



thisacon.

ACON ANNUAL REPORT 08/09

A young man with light brown hair, wearing a grey V-neck t-shirt and dark jeans, stands against a dark background. He is smiling slightly and looking towards the camera.

thisoz.

Thank You
Mum & Dad,
for
making me
just the
~~way~~ **GAY**
I am.

Speak up for an inclusive Australia.

thisisoz.com.au is an online gallery that aims to make Australia a place where everyone belongs.

To get involved, simply upload a picture of yourself with a message that challenges homophobia and/or celebrates diversity. You'll then be part of a campaign to improve services and opportunities for all Australians.

www.thisisoz.com.au

AN INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA (IDAHOT) INITIATIVE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

ACON (NSW's leading LGBT health promotion agency), Lesbian and Gay Anti-Violence Project, City of Sydney, NSW Police Force, NSW Attorney General's Department, Anti-Violence Project of Victoria, NSW Young Lawyers Human Rights Committee (Queer Law and Anti-Discrimination Working Group), Amnesty International Australia, NSW LGBTI Network, Chemistry Council Australia, Twenty10, NSW Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby, National LGBT Health Alliance, Metropolitan Community Church Sydney, The Gender Centre, HighSchoolers Against Homophobia and others.

acon
BUILDING OUR COMMUNITY'S
HEALTH & WELLBEING

SEX / evolution
publishing

SameSame.com.au

CITY OF SYDNEY

Olympic gold medalist Matthew Mitcham, Sydney

this contents.

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Rayine, Sydney

thisacon.

The year's annual report showcases some of the 630 submissions made so far to our *This Is Oz* social inclusion campaign. For more information about the project, see the campaign poster on the inside front cover, check out the story on page 20 or visit www.thisisoz.com.au

What We Do

ACON is Australia's largest community-based gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) health and HIV/AIDS organisation.

We promote the health and wellbeing of the GLBT community and people with HIV. We also provide information and support for people at risk of or affected by HIV, including sex workers, people who use drugs and the family and/or carers of people with HIV.

We run HIV prevention programs for the groups most at risk of HIV transmission – gay men, sex workers and people who inject drugs. For people with HIV, their families and carers, ACON provides a broad range of health promotion and support services. In the area of policy and advocacy, ACON provides advice on issues related to HIV and human rights.

Our work also covers other health issues for our communities such as:

- Sexual health
- Mental health
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Ageing
- Homophobic violence
- Domestic violence
- Counselling
- Community care
- Housing

Why We Do It

Our mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of the GLBT community and people with HIV, and reduce HIV transmission.

The people and communities we serve face the same broad health issues as everyone else. However, mainstream service providers don't always respond adequately to their needs due to a lack of knowledge, understanding or acceptance, especially in regional and rural NSW.

Our communities also have specific health needs that are best met by community-based organisations with specialist knowledge and experience, particularly in relation to HIV, sexual health, discrimination and social isolation.

We meet this dual challenge by providing information and services that support the specific needs of our communities, particularly people with HIV. We also work to close the gap by improving access to mainstream services.

So what do we hope to achieve by doing all this?

- **An end to the HIV/AIDS epidemic locally and globally**
- **A healthy, resilient and inclusive GLBT community**
- **A society that protects and promotes human rights as the foundation for good health**



Trent and Kim, Sydney

this who we serve.

Gay Men + Other Men Who Have Sex With Men (MSM)

We help gay men and other men who have sex with men to improve their health and wellbeing by providing relevant knowledge, skills, resources and social networks. We focus a lot on HIV prevention and support because HIV is a significant health issue for men who have sex with men.

Lesbians + Other Same-Sex Attracted Women (SSAW)

We help lesbians and other same-sex attracted women to improve their health and wellbeing by providing relevant knowledge, skills, resources and social networks.

People With HIV

In NSW, most people with HIV are gay men so our services reflect this. However, HIV doesn't discriminate and neither do we. Heterosexual people with HIV are welcome at ACON and we provide information and a range of support services to help them, their families and their carers.

Young GLBT People

We help young people (under 26) in our community to improve their health and connect with other young people by providing a range of programs, workshops, resources and events.

Mature Age GLBT People

We help mature age people in our community to improve their health and wellbeing by providing support groups, developing health promotion initiatives and advocating for improved mainstream health and aged care services.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

We help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in our community to improve their health and wellbeing by providing information, skills, resources and social networks within a culturally appropriate model of holistic health.

Sex Workers

Through the Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP), we provide sexual health information and support services across NSW for private, brothel and street-based sex workers.

People Who Use Drugs

Minimising the risks associated with injecting drugs is important for public health and the prevention of blood-borne viruses, so we offer information, support services and treatment referrals for people who inject drugs. We also work on preventing and reducing the harms associated with other types of drug use.

People from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Backgrounds (CALD)

We work closely with the Multicultural HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C Service (MHAHS) and other partners to ensure that our HIV work targets those groups which epidemiology tells us are at greatest risk of HIV transmission.

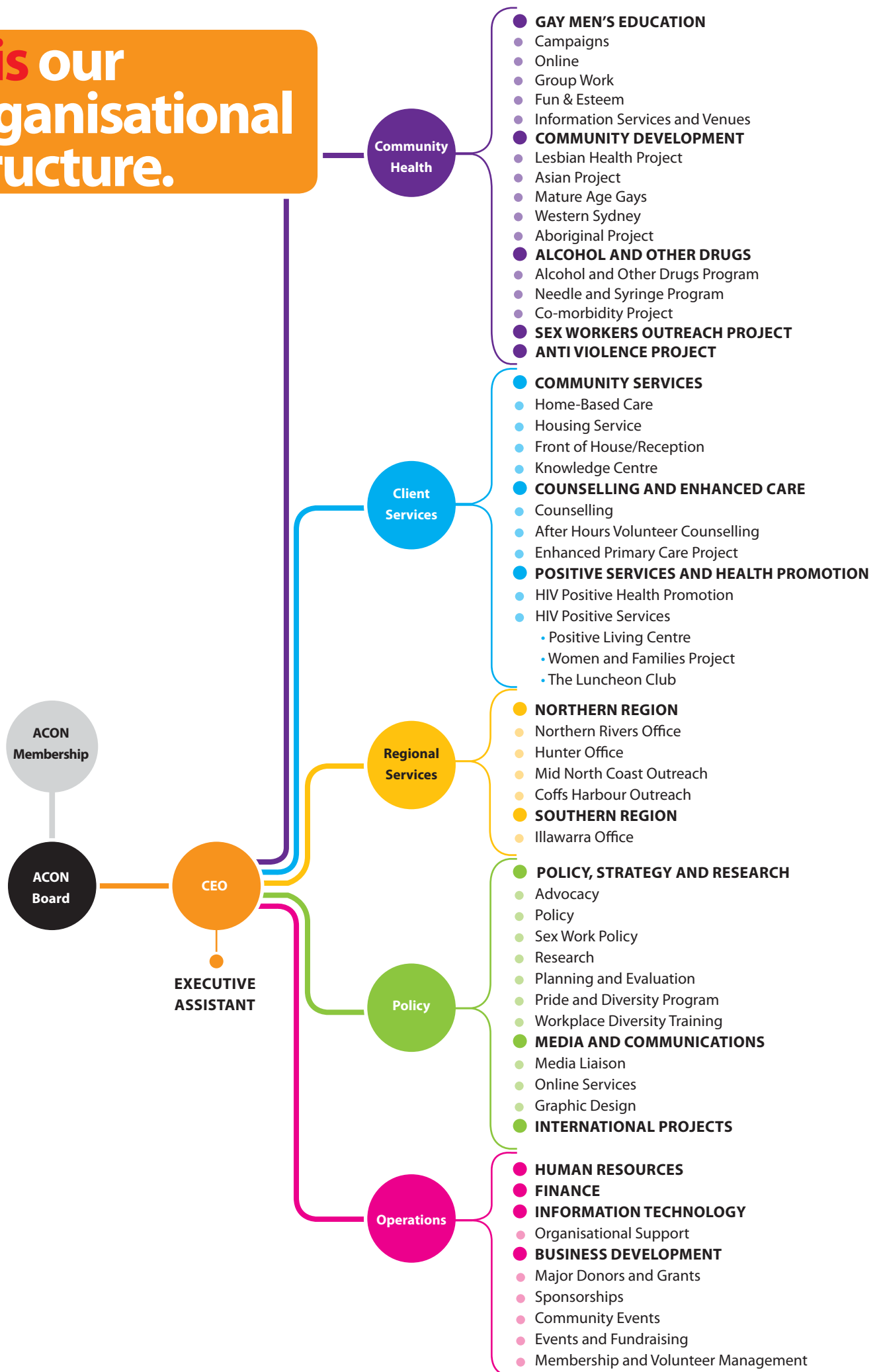


Cameron McCool, Sydney



Brooke Brady, University of Western Sydney

this our organisational structure.





ACON staff at the Big Day In 2009



Li Zhou, Policy Adviser



Sioux Harrison, Northern Rivers Administration/Volunteer Officer and NSP Coordinator



Alberto Duran, Events Specialist



Nancy de Castro, AVP Project Coordinator



Ray Sachin, Volunteer



Veronica Eulate, Planning, Evaluation and Policy Officer



Mark Thomas, Business Development Manager



Maureen Rogers, Western Sydney Care Liaison Officer



Amber Mc Bride, Northern Rivers Lesbian Health Project Worker



Troy Sinkovic, CSN Client Liaison Officer



Ann-Maree Rundle, After Hours Counselling Coordinator



Matthew Vaughan, Community Development and Western Sydney Liaison Officer

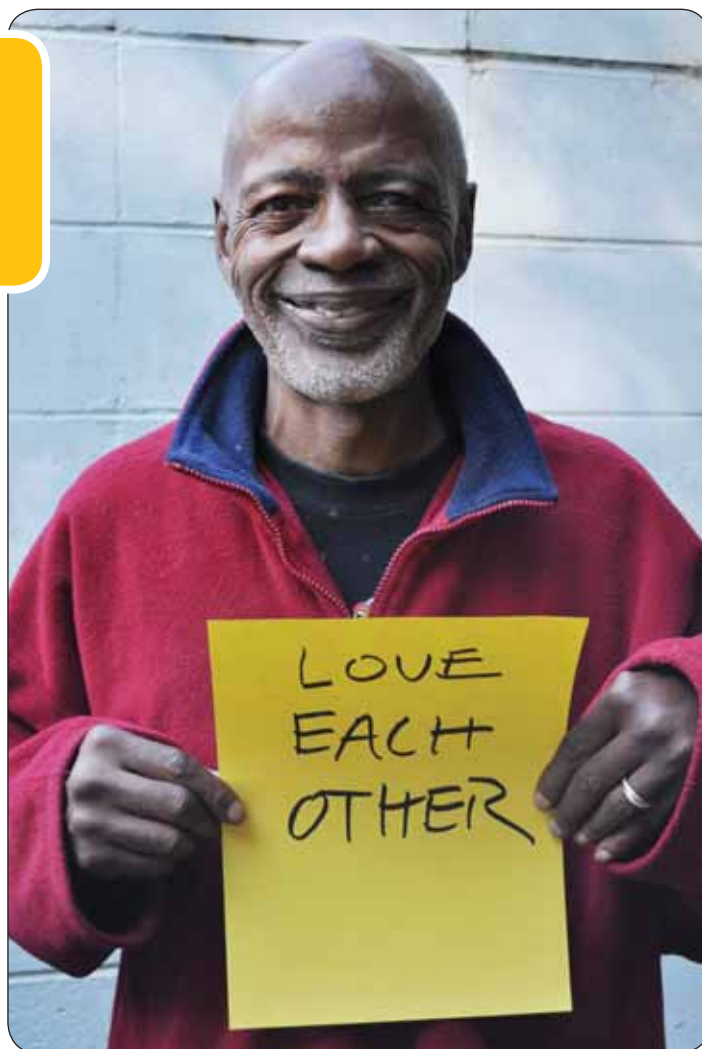
this a message from the President and CEO.

Over the last financial year, the process of ACON's evolution has continued apace. Through a range of programs and services, we helped keep NSW's HIV transmission rates stable for another year, making our state one of the only places in world to have had over a decade of stability. We redeveloped and expanded our health promotion facilities for people with HIV and launched two new program strategies, one for addressing the use of alcohol and other drugs in our community and another addressing the health needs of lesbians and other same-sex attracted women. We expanded our same-sex domestic violence program, significantly increased our online and new media capabilities and presence, and successfully advocated to various levels of government on a range of issues affecting our community. These are all great achievements – as are the many others that are detailed in the pages of this year's annual report – and we congratulate and thank everyone who has contributed to ACON's work over the last year.

The year has been one deeply imbued with a sense of the future. The Board and staff have spent a significant amount of time looking at where ACON is heading and what we need to do as an organisation, alone and in partnership, to achieve ACON's vision.

The year under review saw the conclusion of the *ACON Strategic Plan 2006-09* and effort was put into making sure we achieved as much as we could prior to 30 June 2009. In parallel, we began the development of new strategic plans both for ACON and for our Sex Worker's Outreach Project (SWOP). Following consultation with relevant clients, communities and stakeholders, these two plans – both launched at the end of June – are designed to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of our programs and services while building a stronger sense of community among the diverse groups which we serve. The primary focus of our work in HIV was given emphasis by the first two goals in the ACON specific plan – reducing the rates of HIV and sexually transmissible infections in gay men and men who have sex with men, and improving the health and wellbeing of people with HIV from those newly diagnosed to those living long term with HIV – and the first goal in the SWOP plan – maintain the low levels of HIV and sexually transmissible infections (STIs) in the sex industry.

The HIV surveillance data for 2008 which was released during the year showed that HIV rates have continued to remain stable in NSW. This is a significant achievement for ACON, Positive Life NSW, NSW Health, clinicians, researchers, gay men, men who have sex with men, sex workers, injecting drug users and the GLBT community. Our challenge now is to work out how to move past stability to a real reduction in HIV rates. That will require of the partnership vision, leadership and an ability to consider options outside the traditional approaches to HIV prevention. We need to speak more directly to those who are at high risk of HIV transmission, in contexts and language that will assist them to make the best possible health choices, as well as reinvigorate our safe sex campaigns in terms of concept, imagery and communication channels. That is one of the biggest challenges for the next twelve months.



On-Tee, Sydney



LGBT Health Alliance logo



ACON's Strategic Plan 2009 - 2012 Cover



The Positive Living Centre



Former ACON CEO Stevie Clayton

Understanding the trajectory of our work, and the size and complexity of the organisation, the Board decided this year to establish a public company limited by guarantee, ACON Health Limited. For 24 years the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated provided the legal structure from which ACON delivered its world renowned campaigns, services and programs. However, over that time ACON grew significantly and now has around 150 staff, an operating budget in excess of \$10 million and nine sites of operation across the eastern seaboard of NSW. As such, we had simply outgrown the legal structure of an incorporated association. The establishment of the new company, and eventual transition of ACON's operations from the association to the company, provides ACON with the greatest possible flexibility in terms of the work we can do and the location of that work, and adds extra protections through regulation of the company by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission.

For the last nine years, ACON has been promoting a more general health focus to underpin our work in HIV and the health and wellbeing of the communities we serve. This year we furthered our commitment to that course and continued to lead the establishment of the National LGBT Health Alliance. The Alliance's office was co-located at ACON during the year and we were very pleased to welcome the Executive Director of the Alliance, Gabi Rosenstreich. The Alliance is providing an important voice for the health of our community at the national level.

We also welcomed the reinvigoration of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Blood Borne Viruses and Sexually Transmissible Infections, which advises the Commonwealth Minister for Health – The Hon. Nicola Roxon, MP – on HIV and STI related issues. The inclusion and engagement of the community sector and people with HIV in that committee are essential to an effective response to HIV in Australia, and we are pleased its membership reflects the recognition of that fact. We look forward to working with the committee under the leadership of Professor Michael Kidd to ensure Australia's response to HIV remains effective and inclusive.

All of the work that is presented in this report is the fruit of the labours of ACON's staff and volunteers. A more dedicated and enthusiastic group of people you could not find. We would like to thank each and every one of them for the many hours of effort they expend in raising money or delivering programs and services to promote our community's health and wellbeing, promote the health of people with HIV and prevent the spread of HIV. In particular we would like to acknowledge and thank the ACON Board members who devote significant skill, time and energy to ensuring the good governance of ACON on behalf of ACON's members and our communities.

ACON could not do what it does without the support of our funders – notably our major funder NSW Health – and we thank them for their support and encouragement. We also treasure the businesses and individuals who provide in kind and financial support to help us do things which we are not funded to do through any other source. They help ACON address unmet needs in our communities, and specifically enable us to be trailblazers in GLBT health.

Just after the close of the year under report, our long standing CEO Stevie Clayton announced her resignation and the search for a new CEO began. Stevie's contribution to ACON, the HIV sector, people with HIV and the health and wellbeing of the GLBT community more generally has been outstanding and we are grateful for her many years of commitment to ACON's work. It is a testament to Stevie's devotion that she ensured the major strategic projects that are mentioned above, as well as others, were completed or well advanced before 30

June 2009. Despite Stevie not presenting this year's annual report, these pages reflect the fruits of Stevie's leadership, as much as the hard work of staff and volunteers.

As you will see in the following pages, ACON's work covers a wide range of people and projects. Our clients include what we collectively term the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community in all its diversity and complexity - people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, young people, mature age people, sex workers, brothel owners, people who use drugs, men who have sex with men, same-sex attracted women, and those who identify as heterosexual. We celebrate that diversity and it inspires us in our work.

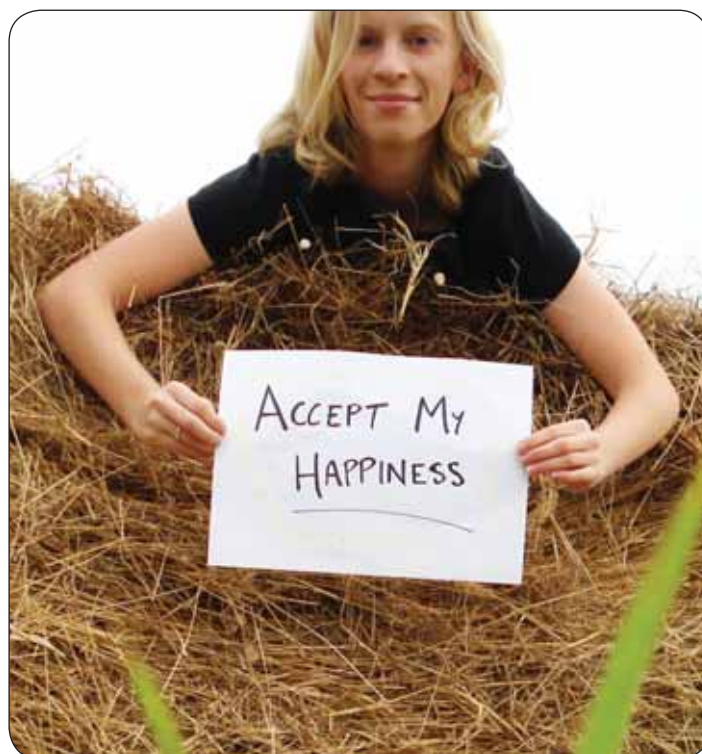
When reading this report we hope that you get inspired by the breadth, depth and diversity of the work ACON does, and continue to join with us in the partnership which promotes the health and wellbeing of the people and communities ACON serves.



Mark Orr
President



Nicolas Parkhill
Chief Executive Officer



Kimberly, Western Australia

this key stats 08 - 09.

- 150 staff
- 700+ volunteers
- 9 operational sites (4 in Sydney + 5 in regional NSW)
- 270,000+ condoms distributed
- 120,000+ unique website visitors
inc. acon.org.au, whytest.org, anothercloset.org.au,
partyingathome.org.au
- 300,000+ units of sterile injecting equipment distributed

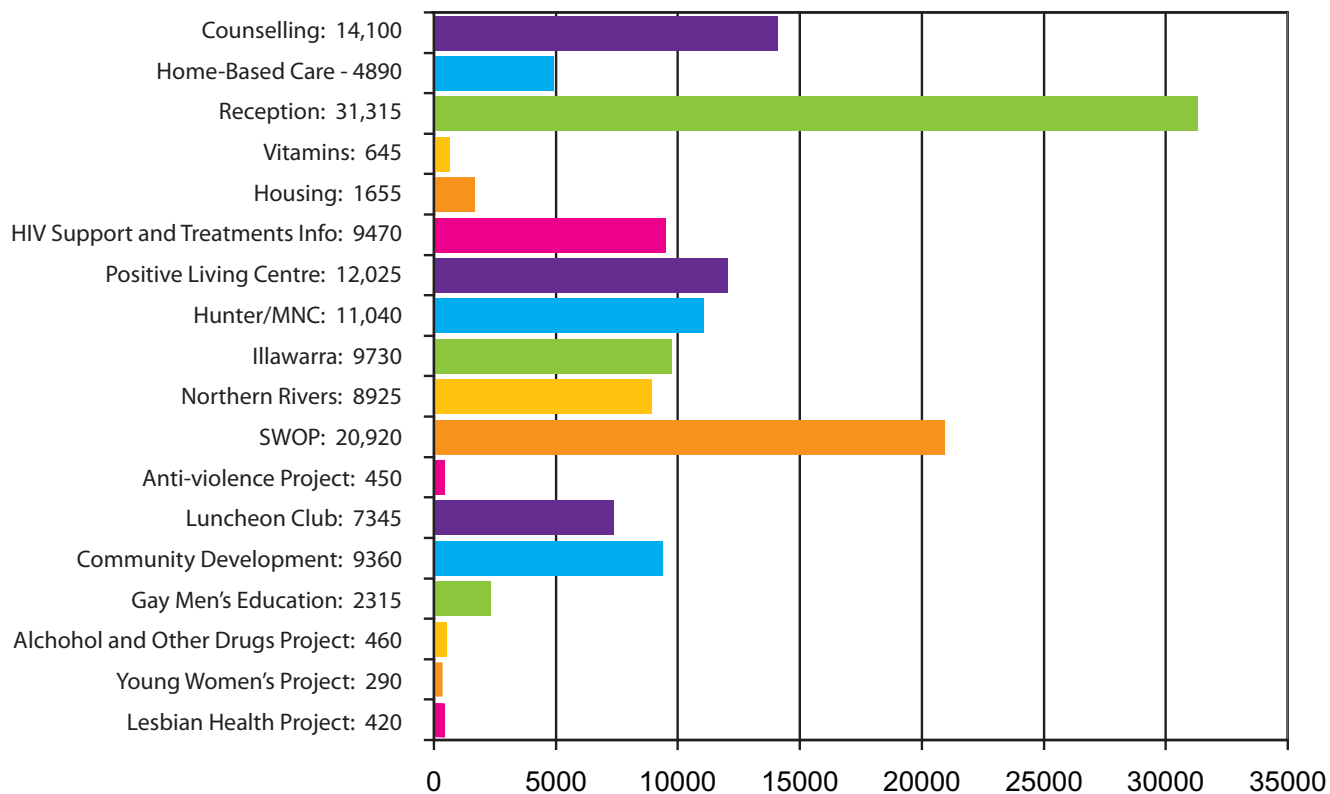


Gavin Ward, Metropolitan Community Church, Sydney



Aleks and Esther, Sydney

• **145,000+ occasions of service delivered throughout NSW***



* For the purposes of this report an occasion of service (OoS) is defined as a service period in excess of five minutes delivered to an individual or to members of a program-related group. The OoS listed above are rounded out to the nearest five.

• **91%+ of clients reported good to excellent service**

- Reception: 88%
- Knowledge Centre: 75%
- Home-Based Care: 87%
- Housing: 92%
- Daytime Counselling: 100%
- After Hours Counselling: 93%
- Enhanced Primary Care: 100%
- PLC Therapies: 88%
- PLC Reception: 92%
- HIV Treatments Info: 83%
- Women and Families: 100%
- Hunter/MNC: 82%
- Illawarra: 96%
- Northern Rivers: 100%



this the year in review.

Over the course of the 2008/2009 financial year, ACON's work produced many new and significant outcomes for our community. In terms of HIV prevention, the rate of new HIV diagnoses in NSW continued to remain stable. Surveillance data compiled by NSW Health recorded 324 new HIV notifications in 2008 compared with 390 in 2007, including a drop of over 11.8 percent amongst gay men. The decrease recorded in total number of infections is partially due to enhanced analysis of the surveillance data to reduce duplicate counting and so cannot be regarded as a real decrease of the magnitude that it appears. There was also a real decrease in the rate of transmission amongst gay men from 271 in 2007 to 239 in 2008. However, this is within the annual fluctuations that have been experienced for the last 11 years and so overall it constitutes a stable rate.

The data from the last year, and indeed over the last 10 years, is an endorsement of the education campaigns and prevention strategies that were developed and promoted by ACON and the range of organisations that make up the HIV partnership in NSW such as NSW Health, Positive Life NSW, Area Health Services, GPs and research bodies. However, more can always be done and ACON continues to develop new and innovative methods of reducing the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs).

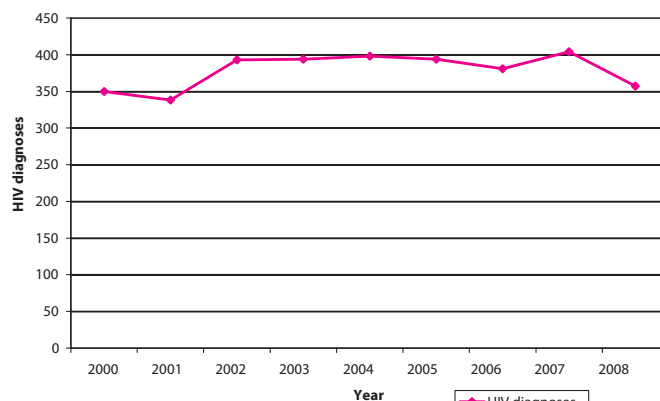
Launched in June, *Don't Share A Bloody Thing* was one of several HIV prevention and education campaigns created by ACON that was promoted in community media and at pubs, clubs, sex on premises venues (SOPVs) and community events throughout NSW. This specifically targeted campaign was designed to help prevent the transmission of HIV and hepatitis C among gay men who inject drugs by educating them about the risks of sharing injecting equipment. Another major campaign, *Adventures In Pleasure*, was created for February's Mardi Gras season. The campaign playfully interpreted classic action-adventure movie posters and featured messages about preventing HIV and other sexually transmitted infections, ways to keep healthy if you're HIV positive, taking precautions against homophobic violence and reducing the harms associated with alcohol and drug use.

In terms of supporting people with HIV, our Positive Living Centre – a health promotion facility for people with HIV – was restructured to provide a more contemporary and comprehensive service to our clients. Our Women and Families Project underwent a significant expansion and now caters to a broad range of women including many migrants with HIV. In partnership with the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, we also took over management of HIV/AIDS charity The Luncheon Club which has been transformed from a drop-in centre serving free meals into a wide-ranging health promotion service for disadvantaged people with HIV.

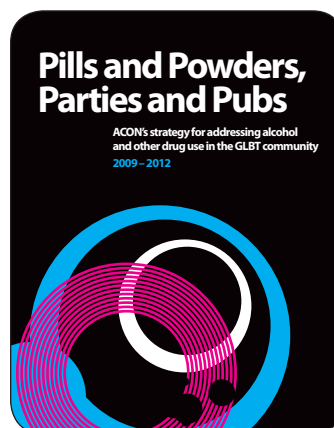
In relation to our broader work in GLBT health and wellbeing, ACON implemented new strategies to guide our activities in two key areas. Launched in October, *Turning Point* is Australia's first ever strategy for addressing the health of lesbians and same-sex attracted women. This three-year plan aims to inform, integrate, fund and raise awareness of lesbian health work in NSW. Launched in April,



Luke, Sydney



2000 – 2008 NSW HIV Notifications



AOD Strategic Plan cover



Lesbian Health Strategic Plan cover

Pills and Powders, Parties and Pubs is a three-year strategy designed to address the use of alcohol and other drugs in the GLBT community. The creation of our Substance Support Service – a range of in-house support services for people with problematic drug use, was one of the first projects to be delivered under the new strategy. In addition, a State government grant facilitated the expansion of ACON's same-sex domestic violence (SSDV) program to develop a range of resources to assist police, legal and healthcare workers become better equipped at dealing with SSDV.

With respect to our work with priority populations, we helped keep STI rates among NSW sex workers significantly lower than the general population for another year by providing over 20,000 occasions of service to workers, management, owners and operators as well as community service providers and police. We also continued to provide a range of services, resources and events for members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to help them improve their health and wellbeing. In regional NSW, we provided almost 31,000 occasions of service to GLBT people and people with HIV as well as sex workers and injecting drug users.

Throughout the year, ACON continued to advocate on a range of issues affecting the GLBT community and people living with HIV/AIDS. We participated in a mid-term review of NSW's various strategies for addressing HIV/AIDS, sexually transmissible infections and hepatitis C and well as the current Implementation Plan for Aboriginal People. An ACON-led coalition of community health and welfare agencies convinced the Federal Government to support a range of measures to ease the impact of new legislation affecting Centrelink payments to same-sex couples. We also helped organise GLBT NSW 2020, a wide-ranging community consultation aimed at creating a plan to coordinate the activities of NSW's GLBT community organisations and to assist with strengthening the GLBT community between now and 2020. In addition, our *This Is Oz* campaign – an online project aimed at reducing discrimination against the GLBT community and celebrating social diversity – gained considerable exposure thanks to the support of celebrities such as Olympic champion Matthew Mitcham, Senator Bob Brown, VJ Ruby Rose, *Footy Show* host Paul Vautin and Wallabies captain Stirling Mortlock.

The launch of a new ACON website in February significantly increased our organisation's capacity to deliver information and services online. The functionality of the site is also allowing ACON to diversify its communication channels through increased use of social media.

At the end of June, ACON's organisational status changed from an incorporated association to a company limited by guarantee. While the new legal entity is called ACON Health Ltd, we continue to trade as ACON. Our operations will transfer from the association to the company in the year ahead.

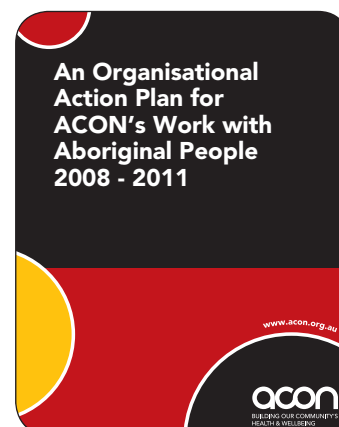
Finally, ACON's strategic plan for 2009-12 was also launched at the end of June. This comprehensive strategy – which will guide ACON's work for the next three years – shows how ACON will connect with and support more people through greater community involvement, more online services, better HIV prevention programs, an expansion of women's health services and an increased focus on the Asia-Pacific region.



Victoria, Sydney



Luncheon Club logo



Aboriginal People Action Plan cover



ACON's new website

this HIV prevention.

Did You Know?

- An average of one person in NSW is diagnosed with HIV every day
- Gay men account for about 75% of new diagnoses and their average age is 39
- NSW is one of the only jurisdictions in the world where the rate of new HIV diagnoses has remained stable for over 10 years

ACON Helps Out

We help reduce HIV transmission by educating gay men about how to avoid picking up or passing on HIV. We do this by developing, producing and promoting information campaigns and distributing a range of educational resources (see also Men's Health p16).

Highlights of 08/09

Don't Share A Bloody Thing

Launched in June, this campaign was designed to help prevent the transmission of HIV and hepatitis C among gay men who inject drugs by educating them about the risks of sharing injecting equipment. The campaign ran for several weeks and was selectively promoted in a targeted fashion in local GLBT print and online media. Posters and postcards were also displayed in selected sex-on-premises venues and licensed venues. (see story p13).

Adventures In Pleasure

Our 2009 Mardi Gras campaign contained several messages about preventing HIV and other sexually transmissible infections. Posters were displayed and merchandise was distributed at a range of festival events and in most GLBT and sex on premises venues. The messages were screened during every session of Queer Screen's Mardi Gras Film Festival and promoted in a range of gay publications over the six weeks of the campaign.

Use Condoms And Enjoy Your Freedom

In February, we teamed up with the Aboriginal Health and Medical Research Council of NSW to implement a new multi-media campaign encouraging sexually active young people to use condoms and get regular sexual health tests. The month-long campaign used a range of products to promote the message including press ads, outdoor billboards, posters, car magnets and CDs.

The Glam Reaper

This campaign reinvented the infamous *Grim Reaper* campaign from 1987 with a more contemporary and optimistic approach to HIV prevention. The foundation of the campaign was a 1min 42 sec video featuring Sydney drag identity Mitzi MacIntosh as the Glam Reaper and various community members as the 'ten pins' who prevent themselves from getting bowled over by embracing the safe sex message. While the video was first released in late 2007, the print component of the campaign was released in various instalments throughout 2008 and featured a range of posters that targeted specific subcultures in our community.



Tim Duggen, Sydney



Don't Share A Bloody Thing poster



Adventures In Pleasure poster



Aboriginal condom poster



The Glam Reaper poster

HIV Increases

This previously successful campaign was re-released in 08/09 to help gay men understand the behaviours that are most likely to contribute to HIV transmission. Promoted throughout the year, this campaign focused on HIV transmission in relationships, HIV sero status, and infectiousness and risk in undiagnosed men.

HIV Basics

A back to basics approach to information on HIV and sex was the focus of this campaign which was re-released in 08/09 after being successfully promoted the previous year. The target population for this campaign was younger men, those newly 'out' or those who had just somehow missed the HIV prevention message. Topics covered included what are HIV and AIDS, what is safe sex and what is not, and how to get tested for HIV and other sexually transmissible infections.

You Just Don't Know

Helping gay men understand the risks of choosing sexual partners based on their HIV status was the focus of this very successful campaign. With a tagline of "You just don't know", this campaign questioned the effectiveness of trying to prevent HIV transmission by only having sex with partners presumed to have the same HIV status. Originally released in late 2007, the considerable impact of this campaign prompted us to continue promoting the campaign throughout 08/09 in gay publications and venues.

Up Ya Bum

During the year we continued to develop and promote our long-running *Up Ya Bum* condom reinforcement campaign. The purpose of this campaign is to ensure there is a constant message reinforcing condom use as the norm.



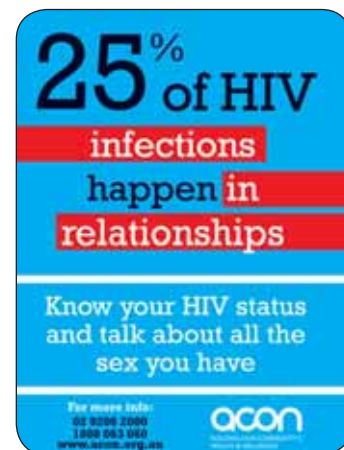
You Just Don't Know poster



Up Ya Bum poster



HIV Basics poster



HIV Increases poster



Olly, Sydney



Don't share a bloody thing logo

Not sharing, still caring...

Helping reduce the public health risks associated with injecting drug use is a sensitive issue. However, emphasising the use of sterile injecting equipment is essential for helping prevent HIV transmission among injecting drug users. We found an appropriate balance between these competing interests with our *Don't Share A Bloody Thing* campaign. In addition to depicting a range of simulated scenarios that spoke to experienced and inexperienced injecting drug users, the campaign also provided information about HIV and hepatitis C as well as information on how to reduce the risks associated with injecting drugs, how to dispose of used injecting equipment, where to get new injecting equipment and where to get help, information and treatment.

this living with HIV.

Did You Know?

- Over 10,000 people with HIV are living in NSW. This accounts for almost 60% of all people with HIV in Australia
- About 80% of people with HIV in NSW are gay men

ACON Helps Out

We help people with HIV to maximise their health and minimise the effects of HIV by providing a diverse range of services and programs including support groups, workshops, information about HIV treatments, home-based care, transport services, emergency housing, counselling, therapies, discount vitamins, meals and social events.

Highlights of 08/09

Support for Men

- **Conducted four Genesis weekend retreats** for 36 men newly diagnosed with HIV
- **Conducted monthly Nexus discussion groups** for gay men newly diagnosed with HIV, averaging nine participants per group
- **Conducted 12 After Hours support groups** for men with HIV averaging 10 participants per group
- **Conducted four Planet Positive social evenings** for people with HIV, their friends and carers with an average of 100 attendees per evening
- **Provided support to 10 clients through the New Diagnosis Priority Service**
- **Conducted two series of Healthy Life +**, a 12 week gym based wellness program, with a total of 15 participants completing the program
- **Conducted the first ever ACON retreat** for HIV+ men from southern NSW. 15 participants from across the region attended the weekend event

Support for Women and Families

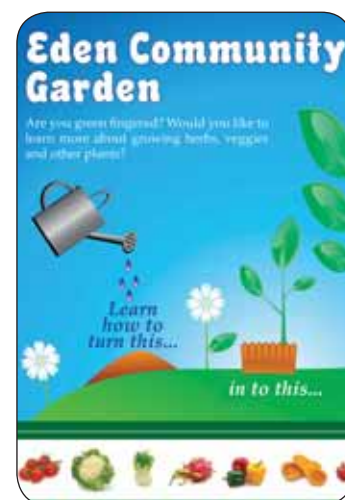
- **Provided support for 68 registered clients** (34% increase over 07/08)
- **Produced a series for fact sheets for women with HIV** in conjunction with Family Planning Australia, Pozhets and the Multicultural HIV/HepC Service
- **Secured ongoing partnerships** with Pozhets, Sydney Children's Hospital Pediatric HIV Service, South West Area Health Service, Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, Family Planning NSW, Lemon Grove Unit and the Multicultural HIV/Hep C Service
- **Conducted monthly Women's Days** at Pine St Gallery with up to 20 participants per month. This program was financed by a City of Sydney grant
- **Conducted an African Family Day** in Parramatta Park
- **Conducted a series of African Women's Days** in various Western Sydney locations
- **Participated in the Sydney Children's Hospital's annual Camp Goodtime**
- **Coordinated a family day at Taronga Zoo**



Greg Kelly, Adelaide



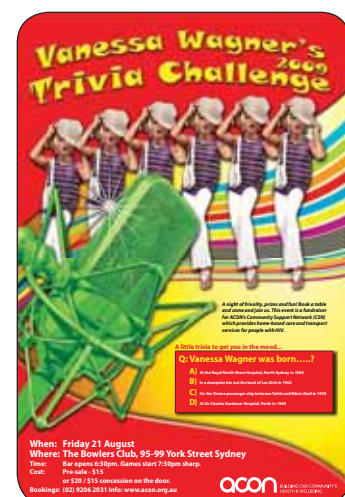
Genesis poster



Detail from Eden Community Garden poster



African family day poster



CSN fundraising event poster

Information and Resources

- **Provided advice to 2,415 individual clients** about HIV treatments, HIV transmission risk management, treatment side-effect management, mental health and wellbeing as well as information about relationships, travel, and living with HIV.
- **Conducted an HIV Treatment Forum at the Garvan Institute** which was attended by almost 100 participants
- **Developed new online content** about swine flu, Champix, the Medicare EPC Dental Scheme, early antiretroviral therapy commencement, transmission risks of various HIV medications, complementary therapies and gene therapy

Home-Based Care

Through our Community Support Network (CSN), our trained volunteer carers assist people with HIV to live independently by providing practical home-based support and transport services.

- **Delivered 2220 occasions of service** to carers, clients and service providers
- **Delivered 5410 hours of support** to 753 people by 122 volunteer carers
- **Assessed 22 new clients**
- **Trained 15 new volunteers**

Housing Service

We provide short term accommodation for people with HIV and GLBT people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. We also offer advice and assistance in relation to rental accommodation and public housing.

- **Helped provide emergency accommodation for 24 people with HIV**
- **Assisted 157 people with HIV who were experiencing housing stress**

Positive Living Centre (PLC)

Located in Surry Hills in Sydney, the PLC is a health promotion centre where people with HIV can take part in a range of structured programs, skills building courses, special events and social activities.

- **Registered 875 clients** including 107 new clients
- **Provided over 12,000 occasions of service** (140% increase on 07/08)
- **Extended hours from 4pm to 7:30pm** between Tuesday and Thursday to improve access to services for working clients
- **Conducted two Open Days**, one for new clients and one for HIV sector workers
- **Provided complementary therapy services to the value of \$120,000.** Therapeutic sessions provided by volunteer therapists included remedial, Swedish, shiatsu, lomi lomi and Bowen technique massage as well as acupuncture, acupressure, medical herbalism and naturopathy
- **Introduced a life coaching program**
- **Served over 3,700 meals**

The Luncheon Club

Located in Waterloo in Sydney, The Luncheon Club is a health promotion centre where disadvantaged people with HIV can get free meals or groceries and develop new skills. (see story right).

- **Provided an average of 170 meals per week**
- **Provided discount groceries to 200 clients**

Vitamin Service

We provide a cost-price vitamins and food supplements service to people with HIV and other members of our community who qualify for the service.

- **Registered 91 people for the service**
- **Provided over 3,000 products**



Elex and Lincoln, Melbourne



Luncheon Club clients

Let's do more than lunch...

Just over 12 months ago, ACON and the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation took over management of The Luncheon Club, one of Sydney's best known HIV/AIDS charities. Since then, a variety of fresh services have been added to the menu. There's been an increase in the amount of seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables in the twice weekly lunches as well as a balance of food groups in every meal. Herbs are being grown in the courtyard's garden beds, the Club's improved Larder Service includes a range of fresh produce as well as processed items and the fruit and veggies that Club members have started growing in the nearby Eden Garden are now being used in the lunches. Clients are also being linked into other ACON and BGF programs such as our housing, counselling and home-based care services and we've got social workers, dieticians and community nurses coming in regularly to help connect clients to other external services.

this men's health.

Did You Know?

Gay men are more likely than the general population to be affected by sexually transmissible infections (STIs) and are more likely to get chlamydia in their 20s, gonorrhea in their 30s and syphilis in their 40s.

ACON Helps Out

We help gay men and other men who have sex with men to improve their health and wellbeing by providing relevant knowledge, skills, resources and social networks. We also help mainstream service providers improve their knowledge of gay men's health issues.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Produced and distributed almost 200,000 safe packs** containing condoms, lube and safe sex information. We also maintained and updated our safe sex tool boxes in all major gay venues
- **Continued to promote and make improvements to whytest.org**, a website which provides information about being tested and treated for STIs. Thai, Spanish, Arabic, Vietnamese, Indonesian and Chinese language pages were added to address the needs of these target populations
- **Encouraged gay men to get tested during Mardi Gras** by organising a special promotion where they could win tickets to the Mardi Gras party by getting tested at participating sexual health clinics
- **Addressed a sudden and dramatic increase in shigella rates** amongst gay men by producing and promoting a campaign about basic hygiene
- **Continued to work with sex on premises venues (SOPVs)** to ensure their compliance with the ACON Code of Practice for SOPVs
- **Made over 800 visits to more than 80 venues, clinics, and community events** to distribute campaign information and safe sex equipment
- **Provided over 780 individual occasions of service to clients** seeking information about their sexual health
- **Facilitated workshops for over 120 participants** throughout the year on issues relating to HIV, STIs and sexual health
- **Presented 15 information sessions** for various professional bodies, community groups and educational institutions on HIV, STIs and sexual health
- **Strengthened our health promotion partnerships** with various community organisations including the NSW Beats Working Group, Team Sydney, HUM Music, New Mardi Gras, Mr Gay Australia, Queer Screen, the STIs in Gay Men Action Group (STIGMA) and the Sydney Convicts Rugby Club



Detail of Better Sex workshop ad



Ben Edwards, Mr Gay Australia, Sydney



Detail of TOM Boys poster

Hear the beat of the TOM boys...

Some men in our community like to have group sex, an activity which can be a risk factor in the transmission of HIV or other STIs. Through our TOM Boys project (i.e. Three Or More) we help these guys stay safe by distributing specially-designed play packs at selected community events. Improvements to our online ordering system this year also enabled us to start customising play packs to meet the specific needs of particular groups. These changes are also helping us gain a much better understanding of the group sex cultures of gay men which enables us to be more effective in our response to HIV and STIs. More than 500 packs were distributed in 08/09.

this women's health.

Did You Know?

Lesbians and other same-sex attracted women have the highest number of risk factors for breast cancer of any subset of women in the world. They are also less likely than their heterosexual counterparts to seek routine healthcare including sexual health tests, blood tests, pap smears, mammograms and breast examinations

ACON Helps Out

We help lesbians and other same-sex attracted women to improve their health and wellbeing by providing relevant knowledge, skills, resources and social networks. We also help mainstream service providers improve their knowledge of lesbian health issues.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Launched and began implementation of *Turning Point***, a comprehensive three-year strategy which aims to inform, integrate, fund and raise awareness of lesbian health work in NSW
- **Distributed a range of health promotion resources** at community events, venues and online including a sexual health message for our *Adventures in Pleasure* Mardi Gras campaign
- **Produced four large scale sexual health workshops** with a range of community partners
- **Provided referrals to over 300 women seeking lesbian friendly health services**
- **Ran the monthly *C-Word* support and information group** for lesbians living with cancer and their partners
- **Continued delivering the Lesbian Counselling Service in the Northern Rivers** in partnership with Lismore District Women's Health Centre
- **Supported the Young Women's Project** to provide peer education and support to young same-sex attracted women
- **Supported a range of community organisations** to deliver services to lesbians and other same-sex attracted women across NSW
- **Produced a new online presence for women's health on the ACON website**
- **Participated in an international Lesbian Health Summit in the USA** (see story right)
- **Contributed to the Federal Government's National Women's Health Policy consultation**



Detail of *Adventures In Pleasure* poster



Gil and Gin, Sydney



ACON Lesbian health project officer Siri May (left) at the summit

Reaching the summit...

This year and for the first time ever we participated in an international forum on lesbian health. Following the launch last year of *Turning Point* – our new lesbian health strategy – we were invited to participate in the Lesbian Health Summit in San Francisco in March. The strategy is the first of its kind in the world and was met with very positive responses from summit delegates. Following this we also made presentations about the strategy at the LA Gay and Lesbian Centre and several philanthropic organisations in New York. Following this success we now look forward to continuing to develop an international profile for our groundbreaking work in lesbian health.

this mental health.

Did You Know?

While many GLBT people and people with HIV live happy and rewarding lives, the discrimination, abuse and violence that some experience contributes to our community having higher rates of anxiety, depression, substance abuse, homelessness, self-harm and attempted suicide than the general population.

ACON Helps Out

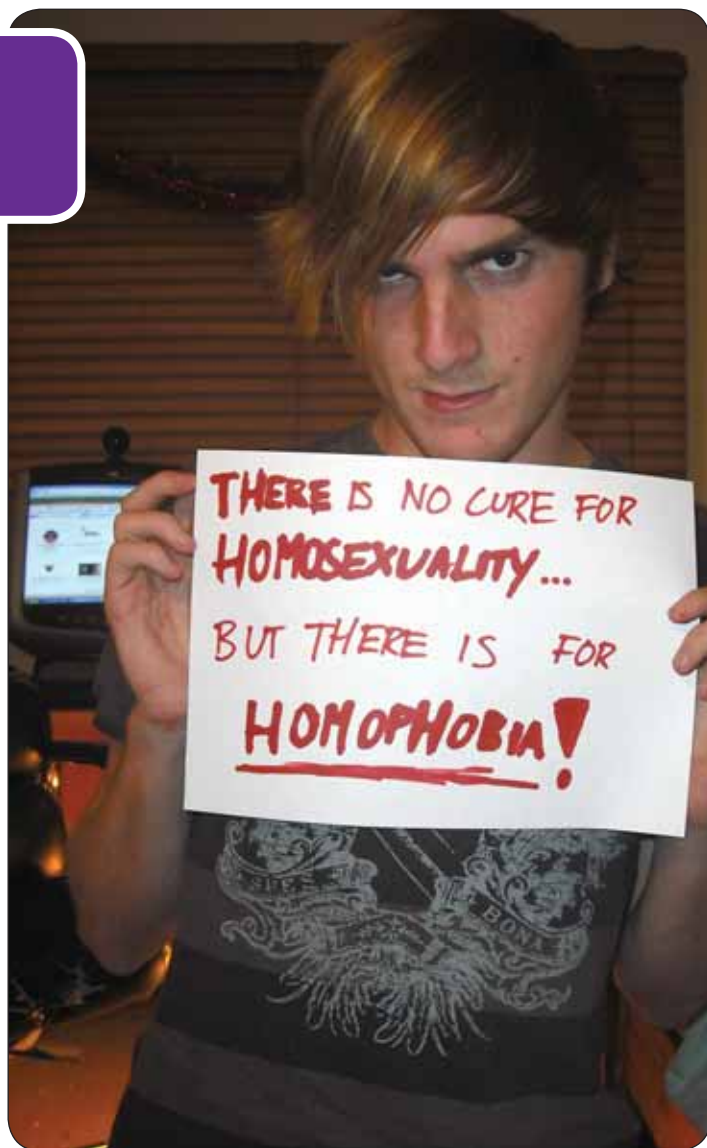
We help people in our community to improve their mental health and wellbeing by providing a range of counselling, therapy and support services as well as a special service for people newly diagnosed with HIV.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Assisted 414 clients with mental health issues** ranging from stress and anxiety through to support for a diagnosed mental illness. 36% of clients accessing mental health services were people with HIV
- **Provided 164 clients with one-on-one short term counselling** (up to nine daytime sessions)
- **Referred 46 clients to one-on-one long term counselling** (regular after-hours sessions for up to six months)
- **Provided 260 clients with one-off advice or counselling** in person or over the phone
- **Assisted 15 clients through our New Diagnosis Priority Service.** This service ensures that people newly diagnosed with HIV get counselling within 24 hours
- **Conducted eight 12-week therapeutic groups** for men and women on topics such as anger, intimacy and depression
- **Assisted 58 clients with complex health issues** to plan and coordinate their treatment (see story right)
- **Increased our capacity for client intake** by referring clients with problematic alcohol and drug use to our new Substance Support Service
- **Increased the number of female and transgender clients**
- **Increased all client satisfaction indicators** to their highest level in four years



Detail of New Diagnosis Priority Service and



Chris K, Sydney



EPC team leader Nikki Barr with client Warwick

Making care our business...

GPs don't always have the time to deal with patients with HIV that have complex or multiple health issues. However, when patients access relevant health and welfare services it can significantly improve their overall wellbeing. That's where our Enhanced Primary Care team step in. They work with GPs to coordinate the care and treatment of selected patients. They also help their clients navigate the public welfare system. "Many of our patients find it hard to jump through all the hoops," says team leader Niki Barr. "What we try to do is make it a smooth process."

this alcohol and other drugs.

Did You Know?

Gay men, lesbians and bisexual people are up to four times more likely than the general population to use alcohol and other drugs (AOD).

ACON Helps Out

We help people in our community to reduce the harms associated with drug use or to stop using drugs by providing a range of targeted resources and support services. This helps reduce the potential for HIV transmission as well as the impact that drug use has on the wellbeing of some individuals, our community and the public health system.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Launched *Pills and Powders, Parties and Pubs***, a comprehensive three-year strategy to address the use of alcohol and other drugs in NSW's GLBT community (see story right)
- **Introduced a new Substance Support Service** to provide GLBT-focused counselling and support services for people with problematic drug use (see story right)
- **Distributed a range of resources at community events, venues and online** including a drug safety message for our *Adventures in Pleasure* Mardi Gras campaign
- **Helped develop the *Don't Share A Bloody Thing* campaign.** Promoted in selected venues as well as GLBT media, this targeted campaign aimed to reduce the transmission of HIV and hepatitis C among gay men in Sydney who inject drugs by educating them about the risks associated with sharing injecting equipment
- **Provided over 300,000 units of sterile injecting equipment** through our five Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) outlets
- **Provided 10 community events with the services of the ACON Rovers.** The Rovers are teams of specially trained volunteers who attend parties and community events to help people who may be experiencing problems due to alcohol and other drug use. 60 new Rovers were recruited and trained this year
- **Hosted a range of community forums on alcohol, drugs and sexual health.** These included one for young same-sex attracted women and another which explored GLBT community views on substance use and treatment
- **Secured funding from Febfast** to develop resources to reduce binge drinking among young GLBT people.
- **Partnered with the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre** to research the mental health status and drug treatment service needs of gay, lesbian and bisexual people who use methamphetamine



Detail of Play Safe workshop



Joanne, Sydney



Special treatment...

In consultation with a broad range of healthcare specialists, service providers and community organisations, we developed and began implementing *Pills and Powders, Parties and Pubs*, ACON's second AOD strategic plan. The introduction of our new Substance Support Service is the first key project to emerge from this strategy. Previously, clients with problematic drug use were offered limited support services and referred to external services for treatment. Now, clients have access to a range of free in-house GLBT-focused counselling and support services provided by AOD specialists. Referrals to other services continue to be provided when required.

this anti-violence.

Did You Know?

- Gay men and lesbians in NSW are, respectively, 4 and 6 times more likely to be assaulted than the general population and 85% of gay men and lesbians have experienced homophobic abuse, harassment or assault
- Over one third of people in same-sex relationships experience domestic violence but only 30% seek help

ACON Helps Out

Through our Anti-Violence Project (AVP), we help people who have experienced homophobic violence by providing support, taking reports and working with police. We also help make our community safer by promoting anti-homophobia initiatives in schools, running anti-homophobia education campaigns, lobbying relevant authorities on security issues, and working with police, government and community organisations on a range of violence prevention initiatives. We also educate the GLBT and broader community about same-sex domestic violence (SSDV) and help mainstream services improve their knowledge of and response to SSDV.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Took 70 reports of violence** through our Report Line, a service which allows GLBT people who have experienced violence to access support and to provide data that demonstrates our community's need for improved security
- **Provided over 450 occasions of service** to people who experienced violence
- **Signed up new members for the Safe Place program.** Safe Places are venues and businesses where GLBT people can take refuge if they feel threatened. The program has over 300 participants across NSW
- **Distributed over 3,250 education resources** to help GLBT community members protect themselves from homophobic violence
- **Developed a new education campaign** to encourage reporting of violence to police and the AVP
- **Developed a street safety message** for ACON's *Adventures In Pleasure* Mardi Gras campaign
- **Produced *This Is Oz***, an online social inclusion and human rights project (see story right)
- **Produced and distributed new resources to raise awareness of SSDV** in the GLBT community and among relevant service providers
- **Developed the 2009 Same-Sex Domestic Violence Interagency Conference** in partnership with the SSDV Interagency



Safe Place program logo



Alison Blyth, Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer, NSW Police Force, Sydney



Members of the Australian Wallabies

Making Australia a place where everyone belongs...

Launching in Sydney's Martin Place in May to mark the International Day Against Homophobia, our *This Is Oz* campaign continues to inspire people from all over Australia and even overseas. Part art project and part human rights campaign, *This Is Oz* is an online photo gallery where participants can upload pictures of themselves with messages that challenge homophobia or celebrate diversity and social inclusion. The project aims to improve services and opportunities for GLBT Australians by demonstrating public support for GLBT rights as well as illustrating the impact that homophobia has on the whole community. We're very grateful to all the famous and fabulous folk who have lent their support to the campaign as well as the 50,000 people who have visited the site.

this young glbt people.

Did You Know?

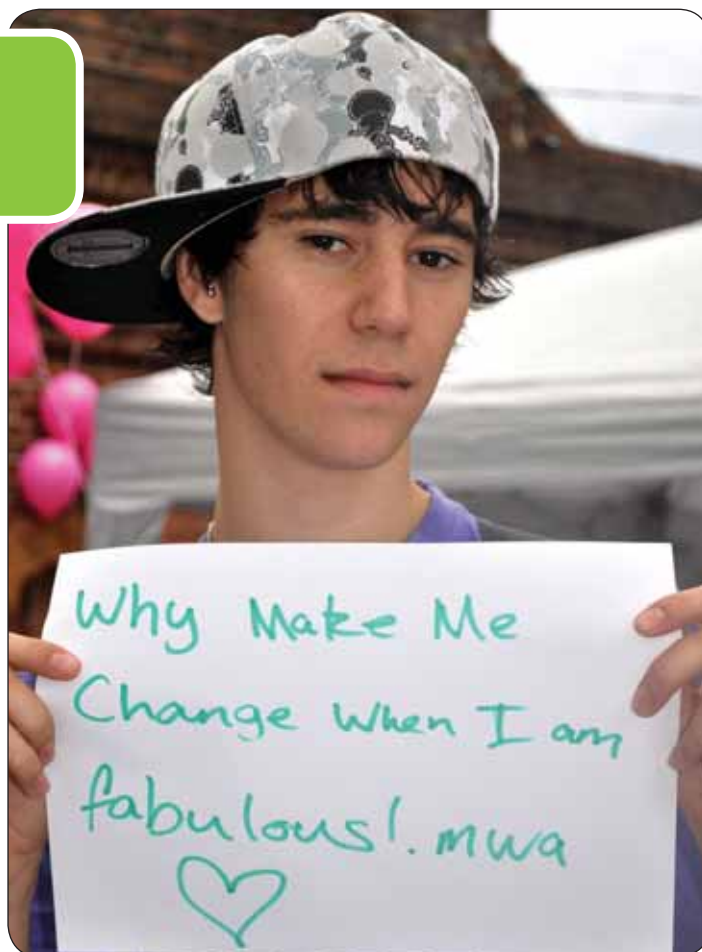
While many young GLBT people live happy and healthy lives, research shows that the bullying, discrimination and social isolation that some same-sex attracted young people experience can make them more likely than their heterosexual counterparts to practice unsafe sex, start using drugs, self harm or attempt suicide.

ACON Helps Out

We help same-sex attracted young people under 26 years of age to improve their health and connect with other young people by providing a range of programs, workshops, resources and events.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Presented eight six-week workshop programs** for young men. Produced by our Fun & Esteem project, these peer-led programs focused on safe sex and HIV prevention, sexual health, coming out, relationships, alcohol and other drugs, the GLBT community and dealing with homophobia. More than 100 young men participated throughout the year
- **Trained 14 new volunteer facilitators** for the Fun & Esteem program
- **Produced three events for the 2009 Mardi Gras Youth Festival** (see story right)
- **Presented three eight-week workshop programs** for young women. Produced by our Young Women's Project, these peer-led programs focused on sexual health and wellbeing, coming out, relationships, the GLBT community and dealing with homophobia. 30 young women participated throughout the year
- **Coordinated six resource-packing groups for young women.** 34 young women produced over 1,000 women's safe sex packs for distribution throughout NSW
- **Presented an alcohol and drug forum** at Sydney's Bank Hotel in partnership with ACON's Alcohol and Other Drugs Project. 15 young women attended
- **Presented a range of sexual health workshops for more than 150 tertiary students** at the Queer Collaborations student conference, the Resurgence Festival and for various Sydney University queer groups
- **Conducted anti-homophobia training** for 130 students at Burwood Girls High School
- **Conducted peer leadership and sexual health awareness training** for nine University Queer Officers



Chris K, Sydney



Participants at the Arty Tarty Tea Party

The young and the festive...

The Mardi Gras Youth Festival gets bigger and better every year with this year's season proving extremely popular with young same-sex attracted people. We presented three events as part of this year's festival. 21 Down was a drug, alcohol and smoke free event that provided a safe and fun environment for more than 70 under 21 year olds to build friendships with each other and with prominent community figures such as Olympic champion Matthew Mitcham. The Arty Tarty Tea Party was an erotic art competition for young queer women which involved 150 grrls getting together for an afternoon of high tea, provocative performances, tarty art and cute cupcakes. And the Fabtabulous Walk of Modern and Historical Curiosities provided almost 20 young people with an alcohol and drug free guided tour of Sydney's Oxford St precinct.



Detail of Fun & Esteem workshop poster

this mature age glbt people.

Did You Know?

- Approximately 35,000 people in NSW over the age of 50 identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender
- Many mature age GLBT people have lived the majority of their lives under laws which made their relationships illegal
- Aged care services in NSW are ill-equipped to meet the needs of the growing number of openly gay senior citizens
- Some HIV treatments cause premature ageing which means some people with HIV will require early access to geriatric health services

ACON Helps Out

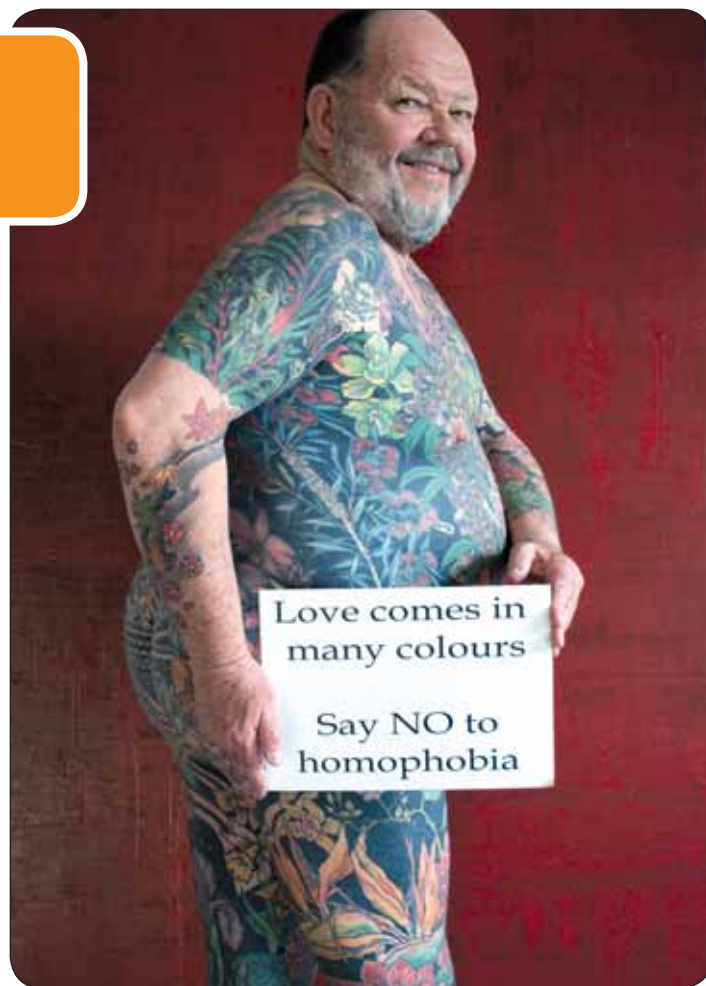
We help mature age people in our community to improve their health and wellbeing by providing support groups, developing health promotion initiatives and advocating for improved mainstream health and aged care services.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Continued to support the Mature Age Gay (MAG) Men's group**, a social and support group for gay men over 40 years of age. MAG meetings bring together more than 100 men every fortnight for supper, socialising and a speaker-led discussion about health-related issues. ACON has supported MAG for 17 years
- **Continued to support the national L40 gathering of older lesbians** which took place over Easter in the Northern Rivers region
- **Provided advocacy for and advice to mature age same-sex couples following Federal Government changes to Centrelink pensions** (see story p29)
- **ACON's Ageing Working Group** continued to provide advice on the development and delivery of relevant policies and programs
- **Liaised with a range of external partners** to provide relevant information and expert advice on a variety of topics to mature age members of our community
- **Provided social events for mature age members of our community** including a Christmas picnic and a special edition of Bingay for NSW Seniors Week



Guests at Senior's Week BIG Bingay



Geoff Ostling, Sydney



MAG's Mardi Gras float

Quentin's mention...

Leading journalist Quentin Dempster was one of the many guest speakers who graciously addressed MAG members at their regular meetings throughout the year. This is what he had to say following his Saturday night with the fellas:

Congratulations on your efforts in sustaining MAG over all these years. As expected I encountered a switched on, engaging and politically aware membership. MAG is a wonderful example of a compassionate and supportive grass roots community organisation operating in a sometimes inhumane world. Rather than becoming insular it is full of life experience, enlightened and outward looking. All the very best.

Quentin Dempster, Journalist, ABC TV

this Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Did You Know?

The HIV diagnosis rates among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are equivalent to the general population but the pattern of transmission is different, including more women, injecting drug users and heterosexual men.

ACON Helps Out

We help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are GLBT, living with HIV, engaged in sex work or who inject drugs to improve their health and wellbeing by providing relevant knowledge, skills, resources and social networks. We do this within a culturally appropriate model of holistic health that recognises emotional, spiritual, social and mental wellbeing. We also work with many different groups to tackle all forms of racism in our community.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Distributed over 3,700 education and support materials** to relevant organisations and at various community events such as the Yabun Festival and at selected NAIDOC Week activities
- **Produced and distributed *However You Wanna See Me I'm Just Me***, a resource for combating homophobia and transphobia (see story right)
- **Supported Aboriginal community controlled health organisations** to deliver World AIDS Day education events
- **Produced or supported a range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-related events for the 2009 Mardi Gras Festival** including a community symposium, an art exhibition, performance skills development workshops, a Fair Day stall and performances, the House of BlackSTAR dance party and a parade entry
- **Completed a review of our Aboriginal Project**, shifting the focus of the Project from peer support to a population health model, and increasing our levels of support to the statewide Aboriginal sexual health worker network
- **Restructured our Aboriginal Project** to create a team with more defined health promotion responsibilities
- **Produced and implemented an organisational action plan** to ensure the work of all ACON staff supports our work with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people



Detail of House of BlackSTAR poster



Meggan Grosse, Sydney



Detail of artwork from booklet

Words of wisdom...

Gay men, lesbians and sistergirls from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community often have to deal with racism as well as homophobia and transphobia. To help them deal with these issues, we joined forces with the NSW Attorney General's Department this year to produce a special resource called *However You Wanna See Me I'm Just Me*. With stunning artwork from Jeffrey Samuels, the compact booklet features inspirational real life stories of how some GLBT people from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community have overcome the pain and distress of prejudice-related discrimination and violence. The stories they share detail how they found strength and support from friends, peers and community organisations. The booklet was distributed to over 170 service providers across NSW.

this culturally and linguistically diverse glbt people.

Did You Know?

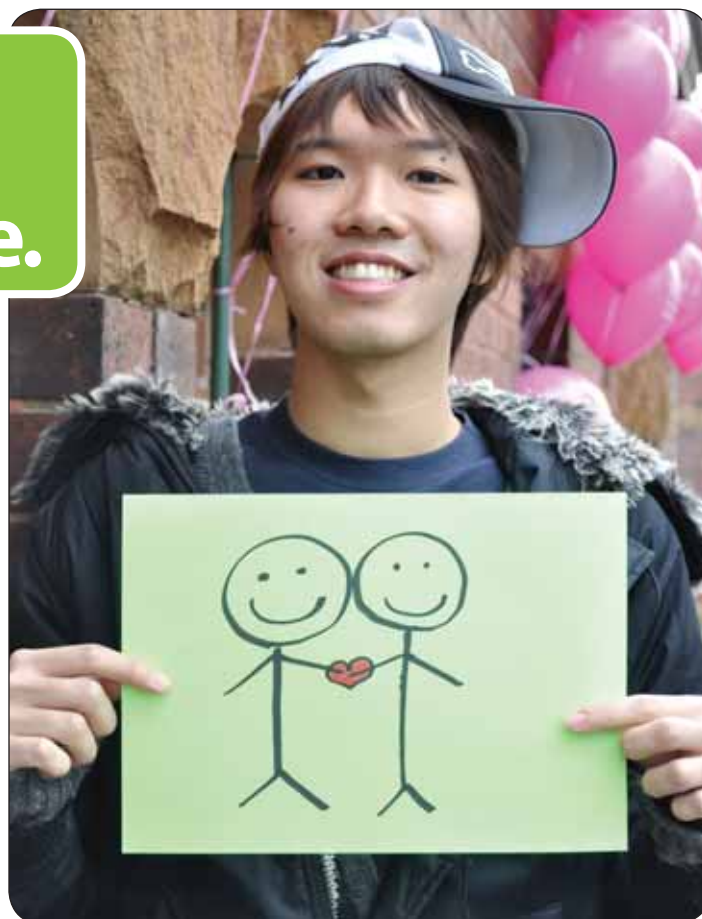
- Around one in five NSW residents speaks a language other than English at home
- In 2008, men of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds accounted for almost 18% of new HIV notifications among men who have sex with men

ACON Helps Out

We help GLBT and HIV positive people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds to improve their health and wellbeing by providing knowledge, skills and resources in culturally appropriate ways. We focus strongly on Asian gay men who remain a priority in NSW's HIV/AIDS strategy. We also work with many different groups to tackle all forms of racism in our community.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Presented 16 health promotion workshops for gay Asian men.** These peer-led workshops focused on sexual health as well as improving physical and emotional wellbeing
- **Promoted a campaign to encourage Thai gay men to get tested for HIV and other STIs**
- **Supported the Miss Queen Sydney Thai transgender beauty pageant.** This enabled us to connect with over 50 new GLBT members of the Thai community
- **Produced and distributed a new safe sex campaign for Spanish-speaking gay men** (see story right)
- **Helped set up a support group for Spanish-speaking gay men**
- **Presented *Dear Racism* workshop** to help GLBT community members reduce the effects of racism on their lives
- **Supported five community groups** to help strengthen the networks of the CALD GLBT community. These groups included the Asian Marching Boys, the Long Yang Club, Salaam Namaste, Trikone, and the Gay and Lesbian Immigration Task Force
- **Continued to work closely with the CALD Gay Men's Interagency**, a partnership between ACON, the Multicultural HIV and Hepatitis C Service, Sydney Sexual Health Centre, and South East and South West Illawarra Area Health Services



John, Sydney



Detail of Spanish-language safe sex poster



Detail of Thai-language Up Ya Bum poster

Sexo latino, sexo caliente, sexo seguro...

This year we helped produce NSW's first ever sexual health campaign targeting Spanish-speaking gay men (SSGM). Working closely with the CALD Gay Men's Interagency and the SSGM community, we helped create a print and online campaign themed around the message of "Latino sex, hot sex, safe sex". The campaign was promoted on various websites and in both GLBT and Spanish-language newspapers for 11 weeks between August and November. The result? An increase in the number of SSGM getting tested at sexual health clinics. Bueno, sí? Better still, through the process of developing the campaign we were also able to help the SSGM community strengthen their support network by setting up a volunteer-run support and social group for members of their community. Mucho bueno!

this sex workers.

Did You Know?

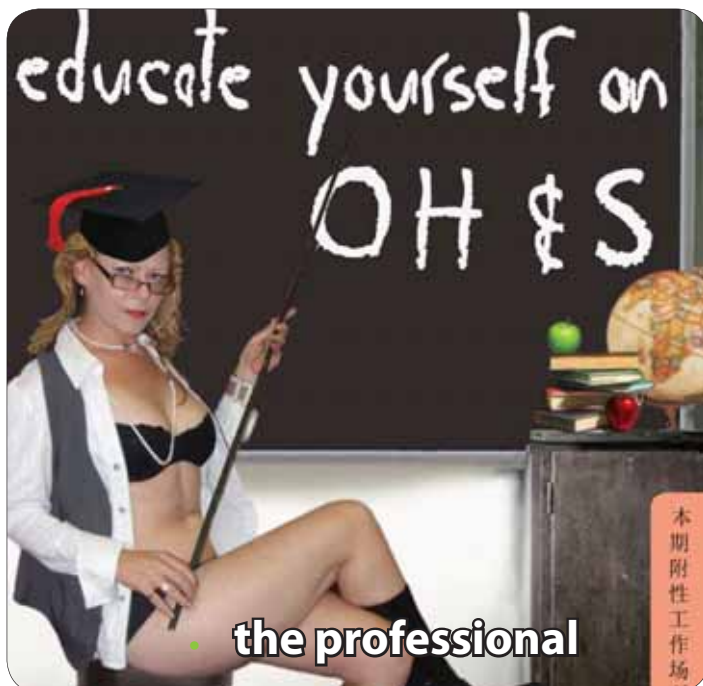
- Sex workers in NSW have much lower rates of sexually transmitted infections than the general population
- There are over 10,000 sex industry workers in NSW
- Street-based workers account for only 2% of the NSW sex industry

ACON Helps Out

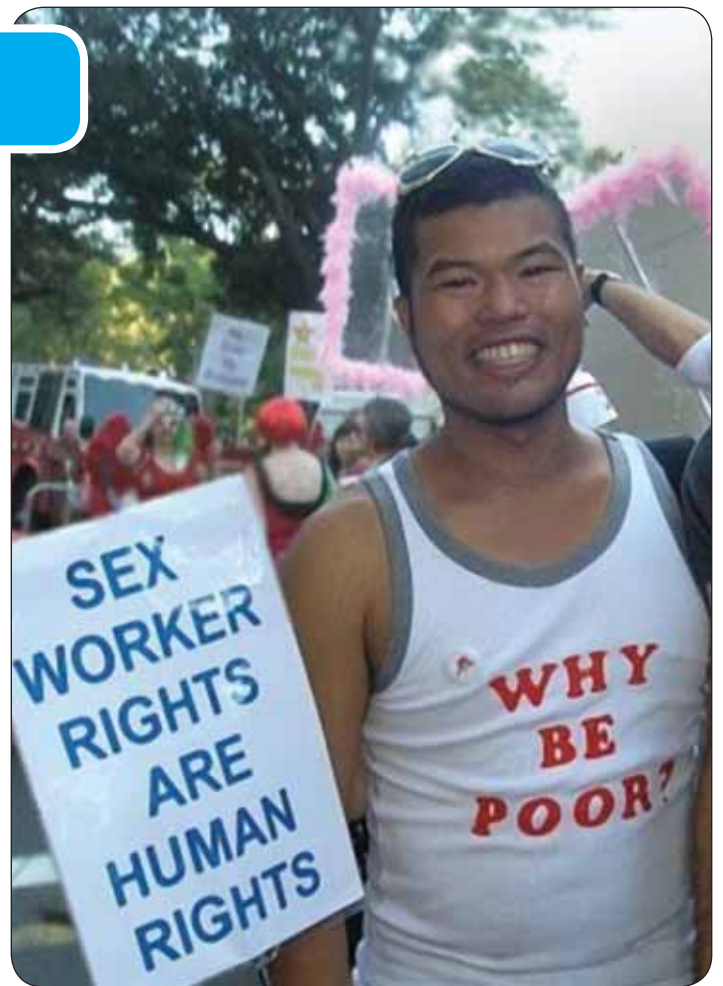
Through our Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP), we provide HIV and STI education as well as general health promotion services to sex workers throughout NSW, largely via an outreach approach. SWOP promotes the health, safety and wellbeing of sex industry workers in a way which enables and affirms their occupational and human rights.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Provided almost 21,000 occasions of service** to sex industry workers, management, owners and operators, community service providers as well as police
- **Distributed over 70,000 condoms** as well as other units of safe-sex equipment
- **Provided 315 counselling sessions to sex workers**
- **Increased service provision to Chinese-speaking sex workers** by extending our partnership with the HIV/AIDS Health Promotion Unit of Sydney South West Area Health Service
- **Assessed the needs of male sex workers** via a comprehensive online survey (see story right)
- **Obtained extra funding to work with street based sex workers in Newcastle**
- **Produced four editions of *The Professional***, a magazine specifically for sex industry workers and management
- **Produced two safety information sheets** for brothel management and private sex workers
- **Developed two new safe sex posters** for display in brothels
- **Increased training to regional service providers**
- **Completed an organisational review** to inform future service delivery



Detail of *The Professional* cover



Christian, Melbourne



What men want...

For the first time ever in NSW, we conducted a statewide needs assessment survey this year of male workers, who make up about 10 percent of NSW sex workers. Over 250 male sex workers completed 52 questions on a variety of sexual health needs including the kind of sexual health education they require, their preferred method of receiving outreach services and what level of access they have to sexual health testing. The results from this survey are being analysed by SWOP staff and will be used to significantly improve the information, services and programs we provide for male sex workers.

this Western Sydney.

Did You Know?

- ACON's Western Sydney region covers about 9,000 square kilometres, from Auburn to the Blue Mountains and Wollondilly to The Hills district
- GLBT people and people with HIV living in the Western Sydney region can often experience a sense of social isolation and a lack of attachment to the broader GLBT community and this can have a significant impact on their health and wellbeing

ACON Helps Out

We help GLBT people and people with HIV in Western Sydney to improve their health and wellbeing by providing a range of information, resources, support groups and events. We also provide information and training to mainstream service providers in the region to improve their knowledge of HIV and GLBT health issues.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Launched two new service directories**, one for gay and bisexual men and one for same-sex attracted women
- **Coordinated four support groups for same-sex attracted young people in Western Sydney.** These were located in Penrith, Mt Druitt, Parramatta and Campbelltown
- **Supported the development of two support groups for mature GLBT people and people with HIV**, the Blacktown Outdoors Group and the Macarthur Area Social Group
- **Delivered training to over 100 new welfare workers** through TAFE NSW to develop their capacity to work with the GLBT community
- **Strengthened service delivery partnerships** with the Sydney West and Sydney South West Area Health Services and with several key local councils including Bankstown, Penrith, Blue Mountains, Parramatta, Liverpool and Fairfield
- **Produced monthly columns for the Sydney Star Observer newspaper** with Western Sydney-focused news and information
- **Co-hosted monthly segments on Queer Out West Radio 89.3 FM**
- **Co-produced the World AIDS Day event at Medlow Bath**
- **Co-produced the annual Parramatta Pride Picnic** (see story right)
- **Supported a Western Sydney presence in the Mardi Gras Festival** via a Western Sydney Fair Day stall and a Western Sydney same-sex attracted youth parade entry



Paul Barlett, Western Sydney



Stalls at the Parramatta Pride Picnic



AIDS memorial at Medlow Bath

Picnic perfect...

Following its inaugural success in 2007, the Parramatta Pride Picnic became an annual event in 2008. It's now the biggest yearly event for Western Sydney's GLBT community with up to 500 people taking the opportunity to get together with their families and friends, have fun and find out about the GLBT services that are available in Western Sydney. The 2008 picnic was a colourful event and featured a BBQ lunch, a range of information stalls from organisations such as ACON, Parramatta Sexual Health and Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, and lots of activities for kids like storytelling, face painting and kite making.

this regional and rural NSW.

Did You Know?

GLBT people and people with HIV living in regional and rural NSW face a range of distinct challenges when it comes to maintaining their health and wellbeing. Concerns about confidentiality and discrimination can discourage them from seeking help. A lack of supportive social networks can make it hard for some to understand, acknowledge or look after their health needs. And of course the tyranny of distance often makes it difficult to get to whatever services are available.

ACON Helps Out

We help GLBT people and people with HIV, sex workers and drug users in regional and rural areas of NSW to improve their health and wellbeing by providing a range of services, resources, support groups and events. We also provide information and training to mainstream service providers and community groups throughout NSW to improve their knowledge of HIV and GLBT health issues. We have offices in the Hunter, Mid North Coast, Northern Rivers and Illawarra regions of NSW.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Provided over 20,000 occasions of service** to GLBT and people with HIV in regional NSW
- **Provided 8200 occasions of service** to injecting drug users in regional NSW
- **Redeveloped our Hunter office as a community hub.** An extension to our building is now providing additional space for two local GLBT community groups as well as staff from the NSW Users and AIDS Association. The redevelopment also added a new training room and meeting facilities which are available for community use
- **Redeveloped our services in the Mid North Coast region** to focus more on an outreach model of health promotion. This involved opening a Coffs Harbour office in July 2009
- **Conducted the first ever ACON retreat** for HIV+ men from southern NSW. 15 participants from across the region attended the weekend event
- **Supported the Living Longer-Term With HIV Support Group.** The group was attended by 30 gay men who have been living with HIV for more than 10 years
- **Helped set up Wollongong's first ever support group for mature age gay and bisexual men.** WAGS (Wollongong Area Gays) now meets regularly to help reduce the social isolation experienced by some mature age gay men in the region
- **Supported the Hume Phoenix GLBT social/support group**
- **Supported various regional women's groups including** Wollongong's Respecting Equality Amongst Lesbians (REAL), Lesbians of Albury Wadonga (LAWS), Lesbians in the Shoalhaven (LISA) and Lesbians in Newcastle (LLINC) and various groups in the Northern Rivers
- **Conducted 12 Crossroads groups,** a school based program aimed at helping teachers and students learn about the GLBT community and the impact of homophobia. Over 450 students from throughout the region participated in the program



Mark, outback Australia

- **Conducted awareness training for North Coast Centrelink staff** following changes to the Commonwealth legislation affecting same-sex couples
- **Produced three columns every month for the Sydney Star Observer newspaper** with region-specific news and information



Staff celebrate the opening of the revamped Hunter office



Still from *Itty Bitty Titty Committee*

Plan puts country grlls in the pink...

Throughout October, each of our regional offices helped launch *Turning Point*, our new three-year plan for improving the health and wellbeing of lesbians in NSW. The launch events involved a presentation about the strategy followed by a screening of popular indie film *Itty Bitty Titty Committee*. Hundreds of women across NSW attended the various launches which helped raise money for our lesbian health work across the state.

this international projects.

Did You Know?

- Men who have sex with men (MSM) are projected to account for almost half of all new HIV infections in Asia by 2020, increasing from only 13% currently
- Homosexuality is still illegal in many countries throughout Asia and the Pacific. This makes it very difficult to effectively distribute information about HIV prevention

ACON Helps Out

ACON is committed to supporting the Asia Pacific HIV response – especially in relation to MSM – and the growing GLBT community health movement in the region. ACON is also eager to improve our own programs and services by learning more about innovative approaches being implemented in other countries. We do both these things by developing long term partnerships with organisations that undertake similar work to ACON in Pacific and Asian countries.

Highlights

- **Produced an international social marketing campaign** with the Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand to encourage condom use among MSM in Bangkok and Sydney
- **Conducted a consultation of organisations and projects working with MSM in Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.** This was done in partnership with the Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand with the support of the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
- **Produced a groundbreaking policy document on MSM, transgender people and HIV in Pacific countries.** This was done in partnership with the Pacific Sexual Diversity Network (see story right)
- **Provided a series of capacity building workshops for the Pacific Sexual Diversity Network** including the development of a strategic plan. This was done in partnership with the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations
- **Undertook a series of staff exchanges with AIDS Concern Hong Kong**
- **Placed another ACON staff member within the UNAIDS Regional Support Team** to work on HIV issues among men who have sex with men in the Asia Pacific region



John, USA



Members of the PSDN with former ACON CEO Stevie Clayton



Members of AIDS Concern Hong Kong with ACON staff

Can you be more Pacific?

HIV prevention is challenging in the Pacific because homosexuality remains illegal in many countries and very little HIV resources are spent on MSM in the region. To help address these issues, ACON works closely with the Pacific Sexual Diversity Network (PSDN), a group which represents GLBT communities from Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa and the Cook Islands. This year we helped the group produce a landmark report which highlights nine key goals that government, regional institutions, religious and community organisations can work towards to improve the health and wellbeing of MSM and transgender people in the region. The PSDN is now using the report to assist their efforts in lobbying for law reform, more HIV resources and social inclusion for their communities.

this advocacy.

Did You Know?

- GLBT people are still discriminated against under Commonwealth and NSW legislation in areas such as marriage and adoption
- Over 50 % of gay men and lesbians have experienced homophobic harassment and bullying in their workplace
- Only a limited number of national surveys ask questions around sexual orientation and gender identity. This lack of data makes it extremely difficult to plan for the health needs of GLBT people

ACON Helps Out

We keep policy-makers and legislators informed about the issues that affect our community. We also encourage community members to support our advocacy efforts through direct mail and online campaigning.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Made submissions to the mid-term reviews of NSW's various strategies for HIV/AIDS, STIs and Hep C as well as the current Implementation Plan for Aboriginal People.** We were subsequently invited to participate in the mid-term review forum coordinated by NSW Health
- **Gave evidence to the Federal Government's Senate Select Committee on Men's Health**
- **Led a coalition of over 30 community organisations to reduce the impact of new Commonwealth legislation on same-sex couples** (see story right)
- **Led the development of Australia's first national workplace diversity program.** Called *Pride in Diversity* this national forum on sexual orientation and gender diversity in the workplace will help corporations and businesses increase their number of GLBT employees and improve their relationships with GLBT staff and the GLBT community
- **Helped organise GLBT NSW 2020**, a wide-ranging community consultation aimed at creating a plan to coordinate the activities of NSW's GLBT community organisations and to assist with strengthening the GLBT community between now and 2020
- **Produced submissions on a diverse range of policy issues which impact on the communities we serve.** We made submissions in relation to:
 - National Men's Health Policy
 - National Women's Health Policy
 - Senate Inquiry into Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment under Federal Law) Bill 2008
 - National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women.
 - National Human Rights Consultation



GLBT NSW 2020 participants



Mila, Sydney



Protecting same-sex pensioners...

In February, the Federal Government announced its timetable for ending most Commonwealth-based discrimination against gay men and lesbians. We were excited by the July 1 deadline but also concerned. That's because the changes were going to severely affect the Centrelink payments of many same-sex couples who could ill afford a loss of income. So we formed a coalition of more than 30 community health and welfare agencies to try and convince the Government to support a range of measures that would ease this impact. Following months of negotiations, we eventually secured an agreement from the Government for a package of transitional arrangements including a review of Centrelink's policies and procedures in relation to same-sex couples, a more compassionate approach to dealing with debts which might result from the changes and a \$450K community education campaign about the new laws.

this fundraising and events.

Did You Know?

We have to raise an additional \$1 million every year to finance many of our GLBT health-related services because our core funding from NSW Health is dedicated to the delivery of only HIV-related programs.

ACON Helps Out

We raise money through a range of programs and events to help finance a variety of non-funded services in areas such as alcohol and other drugs, lesbian health, anti-violence, mental health, ageing, community care and advocacy. We also help produce a range of events throughout the year to increase awareness of our programs and services.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Raised over \$180,000** from grant applications to various government and non-government agencies.
- **Raised over \$130,000 through our various AIDS Awareness Week activities.** These included our Red Ribbon street appeal, a series of special benefit events and memorial ceremonies throughout NSW and our inaugural World AIDS Day Concert (see story right)
- **Raised over \$90,000 from donations made by audience members of *Priscilla: The Musical*.** The producers generously let our volunteers collect donations after every performance of the show's return season in Sydney
- **Raised almost \$90,000 through Bingay and BIG Bingay,** our weekly bingo night and quarterly themed bingo events. These events have raised almost \$1 million over the last 10 years!
- **Raised \$78,000 through general donations** including our ACON Angels regular giving program
- **Raised over \$27,000 from our Mardi Gras events** including the *Hats Off* variety concert at Star City and *The Great Debate*, a comedy debate about same-sex marriage featuring leading Sydney comedians
- **Raised over \$25,000 through our Honour community service awards.** This year we recognised the community-based work of Aussie entertainment guru Bruce Pollack, and health and political activist Peter Trebilco. Our thanks to Foxtel and Brian Walsh for continuing to support this event
- **Raised almost \$15,000 from a gala premiere of the Academy Award-winning film *Milk*,** courtesy of Universal Pictures
- **Raised over \$5,000 from various Queer Screen film events**
- **Produced a range of awareness-raising events during Mardi Gras** including ACON's 400-person parade entry as well as our significant presence at Fair Day



Mitzi Macintosh, Bingay hostess, Sydney



Performers at the Sydney WAD Concert



Bob Downe and Julia Morris at *The Great Debate*



ACON Angels ambassador

World AIDS Day goes to Rio...

A tribute to legendary Aussie entertainer Peter Allen was the theme of our first ever World AIDS Day concert, held at Sydney's Star City during AIDS Awareness Week in December. Created by cabaret darling Trevor Ashley, the concert's all-star lineup included the original *Boy From Oz* Todd McKenny as well as Tony Sheldon, Rhonda Burchmore, Simon Gallaher and a 30-piece orchestra. All the performers and musicians donated their time to create a truly memorable evening for over 700 guests.

this social, environmental and community responsibility.

Did You Know?

- Over 90% of ACON clients think we provide a good to excellent service
- Every year we provide financial, technical and logistical support for a diverse range of GLBT and HIV-related community groups

ACON Helps Out

We ensure our services are meeting the needs and expectations of our community by seeking regular evaluations of our work. We work to maximise the benefits we bring to our community by supporting a range of GLBT and HIV community organisations. And we try to minimise our impact on the environment through a range of green-friendly initiatives.

Highlights of 08/09

- **Maintained regular feedback systems** for clients, community members and other stakeholders
- **Conducted regular client satisfaction surveys and community consultations**
- **Supported smaller groups in the HIV/AIDS and GLBT community sectors** through an annual small grants program, the provision of ad hoc donations for good causes and by providing groups with office accommodation and meeting spaces at a nominal cost. These groups included the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, Palliative Care NSW, Mature Age Gays, Gay Married Men's Association, HIV/AIDS Legal Centre, Gay and Lesbian Immigration Taskforce, SMART, Harbour City Bears, Meditation, Gay Freethinkers and Gay and Lesbian Deaf Association.
- **Strengthened existing and developed new partnerships with various GLBT cultural and sporting organisations** to improve how we provide services to and communicate with people in our community. These organisations included New Mardi Gras, Queer Screen, Team Sydney, the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Choir, the Drag Industry Variety Awards, the Sydney Convicts Rugby Club, the Sydney Women's Baseball League and the Freezone Volleyball Club (see story)
- **Reduced our amount of waste** by continuing a recycling scheme for paper, glass, bottles and cans
- **Reduced our carbon emissions** by encouraging staff to turn off computers at the wall and by continuing to replace old equipment with more energy-efficient models
- **Reduced our water consumption** by repairing leaking taps and cisterns and introducing waterless urinals in all our men's toilets



Members of the Sydney Convicts Rugby Club



Team Sydney's Sports Day Out logo

This sporting life...

Promoting healthy lifestyles to gay men and lesbians became the focus of a new partnership this year between ACON and Team Sydney, an umbrella organisation which represents over 2000 community members from 30 Sydney-based gay and lesbian sporting clubs. In return for financial sponsorship and technical services, Team Sydney members now assist with our health promotion activities at their events and workshops, through the Team Sydney website and via communication with members.



QueerScreen logo

this operations.

Communications

- **Launched a new ACON website**, significantly increasing our organisation's capacity to deliver information and services online. The functionality of the site is also allowing ACON to diversify its communication channels through increased use of social media
- **Distributed over 50 media releases** to a range of local, state and national media organisations
- **Generated over 1000 news articles** about ACON's services, events and activities
- **Produced two editions of *Shine***, a biannual magazine profiling ACON's work
- **Produced 12 editions of *ACONews***, a monthly email newsletter

Reception Services

- **Provided over 35,000 occasions of service to clients, visitors and staff across NSW.** This ranged from making room and car bookings for staff and maintaining the organisation's phone lists to providing referral, information and support for clients and visitors either in person or over the phone, as well as managing the vitamin and supplement service

Knowledge Centres

- **Provided access to comprehensive information about HIV/AIDS and GLBT health and wellbeing through our Sydney and regional office libraries.** We provide a broad range of books, journals and newspapers as well as free internet access

Information Technology

- **Provided wireless broadband accounts** for branches and outreach staff
- **Reviewed our disaster recovery plan** including a new offsite back-up procedure and off site storing of data.
- **Centralised the ACON network** and transferred all data to head office
- **Installed new firewall and virus software**

Finance

- **Upgraded financial reporting software** for improved management reporting
- **Automated receipting and invoicing** to improve efficiency and accuracy of financial tracking systems
- **Conducted a comprehensive mid year budget review** to ensure the accuracy of our budgeting process

Human Resources

- **Established a new online learning and development facility for staff**
- **Commenced negotiation of a new Employment Agreement** for non-contract staff
- **Reviewed and updated internal policies and procedures** to improve support to management, staff and volunteers
- **Restructured remuneration systems** to increase cost effectiveness and improve accuracy of budget projections

Risk Management

- **Developed and implemented a new risk management plan** to ensure compliance and long-term sustainability



Chris Neal, Sydney

Administration and Facilities Management

- **Reviewed procurement policies and procedures** to reduce costs and increase operational efficiencies
- **Introduced new recycling initiatives** to improve sustainability practices

Planning and Evaluation

- **Supported the development of the *ACON Strategic Plan 2009-2012*** by coordinating consultation with the ACON Board, staff, stakeholders and the community.
- **Coordinated the development of the *ACON Business Plan 2009/2010***
- **Coordinated the acquittal of our 08/09 funding agreement with NSW Health**
- **Produced the Big Day In**, our annual two-day staff training and planning seminar

Quality Improvement

- **Completed the first year of our three year accreditation (2008-2011) with the Quality Improvement Council of Australia.** This ensures we deliver the best possible services and programs while making sure that our administrative and organisational support functions are targeted, cost effective and appropriate



Shine masthead

this the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2009.

ACON
AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated
ABN 84 633 910 355
Incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW)
9 – 25 Commonwealth Street Surry Hills NSW 2010 Australia

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's report for 2008-09, a year that builds on the strong foundations of previous years. During 2008-09 we made a significant step forward in ACON's evolution to become a broader gay, lesbian, bisexual and (GLBT) health organisation, while maintaining our focus on HIV prevention and services for people with HIV.

I acknowledge the support and expertise of ACON's Chief Executive Officer, Stevie Clayton, and the management team who have so capably steered the organisation towards a healthy surplus. In particular, Lucky Wirajaya, Finance Manager, who has been responsible for preparing timely and accurate reports to assist the Board in fulfilling its duties.

Throughout the year we have continued to enhance our fundraising capabilities with the aim of improving our future sustainability and growing existing and new services. Our fundraising and events activities delivered a strong result during a period where global financial conditions presented significant challenges for not-for-profit organisations. I thank the Fundraising and Events Team and Board Working Group for their dedication to delivering innovative events and activities to achieve these results.

Further, we were also successful in obtaining approximately \$500,000 for new work which included an HIV and STI prevention program in the Greater Southern region of NSW, providing case coordination for street-based sex workers in Newcastle, piloting a sex and ethics program for young people, and educating the GLBT community about the recent same sex law reform in partnership with the National LGBT Health Alliance.

Of course an organisation the size of ACON requires diligence by all staff to achieve budget targets, fundraising objectives and funding obligations, and I congratulate the team for their achievements this year.

I am pleased to announce a surplus of \$603,515 for this year. This includes grants received in advance, accrual for salaries and provisions for the incoming employment agreement. Grants received in advance include \$394,195 for the new same-sex law reform program to be delivered during 2009/10 financial year and a number of other grants across a range of programs for the same period.

The end of this financial year also marks the beginning of ACON Health Limited. Since its incorporation 24 years ago, ACON has grown into a sophisticated organisation with around 150 employees, 700 volunteers, 8 offices and an annual budget of over \$10 million. This development has meant that ACON has outgrown its original structure as an incorporated association and the state based system that regulates it. ACON Inc throughout the 2009/2010 financial year will transition financial activities to the new entity ACON Health Limited, a company limited by guarantee. ACON Health's structure will allow for the continued expansion of our work and access to national funding opportunities.

Of course, I wish to thank the many volunteers who, throughout the year, so tirelessly help ACON extend the reach and depth of our work.

Finally, I would also like to thank our principal funders, NSW Health, our longstanding pro bono solicitors Freehills, our auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers, Clayton Utz for their pro bono support assisting us with the change of legal structure and transition to the new company, Gilbert + Tobin for their pro bono legal support establishing the National LGBT Health Alliance and our many funders, sponsors, donors and supporters for their assistance throughout the year.



Jason Bradshaw
Treasurer

THE BOARD OF THE AIDS COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES INCORPORATED SUBMITS ITS REPORT ON THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009.

1. The principal activities of the Association during the year were the provision of education, health promotion, advocacy, care and support services to members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, including indigenous people, injecting drug users, to sex workers and to all people living with HIV/AIDS.
2. After providing \$nil for income tax, operations for the year ended 30 June 2009 resulted in a net surplus of \$603,515 (2008: net surplus \$505,368) compared to a budget surplus of \$50,000. The current year result includes grants received in advance of \$1,274,761 (2008: \$832,643) recognised as income.
3. The Association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW) and is restricted from declaring any dividends.
4. During the year ended 30 June 2009, there was no significant change in the state of affairs of the Association other than those referred to in the above review or financial statements.
5. There have not been any matters or circumstances that have arisen since the end of the financial period, other than those referred to in the review or financial statements that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Association, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Association in subsequent years.

6. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AT 30 JUNE 2009



Mark Orr - President

BSc (Hons), MHSM, Grad Dip Spec Ed, Grad Cert App Fin & Inv

Mark is a psychologist and former senior executive in the NSW public sector with a long history working with people with disabilities. Past member and co-chair of the New Mardi Gras Board.



Siri Kommedahl

Siri has more than 16 years experience in IT business development and currently works as a financial and strategic development consultant. She has also chaired fundraising committees for several organisations including the Human Rights Campaign Federal Club, a 700,000 member civil rights organisation in the US which works to ensure equal rights for GLBT Americans.



Andrew Purchas - Vice President

BEC LLB

Andrew has extensive senior management experience across a number of industries, including financial services, management consulting, law and FMCG. Andrew also has significant commercial experience in business process redesign, change management and risk management. He is currently a principal of Purchas Consulting.



Louisa Degenhardt

BA (Hons), M (Psych), PhD

Louisa is a Professor and Assistant Director at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) at the University of New South Wales. She is currently the recipient of an Australian NH&MRC Senior Research Fellowship.



Jeremy Hutton - Secretary

Jeremy has experience as a political staffer and in the bookselling, advertising and marketing sectors. Jeremy has operated retail bookshops in country NSW and Victoria, and recently opened his own international media representation business.



Joseph Jewitt

BA (Psych), MPH

Joseph has more than 10 years experience working with HIV organisations spanning the community, government and research sectors. He also has significant senior health management experience in clinical service development, operational strategy and performance management.



Jason Bradshaw - Treasurer

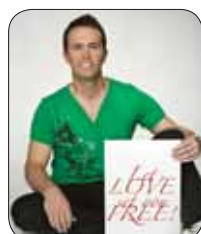
BA, Dip Bus(Frontline Mgt), Cert IV Proj Mgt, AIMM

Jason has over 15 years experience in improving customer service and employee engagement in the banking, finance, retail, technology and government sectors. Jason is currently a senior manager in the NSW Government.



Rob Lake

Rob Lake is the CEO of Positive Life NSW. He has been HIV positive since 1994, and involved in HIV care, support and advocacy issues at a national and state level. Since arriving from New Zealand in 1987, he has worked in the community sector for the past 20 years.



Wes Bas

JP, DipPol

Wes is a serving officer in the NSW Police Force with over seven years experience in general duties, specialist and corporate policing, and is currently performing duties at the Office of the Commissioner. Wes has been an active volunteer with ACON for a number of years. He is also affiliated with a number of youth development organisations.



Jonathan Stambolis

BEC, LLB, Grad Dip Leg

Jonathan is currently undertaking a Masters of International Relations and International Law. He is also a director of a private sector corporation specialising in affordable housing solutions. Before commencing post-graduate study, Jonathan was a corporate lawyer with a number of Australia's top law firms including Allens Arthur Robinson and Clayton Utz.



Rod Bruem

Rod Bruem is a communication specialist with 21 years experience in journalism, politics and media management. Currently employed as a corporate relations manager for Telstra, he has a keen interest in rural and regional issues and services.



Siri May

Siri has extensive experience working in the field of health promotion, community development and advocacy within the GLBT communities. She has also served on the NSW Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby committee, as an Australian Services Union delegate, and recently completed a Bachelor of Economics and Social Science at the University of Sydney. Siri is currently the Coordinator of the Lesbian and Same-Sex Attracted Women's Project at ACON.



Garrett Prestage

BA (Hons), PhD

Garrett is an Associate Professor at the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research, and a Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Research Centre in Sex, Health and Society. Garrett has over 25 years experience in researching gay and lesbian community and health issues.



Stevie Clayton

OAM, JP, MAICD, AIMM

Stevie has been ACON's CEO for over nine years and was Deputy Executive Officer for a further 4.5 years before that. Stevie also has a long history of involvement in community-based organisations.

Attendances by Members of the Board who held office during the year at meetings of the Board during the year ended 30 June 2009 were as follows. Elections for the elected Board Members were held in December 2008.

Board Member	Meetings Attended	Meetings Held
Mark Orr	13	14
Stevie Clayton	13	14*
Jason Bradshaw	14	14
Jeremy Hutton	11	14
Joseph Jewitt	11	14
Siri Kommedahl	8	14
Anders Neilson	5	6
Jonathan Stambolis	10	14
Scott Berry	2	3
Rod Bruem	8	14
Kate Connors	5	6
Louisa Degenhardt	5	14**
Garrett Prestage	10	14
Andrew Purchas	12	14
Nicolas Parkhill (A/Ex Officio)	1	1
Wes Bas	7	8
Rob Lake	5	8
Siri May	6	8

* Nicolas Parkhill attended 1 meeting as Acting CEO

** Louisa Degenhardt was on Leave of Absence from Feb 09 to June 09.

7. Other than Staff Representatives and the Chief Executive Officer, no Member of the Board has received or has become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the Association with the member, a firm of which the member is a member or an entity in which the member has a substantial financial interest.
8. There are no significant environmental regulations which affect the Association's operations.
9. The Association has paid a premium of \$10,172 (2008: \$14,584) to insure certain officers of the Association. The officers of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated covered by the insurance policy include the Members of the Board. The liabilities insured include costs and expenses that may be incurred in defending civil or criminal proceedings that may be brought against officers of the Association.
10. 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.
11. PricewaterhouseCoopers continues in office as auditors to the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

Dated at Sydney this Seventeenth Day of October 2009



MARK ORR
President



JASON BRADSHAW
Treasurer

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	Notes	2009 \$	2008 \$
Revenue From Continuing Operations			
Grants:			
NSW Department of Health		8,133,288	8,045,195
NSW Department of Community Services		96,101	93,620
Area Health Services		547,836	614,276
Nsw Users and AIDS Association		2,419	2,830
Other Grants		1,006,545	138,496
Fundraising	21(a)	562,804	450,638
Interest Received/Receivable		155,018	153,032
Membership		3,578	1,307
Rent Received		65,426	59,941
Sale of Vitamins		44,696	71,983
Sale of Materials		78,450	72,050
Registration Fees		-	11,453
Other Revenue		131,255	59,896
Total Revenue from Continuing Operations		10,827,416	9,774,717

Expenditure			
Salaries and Associated Costs		6,532,997	5,971,942
Program Materials and Services		653,528	659,926
Rent and Rates		235,882	229,061
Depreciation – Plant and Equipment		127,891	129,337
Building Maintenance		297,708	291,609
Communications		320,189	250,967
Travel and Representation		536,747	385,864
Donations Given		62,628	44,470
Advertising Costs		351,771	417,224
Events and Activities		175,569	122,726
Administrative Costs		887,009	715,509
Cost of Goods Sold		41,982	50,714
Total Expenditure		10,223,901	9,269,349
Operating Surplus for The Year	2	603,515	505,368

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2009

	Notes	2009 \$	2008 \$
Current Assets			
Cash	4	2,663,206	1,879,523
Receivables	6	182,269	231,602
Inventories	7	14,967	20,004
Other	8	88,717	106,832
Total Current Assets		2,949,159	2,237,961
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	9	675,263	647,976
Total Non-Current Assets		675,263	647,976
Total Assets		3,624,422	2,885,937
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	10	731,848	638,018
Employee Entitlements	11	530,300	493,908
Total Current Liabilities		1,262,148	1,131,926
Non-Current Liabilities			
Employee Entitlements	12	234,800	230,052
Total Non-Current Liabilities		234,800	230,052
Total Liabilities		1,496,948	1,361,978
Net Assets		2,127,474	1,523,959
Members' Funds			
Retained Surplus At The End Of The Year	24	2,095,654	1,492,139
Revaluation Reserve	23	31,820	31,820
Total Members' Funds		2,127,474	1,523,959

The above Balance Sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year	1,523,959	1,012,271
Net income recognised directly in equity	-	6,320
Operating surplus for the year	603,515	505,368
Total recognised income and expense for the year	603,515	511,688
Total equity at the end of the financial year	2,127,474	1,523,959

The above Statement of Changes in Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	Notes	2009 \$	2008 \$
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Receipts from customers, granting bodies and fundraising (inclusive of goods and services tax)		10,744,883	9,548,358
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of goods and services tax)		(9,961,040)	(9,118,578)
		783,843	429,780
Interest received		155,018	153,032
Net cash inflow from operating activities	5	938,861	582,812
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payment for plant and equipment		(155,178)	(431,795)
Net cash outflow from investing activities		(155,178)	(431,795)
Net increase in cash held		783,683	151,017
Cash at beginning of the financial year	4	1,879,523	1,728,506
Cash at end of the financial year	4	2,663,206	1,879,523

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 JUNE 2009

1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial report includes the financial statements for the AIDS Council of NSW (ACON) as an individual entity.

(a) Basis of preparation

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRSs), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and Urgent Issues Group Interpretations.

Compliance with IFRSs

Australian Accounting Standards include AIFRSs. Compliance with AIFRSs ensures that the financial statements and notes of ACON comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs).

Historical cost convention

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of available-for-sale financial assets, financial assets and liabilities (including derivative instruments) at fair value through profit or loss, certain classes of property, plant and equipment and investment property.

Critical accounting estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with AIFRS requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Association's accounting policies.

1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(b) Grant Revenue

Grant revenue received is brought to account when received or receivable.

(c) Receivables

Trade receivables are recognised at the amounts receivable as they are due for settlement no more than 30 days from the date of recognition.

Collectability of trade debtors is reviewed on an ongoing basis. Debts which are known to be uncollectible are written off. A provision for doubtful debts is raised where some doubt as to collection exists.

(d) Inventories

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

(e) 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.

(f) 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 income statement, in which case the increment is credited to the income statement.

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

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

Potential capital gains tax is not taken into account in determining revaluation amounts unless it is expected that a liability for such tax will crystallise.

Revaluations do not result in the carrying value of Works of Art exceeding their recoverable amount.

(g) Depreciation of Property, Plant and 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.

(h) Leasehold Improvements

The cost of extensions to the Hunter branch on premises leased at 129 Maitland Road, Islington has been capitalised to Leasehold Improvements and is being amortised over the lease term of 10 years.

(i) Leased Non-Current Assets

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

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

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

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

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

(j) Trade and Other Creditors

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

1. Statement of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

(k) Web Site Costs

Costs in relation to the web site controlled by the Association are charged as expenses in the period in which they are incurred unless they relate to the acquisition of an asset, in which case they are capitalised and amortised over their period of expected benefit.

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

(l) Employee Entitlements

Wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulating sick leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. Liabilities for non-accumulating sick leave are recognised when the leave is taken and measured at the rates paid or payable.

Long Service Leave

The liability for long service leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and is measured in accordance with the policy above. The liability for long service leave expected to be settled more than 12 months from the reporting date is recognised in the provision for employee benefits and measured as the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Superannuation

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

(m) Borrowing Costs

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

(n) Cash

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

2. Operating Surplus for the year

Operating surplus from ordinary activities includes the following specific expenses:

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Provision for Employee Entitlements	41,140	(5,377)
Rental expense relating to operating leases	250,576	250,502

3. Income Tax

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

4. Current Assets - Cash

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Cash on hand	11,120	10,920
Cash at bank:		
Cheque account - Operations	738,888	405,153
Deposits	1,913,198	1,463,450
	2,663,206	1,879,523

5. Reconciliation of Operating Surplus to Net Cash inflow from Operating Activities

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Operating surplus for the year	603,515	505,368
Depreciation and Amortisation	127,891	129,337
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:		
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	49,333	(125,165)
Decrease in Other Current Assets	18,115	57,266
Decrease/(Increase) in Inventory	5,037	(5,428)
Increase in Creditors	93,830	26,811
Increase/(Decrease) in Employee Entitlements	41,140	(5,377)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	938,861	582,812

6. Current Assets - Receivables

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Accounts Receivable	171,933	224,394
Accrued Income	10,336	7,208
	182,269	231,602

7. Current Assets - Inventories

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Finished Goods (Vitamins) at cost	14,967	20,004

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 JUNE 2009

8. Current Assets – Other

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Goods and Services Tax Receivable	88,317	106,682
Prepaid expenses	400	150
	88,717	106,832

9. Non-Current Assets - Property, Plant & Equipment

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

2009	Furniture & fittings \$	Office equipment \$	Equipment under lease \$	Library Works of Art \$	Leasehold improvements \$	Totals \$
As at 1 July 2008						
Opening cost	1,271,898	1,066,055	-	144,813	395,949	2,878,715
Accumulated depreciation	(1,235,802)	(940,967)	-	-	(53,970)	(2,230,739)
Net book value	36,096	125,088	-	144,813	341,979	647,976
Year ended 30 June 2009						
Opening net book value	36,096	125,088	-	144,813	341,979	647,976
Additions	1,364	121,251	-	-	32,563	155,178
Revaluations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation charge	(8,497)	(94,865)	-	-	(24,529)	(127,891)
Closing net book value	28,963	151,474	-	144,813	350,013	675,263

2008	Furniture & fittings \$	Office equipment \$	Equipment under lease \$	Library Works of Art \$	Leasehold improvements \$	Totals \$
As at 1 July 2007						
Opening cost	1,256,584	985,071	48,116	138,493	60,452	2,488,716
Accumulated depreciation	(1,229,579)	(821,867)	(48,116)	-	(49,956)	(2,149,518)
Net book value	27,005	163,204	-	138,493	10,496	339,198
Year ended 30 June 2008						
Opening net book value	27,005	163,204	-	138,493	10,496	339,198
Additions	15,314	80,984	-	-	335,497	431,795
Revaluations	-	-	-	6,320	-	6,320
Depreciation charge	(6,223)	(119,100)	-	-	(4,014)	(129,337)
Closing net book value	36,096	125,088	-	144,813	341,979	647,976

10. Current Liabilities – Accounts Payable

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Goods & Services Tax Payable	82,601	45,085
Trade Creditors	505,610	401,199
Accrued Expenses	143,637	191,734
	731,848	638,018

12. Non-current Liabilities – Employee Entitlements

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Employee Entitlements - Long Service Leave	234,800	230,052

11. Current Liabilities – Employee Entitlements

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Employee Entitlements - Annual Leave	530,300	493,908
Employee Numbers	<i>Number</i>	<i>Number</i>
Number of employees at reporting date (Full time equivalent)	115	99

13. Financial Instruments

(a) Credit Risk Exposures

The credit risk on financial assets of the Association is the carrying value, net of any provision for doubtful debts.

(b) Interest Rate Risk Exposures

The Association's exposure to interest rate risk and the interest rate for each class of financial assets and liabilities are set below.

Interest Rate Risk Exposures

2009	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate 1 year or less \$	Non-interest bearing \$	Total \$
Financial Assets:				
Cash and deposits	-	1,913,198	750,008	2,663,206
Accounts Receivable	-	-	182,269	182,269
	-	1,913,198	932,277	2,845,475
Weighted average interest rate	-	3.96%		
Financial liabilities:				
Trade and other creditors	-	-	731,848	731,848
Net financial assets/ (liabilities)	-	1,913,198	200,429	2,113,627

Interest Rate Risk Exposures

2008	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate 1 year or less \$	Non-interest bearing \$	Total \$
Financial Assets:				
Cash and deposits	405,153	1,463,450	10,920	1,879,523
Accounts Receivable	-	-	231,602	231,602
	405,153	1,463,450	242,522	2,111,125
Weighted average interest rate	2.86%	7.58%		
Financial liabilities:				
Trade and other creditors	-	-	638,018	638,018
Net financial assets/ (liabilities)	450,153	1,463,450	(395,496)	1,473,107

(c) Net Fair Value of Financial Assets and Liabilities

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

14. Remuneration of Members of the Board

Members of the Board, including the CEO and staff representatives, serve on the Board of the Association in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration for this service to the Association. An employee of the Association serving on the board receives normal salary and employment benefits commensurate with their position as an employee.

15. Remuneration of Auditors

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Remuneration for audit and review of the Association's Financial report - PricewaterhouseCoopers	42,000	43,300
Remuneration for other services- - PricewaterhouseCoopers	8,550	7,440
	50,550	50,740

16. 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.

17. Share Capital

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

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

18. Economic Dependency

The major source of funding for the Association is an annual grant from the NSW Health Department (the Department). The Association has completed a triennial funding agreement with the Department for the period 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010 to continue to provide funding to the Association

19. Related Parties

There were no transactions with related parties during the year ended 30 June 2009.

20. Events after the reporting period

From 1 July 2009, the Association has become a controlled entity of ACON Health Limited following implementation of the resolution of members approved at a meeting of members held on 25 June 2009.

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. Subsequent to year end, the Association was re-issued an authority to fundraise for the period 4 September 2006 to 3 September 2011.

Information and declarations to be furnished under the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991.

- (a) Details of aggregate gross income and total expenses of fundraising appeals

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Gross proceeds from fundraising:		
Red Ribbon World AIDS Day Appeal	135,952	110,387
Other including Donations & Sponsorship	426,852	340,251
Total gross income from fundraising	562,804	450,638
less total costs of fundraising		
Red Ribbon World AIDS Day Appeal	50,233	64,544
Other	311,496	268,361
Total costs of fundraising	361,729	332,905
Net surplus obtained from fundraising appeals	201,075	117,733

- (b) Forms of fundraising appeals conducted during the period covered by these financial statements were: Dance Parties, Appeals, Bingo, Dinners and Special Nights at Venues.

	2009	2008
Ratio of costs to gross proceeds	64%	74%
Ratio of net surplus to gross proceeds	36%	26%
Ratio of total cost of services to total expenditure	4%	7%
Ratio of total cost of services to total income	3%	7%

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

22. Commitments for Expenditure

Lease Commitments

Operating Leases

Commitments for minimum lease payments in relation to non-cancellable operating leases contracted for at the reporting date but not recognised as liabilities, payable:

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Within one year	121,177	237,971
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	184,132	253,701
Later than 5 years	135,863	132,702
	441,172	624,374

23. Reserves

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Revaluation Reserve		
Opening balance	31,820	25,500
Revaluation increment	-	6,320
Closing balance	31,820	31,820

The Revaluation Reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets as described in Note 1(f).

24. Reserves

	2009 \$	2008 \$
Retained surplus at the beginning of the year	1,492,139	986,771
Current year surplus	603,515	505,368
Retained surplus at the end of the year	2,095,654	1,492,139

Included in the retained surplus is an amount of \$1,274,761 (2008: \$832,643), 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

The members of the board declare that the financial statements and notes set out on pages

7 -24:

- a. comply with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
- b. give a true and fair reflection of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2009 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 *Association's 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 regulations under this Act and the conditions attached to the authority to fundraise have been complied with; and
- 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:



Mark Orr
President



Andrew Purchas
Vice President

Dated at Sydney this Seventeenth Day of October 2009

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AIDS COUNCIL OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.



Pricewaterhouse Coopers
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SYDNEY NSW 1171

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Australia
Telephone +61 2 8266 0000
Facsimile +61 2 8266 9999
www.pwc.com/au

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc (the association), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2009, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the declaration by the members of the board.

Responsibility of the members of the board for the financial report

The members of the board are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations). This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances. In Note 1a, the members of the board also state, in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, that compliance with the Australian equivalents to international Financial Reporting Standards ensures that the financial report, comprising the financial statements and notes, complies with International Financial Reporting Standards.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the association's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the members of the board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

Our procedures include reading the other information in the Annual Report to determine whether it contains any material inconsistencies with the financial report.

For further explanation of an audit, visit our website <http://www.pwc.com/au/financialstatementaudit>

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

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc is in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW)*, the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 1993 (NSW)*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the association's financial position as at 30 June 2009 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards;
- (b) presenting 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 2009;
- (c) that the accounts and associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 1984 (NSW)*, the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 1993 (NSW)* for the financial year ended 30 June 2009;
- (d) that money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by the AIDS Council of New South Wales Inc during the year ended 30 June 2009 had been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 1993 (NSW)*.



PricewaterhouseCoopers



Gareth Winter
Partner

Sydney
17 October 2009

this staff and volunteers throughout the year.

Aaron Deighton
Aaron So
Adam Epstein
Adam Knobel
Adam McLean
Adam Van Rooijen
Adelaide
Adrian Nill
Aijay Adams
Aileen Rigor
AJ Bell
Alan Florance
Alan Gordon
Alan Martin
Alan Murray
Alanna Calluau
Alanna Rigor
Alastair Colgrave
Alberto Duran
Alex Arnaudon
Alex Cheslett
Alex Coughlin
Alex Pollard
Alexander Cameron
Alicia Tape
Alicia Yuen
Allan Jones
Allan Ladd
Alona Olsen
Alvin Wong
Amanda Cheong
Amber McBride
Amos Kitiona
Ana Kunz
Anabell Thoener
Anastasia Z
Anders Neilson
Andre Zeballos
Andrea Craven
Andrea Spiteri
Andrew Cooper
Andrew Johnson
Andrew Jones
Andrew Piper
Andrew Purchas
Andrew Trembath
Andrew Trist
Andy Tanamas
Angela Matheson
Angela Rondo
Angus Beadie
Ann Shirk
Anna Bacik
Anna Checkley
Annaliese Constable
Annie Selman
Ann-Maree Rundle
Arie Kusmono
Ash Hawkins
Ashleigh Woolridge
Ashley Charlton
Astrid Gearin
Ayse Kocak
Baden Chalmers

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Barry McKay
Baylee Brits
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Ben Hanckel
Ben Johnson
Ben Rose
Benjamin Bavinton
Benjamin Tart
Bernie Smith
Bettina Holmes
Beverley Starrs
Biff Gaia
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Bill Upton
Bill Vernon
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Brad Murch
Brad Wright
Bradley Irwin
Brandon Lee
Breda Drumgoole
Brendan Arthur
Brendan Collits
Brendan Cook
Brendan Sinclair
Brendan Taber
Brennan Wong
Brett Fogarty
Brett Williams
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Brian Fake
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Brian McMahan
Brian Treloar
Brigitte Lees
Bruce Cherry
Bruce Duncan
Bruce Jensen
Bruce Strath
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Cameron Clark
Cameron Gabbott
Camille Bernardino
Cara Harvey
Carl Germanos
Carl Piraino
Carla Omiciuolo
Carlos Felix
Carlyn Johnston
Carolyn Lozan
Carolyn Murray
Carolyn Shopland
Casey Lee-Hall
Cassandra Anderson
Cassandra Goldie
Cat Milne
Catherine Klaffer

Cathy Adams
Cathy Sajjadi
Cecelia Michael
Chantal Burchett
Charles Ammes
Charles Choy
Charles Gregory
Charles Hunter
Charlie Ahrens
Charlie Parker
Charlie Wynn
Charlotte Lynch
Chen-Ying Lu
Cheryl Sneddon
Cheryl Webster
Cheyenne Von-Zieden
Chiho Otani
Chris Adamou
Chris Osbourne
Chris Surplice
Chris Waters
Christiaan Hobson
Christian McDougall
Christina Briegleb
Christina Cavallero
Christina Kenny
Christine Fletcher
Christine Hill
Christine McGarrigle
Christine Rowan
Christine Wilkinson
Christopher Brew
Christopher Clementson
Christopher Entwistle
Christopher Lynas
Christy Rowe
Ciaran McCabe
Claire Devonport
Cliff Micallef
Colin Dent
Colin Malzard
Cori Pignatelli
Corinna Pauna
Corinne Roberts
Craig Gee
Craig Kirkby
Craig Mack
Curt Mason
D Greenland
Damian Hannan
Damian Vanderwolf
Damien Oprel
Dan Brown
Dan Webb
Dani Skews
Dania Linders
Daniel Adams
Daniel Armfield
Daniel Darley
Daniel Hunter
Daniel Mills
Daniel Scott
Daniel Toovey
Daniel White

Danielle Schmid
Danny Adams
Danyella Lander
Darran Chadwick
Darrell Williams
Darren Hodgskiss
Darren Lindsell
Dashiell Hannoush
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Dave Mollison
Dave Wilson
David Anthony
David Ashton
David Barnier
David Castroruiz
David Eakin
David Franks
David Irving
David Lorenz
David McHugh
David McIntyre
David McLeod
David Mollison
David Montgomery
David Moriarty
David Polson
David Reid
David Riddell
David Scamell
David Scarlett
David Solomon
David Travis
David Wilkins
David Woolsey
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Deb Gavan
Deborah Bornzin
Deborah Bronson
Deborah Broughton
Deborah Gavan
Deborah Saxelby
Deirdre Lane
Denis Compston
Dennis Meijer
Derek Hodgkins
Derek Lee
Derek McLaren
Dermot Ryan
Devon Indig
Dina Saulo
DJ Sveta
Dominic Samson
Donna Campbell
Doug Magaletti
Douglas Bowden
Dove Ov'Winter
Dr. David Baker
Dr. Julie Mooney-Sommers
Dr. Ruth McNair
Drew McIntosh
Drew Simmons
Duncan Cresswell
Duncan Ledwich
Duncan Pickup

Eamon Quinn
Edmon Su
Edmond MacInante
Edo Sudetja
Edward Johnston
Edward Rose
Edwina Cowdery
Effrem Manassey
Eldar Huseljic
Eleanor Stearn
Elisabeth Willemse
Elissa Wood
Eliz Brooks
Elizabeth Burton
Ella Van Acker
Eloise Birbara
Emily Gray
Emma
Emma Dardick
Eric Rehani
Erin Cahill
Erin Gill
Erin Halligan
Etheon Parkes
Eugene Roser
Evert Houtman
Fahmi MB
Fawzi Hindash
Felipe Alves Brito
Fillippa Vickery
Fiona Kidd
Fletch Trowse
Frances Bolton
Fred Oberg
Fulton Klass
Furqan Nusair
Gabriele Rosenstreich
Galuh Sapthari
Gareth Gillham
Gareth Taylor
Garrett Prestage
Garrie Russell
Gary Aschmoneit
Gary Driscoll
Gary Jones
Gary Pflugrath
Gavin Prendergast
Georgia Lancey
Georgie Meagher
Gerard Elms
Gerard Tobin
Gerry North
Gerry Tobin
Glen Lewis
Glenn Ferrero
Glenn Mitchell
Glenn Nicholas
Gordon Peck
Graeme Phillips
Graham Bakewell
Graham Curtis
Graham Vince
Grant Buchanan
Greg Turnbull

this staff and volunteers throughout the year (continued).

Gregory Bork
Guang Chen
Gulnoza Akilkanova
Guy Bertrand
Hannah
Hannah Roberts
Harry Boyajian
Harry Fransen
Harry West
Hartley Williams
Hayley Pigram
Hayley Wyndhams
Herman Velasquez
Hong Pham
Iain Brady
Iain Harrison
Ian Bayly
Ian Craven
Ian Crute
Ian Down
Ian Macdonald
Ian Middleton
Ian Stewart Brady
Ian Sutherland
Ian Walker
Ilana Green
Imogen Andrews
Ina Hall
Ivan Adnan
Jackie Stricker
Jacqueline Frajer
Jade DeLeon
Jade Muratore
Jae Condon
Jaime Quezada
James De Vere
James Drew
James Forbes
James Garwood
James Gobert
James Gray
James Saunders
James Tier
James Toh
James Wilson
Jamie Green
Jamie Pantling
Jana Bowgerald
Jane Musumeci
Jane Radford
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Jane Worrallo
Janet McNally
Janice Kuan
Janine Farrell
Jared Stadler
Jarryd Phillips
Jason Bradshaw
Jason Forrester
Jason Levin
Jason Richards
Jason Snaddon
Jayne Liddy
Jeanette Batchelor

Jeffery Jones
Jeffrey Dabbbhadatta
Jeffrey Johnston
Jeffrey Meredith
Jen Long
Jenness Regent
Jennifer Long
Jennifer Quigley
Jeremy Fenton
Jeremy Hutton
Jeremy Mahoney
Jeremy Proctor
Jess Darienzo
Jessica Darienzo
Jessica Di Blasio
Jill LeMessurier
Jim Konstantopoulos
Jim Villamor
Jimi Goninan
Jimmy Ho
Jo Northey
Jo'Omarra
Joanna Holden
Joanne Leary
Jodi Tyne
Joel Bryant
Joel Nicholson
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NSW Cancer Council
NSW Carers' Association
NSW College of Nursing
NSW Council of Social
Services
NSW Council on the Ageing
NSW Dept of Aboriginal
Affairs
NSW Dept of Ageing,
Disability and Home Care
NSW Dept of Community
Services
NSW Dept of Corrective
Services
NSW Dept of Education and
Training
NSW Dept of Housing
NSW Dept of Premiers and
Cabinet
NSW Federation of Housing
Associations
NSW Health
NSW Law Society
NSW Office for Women's
Policy
NSW Police Force
NSW Police GLLOs
NSW Teachers Federation
NSW Young Lawyers
NUAA Peer Support
Northern Rivers Group
Oaks Hair

Older Dykes Network	Clinic	Rita Almohty	Baker	St George Institutional & Banking
Older Women's Network	Positive Central	Ritchie Finger	Serafim Chemist	St George Private Hospital
Ole	Positive Life NSW	Riverside Theatres	Servcorp	St Vincent's Community Health Service
Olive Fratis	Positive Speakers Bureau	Rob Brough	Service Assisting Male Survivors of Sexual Assault	St Vincent's Drug & Alcohol Service
Optus	Positive Support Network	Rob Robilliard	SESAH HIV Community Health Team	St Vincent's Hospital
Out of Sight Eyewear	Pot Belly Catering	Robbie Gemmal	Sexual Health Service, Tasmania	St. Carthages Community Care Lismore
OWN - Older Women's Network	Potterround	Robbie Milne	Sexy Beast	St. George Domestic Violence Counselling Service
Oxford Clothing	Potts Point Bookshop	Robert Fleming	Seymour Centre	St.Vincent de Paul Society
Oxford Hotel	PozHets	Robert Stirling	Shad Danesi	STA Travel
Oz Showbiz Cares/Equity Fights AIDS	PRA on King	Robin Godfrey	Shae Vulgaris	Stanford House
OzHarvest	Premontiton	Robyn Stout	SHAIDS Lismore	Stanton Library
Pacific Clinic Sexual Health	PriceWaterhouseCoopers	Rochelle Pudney	Shane Hurley	Star City Casino Hotel
Pacific Sexual Diversity Network	Prince of Wales Hospital - PLWHA Day Clinic	Rockdale Community Centre	Shane Jenek	Starbucks Coffee
Paddington RSL	Princeton Brooks	Rodney Bellman	Shane Piddington	Stephen Comey
Paint In Black	Probation and Parole	Rohan Faulkner	Shane Tyrrell	Stephen Gamba
Palace Academy Twin	Offices Long Bay Gaol	Rolling Stones Café	Sharna Nelson	Steve Frendo
Pamela Garske	Provocator	Romano Crivici	Sharon Bai	Steven Sadler
Parent's and Friends of Lesbians and Gays	Pure Nightclub	Ron Green	Sharpe's Pharmacy	StickyBeak Films
Parramatta City Council	PureSec	Ron Hughes	Shaun Collings	STIGMA
Parramatta Sexual Health	Purple 22	Ronald Filmer	Shaun Rennie	Stimulant Treatment Program
Passions	Queen Street Fruit Shop	Rory Gregg	Shauna Jensen	Stokes Mischewski
Patrice Wallace	Queen's Fresh	Roshani Priddis	Shellharbour Council	Stonewall Hotel
Paul Armstrong	Queensland Association for Healthy Communities	Rosita Gallasch	Shelter NSW	Stonewall UK
Pelagio	Queer Collective (Newcastle Uni)	Ross Coleman	Shenkin	Strawberry Snips Hair & Beauty
Pelo Hair	Queer Fruits Film Festival	Ross Dobson	Shoalhaven Gay Mens Group	Streets
Penrith Panthers	Queer Screen	Ross Henderson	Signal	Strudel Baron
Penrith Social Group	Rach Haig	Ross MacKinnon	Silke Bader	Stuart Hearne
Penrith Women's Health Centre	Rachel Cook	Route 66	Simon Ferenchi	Stuart O'Brien
People With Disability Australia	Radical Faeries	Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	Simon Gallaher	Style Council
PEP Treatment Line	Raffaele Folino	Rozelle Framing	Simon Hardiman	Substance Abuse Services
Pepey White	Raffaele Folino	Rozelle Village Pharmacy	Simon Harris	HNEAHS
Pet Barn	Rainbow Recovery	RPA Drug & Alcohol Treatment Services	Simon Wolnizer	Sue Green
Peter Bryant	Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand	RPA Eating Disorder Clinic	Sitback Solutions	Sue Ivanyi
Peter Eysers	Rainbow Visions	RSL Care Macquarie	Sketchers	Summer's Floral
Peter Foggitt	Rami Mandow	Ruban Rat	Sky News	Suncare Community Services Inc.
Peter Hackney	Randa Kattan	Rubi Shoes	Skye Smith	Sunny Burns
Peter Sharp	Rankin Court	Ruggeri	Slide Restaurant & Bar	Superintendent Donna Adney
Peter Trebilco	Raw Hair	Sacred Heart Bereavement Services	Slims Vintage	Surry Hills Local Area Command
Peter Walton	Razor	Sacred Heart Hospice	Sly Fox Hotel	Sussex Street Local Office
Pfizer	Rebecca McTavish	Safe Place program participants	SMART Recovery	Allocations Team
Phil Baeta	Redfern Community Health	Salaam Namaste	So Fresh @ Balmain	Suzie Hudson
Phil Meltzer	Reg Domingo	Sally Maer	So Music	Swiss Bakerz
Phil Scott	Regional Youth Development Officers Network	Sally Schinckel Brown	Somali Cerise	SX News/Evolution Publishing
Phillip Birch	Regional Youth Support Services	Sam Moran	Somatics Psychotherapy Training	SX/Evolution
Phillip (Phlan) Purss	Register of Births, Deaths & Marriages	samesame.com.au	Soni's	Sydney Animals Hospitals Newtown
Phillip Jones	Relationships Australia	Sanctuary	South East Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service	Sydney Bodywork Centre
Phoenix Rising	REPIDU	Sapho Books & Café	South Eastern Division of General Practice	Sydney City Steam (357)
Piccolo Padre	Respecting Equality	Sass/Corner Bar	South West Sydney Area Health Service	Sydney Convicts Ruby Club
Pierre Kuhn	Amongst Lesbians	SAX	Southern Cross University	Sydney Gay and Lesbian Business Association
Pine St Gallery	Rhonda Burchmore	SAX Healthcare	Southern Cross University Lismore Campus School of Natural Medicine	Sydney Gay and Lesbian Choir
Pink Sofa	Rhonda Sloper	Schizophrenia Fellowship		
Pip Ditzell	Richard Carroll	NSW Support Groups		
Platypus	Richard King	Scotchmans Hill Group		
Play Communication	Richard Marazita	Scott Abrahams		
Pleasure Chest	Richmond River High School	Scott McGuiness		
PoHo		Scott McKeown		
Population Health Team		Sekneh Beckett		
Port Kembla Sexual Health		Senior Constable Kate		

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Service
Sydney Women's Baseball
League
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Counselling Centre
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TAFE
Tails R Wagging
Tallace Bissett
Tania and Oriwa
Tanya Merinda
Taxi Club
Taylor Square Private Clinic
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teamm8
Telstra
Terence Kwong
Tevin Price
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The Aurora Group
The Bank Hotel
The Body Shop
The Bookshop
The Bunker
The Buttery Bangalow
The Capital Group
The Coffee Bean
The Colour Rose
The Corner Youth Health
Service
The Duke
The Exchange Hotel
The Falconer
The Feminist Bookshop
The Floral Decorator
The Flower Vault
The Gender Centre
The Happy Herb Shop
The Hepatitis Council
The Hon Penny Sharpe MLC
The Hon. Linda Burney MP
The Little Candleshop
The Northern Territories
AIDS and Hepatitis C
Council (NTAHC)
The Oxford Hotel
The Phoenix Theatre
The Salvation Army
The Samaritans Hub
Outreach Team Newcastle
The Sanctuary
The Smith Family
The Sun Lounge
The Village Sport

The Watershed
The Wholistic Medical
Centre
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Thomas Riveros
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Tim Ball
Tim Duggen
Toby LeaW
Todd McKenney
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Tony Osmond
Tony Sheldon
Tool Shed
Toolshed
Toongabbie Christian
School
Tracy Lynch
Trade Store
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Traxside Youth Health
Service
Tree of Hope
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Tropical Fruits
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Turanga Merito
Tweed Clinic 145
Tweed Police – Gay and
Lesbian Liaison Officer
Tweed Shire Council
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Woosh
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WSAHS Eating Disorders
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WWF
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Footy Show presenter



Liz Ellis
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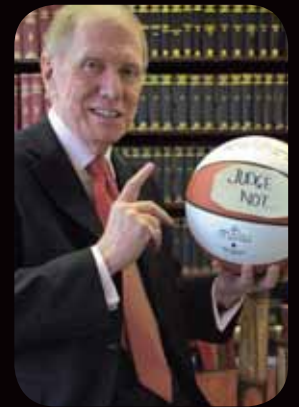
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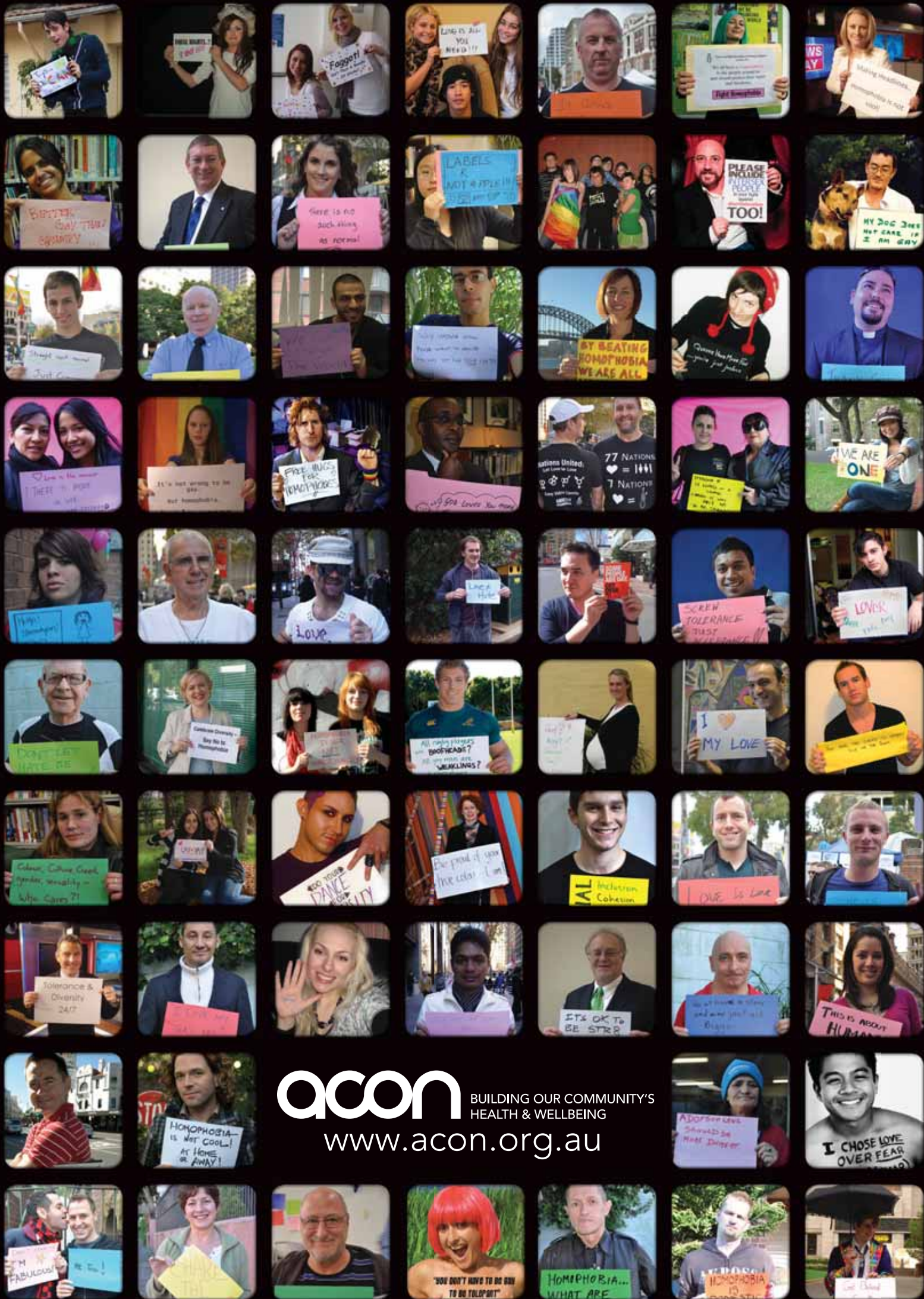
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