

A CON ANNUAL REPORT 2001

 **acon**
community, health and action

CONTENTS

04	About ACON
05	ACON at work
06	President's Message
07	CEO's Message
08	Client Services
10	Community Health
12	Illawarra
13	Hunter and Mid North Coast
14	Northern Rivers
15	Greater Western Sydney
16	Sex Workers' Outreach Project
17	Policy and Advocacy
18	Organisational Development
19	Promotions
20	Expenditure
21	Treasurer's Report
22	Members of the Board Report
26	Financial Report
	Appendices
40	Partnerships
41	Sponsors
42	Publications
43	Committees
44	Staff and Volunteers

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND CREDITS

The board and management of ACON would like to acknowledge and thank the staff and volunteers of our organisation for their commitment and dedication, and for the wonderful work they continue to do for our clients and communities. To staff who left the organisation during the course of the year, we would like to acknowledge your contribution during your time with ACON.



OURVISION

The right of all HIV positive men and women to claim the best quality of life that's individually attainable and to have their strengths, achievements and their needs recognised.

The sexual health and rights of every member of our communities to be recognised, regardless of sero-status.

The lesbian and gay community to understand and take responsibility for its mental and physical health.

A society which respects the basic link between health and justice.

ABOUTACON



Left to Right: Michael Woodhouse, Director - Community Health; Alison Cunningham, Director - Client Services; Brett Atkin, Director - Regional Services; Seamus Clayton, CEO.

- Born in crisis and shaped by our experience of HIV. We were there at the beginning. We'll be working with all people affected by HIV until the epidemic is at an end.
- Came from and is based in the lives, culture, health and practices of the gay and lesbian communities of NSW.
- Stands with people and communities whose health is affected by discrimination and prejudice. We walk together with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, sex workers, transgender people and people who inject drugs.

In June 2001 the world marked 20 years of HIV. For many, it was a time to pause and reflect on two decades of HIV/AIDS and the impact it has had on us all, particularly the gay and lesbian community. On June 5, 1981, the US Centre for Disease Control's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* published the first report of what was to become the AIDS epidemic. It would be another 18 months before the first case of AIDS was identified in Australia and at the time no one could envisage that it would go on to claim the lives of more than 6,000 people in Australia and 20 million worldwide.

When ACON, the AIDS Council of NSW, was established in 1985 we were in the grip of a frightening epidemic with no treatments on the horizon and little understanding in the community and indeed the health profession of what we were dealing with. ACON began with a small group of friends rallying around their loved ones in the early 1980s. They came together to help ensure access to quality care and support, to lobby governments, to fight for people living with HIV/AIDS and to advocate for a gay community under attack in the Sydney epicentre.

We have grown in the past 15 years as a community based organisation to play an integral role in the Australian response to the crisis. We are recognised as world leaders in HIV prevention and health promotion with hard-hitting education campaigns receiving wide acclaim. We have worked alongside successive state and federal governments to develop HIV strategies and to give a voice to people living with HIV/AIDS and other communities affected by HIV.

The number of volunteers who continue to support ACON and the commitment and dedication amongst our staff shows a community still rallying around its friends. The needs of our friends, of our communities, have changed over the years and will continue to do so in the future. ACON's services have changed to respond to the growing diversity of health needs for people living with HIV/AIDS and the many health issues that are of concern to our communities.

ACON has played a central role in the lives of most people living with HIV across NSW and the services we provide for them continue to be our core business. HIV infection rates in NSW are stable and are now the lowest they have been since before the AIDS Council of NSW existed. These 'low' rates still saw 372 people diagnosed with HIV in 2000, still more than one new diagnosis every day. Each and every day of the year someone in NSW is given the news that they are HIV positive.

Last year the ACON Board announced plans to broaden the role of the organisation in gay and lesbian health. We hope to share some of our skills and expertise in health promotion, advocacy and in the provision of care and support services to fill identified gaps in the gay and lesbian health agenda. Extensive community consultations have told us how we can play a greater role in promoting and improving their health and wellbeing. 2000/01 was the first year of our broader focus and the first opportunity for us to begin implementing our vision for the future of ACON with *Strategic Directions 2000-2003*. A number of new services were introduced during the year and we spent considerable time researching and strengthening partnerships for other new services which will commence in the next two years.

ACON AT WORK

ACON works with a wide range of communities, all with their own unique issues and complexities. What brings them together is that they are all people whose lives and health are affected by discrimination, prejudice and the impact of HIV. ACON has a well earned reputation for providing support and services to:

- People living with HIV/AIDS
- Partners and carers of people living with HIV/AIDS
- People at risk of HIV/AIDS
- Gay men
- Lesbians
- Bisexuals
- Transgender people
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- Sex workers
- Injecting drug users

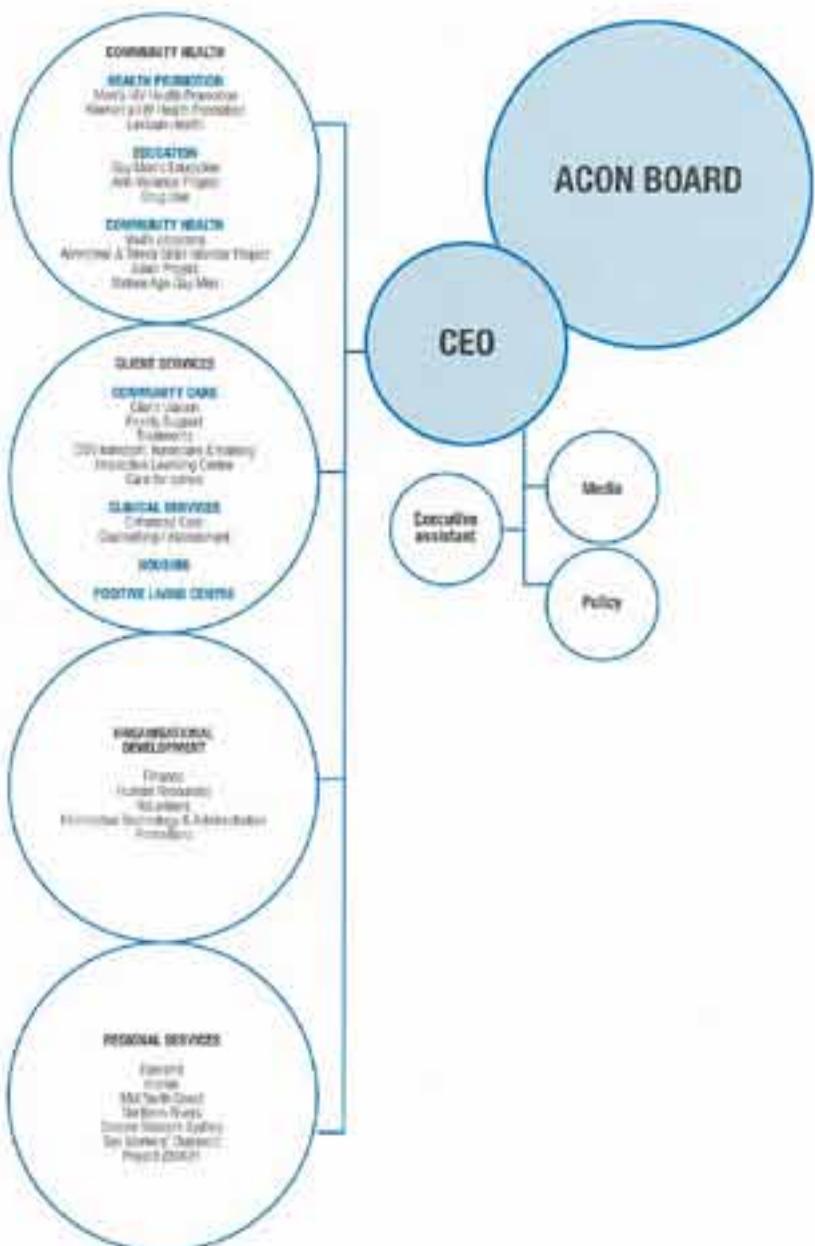
In the past year people from these communities turned to ACON for care and support on more than 9,000 occasions. We answered telephone queries, offered face to face counselling, provided home care services, facilitated peer support groups, shared up to date information about treatments and other research news, disseminated education campaigns, trained Safe Sex Sluts, conducted a needle syringe program and distributed thousands of condoms and safe packs.

During 2000/01:

- 41% of individual services were for clients aged 36-45
- 19% of our services were provided to women
- 14% of our services were provided to heterosexuals
- 68% of our services were provided to HIV positive people
- 10% involved clients with a disability
- 57% involved clients who were unemployed
- 5% of our services were provided to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people
- 18% of our clients sought services about issues specific to HIV
- 35% of services for positive clients were around community services such as home care and transport
- 38% of services provided to HIV negative clients were around issues relating to relationships, community and identity
- 41% of services for lesbian clients were for ACON's individual support around relationships, community and identity
- 70,000 safe packs were distributed at major dance parties and other venues
- 45,000 condoms were handed out by Safe Sex Sluts and the Sex Workers Outreach Project
- 30,000 information resources including posters, brochures and information kits were sent out across the state

Dr Iain Gardner

In August 2001 ACON lost a dear and valued friend in Iain Gardner. Iain was appointed to the CEO position in February and was keen to see ACON advance its many goals under Strategic Directions 2000-2003. He brought to the organisation a wealth of experience in health services and a commitment to social justice. Iain was unable to stay with us for very long and after a short period of illness died in August. Several ACON staff and board members attended a memorial service in Melbourne where, in accordance with Iain and his partner Patrick's wishes, donations were made to ACON in lieu of flowers. Iain touched many people in the short time that he was with us and he will be sorely missed.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

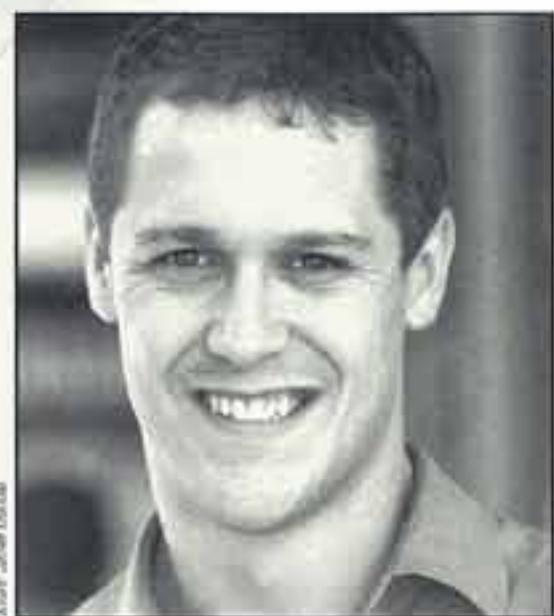


Photo: Jason Dohle

This has been the first of three years under *Strategic Directions 2000-2003*. Throughout the year ACON has responded to a number of new challenges and maintained a commitment to improve our services. We have advocated vigorously across a wide range of policy areas and at the same time have carefully mapped out some of our new territory in gay and lesbian health.

Our work in health promotion continues to become increasingly complex and varied. While concern flared in Victoria, ACON led debate about unprotected sex among gay men in Sydney as they made different choices about condom use. We used the Internet to get gay men talking about the role of condoms in their lives and our *Consider This...* campaign responded with information for other gay men also making these choices. Our education response acknowledged that post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) was a necessary option for some and we played a role in promoting the availability of PEP in the community.

Our first year in lesbian health was deliberately measured as we determined our new role and began building relationships. The highly attended Stir It Up Lesbian Health Speaker Series brought women together to talk about emerging health issues in an informal environment. We talked with lesbians right across NSW about their health needs.

We understand that our work in gay and lesbian health must also consider the place of drugs - legal and illegal - in our communities' lives and health and we have begun thinking about how to approach this, building on our existing drug programming.

Advocacy is, as always, a large part of our work. Our experience tells us that an enabling policy environment is necessary to build sustained health. ACON's policy brief this year has included work on issues such as Hepatitis C, medical cannabis and private sex workers. Our activities include analysis, media comment and individual advocacy. ACON's voice is often heard.

The scope of our work has also increased over this year with the Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project becoming a part of ACON after 10 years as part of the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby and we have worked hard to increase the project's visibility since then.

Strategic Directions 2000-2003 made a commitment to excellence in our work and we established our Quality Promotion and Accreditation Project to help achieve this. Interested community members and clients will work with ACON to improve our services over the next year.

Three extraordinary CEOs have led ACON in the last 12 months. Robert Grieves left ACON in November 2000. Robert's practised and passionate leadership left a real mark upon ACON. His replacement, Dr Iain Gardner, stayed with us only a short while before his illness and subsequent death in August 2001. Iain impressed us with his skills and formal qualifications. ACON's Deputy CEO, Stevie Clayton, was recently appointed as CEO, having acted in the position for much of the year. Stevie has a deep knowledge of our communities and ACON.

These three CEOs have worked with our talented volunteers, staff, managers, and board members - right across NSW. ACON's greatest strength is our people. They are formidable, with an enthusiastic commitment to their communities' health and rights. Thank you to them, as well as to ACON's partners and supporting organisations, without whom the achievements in this annual report would not have been possible.

Adrian Lovney

CEO'S MESSAGE

2000/01 has been a significant year for ACON and our communities with the implementation of *Strategic Directions 2000-2003*. The vision for the future that we spent much of last year debating and developing with community input is now starting to be realised.

Staff and volunteers have done a remarkable job in the last year to build on the successes of our HIV services and plans for ACON to play a greater role in promoting and improving the health and wellbeing of the gay and lesbian community. We continue to be a vocal advocate for our communities, lobbying for individuals and on broader community issues as well as maintaining a strong media presence.

ACON has been a major player in the national debate about HIV and mental health. We have worked to develop programs that will help improve the services available to people with mental health problems without constructing inevitable associations between mental illness and people living with HIV/AIDS or gay men and lesbians.

We have expanded our counselling services with a stronger emphasis on assessment, short-term solution focussed interventions and care coordination and are working with the community to identify ways to give mental health issues greater priority.

A range of ACON services have been enhanced across rural and regional NSW bringing a new focus to health promotion efforts for lesbians and sexual health services for gay men. We have spent much of the year putting in place the infrastructure needed to expand services for people living with HIV/AIDS and to broaden the role of the organisation in gay and lesbian health.

ACON was restructured in September 2000 to bring clients and community the benefits of a more cohesive and professional organisation. Within our new divisions of Client Services and Community Health we are proud to have a shared philosophy around the commitment to excellence and innovation in all that we do.

In client services, we have continued to improve our services through better coordination and effective partnerships. New assessment and coordination functions have increased the capacity of our integrated counselling service. We have strengthened our services to positive women. Our GP Enhanced Care Project in Sydney and the NSW Central West has placed staff in primary care settings, providing social support services in partnership with general practitioners.

Community safety was a key issue during the year with the Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project finding a new home in ACON to develop and implement crime prevention strategies for the gay and lesbian community. Similarly, domestic violence in same sex relationships has become a hot issue with the community and ACON has taken on a leading role with an interagency group to help secure more appropriate services for gay and lesbian survivors of domestic violence.

Over the next twelve months ACON clients and communities will see HIV services expanded, particularly for positive women, and new projects around a variety of health and community development issues for gay men and lesbians.

Stevie Clayton



Photo: Jamie Taylor

CLIENTSERVICES



Give me shelter

Housing assistance
options for people living
with HIV/AIDS

Housing Information Resources

The Client Services Division brings together our counselling, homecare, transport, treatments, housing, family support and GP enhanced care services into one team working within a health promotion framework to build our clients' capacity to maximise their health and improve their quality of life. Staff and management have been working together to build a cohesive division with a shared philosophy, an integrated set of services and a culture committed to excellence and innovation in our service provision and our policy and advocacy work.

Our clients

ACON's counselling team is now working towards short-term solutions focussed therapy so that we can provide more appropriate services and reach more clients. We have integrated an assessment and care coordination role into the service to respond to the full range of client needs and have recruited staff with specialist skills in mental health along with alcohol and other drug issues to meet increasing demand for support with these issues.

The GP Enhanced Care Project in Sydney's Eastern Suburbs and the NSW Central West has been a major highlight of this year. It is the first time we have placed staff in primary health care settings, recognising the role of general practitioners as the main, and often only, source of support for many members of our communities. Enhanced care gives us the opportunity to work side by side with GPs to assist people with their non-medical support needs, improve access to services and build their health skills for a greater quality of life.

Our treatments staff continue to play a key role in supporting positive people to make informed decisions about their HIV treatments and how to integrate them successfully into their daily lives. We have expanded our outreach service to meet growing demand and are now providing sessional support to Positive Heterosexuals and positive inmates.

ACON's client liaison team are the first point of contact with ACON for many people and we have worked hard this year to professionalise the service. An increasing number of clients are coming to us in crisis, often exhibiting aggressive and/or suicidal behaviours, and we have enhanced the skills of our staff to respond appropriately and sensitively in those situations. Our needle and syringe program continues to see a steady stream of clients and staff play an important role in providing information and referral.

Demand for our housing service increased during the Olympics and in the face of spiralling Sydney rental costs. Our new resource, "Give Me Shelter", with comprehensive information for service providers and clients is enhancing positive people's capacity to make informed housing choices, to plan for future housing needs and to maintain sustainable tenancies.

Homecare and transport continue to be vital supports for positive people experiencing ill health and disability. The flexibility of the Community Support Network (CSN) has allowed us to meet the needs of growing numbers of clients with episodic illnesses related to treatment side effects. Our carer training program was revamped to equip carers with the right skills to help care for increasing numbers of clients with a mental illness or with alcohol and other drug related issues.

Our communities' health

ACON was successful in securing funding in 2000 for the Care for Carers program to support the 'hidden carers' within our communities - people who are looking after loved ones with a chronic illness, including HIV/AIDS, or a mental or physical disability. The project will provide information and peer support for primary carers.

Feedback from our new enhanced care staff on client issues has begun to help inform our health promotion and HIV prevention work. The service is being used by people who have not previously sought services from ACON and provides a wealth of new information on the health and support needs of our communities.

Our communities' strength

CSN's 100 Hearts float in the Mardi Gras parade was a strong community strengthening event for all our volunteer carers who donate their time, compassion and skills to working with positive people. The CSN Trivia night fund-raiser (a joint initiative of the CSN Carer Representative Committee and CSN staff) not only raised money for CSN but also provided an opportunity for volunteer carers to get together as a special group in our communities and to celebrate their achievements.

Our voice

Over the past year we have strengthened our leadership role in policy and advocacy around treatment, care and support issues, identifying an increased need for advocacy in relation to service quality and access in the hospital system and on behalf of migrant and refugee families living with HIV.

Individual advocacy occurs across all areas of our client work and we have established mechanisms within the organisation to ensure that issues arising in individual client work, together with research findings, epidemiological data and stakeholder feedback, better inform our policy and advocacy agenda.

ACON and other players across the sector continue to work together on the community pharmacy trial. This is an important step in recognising that most positive people now receive the greater part of their care in the community and not the hospital system. Many people living with HIV/AIDS are now working and therefore need greater flexibility in pharmacy access.

ACON has maintained a powerful voice within the housing sector. We work closely with the Department of Housing to improve the flexibility and effectiveness of their programs and the HIV knowledge of their staff while also advocating for individual needs. We have also worked to build the capacity of other services and of clients to address simple housing issues.

We have played a leadership role at a state and national level in discussion and analysis of HIV mental health, developing relationships with community and mental health services to improve service access and quality.

Our partners

Partnerships are crucial to ACON's work - for a strong advocacy voice, to address client support needs and to share information and skills. As our clients needs have changed we have needed to develop new relationships outside the HIV sector and this year we have focussed on integrating our services with those in community and mental health. In a practical sense, this has involved identifying key staff for referral and casework support and creating opportunities to exchange skills and knowledge. Our relationship with

Darlinghurst Community Health has strengthened with collaborations including homelessness prevention strategies, same sex domestic violence and the Positive Living Centre tender. The treatments team has worked closely with St Vincent's Hospital to establish the Treatments Support Line providing 24 hour a day telephone support on treatment related issues and has worked in collaboration with the PLWHA Integrated Therapies Working Group in the provision of information on complementary therapies.

Our partnership with the AIDS Dementia and HIV Psychiatry Service (ADAHPS) has enabled us to better meet the needs of clients with complex needs. Our work with Home and Community Care services (HACC) has led to a greater range of homecare options for positive people through the development of protocols on referral and HIV client confidentiality within HACC services.

The Family Support project continued to work in close collaboration with the Sydney Children's Hospital HIV services to provide a continuity of care to families living with and affected by HIV. Increasing numbers of positive women choosing to have either a first child, or add to their family has meant greater need for ongoing collaboration. This year the Family Support worker contributed to a range of HIV resources for positive women and families.

The Housing Project continues its relationship with the Department of Housing as well as becoming involved in a SWAIDS sub-committee to survey gaps in respite and short term accommodation services for positive people. The project strengthened its relationship with the Eastern Suburbs Rental Housing Association (ESRHA) in order to secure additional household properties for short-medium term accommodation.

Our capacity

An important focus during the year has been to build the capacity, professionalism, skills and knowledge of our team. We have recruited staff with specialist skills in key areas such as mental health counselling and introduced a new training program on client assessment and early intervention. New planning processes within our work will allow for critical reflection and the development of strategies to improve our services and to meet new and emerging needs.

We have moved from having a series of individual projects to providing a range of integrated services that communicate effectively through, for example, joint assessments and care coordination, to best meet client needs. 2001 will see us building on this work as part of a process of continuous improvement.

COMMUNITY HEALTH



Health Education Resources

The Community Health Division provides individual support and advocacy, runs support and education groups and develops information and education resources to generate debate and awareness of health issues affecting ACON's communities.

Supporting Individuals

Individual assistance continues to be a core activity for many of our projects and often provides the first opportunity for people to discuss their health and lives with someone who shares a similar experience. We help with information and assistance about coming out, getting older, sexual health, drug use and where, for example, to find a lesbian friendly doctor in their area.

In the last year our HIV Men's and Women's Health Promotion Teams have had contact with a steady stream of HIV positive people wanting to talk about living with HIV in all its complexity. Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Team have also helped clients find the right services and work out ways to have greater power over health decisions. Working with the Aboriginal Medical Service in Redfern we ran a weekend retreat and several community events for Indigenous people.

Healthy, Informed Communities

The vulnerability of our HIV prevention effort among gay men in Sydney was a priority issue throughout the year. We led considerable debate about the responses needed for HIV prevention work to be relevant and reflective of the decisions gay men are making about sex, HIV and condoms today.

In November we published an open letter to gay men about current research to encourage community debate. We created an internet discussion board on the issue and invited gay men to talk about sex without condoms.

We maintained a presence on this issue during Mardi Gras with a panel discussion and the release of two campaigns: the popular *Up ya bum!* promoting condoms and *Consider This...*, a campaign directly targeting gay men having casual sex without condoms that provided information to help weigh up their options when negotiating sex.

In May the NSW Health Minister accepted our recommendation to hold an expert summit on this issue. It was a highly successful event that reaffirmed the strength of the partnership response in NSW.

Our new lesbian health work has focused on generating debate and discussion about health and wellbeing and how ACON can play a role in lesbian health. The highly successful Stir It Up Lesbian Health Speaker Series has brought women together to discuss issues such as mental health and domestic violence. We continued to support the Lesbian Health Interagency Network and hosted a Lesbian Sexual Health forum in December.

Our HIV Positive Men's Project ran a successful gym program for gay men living with HIV looking at fitness, diet and body image and the Youth Team collaborated in a photography project allowing young gay men to document their perspectives on being young and gay in the new millennium.

During the year we also responded to an outbreak of shigella, assisted in the promotion of post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), coordinated the local release of the National Positive Asian Campaign and undertook substantial work on information around party drug use for the ACON website early in the new year.

People Together

Our social, support and education groups continued to expand during the year:

- **Fun and Esteem** ran 44 drop-in sessions for young gay men and 12 six-week workshops about coming out, health and the community. Next year we will be piloting programs for young lesbians and work to build the capacity of people working with same sex attracted youth.
- **HIV positive women** were able to come together with opportunities created by ACON for mutual support. The Annual Women's Retreat was held in Ballina alongside the HIV Rural Forum and the bi-monthly Women and HIV Speaker Series brought together service providers and women living with HIV.
- **Mature Age Gays (MAG)** met once a fortnight throughout the year with attendances as high as 170. A new executive board is looking at the strategic direction for the organisation, its monthly dinners for people living with HIV/AIDS and support for the Paediatric AIDS Ward of the Prince of Wales Hospital.
- **Silk Road**, an initiative of ACON's Asian Project continued to meet fortnightly with strong attendances. Silk Road hosted the launch of a significant report on sexual and HIV behaviour - *Asian Gay Men in Sydney* and supported the Asian Marching Boys.
- **The Genesis** weekend workshop for recently diagnosed men was expanded and a series of casual drop-in groups including a breakfast group and twice monthly coffee nights began. The regular social nights run by the project - Planet Positive - continues to thrive.
- **Street Jungle**, a collaborative project with SESAH, CSAHS and South Sydney Council has continued to support community gardens in Waterloo, Newtown and Woolloomooloo. The gardens provide opportunities for people to reduce their isolation, interact with their local community and learn gardening and permaculture skills.
- **The Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander Project** organised a number of community events including a successful Mardi Gras float and weekend health retreat.

Speaking Up

In April the Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project moved from the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby to ACON. We finalised the work of the Lobby on the Trade Secrets campaign focusing on violence issues associated with chat lines. The project continues to provide one on one support to lesbian, gay and transgender survivors of hate related violence as well as monitoring trends.

During the year we also worked closely with NSW Health, local government and industry to ensure appropriate regulation of sex on premises venues and to enable access to health information, condoms, lube and facilities for the safe disposal of injecting equipment. We continue to represent our communities' interests on various committees and in April we commenced a consultation process on HIV preventative vaccines.

Collaboration and Partnership

We continued to work alongside Mardi Gras, Pride and Leather Pride to promote good health at major community dance parties. Partygoers were provided with information, access to condoms and needles along with a voluntary team of drug ravers to lend a hand if people were having negative effects from drug use. We also worked with the Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service and Alcohol and Drug Information Service to provide post-party counselling support in the week following major community celebrations.

We also enjoy an excellent working relationship with researchers. Staff from the division sit on a number of research committees within the National Centre in HIV Social Research and National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research. We entered a partnership with the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre involving both research into the effects of new substances and assistance with training and education.

Teams, Opportunities and Innovation

Throughout the year we have progressively reshaped the division to place a greater emphasis on work within teams, amalgamating some projects to allow for greater flexibility and better staff opportunities. The flexibility, creativity and commitment of staff in the last year is to be commended.

Annual planning processes are now an important mechanism for all projects to critically reflect on the work that we do and to think about innovative ways to meet the challenges we face.

Many projects have been able to attract additional funding to expand their work and we will be implementing a number of new initiatives in the next twelve months, especially in areas such as drugs and alcohol, sexual health and work with people from non-English speaking backgrounds.

ILLAWARRA



ACON Illawarra / OUTLOOK banner

The staff and volunteers of the Illawarra Branch have ensured that ACON's relationships with our communities - in particular the gay and lesbian communities - continued to evolve and grow strong in 2000-01. The branch is widely recognised in the region by other service providers and key stakeholders as a vital centre in the lives of people living with HIV/AIDS, gay men and lesbians. Over the last decade we have built a strong reputation as an authority on HIV, sexual health and sexual diversity.

A major undertaking this year was to expand our knowledge of the changing needs of the communities we work most closely with. The Gay Community Education and Development Project surveyed more than 140 people about their identities, their health, their social and sexual lives. The "OutLOOK" project data will be released in July 2001 with further investigation and analysis occurring over time.

Enhancing this mapping exercise has been OutLOOK's love-child - the MAPout Project. This popular community arts project saw disposable cameras distributed to lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transsexuals right across the region. They were asked to capture our "extraordinarily ordinary lives" and the results were amazing. An exhibition of the photos was scheduled for July.

These engaging processes have not only served to map our community and its connectors but they have enriched them as well. They leave the branch ideally placed to stimulate, facilitate and generate community debate, action and resources. We are now in a stronger position to maximise opportunities that will help improve the health and wellbeing of our communities.

ACON Illawarra has encouraged young gay men and lesbians to take hold of their own project "YAP - Young And Proud" and make it blossom. YAP marchers were the only entry in the 2001 Mardi Gras Parade from the Illawarra region and they followed this event by marching in the local Viva La Gong street parade in March. YAP has generated positive media coverage and has provided a much-needed voice for young gays and lesbians of Illawarra.

The Branch has developed a solid partnership with Wollongong Youth Services and CHAIN (youth health) to oversee this project's development. The success of YAP indicates an increasingly supportive environment with social support needs of young gays and lesbians now listed as a priority in Wollongong City Council's Social Plan.

The health and wellbeing of lesbians of all ages in the Illawarra region is a priority of our branch and in February this year we appointed a Lesbian Community Development Officer to help raise the profile of lesbian issues in the Illawarra.

We engaged in a thorough consultation process to plan for the coming year with priority on facilitating opportunities for better health in the gay and lesbian community with an emphasis on healthy relationships and on maintaining the branch as a social/support centre. The plan also emphasises the development of our capacity to work effectively in the lesbian community, to re-engage with the Shoalhaven community and to support Indigenous community responses to HIV.

We will be re-launching Care and Support as HIV Health Promotion and working closely with services like Our Pathways Inc (DPI), Sexual Health and Nowra Community Care. The focus will be on building links across the community and fostering supportive environments for all positive people within ACON, our ancillary services and across the Illawarra/Shoalhaven.

HUNTER

The last year has been one of continuing change for ACON Hunter, service providers and the clients and communities we represent. We have focused on the challenge of responding to increasingly complex and differing community needs, maintaining existing areas of key services and exploring possible areas for change or service direction.

Our priorities have been the coordination of a strong volunteer base including Community Support Network (CSN) and increasing options for people living with HIV/AIDS in the Hunter region. We have enhanced health promotion services to target communities at risk of HIV and STI transmission and members in our communities experiencing social isolation, discrimination or issues around alcohol and other drugs.

Formal links have been developed with a number of agencies that we have worked in partnership with for some time. We are exploring housing options with Karumah Inc and the Samaritans, HIV testing with the Sexual Health Outreach Clinic, health promotion planning with the Centre for Health Advancement, PFLAG with Jesmond Neighbourhood Centre, sex worker education outreach with the Sexual Health Service and lesbian wellbeing with the Hunter Women's Centre. During the year we worked with Byrne House (outpatients) and Karumah to develop and run lifestyles programs and implement IT training packages for positive clients and with youth services to develop peer education packages. This year we also made a concerted effort to provide our communities with the right resources, information and opportunities to improve their health.

MID NORTH COAST

The tyranny of distance is an ongoing challenge for the outreach service in Mid North Coast which has initiated a number of joint projects and planning for innovative service delivery models during 2000/01. Staff have participated in a range of support and networking opportunities across the region to help improve equity of access to services. We have enhanced our case work capacity through referral and care coordination and have established joint service outreach into areas without sexual health testing, counselling or access to needle and syringe programs.

A continued focus has been the delivery of care and support services through Community Support Network (CSN) and ongoing reviews of client and service provider feedback surveys to improve policy and procedures. A SWOP worker is now employed with the support of the Mid North Coast Area Health Service (MNCAHS) ensuring service delivery to previously isolated sex workers.

We have worked closely with key community groups and have adopted a shared advocacy approach on issues around discrimination and homophobia, Aboriginal cultural awareness, needs of isolated communities and gaps in service provision. The area has been successful in developing a counselling outreach service, Aboriginal Interagency, sex worker outreach service, youth homelessness project and increased sexual health testing services as a result of this advocacy and joint planning. We also continued to provide presentations at a number of forums including TAFE, schools and service providers covering gay and lesbian issues, health issues, living with HIV and Aboriginal cultural awareness workshops.

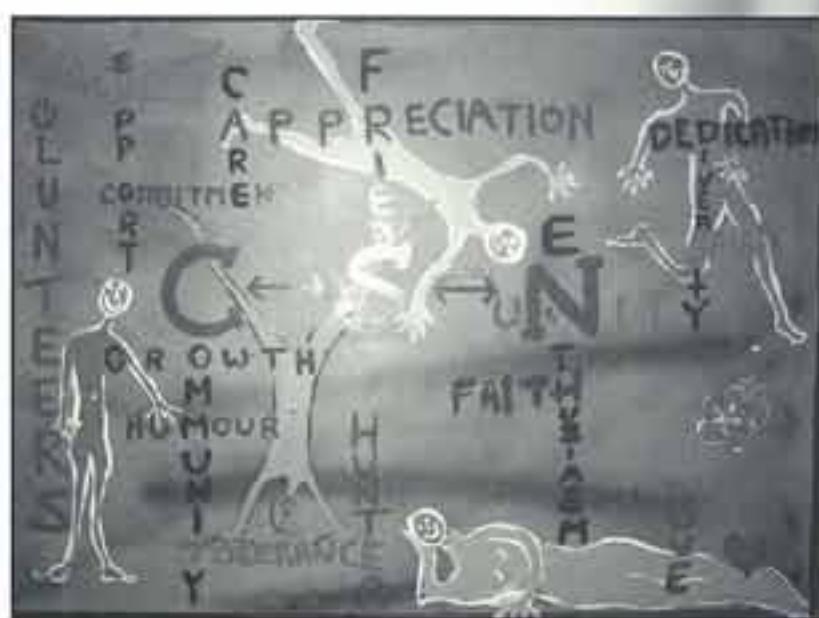


Illustration CSN

NORTHERNRIVERS



'Act of Passion' Launch

Staff of ACON Northern Rivers ACON have spent much of the year developing partnerships and initiatives to provide our clients with greater control over their own health and to help improve access to services. This region is recognised as having the largest number of people living with HIV and the largest number of people living with Hepatitis C outside metropolitan Sydney.

We have expanded our casework capacity for people with mental health issues and with drug and alcohol issues. We have also enhanced complementary clinics for people living with HIV/AIDS, gay, lesbian and transgender communities and have improved our needle and syringe program.

The implementation of anti-discrimination and advocacy training has been a highlight of the year along with the establishment of new links with sexual health services in the region. Our Tweed outreach program was reviewed and a new model of service delivery for clients in the Tweed Valley will be introduced next year.

A number of activities were undertaken to provide our local communities with resources, information and opportunities to improve their health. A local services directory was developed for people living with HIV/AIDS, gay men, lesbians and transgender communities of the Northern Rivers. We have supported these communities with initiatives such as:

- a new Gay Men's Advisory Committee
- HIV peer support groups in Lismore, Brunswick Heads and Murwillumbah
- a new support group for partners and carers of people living with HIV/AIDS
- health retreat for HIV positive gay men
- homophobia and HIV orientation workshops for service providers
- a new gay men's support group
- "Looking to the Future" training program for people living with HIV/AIDS

Our branch continues to hold regular social functions aimed at improving community communication and access to information. Open communication with our communities ensures that we can play an important role in helping to improve access to mainstream HIV services and to advocate for clients on local issues.

The employment of a part time Lesbian Project Worker and a part time Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Worker has strengthened our relationship with these communities. We developed forums for Aboriginal women on domestic violence and continued to promote culturally appropriate programs. Our Lesbian Project Worker developed a series of social and informative activities using our premises every Thursday night.

One of the major challenges in implementing new activities has been to reassure our HIV positive client group that we are continuing to enhance services to all people living with HIV/AIDS. We have consulted extensively with our clients and the resulting participation of our community has been both confirming and reassuring.

GREATERWESTERN SYDNEY

The past year has certainly been a challenging experience for ACON staff and clients in the greater western Sydney region. The fire that destroyed our Parramatta office building in July 2000 saw programs and services relocated with little disruption to service delivery.

This was a remarkable achievement for staff, volunteers, service providers and clients across the region who have been extremely patient and understanding of the crisis. Their resourcefulness during this time has clearly demonstrated unwavering support and commitment to ACON.

Despite such demanding conditions staff have been able to maintain a high level of quality service delivery and find new ways to expand and improve ACON's profile and service provision options for clients. Community Support Network (CSN) staff helped put on a wonderful Christmas dinner at the Parramatta club for CSN clients and carers with support from Franny's Place.

Programs for people living with HIV/AIDS in the Greater Western Sydney region have been expanded to include a supported care initiative funded through Western Sydney Area Health Service (NSAHS). CSN and the Positive Employment Support Service have also been enhanced during the year and we have established a PLWHA garden project at Emerton.

ACON Greater Western Sydney embarked on a number of exciting new initiatives during the year to foster greater understanding of the communities we work with and how we can improve their health and wellbeing.

Staff completed a community mapping project to get a better understanding of the current realities and issues that confront people living in the Greater Western Sydney region. We also completed a research paper examining the issues of alcohol and drug use in Western Sydney specifically in the gay and lesbian community to help develop a social marketing campaign in the upcoming year.

Our community development staff had a unique opportunity to participate in a Department Corrective Services inmate education and support program during the year. The invitation was extended through the education staff at a correctional facility to support HIV positive and gay inmates in the prison and the program has proven to be so successful that we are investigating ways to further enhance this service.

This year we commenced a new partnership with the NSW Police Service through the Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer (GLLO) training at Goulburn Police Academy. Twice a year we are giving a presentation at the orientation session of the Academy covering an overview of ACON's services and issues for gay men, lesbians and people living with HIV/AIDS.

One of the most outstanding success stories in the past year for ACON Greater Western Sydney has been the partnership that we have established with FPA Health to join together our respective programs to support young gay men. This initiative, the Way Out program, is mostly funded by Wentworth Area Health Service (WAHS) and has two full time staff who work between ACON Greater Western Sydney and the FPA Health Warehouse facility in Penrith.



Miss Western Sydney Charity Ball

SEXWORKERS' OUTREACH PROJECT



Amber Hookers and Strippers Ball

SWOP provides sex workers across the state with health information and support, assessment and referral and these services were accessed on more than 3,500 occasions last year. We provided 240 face to face counselling sessions and counseling support over the telephone on 420 occasions.

Outreach visits to the NSW sex industry deliver services to every workplace in metropolitan Sydney and most regional towns. During 2000-01 more than 8,000 individual interactions took place with sex workers through our outreach project. We conducted a survey with service users and found a high level of satisfaction for our women's, Indigenous, men's and tranny outreach services.

Individual private workers and escorts were also accessed and our new late service between 10pm and 2am has considerably improved access for extremely marginalised sex workers. We continued to work closely with other welfare and health agencies to address the complex needs of individual clients.

A major Olympics campaign was conducted with a specific focus on Parramatta and the Kings Cross/Bankstown street work areas for the provision of health, legal and anti-violence education materials. These publications were produced in many languages for clients of sex workers and supported the distribution of "The Good Clients Guide" through adult bookshops.

With no increase in the incidence of violence or STI transmission during the Olympic period SWOP has received anecdotal feedback from our community that the campaign was very successful. The fact that Safehouses had been approved off William Street accounted for over 500 "jobs" per house per week occurring safely indoors during the Olympics.

Other highlights during the year included:

- The establishment of a regional project in the Mid North Coast area to be modeled on the success of projects in the Hunter and Illawarra regions.
- A new partnership with DISC youth drug and alcohol service in Cabramatta to reach new sex workers particularly those who are young, from non-English speaking backgrounds or opportunistic street sex workers.
- A new Sistergirls pocket referral leaflet developed and distributed with a positive response from the community.
- More than 300 people attended the annual Hookers and Strippers Ball and a barbecue on William Street in May fed over 40 street workers offering a safe space for socialising and networking between staff and sex workers.
- A Sistergirls arts workshop in partnership with South Sydney Council saw the development of a series of commemorative murals. A writing and graphic design workshop for our magazine editorial committee attracted a number of participants.
- Coordination of the Sex Worker Network in Darlinghurst bringing together police, health, welfare and sex industry representatives to discuss safety and health issues for sex workers.
- "Touching Base", a closed forum for 60 sex workers, disabled adults and their carers explored issues of concern to both groups. The forum was co-hosted by SWOP and People With Disabilities, coinciding with the Disabilities with Attitude International conference.
- Exploring joint outreach with the Sexual Health Outreach Workers (SHOWGrls).

POLICY AND ADVOCACY

ACON plays a leading role in NSW advocating for public policy, legislative and social environments to protect the rights of people living with HIV/AIDS, gay men, lesbians, sex workers, intravenous drug users and all those directly affected by the epidemic including people in our indigenous communities. We take a major policy development and advocacy role in a number of different areas - the community response to HIV/AIDS, the health sector, the NGO sector, the health consumer movement and the gay and lesbian communities. In many of these forums ACON may be the only HIV/AIDS or gay and lesbian community organisation present and we are often regarded as a peak body even though we do not fulfil many of the traditional roles of a peak body.

Virtually all staff who are engaged in direct client contact also advocate for clients on an individual basis. This work feeds into our systemic advocacy agenda generally undertaken by the Board, Senior Management Team, Policy Officer and Media Officer in conjunction with other community based organisations. Some of the specific areas of policy and advocacy work we have tackled this year include:

Law Reform - Anti-discrimination - ACON rallied support from all quarters to counter the watering down of anti-discrimination legislation to prevent lesbian couples and single women accessing Artificial Reproductive Technology (ART). We are continuing our work to ensure that all women have access to medically supervised ART treatment regardless of marital status or sexuality.

Sex Work Legislation - ACON, SWOP and the Private Workers Alliance (PWA) have contributed to the review of the Cabinet Office Taskforce on Brothels and have lobbied on behalf of sex workers for the appropriate implementation of amendments to the 'Disorderly House Act' and for councils to implement reforms that would enable brothels to operate as legitimate businesses.

HIV Treatment - Medical Cannabis - ACON has had an ongoing role in the 'Medical Cannabis Working Party' and its community consultations. We forwarded our submission in March to the Cabinet Office on the working party's recommendations supporting the proposal to decriminalise cannabis use for people living with HIV/AIDS and cancer.

HCV Discrimination Inquiry - As part of the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board's Inquiry ACON documented a series of interviews conducted with people living with HIV/AIDS and with Hepatitis C. The final report from the inquiry will help address discriminatory attitudes in the health system and the current lack of information for those experiencing discrimination.

Privacy Legislation - The Privacy Amendment (Private Sector) Bill 2000 comes into effect in December 2001 further regulating the use of personal information by organisations not previously covered by privacy legislation. We are participating in community consultations to ensure that our communities are not adversely affected.

Better Medication Management Systems - ACON and a number of health consumer organisations have actively lobbied to guarantee the confidentiality of people choosing to participate in the BMMS scheme which aims to safeguard against inappropriate or over-prescribing of medications.

New South Wales Council of Social Services (NCOSS) - We have participated in NCOSS's Health Policy Advice Group on issues such as dental care for social security recipients, transport access to health services in rural NSW and compulsory competitive tendering proposals.

The women of Australia have drawn a line in the sand.



Don't let John Howard step over it.

NO MORE ATTACKS ON THE SEX DISCRIMINATION ACT.
ALL WOMEN HAVE A RIGHT TO SAFE FERTILITY SERVICES.

AID Campaign

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT



ACON's Safe Sex Stars, winners of the 2001 Merit Award Commitment to HIV/AIDS Awards.

Plans to expand ACON's existing services and to provide new services for our many communities set a challenge for our Organisational Development staff to continue to find innovative ways to ensure we are meeting our communities' needs.

Finance and IT staff survived the introduction of GST and the threat of Y2K the year before to have new and efficient systems in place that will support ACON in achieving its many goals under *Strategic Directions 2000-2003*.

ACON's website - www.acon.org.au has been a popular site for people wanting information about HIV and various community issues. We have used this important communication tool to encourage community debate and discussion on topical issues like sex without condoms. Our discussion boards have attracted all manner of commentary on this issue and our website is constantly updated with new research information and with educational campaign resources.

Staff and volunteers of ACON remain the backbone of our organisation especially during current changes in the organisation's focus. We have invested a lot of time and effort in the past year to ensure that their needs are being met so they can continue to provide the very best care education and support services for our clients and communities.

Human Resources

During the year we maintained a reliable, responsive and confidential human resource service for all of ACON's employees. We focussed on providing efficient administrative and personnel systems, training and development, and organisational health promotion along with staff orientation.

The annual Learning and Development Plan for 2000-2001 was implemented after extensive consultation and collaboration with management and staff. This plan provided a range of development opportunities including:

- Occupational Health and Safety Committee training
- Orientation sessions for new employees
- Awareness sessions for staff working with clients who have drug, alcohol and mental health issues
- In-service training sessions to foster an increased understanding of transgender and lesbian health issues
- Crisis intervention training for our front of house staff

Volunteers

Volunteers are an essential part of ACON work and make it possible for us to extend our reach and activities further into the community. We are committed to finding new ways for volunteers to have more meaningful roles in our organisation and this is especially true during the International Year of Volunteers.

We identified areas of the organisation requiring additional support and began targeted recruitment campaigns. The volunteer program, roles and responsibilities were reviewed and we are working towards a more disciplined approach to planning, programming and performance assessment. These changes to the volunteer program reflect the level of care and professionalism in the development and provision of all our programs and services.

PROMOTIONS

Our Promotions Unit was established during the year to unite the Information, Events and Fundraising arms of ACON. 2000/01 has been a busy year for us with a number of events staged for fundraising and to help raise the profile of ACON and its services.

Some of our more important activities occurred around World AIDS Day in December 2000. We had a record number of volunteers selling Red Ribbons on the street and all funds raised assist ACON to continue those projects for which we receive no government funding. Stonewall Hotel hosted the annual Red Party on our behalf helping us to raise extra funds. A month earlier we held the Candlelight Memorial in Hyde Park giving friends and family an opportunity to remember their loved ones in a warm, sharing environment.

ACON@TaylorSquare was held just prior to Mardi Gras again this year. We took the opportunity to get our messages out while we had a captive audience of international and interstate visitors in and around our city.

We took a different approach to our Mardi Gras Parade float this year with 26 people becoming living billboards featuring the many different couples and friends that make up our community. The images were painted from photos taken at Fair Day where ACON's Chill Out Zone was a popular and relaxing retreat with many people taking time out to lie on our piles of cushions and gaze at the sky through a dappled ceiling.

Our regular BINGAY @ The Imperial is the most fun you can have in Sydney on a Tuesday night. Hosted by the amazing Mitzi Macintosh with assistance from Naomi, the amazing singing lesbian barrel dyke, at 8.30pm every Tuesday night at the Imperial Hotel, Erskineville, BINGAY has raised \$50,000 for ACON in the last 20 months.

Our major event was the annual Hand in Hand dance party. This year we took to the galaxy with "Lust in Space" a camp space party held at Fox Studios with more than 4,500 people attending. Of the funds raised \$23,000 was distributed to community groups which find it difficult to attract government funding.

We continue to seek innovative ways of getting our message to the public. This year we collaborated with Arq nightclub and Fantasy Lane to provide their window displays. This was a great opportunity to create visual documentation of ACON's latest campaigns and messages.

ACON's information office is the centre for most HIV/AIDS resources. We continued to distribute information on behalf of AFAO, NAPWA and NSW Health along with the Attorney General's Department's "Acts of Passion" campaign. Our dedicated volunteers and packers were able to get resources to over 900 services and organisations.

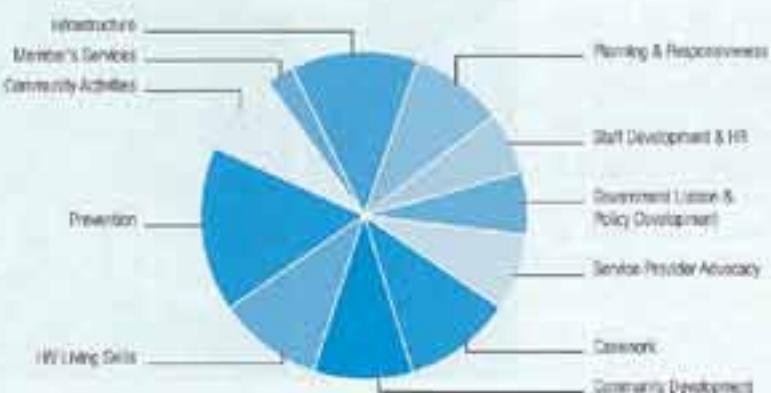
We have also now placed our resource order form on the ACON website. This has increased traffic to the information office and made it much easier for people to contact us, especially those in rural and regional areas.



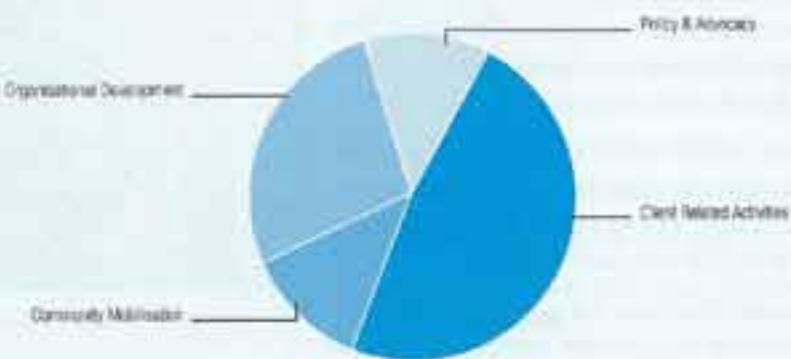
Arq window displays

EXPENDITURE

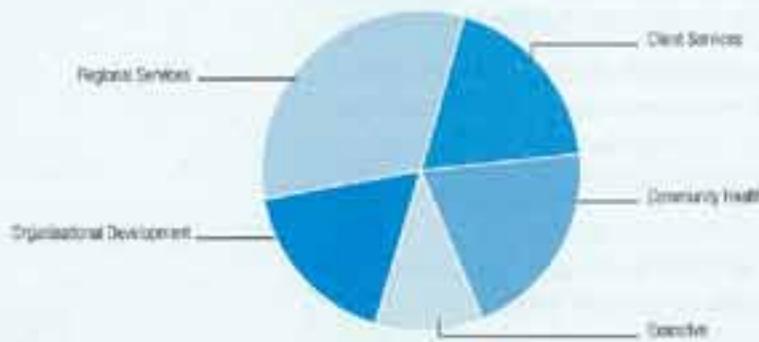
SUB PROGRAM AREAS



PROGRAM AREAS



DIVISIONS



Note: Executive function has been split from Organisational Development for comparative purposes

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

It is with pleasure that I present the accounts for the 2000-01 financial year. These accounts represent a continued success in the financial management of the organisation.

We have returned a strong but modest operating surplus for the year, reflecting prudent financial management by staff, management and the Board. The continued growth in members' funds bodes well for the long term security of the organisation.

Our cash position is strong, although a large proportion of cash held at June 30 is grant income provided in advance. We are also holding a large provision for employee entitlements, guaranteeing the organisation's ability to pay such entitlements if required.

The organisation continues to diversify its funding base, obtaining new grants for activities such as the Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project and Enhanced Care Project. This trend is expected to continue in 2001-02. Our staffing numbers have also increased from 90 full-time equivalent at June 2000 to 106 full-time equivalent at June 2001, an increase of 17.6%.

Over the last year we have paid greater attention to our infrastructure and assets. We reviewed our asset base during the year, writing down assets which were no longer of use. All but one had been fully depreciated therefore there was no impact on the operating surplus for the year but has resulted in a reduction in non-current assets on the balance sheet. We have also introduced a rolling three year asset replacement program for our IT equipment to improve the technology available to staff throughout the organisation.

During this reporting period, we have been required to comply with the new Goods and Services Tax and respond to changes to Fringe Benefits Tax. These amendments have resulted in significant changes to our financial systems, changes that have been implemented in a timely and effective manner.

Overall, these accounts reflect the high standard of financial management within ACON which will allow a greater focus on the medium to long term financial goals of the organisation in the coming year.



ADRIAN LOVNEY
President

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD REPORT

THE BOARD OF THE AIDS COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES INCORPORATED SUBMITS ITS REPORT ON THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001.

1. The principal activities of the Association during the year were the provision of health promotion; advocacy and care and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS and the communities affected by HIV/AIDS.
2. After providing \$nil for income tax, operations for the year ended 30 June 2001, resulted in a net surplus of \$205,712 (1999/2000:\$273,824) compared to a budget surplus of \$69,884.
The operating surplus included Gifts of Works of Art totalling \$28,850 (1999/2000: \$14,000)
3. The Association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW) and is restricted from declaring any dividends.
4. During the year ended 30 June 2001, there was no significant change in the state of affairs of the Association other than those referred to in the above review or financial statements.
5. There have not been any matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial period, other than those referred to in the review or financial statements, that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in subsequent years.
6. Members of the Board at 30 June 2001

Name Qualifications	Experience	Special Responsibilities
Adrian Lovney LLB(Hons)	10 years' experience at governance level in HIV/AIDS organisations, and in public sector program and policy analysis/advice. Manager Public Affairs for Australian credit unions.	President
Rachele Pepper BA(LLB(Hons))	Practices in discrimination law, legal community centre experience, worked in voluntary capacity for Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby	Vice-President from November 2000
Andrew Grulich MBBS, MSc, PhD	Senior Lecturer in HIV research; President of Australasian Society for HIV medicine	Vice-President to November 2000

Name	Experience	Special Responsibilities
Qualifications Margaret Hansford BA,AFCHSE,AFAIM	Extensive experience in all levels of health industry, with particular interest in women's health and primary health care. Currently CEO of FPA Health and studying a Master of Primary Health Care.	Treasurer to May 2001
Andrew Maiden BEC,LLB	Solicitor with extensive experience in community organisations. Currently an executive in the telecommunications industry	Secretary from November 2000
Stevie Clayton	3.5 years as Deputy Executive Officer of ACON; Member of Equal Officer Opportunity Division, Administrative Decisions Tribunal. Long history of involvement in community based organisations	Chief Executive
Sonny Williams	Community Development and Education Officer, Western Sydney branch	Staff Representative
David Buchanan,SC	Barrister	
Linette Collins Fraser Drummond MBChB,MRCA,DA(UK)	Member of Board for 4 years, including Convenor of Treatments Working Group, Secretary and Convenor of Hand-in-Hand fundraiser for 3 years	
Ken Irvine		
Gerald Lawrence		
Michael Lawrence		
Kane Race BA(Hons),LLB	Conducts research in sexuality, gender, medicine and culture	
Robyn Waopakalou		

7. Attendances by Members of the Board who held office during the year at meetings of the Board during the year ended 30 June 2001 are as follows. Elections for the elected Board Members were held in October 2000.

	Meetings held	Meetings attended
Elected Members and Ex Officio		
David Buchanan	14	10
Linette Collins	14	12
Fraser Drummond	14	10
Chris Grafton [to November 2000]	7	7
Andrew Grulich	14	9
Margaret Hansford	14	11
Gerard Lawrence [from November 2000]	7	6
Adrian Lovney	14	12
Andrew Maiden [from November 2000]	7	6
Shayne Mallard [to July 2000]	1	1
Rachel Pepper	14	10
Kane Race	14	12
David Stone [to November 2000]	7	7
Tony Katsigiannis [to November 2000]	7	7
Sonny Williams [from November 2000]	7	6
Stevie Clayton [Acting CEO from March to June 2001]	5	5
Iain Gardner [CEO from February to June 2001]	5	1
Robert Grieves (CEO to December 2000)	9	8
Appointed positive women and representatives of PLWHA (NSW) Inc.		
Paul-Auguste Cornefart [to October 2000]	7	4
Kay Harding [from August to December 2000]	8	4
Ken Irvine [from December 2000]	7	5
Michael Lawrence [from February 2001]	5	2
Robert Rogers [to October 2000]	7	3
Robyn Wagakalou [co-opted from September 2000, appointed February 2001]	12	8

In addition, various representatives appointed by PLWHA (NSW) Inc. deputised under the Constitution.
The Board also co-opted individuals from time to time.

8. Other than Staff Representatives and the Chief Executive Officer, no Member of the Board has received or has become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the Association with the member, a firm of which the member is a member or an entity in which the member has a substantial financial interest.

9. There are no significant environmental regulations which affect the Association's operations.
10. The Association has paid a premium of \$1,682, [1999/2000: \$1,980] to insure certain officers of the Association. The officers of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated covered by the insurance policy include the Members of the Board.
The liabilities insured include costs and expenses that may be incurred in defending civil or criminal proceedings that may be brought against officers of the Association.
11. The net surplus obtained from fundraising activities was applied to the purposes of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated as set out in Note 1 above. A portion of the net proceeds from the Hand-in-Hand Dance Party, \$20,380, was disbursed as small grants to community organisations who are ineligible for, or unlikely to receive, government funding for services directly beneficial to people living with HIV/AIDS.
12. PricewaterhouseCoopers continues in office as auditors to the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc. in accordance with section 327 of the Corporations Act 2001.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

DATED AT SYDNEY THIS SEVENTEENTH DAY OF OCTOBER 2001



ADRIAN LOVNEY
PRESIDENT



RACHEL PEPPER
VICE-PRESIDENT

FINANCIAL REPORT

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
REVENUE FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		
Grants:		
NSW Department of Health	5,782,732	5,969,151
NSW Department of Community Services	104,367	82,646
WorkCover New South Wales	1,857	115,510
NSW Aging & Disability Department	-	1,450
NSW Department for Women	-	6,826
NSW Attorney General's Department	33,294	4,346
Commonwealth Dept of Health & Aged Care	57,930	26,000
Aura Health Services	129,640	26,654
Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations	27,992	27,599
AIDS Trust of Australia	35,450	74,978
Law Foundation of NSW	-	7,077
NSW Users & AIDS Association	8,176	24,896
Other grants	40,060	16,378
Fundraising	437,033	524,602
Interest received/receivable	120,188	71,330
Membership	3,110	5,932
Rent received	49,191	49,555
Sale of Vitamins	69,744	63,410
Sale of Materials	114,878	105,915
Other Income	90,229	65,284
Gifts of Works of Art	28,850	14,000
Total Revenue from Ordinary Activities	7,134,721	7,283,601
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries & Associated Costs	4,436,712	4,428,811
Programs and Services	509,557	483,881
Rent and Rates	170,633	217,380
Depreciation - Plant & Equipment	141,214	167,107
Building Maintenance	309,581	257,314
Communications	242,445	239,281
Travel and Representation	258,274	277,305
Donations given	27,506	30,146
Publicity and Promotion	115,355	118,748
Events and Activities	228,990	255,660
Administrative costs	418,376	460,228
Borrowing Costs	1,769	4,011
Cost of goods sold	67,597	69,905
Total Expenditure	6,928,009	7,009,777
SURPLUS from Ordinary Activities	206,712	273,824

The above Statement of Financial Performance should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2001

	Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash	4	2,183,602	1,251,988
Receivables	5	316,246	366,084
Inventories	7	6,444	8,306
Other	8	109,663	43,979
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,615,955	1,670,357
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, Plant & Equipment	9	378,690	422,361
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		378,690	422,361
TOTAL ASSETS		2,994,645	2,092,718
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	10	773,076	488,863
Employee Entitlements	12	443,443	441,408
Grants in Advance	13	768,094	350,172
Borrowings	11&14	5,165	10,724
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,989,778	1,291,167
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Borrowings	14	-	3,396
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	3,396
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,989,778	1,294,563
NET ASSETS		1,004,867	798,155
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained Surplus at beginning of the Year		798,155	524,331
Current Year Surplus		206,712	273,824
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		1,004,867	798,155

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

Notes	2001 \$	2000 \$
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Receipts from customers, granting bodies and fundraising (inclusive of goods and services tax)	8,004,190	7,474,087
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of goods and services tax)	(7,110,004)	(6,776,523)
	894,186	697,564
Interest paid	(1,769)	(4,011)
Interest received	117,624	69,313
Net cash inflow from operating activities	1,010,041	762,866
Cash flows from investing activities		
Payment for plant and equipment	(69,471)	-
Net cash outflow from investing activities	(69,471)	-
Cash flows from financing activities		
Payments reducing lease liability	(8,956)	(39,236)
Net cash outflow from financing activities	(8,956)	(39,236)
Net increase in cash held	931,614	723,630
Cash at beginning of the financial year	4	1,251,988
Cash at end of the financial year	4	2,183,602
	1,251,988	528,356

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This general purpose report has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standards, other mandatory professional reporting requirements, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group consensus views, and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW), the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW).

It is prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention on an accruals basis, except for certain assets which, as noted, are at valuation. Unless otherwise stated, the accounting policies are consistent with those of the previous year.

As a result of applying the revised Accounting Standard AASB 1018 Statement of Financial Performance, revised AASB 1034 Financial Report Presentation and Disclosures and AASB 1040 Statement of Financial Position for the first time, a number of comparative amounts are represented or reclassified to ensure comparability with the current reporting period.

(a) GRANT REVENUE

Grant revenue received is brought to account over the life of the funded project, hence all funds committed for the financial year have been recorded as revenue for that year and funds not committed as grants in advance.

(b) RECEIVABLES

Trade receivables are recognised at the amounts receivable as they are due for settlement no more than 30 days from the date of recognition. Collectability of trade debtors is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectable are written off. A provision for doubtful debts is raised where some doubt as to collection exists.

(c) INVENTORIES

Inventories are represented by vitamin stock and are stated at the lower of cost or net realisable value on the basis of first in first out.

(d) RECOVERABLE AMOUNT OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS

The recoverable amount of an asset is the net amount expected to be recovered through the cash inflows and outflows arising from its continued use and subsequent disposal.

Where the carrying amount of a non-current asset is greater than its recoverable amount, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount. Where net cash inflows are derived from a group of assets working together, the recoverable amount is determined on the basis of the relevant group of assets. The decrement in the carrying amount is recognised as an expense in net profit or loss in the reporting period in which the recoverable amount write-down occurs.

(e) REVALUATION OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS

The Association gifts works of art from time to time. Works gifted are valued at the time of the gift and are capitalised at that amount.

Works of Art are valued at three yearly intervals. Revaluations reflect independent assessments of the fair market value of works of art.

Revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve, unless they are reversing a previous decrement charged to the statement of financial performance, in which case the increment is credited to the statement of financial performance.

Revaluation decrements are recognised as expenses in the statement of financial performance, unless they are reversing revaluation increments previously credited to, and still included in the balance of, the asset revaluation reserve in respect of that same class of assets, in which case they are debited directly to the asset revaluation reserve.

Revaluation increments and decrements are offset against one another within a class of non-current assets; but not otherwise.

Potential capital gains tax is not taken into account in determining revaluation amounts unless it is expected that a liability for such tax will crystallise. Revaluations do not result in the carrying value of Works of Art exceeding their recoverable amount.

(f) DEPRECIATION OF PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis so as to write off the net cost of each depreciable non-current asset over its expected useful life to the Association. Estimates of remaining useful lives are made on a regular basis for all assets, with annual reassessments for major items. The expected useful lives are as follows:

Plant and Equipment, Office Equipment, Equipment under lease: 2-5 years

Works of Art are not depreciated.

(g) LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS

A lease for premises at 9-25 Commonwealth Street, Darlinghurst exists between the Association and the NSW State Government, terminating on 30 September 2004. The costs of Leasehold Improvements relating to this property will be amortised over the remaining period of the lease, or the estimated useful life to the Association, whichever is shorter. Leasehold improvements held at the reporting date are being amortised over 10 years.

(h) LEASED NON-CURRENT ASSETS

A distinction is made between finance leases which effectively transfer from the lessor to the lessee substantially all the risks and benefits incident to ownership of leased non-current assets, and operating leases under which the lessor effectively retains substantially all such risks and benefits.

Finance leases are capitalised. A lease asset and liability are established at the present value of minimum lease payments. Lease payments are allocated between the principal component of the lease liability and the interest expense.

The lease asset is amortised on a straight line basis over the term of the lease, or where it is likely that the Association will obtain ownership of the asset, the life of the asset. Lease assets held at the reporting date are being amortised over 5 years.

Incentives received on entering into operating leases are recognised as liabilities. Lease payments are allocated between interest (calculated by applying the interest rate implicit in the lease to the outstanding amount of the liability), rental expense and reduction of the liability.

Other operating lease payments are charged to the statement of financial performance in the periods in which they are incurred, as this represents the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

(i) TRADE AND OTHER CREDITORS

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Association prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

(j) GOODS AND SERVICES TAX SYSTEMS CHANGES

Costs incurred to update existing systems or to design, develop and implement new systems to deal with the GST are charged as expenses as incurred, except where they result in an enhancement of future economic benefits and are recognised as an asset.

(k) WEB SITE COSTS

Costs in relation to the web site controlled by the Association are charged as expenses in the period in which they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition of an asset, in which case they are capitalised and amortised over their period of expected benefit. Generally, costs in relation to feasibility studies during the planning phase of the web site, and ongoing costs of maintenance during the operating phase, are considered to be expenses. Costs incurred in building or enhancing the web site, to the extent that they represent probable future economic benefits controlled by the Association that can be reliably measured, are capitalised as an asset and amortised over the period of the expected benefits which vary from 2 to 5 years.

(l) EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

Wages, Salaries and Annual Leave

Liabilities for wages, salaries and annual leave are recognised, and are measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at current pay rates in respect of employees' service up to that date.

Long Service Leave

A liability for long service leave is recognised and is measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using interest rates on national guaranteed securities with terms to maturity that match, as closely as possible, the estimated cash outflows.

Superannuation

Contributions are made by the Association to several employee superannuation funds of choice and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(m) BORROWING COSTS

Borrowing costs are recognised as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

(n) CASH

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes deposits at call which are readily convertible to cash on hand and are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

2. OPERATING SURPLUS

Operating surplus from ordinary activities includes the following specific net gains and expenses:

	2001 \$	2000 \$
(a) Net gains and expenses:		
Cost of Goods Sold	67,597	69,905
Depreciation Plant & Equipment	141,214	167,107
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	778	-
Donations Given	27,506	30,146
Borrowing costs	1,769	4,011
Bad and Doubtful Debts	1,780	9,180
Provision for Employee Entitlements	2,035	75,967
Rental expense relating to operating leases	80,928	85,355

(b) Revision of Accounting Estimates

During the year, the estimated total useful lives to the Association of certain items of Plant and Equipment and Office Equipment were revised. The net effect of the changes in the current financial year was a loss on disposal of non-current assets of \$778.

3. INCOME TAX

The AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated as a public benevolent institution is exempt from paying income tax.

4. CURRENT ASSETS - CASH

Cash on hand	4,202	4,402
Cash at bank:		
Cheque account - Operations	1,637,255	705,441
Deposits	542,145	542,145
	2,183,602	1,251,988

Cash at bank earns interest at variable rates between 3.00% and 6.1% (1999/2000 3.55% and 5.8%).

	2001 \$	2000 \$
5. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Operating Surplus	205,712	273,824
Depreciation and Amortisation	141,214	167,107
Write-down of Assets to Recoverable Amount	778	-
Gifts of Works of Art	(28,850)	(14,000)
Lease Interest	1,769	4,011
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
Increase in Provision for Employee Entitlements	2,035	75,967
Increase/(Decrease) in Grants in Advance	417,922	(55,077)
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	(21,240)	46,821
(Increase)/Decrease in Other Current Assets	5,394	(7,156)
Decrease in Inventory	1,862	3,193
Decrease in other Non-Current Assets	-	3,317
Increase in Creditors	262,445	265,059
Net cash inflows from operating activities	1,010,041	762,866
6. CURRENT ASSETS - RECEIVABLES		
Accounts Receivable	125,084	93,381
Accrued Income	191,162	272,703
	316,246	366,084
7. CURRENT ASSETS - INVENTORIES		
Finished Goods (Vitamins) at cost	6,444	8,306
	6,444	8,306
8. CURRENT ASSETS - OTHER		
Prepaid Goods & Services Tax	71,078	-
Prepaid expenses	38,585	43,979
	109,663	43,979

	2001 \$	2000 \$
9. NON-CURRENT ASSETS - PLANT & EQUIPMENT		
Furniture & Fittings, at cost	1,229,395	1,255,464
less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1,043,820)	(1,013,067)
	185,575	242,397
Office Equipment, at cost	378,457	1,037,933
less: Accumulated Depreciation	(304,881)	(960,854)
	73,576	77,079
Equipment Under Lease, at cost	71,390	71,390
less: Accumulated Depreciation	(57,823)	(46,215)
	13,567	25,175
Library Resources	3,663	3,663
Gifts of Works of Art	97,850	69,000
less: Accumulated Depreciation	-	-
	101,513	72,663
Leasehold Improvements	5,880	8,494
less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1,421)	(3,447)
	4,459	5,047
TOTAL PLANT & EQUIPMENT	378,690	422,361

RECONCILIATIONS

Reconciliations of the carrying amounts of each class of plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below.

	Furniture & Fittings \$	Office Equipment \$	Equipment Under Lease \$	Library Works of Art \$	Leasehold Improvements \$	Totals \$
Carrying amount at 1 July 2000	242,397	77,079	25,175	72,663	5,047	422,361
Additions	2,187	67,284	-	28,850	-	98,321
Depreciation expense	(58,232)	(70,786)	(11,608)	-	(588)	(141,214)
Write down Assets to Recoverable Amount	(778)	-	-	-	-	(778)
Carrying amount at 30 June 2001	185,574	73,577	13,567	101,513	4,459	378,690

	2001 \$	2000 \$
10. CURRENT LIABILITIES - ACCOUNTS PAYABLE		
Accrued Goods & Services Tax	78,673	-
Trade Creditors	582,874	386,439
Accrued Expenses	111,529	102,424
	773,076	488,863
11. CURRENT LIABILITIES - BORROWINGS		
Lease Liabilities - secured (Note 14)	5,165	10,724
	5,165	10,724
12. CURRENT LIABILITIES - EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS		
Provision for Employee Entitlements	443,443	441,408
	443,443	441,408
Employee Numbers	Number	Number
Number of employees at reporting date	139	120
Full-time equivalent at reporting date	106	90
13. CURRENT LIABILITIES - GRANTS IN ADVANCE		
Grants Received in Advance:	\$	\$
NSW Department of Health	309,267	104,272
NSW Department of Community Services	15,778	67,010
WorkCover New South Wales	21,077	22,933
NSW Attorney General's Department	5,794	28,338
Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations	-	14,000
Area Health Services	147,414	81,371
NSW Users & AIDS Association	6,805	-
Commonwealth Department of Health & Aged Care	76,711	-
Catholic Development Fund	183,883	-
Other grants	1,365	32,248
	768,094	350,172
14. BORROWINGS: NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Finance Leases capitalised and included in Furniture & Fittings:		
Lease commitments:		
- not later than one year	5,563	10,724
- later than one year but not later than five years	-	5,563
- later than five	-	-
Minimum Lease payments:	5,563	16,287
- less future Finance Charges	(396)	(2,167)
Total Lease Liability	5,165	14,120
Less Current Liability	(5,165)	(10,724)
	-	3,396
15. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS		
(a) Credit Risk Exposures		
The credit risk on financial assets of the Association is the carrying value, net of any provision for doubtful debts.		
(b) Interest Rate Risk Exposures		
The Association's exposure to interest rate risk and the interest rate for each class of financial assets and liabilities are set below.		

INTEREST RATE RISK EXPOSURES

2001	Floating Interest Rate	Fixed Interest		Non- interest bearing	Total
		1 year or less	Maturing in: over 1 to 5 years		
Financial Assets:					
Cash and deposits	1,626,372	542,145	-	15,085	2,183,602
Receivables	-	-	-	316,246	316,246
	1,626,372	542,145	-	331,331	2,499,848
<i>Weighted average interest rate</i>	4.55%	4.55%			
Financial Liabilities:					
Trade and other creditors	-	-	-	773,076	773,076
Borrowings	-	5,165	-	-	5,165
Grants in advance	-	-	-	768,094	768,094
	-	5,165	-	1,541,170	1,546,335
<i>Weighted average interest rate</i>		15.9%			
Net financial assets/(liabilities)	1,626,372	536,980	-	(1,209,839)	953,513
2000	Floating Interest Rate	1 year or less	Fixed Interest Maturing in: over 1 to 5 years	Non- interest bearing	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Financial Assets:					
Cash and deposits	684,746	542,145	-	25,096	1,251,968
Receivables	-	-	-	366,084	366,084
	684,746	542,145	-	391,180	1,618,072
<i>Weighted average interest rate</i>	4.65%	5.01%			
Financial Liabilities:					
Trade and other creditors	-	-	-	488,863	488,863
Borrowings	-	10,724	3,396	-	14,120
Grants in advance	-	-	-	350,172	350,172
	-	10,724	3,396	839,035	853,155
<i>Weighted average interest rate</i>	15.9%	15.9%			
Net financial assets/(liabilities)	684,746	531,421	(3,396)	(447,855)	754,917

	2001 \$	2000 \$
Reconciliation of Net Financial Assets to Net Assets		
Net financial assets as above	953,513	764,917
Non-financial assets and liabilities		
Inventories	6,444	8,306
Property, plant & equipment	378,690	422,361
Other financial assets	109,663	43,979
Provisions	(443,443)	(441,408)
	1,004,867	798,155

(c) Net Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

Financial assets and liabilities comprise cash and borrowings. The net fair value of financial assets and liabilities approximates their carrying value.

16. REMUNERATION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

Members of the Board serve the Association in a voluntary capacity.

Amounts received or due and receivable from the Association and related corporations by members of the Board.

	\$ Nil	\$ Nil
17. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS		
Remuneration for audit and review of the Association's Financial report - PricewaterhouseCoopers	19,750	19,750
Remuneration for other services - PricewaterhouseCoopers	5,000	-
Remuneration for other accounting and audit services - Kozzi & Associates	-	7,052
	24,750	26,802

18. SEGMENTS

The principal activities of the Association during the year were the provision of health promotion, advocacy and care and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS and the communities affected by HIV/AIDS. The Association operates predominantly in one geographical area, being New South Wales, Australia.

19. SHARE CAPITAL

The Association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW) and as such does not have authorised or issued capital.

The liability of a member of the Association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the Association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the Association is limited to the amount, if any, of unpaid annual fees by the member in respect of membership of the Association.

20. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The major source of funding for the Association is an annual grant from the NSW Health Department. The Association has entered into a triennial funding agreement with the Department for the period 1 July 1999 to 30 June 2002.

21. RELATED PARTIES

There were no transactions with related parties during the year ended 30 June 2001.

22. CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING ACT 1991

The AIDS Council of New South Wales incorporated was re-issued with an authority to fundraise by the Office of Charities on 4 April 2001. Information and declarations to be furnished under the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991.

	2001 \$	2000 \$
(a) Details of aggregate gross income and total expenses of fundraising appeals		
Gross proceeds from fundraising:		
Hand-in-Hand Dance Party	259,727	304,425
Red Ribbon World AIDS Day Appeal	86,786	95,365
Barbra Raffle	-	20,328
Other including Donations & Sponsorship	90,520	104,545
Total gross proceeds from fundraising	437,033	524,663
less total costs of fundraising		
Hand-in-Hand Dance Party	221,292	227,680
Red Ribbon World AIDS Day Appeal	31,823	39,262
Barbra Raffle	-	4,466
Other	96,075	72,709
Total costs of fundraising	349,190	344,137
Net surplus obtained from fundraising appeals	87,843	180,526

(b) Forms of fundraising appeals conducted during the period covered by these financial statements were: Dance Party (Hand-in-Hand), Appeals, Raffles, Bingo, Dinners.

(c) Comparative Ratios

Ratio of costs to gross proceeds	80%	66%
Ratio of net surplus to gross proceeds	20%	34%
Ratio of total cost of services to total expenditure	100%	100%
Ratio of total cost of services to total income	97%	96%

In the view of the Board, all expenses incurred by the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated contribute to the delivery of its programs and services.

23. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Bank guarantees in respect of office leases, (\$11,950) and electronic funds payroll (\$120,000) were held at 30 June 2001. No material losses are expected in respect of any of the above contingent liabilities.

DECLARATION BY THE BOARD FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2001

The Members of the Board declare that the financial statements and notes set out on pages 19 - 35:

(a) comply with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and

(b) give a true and fair view of the Association's financial position as at 30 June 2001 and of its performance, as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows, for the financial year ended on that date.

In the Board's opinion:

(i) the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW) the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW);

(ii) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable;

(iii) the provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the regulations under this Act and the conditions attached to the authority to fundraise have been complied with; and

(iv) the internal controls exercised by the Association are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

DATED AT SYDNEY THIS SEVENTEENTH DAY OF OCTOBER 2001



ADRIAN LOVNEY
PRESIDENT



RACHEL PEPPER
VICE-PRESIDENT

Independent Audit Report to the Members of the Board of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc.

Scope

We have audited the financial statements of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc. ("ACON") for the financial year ended 30 June 2001 as set out on pages 19 to 35. The Members of the Board of ACON are responsible for the financial statements. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the Members of the Board.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia and statutory requirements so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of ACON's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification

As is common for organisations of this type, it is not practical for ACON to maintain an effective system of internal control over donations, subscriptions and other fund raising activities until their initial entry in the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit in relation to fund raising and the accounting for and the application of money received as a result of fund raising appeals was limited to amounts recorded.

Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraph not existed:

- (a) the financial statements present fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements the financial position of ACON as at 30 June 2001 and its net surplus and its cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2001;
- (b) the financial statements of ACON give a true and fair view of the financial result of fundraising appeals for the period of the fundraising authorities, being 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;
- (c) the financial statements and associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 ("the Act") and the NSW Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 ("the Regulations") during the period of the fundraising authorities, being 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001;
- (d) money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted during the year ended 30 June 2001 have been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Act and the Regulations during the period of the fundraising authorities, being 1 July 2000 to 30 June 2001; and
- (e) nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that ACON will not be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Chartered Accountants

W.D. McCluskey

W.D. McCluskey
Partner

25 October 2001
Sydney

PARTNERSHIPS



Asian Marching Boys, 2001 Best Chorographed Mardi Gras Parade Entry

Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council • Aboriginal Medical Service Cooperative (Redfern) • AIDS Dementia and HIV Psychiatry Service (ADAPS) • AIDS Treatment Project Australia • Albion Street Centre • Alcohol and Drug Information Service (ADIS) • Arkal • Australasian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM) • Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) • Australian Lesbian Medical Association • Australian Institute of Criminology • Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society • Awabaka Medical Centre • Bankstown District Gay & Lesbian Society • Baptist Inner City Women's Ministry "B4" • Bellinger High School • Bellinger Neighbourhood Centre • Bellinger Youth Service • Benevolent Society (South East Caters Respite Centre) • Biripi Aboriginal Medical Service • Blue Mountains Women's Health Centre • Bobby

Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) • Bond Youth Accommodation • Byrne House • Castle Personnel • Centacare • Central Coast Area Health Service (CCAHS) • Central Sydney Area Health Service (CSAHS) • Central West Division of General Practice • Centre for Cultural Research into Risk • Comlink • CHAPS Outback • Club 'g' • Coastal Lynx • Coffs Harbour Youth Centre • Community Health for Adolescents In Need (CHAIN) • Corrections Health Service (CHS) • Darlinghurst Community Health • Dial-an-Angel • DISC Cabramatta • Domigo Youth Services • Eastern Suburbs Division of General Practice • Eastern Suburbs Rental Housing Association • Far West Area Health Service (FWAHS) • Foley House • FPA Health • Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service • Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby • Gay and Married Men's Association (GAMMA NSW) • Gay Games Outreach Committee • Gay Lesbian Transgender Community Drug Action Group • Gender Centre • Greater Murray Area Health Service (GMAS) • Ground Zero • Harbour City Bears • Hastings City Council • Hate Crimes Conference Organising Committee • Health in Difference • Hepatitis C Council • Holdsworth House • 229 Oxford St • 407 Doctors • Home and Community Care (HACC) • Hunter Area Health Service (HAHS) • Hunter Centre for Health Advancement • Hunter Gay and Lesbian Business Association • Hunter Lesbian and Gay Interagency • Hunter Women's Centre • Illawarra Area Health Service (AHS) • Illawarra Legal Centre • Jesmond Neighbourhood Centre • Karumah Inc • Kempsey Community Health Centres • Kickstart - Port Macquarie • Kirkton Road Centre • Koori Interagency Network • Koori Radio • Leather Pride • Leichhardt Women's Health Centre • Lesbian Health Interagency Network • Lifeline • Illawarra Area Health Service (AHS) • Luncheon Club • Mental Health Coordinating Council • Macquarie Area Health Service (MAHS) • Mid North Coast Area Health Service (MNCAHS) • Mid Western Area Health Service (MWAHS) • Mogenic - Gay & Lesbian Youth Connected • Multicultural HIV/AIDS Service • Nambucca Neighbourhood Centre • National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS • National Association of People with HIV/AIDS Inc (NAPWA) • National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research • National Centres in HIV Social Research (NCHSR) • National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) • New England Area Health Service (NEAHS) • Newcastle City Council • Newcastle East Health Centre • Neutmacq Housing Ltd • NorthWDS • Northern Sydney Area Health Service (NSAHS) • Northern Rivers Area Health Service (NRAHS) • NSW Alcohol and Drug Association • NSW Anti-Discrimination Board • NSW Attorney General's Department • NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs • NSW Department of Community Services • NSW Department of Corrective Services • NSW Department of Education • NSW Department of Fair Trading • NSW Department of Housing • NSW Department for Women • NSW Health • NSW Police Service • NSW Users and AIDS Association (NUAA) • Office of Community Housing • Options • Our Pathways Inc (OPI) • Our West & Proud • Palais Youth Centre • Palliative Care Service - Taree • Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) • People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA NSW)

- Police Sex Worker Liaison Officers • Port Macquarie Community Health Centre
- Port Police Citizens Youth Club • Positive Living Centre (PLC) • Positive Support Network • Poz Hets • PRIDE • Private Workers Alliance • Queer Youth Interagency • Redfern Community Health
- Regional Youth Support Services • Gosford, Hunter • Romy Waterlow Lodge
- Rough Edges • Royal Australian College of General Practitioners • Sacred Heart Hospice • Same Sex DV Working Group • Sexual Health Services in metropolitan and regional areas • SHADS
- Social Workers in AIDS (SWAIDS) • Solgar Vitamin & Herb • South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service (SESAHS) • South Sydney Council • South Sydney Youth Services • South Western Sydney Area Health Service (SWSAHS) • Southern Area Health Service (SAHS) • St Vincent's Hospital • Stamford House •

Sydney Children's Hospital HIV Service • Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras • Sydney Sexual Health Services • Sydney Outfielders • Technical and Further Education (TAFE) • Taylor Square Clinic • Ten Forty Matrix • The Samaritans • Town & Country MA Gay & Lesbian Support Group • Tree of Hope • Tropical Fruits • Twenty10 Gay and Lesbian Support Network • University of Western Sydney • Upper Mountains Youth Services • Mixed Fruit Collective • Wayside Chapel • Wentworth Area Health Service (WAHS) • Westmead Hospital • Western Suburbs Haven • Western Sydney Area Health Service (WSAHS) • Windsome Hotel • Wollongong Youth Services • Women's Health NSW • Workers Out



Left to Right:

SPONSORS

- Adult World • Ansell Australia • Armani Exchange • Arq • AIDS Trust of Australia • B Digital • Barracks Bar • Beachemp • Bobby Goldsmith Foundation • Bodyline • Bright'n up Bar • Bruce Pollack Publicity • Caesars • Coca Cola Amatil • Coffs City Mall • Coffs Harbour Botanical Gardens • Dauvergne • DNA Creative • Fantasy Lane • Fish Records • Flinders Hotel • GAG @ Gas • gay.com • Glaxosmithkline • Hair of the Dog pet grooming services • Harbour Youth Centre • Hastings City Council • Headquarters • Home • House of Priscila • HWD Abrasives • Hyde Park Plaza • Imperial Hotel • Kers @ Kensington • Ke-Ora Pacific Trading Pty Ltd. • King Street Chemist • Kingstam • Kisselas • Mandarin • Midnight Shift • Millennium Hotel • Mitzi Macintosh • Newcastle Conservatory of Music • Newcastle Guys on Wheels • Newtown Hotel • 'No Day But Today' Fundraising Committee • Numbers • Cradle Laser Productions • Park Beach Plaza - Coffs Harbour • Pepsico • Petfood Kingdom • Pleasure Chest • PLWHA Inc • Port Macquarie PCYC • Red Bull • Signal • South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service • South Sydney Council • Stonewall Hotel • SX News • Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Association • Sydney Star Observer • Tantra Man • Taree Community Health • Taxi Club • The Albury • The Beresford Hotel • The Bookshop Darlinghurst • The Den • The Oxford Hotel • The Phoenix • The Probe • The Toolshed • Trade Phone line • Trevor Hepper Massago • Wollongong City Council • and all Hookers and Strippers raffle prize donors (you know who you are!)

We are eternally grateful to our major funder NSW Health and to PricewaterhouseCoopers for their auditing services and to Freshfields for their legal advice and support.

PUBLICATIONS



Window display

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 'AIDS Councils: the Mental Health Agenda' - National AIDS Bulletin/ Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations AGM, November 2000. A Cunningham.
- 'Mother to Child Transmission of HIV' - XII International AIDS Conference, South Africa, July 2000. A Cunningham.
- 'Changing Positive Engagement in the Community HIV Response' - XII International AIDS Conference, South Africa, July 2000. A Cunningham.
- 'Developing action research and education interventions with men who use sex on premises venues', Oral presentation to World Conference on AIDS - Durban, July 2000. M Bebbington, B Gray, D McInnes, B Allan, J Bollen and G Prestage.
- 'Developing Action Research and Education Interventions with Men in HIV Serodiscordant Same Sex relationships.' Poster presentation to World Conference on AIDS - Durban, July 2000. M Bebbington, D McGuigan, C Johnson and B Allan.
- 'HIV in its Proper Place: One AIDS Organisation's Move to a Broader Health Agenda', Oral presentation to AIDS Impact 5: Biopsychosocial Impact of HIV/AIDS, 2001. M Woodhouse.
- 'Harm Minimisation of Sexual Risk: HIV Prevention Among Gay Men in Sydney', Poster presentation to AIDS Impact 5: Biopsychosocial Impact of HIV/AIDS, 2001. M Woodhouse, G Staples, B Gray, M Bebbington and R Duffin.
- 'Safe Sex Now' (2000) 14(1) National AIDS Bulletin 3. M Woodhouse.
- 'Poking and Prodding the Body Positive', NAPWA/AFAO Research Summit, May 2001, B Allan.

- 'So Who Uses AIDS Councils Anyway?' Oral presentation to Annual Scientific Meeting of Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, October 2000. M Woodhouse and R Green.
- Launch of 'Touch Wood, everything will be OK.....Gay Men's Understanding of Clinical Markers in Sexual Practice'. M Woodhouse.
- 'Developing a Gay Men's Health Agenda'. Gay Men's Health Roundtable, February 2001. M Woodhouse.
- 'The Genesis Project', Recent Serocommisions and New HIV Diagnoses Roundtable, May 2001. W Kane.
- 'Street Jungle' Poster Presentations to the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Australasian Society of HIV Medicine, October 2000. M Reid.
- Australian Sex Legislation - Asia Pacific Network of Sex Workers, Hong Kong, June 2001. P Purser.
- Gender Issues - Asia Pacific Queer Conference UTS, Sydney, October 2000. n mAy-welby.
- NSW Sex Legislation - International Sex Workers Festival, Taipei, April 2001. M McMahon.
- 'Two Years in AIDS Inc' 2001 14(2) National AIDS Bulletin 27. R Grew.

Resources:

- Your Child and HIV (with Sydney Children's Hospital)
- Give Me Shelter
- Up ya bum campaign
- Consider this... campaign
- Shigella campaign
- PEP promotion (as part of PEP Working Group)
- Trade Secrets campaign
- Party messages for Slesse, Mardi Gras and Inquisition
- 'ACON Illawarra - you're standing in it...'
- 'Key Issues for Young Gay Men and Lesbians' (Young And Proud factsheet)
- The Good Client Guide (with Sex Workers Safety Initiative Network)
- Implementation of AFAO Positive Asian Campaign

Submissions:

- Cabinet Office Taskforce on Brothels
- Cabinet Office Medical Cannabis Working Party
- Government Asset Management Committee on 'Draft Policy - Government Accommodation for Community Purposes'
- NSW Housing Policy and Programs Strategy Directorate on 'Proposed Changes to the Special Assistance Subsidy Housing Scheme'.
- NSW Anti-Discrimination HCV Inquiry
- SESAHS Patient Information Confidentiality Code of Practice (Unique Patient Identifier)
- NSW Department of Community Services Strategic Policy Division- Report on Inner City Homelessness Strategic Implementation Plan
- NSW Department of Housing establishment of a State Customer Council

COMMITTEES

Accommodation Crisis Group • AFAO
Education Strategy Group • AFAO Policy Reference Group • AFAO Treatments Reference Group • AFAO Vaccines Policy Reference Group • AIDS Dementia and HIV Psychiatry Service (ADAHPS) Management Committee • Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society, Living with HIV Program Advisory Committee • Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF) • BGF Floating Care Advisory Committee • BGF Rattan Fund Committee • Client Services Working Group • Bondi Youth Accommodation Committee • Coffs Harbour HIV/AIDS Information Network • Community Pharmacies Committee • GALCDA - Gay and Lesbian Community Drug Action Group • Health Consumers Network NSW • HIV Interagency Forum • HIV Rural Interagency Forum • Hunter Area Health Service HIV, HCV and Sexual Health Management Committee Hep C Interagency • Illawarra AIDS Taskforce • Illawarra Area Health Service (IHS) Aboriginal Drug and Alcohol Taskforce • IHS Men's Sexual Health Promotion Project Steering Committee • IHS Sexual Health, HIV/AIDS and Hep C Expert Advisory Committee • Kings Cross Community Drug Action Team • Lesbian Health Interagency Network • Lord Mayor's Sex Worker Committee • Marrickville Council Gay and Lesbian Advisory Committee • Mental Health & HIV Committee • Mid North Coast Area Health Service (MNCAHS) HIV and Sexual Health Advisory Group • MNCAHS Youth Homelessness Project Steering Committee • Ministerial Advisory Committee on AIDS Strategy, NSW (CAS) • Multicultural HIV/AIDS Service Advisory Committee • NAPWA Treatments Policy Reference Group • NCHECR Antiretroviral Working Group • NCHECR Oncology Working Group • NCHSR Clinical Markers Steering Committee • NCHSR/NCHECR Health in Men Steering Committee • NCHSR/NCHECR Joint Projects Committee • NCOSS Health Policy Advice Group • Northern Rivers Area Health Service (NRAHS) Aboriginal Sexual Health Committee • NRAHS Management Committee for Hepatitis C Injecting Drug Users Project • NSW Attorney General's Gay and Lesbian Advisory Committee • NSW Cabinet Office - Working Party on the Use of Cannabis for Medicinal Purposes • NSW Health HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C Social Research Advisory Group • NSW Health Sexual Health Advisory Committee • NSW Health NCO Advisory Committee • Port Kembla Community Safety and Renewal Program Committee • Port Kembla Safer Community Action Team • Port Macquarie Koori Interagency Network: Port Macquarie • Post Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) Working Party • SEASAHs HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee • South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service (SEASAHs) Mental Health and HIV Working Group • Sexual Health Outreach Workers (SHOWgirls) Interagency • South Sydney Council's Gay and Lesbian Advisory Committee • St Vincent's Hospital HIV Consultative Committee • SWADS Housing Sub Committee • TFC Interagency • Treatments Officers Network • Wollongong City Council Lesbian Issues Interagency • Wollongong Health Consumer Advisory Group • Wollongong Youth Network • World AIDS Day Steering Committee



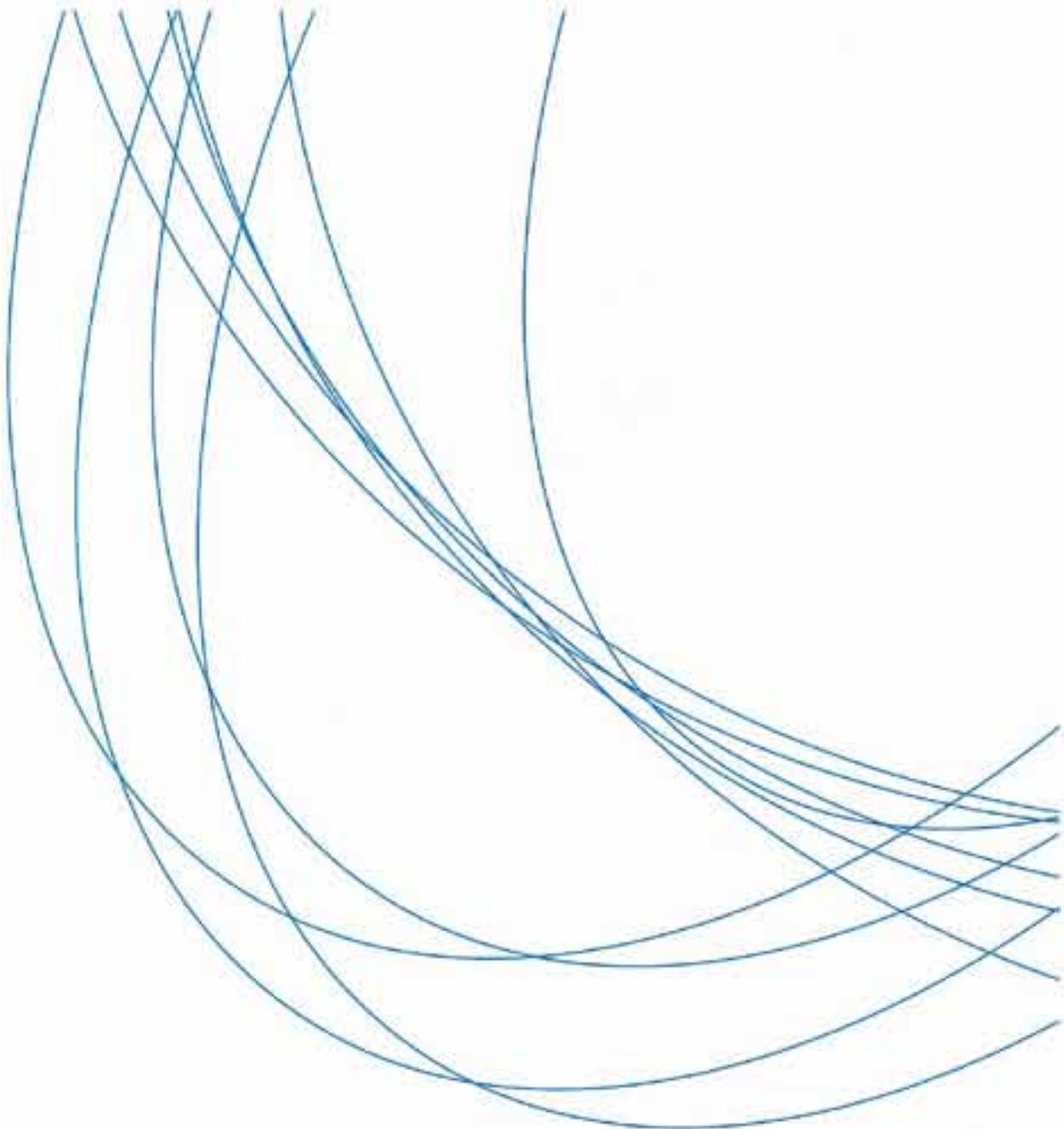
Last in Space

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS



Lust in Space

AANUNDSEN David • ABE Keisha • ADAMS Anthony • ADAMS Cathy • ADAMSON Mark • AHOMIRO Ngakuku • ALLAN Brent • ANDERSON Rosemary • ANDREW-PHILLIPS Gabriel • ANNS Mark • ARCHER Julian • ASHMAN-STEEL Brett • ASKEW Jane-Emily • ATKINSON Rick • BAHR James • BAIRD James • BAJIC Christopher • BARRETT Jonathon • BASSOS Dominic • BATE Rodney • BATES Julie • BEARPARK Ruth • BEATTIE Linda • BEBBINGTON Mark • BELL Sean • BERGIN Sarah • BLACKWOOD Nigel • BLEAKLEY Wayne • BONANNO Eric • BOYD Mark • BREAKSPEAR Cheryl • BRIDGETT Madeleine • BRIGHT John • BRIGHT Olivia • BRISTOW Rosemary • BROCKWELL Barrie • BROUGHTON Deborah • BROWN Kooncha • BUCHANAN Kallista • BUN Chelsea • BYRNE John • CABASSI Julia • CAIRNES Julie • CALLAGHAN Julie • CAMPBELL Melinda • CARUANA Theresa • CASINELLI Lisa • CASSIDY Julie • CHALMERS Alan • CHAN Tin Sang (Allan) • CHAPMAN Glenn • CHATWIN Jason • CHEERS Kerrie • CLAYMAN Danielle • CLAYTON Stevie • COLLISON Craylyn • COOK Decece • CORNELL Marlene • CRAWFORD Brooke • CROFTS Stuart • CUMMING John • CUNNINGHAM Alison • CURTIS Graham • DALzell GJ • DAVIS Ronald • DEEDE Michael • DEMAERE Kathleen • DIXON John • DOWNING Susan • DRAPER Jacklyn • DUFFIN Ross • DYKSMIA Jane • EAMES Peter • ELIAS Aaron • ERWEE Michael • ESTIGOY Moises • FABYK Deep • FARNSHIER Catherine • FARMER Gerard • FARQUHARSON Grant • FEENEY Lance • FISHER Marie • FLYNN Michael • FORD Warwick • FRAJER Jacqueline • FRANCES Maude • FRANSEN Harry • GALLAGHER Stephen • GALLANT Daniel • GARDNER Inh • GERRARD Xin Ding • GILBERT Keith • GOODARD Carole • GOLDING Kevin • GRANT Dean • GRAVESON Michael • GRAY Brad • GREEN Neil • GREEN Richard • GRIEW Robert • GRYPHON Kent • GUY Michael • HALL Kay • HALL Lorraine • HANGER Toni • HANNAN Paul • HARDY Mark • HARRISON Beria • HEAP Kim • HELLEREN May • HICKSON Barbara • HILLIS Anthony • HO Phu Hien • HOBSON Mark • HOLLINGSWORTH John • HOLTON Patricia • HONNOR Geoffrey • HOUTMAN EVERETT John • HULL Michelle • HUYNH Kha Hien • HYDE Michelle • INDER Brigid • JANSEN Doerthe • JENKINS Suzette • JEWITT Joseph • JOHNSON Donna • JONES Cindy • KALLENBERGER NW • KANE Wayne • KATSIGIANNIS Tony • KEANE Laurie • KEEFFE Bernadette • KELLY Bret • KIM Julie • KING Glenn • KITCHENER Kimberly • KNIGHT Christina • KNIGHT Ronald • KU Alexander • LACEY Sharyn • LACKEY Ray • LANG Tania • LATELLA Annette • LAWRENCE Christopher • LEACH Tim • LEAHY Kylin • LEWIS Maxine • LIM KIMIN Kathleen • LONG Michael • LOWTH Andrew • MALPAS Grant • MARSHALL Keith • MATTHEWS Suzanne • MAURICE Robyn • MAY-WELBY nocte • MAZLOUM Rima • MCCANN Brett • McGUGAN David • McLEAY Robert • McLOUGHLIN Amelia • McMAHON Maria • McQUEEN Paul • MICHAEL Karen • MIERS Stacey • MILES Andrew • MITCHELL Sara • MOREPA Jefferson • MOYLAN Margaret • MUNN Belinda • MUNRO Vivienne • MURPHY Richard • MURRAY Carolyn • NANNUP Rusty • NARAYANAN Palani • NORTON Graham • NOVELLA David • O'DEA John • O'NEIL Milton • O'NEILL Debra • ORRELL Kevin • OSSINGTON Nicholas • OSTROW Stephen • O'SULLIVAN Frank • PARKER Fiona • PAVISON Wendy • PATON Kevin • PEARSON Robert • PECK Gordon • PERRY Matthew • PHILLIPS Paul • PHILLIPS Greg • PHOU Kathryn • PINWALL Sera • PLESKO Anita • POWER Ty • PURSER Polly • PUTARAJU Kerry • RADFORD Neil • RASOOL Shahana • REHN Ashleigh • REID Michael • RESCIGNO Faye • RICHES Michael • ROBERTSON Thomas • ROBINSON Kenneth • RODDA Suzanne • ROGERS Maureen • RUEDLAND Jen • RYAN Felicity • SABOLCEC Joseph • SANT Mary • SANTANA Hedimo • SAUNDERS Mary • SHEEHAN Elizabeth • SHORT Shan • SIMPSON Colin • SLOMAN Geoffrey • SMITH Darryl • SOMERS Alanna • STACEY Helen • STAPLES Gregory • STAVEY Helen • STEWART Angels • SULLIVAN John • SYMINGTON Belinda • TAYLOR Beverley • TAYLOR Peter • TAYLOR Stephanie • TEUDT Maree • THEMISTOU Themistos • THOMMER Anabell • TOUMAZOS Kon • TRIBE Paul • TSIULIOS John • TUCK Rod • TUNSTALL Ben • TUPUHI Rewa • TURNER Veronica • VALENTINE Trudy • VAN TWIST Andrew • VINEY Matthew • WALLACE David • WANG John • WARD Luke • WATSON John • WEBB Daniel • WEBBER David • WEIR Korrin • WHEATLEY Steve • WILKINS David • WILLEMS Acne • WILLIAMS Greg • WILLIAMS Sonny • WILLIAMSON Peter • WILLS Terry • WOODBRIDGE Deborah • WOODHOUSE Michael • WOTTON Rachel • WREN Paul • YATES Bruce • YEATES Craig • ZACUTTI Zuri • ZANNINO Elizabeth • ZIEMS Tess • ZVEGLIC Anthony • And all our Red Ribbon Sellers, Candlelight and Mardi Gras Parade volunteers.



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