Acknowledgements
The Board and management of ACON (AIDS Council of NSW) would like to acknowledge and thank the many dedicated staff and volunteers of our organisation for their amazing commitment to our clients and to our communities. The images in this Annual Report are a tribute to the hundreds of volunteers who support ACON year after year.
This year ACON received accreditation from the Quality Improvement Council of Australia in recognition of our commitment to quality. The Quality Improvement Council also commended ACON for leadership and community engagement.

ACON (AIDS Council of NSW) is a health promotion organisation based in the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities with a central focus on HIV/AIDS. We provide HIV prevention, health promotion, advocacy, care and support services to members of those communities, including Indigenous people and injecting drug users, to sex workers and to all people living with HIV/AIDS.

What We Seek – Our Vision
A strong, healthy and resilient gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community.

The health needs of our communities to be effectively addressed through all life stages.

An end to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

A society that respects the basic link between health and social justice.

What We Do – Our Mission
Drawing our strength from a dynamic relationship with our communities, ACON plays a leading role in promoting health.

We do this through education, advocacy, and service provision and in partnership with researchers, health care providers, governments, our community members and others.

HIV/AIDS is a key priority for our organisation.

What We Believe In – Our Values
We believe the following are intrinsic to ACON and everything we do:

- social justice
- partnership
- equity and access
- the centrality to any health response of those affected
- professionalism, accountability and quality
- creativity and innovation
- inclusiveness, respect and self-determination
- community-based
- sustainability

Our Clients and Communities
- The gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities and all people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.
- Consistent with our values statement, we commit to ensuring that our services and programs are culturally appropriate for people from a diverse range of backgrounds, including people from a non-English speaking background and Indigenous Australians.
- We also work with other people who interact with our communities but who don’t necessarily identify as part of those communities, for example non-gay identifying homosexually active men and many bisexual people.
- SWOP in particular works to support sex workers and those engaged in the sex industry.
After 20 years as a community based organisation, ACON continues to rely on volunteers from Board members and red ribbon sellers to carers, performers and peer supporters. Their commitment, and the dedication of our staff, are the heart of this organisation.

ACON works in a dynamic and constantly challenging environment as we try to stay ahead of changes in the face of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and build new programs to tackle the other health issues of our communities. The task of HIV prevention only becomes more complex in a world of increasing infections but of decreasing importance attached to HIV by many. In 2002 we saw increases in rates of HIV transmission in Sydney for the first time in almost a decade. By 2004, following a concerted effort by ACON and our partners, this had been turned around, only to be followed by what looks to be another increase in 2005. At the same time we are seeing spiralling rates of other sexually transmissible infections amongst gay men. In the face of this, ACON continues to produce innovative campaigns to encourage healthy and safe behaviour that are replicated by others throughout the world. This year we will focus on how to make the behaviour changes we saw in 2004 more sustainable in the long term.

As one of the largest providers of care and support services to people living with HIV/AIDS, we must keep abreast of changing needs. This year we have substantially expanded our work in the areas of mental health, drug and alcohol use and homelessness in recognition of these changes.

Despite the lack of Australian research showing a causal link between crystal use and unsafe sex, negative impacts of problematic use on individuals and our community are obvious. This year, in response to loud calls from our community for action, ACON developed a comprehensive program including forums, support groups, educational material, social marketing and our own research in partnership with the National Drug & Alcohol Research Centre.

We have made some headway this year in developing new programs in GLBT health, however it remains a key challenge to get governments and funders to understand that people in the GLBT community may have different health needs, or may have particular health issues impact on them differentially.

Advocacy has always been a great strength of ACON and this year has again seen us successfully influence government policy at the local, state and federal level and join with our community to protest against changes that were beyond our control. Taking a position on an issue means that there will always be some who disagree with you and we have taken some flack this year but it has not deterred ACON from speaking up on issues of importance to our community.

ACON remains a unique organisation mixing health and welfare, education, health promotion, care, support and advocacy. Our focus is on meeting the needs of individuals in an holistic way and empowering our community to take control of its own health needs.

The following pages give just a taste of the breadth and depth of our work.

Adrian Lovney
President
Stevie Clayton
CEO
Akon faced many challenges this year from changing care and support needs of people living with HIV/AIDS to getting gay men to re-engage with HIV prevention.

Community Health
The Community Health Division conducted health promotion, community development, education and social marketing work around key health issues, empowering ACON’s communities to take responsibility for their own health needs. The major focus during the year was responding to increasing rates of HIV and STIs amongst gay men. ACON worked in collaboration with a number of other organisations throughout the year to improve health and promote HIV prevention. These partnerships addressed issues around safe sex, safe drug use, violence, care and support services, and same sex attracted youth. The safe sex message in our Summer ’05 Mates campaign was expanded to promote safety around other issues including lesbian sexual health, sero-discordant relationships, anti-violence and drug use.

Client Services
The Client Services Division brings together a range of individual and therapeutic group services, health promotion and peer support. The primary client group remained people living with, affected by or at risk of HIV/AIDS. We’re very proud to have reached around 2,500 people over the year with 2,000 of those being people living with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

A new GLBT Carer Support Project began this year to raise awareness about and support the health and wellbeing of carers in our communities beyond HIV. GLBT carers are often invisible, caring for chosen family and partners, with little recognition and few support services. With the NSW Mental Health Association, we host a network to improve access for GLBT people to mental health or alcohol and drug services. We remain focused on improving our core services to people living with HIV/AIDS whilst developing new programs to meet their changing needs and bringing new energy to ACON’s other communities.

Executive
The expansion of ACON’s work into new areas also created a need for more focus on new areas of policy development. The Executive Division added a policy position dedicated to sex worker issues and we plan to expand the unit further in the coming year. The Communications Unit ran a high profile World AIDS Day campaign with Marcia Hines and Jennifer Hawkins and used a range of other activities to help raise awareness and funds. Finding new funding sources for a range of ACON projects has been a major hurdle in recent years and has hindered the development of new projects. In the new year we will be developing a fundraising strategy and making structural changes to support our new emphasis on fundraising.

The Positive Living Centre (PLC) had close to 500 registered clients this year.

More than 150 people living with HIV/AIDS received home-based care through the Community Support Network (CSN).

The Enhanced Care Project saw more than 230 patients of general practitioners this year.

Regional Services
The Regional Services Division is responsible for service delivery in all of NSW outside of inner-city Sydney and includes branches in Wollongong, Newcastle, Port Macquarie and Lismore. The division also includes the Sex Workers Outreach Project and Western Sydney staff who are based in the Surry Hills office. Branch staff are now included in the design of community education and social marketing campaigns to achieve broader coverage with our safe sex and sexual health messages across the state. This year we made difficult decisions about how and where we provide services. Relocating our Western Sydney office staff to Commonwealth Street has proven to be a sound decision with no loss of services to our clients and savings to ACON that have been ploughed back into program delivery. There has been an increase in utilisation of social and support mechanisms in branches, showing we are reaching more people in regional NSW.

Organisational Development
This year the work of the Organisational Development Division focussed on the generation of key performance indicators (KPIs) and regular reporting to inform management decisions in the areas of Human Resources, Finance and Information Technology.

Akon now has a full-time Planning & Evaluation Coordinator working to ensure evaluation processes are built in to all projects, and our new activity database was rolled out in June to provide more accurate data on performance.

Key performance indicators in respect of staff turnover, leave liability, staff support and performance management continue to be met. The majority of staff now have work plans, professional development plans and regular feedback. The Executive Team participated in a 360 degree assessment process in December 2004. Staff turnover is approximately 17%, and the 2005 Staff Satisfaction Survey showed 83% of staff reported they ‘like’ or ‘love’ their job and are ‘usually’ or ‘very’ satisfied.

Akon’s IT network is robust, secure and contains redundancy for future growth and we have continued our hardware replacement program. We audited our software licences and a new Standard Operating Environment was introduced. ACON’s new electronic ‘helpdesk’ system enabled IT to respond to 90% of jobs within two days, with the average turn around being 10 business hours and new software now allows remote resolution of IT issues.
During this year we advocated for our communities on a wider range of issues that impact on their health and wellbeing than ever before. Our policy and advocacy work covered the field from HIV, through to sex workers and planning regulation, to homophobia in schools.

HIV/AIDS
This year we advocated on behalf of a number of individuals who had encountered difficulty in obtaining generic HIV anti-retrovirals through personal importation programs; opposed the introduction of tougher penalties for the transmission of HIV; and argued against the disclosure of someone’s HIV status by police and the media. In NSW we had input to and have worked on the implementation of the NSW HIV/AIDS Strategy, the Evaluation of the NSW HIV/AIDS Health Promotion Plan and the Treatment and Care Review. Federally, we had input to the development of the 5th National HIV/AIDS Strategy and the 1st National STI Strategy. Two new areas were the possible introduction of pre-exposure prophylaxis and the proposal for the trial of a new candidate vaccine.

Submissions
We prepared submissions on a range of issues and to various inquiries including: the issue of GLBT ageing, the Senate Inquiry into same-sex marriage, re-negotiation of the Public Health Outcome Funding Agreements and two submissions to the City of Sydney on development of their Youth Strategy and Syringe Disposal Policy.

Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officers
ACON lobbied for the City of Sydney Council to reinstate the position of a Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer (GLLO) to ensure Council remains sensitive to the needs of our community members and works with community based organisations to address issues of concern. We were ultimately successful in this bid. Unfortunately we have been much less successful in our advocacy efforts with NSW Police. The GLLO program has been allowed to run into disrepair in recent years and not even a recommendation from the NSW Deputy Coroner for the reintroduction of the GLLO training program has led to this or the filling of the vital Surry Hills GLLO position.

Collaborations
ACON and PLWHA (NSW) prepared a number of joint submissions including one to the inquiry into NSW public dental services conducted by the Social Issues Committee of the NSW Legislative Council. We also worked together hosting a series of consultation forums on the NSW Health HIV/AIDS Strategy. ACON and the Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby worked closely on a number of issues including a survey of the major parties in the lead up to the 2004 Federal Election.
HIV prevention remains a central focus of ACON’s work with many of our services and groups promoting safe sex. The safe sex message underpins much of our work in community development and health promotion.

NSW Health released 2004 data showing the rates of HIV diagnosis down 14% among gay men between 2003 and 2004 with an overall drop of 4% throughout the state.

Other research showed a very clear link between the HIV prevention work of ACON and the HIV Interagency and an increase in safe sex which flowed through to a decrease in diagnosis in 2004. Unfortunately, early data for 2005 suggests this behaviour change was not sustained and the challenge now is to distill the key lessons from last year.

HIV Interagency
The HIV increases of recent years led to a range of collaborative strategies by ACON and our Interagency partners to reinforce the safe sex message. We worked closely with the NSW Health Department and Area Health Services along with People Living with HIV/AIDS (NSW) (PLWHA) and the Australasian Society of HIV Medicine (ASHM) on an HIV/AIDS Sector Action Plan.

Mates Campaign
For the first time, ACON incorporated safe sex, drug use, anti-violence and lesbian health into one campaign resulting in a campaign that addressed the broader health issues of our communities including HIV prevention. ACON’s summer safe sex campaign – Mates – promoted a culture of care to reduce the incidence of HIV and STIs.

Periodic Survey
A study into the sexual practices of Sydney gay men showed they were more consistently using condoms. The 2004 Sydney Gay Community Periodic Study indicated the first downward trend in risk practices among gay men since 1996 particularly in sex on premises venues (SOPVs) where most of the HIV prevention campaigns were targeted.

Crystal and Safe Sex
Over the past year, there was increasing concern that gay men who were using crystal were putting themselves at risk of contracting or passing on HIV. In response, ACON released a campaign that promoted safe sex and responsible use.

Positive/Negative Relationships
Due to the popularity of the Opposites Attract information booklet for couples where one is HIV+ and the other is HIV- we revised and updated the resource and released a second edition to ensure that men in HIV sero discordant relationships had up-to-date and accurate information.

Safe Sex Sluts
Our strong presence at community events has relied on the support of many volunteers including our Safe Sex Sluts who have proudly represented ACON at GLBT events and venues to distribute condoms and safe sex messages.

“I’ve been a Safe Sex Slut for five years and I have loved every minute of it,” Alberto
ACON distributes thousands of safe sex packs every year with condoms, lube and HIV/STI prevention messages. A team of volunteers regularly package safe sex packs and other resources to ensure our community is kept safe and up-to-date.

Our activities in gay men’s health were central to our HIV prevention work this year with a range of HIV and STI prevention strategies. During the year we restructured our Gay Men’s Education Unit with specialist staff in campaign development, group work and venue liaison. The number and variety of educational and support groups for gay men has increased significantly since the creation of a specialist group work position.

The new team was involved in a number of health promotion activities including the release of the Mates campaign during the Mardi Gras season and in the development of a NSW Health campaign to address increases in STIs and HIV.

Safe Sex: No Regrets
ACON worked closely with NSW Health in the development and release of the NSW Health campaign Safe Sex: No Regrets. ACON led the development of the gay men’s messages in the campaign and was responsible for the distribution of the gay component of the campaign. ACON was also closely involved in the development of the 30 second television advertisement aired on regional and Sydney stations to ensure that gay men were appropriately represented.

Sexually Transmissible Infections
A similar collaboration with the STIGMA (Sexually Transmissible Infections in Gay Men Action Group) saw the development of the website www.whytest.org and a campaign on Hepatitis A and B vaccinations. We offered free testing and vaccination vouchers to young gay men and patrons of sex on premises venues as part of the new campaign in conjunction with the Sexual Health Clinics in South Eastern, Central and Northern Sydney Area Health Services. Young gay men and sex venue users were the key target groups of this campaign as they are highly susceptible to Hep A and Hep B.

SOPVs
ACON continued to work with Sydney’s sex on premises venues (SOPVs) to ensure they meet a range of standards set out in the SOPV Code of Practice. These standards include access to condoms and lube in all areas where sex occurs, adequate levels of lighting, staff training and displaying ACON’s HIV/AIDS prevention and other educational material. ACON’s SOPV Code of Practice has also been reviewed and updated this year to include an explicit requirement that SOPVs foster a culture of safe sex within their venue.
More than 300 women attended workshops and groups with the Sydney Lesbian Health Project this year. Similar peer support activities were held in our branches where Lesbian Health workers also hosted a range of local events.

A new project worker commenced in the Lesbian Health Project during the year and we were able to expand our range of activities in health promotion for the lesbian community. The Lesbian Health Project made important contributions to ACON’s summer campaign, Mates, with messages specifically targeting or including women around sexual health, safe drug use, homophobia and street safety.

Cancer Survivors
ACON commenced working with the Cancer Council NSW on a new program providing telephone support to lesbians who are newly diagnosed with cancer. We began recruiting volunteers who will be trained and supported to help other lesbians on their journey through cancer. This is an important joint project to help address some of the gaps in mainstream support services.

Late Bloomers
A new group was established for mature aged women coming to terms with their lesbian identity. Late Bloomers was created for older women who think they may be lesbian or bisexual and it has been successfully running as a drop-in peer support group. Monthly discussion afternoons at the Newtown Women’s Library have been popular.

SWASH
ACON and the National Centre in HIV Social Research (NCHSR) conducted the Sydney Women and Sexual Health (SWASH) research project during the year. We conducted this valuable research project to help shed light on a range of health issues affecting women who identify as lesbian, bisexual or queer in Sydney. Results of the 2004 survey showed lesbian, bisexual and queer women’s knowledge of STIs is higher than the general community. Unfortunately their rates of tobacco use are also much higher than the rest of the community. ACON will use the results of this survey in future health promotion work.

Ins and Out
A new workshop program for young same sex attracted women was established during the year. Ins and Outs is based on the peer education and volunteer facilitation model of Fun & Esteem. The pilot six-week workshop was attended by twelve young women and it proved so popular that a waiting list was developed for future workshops. Over the course of six weeks the participants discussed coming out, relationships, homophobia, sexual health and a range of other issues relevant to same sex attracted women under 26.

“I feel strongly about helping to provide support services for young queer women.”
Siri
Our health promotion teams for HIV positive men and women moved to the Positive Living Centre (PLC) this year to create a new HIV Living Unit. Bringing together these services has seen an increase in the number of clients accessing our health promotion activities and PLC services.

Positive Living Centre
The Sydney Positive Living Centre (PLC) in Bourke St, Surry Hills is a centre for all people with HIV and offers a range of services, recreational facilities, courses, workshops, meals and social events. Open Tuesday to Saturday, the PLC registered an additional 117 clients this year and provided more than 8,300 occasions of service. The PLC is a program of ACON in partnership with the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF), The Luncheon Club, PLWHA (NSW), Positive Heterosexuals and St Vincent’s Community Health.

The PLC hosted a series of forums and workshops on sex, health and mental health with topics covering:

- Ageing with HIV
- Alcohol and other drugs
- Strategies for dealing with aggressive behaviour
- Managing lipodystrophy
- Managing depression
- Returning to work

Planet Positive is a popular evening social event hosted by the PLC and PLWHA (NSW). Alternating between the PLC and a licensed venue, Planet Positive is a chance for HIV positive people and their friends to socialise and establish peer connections. Almost 500 people attended a Planet Positive night and the popularity of the event continues to grow each year.

Men’s Peer Support
The HIV Living Men’s Peer Support Project provided a range of group and individual services to gay men living with HIV/AIDS. We provide advice on travel and immigration, financial support, and opportunities to volunteer. The project provided individual services to 168 people this year and hosted a range of group programs including Genesis, After Hours and Healthy Life+. The project also assisted in the delivery of sero-discordant groups for gay men.

A total of 58 men attended one of our weekend Genesis workshops for newly diagnosed gay men in Sydney. The workshops deliver education on HIV, STI prevention and complex health promotion messages in a supportive environment.

Many of the men attending Genesis also joined the After Hours group which attracted around 200 people to the monthly information night. Newly diagnosed gay men discussed a range of issues around HIV treatments, legal matters, testing and prevention.

Healthy Life+ is a popular health and fitness program for people living with HIV/AIDS. More than 30 people attended a Healthy Life+ program during the year with gym training, seminars and social activities. The 12-week program covered fitness, nutrition and relaxation for HIV positive gay men.

“I have really valued my time volunteering with the PLC and helping people,”
Robert
CSN marked 20 years of caring for people living with HIV/AIDS with a high profile campaign to recruit new volunteers. Thousands of people have volunteered with CSN over the past two decades to help people with HIV/AIDS live independently and with dignity.

The number of volunteer carers with Community Support Network (CSN) almost doubled this year and we now have 211 active volunteers engaged in the service. Many of the new carers came to CSN from a major awareness and recruitment campaign in Western Sydney targeting Parramatta, Blacktown, Penrith and Liverpool. Given this increase in volunteers we ran six orientation training programs to provide new carers with relevant training and support.

More carers allowed us to provide practical support services to 153 clients compared to 131 the previous year, with personal and respite care, cooking, gardening, cleaning and shopping. The increased number of clients was linked to changes made in our eligibility criteria so that those with cyclical HIV illness could receive service quickly and easily and pregnant women in their third trimester could easily access services.

We also began to provide assessment and home support while patients were hospitalised through the Walking the Ward program.

A newly presenting client undergoes a comprehensive assessment which determines their level of need and any other services which might be suitable to deliver additional support. An HIV positive client’s health can fluctuate quickly and the CSN staff re-assess all active clients twice a year to ensure the appropriate level of service is provided at the right time.

Walking the Ward

In the past two years CSN introduced the Walking the Ward program to a number of hospitals in Sydney to ensure HIV positive clients discharged from hospital services receive timely access to our home support service. CSN has now extended the program to include St Vincent’s, Royal Prince Alfred, St George and Prince of Wales Hospitals. Working in partnership with hospital staff we are able to assess patients at the bedside and provide services while they are still in hospital. Our volunteers can assist with cleaning homes and stocking the fridge before discharge, for example, and assist with transport home from hospital.

Transport

CSN has now extended its transport brokerage program to include Community Transport Organisations (CTOs) in South Sydney, Randwick, Waverley, Leichhardt; the Inner West, Blacktown, Bankstown, Liverpool, Penrith, the Blue Mountains and Hornsby. CTOs in these areas have signed a Memoranda of Understanding with ACON and are delivering brokered transport services to people with HIV/AIDS throughout Sydney to assist clients getting to and from medical and allied health appointments.

“I was inspired by the selflessness of my uncle’s carer. That’s when I decided to give something back to the community and people living with HIV/AIDS.”

Pascal
The staff and volunteers in our front of house services are often the first point of contact for many new clients. Reception can refer them to a range of support services and clients can access the Learning Centre with information resources, research facilities and internet services.

Housing
ACON’s Housing Project supports people living with HIV/AIDS who are at risk of homelessness to secure long-term, sustainable housing. We assisted 392 individuals during the year. We helped them to identify their housing needs and navigate the application process for Department of Housing, Community Housing, SAS/S or the private rental market. This year six people volunteered with our new Housing Buddy program to help clients with applications and moral support. ACON Housing staff also advocate on behalf of individuals who experience discrimination on the basis of their HIV sero status.

Treatments
The Treatments Information and Advocacy Project aims to meet the treatment-related needs of HIV positive people and those affected by HIV by providing information, education, support, decision making opportunities, referral assistance and other resources. The project works closely with high HIV caseload general practitioners and also conducts information sessions for community members and other service providers. International travel remained the most significant presenting issue for the 244 clients during the year, followed by side effect enquiries and beginning anti-retroviral treatment for the first time.

Family Support
ACON’s Family Support Project works to relieve the long term pressure on families where one or more individuals are living with HIV/AIDS. We assist families to understand their rights and the services that are available to support them.

This year we delivered 197 occasions of service to 32 individual clients registered for the service. Some of the issues they sought assistance with included urgent housing, respite care, immigration advice, socio-legal information, support for new HIV diagnosis, late diagnosis during pregnancy, access to and financial support for child care services, advocacy and other financial assistance.

We also held three social events and group activities for families affected by HIV/AIDS to socialise and engage in peer support in an informal atmosphere.

Vitamin Service
The ACON Vitamin Service is an independent cooperative to provide cost-price vitamin and food supplements to people living with HIV/AIDS. The service registered 142 individuals through prescriptions provided by General Practitioners and sold 5,425 products last year.

“It has been a real pleasure to volunteer with the Housing Project and a privilege to work with people so dedicated to others,” Catherine
Demand for ACON’s counselling services continues to grow and to help meet the need we are planning to introduce a new Community Counselling Project. Professionals in counselling, social work or psychotherapy will be involved on a volunteer basis for the project next year.

Counselling

Counselling services at ACON include short-term solution-focused interventions with information and referral. We generally see clients for six to nine sessions and our Intake and Assessment Service, between 11-1 and 3-5 each day, allows people to be seen promptly, assessed and referred to the best service for their needs. As the only community-based professional counselling service in the sector, the service continues to receive far more client enquiries and presentations than can be accommodated. The vast majority of clients self-refer and the service acts as a primary care entry point for psychosocial services. Each client presenting through Intake and Assessment may require up to four hours of follow up service.

In the past year we provided more than 2,500 occasions of service. The majority of counselling clients were men from the Inner City, Inner West or Eastern Suburbs, with HIV positive people representing just over half the client load. Relationships remain the highest primary presenting issue as well as a need for HIV/STI related counselling support.

“Volunteering is a great way to use my skills to contribute to my community and to learn more about my community,” Etheon

Enhanced Care Project

The Enhanced Care Project, in collaboration with high HIV caseload general practitioners, supports the care of patients with multiple needs. Project staff provided support to five major GP services including Ben Hanson Surgery, Taylor Square Private Clinic, Ground Zero, Holdsworth House Medical Centre and 407 Doctors. The project also began extending its services to low-caseload GPs through a pilot with Oxford Square Medical Centre and this will be expanded in the new financial year.

We supported GPs and more than 230 patients with multiple needs in the development and review of patient care plans, care coordination, assisting in the referral of patients to other health care services and providing brief short term interventions to support the patient in managing often complex health needs. Mental health remains the most significant presenting issue followed closely by HIV/STI counselling, housing, financial and legal support. Alcohol and other drug support also remains a significant specialist service and we have moved to increase partnerships with mental health and alcohol and other drug services in Sydney.
A series of Save a Mate training courses were conducted in partnership with the Australian Red Cross for community members. Many of the people who learnt about dealing with overdoses volunteered to be part of ACON’s Drug Rovers, a key initiative in caring for our community.

Injecting and Other Drug Use Project (IODU)
The IODU Project dealt with more than 500 requests for information and support from individuals and service providers this year. Members of the community sought information on a range of drug issues including strategies for controlling use, helping a friend or family member, referrals to other services and basic drug information. We also provided information to service providers on alcohol and other drug issues relevant to the GLBT community. ACON works with a wide range of agencies to reduce the impacts of alcohol and other drug use in the community and chairs the Surry Hills Community Drug Action Team (CDAT).

NSP
ACON’s Sydney Needle and Syringe Program provided more than 3,300 occasions of service during the year. We also supported injecting drug users with clean equipment and health information at our branches and this year saw an increased focus on intervention opportunities.

GHB
In response to increased community concern about the impacts of GHB use, ACON developed a harm reduction education campaign for a wide range of parties, pubs, clubs, social groups and SOPVs. The posters, press advertisements and information fliers were widely distributed throughout the state.

Crystal Meth
The 2004 Sydney Gay Community Periodic Survey identified an increase in crystal use amongst gay men in Sydney and we developed a series of forums and resources to help tackle this. Our forums for crystal users, concerned family and friends, and service providers attracted a number of people wanting information and support. To address concerns about anecdotal links between crystal use and unsafe sex practices we developed a crystal and safe sex campaign for wide promotion. We also worked with the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) to undertake a rapid assessment around crystal and GHB which was funded by NSW Health.

Drug Rovers
ACON Drug Rovers work as a support team and set of eyes for medical and first aid staff at large dance parties, looking out for people in trouble as a result of alcohol or other drugs. Rovers are able to call for immediate medical assistance or help people to the medical teams. Drug Rovers are a key component of our harm reduction party outreach service which relies on the support of volunteers to help look after the health and safety of our community. This year we hosted the first Drug Rover Training day for 42 volunteers in partnership with NDARC, Mardi Gras Medical and the Red Cross.
The AVP has commenced a community consultation project to investigate the effects of homophobia in Arabic speaking communities and has established a steering committee to oversee the consultation in the coming year.

The Lesbian & Gay Anti-Violence Project (AVP) provided information support, advocacy and referral to more than 90 victims of homophobic violence, harassment and abuse during the year.

The AVP is a key partner in the NSW Anti-Homophobia Interagency and helped conduct two regional professional development roundtables with 85 teachers and other service providers in Western Sydney and Lismore.

In response to calls for information from victims of ongoing harassment the AVP has developed a series of fact sheets providing information on strategies to deal with harassment in a number of settings – in the workplace, in an educational setting and with neighbours.

We also advocated for victims of homophobic violence at a number of forums including:

• Attorney General’s GLBT Community Advisory Committee
• Anti-Discrimination Board Gay and Lesbian Consultation and
• Attorney General’s Victims of Crime Interagency.

Drink spiking was again an issue for members of the GLBT community and the AVP developed a poster for display in licensed venues to raise awareness amongst the community of the risk of drink spiking.

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Safe Place Program
The AVP expanded the Safe Place program to identify locations where members of the GLBT community can seek refuge from homophobic violence or abuse. Participating businesses place a Safe Place pink triangle on their door or window to identify them as a safe haven for people who feel that their safety is threatened. We have developed new partnerships with area health services, councils and a range of businesses and services to work together to improve community safety. The Safe Place program was expanded to a number of areas including Manly, Mosman and North Sydney with the focus now moving to Western Sydney as well as several regional centres.

Same Sex Domestic Violence (SSDV)
The AVP continued its work with the SSDV Interagency to keep same sex domestic violence on the agenda for our communities. The AVP and SSDV Interagency hosted three successful forums and provided professional development training on responses to SSDV for a range of services including NSW Police and the Gay and Lesbian Counselling Service. Same sex domestic violence was also the topic of papers presented by the AVP at the Home Truths and Institute of Family Studies conferences during the year.

“Volunteering with the AVP means that concerns from my community are represented,” Nicole

ACON ANNUAL REPORT 2004 - 2005
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YOUTH PROGRAMS

ACON ANNUAL REPORT 2004 - 2005

Fun & Esteem
This year the Fun & Esteem youth project introduced a revised model of its flagship workshop and commenced work on a new promotional campaign. Fun & Esteem hosted a series of forums with young people as part of a funding application for work with young GLBT in regional areas. Fun & Esteem has also taken on the coordination of the Queer Facilitators Interagency, an interagency for GLBT youth workers, and has commenced more coordinated outreach to GLBT groups on university campuses in Sydney.

New Groups
The Wednesday group drop-in nights have been replaced with guest speaker forums. Up to 110 young men have attended each event. We held three forums this year on diverse subjects including male sex work, gay male parenting and a special Mardi Gras night about the art of drag. The Thursday Afternoon drop-in groups were also given a makeover and replaced by School’s Out, a structured workshop for young gay and bisexual men in high school. This workshop was successfully piloted with information on HIV/STI prevention, coming out, homophobia and anti-gay bullying.

Queer Peer Project
A focus on same sex attracted youth during the year saw the establishment of a Queer Peer Project. A new partnership with our Fun & Esteem Project, Twenty 10 and Lesbian Youth Support brought together 30 young people from rural and regional areas for a statewide forum on queer youth issues. We have now been funded by the Foundation for Young Australians (FYA) for a two-year project to provide peer support leadership and facilitation training. The Partnership Grant from FYA will support the appointment of a project worker to coordinate training in seven areas across NSW.

Start Making Sense
The Start Making Sense workshops provide sexual health information, personal skills development and peer support to young gay and bisexual men. Information in the workshops covered communication, HIV and STI prevention, relationships and drug-related information. The workshops are facilitated by peer volunteers and groups run for six weeks. During the year, we revised the workshop model to solidify the focus on HIV prevention and communication skills. An important addition to the model is the inclusion of a young HIV positive gay male speaker in the workshop program. A total of 11 workshops were held throughout the year with the involvement of 115 young men.

ACON hosted a statewide youth forum as part of a new collaboration with other queer youth projects. With the support of same sex attracted youth we secured significant funding from the Foundation for Young Australians.

“Fun & Esteem helped me find new friends when I first moved to Sydney and I want to be able to help others in the same way,”
Brian
A key focus of the Asian Project this year has been tackling racism in the GLBT community with the Queer Asian Racial Harmony Collective.

The Asian Project provides a range of services including groups, newsletters and information resources, as well as individual client support and referral. More than 600 occasions of service were provided during the year. The project’s regular newsletter is distributed via e-mail and reaches over 500 Asian gay men as well as the service providers who work with them. The newsletter provides information on all aspects of the Asian Project and other ACON programs and events.

Support Groups
Silk Road is a peer support group attracting around 30 to 40 participants each month. The meetings provide support and information addressing sexual health and HIV/AIDS prevention, anti-discrimination, anti-violence and general discussion groups. Asia Plus is a monthly support group for HIV positive Asian gay men providing peer based social support and information. The majority of meetings are held off site with a ‘social yum cha’ theme.

Collaborations
The Asian Project works with the Multicultural HIV/AIDS Service and provides support to a number of social groups including the ‘Long Yang Club’ social group for Asians and their friends, Gaysha, Kantana club and the Asian Marching Boys.

Tackling Racism
The Asian Project has provided community leadership in relation to incidents of racial discrimination in the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community this year. Asian members of the community are often victims of both homophobia and racism. During the year the Asian Project auspiced the Queer Asian Racial Harmony Collective and the implementation of a Harmony Day initiative involving the distribution of ‘Kindness Cards’ to promote cultural diversity with gay men, lesbians, bisexual and transgender people. The project also played a key role in the establishment of the ACON Racial Harmony Working Group, a group which aims to bring together culturally and linguistically diverse members of the GLBT community to work collaboratively on issues of racism and racial harmony. A series of public forums are planned for the coming financial year to share experiences and create ideas for change. ACON is also seeking funding to conduct a number of initiatives promoting racial harmony in our community. A social marketing campaign and public events are being considered for the coming year.

“I’m really stoked to volunteer with the Asian Project especially around racial discrimination. I find the work incredibly inspiring, fulfilling and positive.”
Gary
ACON’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Project connects many individuals with service providers throughout the state. It is a key community development initiative to improve the sexual health and general wellbeing of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members.

Presentations and Education
An important aspect of the project’s work involves collaborating with other service providers and sectors to raise awareness and increase sensitivity to issues of concern to gay, lesbian, sistergirl and HIV positive Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The project presented at a range of conferences, launches and forums on homophobia, sexuality, gender identity and sexual health including the national launch of AFAO’s Sistergirl Sexual Health Campaign in Brisbane, the Takataapui Hui (National Maori Gay, Lesbian and Transgender Conference) in Auckland, New Zealand and Health In Difference: the Fifth National Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Health Conference in Melbourne.

External Groups and Networks
The project continues to participate in a range of interagencies, advisory groups and professional networks including the NSW Anti-Discrimination Board Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Advisory Group, the Metropolitan Aboriginal Sexual Health Workers Network, the Statewide Aboriginal Sexual Health Workers Network and the National Indigenous Project Officers Network.

Support Groups and Social Events
Regular social activities have seen up to 50 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander gay men, lesbians and sistergirls coming together for barbecue gatherings, softball games and other activities. Five social events were held during the year, reducing social isolation and building community cohesion.

ACON also established a new Lesbian Support Network this year with around 15 women attending regular events. We secured funding from Lesbians Incorporated (LINC) for a range of facilitated discussion events and other community activities which have continued to be developed. A schedule of activities for a Gay Men’s Support Network has been planned.

“I volunteer with the Koori unit and I enjoy helping others empower themselves to live a life of positive wellbeing,”

Terrilee

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Project delivers health promotion for gay, lesbian, sistergirl and HIV+ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through individual assessment, referral and support groups. We provided more than 300 occasions of service this year particularly to gay men, lesbians, and sistergirls. The project provides an important source of individual support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our communities and helps creates pathways for improved and appropriate service provision in a wide range of sectors including health, medical, legal, welfare, accommodation and drug and alcohol services.
More than 50 volunteers from MAG support a range of ACON services including our packing team who put together thousands of safe sex packs, safe injecting packs and resources for distribution.
Following a long consultation with clients, service providers and community members, ACON West relocated to our Sydney office. No changes have been made to services and staff provide outreach services to clients and communities in Greater Western Sydney.

CSN West
The smooth transition for ACON West staff moving into the city included the CSN worker joining the main team of Community Support Network offering clients of CSN West assistance with their home care and transport needs. A major recruitment campaign was developed to find more volunteers to cater for client needs in the western suburbs and a number of training sessions were held with new carers. Transport arrangements for people living with HIV/AIDS were established with community transport organisations in Parramatta, Bankstown, Blacktown, Penrith, Fairfield, Liverpool and the Blue Mountains. Formal support arrangements were also made with the Aboriginal Transport Organisation based in Campbelltown.

Education and Community Development
ACON West provides education and community development services to support local community members and organisations. We also have a Lesbian Health project worker to offer support and referral for local women with lesbian health forums and parenting forums. We work closely with sex on premises venues providing safe sex equipment and HIV/STI information. Several key campaigns were launched at premises in partnership with the SOPVs and we provided staff training. ACON West also works in partnership with local Area Health Services on the Western Sydney Gay Men’s Education Team (GMET).

Schools
ACON West continued to support and work with the Anti-Homophobia Interagency with presentations at schools to address the issue of homophobic violence and abuse. A number of counsellors and service providers approached ACON West for this service during the year. We also continued to present workshops with secondary schools on affirming sexual diversity and offered a referral service for same sex attracted youth to support networks.
People living with HIV/AIDS in the Illawarra region have access to regular support group meetings hosted by ACON, and members of the GLBT community regularly attend events in ACON’s Community Space.

The ACON Illawarra branch provides a drop-in facility for clients and visitors within the main office and a large community space with meeting facilities for community groups. The meeting space is an opportunity for us to promote HIV prevention, and groups that meet in this area include the Wollongong Lesbian Drop In, Gay and Bi Men’s Drop In, Young and Proud and Unity.

Youth Services
Groups for GLBT young people or youth questioning their sexuality or gender are conducted in Wollongong and Nowra on a fortnightly basis. The groups provide social support in a safe GLBT friendly meeting space along with information and education around health and wellbeing issues for same sex attracted youth.

ACON Illawarra also offered Crossroads anti-homophobia workshops to Year 11 students in high schools in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven. Workshops addressed issues around homophobia and sexuality and provided information on sexual identity and tolerance.

PFLAG
ACON Illawarra helped establish the first local Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) in the Illawarra and South Coast region. The local PFLAG group met for the first time to discuss shared issues around dealing with GLBT adolescents and to plan for future events.

MAPout
The MAPout project was an enormous success this year. More than 100 people attended the launch of the new project to document the lives and experiences of gay men, lesbians, bisexual and transgender people in the Shoalhaven. MAPout celebrated the ‘extraordinarily ordinary’ lives of the Shoalhaven GLBT community. Workshops were held on basic photography, composition and presentation, with a display of the final images proving to be a highly popular exhibition.

Transgender Forums
A Transgender Forum for service providers and people who identify as transgender was held in early 2005 in conjunction with the Gender Centre and Port Kembla Sexual Health. The forum looked at issues facing people who identify with a gender other than their birth gender and particular issues around isolation in a rural setting. An Illawarra Trans Afternoon Tea was also held to provide an opportunity for transgender people to discuss the types of support service they would like to establish in the Illawarra.
ACON Northern Rivers commenced an outreach service into Tweed Heads in partnership with Clinic 145 Sexual Health Service to increase access for people living with HIV/AIDS, their partners, carers and family to HIV services in the local area.

ACON this year developed a draft HIV Health Promotion Plan for people living with HIV/AIDS in the Northern Rivers for 2006-2008. A number of new initiatives will be rolled out in the coming year to share health promotion messages with HIV positive people. We also began consulting with members of the local gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities for our second community survey. The first survey, in 2001, helped shape a number of services and we hope the new research will give us a greater insight into the local GLBT community identity, behaviour and needs. Contributions from the survey participants will help us ensure our services better meet their needs.

ACON Northern Rivers held a highly successful Open Day for community members to learn more about the many programs and services provided locally and to see the newly refurbished Lismore office. The new office is also home to an art collection New York, New York, and then some donated by Jackson Gooch.

HIV Treatments
We provided one-on-one telephone and e-mail support and information about treatments for people living with HIV/AIDS. During the year we offered an outreach treatments program in Tweed Heads and a workshop in Port Macquarie. Our annual Treatments by the Sea program attracted 30 participants who were keen to find out more about HIV treatments, side effects and other related information.

Community Development and Education
Our Community Development and Education team coordinated the annual HIV+ Gay Men’s Health Retreat with more than 40 men joining in the weekend retreat. The retreat is a chance for gay men living with HIV/AIDS to come together in a supportive environment and discuss a range of issues impacting on their lives.

Aboriginal Lifestyle Program
ACON Northern Rivers offered a range of activities for local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people this year including:

- Weekly education sessions at Namatjira Haven
- Fortnightly education sessions for the Tabulam Men’s Group
- Sexual health education sessions in a variety of community settings at Casino, Coraki, Evans Heads, Lennox Heads and Tweed Heads.

“What I have gained through volunteering with ACON far outweighs the contribution I have made.”

Bronwyn
ACON Hunter and the Mid North Coast outreach service offer a wide range of workshops and support groups for our community to help improve self-esteem, create social networks and build a safe place to discuss GLBT and health issues.

ACON worked closely with a number of mainstream services and training organisations to improve access for our community members in the Hunter and Mid North Coast areas. We provided sensitivity training to new youth, welfare and aged care workers about issues affecting people living with HIV/AIDS, gay men, lesbians, bisexual and transgender people. The Mid North Coast outreach service worked with the local Hastings Council to consult with GLBT community on a new social plan for the area.

The GLBT community celebrated the second annual Rainbow Festival in the Hunter and ACON was proud to support the festival.

ACON supports a number of local workshops and support groups including Q<18, Q<25, FUNQ, MYP, HUGS, NEON, Hunter Spice and FLAG.

**Newcastle Campaign**

In collaboration with Hunter Population Health, ACON Hunter developed a locally focussed social marketing campaign for Hunter gay men and other men who have sex with men. The campaign to promote regular sexual health check-ups will be rolled out at the beginning of the coming financial year. Posters, coasters and other resources for Relieve Yourself will encourage men to increase their sexual health awareness and prompt regular check-ups. The campaign will also include eight metre long posters on buses in the Newcastle area.

**Positive Forums**

ACON Hunter and Mid North Coast outreach supported a number of health forums and discussion groups for people living with HIV/AIDS including dental health, quit smoking, alcohol and other drugs, Christmas psychosocial tips, ageing, nutrition, sero-discordant relationships, sexual health and disclosure.

We held HIV Specialist Clinics in Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour as well as a PJWHA Lifestyle Forum on treatments and finances.

**Counselling**

ACON offers access to affordable, professional, sexuality-sensitive counselling for clients and community members in the Hunter region. Our Intake and Assessment system has been streamlined to quickly assess new clients for ACON or other services and to offer appropriate referrals.

**Violence**

A number of ACON initiatives this year addressed violence in different forms. We worked with tertiary students on homophobia issues and our Lesbian Health Project networked with the Hunter Domestic Violence Committee to formulate strategies to address same sex domestic violence. ACON Hunter also participated in the Regional Violence Prevention Interagency to raise awareness of GLBT and sex worker safety.
ACON sourced more than $260,000 in grant funding this year to support a range of new projects and services and a similar amount was raised through events. In the coming year we will implement a new Fundraising Strategy to further diversify ACON’s funding base.

Red Ribbon
Marcia Hines and the 2004 Miss Universe Jennifer Hawkins both supported our major annual Red Ribbon fundraiser. Marcia and Jennifer were the face of our campaign to recruit volunteers and encourage people to buy a red ribbon for World AIDS Day. A television and radio community service announcement aired with Marcia asking people to wear their heart on their sleeve with a red ribbon. More than $100,000 was raised in the Red Ribbon Appeal thanks to the many volunteers who rattled buckets and sold red ribbons. World AIDS Day on December 1 was marked with the annual Candlelight Memorial at Hyde Park.

Mardi Gras
ACON celebrated its 20th year in the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade with hundreds of people in the ACON float promoting safe sex and general health messages for our community. More than 300 people joined the ACON float entry representing the broad range of programs, care and support services we provide through all of our offices. We proudly won the Judges Choice Award for our entry.

Many of the activities of ACON projects outlined in this report rely on self-generated funding through our events and other fundraising activities. We have a high profile at community events with the involvement of many volunteers who support our fundraising initiatives.

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SWOP offered support networks and provided health education and services on a range of issues this year including:
- Safe sex
- Working safely
- Sexually Transmissible Infections
- HIV/AIDS
- Hepatitis A, B and C
- Negotiation skills
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Violence
- Sexual health
- Contraception
- Safe injecting.

SWOP was also active in advocacy around council compliance activities and their impact on public health and regularly contributed to the Sexual Health Outreach Workers Network (SHOWNet). An important coup for SWOP this year was being invited to present two skills workshops as part of the Bachelor of Policing Course held at the University of Western Sydney. The workshops covered “Communication Skills for Police Officers” and focused on the considerable communication skills needed to respond to diverse people including sex workers in diverse settings. The workshops were extremely well received and SWOP has been invited to present next year.

Male Sex Worker Project
The project delivered more than 50 outreach sessions to brothel, escort, private and street-based male sex workers. HIV positive sex workers accessed SWOP for referrals to housing, counsellors and peer support services. SWOP also advocated on behalf of male and transgender sex workers on local government issues related to home-based sex work.

Transgender Sex Worker Project
The project, with around 40 outreach sessions, provided one-on-one peer based information, support and referral to more than 285 individuals. Sexual health issues such as PEP, Hepatitis A and B vaccination and HIV/STI testing were discussed in outreach sessions. SWOP also represented worker views to local council on street closures in transgender working areas.

Women’s Team
More than 800 female sex workers were seen by SWOP outreach staff and 300 parlours and strip clubs were accessed. The Women’s Team provided health information on STIs, HIV, safe sex equipment, support and referrals. Needs assessments were undertaken for street sex workers and the results are to be used to tailor education and training for this hard to reach group particularly around issues of injecting drug use.

The Sex Workers Outreach Project organises a number of social activities throughout the year including the popular annual Hookers and Strippers Ball.

NESB Project
SWOP visited close to 70 multicultural sex industry workplaces with the aid of the multi-lingual video resource “No Regrets”. English classes for multicultural sex workers were regularly provided throughout the year and PEP information was printed in Thai, Chinese and Korean. A partnered outreach with Sydney Sexual Health Service was also carried out. Issues addressed included sexual health, HIV/AIDS, Hep A, B and C, safe sex and negotiation skills.

Resource Production Project
This project continues to produce four issues per year of the popular publication The Professional. This magazine gives a voice to sex workers responding to issues of public policy as well as providing a creative outlet for those sex workers skilled in poetry and short story writing. Articles included HIV/AIDS, STIs and Hepatitis C, treatments and testing advice. These pages were also printed in Thai, Chinese and Korean so that non-English speaking background sex workers had access to this important information. Stigma and discrimination, council planning policies and their impact on health and safety, the lack of understanding of sex workers’ health practices by other key agencies and reports on forums were also issues discussed in articles this year.

Rural Project
More than 30 sessions of outreach were conducted across the Illawarra, Hunter and Gosford areas with more than 120 venues visited. The Illawarra Project accessed over 56 street sex workers and provided sexual health screening, peer education and referral to other agencies. Significant issues included PEP, HIV/AIDS, STIs and Hep A, B and C. Outreach was also undertaken to the Mid and Far North Coast, Tweed Heads, Bathurst, Orange, Armidale and Albury. These visits accessed parlours and street workers as well as private workers and played an important part in linking these often isolated sex workers with SWOP’s peer education services.

Great Western Highway Project
SWOP received COAG funding for a further year to enable it to continue outreach to the marginalised sex workers on the Great Western Highway at Mt Druitt. SWOP has been undertaking weekly outreach to this area with Western Sydney stakeholders and has accessed more than 200 street workers in the last 12 months. Issues addressed include sexual health background and education, safe sex, safe injecting and drug use patterns, the incidence and treatment of Hep C and HIV and social issues such as homelessness and high levels of violence and abuse sustained whilst sex working on the Greater Western Highway.
Adrian Lovney
President
Adrian has 15 years experience at governance level in HIV/AIDS organisations, and in public sector program and policy analysis/advise. He is currently a general manager in the financial services industry.

Kate Connors
Vice President
Kate has more than eight years experience in public sector policy advice and analysis. She is currently employed as a lawyer with the Australian Law Reform Commission.

David Buchanan
Secretary
David is a barrister and has been a member of ACON for close to two decades. He has served on the ACON Board for 18 years.

Rod Bruem
Treasurer
Rod is a communication specialist with 20 years experience in journalism, politics and media management. He is currently employed as a corporate relations manager for Telstra.

Dean Price
Dean has more than five years experience in student and GLBT organisations. He is currently working with a peak disability rights and advocacy group People with Disabilities Australia.

Linette Collins
Linette has a background in public health, public policy, health services management, research and law enforcement.

Simon Moore
Simon is director of creative services with a boutique design and advertising agency. He has more than 10 years experience in business management.

Garrett Prestage
Garrett is a lecturer at the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology & Clinical Research. He has more than two decades of experience researching gay and lesbian community and health issues.

Deb Broughton
Staff Representative
Deb was a volunteer with CSN before she started working with ACON in 1993. She is currently the CSN Coordinator, a First Aid Officer and member of the Organisational Health Committee.

Stevie Clayton OAM
Ex Officio
Stevie was in the role of ACON Deputy Executive Officer for three years before being appointed Chief Executive Officer four years ago. She is also a member of the Administrative Decisions Tribunal, and has many years experience in community-based organisations and management.

Hugh McLeod
Hugh is a general practitioner with experience working in medical practices with a high caseload of people living with HIV/AIDS.

Hugh McLeod
Hugh has an extensive background in health administration and management together with policy development and leadership in the HIV sector. He is currently Executive Director of PLWHA (NSW).
STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

50

51

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

*Safe Sex Sluts*
*Red Ribbon Appeal*
*Positive Living Centre (PLC)*
*Community Support Network (CSN)*
*Positive Living Centre (PLC)*
*Red Ribbon Appeal*
*Safe Sex Sluts*
*Drug Rovers*
*Packaging Teams*

Special thanks to the hundreds of other people who volunteered this year with:

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<th>SPONSORS, PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>AAA Computers, ABC Radio, Access Systems, AIDS Councils around Australia, AIDS Dementia and HIV Psychiatry Team (ADAPT), AIDS Trust of Australia, Albion Street Centre, Alcohol and Drug Information Service (ADIS), Alots (University of Wollongong), Anki, Ansell, Arq, Arrows/NCs, Aurora, Aussie Boys, Australian College of Applied Psychology, Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS), Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO), Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations, Australian Health and Medical Research Centre (AHMRC), Australian Institute of Management Services, Australian Lesbian Medical Association (ALMA), Australian Personal Computer, Australian Red Cross, Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society (ARCHS), Australian Society for HIV Medicine (ASHM), Bell Shakespeare, Big Beat, Big Boy’s Café, Bigge Park Centre, Bingay – Mitzi Macintosh &amp; Naomi Palmer, Black Pan Restaurant, Blockbuster Newtown, Bloxham &amp; Chambers, Blue Sisters Softball Team, Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (BGF), Bodyline, Boehringer Ingelheim, Bondi Youth, Bookshop Darlinghurst, Bridge Climb, Bristol Myers Squibb, Bruce Pollack Publicity, Brynagoy.com, Café Abergrombie, Canterbury Bankstown Gay &amp; Lesbian Social Group Inc, Carers NSW, Cellblock Youth Services, Central Coast Area Health Service, Central Sydney Community Transplantation Centre, Centrelink, City of Sydney Council, City of Sydney Overdose Community Training Project Clinic 145, Clinic 16, Coca-Cola Amatil, Colombian Hotel, Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing, Community Centre for Welfare Training, Community Housing Federation of Australia, Community Options (COS), Community Transport of NSW, Community Transport Operations (CTO), Computerworld, CONTACT, Corporate Express IT, Coreills Café, Council for Civil Liberties, Critter Sitter, CSN Carers’ Representative Committee, Darcy House, Darlinghurst Community Health Centre, Dendy Cinemas, Department of Family and Community Services, Des Kelksey Lodge, Dimension Data, Down, DNA Magazine, Do Hair, Domestic Violence Advocacy Service, Domestic Violence Line, Dr Ben Hanson and Associates, Dympla House, East Nowra Neighbourhood Centre, Fix X Gym, Floral Decorator, Foley House, Food Distribution Network, Foundation for Young Australians, FPQ Health, Gay &amp; Lesbian Counselling Service, Gay &amp; Lesbian Immigration Taskforce (GLITF), Gay &amp; Lesbian Rights Lobby (GLRL), Gay and Married Men’s Association (GAMMA), Gay Men’s Domestic Violence Counselling Service, Gender Centre, Glass Smith Klene, Gloria Jean’s Oxford St, Glow Girl, Glyde, Goldy’s Gym, Ground Zero Medical Practice, Harbour City Bears, Headquarters, Healthy Cities Illawara, Hepatitis C Council, Hewlett Packard, HIV AIDS Library Network (HALAN), HIV/AIDS Legal Centre (HALC), Holdsworth House General Practice, Home and Community Care (HAC), home Nightclub, Homecare NSW, Homeless Action Team and Support Services, Homelessness NSW/ACT, House of Priscilla, Hunter New England Area Health Service, IBM, IDG, IDG and their associates, Illawarra Legal Centre, Illawarra Women’s Health Centre, Imperial Hotel, Inner City Legal Centre, Jansen Newman Institute, Kings of Kensington, Kings Cross CDAT, Kirkstall Road Centre, Krispy Kreme, Langton Centre, Laurie Perrett, Lawlink, Legal Aid, Leichhardt Women’s Health Centre, Lemon Surdeais, Lesbian Health Interagency Network (LHIN), Lesbians Incorporated (LINC), Lesbians on the Loose (LOTL), Lifeline, Lismore and Districts Women’s Health Centre, Lismore City Council, Liverpool Hospital, Luncheon Club, Manly Drug Education and Counselling Centre, Mars Gals Medical, Massage Therapy Erskineville, Max’s Corporate Catering, MCG ‘Out of the Closet’ Emporium, Meals on Wheels, Medically Supervised Injection Centre, Mental Health Coordinating Council, Meric Sharpe &amp; Dohme, Metropolitan Community Church, Midnight Shift Hotel, Mission Australia, Mortgage Choice Bond Junction and Newtown, Moulin Rouge Down Under, Multi-cultural HIV/AIDS &amp; Hepatitis C Service, National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS (NAPAW), National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research (NCHECR), National Centre in HIV Social Research (NCHSR), National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NADAC), National Drug and Alcohol Services (NADAS), New Mardi Gras, New Theatre, News Ltd., Newtown Hotel, Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre, Northern Rivers Social Development Council, Novena Youth Centre, NSW Anti-Discrimination Board, NSW Anti-Homophobia Intergroup, NSW Attorney-Generals Department, NSW Council of Social Services (NCOSS), NSW Department for Women, NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs, NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care, NSW Department of Community Services, NSW Department of Corrective Services, NSW Department of Housing, NSW Federation of Housing Associations, NSW Health, NSW Ombudman’s Office, NSW Police Service, NSW Users and AIDS Association (NUAA), Office of Community Housing, Opera Australia, Outfitters Softball Team, Oxford Hotel, Oxford St Medical Centre, Oz Shovice Cars/Equity Rides AID, Ozgay.com, Pacific Internet, Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians &amp; Gays (PFLAG), People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH/A), People with Disabilities, Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS), Pine Street Studios, Pink Nation, Pink Plane, Police Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officers (GLLOs), Positive Central, Positive Heterosexuals, Premier’s Department NSW, Pride, Prince of Wales Hospital, Private Workers Alliance, Psychologists &amp; Counsellors in HIV/AIDS, Queer Arts Collective, Queer Nation, Queer Screen, Quilt Project, Radical Faeries, Redfern Aboriginal Medical Service, Redfern Community Health Centre, Relationships Australia, REDPUD Redfern, Roche Pharmaceuticals, Royal North Shore Hospital, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sacred Heart Services, Sanctuary, Scarlet Alliance, Seven Eleven, Sexual Health Services in NSW, SHAIDS, Shellharbour City Council, Shellharbour Youth Services, Signal, Social Workers in AIDS (SWAIDS), South Eastern Sydney &amp; Illawarra Health Service, South West Sydney &amp; Illawarra Health Service, South West Sydney Housing Co-op (SWSH), Southern Health and Ageing Service, St George Hospital, St Vincent’s Community Health Centre, St Vincent’s Hospital – Mental Health Service and Alcohol &amp; Drug Service, Stamford House, Star City Showroom, STIGMA, Stonewall Hotel, SX News, Sydney Children’s Hospital, Sydney Hospital, Sydney Masonic Centre, Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney Sexual Health Centre, Sydney Star Observer, Sydney Symphony, Sydney University, Sydney West Area Health Service, Sydney Women’s Baseball League, Taxi Club, Taylor Square Private Clinic, Tender Loving Cuisine, Thirfty Car Rental, Token Artists, Toolshed, Touching Base, Toy Box Parties, Tree of Hope, Tropical Fruits, Twenty 10, Uny, Urunga House, Victims Compensation Tribunal, Victims Support Line, Video Ezy, Virgin/Sanity, Western Suburbs Haven, Westminster Hospital, Winsome Hotel, Wollongong Women’s Centre, Wollongong Youth Services, WOW, 357 – Sydney City Steam, 407 Doctors</td>
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<td>Page 53</td>
<td>SPONSORS, PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS</td>
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<td>Many thanks to our major funder NSW Health as well as our pro bono legal advisors Freihelds and our auditors PriceWaterhouseCoopers and our other funders</td>
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Treasurer’s Report

It is with pleasure that I present the accounts for the 2004-05 financial year which indicate that ACON has once again finished the year in a strong and healthy financial position.

The original budget deficit was $250,887 but the actual deficit at the end of the financial year was $1,301,965. The reasons for this are:

- The original budget deficit was to enable us to fund our operations until the end of the financial year, a period of 30 June 2005.
- 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.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

Dated at Sydney this Ninth Day of November 2005.

Adrian Lovney

President

Kate Connors

Vice-President

8 Attendances by Members of the Board who held office during the year at meetings of the Board during the year ended 30 June 2005 were as follows. Elections for the elected Board Members were held in December 2004.

Elected Members and Ex Officio

Meetings

Meetings

attended

Adrian Lovney

10

10

David Buchanan

10

9

Linette Collins

10

5

Garrett Prestage

10

8

Kate Connors

10

8

Hugh MacLeod

10

6

Stevie Clayton

10

8

Geoff Honnor

10

8

Rod Bruem (from November 2004)

7

7

8 The original budget deficit was $250,887 as noted in the above review of financial year ended 30 June 2005.

12 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.

3 PricewaterhouseCoopers continues in office as auditors to the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated in accordance with section 327 of the Corporations Act 2001.
### Statement of Financial Performance for the Year Ended 30 June 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue from Ordinary Activities</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants In Advance</td>
<td></td>
<td>250,887</td>
<td>456,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants Rolled Over Prior Year</td>
<td></td>
<td>173,117</td>
<td>404,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW Dept of Health</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,684,074</td>
<td>6,392,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW Department of Community Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>86,766</td>
<td>85,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth Dept of Health &amp; Aged Care</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>25,195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Health Services</td>
<td></td>
<td>482,157</td>
<td>534,282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIDS Trust of Australia</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>31,323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NSW Users &amp; AIDS Association</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,659</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other grants</td>
<td></td>
<td>68,803</td>
<td>20,529</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>21a</td>
<td>321,908</td>
<td>276,287</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest received/receivable</td>
<td></td>
<td>112,281</td>
<td>122,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,580</td>
<td>3,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent received</td>
<td></td>
<td>51,977</td>
<td>53,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of Vitamins</td>
<td></td>
<td>89,022</td>
<td>78,509</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sale of Materials</td>
<td></td>
<td>80,502</td>
<td>95,526</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fees</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,172</td>
<td>4,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Income</td>
<td></td>
<td>80,785</td>
<td>60,604</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts of Works of Art</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,480</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenue from Ordinary Activities</td>
<td></td>
<td>8,509,570</td>
<td>8,651,275</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Associated Costs</td>
<td>5,447,503</td>
<td>5,544,732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs and Services</td>
<td>584,592</td>
<td>478,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rent and Rates</td>
<td>217,470</td>
<td>224,393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation – Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>140,049</td>
<td>164,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Maintenance</td>
<td>280,941</td>
<td>279,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>296,439</td>
<td>309,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and Representation</td>
<td>347,052</td>
<td>314,667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations given</td>
<td>28,975</td>
<td>21,281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity and Promotion</td>
<td>347,142</td>
<td>178,571</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events and Activities</td>
<td>94,017</td>
<td>75,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative costs</td>
<td>600,763</td>
<td>804,357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of goods sold</td>
<td>88,983</td>
<td>71,417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenditure</td>
<td>8,473,846</td>
<td>8,493,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus from Ordinary Activities</td>
<td>235,724</td>
<td>184,962</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 30 June 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>2,110,703</td>
<td>2,060,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables</td>
<td>26,137</td>
<td>198,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>7,10,156</td>
<td>14,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>178,678</td>
<td>26,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>2,325,874</td>
<td>2,298,789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Current Assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, Plant &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>360,954</td>
<td>337,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits, Bonds</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Current Total Assets</td>
<td>360,954</td>
<td>333,112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL ASSETS</td>
<td>2,686,828</td>
<td>2,631,901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>743,203</td>
<td>800,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Entitlements</td>
<td>297,932</td>
<td>350,002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Liabilities</td>
<td>1,141,135</td>
<td>1,150,053</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Entitlements</td>
<td>218,228</td>
<td>210,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Non-Current Liabilities</td>
<td>218,228</td>
<td>210,605</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL LIABILITIES</td>
<td>1,359,363</td>
<td>1,360,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET ASSETS</td>
<td>1,327,465</td>
<td>1,271,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Members’ Funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retained Surplus</td>
<td>1,901,065</td>
<td>1,286,241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revaluation Reserve</td>
<td>25,500</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL MEMBERS’ FUNDS</td>
<td>1,327,465</td>
<td>1,271,241</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The above Statement of Financial Position 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 Issue Group consensus views, and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NRS); the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW), and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NRS).

   It is prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention on an accruals basis, except for certain assets which, as noted, are stated at valuation.

   Unless otherwise stated, the accounting policies are consistent with those of the previous year.

   The Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) is adopting International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for application to reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2005. The AASB has issued Australian equivalents to IFRS, and the Urgent Issue Group has issued interpretations corresponding to IASB interpretations originated by the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee or the former Standing Interpretations Committee. The adoption of Australian equivalents to IFRS will be first reflected in the entity’s financial statements for the year ending 30 June 2006. Information about how the transition to Australian equivalents to IFRS is being managed, and the key differences in accounting policies that are expected to arise, is set out in note 1(n).

2. **Revaluation Of Non-Current Assets**

   The Association is gifted 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 decreases 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 increases and decreases are offset against one another within a class of non-current assets, but not otherwise.

3. **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.

### (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 is gifted 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 decreases 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 increases and decreases 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.
(g) Leasehold Improvements
The lease for premises at 9-25 Commonwealth Street, Darlinghurst between the Association and the NSW State Government expired 30 September 2005 and negotiations are continuing for an extension until 30 September 2006. 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 the remaining life of the lease.

(h) Leased Non-Current Assets
A distinction is made between leasehold assets 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.

(i) 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.

(j) International Financial Reporting Standards
Entities complying with Australian equivalents to IFRS for the first time will be required to restate their comparative financial statements to amounts reflecting the application of IFRS to that comparative period. Most adjustments required on transition to IFRS will be made retrospectively, against opening retained earnings as at 1 July 2004.

(k) Financial instruments
Incentives received on entering into operating leases under which the lessor effectively retains substantially all the risks and benefits incident to ownership of the leased non-current assets, and leasehold improvements held at the reporting date are being amortised over 5 years.

(l) Borrowing Costs
Borrowing costs are reflected in a direct write-off basis incurred on entering into operating leases are recognised as liabilities. Loan payments are allocated/allocated between the principal component of the lease liability and the interest expense.

(m) 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.

5 Reconciliation of Operating Surplus/deficit to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2005 $</th>
<th>2004 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Surplus</td>
<td>35,724</td>
<td>184,062</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation and Amortisation</td>
<td>140,049</td>
<td>164,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts of Works of Art</td>
<td>(11,480)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td>(48,116)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/(Decrease) in Provision for Employee Entitlements</td>
<td>55,553</td>
<td>(9,584)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in Grants in Advance</td>
<td>(739,199)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase in Receivables</td>
<td>171,973</td>
<td>38,088</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in Other Current Assets</td>
<td>(152,564)</td>
<td>77,620</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease/(Increase) in Inventory</td>
<td>4,028</td>
<td>6,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease in other Non-Current Assets</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors</td>
<td>(56,850)</td>
<td>135,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</td>
<td>188,033</td>
<td>(155,517)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Current Assets - Receivables</td>
<td>18,069</td>
<td>116,689</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Receivable</td>
<td>7,068</td>
<td>81,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Income</td>
<td>26,137</td>
<td>198,110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Current Assets - Inventories</td>
<td>10,356</td>
<td>14,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finished Goods (Vitamins) at cost</td>
<td>10,356</td>
<td>14,384</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9 Non-Current Assets - Plant & Equipment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2005 $</th>
<th>2004 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Furniture &amp; Fittings</td>
<td>1,253,643</td>
<td>1,231,442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office Equipment</td>
<td>(1,221,643)</td>
<td>(1,203,970)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment Under Lease, at cost</td>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>23,472</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>less: Accumulated Depreciation</td>
<td>106,513</td>
<td>103,513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Works of Art</td>
<td>763,879</td>
<td>639,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revaluation increment</td>
<td>568,226</td>
<td>(456,057)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leasehold Improvements</td>
<td>195,553</td>
<td>183,173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Deposits, Bonds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits, Bonds</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11 Current Liabilities - Accounts Payable

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2005 $</th>
<th>2004 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Goods &amp; Services Tax Payable</td>
<td>215,403</td>
<td>164,141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade Creditors</td>
<td>336,020</td>
<td>430,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued Expenses</td>
<td>191,780</td>
<td>205,172</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 12 Current Liabilities - Employee Entitlements
| Provision for Annual Leave        | 397,932 | 350,002 |
| Provision for Long Service Leave  | 397,932 | 350,002 |

13 Non-Current Liabilities - Employee Entitlements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2005 $</th>
<th>2004 $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employee Numbers</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of employees at reporting date</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 14 Financial Instruments
| (a) Credit Risk Exposure - The credit risk on financial assets of the Association is the carrying value, net of any provision for doubtful debts.
| (b) Interest Rate Risk Exposure - The Association’s exposure to interest rate risk and the interest rate for each class of financial assets and liabilities are set over.

FINANCIAL REPORT
### Interest Rate Risk Exposures

#### 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Floating Interest Rate</th>
<th>Fixed Interest Maturing in 1 year or less $</th>
<th>Over 1 to 5 years $</th>
<th>Non-Interest Bearing $</th>
<th>Total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Reconciliation of Net Financial Assets to Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net financial assets as above</td>
<td>$1,393,637</td>
<td>$1,455,838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-financial assets and liabilities:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>$10,356</td>
<td>$14,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant &amp; equipment</td>
<td>$380,954</td>
<td>$331,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other financial assets</td>
<td>$178,678</td>
<td>$26,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>($106,160)</td>
<td>($556,607)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,327,465</td>
<td>$1,271,241</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Floating Interest Rate</th>
<th>Fixed Interest Maturing in 1 year or less $</th>
<th>Over 1 to 5 years $</th>
<th>Non-Interest Bearing $</th>
<th>Total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Interest Rate Risk Exposures

#### 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Note</th>
<th>Floating Interest Rate</th>
<th>Fixed Interest Maturing in 1 year or less $</th>
<th>Over 1 to 5 years $</th>
<th>Non-Interest Bearing $</th>
<th>Total $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Reconciliation of Net Financial Assets to Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net financial assets as above</td>
<td>$1,393,637</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-financial assets and liabilities:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>$14,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property, plant &amp; equipment</td>
<td>$331,512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other financial assets</td>
<td>$26,114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisions</td>
<td>($556,607)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,271,241</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 17 Segments

The principal activities of the Association during the year were the provision of education, health promotion, advocacy, care and support service to members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, including Indigenous people and injecting drug users, to sex workers and to all people living with HIV/AIDS. The Association operates predominantly in one geographical area, being New South Wales, Australia.

#### 18 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 winding up the Association is limited to the amount, if any, of unpaid annual fees by the member in respect of membership of the Association.

#### 19 Economic Dependency

The major source of funding for the Association is an annual grant from the NSW Health Department. The Association has negotiated a triennial funding agreement with the Department for the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2005. The Department continues to provide quarterly funding based on the annualised grant approved for 2002/2003. Subsequent to year end, the Association submitted the next triennial funding agreement for the years 2005 to 2008.

### 20 Related Parties

There were no transactions with related parties during the year ended 30 June 2005.

### 21 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.

### 22 Contingent Liabilities

Bank guarantees in respect of office leases ($8,450) and electronic funds payroll ($150,000) and credit card facility ($6,000) were held at 30 June 2005. No material losses are expected in respect of any of the above contingent liabilities.

### 25 Retained Surplus

Retained surplus at the beginning of the year | $1,071,965 |
Retained surplus at the end of the year | $1,071,965 |

Included in the retained surplus is an amount of $707,360, which is restricted in its use. This relates to grants received not yet expended for the purpose for which it was intended.
Declaration by the Board for the Year Ended 30 June 2005

The Members of the Board declare that the financial statements and notes set out on pages 54 - 61
(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 2005 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:
(a) 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);
(b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable;
(c) the provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW) have been determined to be necessary had the Association existed:
1 the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW:
   • gives a true and fair view, as required by the Corporations Act 2001 in Australia, of the financial position of The AIDS Council of NSW as at 30 June 2005, and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
   • is presented in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and the Corporations Regulations 2001;
   • presents a true and fair view as required by the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) of the financial result of fundraising appeals for the financial year ended 30 June 2005;
   • its associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993(NSW) for the financial year ended 30 June 2005;
   • money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW during the year ended 30 June 2005 has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW); and
   • there are reasonable grounds to believe that the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW is presented in accordance with the Act and the conditions attached to the approval of the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW issued by the Department of Community Services; and
2 the financial result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW:
   • gives a true and fair view, as required by Australian Auditing Standards, of the financial result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW for the financial year ended 30 June 2005; and
   • is presented in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 in Australia, of the financial position of The AIDS Council of NSW as at 30 June 2005, and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
   • is presented in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and the Corporations Regulations 2001;
   • presents a true and fair view as required by the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) of the financial result of fundraising appeals for the financial year ended 30 June 2005;
   • its associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993(NSW) for the financial year ended 30 June 2005;
   • money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW during the year ended 30 June 2005 has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW); and
   • there are reasonable grounds to believe that the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW is presented in accordance with the Act and the conditions attached to the approval of the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW issued by the Department of Community Services;
(c) the provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW) have been determined to be necessary had the Association existed:
1 the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW:
   • gives a true and fair view, as required by the Corporations Act 2001 in Australia, of the financial position of The AIDS Council of NSW as at 30 June 2005, and of its performance for the year ended on that date;
   • is presented in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and the Corporations Regulations 2001;
   • presents a true and fair view as required by the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) of the financial result of fundraising appeals for the financial year ended 30 June 2005;
   • its associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993(NSW) for the financial year ended 30 June 2005;
   • money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW during the year ended 30 June 2005 has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW); and
   • there are reasonable grounds to believe that the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW is presented in accordance with the Act and the conditions attached to the approval of the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW issued by the Department of Community Services; and
   • this Act and the conditions attached to the approval of the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW issued by the Department of Community Services;
(d) 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:

Adrian Loney
President
Kate Connors
Vice-President

Dated at Sydney this Ninth Day of November 2005

Independent audit report to the members of the AIDS Council of NSW

Audit Opinion
In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial report of such adjustments as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation on our audit procedures referred to in the qualification paragraph below not existed:
1 the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW:
   • gives a true and fair view of the Association’s financial position, for the financial year ended 30 June 2005; and
   • presents a true and fair view as required by Australian Auditing Standards, of the financial result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW; and
   • is presented in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 in Australia, of the financial position of The AIDS Council of NSW as at 30 June 2005, and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
2 the financial result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW:
   • gives a true and fair view, as required by Australian Auditing Standards, of the financial result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW for the financial year ended 30 June 2005; and
   • is presented in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 in Australia, of the financial position of The AIDS Council of NSW as at 30 June 2005, and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
   • is presented in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, and the Corporations Regulations 2001;
   • presents a true and fair view as required by the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) of the financial result of fundraising appeals for the financial year ended 30 June 2005;
   • its associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993(NSW) for the financial year ended 30 June 2005;
   • money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by The AIDS Council of NSW during the year ended 30 June 2005 has been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW) and the Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW); and
   • there are reasonable grounds to believe that the financial report of The AIDS Council of NSW will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.
This opinion must be read in conjunction with the rest of our audit report.

Qualification
Cash from donations and other fund-raising activities are a significant source of revenue for The AIDS Council of NSW. Although The AIDS Council of NSW has implemented systems of control to ensure that monies received are properly recorded in the accounting records, it is impracticable to establish control over the collection of revenue from these sources prior to receipt. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding revenue from cash donations and other fundraising activities was limited, our audit procedures with respect to revenue from these sources had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the Company’s financial records. As a result, we are unable to express an opinion as to whether revenue from cash donations and other fundraising activities is complete.

Audit Approach
We conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the members of the company. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected. For further explanation of an audit, visit our website http://www.pwc.com/au/

Independence
In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the Corporations Act 2001.

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Sydney 9 November 2005

Brett Entwistle
Partner

While we considered the effectiveness of management’s internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

Our audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by directors or management.

Independence
In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the Corporations Act 2001.

PricewaterhouseCoopers
Sydney 9 November 2005

Brett Entwistle
Partner

While we considered the effectiveness of management’s internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

Our audit did not involve an analysis of the prudence of business decisions made by directors or management.
CONTACTS

ACON (AIDS Council of NSW)
9 Commonwealth Street
Surry Hills NSW 2010
Tel. 9206 2000 Fax. 9206 2069
Email. acon@acon.org.au
Internet. www.acon.org.au
ABN 84 633 910 355 CFN: 15214

ACON HUNTER
129 Maitland Road, Islington 2296
Tel. 4927 6808 Fax. 4927 6485
Email. hunter@acon.org.au

ACON NORTHERN RIVERS
27 Uralba Street, Lismore 2480
Tel. 6622 1555 Fax. 6622 1520
Email. northernrivers@acon.org.au

ACON MID NORTH COAST OUTREACH
4 Hayward Street,
Port Macquarie 2444
Tel. 6584 0943 Fax. 6583 3810
Email. mnc@acon.org.au

ACON ILLAWARRA
47 Kenny Street,
Wollongong 2500
Tel. 4226 1163 Fax. 4226 9838
Email. illawarra@acon.org.au

ACON WESTERN SYDNEY
c/o 9 Commonwealth Street
Surry Hills NSW 2010
Tel. 9206 2000 Fax. 9206 2069
Email. aconwest@acon.org.au

POSITIVE LIVING CENTRE (PLC)
703 Bourke Street,
Surry Hills NSW 2010
Tel. 9699 8756 Fax. 9699 8956
Email. plc@acon.org.au

SEX WORKERS OUTREACH PROJECT
69 Abercrombie Street,
Chippendale 2008
Tel. 9319 4866 Fax. 9310 4262
Email. info@swop.org.au

“Show the universe you still care about HIV/AIDS”
World AIDS Day December 1
Miss Universe Jennifer Hawkins in the ACON 2004 Red Ribbon Appeal