centre remains dynamic, forward-thinking, and responsive to the needs of all families.

As we move forward, our commitment to *Nurture, Learn, and Grow* remains at the core of everything we do. We are excited for the opportunities that the future holds and look forward to the continued success of Laverton Community Children's Centre.

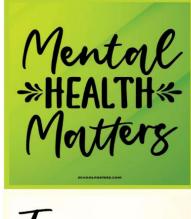
**Krystle Hills and Michelle Bradley Managers** 

#### **Laverton Community Centre**

#### **Crisis support Services**



Our program offers free and confidential support services to individuals, couples, and families facing emergencies or crises. Our team comprises qualified Social Workers and Counsellors with extensive experience in their respective fields. We maintain a commitment to ongoing professional development, regularly attending workshops and staying informed about relevant organizations and resources to best serve our clients.









Crisis Workers Our Support provide comprehensive assistance, including referrals to a wide network of support services. These referrals can encompass advocacy programs, material/financial aid resources, housing support, specialists in alcohol and drug dependency, mental health practitioners, general practitioners, and family and domestic violence services. We also offer assistance with form completion (excluding legal documents) and advocate on behalf of our clients with various entities, including utility companies, Centrelink, and the Department of Families, Fairness, Housing and Social Services.

Our core mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals and families by providing focused support during times of need. We are also committed to proactive wellbeing initiatives. This year, we successfully implemented a wellbeing

workshop, and we plan to offer similar programs in the coming year to further enhance community wellbeing. Building upon this success, we are exploring additional proactive wellbeing programs for the next year. We continually assess community needs and tailor our programs to address emerging challenges and promote holistic wellbeing. We believe that proactive initiatives are essential for fostering resilience and empowering individuals and families to thrive.

In the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the Crisis Support service provided critical assistance to 268 vulnerable clients facing a range of complex challenges, including domestic violence, homelessness, mental health issues, and financial struggles. Our team delivered comprehensive, individualized support and resources, prioritizing client safety, well-being, and empowerment as they pursued recovery and self-sufficiency.

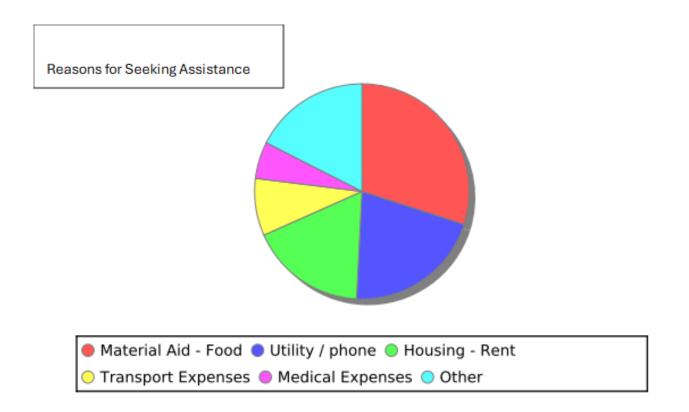
#### **EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AND MATERIAL RELIEF PROGRAM [ER]**

The Emergency Relief Program works in conjunction with our Crisis Support Service to provide crucial assistance

to individuals and families in need. The program offers a range of support options, including food vouchers and parcels, as well as vouchers for essential items such as clothing, school supplies, chemist prescriptions, travel expenses, and even fuel assistance for those escaping domestic violence situations.

Uniquely, our ER program operates three days a week and is entirely coordinated by dedicated volunteers. Laverton Community Integrated Services is proud to be one of the few organizations that maintains this vital service throughout the Christmas and New Year period, ensuring consistent support for our community during these critical times.





Between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024, the Emergency Relief program provided assistance to 1,728 clients, distributing food parcels and various vouchers to address their immediate needs. We continually strive to expand the reach and impact of this program to support a greater number of individuals and families facing financial hardship



#### **Testimonials: Client Impact Stories**

These testimonials highlight the positive impact of our services:

- 1. **Deep Gratitude for Advocacy:** A client recently visited our office specifically to express his profound gratitude to his crisis worker. Overwhelmed with emotion, he shared that in all his years, no one had advocated for him as effectively as LCIS. This powerful testament underscores the impact of our dedicated advocacy efforts.
- 2. "Road to Independence" Program Success: The Crisis and L2P programs collaborated to launch the "Road to Independence" program, designed to support individuals aged 23 and over with a history of family violence in obtaining their driver's licenses. To date, six clients have successfully achieved this milestone, marking a significant step towards greater independence and self-sufficiency. "Honestly the program has helped me immensely, getting my license was something I desperately needed and couldn't have done with the ladies at LCIS, I cant thank you enough"- Megan.
- 3. **Giving Back to the Community:** A client who previously received assistance from our Emergency Relief program has demonstrated his appreciation by regularly donating items such as DVDs and gift cards. This heartwarming gesture exemplifies the positive ripple effect of our services and the sense of community we foster.

Lorraine McCarthy
Crisis Support Worker

#### **Community Café:**

#### A Thriving Heart of Connection and Nourishment

The LCIS Community Café, an extension to our Emergency Relief program, funded by our local Community bank branches of Bendigo Bank – Altona / Laverton and supported by Oz Harvest, Bread Haus and Food Bank, has blossomed into much more than a meal provider. It's a vibrant community hub, offering a welcoming, almost fine-dining experience that addresses food insecurity while fostering deep social connections.

Beyond its initial aim of providing hot, nutritious meals, the Café has evolved into a vital social space. It combats social isolation by offering welcoming environment for individuals from all walks of life to share meals and conversations. creating а warm, inclusive atmosphere that nourishes both body and soul. The Café's success is a testament to the dedication of our volunteers, who tirelessly contribute to every aspect of its operation, from meal planning and preparation to service and ambiance. The LCIS



Community Café isn't just a place to eat; it's where community is cultivated, friendships are forged, and a sense of belonging is nurtured.

Our dedicated Community Café hosted two Cafés weekly in Hobsons Bay, all of which is totally run entirely by our volunteers, truly amazing efforts!

6,500 community members served a 3-course meal over the last 12 months

Community feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Operating on a reservation system (bookings required one day in advance), the 100-person capacity per sitting is consistently booked. To meet this

high demand, the café often accommodates up to 10% over capacity. Patrons consistently praise the quality of meals, ambiance, attentive service, efficient ordering, and overall welcoming atmosphere.

## The LCIS Community Café has achieved remarkable success in addressing key community needs:

- Addressing Food Insecurity: Provides nutritious meals to individuals and families facing food insecurity, achieving its core objective.
- Combating Social Isolation: Serves as a vital community hub, fostering social connection and conversation, effectively combating isolation.
- Fostering Community and Belonging: Cultivates a strong sense of community and belonging, creating an inclusive environment for connection and relationship building.
- Expanding Services: Represents a successful expansion of Laverton Community Centre's services, demonstrating responsiveness to evolving community needs beyond emergency relief.
- Leveraging Community Resources: Effectively utilizes community resources, including volunteer chefs and local business donations, showcasing successful community collaboration.



#### WynBay TAC L2P Program



In 2007, Victoria implemented a Graduated Licensing System requiring learner drivers under 21 to complete 120 hours of supervised driving practice before obtaining a probationary license. While research demonstrates this requirement's effectiveness in reducing crashes, it created a barrier for young people lacking access to a supervising driver, vehicle, or both. To address this, the Transport Accident Commission funded the L2P Program in 2006/07. This program, Victoria's largest youth mentoring program, assists eligible learners aged 16-21 (and sometimes up to 23) in fulfilling the 120-hour requirement through mentor guidance.

Managed by the Department of Transport and Planning, the L2P Program has been delivered by Laverton Community Integrated Services in the Hobsons Bay and Wyndham Local Government Areas since 2017. Eligible participants are young Victorian learner permit holders who lack access to a vehicle and/or a suitable supervising driver.





#### **State-wide Recognition**

The Wynbay TAC L2P program is pleased to announce its statewide recognition at the 2023-24 TAC Annual Conference, receiving the prestigious Excellence Award for exceptional contributions to the L2P program. This award highlights our commitment to supporting young learners in overcoming barriers to obtaining their driver's licenses. The program consistently supports over 110 participants, providing them with access to volunteer mentors and vehicles to complete the mandatory 120 hours of supervised driving practice. Furthermore, the Wynbay L2P program serves as a valuable resource and model for other coordinators across the state, sharing best practices and collaborating with the Department of Transport and Planning L2P team to enhance program delivery and effectiveness. This recognition underscores WynBay L2P Program's dedication to road safety and empowering young people through increased mobility and access to opportunities.

#### **Primary objectives of TAC L2P program**

- Facilitate access to supervised driving practice: The core objective is to help learner drivers, particularly
  - those facing barriers, complete the 120 hours of supervised driving required by the Graduated Licensing System. Provide mentor support: Connect young learners with volunteer mentors who offer guidance and support throughout the learning process.
- Offer vehicle access: Provide access to program vehicles for learners who do not have access to a suitable vehicle.
- Improve road safety: By providing supervised practice and mentoring, the program aims to improve driving skills and reduce the risk of accidents among young drivers.



- Enhance youth opportunities: Enable young people to gain their driver's license, which can open doors to employment, education, and social opportunities.
- Strengthen community partnerships: Foster collaboration between local organizations, government agencies, and community members to support the program's success.

#### Statewide TAC L2P Program overview



Over the last 15 years, the TAC L2P Program has

- Facilitated over 920,000 drive hours
- Welcomed over 7,100 mentors and
- Supported over 10,300 learners in obtaining their probationary licence

#### How does the TAC L2P Program benefit the Community?

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. 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 unlicenced (Deloitte driving Access Economics, 2018).











As a result, the TAC L2P Program directly supports the Victoria Government's Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan. The TAC 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.

#### **Community Partnership**

Community partnerships are crucial for the TAC L2P These program's success. partnerships provide essential resources like funding, vehicles, and administrative support, expanding the program's reach. Our program has benefited greatly from the support of several key partners. The Bendigo Community Bank branches in Altona and Laverton initially funded two vehicles in 2017 and provided further funding in 2023 to upgrade them to newer, safer models. Victoria Police assists with garaging the vehicles at local police stations. Hobsons Bay City Council donated a vehicle to support young people in the area, while a grant from Wyndham City Council allowed for increased program capacity and learner placements. Werribee Kia provides free servicing and educates young people on choosing safe vehicles. Transurban funded professional driving lessons, and Washington Drive School and SD TEK Driving School offer discounted lessons.

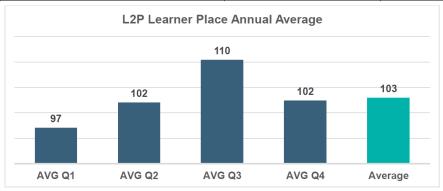
- Bendigo Community Bank
   branches Altona / Laverton
- Victoria Police
- Hobsons Bay City Council
- Wyndham City Council
- Werribee Kia
- Transurban
- Washington Drive School
- SD TEK Driving School

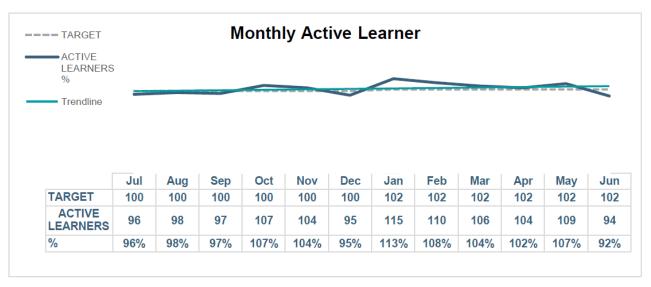




#### **Program Report Summary 2023/24**

INFORMATION	Yearly Total	Monthly Average	
PROGRAM	Laverton Community Integrated Services		
Funded Places			
- Q1 – 2	100		
- Q3 – 4	102		
Active Learners	1235	103	
Drive Hours	4668:02	389:00	
- Mentoring	3874:27	322:52	
- Professional	793:35	66:07	
Drive Hours per learner average	3:46		
Licences Obtained	86	7	
Waitlist Average	187		
Active Mentors	859	72	





#### Naheed Akhtar L2P Coordinator

#### **Laverton Youth Foundation:**

## Supported by the local Community Bank branches of Bendigo Bank – Altona and Laverton



Laverton Youth Foundation is auspiced by LCIS as a service for young people in Hobsons Bay and Wyndham. It was 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.

Working in partnership with local organisations and businesses, LYF provides free activities for disadvantaged and disengaged young people with the aim of making a real difference in the lives of local youth. The program is designed to instil Youth Leadership skills in young people.

The youth-led projects that we deliver focus on building skills, increasing employment opportunities, promoting positive mental health and reducing social isolation.

Our main projects include -

- 8 week Nutritional Cooking on a Budget programme
- 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

#### **Wyndham Humanitarian Network Cultural Celebration**

A highlight of our year was the Wyndham Humanitarian Network Cultural Celebration. The event, to celebrate Cultural Diversity Week, was a beautifully colourful display of culture from around the world with more than 200 participants and 300 spectators attending. A huge 48 young people took part in the cultural runway, representing 18 cultures and 12 dance groups delighted the audience throughout the night, including an audience participation Haka and African drumming and dancing.







#### Refugee Week

This years' Refugee Week celebrations included a photography competition and expo, attended by Western United players as well as a Soccer Tournament at Wyndham City Stadium (the future home of Western United). Around 200 young people took part in the tournament with many more supporters braving the cold to cheer on their friends and family.





#### **School holiday excursions**

The school holiday excursions this year have included a trip to Lake Mountain which saw 79 young people enjoying some fun in the snow, abseiling at the You Yangs and a Career Expo which brought together organisations such as FRV, headspace, VU, SES, the Gordon, Youth Projects and Wyndham City Council to provide young people with valuable employment and education advice.





**The End of Year celebrations**, finished off the year with a bang with 2 Christmas parties and over 150 prizes, pamper packs, goody bags and dignity bags given out to families and young people.



#### **Cooking programme**

The Nutritional Cooking on a Budget programme supported 78 young people through the 8-week programme, learning to cook a variety of meals and showcasing their skills to friends and family in the Whole School Cook and Community Cook.







#### **Youth training**

This year, LYF supported 88 young people to gain their Construction Induction Course, 71 youth to gain their RSA certificate and 31 youth to complete Customer Service training.

## Katie Mochan Youth Facilitator

## Alcohol and Drug Foundation's Local Drug and Alcohol Team (LDAT):

#### A project of the Laverton Youth Foundation

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, whilst enhancing the participants skills in leadership..

Our main projects include -

- Holistic Mindfulness and Wellbeing (stepping forward into independence)
- After school Laverton P12 college Holistic Mindfulness and Wellbeing sports program.
- Friday night Soccer programme Galvin Park/ Mannor Lakes Community Centre
- Oz Harvest NEST- cooking program Point Cook Secondary College

#### Soccer programme and other sports

#### **Location: Galvin Park and Manor Lakes community centre**

In partnership with Wyndham Youth Services and LDAT the soccer program attracts around 20-40 participants on a Friday night from the local community who practice and train in multiple sports.

The program has soccer, volleyball and boxing pad training the program is about social inclusion, team building and wellbeing.

All participants engage in soccer-based skills and drills with a community match at the end.

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 & wellbeing outcomes.

#### olistic Mindfulness and Wellbeing (stepping forward into independence)



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 explored basic exercises, healthy food, Alcohol and Drug information sessions, mindfulness, mediation,

and mental health. The program continues to be successful with participants feedback being very positive.

#### Holistic Wellness Program Laverton P- 12 College

In partnership with MiCare and Hobson Bay Youth Services, Laverton Youth Foundation also deliver a

holistic wellness and sport program. The program assists 25 young people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) with their wellbeing. 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. Throughout the year Youth Foundations deliver Alcohol and Drug information sessions, mindfulness and mediation workshops. The young people train and play sports like soccer, volleyball, basketball and boxing training to help influence and build fitness, confidence, and social engagement.

The young people who engage in this program, with support from Laverton Youth Foundations have recently designed their own soccer jersey for their community soccer team, that is Youth lead.



Their team Western Light participates in community soccer tournaments throughout Victoria.

The program overall was a success. It grew in numbers every school term, with positive feedback from the young people on how much the enjoyed coming every week.

All the participant gathered a lot of new knowledge about AOD and harm reduction. Participants reported that they felt strongly against vaping following our informative workshop.

Multiple young people from the multicultural group reported a boost in confidence and leadership and assisted in facilitating several programs over the last year. They expressed that it has helped them in their educational and social goals

#### The 8-week Nutritional Cooking programme

The cooking program consists of 6 weeks of cooking, one week training and one Community Cook. The participant also receives 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.

Shawn Sauvarin LYF Facilitator

## Making a Difference: Our Volunteer Program



We are very fortunate to have a team of volunteers who diligently give their time and support to the whole of our organisation, some who have been with us for well over 10 years. As new volunteers join our team it only adds more strength and commitment to what is already greatly outstanding. This year we recruited 35 volunteers, we stand with a healthy total of 114 (on 30 June 2024) all of whom support the LCIS programs of Emergency Relief, L2p Learner Driver Mentors, Community Café, Tutor/Education Support, Fundraisers, Children's Centre and Youth Program. Our volunteers provided a huge 750 volunteer hours per week.

In keeping with our vision "we empower people" everyone benefits, with our volunteers building on existing skills they may already have and from the ongoing training and support we provide. This year as part of the new standards overall training was focused on Child Safey and Indigenous Cultural Awareness.

Our dedicated Community Café hosted two Cafés weekly in Hobsons Bay, all of which is totally run entirely by our volunteers, truly amazing efforts!

• 6,500 community members served a 3-course meal over the last 12 months



To show our appreciation and recognition of the wonderful work our volunteers do, we celebrated Volunteer Week with a dinner and a function at the end of year. What is apparent is a sense of self confidence and a shared experience, here is what some of our volunteers have to say about volunteering with us:

'I started volunteering to interact with people, to further my knowledge in what's happening in my local community and how I can assist them. My main aim was to give back to the community and in doing so it has helped me ease my stress after years of looking after my mum with Dementia. I have great satisfaction and enjoy working with a caring team of volunteers'

Sera Auciello.

'Volunteering is not only a way for me to help others, but a way also to help me, and allows me to connect with my community. Gives me a sense of achievement and purpose' Judith Wignell.

If volunteering sounds like something you would like to participate in visit www.lcis.org.au and click <u>volunteering</u> for more information.

Sophie Kocev
Volunteer Coordinator

# Treasurer's Report

LCIS demonstrated continued growth and financial strength in FY2024, building upon its solid performance in the previous fiscal year. Total income increased significantly by 16%, rising from \$5.4 million in FY2023 to \$6.2 million in FY2024. This growth reflects the organization's success in expanding its reach and impact.

LCIS maintained a consistent and efficient expense ratio of 94% in FY2024, a slight improvement from 95% in FY2023. This indicates effective management of resources and cost control. As a result of the increased income and controlled expenses, LCIS achieved a net surplus of \$385,000 in FY2024, a substantial increase from the \$246,000 surplus recorded in FY2023.

This positive financial performance further strengthened LCIS's balance sheet, with net assets growing from \$2.9 million at the end of FY2023 to \$3.2 million at the end of FY2024. A key element of this financial strength is the organization's large and growing cash reserves, which provide a significant buffer against potential future deficits and ensure financial stability for multiple years, if necessary. This prudent financial management positions LCIS well for continued growth and success in the years to come.

Colin Li LCIS Inc. Treasurer's report

## **Auditor's Report**

TOWARDS A VISION SHARED



127 Paisley Street Footscray VIC 3011 Australia

Phone (03) 9680 1000 Fax (03) 9689 6605

www.collinsco.com.au

#### LAVERTON COMMUNITY INTEGRATED SERVICE INC A.B.N. 46 782 938 029 INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

#### Opinion

I have audited the accompanying special purpose financial report of Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc, which comprises the consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, and the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes and the statement by the members of the committee.

In my opinion, the consolidated financial report of Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc (the Association) is in accordance with the Associations Incorporations Reform Act (Victoria 2012), including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its performance for the year ended; and
- ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporations Reform Act (Victoria 2012).

#### Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. I am independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Emphasis of Matter - Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

I draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act (Victoria 2012). As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### Responsibility of the Committee for the Financial Report

The Committee of the Association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Associations Incorporations Reform Act (Victoria 2012). This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

In preparing the financial report, the Committee is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation ABN 33 614 161 796



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#### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the responsible entities.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the responsible entities use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the registered entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal controls that I identify during my audit.

Name of Auditor: Frederik R. L. Eksteen

Address:

Collins & Co Audit Pty Ltd 127 Paisley Street

**FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011** 

Date:

29 August 2024

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# LAVERTON COMMUNITY INTEGRATED SERVICES INC ABN 46 782 938 029 CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Income	Ψ	Ψ
Childcare fees	2,330,467	2,150,606
Grants	3,534,836	3,013,687
Course fees	19,350	29,965
Tuition fees	9,414	8,990
Fee concessions	22,554	15,891
Dividends received	5,466	3,386
Donations	42,013	15,349
Fundraising income	_	24
Lease income	45,43 <del>6</del>	45,436
Projects	13,401	6,897
Sponsorship	75,75	720
Student fees	4,545	4,455
Venue hire	5,760	5,063
Work placements	51.55	-,
Interest income	80,068	21,600
Other/miscellaneous income	125,602	69,421
Total income	6,238,912	5,391,491
Total income	0,230,312	3,331,431
Expenditure	44.000	44.000
Accounting and audit fees	11,099	11,032
Administration	54,271	46,133
Advertising and promotion	60,579	29,378
Amortisation		
Bank charges	1,526	1,219
Café/centre supplies	9,706	35,247
Cleaning	66,803	29,341
Depreciation	101,468	53,185
Donations made	-	
Equipment	394	11,2 <b>4</b> 9
ER expenses	108,318	117,313
Food	58,113	51,054
Insurance	33,444	25,861
IT maintenance	35,053	30,817
Kitchen supplies	1,039	1,306
Low cost write off	-	38,401
Other/miscellaneous expenses	195,598	168,392
Office supplies	12,992	14,688
Professional development	2,628	2,765
Project costs	111,300	164,039
Registrations	52,359	27,928
Rent	19,752	22,000
Repairs and maintenance	31,624	17,866
Resources	56,709	56,268
Superannuation	441,193	375,294
Travel expenses	845	523
Tutor fees	28,345	27,439
Utilities	19,570	17,054
Venue hire	112,634	100,816
Website	19,214	7,568
Wages, salaries and employment	4,207,154	3,660,901
vvages, salaries and employment Total expenditure	5,853,730	5,145,077
•		-11.12121
Movements In Venue Improvement Reserves		040 44
Net surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Association	385,182	246,414

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 2024

ASSETS	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents Trade receivables TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS NON CURRENT ASSETS	2 3	2,911,453 145,078 3,056,531	2,562,017 147,330 2,709,347
Investments Property, plant and equipment TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS TOTAL ASSETS	4 5	22,471 978,761 1,001,232 4,057,763	22,471 914,343 936,814 3,646,161
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES Trade payables Sundry creditors Provision for employee entitlements Other provisions TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	6 6 7 7	336,218 12,000 315,482 30,000 693,700	231,060 12,000 267,770 60,000 <b>570,830</b>
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Provision for employee entitlements Loan - Hobson's Bay Council Loan - other	7 8 8	70,736 42,436 3,000	92,799 84,872 6,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		116,172	183,671
TOTAL LIABILITIES		809,872	754,501
NET ASSETS		3,247,891	2,891,660
EQUITY Accumulated funds Asset revaluation reserve Venue improvement reserve		2,352,891 775,000 120,000 3,247,891	1,908,565 775,000 208,095 2,891,660

The Statement of Financial Position 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 CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	Accumulated funds \$	Venue improvement reserves \$	Asset revaluation reserve \$	Total equity \$
Balance as at 1 July 2022	1,683,590	224,362	775,000	2,682,952
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	1,908,565	208,095	775,000	2,891,660
Surplus/(deficit) attributable to the Association	385,182		-	385,182
Transfer from Venue Improvement Reserves	-	(4,593)	-	(4,593)
Transfer from Venue Improvement Reserves	60,080	(83,502)	-	(23,422)
Revaluation of Land & Buildings	-	-	-	-
Balance as at 30 June 2024	2,352,891	120,000	775,000	3,247,891

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

### **Sponsors and Supporters**

Albion Primary School, Albion

Alcohol and Drug Foundation

Al-Taqwa College, Truganina

Altona College

Altona Green Primary School, Altona Meadows

Altona Lifesaving Club, Altona

Altona Meadows Community Centre

Altona Meadows Primary School, Altona Meadows

AMES Australia

AMES Australia, Werribee

Amici Early Learning Centre, Westbourne Grammar School, Truganina

AMIGA Montessori Saltwater Coast, Point Cook

AMIGA Montessori, Point Cook

Ararat Neighbourhood House, Ararat

At Work Australia, Laverton

Avington Living, Point Cook

Baptcare Wyndham Lodge Community, Werribee

Bethany Catholic Primary School, Werribee

BrandFX

**Bread Haus** 

Busy Bees Early Learning, Altona Meadows, Williams Landing & Wyndham Vale

Cambridge Primary School Hoppers Crossing

Child's Play Early Learning Centre, Tarneit

Co Health

Cohealth Community Connectors, Williamstown

Community Bank Altona and Laverton (Bendigo Bank)

Community Information and Support Victoria (CISVic)

Creative Hands Early Learning Centre, Point Cook

Davis Creek Primary School, Tarneit

Department of Education and Training

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing

Department of Health

Department of Transport and Planning

Digital Marketing Specialist

Doherty's Creek Primary School, Truganina

DOW Chemical (Australia Pty Ltd)

ECMS Newport Gardens Early Years Centre, Newport

Emmanuel College, Altona North and Point Cook

Estia Health Residential Aged Care, Altona Meadows

FareShare

Fire Rescue Victoria, Western District

Fizzics Education

Foodbank

Gateways Support Service

Glen Gala Children's Centre, Sunshine West

Glendale Aged Care, Werribee

Goodstart Early Learning, Hoppers Crossing and Werribee

Gowrie Victoria

Greater Western Water

Grill'd Point Cook

Headspace

Healthy Harold

Hobsons Bay Children's Centre, Altona Meadows

Hobsons Bay City Council – Community Development

Hobsons Bay City Council - Arts Culture and Community

Hobsons Bay Community Enterprise Foundation

Hobsons Bay Community Fund

Hobsons Bay Inter-agency Network

Hobsons Bay Maternal Health

Hobsons Bay Youth Services

Home Instead, Maidstone

Hoppers Motor Group

Iramoo Primary School, Wyndham Vale

Islamic College of Melbourne, Tarneit

Jennings Street School, Laverton

Karwan Primary School, Tarneit

Latitude: Directions for Young People

Laverton Community Hub, Laverton

Laverton P-12 College, Laverton

Life Saving Victoria, Port Melbourne

Little Learners Day Care Centre, Tarneit and Truganina

Lollypop Creek Primary School, Werribee

Louis Joel Arts and Community Centre

Love Seabrook

Manor Lakes P-12 College, Wyndham Vale

Menshed

Manorvale Primary School, Werribee

MatchWorks, Footscray and Werribee

MAX Employment, Werribee

Mecwacare Aged Care Services, Werribee

MEGT, Altona North

Melbourne Building Maintenance

Melton City Council Library Services

Mercy Place Aged Care, Werribee

MiCare, Werribee

MiCare, Melton

Milestones Early Learning, Hoppers Crossing, Point Cook, Tarneit, Werribee and Wyndham Vale

Minute Press

Minuteman

Montessori Academy Childcare Centre, Altona Meadows

Montessori Beginnings, Point Cook

Mossfiel Primary School, Hoppers Crossing

Mr. Mac Landscaping

Naiko Personal Computers, Altona North

Neighbourhood Houses Victoria

Network West

Newport Outlets Co-Operative Ltd, Newport

Parents Next, Laverton

Peach and Plum Early Learning Centre, Altona Meadows

Port Phillip Social Club, Altona

Port Phillp Eco Centre Inc., St Kilda

RACV Cape Schanck Resort, Cape Schanck

Red Nose Australia

Riverbend Primary School, Wyndham Vale

Riverwalk Primary School, Werribee

Rose Garden Early Learning Centre,

Sunshine West Rosewall Community Centre,

Corio

Safe Seats Program

Saltwater P-9 College. Point Cook

Salvation Army

Sarina Russo Job Access, Footscray and Werribee

Seabrook Community Centre

Seabrook Primary School, Seabrook

Seaholme Primary School, Seaholme

Sexual Health Victoria, Box Hill

Share the Dignity

Signorama - Truganina

Skunk Control, Footscray

South Kingsville Community Centre

St Andrew's Catholic Primary School, Werribee

St Vincent De Pauls

St Vincent's Care, Werribee

Stawell Neighbourhood House, Stawell

Swim4all

SYC, Altona Meadows, Footscray and Werribee

Tarneit Rise Primary School, Tarneit

Tradewind Australia, Melbourne

Tricare Aged Care Residence, Williams Landing

Truganina P-9 College, Truganina

Truganina South Primary School, Truganina

Uniting Age Well, Kingsville

VALiD, Collingwood

VicRoads

Victoria Police

Victoria University

Volunteering Victoria

Volunteer West

Warringa Park School, Hoppers Crossing

Werribee Car Wash

Werribee Kia

Westbourne Grammar School, Truganina

Western Autistic School, Laverton

Western Bulldogs Community Foundation, Footscray

Westgrove Primary School, Werribee

Williamstown Community and Education Centre, Williamstown

Williamstown Rental Housing Cooperative

WISE Employment, Footscray

Woods Street Arts Space, Laverton

Wyndham City Council

Wyndham Community and Education Centre, Werribee

Wyndham Vale Primary School, Wyndham Vale

Wyndham Youth Services

Yara Childcare Centre, Truganina

Youth Projects, Werribee





# we empower people

**Laverton Community Integrated Services Inc** 

Address: 12 Crown Street Phone: 03 8368 0177

Fax: 03 8368 0178

Email: community@lcis.org.au

ABN 46 782 938 029