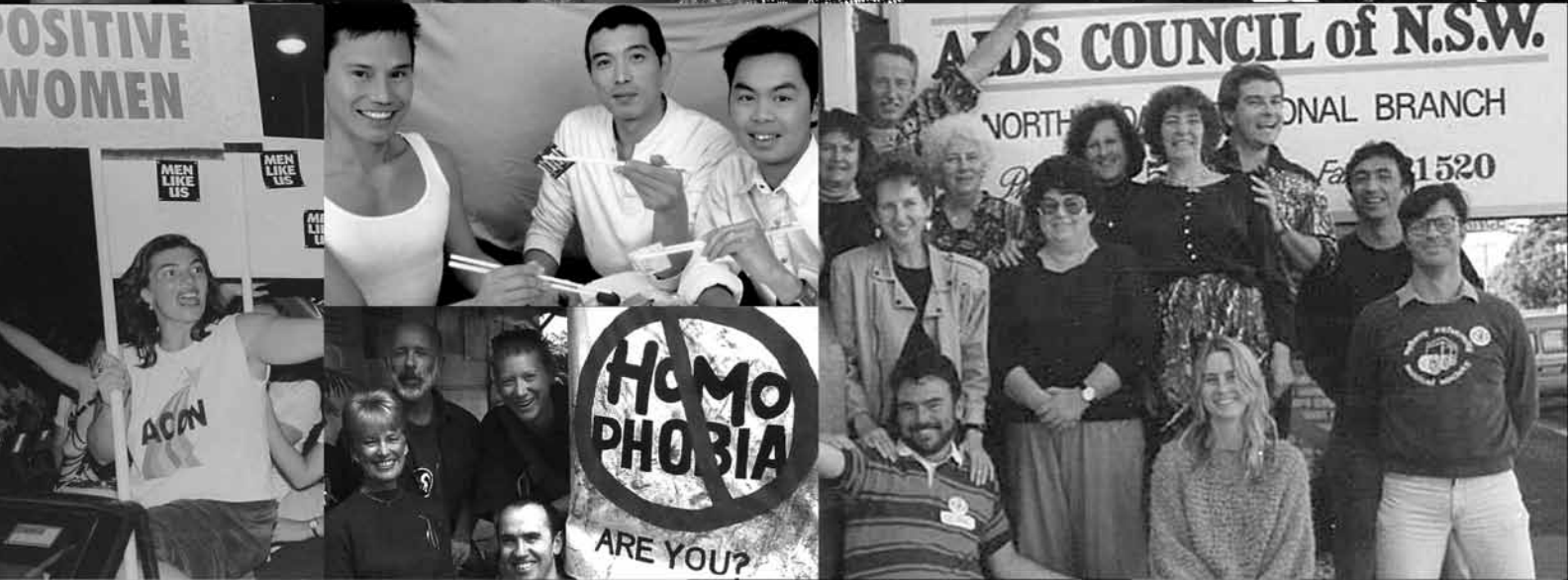




ACON ANNUAL REPORT 2009/2010
Commemorating 25 Years Of Community Care



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This year's annual report commemorates ACON's 25 years of community care by featuring a selection of photos and images of ACON staff and volunteers from the last 25 years.

ACON's Mardi Gras floats from top to bottom, 1986, 1996, 2001, 2010 (right).



A Message From the President and CEO

This year we remember and celebrate ACON's achievements over the last two and a half decades. ACON was established as an incorporated association on 18 August 1985, through the efforts of a number of then existing community groups including the AIDS Action Committee, the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, the AIDS Counselling Service, the AIDS Learning Exchange and the Community Support Network.

Over the last 25 years ACON has grown and changed along with the face of the HIV epidemic in Australia. The most significant change was the introduction of Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Therapy (HAART) around 1996/1997 which changed the outlook for most people living with HIV and transformed HIV into what it is today in Australia – a chronic illness.

HIV remains a challenge for our community 25 years on. Whilst HAART meant our friends and loved ones stopped dying, new challenges arose – and others remained. There are more people today living with HIV than at any time in the last quarter of a century. The impact of living long term with HIV and the use of HIV medication is only slowly being understood. Early ageing, cognitive impairment, bone mineral density depletion, renal failure, heart disease and cancer have become the new frontline for HIV medicine. Whilst many people with HIV are working, the experience of people with HIV is not homogenous and there are some doing it tough, living on social security benefits with complex needs. And even close to 30 years into the epidemic people with HIV still experience discrimination within health care settings, the general community and even in the GLBT community.



Keep It Up campaign poster, 1990

HIV remains the foundation of ACON's work and this year HIV transmission rates in NSW remained stable for another year. NSW continues to be one of the few places in the world to record stable HIV transmission rates over more than 12 years – a tribute to the HIV partnership in NSW. This result supports the education and prevention strategies developed by ACON and the HIV partnership, which continue to be used to great effect.

ACON remains focused on developing and implementing new strategies to reduce HIV transmission rates in NSW. Accepting what gay men have been telling us about how they negotiate sex, while reconfirming the primacy of the use of condoms and water based lubricant as the foundation of HIV prevention, this year, in partnership with Positive Life NSW, we developed a risk reduction strategy framework. This framework allows us to expand our work in HIV prevention to those gay men who, for a range of reasons, choose not to use condoms. Our approach remains helping gay men and other men who have sex with men to make the best possible decisions they can about their own health and that of their sexual partners.

We also commenced work conceptualising the introduction of rapid HIV testing in community based settings, including a consideration of what structures and systems would be required to access this technology which has been freely available in many other countries for many years, though not in Australia. ACON actively participated on a working group established by the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) on this issue. Our advocacy on this issue, including a review of the National HIV Testing Policy, will be increased in 2010/2011.

This year we also developed several ground-breaking HIV and sexually transmissible infection prevention campaigns and produced a range of new education resources for people with HIV, sex workers, gay men, lesbians and other same sex attracted women, some of which are outlined in the following pages. Of particular note was the launch of *The Birds and the Birds*, our popular new lesbian sex and sexual health resource.

On World AIDS Day we were honoured that Her Excellency the Governor-General, Ms Quentin Bryce visited the Luncheon Club. The Governor-General's visit highlighted the important work of The Luncheon Club, BGF and ACON, and helped raise awareness of HIV in the Australian community.

We were also honoured this year to host a visit of India's famous gay prince, Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil, to help promote HIV prevention in the Asia Pacific, funded jointly by the Australia India Council and ACON.

In line with ACON's new Strategic Plan, our work in more general health areas has also continued to grow. This year we continued to consolidate our existing programs and services to address these many and varied issues as well as launched several new initiatives.

We created new education campaigns addressing alcohol and other drug use, as well as homophobic violence, launched Pride in Diversity, Australia's first ever GLBT workplace equality program, and oversaw the production and distribution of a national education campaign about federal same-sex law reforms on behalf of the National LGBT Health Alliance. We also continued to develop, in consultation with a range of experts and partners in the mental health sector, our soon to be released *Mental Health and Wellbeing Strategy* and received our first dedicated funding for this work from NSW Health.

2009 was capped off by ACON being awarded the Human Rights Award for a Community Organisation by the Australian Human Rights Commission – a great tribute to the work of so many staff, board members and volunteers since ACON's foundation.

A person who was key to ACON's achievements for over a decade was Stevie Clayton, who resigned as ACON's CEO and officially departed on 30 September 2009. Nicolas Parkhill took over the reigns as CEO on 1 October 2009. We also farewelled another great ACON personality this year, when Mitzi Macintosh departed Bingay and our shores. Mitzi is a most amazing fundraiser, forum host, advocate and entertainer who devoted many hours promoting ACON's HIV prevention and health promotion messages and raising much needed funds to expand our work. We were pleased to be able to send her off in style with a Roast at the Paddington RSL.

Sadly, we also lost two longstanding ACON staff members, Stephen Gallagher and Jayne Liddy, both who brought much value to ACON and our communities through their dedication and commitment to ACON. They are missed.

This year we continued our journey towards the transition to a new operating company, ACON Health Limited, a public company limited by guarantee. A special general meeting of the members approved changes to the constitution which enabled the new company to secure Tax Concession Charity status and be endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient by the Australian Taxation Office. Those arrangements positioned the company to take over ACON's day to day operations from 1 July 2010. This was the result of over two years work by the board and senior management team, aided significantly by pro bono advice from Clayton Utz. This change enables ACON to work freely outside the boundaries of NSW and opens up opportunities for the future.

Happily we were able to confirm this year that the NSW government had allocated recurrent funding to enable ACON's head office to move from its current premises in Commonwealth Street. Significant work has been undertaken identifying ACON's accommodation needs, searching for suitable premises and discussing with our community partners possibilities of co-location and increased collaboration. It is hoped that we will be in our new home in early 2011.

Caring for our community over the last 25 years has meant building the health and wellbeing of the people who we proudly claim as our community – people who have been, and continue to be, denied opportunities and services on the basis of their sexuality, HIV status,

gender identity, sex work or drug use. As we look to the future in this milestone year, our vision remains clear – an end to the HIV/AIDS epidemic locally and globally; a healthy, resilient and inclusive GLBT community; and a society that protects and promotes human rights as the foundation for good health.

ACON's achievements over the last 25 years are the result of the vision of those people and community organisations that came together 25 years ago to establish a member based community organisation dedicated to HIV prevention and education, and the provision of care and support to people living with and affected by HIV. Over those 25 years ACON has been an integral part of the very successful NSW HIV partnership, supported strongly by NSW Health and which has received bipartisan political support – a credit to successive Ministers for Health and the Members of Parliament who have served the state over that time.

Most importantly ACON's achievements are the achievements of ACON's thousands of staff and volunteers over the last 25 years, including the many successive boards that have shown leadership as the face of the HIV epidemic has changed. We celebrate the contribution of everyone who has come together over the years to pursue ACON's vision and promote the health and wellbeing of our community.

We acknowledge ACON's current staff and volunteers and thank them for their amazing creativity and dedication to ACON's work. Of course we could not achieve what we do without a dedicated senior management team and group of volunteers on our board. We thank the board members for bringing their many and varied skills to the benefit of ACON, especially this year as they have formed the boards of the association and the company, which have been operating in parallel.

ACON is an amazing organisation and the following pages give you an insight into some of its great work of the last twelve months – and the last 25 years. We are proud to lead the organisation as it remembers and celebrates the last 25 years, and looks to the future. As you read these pages we hope you share that pride.



Nicolas Parkhill
Chief Executive Officer

Mark Orr
President

ACON Begins

The formation of ACON in early 1985 was an important step in Australia's response to HIV/AIDS which had begun in early 1982. In those first three years much of the blueprint was laid down. The National Health and Medical Research Council and the Blood Banks had reacted, the team at St Vincent's Hospital and the State Government had set up processes, and the gay community had set up the AIDS Action Committee (AAC) and the home-based care service that was to become Ankali.

With the help of the AAC, the first safe sex campaigns and leaflets were released – one by the State Government, one by the gay community – and the first public information meeting was organised by the AAC at the Paddington Town Hall. Other community based organisations were established - the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, the Community Support Network, People with HIV/AIDS. Liaison was established with State and Federal Health Departments, relevant doctors and so on.

All of these initiatives drew on the skills, organisations and networks that had grown up over the preceding twelve years of gay and lesbian activism in Sydney and Australia. The epidemic also furthered the links between the political activists and the gay sub-culture or cultures. There had been something of a history of hostility there, but HIV did not recognise such boundaries. The early challenge was simultaneously to get people to take HIV seriously, to respond to the safe sex messages, while calming the hysteria surrounding the epidemic. It was also to get accepted what some called 'the new public health', peer group based model as opposed to the old model of quarantine and messages handed down from on high.

**AIDS
PUBLIC MEETING**

AIDS is a serious and growing
problem for the Gay Community

**WHAT IS BEING DONE
WHAT ARE WE PLANNING
WHAT CAN WE DO...**

Organised by
AIDS ACTION COMMITTEE
AIDS COUNSELLING SERVICE
AIDS LEARNING EXCHANGE
BOBBY GOLDSMITH FOUNDATION
COMMUNITY SUPPORT NETWORK

DON'T
LET ME BE
THE LAST
TO KNOW!

THURSDAY 7th FEBRUARY '85
Teachers Federation Auditorium
300 Sussex St. Sydney 7.30 p.m.

In this context, the so-called 'Queensland babies' story broke in the middle of the late 1984 federal election campaign. Neal Blewitt, the Federal Health Minister at the time, acted rapidly to extend and formalise the government's response. This included establishing the Medical AIDS Task Force and the community and education oriented NACAIDS, the National Committee on AIDS on which the AAC and its Victorian counterpart had representation. Further, the federal government, in recognition of the roles they had and would need to play, decided to fund gay community based organisations.

Initially funding was limited and the government decided it would deal with only one body in each state and territory, not several competing ones. Within the gay community it had also become clear that greater communication and liaison was needed among ourselves. Thus it was that a meeting of the various groups was held in early 1985 and the decision taken to form ACON, with the affiliate structure that suited our needs.

Fortuitously, also in 1985, the NSW Government enacted the Associations Incorporation Act, which came into operation on 1 July 1985. This provided an appropriate legal structure for non-profit community organisations that had legal obligations such as leases, employees and the like. ACON was, it is believed, the first organisation in NSW to apply for such status.

Since those days, ACON has grown considerably and its emphasis has shifted more into service provision while education remains a high priority. However, the impact of the AAC and of ACON over the last 25 years cannot be overstated. The extent to which Australia has been successful in containing the incidence of HIV/AIDS is perhaps the greatest achievement of the AAC and ACON, of the other community organisations, and of the politicians, doctors and bureaucrats who embraced a new public health model and changed forever the way we care for our community.

*Reflections from Lex Watson, first Co-Convenor
of the AIDS Action Committee (1984 - 85) and
first President of ACON (1985 - 86)*



1985 flyer promoting the public meeting at which ACON was formed (above)



OUR HISTORY

Established in 1988 the ACON's Safe Sex Sluts are teams of volunteers who distribute condom packs and safe sex information at GLBT community events. They have handed out over two millions condoms.

ACON Safe Sex Sluts 2002 (above)

About Us

Who We Are

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

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

Most of our funding comes from the NSW Government but it doesn't cover all of our work, so many of our services are financed by other grants from the public and private sectors, fundraising activities and donations.

What We Do

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 / counselling
- Alcohol and other drug use
- Ageing
- Homophobic violence
- Domestic violence
- Community care
- Housing
- Workplace equality

Why We Do It

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.

Right across NSW, our team of caring and professional people genuinely understand and value the unique character of our communities and work hard to help build their health and wellbeing.

Our Vision

- 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



ACON's first Candlelight Memorial, 1986



ACON Candlelight Memorial, 2006

The Best and Worst of Times

When I talk about the early years of the HIV epidemic, I often use that famous quote from Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*. "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the season of light, it was the season of darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair." And so it goes.

25 years ago, Australia was still experiencing a wave of AIDS hysteria. Discrimination against people with HIV and groups thought to be at high risk to HIV like gay men, sex workers and drug users was rife, and it was relentless. Back in 1985 we didn't know how many people were infected with HIV in Australia. The HIV virus that caused AIDS had only recently been discovered. A test for the HIV virus was just becoming available. But with no treatments, little understanding of the virus itself and few protections for people who tested positive – taking the HIV test was a difficult and even dangerous step to take.

The gay community was understandably scared and despairing, as our friends and loved ones got sick and died in growing numbers. On top of the discrimination and stigma that gay men had endured for so long, when AIDS struck, it seemed like the cruelest of fates. Like many others, I feared our community would be wiped out. Other marginalised communities, particularly sex workers and injecting drug users, were being villified as well. So in many respects, it was the worst of times. This was the picture in which ACON emerged.

Our community could have buckled under this pressure, but we didn't – far from it in fact. We rallied, we lit candles, we marched, we made quilts, we lobbied and, most importantly of all, we learned. We learned everything we could to help our work as activists. We mobilised our communities and we welcomed women and men from all walks of life to fight back with us. Most importantly, we didn't forget how to live, how to have fun, and how to celebrate our community and our diversity. That was so important for keeping morale up.

From 1986, ACON grew rapidly over the next several years. Many more staff, ACON branches and a whole host of information and support programs were set up. But growth for growth's sake isn't worth much. It's what's delivered to our communities, to people with HIV and to wider society, that counts. What counts is that the gay and other affected communities grew stronger, not weaker, during the first decade of ACON's work. We built up an impressive range of innovative education and support programs. We built a strong relationship with the media to counter the nonsensical views of some politicians and an impressive range of crackpots and pseudo experts. And we built bridges to all major political parties. In fact, we helped build the bi-partisan political approach to AIDS which benefited not only the NSW response, but also the national response.

25 years is a long time. Few of us involved in the early years of ACON would have thought that HIV would still be with us 25 years later, that so many people would die, and that so many battles would have to be fought, lost and won. Ultimately, the success and strength of ACON today mirrors the success and strength of our community. Today our communities are stronger than ever, we are making unstoppable advances towards equality, and advancing our human rights. We're celebrating our diversity and creativity as strongly as ever. We're committed to caring for each other. So let me conclude by saying we should be very proud of what our communities have done over the past 25 years. But equally, we mustn't stop now. Let's be determined and recommit to doing even more in the future.

Extracts from a speech delivered at ACON's 25th Anniversary Reception by ACON's first CEO Bill Whittaker (1986 – 90)



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.

Transgender People

We help transgender people to improve their health and wellbeing by providing a range of health promotion services including counselling, housing support, and alcohol and drug programs.

Young GLBT People

We help young people (u26) in our community to improve their health and connect with other young people by providing a range of programs, workshops, resources and events.

Mature GLBT People

We help mature aged 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 + 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

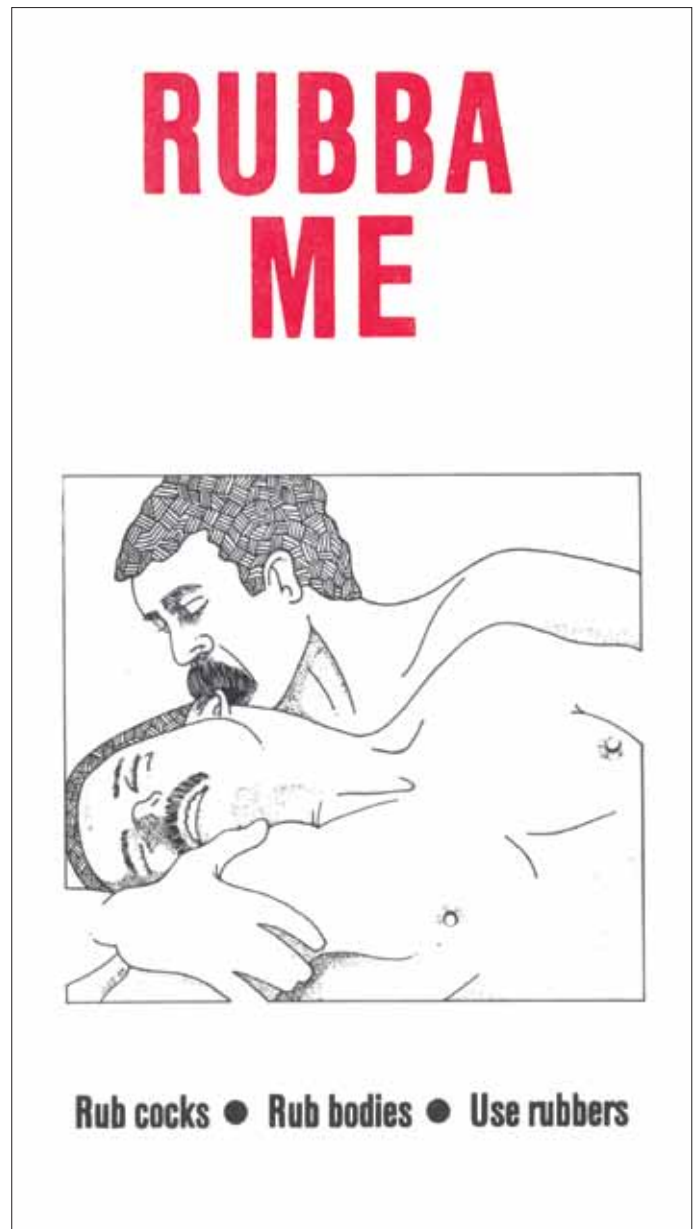
Through the Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP), we provide sexual health information and support services across NSW to escorts as well as private, brothel and street-based workers.

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.



ACON's first HIV prevention campaign Rubba Me, 1986.



1987 flyer promoting ACON's first lesbian HIV service.

Positive Outcomes

When ACON began responding to the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS 25 years ago, sorrow and grief were overwhelming our community. The virus was consuming thousands of lives with sometimes more than 50 obituaries appearing in a single weekly edition of the Sydney Star Observer.

Dealing with this horrendous aspect of the epidemic quickly became a fundamental part of ACON's work. Staff and volunteers cared for people as they became sick, helping them to die with dignity while supporting their family and friends.

For many people, this will be the way they remember ACON. Indeed, the physical and emotional support provided to thousands of people by the then AIDS Council of NSW is an important and moving part of our community's heritage of which the people involved should be exceedingly proud and for which we should all be incredibly grateful.

However, there are other significant legacies which ACON has played a vital part in delivering. In the late 1980s, under the leadership of ACON, the NSW gay community achieved a remarkable thing. Within the space of a few years ACON's health modification campaigns facilitated a wholesale change in the way we have sex and how we talk about sex.

It's worth pondering just what happened. Essentially, HIV/AIDS can be stopped in its tracks by the behaviour of people with HIV or at risk of HIV. But within the gay community of the 1970s and early 1980s, 'behaviour change' were dirty words (think electroconvulsive aversion therapy previously used on gay men).

The solution proposed by homophobes – stopping gay sex – was about as likely to succeed as stopping heterosexuals having sex. And it wasn't necessary. Just like needle users only had to avoid blood being shared, all that gay men had to do was ensure that the sex we had – all of us had – avoided harm. The concept of harm minimisation in activities risky for health is one of a number of advances in public health bequeathed to the world by HIV/AIDS.

To be effective, behaviour change had to appeal to gay men. When talking about an activity in which gay men indulge because it's enjoyable and expresses intimacy – yet which is stigmatised

by many outsiders – ACON understood the need for a positive approach to sex. Safe sex needed to become intuitive – as in a culture of safe sex – so that it was normal for condoms to be used, normal to take steps to avoid virus transmission.

To devise campaigns and programs which would work, we needed to understand why gay men had sex and what it is was they were thinking when having sex. We had to understand the contexts in which gay sex takes place. From the start, ACON worked with researchers to start answering those questions and designed gay men's education campaigns based on that knowledge and evidence. It's a model which is still used by ACON today, not just in relation to HIV prevention, but also in terms of its work around gay men's health, lesbian health, mental health, alcohol and drugs, and ageing.

But this wasn't the only new perspective on health being promoted by ACON in response to HIV/AIDS. The old approach to public health had been to identify the infected and isolate them for the good of the community. Along with the responses of other community organisations to the epidemic, ACON recognised the need for a new approach to public health based on human rights. ACON understood the importance of everyone taking responsibility for their health and for the health of those around them. Putting responsibility on those thought to be HIV positive would have missed many who had the virus but had never been tested, and it would have divided the community.

ACON also recognised very quickly that empowering people with HIV, and those at risk of HIV, stood the best chance of effectively containing the virus. ACON understood that people who feel good about themselves, who understand their sexuality and who have control over their lives have the best chance of effectively protecting themselves and their sexual partners, and caring for those affected by HIV. ACON developed holistic programs for gay youth, Asian gay men and mature aged gays. ACON also worked with other community organisations like Mardi Gras to build our community up, to make ourselves proud of who we are, to make a real contribution to the health of the broader community by improving our own physical and mental health and, thereby, the health of those around us.

Finally, ACON was instrumental in organising a collective response to HIV/AIDS and of working collaboratively with government, with researchers and with the health care sector. Globally, Australia's partnership model has been regarded as a real success and an inspiration to others. Ahead of other major gay centres, Sydney has been able to stabilise its HIV epidemic and ACON is continually held in high regard around the world for its pragmatic, often cutting edge approach to improving GLBT health and wellbeing.

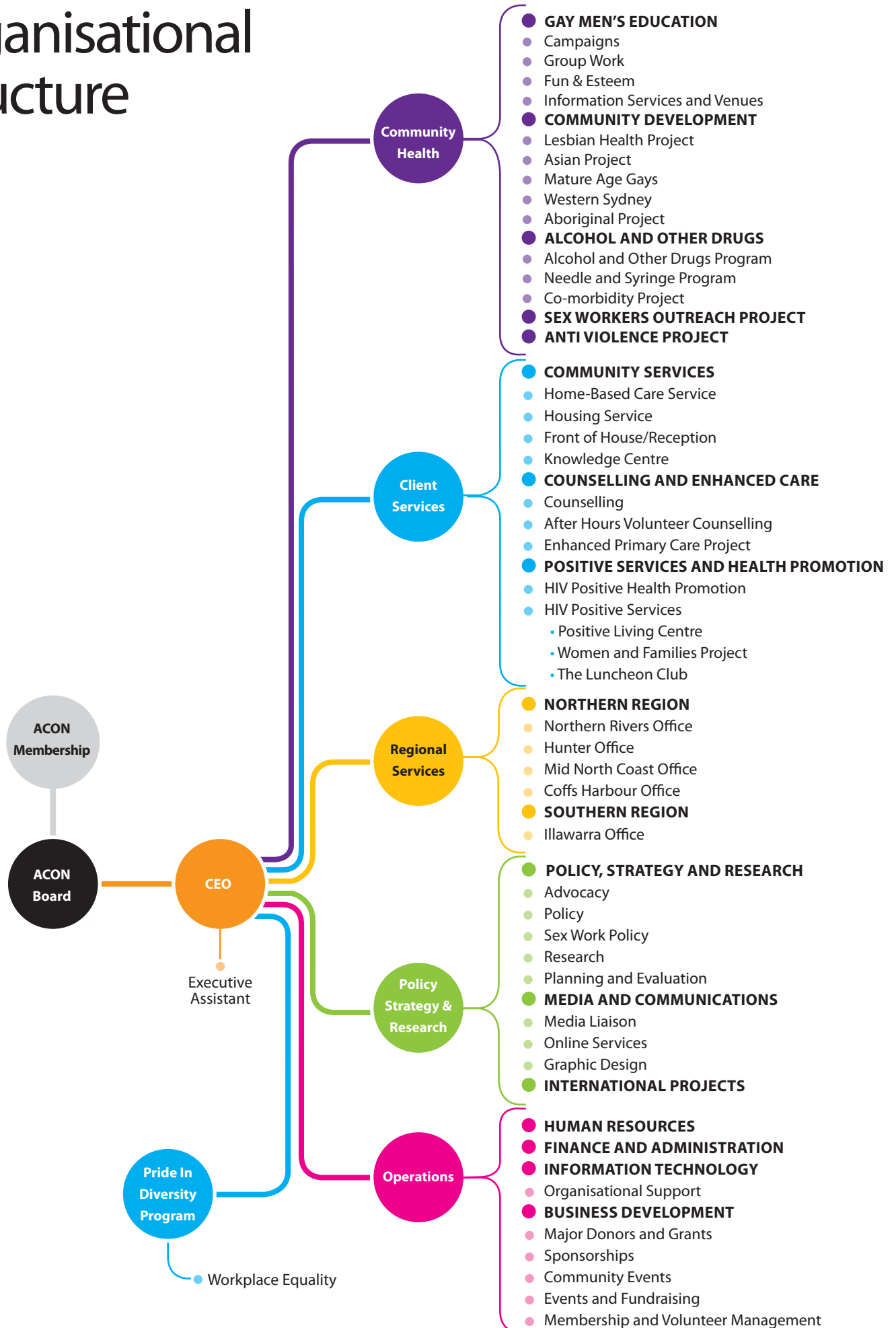
This is an extract from an article written by long-serving ACON Board member David Buchanan SC for a special Sydney Star Observer feature published in August 2010 to mark ACON's 25th anniversary commemorations.



Detail from an image by David McDiarmid commissioned by ACON in 1992 to promote HIV awareness and understanding (left)



Organisational Structure



People Power

I know it's been said before, but I'm going to say it again. The people who have worked at and for ACON over the last 25 years are amazing and their contributions to building the health and wellbeing of the GLBT community and people affected by HIV cannot, and should not, be understated.

I'm just one of thousands of staff and volunteers who have held a dying man's hand, put together safe sex packs, or helped someone having problems with drug or alcohol use at Sleaze or Mardi Gras. Maybe they stood in an information booth at Fair Day, sold red ribbons on World AIDS Day, or took the dog for a walk for someone who could no longer manage to do it. Perhaps they slung a Safe Sex Slut sash over their shoulder and distributed condoms to a waiting crowd.

Maybe they counselled a young woman or man finding their way to coming out, or located safe and secure housing for someone experiencing harassment, or even violence, because of their sexuality or HIV status. They could have badgered politicians and health bureaucrats to get a program funded or helped educate international visitors about some of the more adventurous activities of gay men. Perhaps they waited on tables at Bingay or helped prepare a much needed meal for a disadvantaged person with HIV.

There have been countless ways in which ACON's staff, Board members, volunteers and supporters have contributed to the work of ACON over the last 25 years and each and every one of them deserves our heartfelt thanks for caring enough to make our community a better place.

In the 21 years I've been associated with ACON, as both a paid and unpaid worker, I've seen the organisation grow, celebrate great achievements, rise to great challenges and constantly push toward an HIV-free, politically, legally and morally just society. One thing has always remained the same though, and that's the core belief that what we're doing is valuable and essential.

It's this belief which powers the people who work and volunteer for ACON. In the early days of the organisation, ACON was not an easy place to work. The sickness and death caused by HIV was devastating and the impact on workers and volunteers was often severe. Thankfully, the horror of those early years was eased by medical advances. Nevertheless, ACON's commitment to fostering a culture of care within our community has remained strong courtesy of the conviction and hard work of our staff and volunteers.

While it's been 25 years of extraordinary commitment and dedication, it has to be said that there's also been a fair amount of fun along the way! There's been some mighty characters through this joint, let me tell you. We even have a phrase to describe the many occasions of sublime ridiculousness that can only come from working in what is best described as an 'unconventional' workplace. It's called an 'ACON moment' and they make working or volunteering at ACON a truly memorable experience.

In another 25 years, I sincerely hope that our core reason for being – HIV – is no longer the issue it continues to be today. However, there will no doubt be many other issues which will impact on the health and wellbeing of our community, and I'm sure another group of dedicated and passionate people will still be raising the flag, pushing for reform and enjoying their ACON moments.

This is an extract from an article written by long-serving ACON staff member and volunteer Tess Ziems for a special Sydney Star Observer feature published in August 2010 to mark ACON's 25th anniversary commemorations.



Home-based care service volunteers, 1986 (below)



ACON Staff



ACON staff at the Big Day In annual staff training seminar, 2010

In loving memory of...

We mourned the passing this year of the following ACON staff and volunteers. Thank you all for making a difference in the lives of so many.



Stephen Gallagher

1955 - 2010

As an ACON staff member and volunteer, Stephen made a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of the GLBT community.



Jayne Liddy

1960 - 2009

Jayne will be sadly missed by all whose lives she touched at ACON over the past eight years. Her kindness, generosity and humour has touched the lives of many.



Noel Anthony Shinkwin (Irish)

1936 - 2009

Luncheon Club member and volunteer. A good friend, he will be sadly missed.



Michelle Hull (Shelley)

1962 - 2009

CSN volunteer and committee member since 1991. A dynamic and much loved community member. Party girl, wild one, mother and friend, a beautiful spirit.



Brian Treloar

1933 - 2010

Affectionately known to his friends as Black Barbara he will be especially missed by the ACON packing team, MAG members and staff who he entertained with his cheeky humour and stories for over 11 years.



Eileen Wilson (Mum)

1929 - 2010

Eileen was a long time volunteer of the Luncheon Club and started her generous work way back in 1994. Many clients regarded her as a mother figure, affectionately referring to her as "Mum".



John Yakalis

1959 - 2009

John was one of the longest serving volunteers with ACON's Community Support Network (CSN) and will be sadly missed by his colleagues and clients.

Key Statistics

- **800+** staff and volunteers
- **9** operational sites (4 in Sydney + 5 in regional NSW)
- **330,000** condom packs distributed
- **295,000** units of sterile injecting equipment distributed
- **250,000** unique website visitors (across acon.org.au and all micro sites)



ACON Website



This Is Oz Website



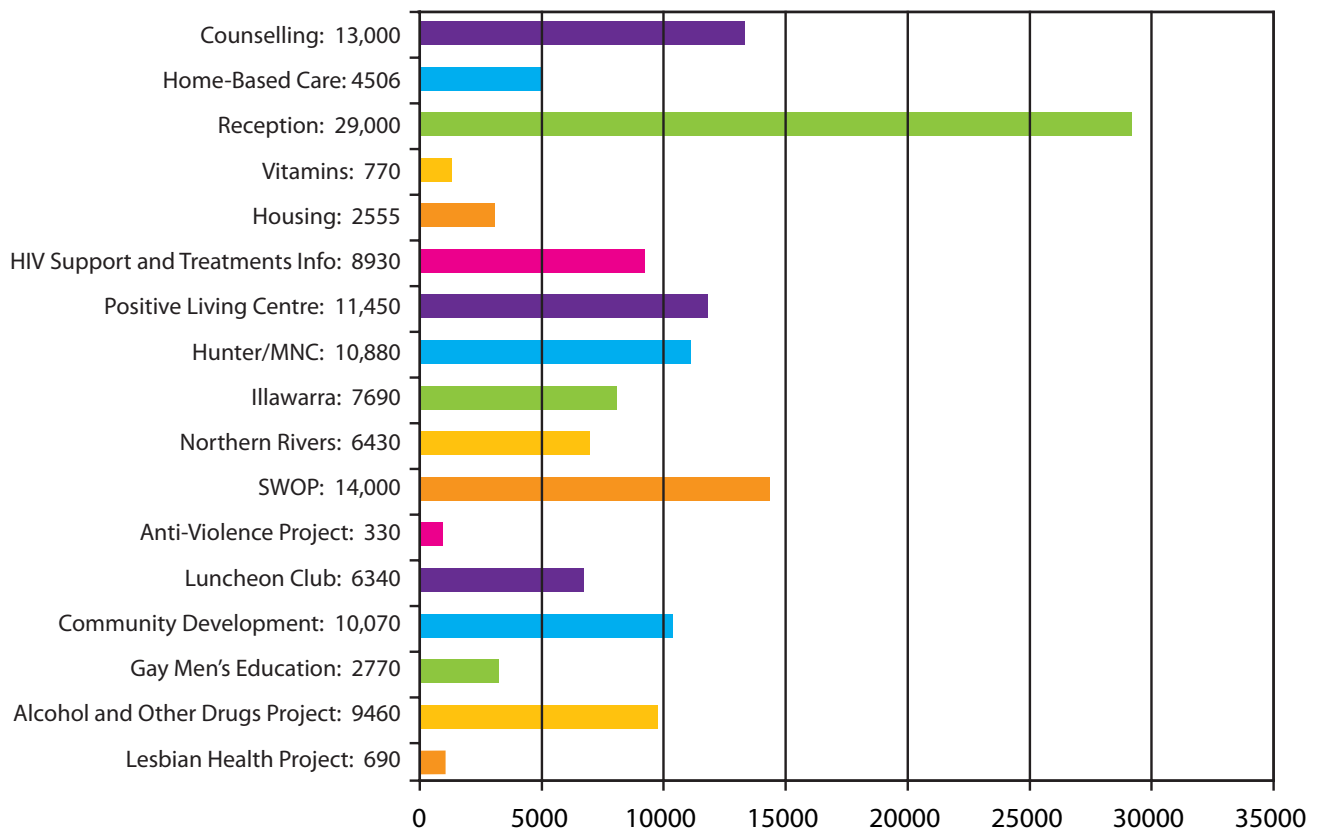
Slip It On Website

- **327** HIV notifications in NSW in 2009



NSW HIV notifications from 1981 - 2009. Source: National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research

• **139,000** 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 to the nearest five.

• **93%** of client based services rated excellent/good



Source: 2009 ACON Customer Satisfaction Survey - 506 respondents to survey

Year In Review

During this landmark year, ACON's work continued to produce 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 327 new HIV notifications in 2009 compared with 323 in 2008, including a decrease among men who have sex with men from 75% of notifications to 72%. NSW is one of just a few places in the world where HIV transmission rates have remained stable for such a long period of time. This reflects well on the education and prevention strategies developed and used 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.

The stability of NSW's HIV transmission rate also reflects well on the safe sex practices of gay men in NSW, most of who continue to use condoms most of the time when they're having sex. However, every case of HIV transmission is one too many and ACON is focused on moving beyond stability to significantly reducing HIV transmission rates in NSW. This will involve increasing the use of condoms as well as the rate of HIV and STI testing among gay men in NSW.

To this end, *Slip It On* 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. Launched in September and featuring pop art-inspired bananas, the campaign aims to make using condoms more appealing for gay men by working in partnership with fashionable brands to promote safe sex.

Another major campaign, *Beforeplay*, was created for February's Mardi Gras season. Using striking black and white images of real community members, the campaign was aimed at helping gay men and lesbians reduce their chances of picking up and passing on HIV and other sexually transmissible infections. The campaign encouraged people to think ahead and be prepared before sex, set boundaries around drug use, and engage in effective communication with sexual partners.

Addressing increasing rates of syphilis among gay men, particularly in inner-city Sydney, was the focus of our *Syphilis Is Spreading – Get Tested Now* campaign. Launched in February, the campaign was adopted nationally after being endorsed by AFAO and other state-based agencies specialising in HIV and gay men's health.

Providing care and support for people living with HIV is another of ACON's primary areas of focus. Throughout the year we provided a comprehensive range of services for both men and women including home-based care, housing assistance, support groups, treatments information, workshops, meals and complementary therapies. In partnership with the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, we continued to manage The Luncheon Club, a health promotion service for disadvantaged people with HIV. The outstanding work of Luncheon Club staff, volunteers and clients was recognised when the Governor-General Quentin Bryce visited the service on World AIDS Day on December 1.



Human Rights Commission President Catherine Branson presents its Community Organisation award to ACON President Mark Orr



Slip It On campaign launch at Martin Place



Governor General Quentin Bryce accepts a gift at the World AIDS Day Luncheon

In relation to our broader work in GLBT health and wellbeing, we continued to provide a comprehensive range of programs and services in key areas such as sexual health, mental health, alcohol and other drugs, street safety, domestic violence and housing. We also implemented a range of new initiatives. Supported by NSW Police and the City of Sydney, our *Speak Up* campaign encouraged victims and witnesses of homophobic violence to report such incidents to demonstrate the need for authorities to better protect our community.

In partnership with Feb Fast, we launched *Party Safely With The Big Heads*, an online health promotion campaign to address binge drinking among same-sex attracted young people. In association with the Same-Sex Domestic Violence Interagency we presented a conference in Sydney to help workers in the health, social services, legal and law enforcement sectors to better understand and respond to people experiencing SSDV.

Throughout the year, ACON continued to advocate on a range of issues affecting the GLBT community and people living with HIV. On behalf of the National LGBT Health Alliance, we produced *Wear It With Pride*, a Cannes Lion nominated national education campaign to help GLBT community members better understand the same-sex law reforms introduced by the Federal Government in 2008.

In February, we launched Pride In Diversity, Australia's first employer support program for the inclusion of GLBT people in the workplace. Developed in partnership with Diversity Council Australia and Stonewall UK, the program has attracted members such as IBM, KPMG, ING Australia, Goldman Sachs JBWere, Lend Lease, the Department of Defence, the Australian Federal Police and Telstra.

October saw ACON coordinating a visit to Sydney by the world's only openly gay royal, Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil who visited Australia to generate awareness about improving HIV prevention in India and the Asia Pacific region through the decriminalisation of homosexuality. The visit was partly funded by the Australia-India Council.

This year also marked the departure of long-serving ACON CEO Stevie Clayton. During her nine years as CEO, Stevie made a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of our community and we thank her for her hard work, dedication and commitment to ACON, people with HIV and the GLBT community.

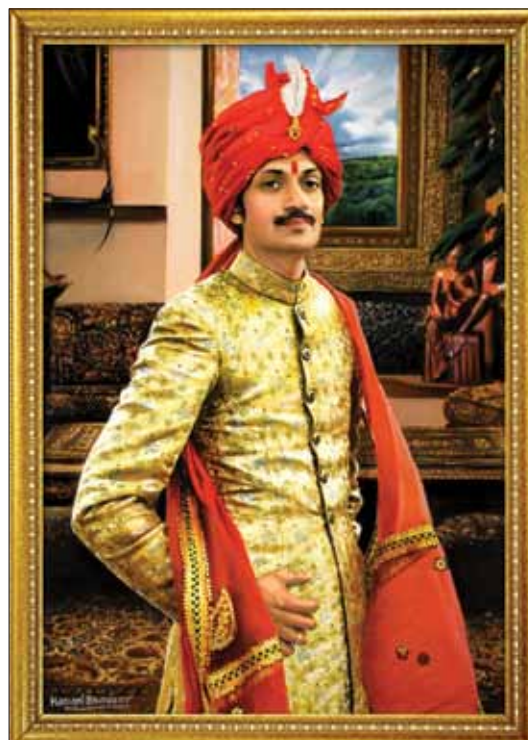
Finally, the significant contribution made by ACON staff, Board members, volunteers and supporters to building the health and wellbeing of our community over the last quarter of a century was recognised this year by the Australian Human Rights Commission when it awarded ACON with its 2009 Human Rights Community Award (Organisation), for promotion and advancement of human rights in the Australian community. According to Commission President Catherine Branson, "the work undertaken by...ACON is truly inspiring, and we hope this recognition will assist ACON to continue its good work in the community."



Detail from a *Wear It With Pride* poster



The Hon. Michael Kirby and Human Rights Commission President Catherine Branson help launch *Pride In Diversity*



HH Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil

HIV and STI Prevention Campaigns

We help reduce the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs) by educating gay men and other men who have sex with men (MSM) about how to avoid picking up or passing on HIV and other STIs. We do this by developing, producing and promoting information campaigns and distributing a range of associated educational resources.

Highlights of 09/10

Slip It On

Featuring pop art-inspired bananas and a tagline of “Slip it On”, this campaign was launched in September and broke new ground by enlisting various fashion and lifestyle brands to promote safe sex by having the campaign’s *Slip It On* logo appear in their marketing and publicity for selected products. With its cheeky nod to the familiar red tips found on some Australian-grown bananas, this campaign was developed by Frost*Design and was focused on extending the safe sex message from beyond gay venues and events and get it onto products that gay men use at home. The campaign was run several times throughout the year and was promoted in local GLBT media and on selected gay websites. Posters and postcards were also displayed in selected sex-on-premises venues and licensed venues, and a dedicated campaign website was built (www.acondom.org) featuring an amusing online game. The campaign was a finalist in Avant Card’s annual awards and New York’s Museum of Sex included *Slip It On* collateral in a unique exhibition about the history of condoms.



Slip It On campaign poster



Beforeplay poster



You Just Don't Know campaign poster

Beforeplay

The work of one of Australia's most celebrated erotic photographers featured in our health promotion campaign for this year's Mardi Gras season. Called *Beforeplay*, the campaign was developed by Frost*Design and featured real community members captured in various erotic poses by renowned Sydney-based photographer Paul Freeman (*Bondi, Outback*). The four-week campaign was designed to help gay men and lesbians reduce their chances of picking up and passing on HIV and other STIs by thinking ahead and being prepared before sex, setting boundaries around drug use, and engaging in effective communication with sexual partners. 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 during February and March.

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 09/10 in gay publications and venues.



Detail from Safe Sex Summer campaign poster, 1987



OUR HISTORY

For 25 years, ACON has produced and promoted hundreds of campaigns aimed at increasing awareness and reducing the transmission of HIV and other STIs. Many of these campaigns broke new ground in terms of public health practice and many proved controversial. Regardless, they have all played an integral role in building the health and wellbeing of our community.



Screen shot from *The Horizon*

The Horizon

Finding new ways to engage young gay men with safe sex messages was the motivation behind this innovative campaign produced in partnership with popular GLBT website and online community samesame.com.au. To attract users and subscribers, the site commissioned production of Australia's first online gay series *The Horizon*. ACON sponsored the project on the basis that ACON messages and product placement were included in each of the eight episodes of the series. Safe-sex messages were integrated into storylines and scripts, ACON posters were featured in appropriate scenes, ACON safe-sex packs were used by characters, and drug use was depicted in a candid but responsible manner. The series was broadcast throughout October and November and was promoted on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter and online forums. It attracted more than 130,000 unique viewers over the entire series with up to 20,000 unique viewers per episode.



Syphilis is Spreading campaign poster

Syphilis is Spreading. Get Tested Now

Launched in February, this campaign was developed to address increasing rates of syphilis among gay men, particularly in inner-city Sydney. With a tagline of 'Syphilis is spreading – get tested now', the campaign encouraged gay men to get tested for syphilis at least twice a year and to notify their partners if they have been infected. Targeting gay men with HIV, sexually adventurous gay men and men who have group sex, the campaign also provided information on symptoms, prevention and treatment. The campaign was developed in partnership with the STIs In Gay Men Action Group (STIGMA) and was closely aligned with the National Gay Men's Syphilis Action Plan developed by the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology and Clinical Research. The campaign was promoted in key GLBT media, in clubs, pubs and sex on premises venues, and to GPs and other relevant clinicians. Initially developed for NSW, the campaign was endorsed by the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations for use by other state-based agencies specialising in HIV and gay men's health. In May, an additional execution was developed to address a significant increase in gonorrhoea notifications amongst gay men in NSW.



Sleeping with Many campaign poster

Because Sleeping With One Person Is Sleeping With Many

Launched in September, this campaign was developed by NSW Health to increase awareness about STIs and encourage people to practice safe sex and get tested for STIs. The campaign was adapted by ACON and STIGMA to increase its relevance to gay men. The campaign was promoted for four weeks in key GLBT media.

Living with HIV

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 09/10

Support for Men

- Conducted four Genesis weekend retreats for 45 men newly diagnosed with HIV.
- Conducted monthly Nexus discussion groups for gay men newly diagnosed with HIV, averaging 8 participants per group.
- Conducted 11 After Hours support groups for men with HIV averaging 5 participants per group.
- Conducted four Planet Positive social evenings for people with HIV, their friends and carers with an average of 113 attendees per evening.
- Conducted two series of Healthy Life +, a 12 week gym based wellness program, with a total of 25 participants completing the program.
- Trained 24 new peer facilitators over three two-day programs.

Support for Women and Families

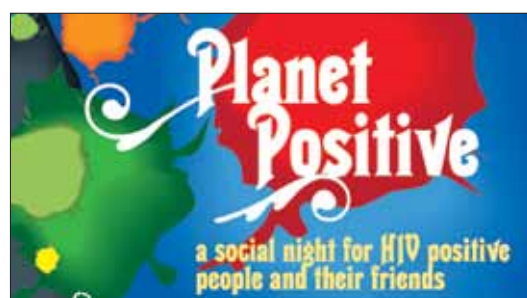
- Supported 75 clients.
- Maintained partnerships with Pozhets, Sydney Children's Hospital Pediatric HIV Service, South West Area Health Service, Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, Family Planning NSW, Lemon Grove Unit and the Multicultural HIV/Hep C Service.
- Conducted monthly Women's Days at Pine St Gallery 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.
- Conducted monthly support days for women featuring activities such as walking, cooking/nutrition and relaxation with up to eight participants per month.
- Distributed information packs on various health issues such as cancer prevention, self care, sexual health and services accessibility.
- Conducted four workshops in partnership with The Haven and Pozhets.



Positive women at the Mardi Gras parade, 1997



Guests at the World AIDS Day luncheon for the Governor General



Detail from Planet Positive advertisement



CSN's 25th anniversary celebrations (above)



OUR HISTORY

For 25 years, ACON has provided a range of vital services for people with HIV. In the early days of the epidemic, we cared for people with AIDS-related illnesses, helping them to die with dignity while supporting family and friends. The introduction of Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy in the 1990s allowed people with HIV to live with the virus and so our programs changed to become more focused on holistic health and wellbeing, as they still are today. About 10,000 people with HIV are currently living in NSW and about 80% are gay men.

CSN volunteers, 1985 (above)

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.
- Developed new online content on negotiating clinical care, treatments and transmission, hep C co-infection, understanding HIV, smoking cessation, mental health, peer support, adjustment to diagnosis, treatment, alcohol and other drugs, STIs, pregnancy and fertility, dental care, travelling with HIV, ageing, relationships, disclosure, vitamins, immigration and socialisation.

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. CSN was originally set up as a separate community-based organisation in 1984 but has worked within ACON from the late 1980s. This year ACON became legally responsible for CSN's operations.

- Delivered 4560 occasions of service to clients.
- Delivered 5950 hours of support to over 170 clients by more than 90 volunteer carers.
- Assessed 8 new clients.
- Trained 36 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.

- Provided short term accommodation for 24 people with HIV.
- Assisted 157 people with HIV with advice and advocacy in relation to their housing needs.

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.

- Provided services to 978 clients including 103 new clients.
- Provided over 11,440 occasions of service.
- Extended hours of operation from 4pm to 7:30pm between Tuesday and Thursday to improve access to services for people who work.
- Held an Open Day to showcase our services.
- Provided over 1470 complementary therapy services. 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.
- Continued life coaching program
- Served over 3,900 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, develop new skills and connect with relevant healthcare services.

- Provided 5720 lunches
- Provided discount groceries to more than 200 club members
- Provided 38 health promotion workshops
- Hosted a World AIDS Day luncheon for club members attended by Governor General Quentin Bryce

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 65 people for the service
- Provided over 2,600 products



OUR HISTORY

ACON has provided sexual health services for gay and bisexual men since 1985. Over that time, thousands of men have attended our workshops and events, and millions of safe sex packs have been made and distributed. While some of these services have proved controversial, they have all played an integral role in addressing the transmission of HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs).

Detail from *Mates* campaign poster, 2005

Men's Health

ACON helps 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 09/10

- Produced and distributed over 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, and installed boxes in a range of new venues.
- Continued to work with sex on premises venues (SOPVs) to ensure their compliance with the ACON Code of Practice for SOPVs. This included an evaluation of the Code of Practice and the training of SOPV staff in responding to drug-related harms.
- Made over 800 visits to more than 80 venues, clinics, and community events to distribute campaign information and safe sex equipment.
- Increased our outreach to a number of smaller gay parties and events to ensure better provision of information and safe sex packs to community members.
- Distributed 600 'play packs' to men organising private sex parties containing condoms, lube and safe sex information.
- Conducted 10 workshops for gay men on HIV, sexual health, community, mental health and alcohol and other drugs. These workshops were attended by over 110 participants.
- Developed and produced *Finding Mr Right*, a new workshop for single gay men on relationships.
- Provided over 800 occasions of service to clients seeking information about their sexual health.
- Facilitated workshops or presentations for nearly 430 participants throughout the year on issues relating to 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 from *Beforeplay* safe pack



Detail from *Finding Mr Right* workshop advertisement

Women's Health

ACON helps 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 09/10

- Produced and launched *The Birds & The Birds*, Australia's first comprehensive sexual health resource for young same-sex attracted women. The resource was created by ACON's Young Women's Project in a community development, peer based framework.
- Distributed a range of health promotion resources at community events, venues and online including a sexual health message as part of ACON's *Beforeplay* Mardi Gras campaign.
- Recruited for and ran the Sydney Women's Sexual Health Survey in partnership with the University of New South Wales.
- Piloted The Hen House, ACON's first peer education program for lesbians and other same-sex attracted women aged 26 years and over. This program was funded with a grant from the Aurora Foundation.
- Produced five large scale sexual health workshops with a range of community partners.
- Provided group therapy programs for women addressing intimacy and anger at our Sydney branch.
- Provided referrals to over 450 women seeking lesbian friendly health services.



The Birds and the Birds cover artwork



Detail from Beforeplay campaign poster

- Ran the monthly C-Word support and information group for lesbians living with cancer and their partners. This program is presented in partnership with the NSW Cancer Council.
- 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.
- Maintained and updated women's health information on the ACON website.
- Participated in the National Australian Women's Health Conference in Hobart.

We Want Safe Sex... Now! campaign poster, 1991

WE WANT SAFE SEX ... NOW!

OUR HISTORY

While ACON has provided services for women with HIV since 1985, our lesbian health services were fairly limited until we established our Lesbian Health Project in 2001. Women now make up one third of our counselling clients, hundreds of women regularly attend our various groups and workshops, and lesbian health needs are integrated into our alcohol and drug programs, our mental health services, our anti-violence programs and our work around GLBT ageing.

for all sorts of reasons

Mental Health

ACON helps people in our community 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 09/10

- Assisted 433 clients with mental health issues. 30% of clients accessing mental health services were people with HIV.
- Provided 166 clients with one-on-one short term counselling (up to nine daytime sessions).
- Provided 77 clients with one-on-one long term counselling (weekly after-hours sessions for up to six months), an increase of 31 clients on 08/09.
- Assisted 14 clients through our New Diagnosis Priority Service. This service ensures people newly diagnosed with HIV get counselling within 24 hours of contacting ACON.
- Assisted 113 clients with complex health needs to plan and coordinate their care through our Enhanced Primary Care Project, an increase of 53 clients on 08/09.
- Facilitated six 12-week therapeutic groups for men and women on topics including depression, intimacy and anger.
- Co-facilitated two six-week groups exploring the relationship between intimacy and substance use.
- Received funding to commence a statewide Volunteer and Online Counselling Project in regional areas including Northern Rivers and the Illawarra.
- Increased occasions of service through Intake and Assessment from 836 to 1438, a 45% increase on 08/09.

- Recruited six new counsellors to volunteer their professional services in the After Hours Counselling Program, maintaining the current 16 member team.
- Provided two professional development weekends to support the work of our professional volunteer counsellors.
- Developed ACON's first-ever three year Mental Health Strategy. To be launched in late-2010, this comprehensive plan will guide ACON's mental health work from 2010 – 2013.
- Secured funding for two new projects. \$50,000 was allocated by NSW Health to begin the development of *Peace of Mind*, a project aimed at increasing awareness in the GLBT community about mental health issues and support services. A second project aims to expand ACON's mental health service delivery by securing new partnerships and funding sources.



New Diagnosis Priority Service ad



ACON offers group therapy programs

ACON's counselling team, 2004



OUR HISTORY

ACON began providing counselling services in the late 1980s. The severe impact of HIV/AIDS on our community during the early days of the epidemic meant our counselling service was regularly overwhelmed with people needing help who were affected by HIV. Since then, the client base of our counselling service has broadened to encompass people from the broader GLBT community.



OUR HISTORY

ACON began providing a Needle and Syringe Program (NSP) in the early 1990s to help prevent HIV transmission among injecting drug users. NSP's continue to play an integral role in keeping HIV rates among drug users in NSW extremely low. In the mid 2000s, we expanded our AOD work to address the use of licit and illicit substances in the broader GLBT community.

Detail from lesbian safe injecting campaign poster, 1993 (above and insert)

Alcohol and Other Drugs

We help people in our community to reduce the harms associated with alcohol and drug use or to stop using alcohol and other drugs (AOD) 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 09/10

- Provided over 300,000 units of sterile injecting equipment through our five NSP outlets.
- Provided 15 community events with the services of the ACON Rovers. The Rovers are teams of specially trained volunteers who attend parties and events to help people who may be experiencing problems due to alcohol and other drug use. 60 new Rovers were recruited and trained in Sydney and nine in the Northern Rivers.
- Continued to run our Substance Support Program. This service provides a range of free in-house GLBT-focused counselling and support services for people with problematic drug use.
- Launched *Party Safely with the Big Heads*, an interactive online game targeted at 18–26 year olds with harm minimisation information on drug and alcohol use, personal safety issues and safe sex practices.
- Developed and distributed *Partners, Friends and Family*, a resource with information on supporting people who are affected by substance use.
- Developed and distributed *Information for Workers*, a resource for mainstream AOD service providers with information about working with GLBT people, their partners, friends and families.
- Conducted GLBT cultural competency training. This training was delivered to external drug and alcohol service providers throughout the Sydney and Hunter regions to help them improve service delivery to GLBT clients and communities.
- Developed and commenced implementing a comprehensive co-morbidity training program aimed at improving the capacity of ACON staff to work with people affected by both mental health and substance use issues.
- Conducted two community forums about the treatment options available for substance use.
- Conducted two AOD information and overdose recognition and response workshops for community members, licensed premises staff and sex on premises venue staff.
- Re-established the NSP peer volunteer program in the Sydney NSP. The peer volunteer program develops the health promotion knowledge and skills of the participants.
- Presented on the work of ACON at various conferences including the Australasian Society for HIV Medicine Conference, Australasian Professional Society on Alcohol and other Drugs Conference, International Harm Reduction Conference and the International Congress on AIDS in Asia and the Pacific Conference.



Partners, Friends and Family cover artwork



Party Safely With The Big Heads mascots with young people at Fair Day 2010

Anti-Violence



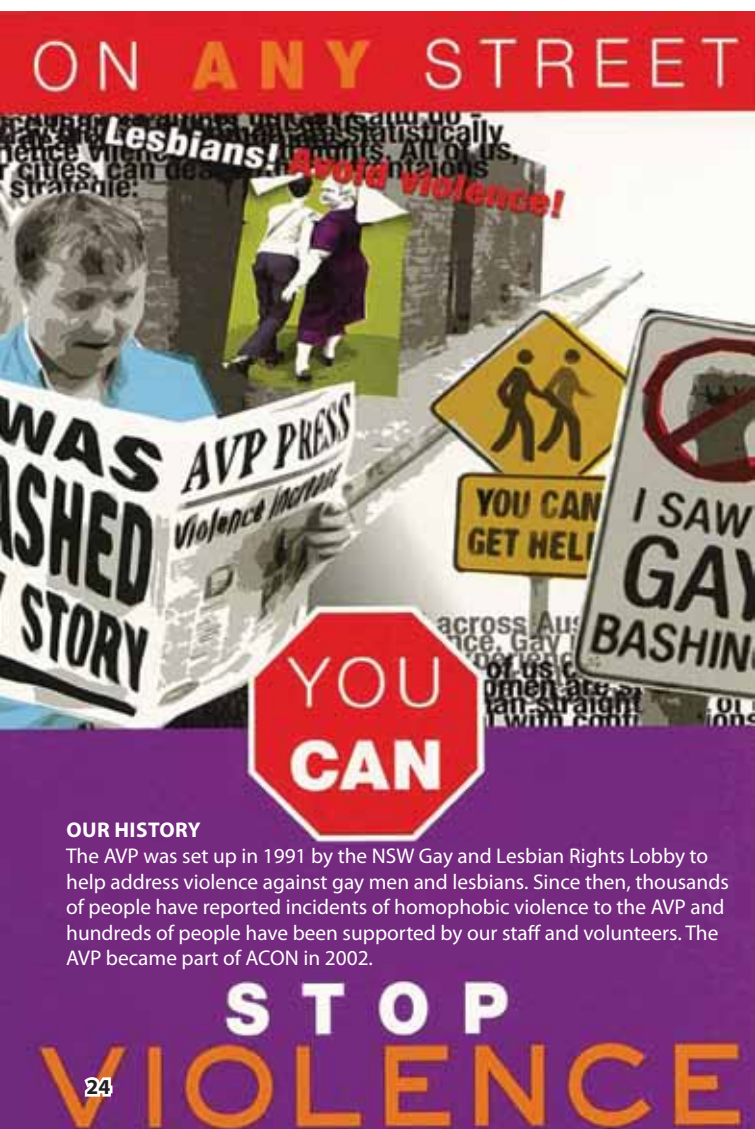
This Is Oz submission from Network Ten newsreader Sandra Sully



Cover artwork for SSDV Resource



Speak Up campaign poster, featuring Superintendent Donna Adney, NSW Police Force



OUR HISTORY

The AVP was set up in 1991 by the NSW Gay and Lesbian Rights Lobby to help address violence against gay men and lesbians. Since then, thousands of people have reported incidents of homophobic violence to the AVP and hundreds of people have been supported by our staff and volunteers. The AVP became part of ACON in 2002.

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 09/10

- Took 80 reports of violence through our telephone and online reporting service. This service allows GLBT people who have experienced violence to access support and allows us to generate data which demonstrates our community's security needs.
- Provided over 330 occasions of service to people who experienced violence including information, referral, support and advocacy.
- Developed and produced *Speak Up*, a campaign presented in partnership with the NSW Police Force and the City of Sydney to encourage reporting of violence to police and the AVP. 15,000 postcards and posters were distributed across NSW.
- Developed and produced an International Day Against Homophobia (IDAHO) campaign in partnership with stakeholders. 42,000 postcards were distributed to young people at schools and youth venues throughout NSW.
- Re-developed and distributed *Another Closet*, a resource produced in partnership with the SSDV Interagency containing information on same sex domestic violence for GLBT people, service providers, friends and/or family.
- Produced a one-day conference on SSDV to help workers in the health, social services, legal and law enforcement sectors to better understand and respond to people experiencing SSDV. Presented in partnership with NSW's SSDV Interagency, this Sydney-based event was attended by over 100 delegates from across Australia.
- Continued to produce www.thisisoz.com.au, an online social inclusion and human rights project. Network Ten became a pro bono media partner for the campaign in May and produced and aired \$750,000 worth of community service announcements in prime time slots across Australia. More than 150,000 people have visited the site and over 1000 submissions have been made.
- Produced a one-day community forum on beats which addressed a range of safety, health and legal issues associated with beats. This event was produced in partnership with the NSW Beats Working Group.
- Developed and launched www.beats.net.au, a website with safety, health, legal and environmental information for beat users and other stakeholders produced in partnership with the NSW Beats Working Group.

Detail from ACON street safety postcards, 2001 (left)

OUR HISTORY

In 1988 during the height of the HIV epidemic in Sydney, ACON established the Fun & Esteem Extreme Pleasure Company in response to an urgent need for appropriate HIV/AIDS education for young men. Since then, over 10,000 men have been involved in the program either as participants or as facilitators. Our Young Women's Project was established in 2003 and over the last seven years has helped thousands of young women improve their health and wellbeing.

Participants at 21 Down, Mardi Gras youth event, 2007

Young People

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 09/10

- Presented nine 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.
- Presented five eight-week workshop programs for young women. Produced by our Young Women's 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. Over 30 young women participated throughout the year.
- Produced three events for the 2010 Mardi Gras Youth Festival, 21 Down (a social event for GLBT people 21 years of age and younger), The Fabtabulous Walk of Historical and Modern Curiosities (a walking tour of the Sydney's queer inner west) and the launch of *The Birds And The Birds* resource for young same sex attracted women.
- Presented a 21st anniversary event for ACON's Fun & Esteem gay youth program
- Produced and distributed *The Birds and The Birds*, Australia's first comprehensive sexual health resource for young same-sex attracted women.
- Coordinated 12 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 in Wollongong, the Resurgence Festival, and for various Sydney University queer groups.
- Presented at various conferences on discrimination, social change, and sexual health, including the AFAO HIV Educator's Conference, and the International Education Association Conference.



Detail from Fun and Esteem's 21st anniversary celebration advertisement



Young people attending *The Bird's and the Birds* resource launch

- Conducted peer leadership and sexual health awareness training for six University Queer Officers
- Strengthened our Youth Ambassadors volunteer program for GLBT youth under 21 years of age to assist in planning and designing, resource distribution, management, implementation, and evaluation of our highly successful 21 Down Mardi Gras event.
- Conducted literature reviews on various health concerns affecting GLBT youth to inform ACON's work with young people, particularly around mental health, sexual health, AOD use, homo/transphobic discrimination, and the needs of trans youth, youth with disabilities, youth in regional areas, and culturally and linguistically diverse youth.

Mature Age 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.

Highlights of 09/10

- Commenced an audit of aged care facilities in NSW to evaluate the quality of their GLBT service provision. Conducted in partnership with the NSW Council Of The Aged
- 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.
- Continued to support the national L40 gathering of older lesbians which took place over Easter in the Northern Rivers region.
- Secured funding from the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing to create an education program for the aged care sector that focuses on issues for older GLBT people. The program will be developed in partnership with the Aged and Community Services Association (NSW & ACT) and will create, deliver and review an education program involving 12 workshops across NSW, and will also produce a resource developed for staff working in aged care. The program will be evaluated, with a view to a more broad application of this training should it prove successful.
- Commenced a visitation program with the Long Bay Correctional Facility to provide support to mature age gay men in the facility.
- 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.



Guests at Afternoon Delight movie matinee for NSW Senior's Week



MAG members get together for this year's Mardi Gras parade

- Provided social events for mature age members of our community including *Afternoon Delight*, a double feature movie matinee and tea party as part of NSW Seniors Week presented in partnership with the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care.

Eric Higgins, Steve Ostrow and John O'Dea celebrate MAG's 15th birthday, 2006



OUR HISTORY

ACON has provided specific services for mature age gay men since 1991 when we established our Mature Age Gay Men's support group. It has since become one of the biggest gay groups in Australia. We have also provided specific support for mature age lesbians since 2003 through our Lesbian Health Project. .



Detail from *Hey You Mob* campaign poster, 1999

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

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 09/10

- Expanded the project's scope, focus and reach by working in partnership with the Aboriginal Sexual Health Worker Network, Aboriginal community-controlled health services, Aboriginal peer education programs, Long Bay Gaol and Area Health Services to provide HIV, STI, and GLBT health information.
- Developed a new suite of Aboriginal specific project promotion and safe sex packs, including posters, postcards, post-it notes, and safe sex packs for women and men.
- Distributed over 5,500 education and support materials to relevant organisations and at various community events such as the Yabun Festival, Mardi Gras Fair Day and at selected NAIDOC Week activities.
- Conducted a health retreat for Aboriginal people living with HIV and their partners/family.
- Led the 2010 Mardi Gras parade with 100 participants in the First Australians float with a theme of '40,000+ years of pride'
- Assisted the development and distribution of *Proud To Be Black, Proud To Be Gay*, a campaign led by the Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations.
- Participated in a number of sexual health advisory groups to advocate on the health issues of Aboriginal GLBT/S people.
- Produced monthly e-newsletters and quarterly hardcopy newsletters to almost 1000 subscribers.



Detail from *Proud To Be Black, Proud To Be Gay* campaign poster



Participants prepare for the First Australians float at this year's Mardi Gras

- Provided support and capacity development for non-Aboriginal workers to work with Aboriginal people.
- Won an award for the Best Poster at the 2009 ASHM Conference.

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse People

We help GLBT people and people with HIV 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 gay Asian 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.



Mandarin-language *Slip It On* poster



Thai-language *Slip It On* poster



Detail from the Asian Tea Room health promotion workshops advertisement

Highlights of 09/10

- Presented 18 health promotion workshops for gay Asian men. These peer-led workshops focused on sexual health as well as improving physical and emotional wellbeing.
- Produced and distributed Thai and Mandarin language versions of our *Slip It On* condom reinforcement campaign, including posters, drink coasters, magnets and condom wallets.
- Produced and distributed a Thai language version of our *Up Ya Bum* condom reinforcement campaign for use in Sydney and Bangkok. This redevelopment was done in partnership with the Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand, ACON's partner organisation in Bangkok.
- Supported six community groups to help strengthen the networks of the CALD GLBT community. These groups included the Asian Marching Boys, Latino Lobos, The Long Yang Club, Salaam Namaste, Trikone, and the Gay and Lesbian Immigration Task Force.
- Developed and presented a community forum aimed at Filipino gay men in Western Sydney during this year's Mardi Gras festival.
- Worked with the National Centre in HIV Social Research to further research and improve our understanding of the Thai MSM community in NSW.
- 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.

OUR HISTORY

For 25 years, ACON has provided services to people from all walks of life and all sorts of cultural backgrounds. In 1992, we began delivering specific programs and services for gay Asian men when we set up our first culturally specific support group Silk Road. These days we also work with people and groups from South Asia, South America and the Middle East.





OUR HISTORY

During the early years of NSW's HIV/AIDS epidemic, authorities recognised that the sex industry was high risk in terms of HIV transmission. Drawing on the ground-breaking work of the Prostitute's Collective, the Sex Workers Outreach Project was formed in 1990 to help sex industry workers protect themselves and their clients from HIV and other sexually transmissible infections (STIs). These days SWOP remains a project of ACON, and in 25 years not one case of HIV transmission has been recorded in NSW's sex industry.

Guests at the Hookers and Strippers Ball, 2000

Sex Workers

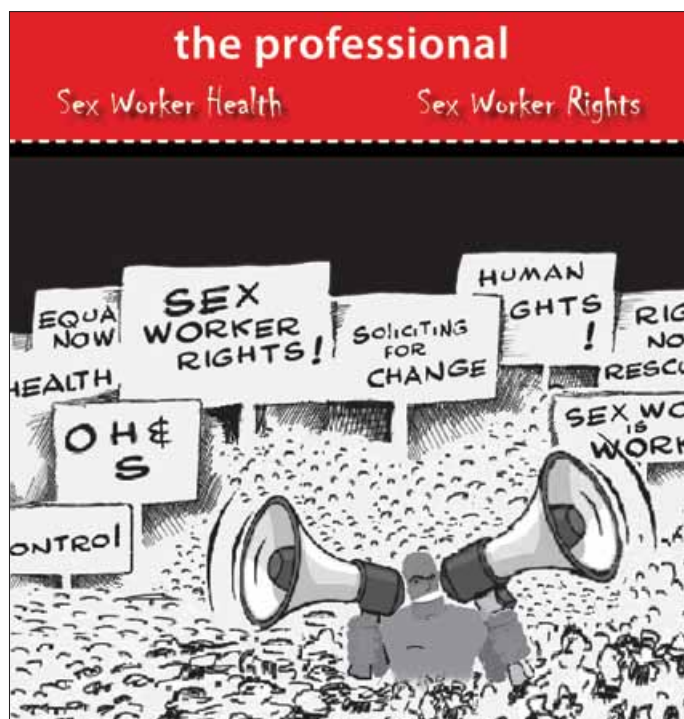
Through our Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP), we provide HIV and STI education as well as general health promotion services to sex workers throughout NSW, largely via an outreach approach. SWOP promotes the health, safety and wellbeing of sex industry workers in a way which enables and affirms their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

Highlights of 09/10

- Provided over 14,000 occasions of service to sex workers, management, owners, concerned significant others, community service providers and the police.
- Provided 413 counselling sessions to sex workers.
- Distributed over 34,000 condoms as well as other safe sex equipment such as gloves and dams.
- Distributed over 23,000 pieces of clean injecting equipment to injecting drug users.
- Formed new partnership with Wayside Chapel helping engage young male sex workers as well as young people providing sex for favours but not necessarily identifying as sex workers.
- Distributed over 8000 copies of *The Professional*, SWOP's quarterly publication for sex industry workers and management.
- Developed health education and legal resources with particular focus on male sex workers and street based sex workers.
- Developed a new Sex Industry Legal Kit.
- Developed a new website that will provide legal, sexual health, and occupational health and safety information that is up-to-date, immediately accessible, and downloadable. The website is due to launch in late 2010.
- Reinvigorated the annual Hookers and Strippers Ball, a community development event held for workers associated with the sex industry.
- Tried Ugly Mug reporting via SMS. The purpose of the Ugly Mug reporting system is to provide sex workers with information about potentially dangerous clients in their area.
- Developed, promoted and launched an online lodgment system for Ugly Mugs reports.
- Developed six new training modules addressing access issues for sex workers.
- Conducted six training sessions for health service providers to address access issues for sex workers.



New SWOP logo



The Professional cover artwork



OUR HISTORY

ACON began providing specific services to people in Western Sydney in 1989 when we set up the Out West support group. Over the years, ACON's programs in Western Sydney have been both location-based and outreach-based, and have grown to cover an area of about 9000 square kilometres from Auburn to the Blue Mountains and from Wollondilly to The Hills district.

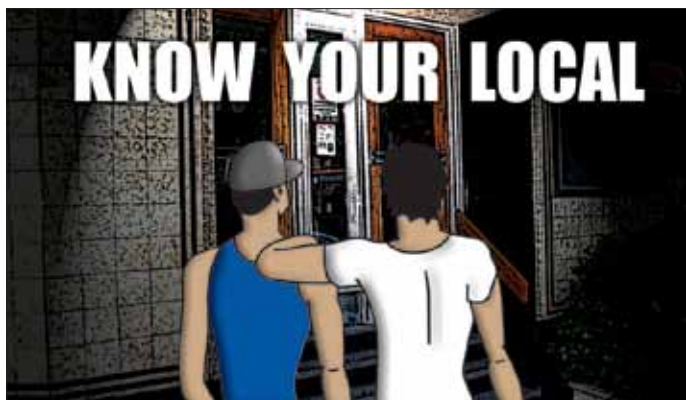
Members of ACON's Out West support group, 1994

Western Sydney

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.



Participants at this year's Parramatta Pride Picnic



Know Your Local cover artwork

Highlights of 09/10

- Provided over 500 individual occasions of service to people living in Western Sydney.
- Produced a resource entitled *Know Your Local* which provided contact information for sexual health centres across Western Sydney.
- Coordinated two support groups for same-sex attracted young people in Western Sydney. These are located in Penrith and Campbelltown.
- Continued to assist with the development of support groups for mature GLBT people and people with HIV, the Blacktown Outdoors Group and Positive Pottery Group.
- Delivered training to over 100 new welfare workers through TAFE NSW to develop their capacity to work with the GLBT community and people with HIV.
- 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* on Radio 89.3 FM.
- Co-produced the annual Parramatta Pride Picnic, the biggest yearly event for Western Sydney's GLBT community.
- 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.

Regional and Rural NSW

We help GLBT and HIV positive people, 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-related health issues. We have offices in the Hunter, Mid North Coast, Northern Rivers and Illawarra regions of NSW.

Highlights of 09/10

- Provided over 25,000 occasions of service to GLBT people and people with HIV throughout regional and rural NSW.
- Distributed over 194,000 pieces of safe injecting equipment to drug users throughout regional and rural NSW.
- Distributed almost 100,000 safe sex packs to more than 850 sites throughout regional and rural NSW.
- Coordinated the first Regional Gay Community Survey. This was a one-off survey conducted between August and November 2009. A total of 529 men were recruited to the survey across the North Coast, the Hunter, the Illawarra and Greater Southern NSW.
- Produced the *Regular Guys* HIV and STI testing campaign in partnership with the Greater Southern Area Health Service.
- Conducted the Hunter Aboriginal NSP Access Project which provided over 1,200 occasions of service, 21,000 pieces of safe injecting equipment and 62 referrals to other services to enhance the health and wellbeing of people in a remote Aboriginal community.
- Conducted 62 sexual health clinics across the Hunter and Illawarra regions for GLBT people, injecting drug users and sex workers.
- Conducted the Sex Worker Integrated Care Coordination Project in the Hunter region which has improved access to health and welfare services for 26 street based sex workers.
- Conducted 10 Crossroads groups in high schools. This program helps teachers and students learn about the GLBT community



Regular Guys campaign artwork



Sink Homophobia stall at the Lismore Show

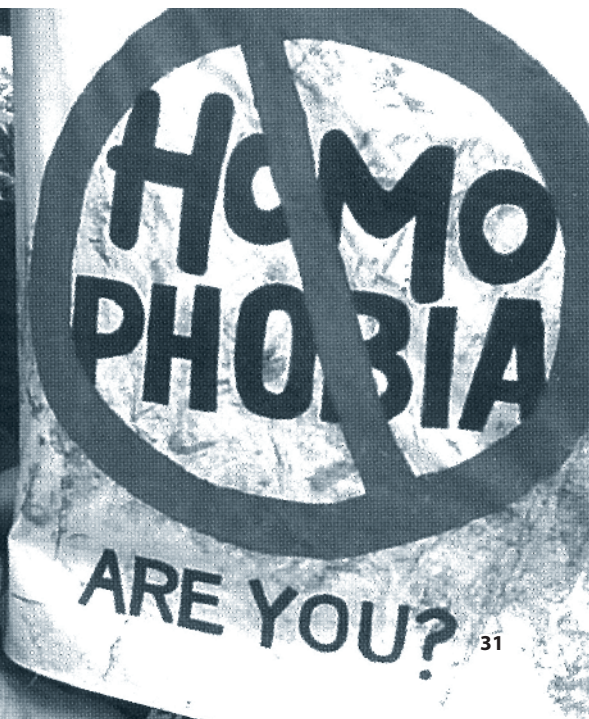
and the impact of homophobia. Over 300 students participated in the program.

- Implemented the Substance Support Program in the Hunter region. This service provides in-house GLBT-focused support for problematic drug users.
- Conducted GLBT sensitivity training with mainstream mental health and alcohol and drug service providers across all regions.
- Delivered a range of community development activities including Lets Sink Homophobia, an awareness-raising initiative produced in partnership with Tropical Fruits for the Lismore Show.
- Produced three columns every month for the *Sydney Star Observer* newspaper with region specific information.
- Distributed quarterly community newsletters in all regions.

Lismore mayor and ACON Northern Rivers staff launch an anti-homophobia campaign, 2000

OUR HISTORY

ACON began providing services to people outside of Sydney in 1987 when we opened our first regional office in Newcastle. Offices in Lismore and Wollongong followed a few years later and various outreach services have been operational in Port Macquarie and Coffs Harbour over the last 15 years.

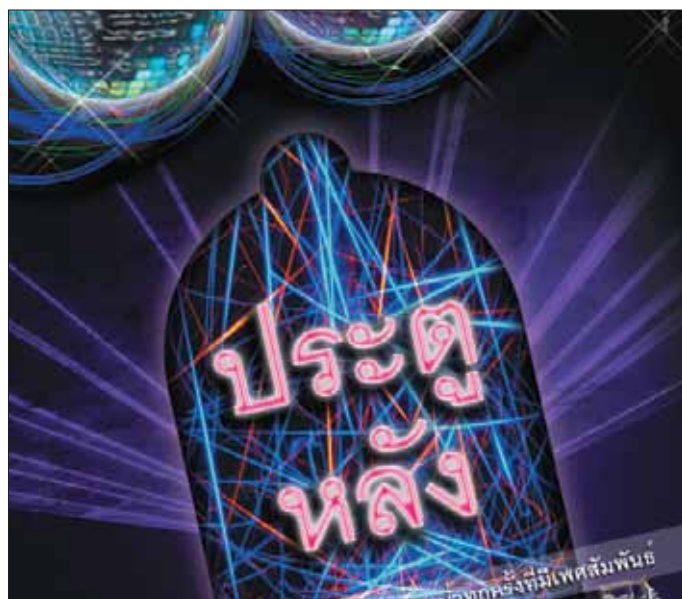


International Projects

ACON is committed to supporting the Asia Pacific HIV response – especially in relation to men who have sex with men (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 of 09/10

- Coordinated a visit to Sydney by the world's only openly gay royal, Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil. His Highness has established an HIV/AIDS organisation, the Lakshyar Trust, in the Indian state of Gujarat that works with a number of vulnerable groups including MSM. His Highness spent a week in Sydney to increase awareness of the impact that the criminalisation of homosexuality has on HIV prevention work in Asia and the Pacific. A comprehensive program of events, meetings and media interviews were coordinated for the Prince's visit.
- Produced and distributed a Thai language version of our *Up Ya Bum* condom reinforcement campaign for use in Sydney and Bangkok. This redevelopment was done in partnership with the Rainbow Sky Association of Thailand, ACON's equivalent in Bangkok.
- Continued to place an ACON staff member within the UNAIDS Regional Support Team to work on HIV issues among MSM in the Asia Pacific region. This position continued to be funded by AusAID.
- Conducted seminars and workshops for delegations from various countries in the Asia Pacific region including China, Singapore and Vietnam.
- Visited the Poro Sapot Project (PSP) in Papua New Guinea. Run by Save the Children, the PSP is the only project for sex workers and MSM in PNG. This visit in January built upon previous discussions with ACON regarding building the counselling capacity within the project.
- Undertook a staff exchange program with AIDS Concern Hong Kong funded by the China-Australia Institute of Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Staff from AIDS Concern visited ACON's Sydney office for two weeks of capacity building, information sharing meetings and a community forum on rapid HIV testing. ACON staff also visited Hong Kong.



Detail Thai-language *Up Ya Bum* campaign poster



From left, Sylvester Marchant and Prince Manvendra from the Lakshyar Trust, with Susan Davies from the Australia-India Council

- Received funding from the Australia-Thailand Institute to further ACON's work with Rainbow Sky to continue the development of health promotion initiatives in the Asia Pacific Region.
- Continued to provide support and capacity building to the Pacific Sexual Diversity Network (PSDN), particularly in the implementation of the PSDN Strategic Plan.



OUR HISTORY

ACON has actively supported the HIV prevention efforts of our Asia Pacific neighbours since 1993. Our international work expanded significantly during the mid-2000s and we continue to work in the region through the delivery of specifically funded projects.

Members of Rainbow Sky march in the 2007 Mardi Gras



OUR HISTORY

Since 1985, ACON has successfully advocated for changes to hundreds of laws and government policies that have discriminated against GLBT people and people affected by HIV. We also have participated in many groundbreaking studies and research projects that have helped change the methodology of HIV prevention around the world.

Age of consent parliamentary campaign delegates, 2003

Policy, Advocacy and Research

We keep policy-makers and legislators informed about the issues that affect our community and encourage community members to support our advocacy efforts through direct mail and online campaigning. We also help develop health sector policies and procedures which affect the people we serve and we conduct and coordinate a range of research projects to better understand the needs of our community.

Highlights of 09/10

- Participated in the development and consultation process of the National HIV, STI and Aboriginal and Torres Straight Islander Blood Borne Viruses Strategies.
- Produced ACON's position paper on circumcision and HIV, outlining ACON's position in relation to male circumcision as an HIV prevention tool in NSW.
- Produced submissions to:
 - Senate Community Affairs References Committee's inquiry into suicide in Australia.
 - Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing National Drugs Strategy.
 - Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing on the Aged Care Complaints Investigations Scheme.
 - Commonwealth Department of Health Ageing on the Aged Care Accreditation.
 - House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth's inquiry into the impact of violence on young Australians. The Committee invited ACON to present further evidence to the Committee at its Sydney hearings.
 - NSW Department of Justice and Attorney General on the Charter of Victims Rights.
 - Australian Law Reform Commission and NSW Law Reform Commission joint inquiry into family violence.
 - Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee inquiry into same-sex marriage.
 - Australian Human Rights Commission's report to the UN Human Rights Council for Australia's Universal Periodic Review.

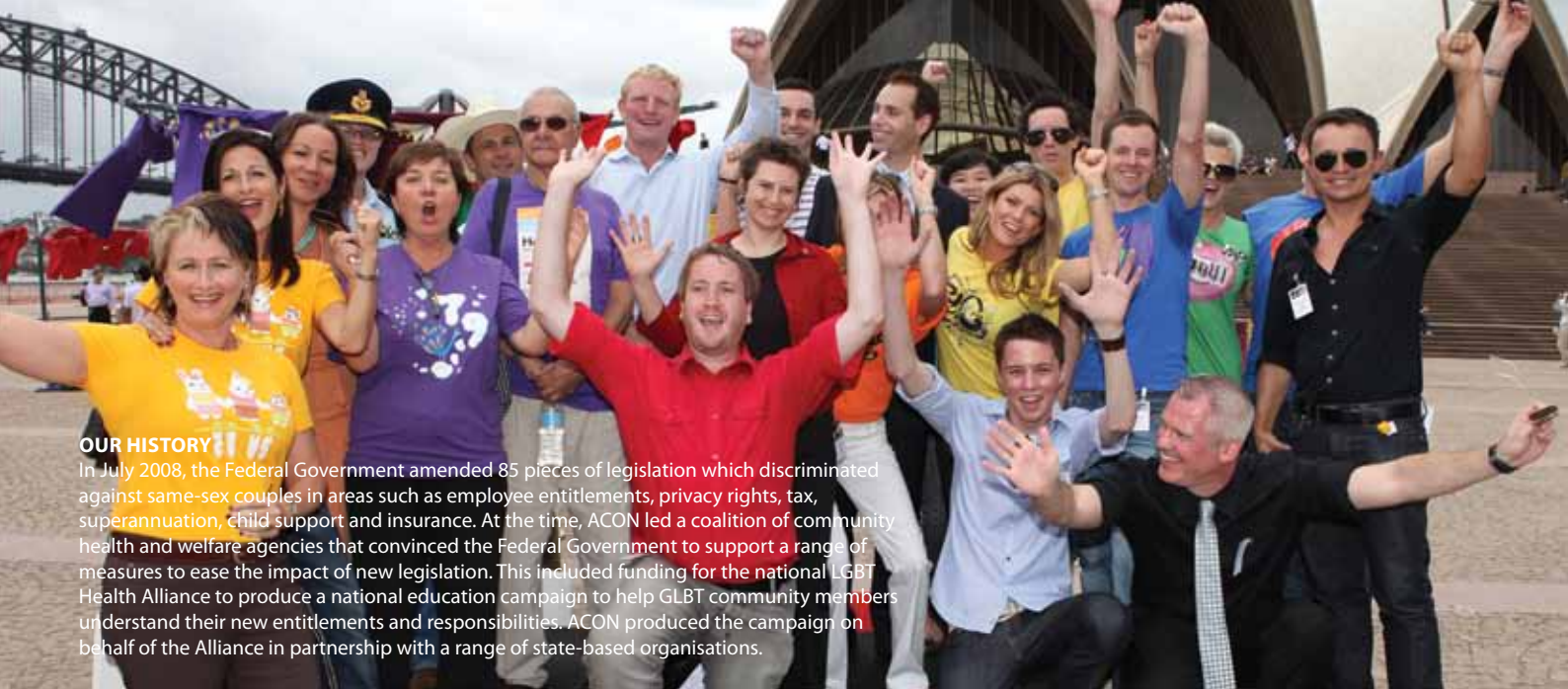


Detail from Periodic Survey ad artwork



ACON developed a position paper on HIV and circumcision

- Beyond Blue Draft Adolescent Depression Clinical Guidelines. ACON also attended their Sydney consultation.
- National Youth Strategy (Office for Youth).
- Assisted in the development of submissions to:
 - NSW Health draft Public Health Bill 2010.
 - NSW Health NGO Program Review.
 - Social Inclusion National NGO Compact.
- Coordinated the 2010 Sydney Gay Community Periodic survey for the February and August rounds of the survey.
- Coordinated the ACON Ethics Committee, a collective of academics and researchers responsible for overseeing ACON's participation in and support of community-based research.



OUR HISTORY

In July 2008, the Federal Government amended 85 pieces of legislation which discriminated against same-sex couples in areas such as employee entitlements, privacy rights, tax, superannuation, child support and insurance. At the time, ACON led a coalition of community health and welfare agencies that convinced the Federal Government to support a range of measures to ease the impact of new legislation. This included funding for the national LGBT Health Alliance to produce a national education campaign to help GLBT community members understand their new entitlements and responsibilities. ACON produced the campaign on behalf of the Alliance in partnership with a range of state-based organisations.

Wear It With Pride launch at the Sydney Opera House

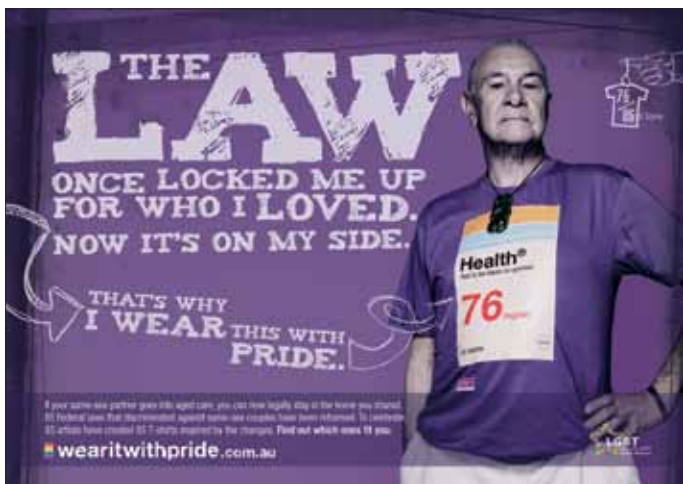
Same Sex Law Reform Education



Seven of the 85 *Wear It With Pride* T-shirts



Over 70 GLBT community members participate in a music video made by Natalie Bassingthwaite to promote the campaign



Wear It With Pride advertisement featuring Noel Tovey

This year we helped GLBT people throughout Australia to better understand recent changes to Federal laws affecting same sex couples by producing a national cross-media education campaign called *Wear It With Pride*.

Highlights of 09/10

- Developed and produced the campaign with M&C Saatchi. The campaign was based around a series of 85 designer T-shirts, with each shirt linked to one of the 85 historic reforms. We are extremely grateful to M&C Saatchi for their pro bono service on this project.
- Sourced 85 designers to produce the T-shirts and 85 celebrity/community ambassadors to promote the campaign. Some of the famous folk who donated their time included singer Natalie Bassingthwaite, TV personalities Ruby Rose, Kylie Gillies and Richard Reid, designers Charlie Brown, Reg Mombassa and Henry Roth, former Australian Medical Association President Prof. Kerry Phelps, renowned Indigenous arts practitioner Noel Tovey, The Veronicas' Jess and Lisa Origliasso and Air Commodore Tracy Smart, the highest-ranking 'out' lesbian in the Australian Defence Force.
- Launched the campaign at the Sydney Opera House in February and promoted it for six months. In addition to a website and a national advertising schedule, the campaign also involved a series of information seminars delivered in cities and key regional centres across Australia.
- Reached an estimated 35 million viewers/readers through media articles.
- Attracted over 40,000 website visitors, including 27,000 unique visitors between January and June.
- Attracted over 9,000 Facebook fans.
- Linked the *Wear It With Pride* website to more than 40 GLBT community websites.
- Supplied personalised information about the reforms to 7,000 people through a tailored online service.
- Nominated as a finalist in the Cannes Lions International Advertising Awards and the Australian Direct Marketing Awards.

Workplace Equality

Through our Pride In Diversity program, we help improve the health and wellbeing of people in our community by enabling Australian employers to make their workplaces more inclusive of GLBT employees.

Highlights of 09/10

- Developed the program in partnership with Diversity Council Australia and Stonewall UK.
- Signed up eight leading Australian employers as foundation members – IBM, KPMG, ING Australia, Goldman Sachs JBWere, Lend Lease, the Department of Defence, the Australian Federal Police and Telstra.
- Launched the program at KPMG in Sydney in February. The Hon. Michael Kirby was guest speaker and the event was attended by 150 people from Australia's business and community sectors.
- Launched Pride In Diversity website in February.
- Formed advisory committee of senior executives from foundation membership to advise on program direction and effectiveness and conducted meetings. The committee met in January, April and August.
- Signed up 14 new members including the Department of Health and Ageing, Suncorp, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Accenture and Chevron.
- Developed *Employer Handbook on Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity in the Workplace*, the first resource of its kind in Australia
- Broadened membership offerings to accommodate smaller businesses and individuals
- Presented a best practice seminar in May.



Pride in Diversity Mardi Gras float



Foundation members at the Pride In Diversity launch at KPMG

- Presented a networking event in August.
- Distributed quarterly e-newsletters to members promoting member activity, issues around GLBT inclusion, community events and photo galleries.
- Generated consulting revenue outside of membership.
- Initiated collaborative relationships for the program with affiliate organisations including The Gender Centre, New Mardi Gras and the Sydney Gay and Lesbian Business Association.



Pride In Diversity launch at KPMG. Left to right: Diversity Council Australia CEO Nareen Young, ACON President Mark Orr, The Hon. Michael Kirby, Human Rights Commission President Catherine Branson, PiD Director Dawn Hough and ACON CEO Nicolas Parkhill

Fundraising and Events

We raise money through a range of programs and events to help finance a variety of 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.



2009 Honour Award winners Graeme Browning (aka Mitzi Macintosh) and Ken Davis



Candlelight 2009

Highlights of 09/10

- Secured over \$1.25 million from grant applications made to various government and non-government agencies for projects related to HIV, mental health, same-sex domestic violence, ageing, lesbian health and regional outreach.
- Achieved an average income to expense ratio of 41:59 for our fundraising appeals representing a return on investment of 26%.
- Developed and launched 25for5, a new regular giving program inspired by our 25th anniversary.
- Raised over \$75 000 through our various AIDS Awareness Week activities. These included our Red Ribbon street appeal and our World AIDS Day Concert (A Tribute to Elton John) as well as a series of special benefit events and memorial ceremonies throughout NSW. The proceeds funded services for people with HIV.
- Raised almost \$95,000 through Bingay and BIG Bingay, our weekly bingo night and quarterly themed bingo events.
- Raised over \$28,000 from our Mardi Gras events including the Hats Off variety concert at Star City (produced by Oz Showbiz Cares) and The Great Debate, a comedy debate featuring leading Sydney comedians.
- Raised over \$20,000 from a farewell roast for long-time Bingay hostess Mitzi Macintosh.
- Raised over \$30,000 through our Honour community service awards. This year we recognised the community-based work of Graham Browning and Ken Davis. Our thanks to all the businesses that supported our silent auction and to Foxtel and Brian Walsh for continuing to support this event through generous production subsidies.
- Raised over \$25,000 from a special fundraising premiere of the musical *Avenue Q*.
- Raised \$19,000 through our regular giving appeals, 25for5 and ACON Angels.
- 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 and a significant presence at Fair Day.

OUR HISTORY

Since our earliest days, ACON has relied on the generosity of community members and partner organisations to finance much of our vital work in the community. Since World AIDS Day started in 1988, more than 10,000 volunteers across NSW have raised millions of dollars for ACON's HIV work by selling ribbons and taking donations. ACON has also produced countless dance parties, concerts, award ceremonies and other community events as fundraisers for ACON. And the perennially popular Bingay has generated more than \$1 million since it began in 1999.

Recently retired Bingay hostess Mitzi Macintosh with Bingay's original barrel boy, 1999





OUR HISTORY

As a community-based organisation, ACON has always had a fundamental commitment to engaging with our community at a grass roots level. Over the last 25 years, ACON has engaged directly with thousands of community members in relation a wide variety of policy, program and service issues, and has supported many of the social, cultural and sporting groups which underpin NSW's GLBT and HIV+ communities.

Members of the ACON-supported Sydney Women's Baseball League, 2007

Social, Environmental and Community Engagement

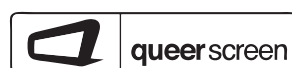
We ensure our services are meeting the needs and expectations of our community by seeking regular evaluations of our programs and services. We work to maximise the benefits we bring to our community by supporting a range of GLBT and HIV community organisations. And we try to minimise our impact on the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

Highlights of 09/10

- 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 and donations program and by providing groups with office accommodation and meeting spaces for free or at a nominal cost. These groups included the National LGBT Health Alliance, the AIDS Trust of Australia, the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, Palliative Care NSW, Mature Age Gays, Gay Married Men's Association, HIV/AIDS Legal Centre, Gay and Lesbian Immigration Taskforce, Harbour City Bears, Trikone, Meditation, and the 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.
- Received the 2009 Community Organisation Award from the Australian Human Rights Commission. According to Commission President Catherine Branson, "the work undertaken by...ACON is truly inspiring, and we hope this recognition will assist ACON to continue its good work in the community."
- Organised a fundraising BBQ for the Haitian Earthquake Relief Fund.



The ACON Safe Sets volleyball team



Queer Screen logo



Harbour City Bears logo



ACON staff supporting the Give a Dog A Bone Appeal

- Raised money for the NSW Cancer Council by participating in Australia's Biggest Morning Tea.
- Reduced our amount of waste by continuing a recycling scheme for paper, glass, bottles, cans and cartridges.
- 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.

Operations

Finance and Administration

- Finalised preparations for the transition to ACON Health Limited. Last year we began the process of bringing our organisational structure in line with what is considered to be best practice for non-government organisations of our size and scope. To this end, ACON Health Limited was registered under the *Corporations Act 2001* as a public Company Limited by Guarantee, and all operations were transitioned to ACON Health Limited on 1 July 2010.
- Secured funding from the NSW Government to relocate from our current premises to another inner city location. This relocation will allow us to bring together ACON's three Sydney based operations into one building, as well as provide accommodation for relevant community partners. Through this relocation, we are seeking to provide staff and community partners with a modern and efficient work environment as well as provide clients with a space conducive to building health and wellbeing.
- Upgraded our financial management system to increase the accuracy and efficiency of our financial reporting, creditor management and automated receipting and invoicing.
- Developed a more streamlined Chart of Accounts to consolidate expense items and provide better standardisation of income and expenditure items. This redevelopment was based on the new Standardised Chart of Account for NGOs.
- Developed a key metrics reporting template to provide management and Board with accurate and timely information in relation to financial performance, fundraising, OH&S and human resources.
- Reviewed procurement policies and procedures to reduce costs and increase operational efficiencies.
- Introduced new recycling initiatives to improve sustainability practices.

Communications

- Produced over 5000 individual pieces of graphic design including advertisements, brochures, marketing collateral and merchandise.
- Expanded ACON's use of social media by redeveloping our various social networking platforms.
- Distributed over 60 media releases to a range of local, state and national media organisations.
- Generated over 1300 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.
- Continued the development of ACON's website. This included improving the top level navigation, restructuring the home page and sectional landing pages and introducing interactive elements such as blogs, polls and surveys.

Reception Services

- Provided over 29,000 occasions of service 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.

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 over 1100 occasions of helpdesk service to staff members.
- Upgraded our finance and HR systems to improve reporting, functionality and staff interfaces.
- Continued to improve the overall quality and standard of our information technology systems.

Human Resources

- Negotiated and implemented a new Enterprise Agreement providing a range of new benefits for our staff new along with new common law contracts for our managers.
- Updated a range of policies and procedures to meet ACON's changing needs and legal responsibilities.
- Participated in the Hewitt Best Employers Employee Opinion Survey. Following delivery of the report, staff working groups were established to investigate improvements to identified areas such as performance management, work processes, rewards and recognition.

Planning and Evaluation

- Coordinated the development of the ACON Business Plan 2010/2011. This year the business and budget planning process were integrated to ensure better alignment between activity and budget planning.
- Coordinated the acquittal of our 2009/2010 funding agreement with NSW Health.
- Produced the Big Day In, our annual two-day staff training and planning seminar.

Quality Improvement

- Completed the second 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 Spring 2009 cover artwork



Big Day In program cover artwork



ACON Board members, 2010

The Financial Report for the Period Ended 30 June 2010

ABN38 136 883 915
ACON HEALTH LIMITED

These consolidated financial statements cover both the separate financial statements of ACON Health Limited as an individual entity and the consolidated financial statements for the consolidated entity consisting of ACON Health Limited and its subsidiary, AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated.

The financial statements represented in the Australian currency.

ACON Health Limited is a public company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

Its registered office and principal place of business is:

9 – 25 Commonwealth Street
Surry Hills NSW 2010
Australia

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the directors on 28 September 2010. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's Report for 2009-10. This year marks the first annual report for ACON Health Ltd and the first full year of operation of *Revolutions*, ACON's 2009 to 2012 strategic plan.

This financial year has seen the depth and breadth of our programs and services grow, as we continue to expand into a broader gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) health organisation, while maintaining and enhancing our focus on HIV prevention and providing services for people with HIV.

Throughout the year we secured a number of new grants, supporting both our existing work as well as allowing us to develop new programs and services.

NSW Health's AIDS and Infectious Disease Branch provided a number of one-off grants during the year. These included a grant for \$112,000 to support interventions for women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in Western Sydney. The need to expand our counselling services to support people newly diagnosed with HIV was also recognised through a grant of \$140,650. In addition, we are now developing digital media HIV prevention programs using social media platforms, which are being funded by a new grant of \$110,938.

The Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing allocated ACON a grant of \$359,000 for new work that will allow us to provide GLBT sensitivity training to Residential Aged Care Providers in NSW. This program will help improve social inclusion, decrease discrimination, ensure older GLBT people are visible in aged care settings and improve sensitivity amongst aged care providers. ACON is pleased to be delivering this program in partnership with the Aged and Community Services Association of NSW and ACT.

We were also successful in securing \$96,270 from the NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet to support the implementation of key recommendations from the 2008-2009 *Same Sex Domestic Violence (SSDV) Gap Analysis Report*. This funding will enable ACON to distribute a toolkit of SSDV resources to mainstream service providers, raise awareness of SSDV and promote healthy relationships in the GLBT community, while also providing educational forums to service providers.

In addition to the grants outlined above, we secured a grant from the NSW Government to assist us to relocate from our current head office as these premises no longer meets the needs of a growing organisation. This has been a goal of the ACON board for many years.

While ACON receives significant funding from both the state and federal governments, many of our programs rely on additional funds that are generated through fundraising activities, or through the generous donations of our many supporters.

This year we were faced with increased challenges in our fundraising activities. Increased activity from other not-for-profit organisations, economic conditions and other factors impacted negatively on our fundraising efforts. We adjusted our resourcing and approach to fundraising to maximise the funds generated at each opportunity and increased the monitoring of our adherence with the Conditions on the Authorities to Fundraise.

As part of our review of our fundraising activities this year we launched a new regular giving program, *25for5*. For the first time, this allows donors to choose the program(s) that their donations help to fund. This campaign is just one of many activities that we run to raise additional funds to support our important work, and an example of a fresh approach to fundraising.

As the organisation continues to expand the number of services we provide, and their reach, our expenditure in advertising, salaries and associated costs have increased.

At the heart of a human services organisation is its staff. Our salaries and associated costs, the major cost of any human service organisation are similar with other NGO's in the sector. This year we entered into a new Enterprise Agreement with staff (represented by the ASU) and our investment in programs to support staff development has increased. This allows us to continually support the growing and diverse needs of the GLBT community.

During the year a number of new education campaigns were launched, including the same sex law reform campaign, *Wear it With Pride*, which we developed and implemented at a national level on behalf of the National LGBT Health Alliance.


In addition, we also increased our advertising spend on important HIV and sexual health messages, releasing three new sexual health education campaigns: *Slip It On*, *Syphilis Testing* and *BeforePlay*, as well as introducing a new anti-violence reporting campaign, *Speak Up*.

I am pleased to announce a reportable surplus for the year, after all accruals and provisions, of \$820,697. The surplus for accounting purposes reflects the receipt of grant income where the corresponding program expenditure has yet to be made. The surplus reported would have been \$2,633 if the timing of the program expenditure had matched the timing of the receipt of the grant income.

This excellent result could not have been achieved without the hard work of both CEOs, Stevie Clayton and Nicolas Parkhill, and the diligence by all staff to achieve budget targets and I congratulate the ACON team for their achievements this year.

ACON, now in its 25th year of operation, continues to grow with an annual budget of over \$12 million. However, without the tireless work of our 700 volunteers we could not achieve the level of service and program activity that we do across the state. I thank each of our volunteers for their ongoing support and involvement throughout 2009-2010.

Finally, I also 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, and our many funders, sponsors, donors and supporters for their assistance throughout the year.



Jason Bradshaw
Treasurer

The directors present their report on the consolidated entity (referred to hereafter as the group) consisting of ACON Health Limited and its controlled entity, AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated for the period from the date of incorporation of the parent entity on 14 May 2009 to 30 June 2010.

DIRECTORS

The following persons were directors of ACON Health Limited during the whole of the financial period and up to the date of this report:

- Mark Orr
- Andrew Purchas
- Jason Bradshaw
- Jeremy Hutton
- Wes Bas
- Rod Bruem
- Louisa Degenhardt
- Siri Kommedahl
- Rob Lake
- Nicolas Parkhill
- Garrett Prestage
- Jonathon Stambolis
- Matthew Vaughan
- Devon Indig

Stevie Clayton and Siri May were directors from 14 May 2009 until their resignations on 30 September 2009 and 18 November 2009 respectively.

Matthew Vaughan and Devon Indig were appointed as directors on 18 November 2009 and 13 February 2010 respectively and both continue in office at the date of this report.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the group during the period 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.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

After providing \$nil for income tax, operations for the period ended 30 June 2010 resulted in a net surplus of \$820,697 compared to a balanced budget. The current period result includes grants received in advance of \$2,092,825 recognised as income.

DIVIDENDS

The group is restricted from declaring any dividends.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN THE STATE OF AFFAIRS

There was no significant change in the state of affairs of the group other than those referred to in the above review or financial statements.

MATTERS SUBSEQUENT TO THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR

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 group, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the group in subsequent years.

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

There are no significant environmental regulations which affect the group's operations.



Mark Orr, President

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

Mark is a senior manager in a mental health not-for-profit organisation. He is a registered psychologist and has a long history of working with people with disabilities. Mark is a past director and Co-Chair of the board of New Mardi Gras Ltd.



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 principle of Purchas Consulting.



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 NZ in 1987, he has worked in the community sector for over 20 years.



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.



Nicolas Parkhill, CEO

BAC, JP

Nicolas has over 15 years experience in the public and community health sectors. Previously he has headed up both the health promotion and operational divisions of ACON and worked in a variety of senior management and policy development roles for NSW Health and the NSW Cabinet Office, many with a specific focus on alcohol and other drugs. He also has a background in campaign management and public relations.



Jeremy Hutton

Experienced 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.



Garrett Prestage

BA (Hons), PhD

Senior Lecturer at the National Centre in HIV Epidemiology & Clinical Research, and Senior Research Fellow at the Australian Research Centre in Sex Health & Society, with 25 years experience researching gay and lesbian community and health issues.



Wes Bas

JP, DipPol

A serving police officer in the NSW Police Force with over six years experience in general duties and corporate policing. He is currently seconded to the NSW Department of Education and Training. 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, MLLaw and Int Rel.

Jonathan Stambolis works in international affairs for the United Nations and as a consultant at the Lowy Institute for International Policy based in Sydney. He also has seven years of experience as a corporate lawyer specialising in funds management and capital markets.



Rod Bruem

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



Matthew Vaughan

Matthew Vaughan has been working within the community services sector over the past seven years, and for ACON over the past four years within the Western Sydney Project. Matthew specialises in work with young people in a range of different settings, including community development, strategic planning, resource development, peer education, group facilitation and educational workshops.



Louisa Degenhardt

BA (Hons), M Psyc, PhD

Louisa has a background in psychology and psychiatric epidemiology. She began in research 10 years ago and is currently a Professor at the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, University of NSW.



Devon Indig

BSc, MPH, PhD

Devon is the Head of Research at the Justice Health Centre for Health Research in Criminal Justice and a Conjoint Lecturer at UNSW. She has a Masters in Public Health with a specialisation in Epidemiology and a PhD from the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre through UNSW. Prior to working at Justice Health, she worked for eight years at NSW Health, including three years at the Centre for Epidemiology and Research and five years at the Centre for Drug and Alcohol.

MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

Attendances by directors who held office during the period at meetings of the Board during the period ended 30 June 2010 were as follows. Elections for the elected Board Members were held in December 2009.

FROM 1 JULY 2009 - 30 JUNE 2010

DIRECTOR	MEETINGS HELD	MEETINGS ATTENDED
Mark Orr	12	12
Andrew Purchas	12	9
Jason Bradshaw	12	10
Jeremy Hutton	12	12
Stevie Clayton	3	3
Wes Bas	12	10
Rod Bruem	12	10
Louisa Degenhardt	12	8
Joseph Jewitt	4	2
Siri Kommedahl	12	6 **
Rob Lake	12	9
Siri May	4	2
Garrett Prestage	12	10
Jonathan Stambolis	12	7
Nicolas Parkhill	9	9
Matthew Vaughan	8	7
Devon Indig	5	1

** Siri Kommedahl was on Leave of Absence from September 09 to November 09

COMPANY SECRETARY

The company secretary is Nicole O'Brien, BA, PGrad Tourism, MBA. Nicole was appointed to the position of company secretary on 14 May 2009.

REMUNERATION OF OFFICERS

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

INSURANCE OF OFFICERS

The group has paid a premium of \$12,993 to insure certain officers of the group. The officers of ACON Health Limited covered by the insurance policy include the directors. 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 group.

APPLICATION OF FUNDS

The net surplus obtained from fundraising activities was applied to the purposes of ACON Health Limited as described under 'principal activities' above.

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

PricewaterhouseCoopers continues in office as auditors of the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated and has been appointed auditors of ACON Health Limited.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board.

Dated at Sydney this Thirtieth Day of September 2010



Mark Orr
President



Jason Bradshaw
Treasurer



Auditors' Independence Declaration

PricewaterhouseCoopers
ABN 52 780 433 757

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As auditor for the audit of ACON Health Limited for the period from the date of incorporation on 14 May 2009 to 30 June 2010, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of ACON Health Limited and the entity it controlled during the period.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gareth Winter'.

Gareth Winter
Partner
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Sydney
30 September 2010

INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	Notes	2010 \$
REVENUE FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS		
Grants:		
Nsw Department Of Health		9,228,134
Nsw Department Of Community Services		105,145
Area Health Services		653,703
Nsw Users & Aids Company		2,592
Other Grants		1,156,327
Fundraising	20(A)	471,893
Interest Received/Receivable		137,158
Membership		162,343
Rent Received		77,286
Sale Of Vitamins		41,211
Sale Of Materials		95,152
Other Revenue		508,054
TOTAL REVENUE FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS		12,638,998
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries & Associated Costs		7,639,780
Program Materials And Services		819,872
Rent And Rates		242,588
Depreciation – Plant & Equipment		130,944
Building Maintenance		359,570
Communications		347,063
Travel And Representation		501,325
Donations & Partnerships		48,993
Advertising Costs		671,163
Events And Activities		128,322
Administrative Costs		881,502
Cost Of Goods Sold		47,178
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		11,818,299
OPERATING SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD	2	820,697

The above income statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	Notes	2010 \$
Operating surplus for the period		820,697
Other comprehensive income		-
Total comprehensive income for the period		820,697
Total comprehensive income for the period is attributable to:		
The members of ACON Health Limited		820,697

The above statement of comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 JUNE 2010

	Notes	2010 \$
Current Assets		
Cash	4	3,989,750
Receivables	6	76,071
Inventories	7	9,453
Other	8	95,172
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		4,170,446
Non-Current Assets		
Property, Plant & Equipment	9	606,062
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		606,062
TOTAL ASSETS		4,776,508
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	10	914,971
Employee Entitlements	11	632,857
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,547,828
Non-current Liabilities		
Employee Entitlements	12	280,510
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		280,510
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,828,337
NET ASSETS		2,948,171
Members' Funds		
Retained Surplus at the end of the Period	22	2,948,171
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		2,948,171

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	Notes	2010 \$
Total equity at the beginning of the financial period		2,127,474
Total comprehensive income for the period		820,697
Total equity at the end of the financial period	22	2,948,171

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2010

	Notes	2010 \$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from customers, granting bodies and fundraising (inclusive of goods and services tax)		12,607,096
Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of goods and services tax)		(11,355,964)
		1,251,132
Interest received		137,158
NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	5	1,388,290
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payment for plant and equipment		(61,746)
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(61,746)
NET INCREASE IN CASH HELD		1,326,544
Cash at beginning of the financial period	4	2,663,206
CASH AT END OF THE FINANCIAL PERIOD	4	3,989,750

The above cash flow statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated. The financial statements are for the consolidated entity consisting of ACON Health Limited and AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated.

(a) PARENT ENTITY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The financial information for the parent entity, ACON Health Limited, disclosed in note 23 has been prepared on the same basis as the consolidated financial statements.

The parent entity financial statements are for the period from the date of incorporation on 14 May 2009 to 30 June 2010. The controlled entity results are consolidated into the financial statements of the parent for the financial year ended on 30 June 2010.

(b) BASIS OF PREPARATION

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian accounting standards, other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board, Urgent Issues Group Interpretations and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

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 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies.

Financial statement presentation

The Group has applied the revised AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* which became effective on 1 January 2009. The revised standard requires the separate presentation of a statement of comprehensive income and a statement of changes in equity. All non-owner changes in equity must now be presented in the statement of comprehensive income. As a consequence, the Group had to change the presentation of its financial statements. Comparative information has been re-presented so that it is also in conformity with the revised standard.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of the subsidiary of ACON Health Limited ("company" or "parent entity") as at 30 June 2010 and the results of the subsidiary for the year then ended. ACON Health Limited and its subsidiary together are referred to in this financial report as the group or the consolidated entity.

Subsidiaries are all entities (including special purpose entities) over which the group has the power to govern the financial and operating policies, generally accompanying a shareholding of more than one-half of the voting rights. The existence and effect of potential voting rights that are currently exercisable or convertible are considered when assessing whether the group controls another entity.

Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the group. They are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases.

Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between group companies are eliminated. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of the impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the group.

(c) GRANT REVENUE

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

(d) 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.

(e) 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.

(f) 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.

(g) REVALUATION OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS

The Group 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.

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

(h) DEPRECIATION OF PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis so as to write off the net cost of each depreciable non-current asset over its expected useful life to the Group. 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

(i) 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.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

(j) 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 Group 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.

(k) TRADE AND OTHER CREDITORS

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the group 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.

(l) WEB SITE COSTS

Costs in relation to the web site controlled by the Group 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 Group 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.

(m) 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 Group to several employee superannuation funds of choice and are charged as expenses when incurred.

(n) BORROWING COSTS

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

(o) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

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 PERIOD

Operating surplus from ordinary activities includes the following specific expenses:

	2010 \$
Provision for Employee Entitlements	148,267
Rental expense relating to operating leases	257,433

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. INCOME TAX

ACON Health Limited is a Health Promotion Charity and the AIDS Council of New South Wales Incorporated is a Public Benevolent Institution. As such, both are exempt from paying income tax.

4. CURRENT ASSETS - CASH

	2010 \$
Cash on hand	11,120
Cash at bank	3,842,247
Deposits	136,383
	3,989,750

5. RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING SURPLUS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2010 \$
Operating surplus for the period	820,697
Depreciation and Amortisation	130,944
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities:	
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	106,198
Decrease/(Increase) in Other Current Assets	(6,455)
Decrease/(Increase) in Inventory	5,514
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	183,123
Increase/(Decrease) in Employee Entitlements	148,267
NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	1,388,290

6. CURRENT ASSETS - RECEIVABLES

	2010 \$
Accounts Receivable	76,071
Provision for doubtful debts	
Accrued Income	-
	76,071

(a) As at 30 June 2010, no receivables were considered impaired. The amount of the provision was \$nil.

7. CURRENT ASSETS - INVENTORIES

	2010 \$
Finished Goods (Vitamins) at cos	9,453

8. CURRENT ASSETS - OTHER

	2010 \$
Goods and Services Tax Receivable	80,767
Prepaid expenses	14,405
	95,172

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.

2010	Furniture & fittings \$	Office equipment \$	Library Works of Art \$	Leasehold improvements \$	Totals \$
AS AT 1 JULY 2009					
Opening cost	94,005	1,091,224	141,150	428,512	1,758,554
Accumulated depreciation	(65,042)	(936,087)	-	(78,499)	(1,083,291)
NET BOOK VALUE	28,963	155,137	141,150	350,013	675,263
PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2010					
Opening net book value	28,963	155,137	141,150	350,013	675,263
Additions	2,050	58,059	-	1,637	61,746
Depreciation charge	(8,678)	(88,904)	-	(33,362)	(130,944)
CLOSING NET BOOK VALUE	22,335	124,292	141,150	318,288	606,062

10. CURRENT LIABILITIES – ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

	2010 \$
Goods & Services Tax Payable	193,783
Trade Creditors	668,134
Accrued Expenses	53,054
	914,971

11. CURRENT LIABILITIES – EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

	2010 \$
Employee Entitlements - Annual Leave	632,857
Employee Numbers	<i>Number</i>
Number of employees at reporting date (full time equivalent)	107

12. NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES – EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS

	2010 \$
Employee Entitlements - Long Service Leave	280,510

13. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS*(a) Credit Risk Exposures*

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

(b) Interest Rate Risk Exposures

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

Interest Rate Risk Exposures

2010	Floating interest rate \$	Fixed interest rate 1 year or less \$	Non-interest bearing \$	Total \$
Financial Assets:				
Cash and deposits	-	1,772,360	2,217,390	3,989,750
Accounts Receivable	-	-	76,071	76,071
	-	1,772,360	2,293,461	4,065,821
Weighted average interest rate	-	4.32%		
Financial liabilities:				
Trade and other creditors	-	-	914,971	914,971
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	-	1,772,360	1,378,491	3,150,850

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 30 JUNE 2010

(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 group in a voluntary capacity and receive no remuneration for this service to the group. An employee of the group serving on the board receives normal salary and employment benefits commensurate with their position as an employee.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

15. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

	2010 \$
Remuneration for audit and review of the groups Financial report - PricewaterhouseCoopers	44,500
Remuneration for other services - PricewaterhouseCoopers	13,300
	57,800

16. SEGMENTS

The principal activities of the group during the period 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 group operates predominantly in one geographical area, being New South Wales, Australia.

17. SHARE CAPITAL

The group does not have authorised or issued capital.

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

18. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The major source of funding for the group is an annual grant from the NSW Health Department (the Department). The group has completed a triennial funding agreement with the Department for the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011 to continue to provide funding to the group.

19. RELATED PARTIES

There were no transactions with related parties during the period ended 30 June 2010.

20. CHARITABLE FUNDRAISING ACT 1991

The ACON Health Limited was issued with an authority to fundraise by the Office of Charities to fundraise for the period 5 May 2010 to 3 May 2012.

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

The information disclosed below is in relation to fundraising activities undertaken by ACON Health Limited.

(a) Details of aggregate gross income and total expenses of fundraising activities:

	2010 \$
Gross proceeds from fundraising:	
Red Ribbon World AIDS Day Appeal & Concert	78,400
Other including Donations & Sponsorship	393,493
TOTAL GROSS INCOME FROM FUNDRAISING	471,893
less total costs of fundraising	
Red Ribbon World AIDS Day Appeal & Concert	34,345
Other	303,745
TOTAL COSTS OF FUNDRAISING	338,090
NET SURPLUS OBTAINED FROM FUNDRAISING	133,803

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

(c) Comparative Ratios **2010**

Ratio of costs to gross proceeds	72%
Ratio of net surplus to gross proceeds	28%
Ratio of total cost of fundraising services to total organisation expenditure	3%

$$\$338,090 / \$11,818,293 = 3\%$$

Ratio of total cost of fundraising services to total organisation income	4%
$\$471,893 / \$12,638,998 = 4\%$	

This ratio includes all fundraising activities – appeals and events.

In the view of the Board, all expenses incurred by the ACON Health Limited contribute to the delivery of its programs and services.

21. 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:

	2010 \$
Within one year	128,448
Later than one year but not later than 5 years	198,863
Later than 5 years	145,373
	472,684

22. RETAINED SURPLUS

	2010 \$
Retained surplus at the beginning of the period	2,127,474
Current period surplus	820,697
Retained surplus at the end of the period	2,948,171

Included in the retained surplus is an amount of \$2,092,825, which is restricted in its use. This relates to grants received not yet expended for the purpose for which they were intended.

23. PARENT ENTITY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**(A) SUMMARY FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

The individual financial statements for the parent entity show the following aggregate amounts:

	2010 \$
<i>Balance sheet</i>	
Current assets	1,300,000
Total assets	2,948,171
Current liabilities	-
Total liabilities	-
<i>Shareholders' equity</i>	
Retained earnings	2,948,171
	2,948,171
OPERATING SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD	2,948,171

(B) CONTINGENT LIABILITIES OF THE PARENT ENTITY

The parent entity did not have any contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2010.

In the directors' opinion:

- 1) The financial statements and notes set out on pages 2 to 23 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - a) Complying with Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements, and
 - b) Giving a true and fair view of the consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2010 and of its performance for the financial period from the date of incorporation of the parent on 14 May 2009 and ended 30 June 2010, and
 - c) At the date of this declaration, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the group will be able to meet any obligations or liabilities, to which it is, or may become, subject.
- 2)
 - a) the financial statements and notes are in accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and the *Charitable Fundraising Regulations 1993 (NSW)*;
 - b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the group 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 group 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 Thirtieth Day of September 2010.



PricewaterhouseCoopers
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Independent audit report to the members of ACON Health Limited

Report on the financial report

We have audited the accompanying financial report of ACON Health Limited (the company), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2010, and the income statement, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the period from the date of incorporation of 14 May 2009 to 30 June 2010, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the directors' declaration for both ACON Health Limited and the ACON group (the consolidated entity). The consolidated entity comprises the company and the entity it controlled at the period's end.

Directors' responsibility for the financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Act 2001*. 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 1, the directors also state, in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements*, that the financial statements comply 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 entity'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 entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.



Independent audit report to the members of ACON Health Limited (continued)

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

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

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

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Auditor's opinion

In our opinion:

- (a) the financial report of ACON Health Limited is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's and consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2010 and of their performance for the period ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*; and
- (b) the consolidated financial report and notes also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as disclosed in Note 1.
- (c) The financial report of ACON Health Limited presents a true and fair view as required by the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* of the financial result of fundraising appeals for the period ended 30 June 2010;
- (d) That the accounts and associated records have been properly kept in accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and the *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 1993 (NSW)* for the period ended 30 June 2010;
- (e) That money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by ACON Health Limited during the period ended 30 June 2010 have been properly accounted for and applied in accordance with the *Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (NSW)* and *Charitable Fundraising Regulation 1993 (NSW)*.

A stylized, handwritten-style signature of the PricewaterhouseCoopers firm.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

A handwritten signature of Gareth Winter.

Gareth Winter
Partner

Sydney
30 September 2010

Staff and Volunteers

Aaron Deighton
Aaron Mckenzie
Aaron So
ACON Packers
Adam Byrne
Adam Epstein
Adam Knobel
Adam McLean
Adam Sapienza
Adam Takesce
Adrian Nil
Aijay Adams
Alan Fernandes
Alan Florance
Alan Gordon
Alan Martin
Alan Peacock
Alanna Somers
Albert Stangl
Alberto Duran
Alex Arnaudon
Alex Cameron
Alex Chamling
Alex Coughlin
Alex Dickson
Alex Jackson
Alex Sexton
Alice Peel
Allan Jackson
Allan Jones
Alli Wolf
Alona Olsen
Alvin Wong
Amber Craig-Rose
Amber McBride
Anabell Thoener
Anders Neilson
Andre Zeballos
Andrea Hollywood
Andrew Bellamy
Andrew Buchanan
Andrew Purchas
Andrew Trist
Andrew Webb
Andy Tanamas
Ange Matheson
Angela Trevaskis

Angie Savva
Angus Beadie
Ann Schirk
Anna Bacik
Anna Checkley
Anna Irvine
Anna Nagel
Annaliese Constable
Annie Cohen
Annie Selman
Ann-Maree Rundle
Anthony Finucae
Aron Pardede
Arthur Nowlan
Ashlea Taylor
Ashleigh Woolridge
Ashlie Milne
Astrid Gearin
Atari Metcalf
Ayse Kocak
Barrie Brockwell
Belinda Rimer
Ben Bavinton
Ben Karim
Ben Tart
Ben Wilcock
Benjamin Oh
Bernie Smith
Beverley Gibson
Bianca Wendt
Bill O'Connor
Bill Vernon
Billy Sloan
Birgit Plewe
Blake Utomo
Brad Bazley
Brad Cooper
Brad Corbett
Breda Drumgoole
Brendan Arthur
Brendan Cook
Brett Fogarty
Brett Phillips
Brian Fake
Brian Francis
Brian McMahon
Brian Wolfe

Bridget Noonan
Brody Etherington
Bruce Cherry
Bruce Jenson
Bruce Strath
Cameron Clark
Cameron McPhedran
Carlos Heng
Carlyn
Carmel Shevlin
Caroline De Castro
Carolyn Shopland
Casey Lee-Hall
Cassy Anderson
Cath Adams
Catherine Ekberg
Chadwick Spinazza
Chantal Burchett
Chantal Burchett
Chantelle Gibson
Charles Hunter
Charlotte Lynch
Charmaine Salvacion
Chelsea Raymond
Chelsea Weiss
Chen-Ying Lu
Cheryl Sneddon
Chiho Otani
Chris Clementson
Chris Price
Chris Surplice
Christine Fletcher
Christine McGarrigle
Christine Rowan
Christine Wilkinson
Christopher Brew
Christopher Price
Claire Devonport
Cliff Micallef
Colin MacArthur
Corey Irlam
Corinne Roberts
Craig Cooper
Craig Gee
Craig Mack
Cristina Santolin
Curt Mason

Damian Hannan
Damien Oprel
Dan Webb
Daniel Armfield
Daniel McCosker
Daniel Mills
Daniel Scott
Daniel Toovey
Daniel White
Danielle Lander
Danielle Schmid
Danny Adams
Darran Chadwick
Darrell Tohi
Darrell Williams
Dave Mollison
David Ashton
David Fleming
David Franks
David Houghton
David Irving
David Mansfield
David McIntyre
David Montgomery
David Riddell
David Scamell
David Scarlett
David Travis
David Wilkins
Dawn Hough
Deb Broughton
Deb Gavan
Debbie Ritchie
Deborah Bornzin
Deborah Saxelby
Denis Compston
Dennis Meijer
Derek Hodgkins
Dermot Ryan
Devon Indig
Dianne Frohmuller
Dina Saulo
Dion McLeod
Dirk Engelha
Donna Campbell
Donna Ross
Dov O Winter

Dungeon Boy
Edwin Cowdery
Edwina Scerri
Eleanor Stearn
Elisabeth Kirby
Eliz Brooks
Elizabeth
Ella Van Acker
Ellie Jayne
Eloise Birbara
Emma Black
Emma Cornish
Emma Dardick
Emma Smith
Erin Halligan
Evert Houtman
Fawzi Hindish
Fiona Kidd
Fred Oberg
Gabriele Rosenstreich
Gabrielle Campbell
Gareth Taylor
Garrett Prestage
Gary Aschmoneit
Gary Driscoll
Gavin Loveday
Gavin Prendergast
Geoffrey Sherring
George Baia
George Moyles
Georgia Lancy
Gerrard Elms
Gerry Meleady
Gerry Tobin
Glenn Ferrero
Grace Gordon
Graham Bakewell
Graham Phillips
Graham Wyatt
Grant Mistler
Gregory Bork
Gregory Williams
Gulnoza Akilkanova
Harry Boyajian
Heath Keleher
Iain Harrison
Ian Down

Staff and Volunteers

Ian Macdonald	John Fryer	Kylie Tattersall	Marion Duffieux	Michael Soo
Ian Middleton	John Mahoney	Lance Day	Marisa Field	Michael Zettinig
Ian Rose	John Mozejko	Lance Schema	Mark Denoe	Michelle Cook
Ian Sutherland	John Rees	Lara Cassar	Mark Hodge	Michelle Keegan
Ian Walker	John White	Lara Goulding	Mark Lanquillon	Michelle Lam
Ina Hall	Jon Downie	Lara Spalinger	Mark Orr	Michelle Schuefert
Jacob Guest	Jonathan Rea	Larry Amos	Mark Thomas	Michelle Sparks
Jacqueline Frajer	Jonathan Stambolis	Lars Skalman	Mark Thompson	Michelle Williams
Jae Condon	Jonathon Foulds	Lauchlan Barns	Marni Low	Michelle Wood
Jaime Quezada	Joseph Jewitt	Laura Scott	Marthese Bezzina	Mici Beer
James Adcock	Josh Bates	Lauren Nutt	Martiane Bersano	Mike Cozens
James Fehon	Joy Bramham	Laurie Jamieson	Martin Willis	Mikol Furneaux
James Garwood	Judith Butler	Leonie Harding	Mary Carroll	Milan Avenue
James Gray	Julia McCall	Leslie Macedo	Mary Viss	Ming Zhu
James Saunders	Julie Monro	Li Zhou	Mary Vyssaritis	Minos Kamaras
James Tier	Julie Truong	Linda Hayes	Matt Dunn	Mish Glitter Pony
James Wilson	Jum Chimkit	Lisa Ronneberg	Matt Merlino	Mitzi Macintosh
Jamie Bayly	Justin Koonin	Liv Fitz-Bugden	Matt Vaughan	Nadia Sneyd - Miller
Jane Tsai	Justine Cosbee	Liza Dean	Matthew Prendergast	Nancy De Castro
Janet McIntyre	Kaleb Lawson	Loretta Cosgrove	Matthew Robertson	Naomi Palmer
Janine Farrell	Kalila Johnson	Lorraine Branz	Matthew Schiemer	Natalie Talbot
Jared Stadler	Kam Piper	Louis Garrick	Matthew Vaughan	Natasha Ball
Jarryd Phillips	Kane Peakman	Louis Mangion	Matthew Whitbread	Nathan Arnold
Jason Bradshaw	Karen Price	Louisa Degenhardt	Maureen Rogers	Ndudim Ihezukwu
Jayne Liddy	Karl Myers	Luca Hodson	Maurice Giacche	Neil McKellar-Stewart
Jeffrey Dabbhadatta	Karl Ross	Lucky Wirajaya	Max Greenhalgh	Nelson Cao
Jeffrey Johnston	Karla Neeson	Luke Alexander	Megan Baxter	Nicholas Preston
Jeffrey Meredith	Karlie Wise	Luke Barrett	Meggan Grose	Nick Agathos
Jenness Regent	Kate Southam	Luke Griffiths	Melanie Clark	Nick Atkins
Jeremy Hutton	Kate Starr	MAG Catering Committee	Melinda Smithes	Nick Roy
Jeremy Proctor	Kathy Morrison-Holt	MAG Clean Up Committee	Melissa Wallis	Nick Van Breda
Jesse Billing	Katy Brownless	MAG Executive Committee	Meredith Doyle	Nicola Addison
Jessica Di Blasio	Kee Foong	MAG Set Up Committee	Merrilyn Bridge	Nicola Barr
Jessica Norman	Kelly Walsh	MAG Welcoming Committee	Michael Alcott	Nicola Dunbar
Jim Villamor	Ken Thompson	Maggie Moylan	Michael Badorrek	Nicolas Parkhill
Jimmy Ho	Kerry Saloner	MAGic	Michael Blakeney-Campbell	Nicole Cosentino
Joal London	Kevin Keith	Mailis Wakeham	Michael Brown	Nicole OBrien
Joanna Holden	Kevin Smith	Malcolm Chalmers	Michael Hu	Nicole Thompson
Joanna Meiklejohn	Khedur Omran	Marc Andrews	Michael Jones	Nikky Lowe
Jodi Tyne	Kim Heap	Marc Forbes	Michael Le Vesconte	Nilesh Deshmukh
Jodie Nas Jones	Kirsten Rhodes	Margaret Geary	Michael Martin	Nina Melksham
Joey Ki	Kisu Rawal	Margot Barnett	Michael Martire	Northern Rivers Lunch Club volunteers
Jo Harrison	Kotha Elliot	Marguerite Dean	Michael McIntyre	Pam Richardson
Johann Kolstee	Krizia Gamallo	Marguerite O'Brien	Michael McNaughton	Paolo Polimeni
Johannes Mallow	Kylee Anderson	Maria Calandra	Michael Muir	Patrizia Massa
John Brettell	Kylie Clarke	Marina Suarez	Michael Reece	Paul Brash
John Burnett	Kylie Druett			

Paul Clark	Rob Brough	Scott Abrahams	Tadeusz Gielas	Wayne Harland
Paul Houghton	Rob Hardy	Scott Murphy	Tania Lienert	Wayne Hodshon
Paul Kelly	Rob Lake	Scout	Tarnia Thompson	Wayne Stamp
Paul Kettley	Rob Robilliard	Sean O'Rourke	Teddy Rose	Wendy Parsons
Paul Page	Rob Sutherland	Sean Rich	Terence Humphreys	Wes Bas
Paul Rungen	Robbie Hayes	Sean Walcott	Teresa Gardiner-Leggett	Wezly Saunders
Pavel Bitter	Robert Bland	Selamawit Yaregal	Terry Lipscomb	William Foley
Peter Baldwin	Robert Harris	Senthoran Raj	Terry Mateer	William Trinh
Peter Crooks	Robert Heathcote	Shane Baxter	Terry Wills	Xavier Calluud
Peter East	Robert Knapman	Shane Campbell	Themistos Themistou	Xiuyun Ma
Peter Geer	Robert Sparshott	Shane Hurley	Therese Ziems	Yves Calmette
Peter Griffiths	Robert Wood	Shannon Wright	Thomas Adams	Zac Underwood
Peter Humble	Roberto Jara	Sharmaine Hayes	Thomas Robertson	Zoe Birkinshaw
Peter Kennedy	Robin Hall	Sharon Xianghong Bai	Thomas Shakespeare	Zoe Tranter
Peter Mitchell	Rochelle Pindi	Shaun Edwards	Tia Kiereth	Zoran Runcevski
Peter Stapleton	Rochelle Stevens	Shinen Wong	Tim Anderson	
Peter Venero	Rod Bruem	Simon Graham	Tim Edison	
Phena Buhrich	Rod McIntyre	Simon Yap	Tim Errington	
Philip Agius	Rodney Cole	Simone Despoges	Tim Millgate	
Philip Colley	Rodney McIntyre	Sioux Harrison	Tim Moyes	
Philip Lidbury	Rohan Macdonald	Siri Kommedahl	Timothy Davis	
Philip Ruble	Ron Quilter	Siri May	Timothy Martin	
Phill Horne	Ronald Tripp	Solomon Wong	Tobias Armstrong	
Phill Wall	Ronan Fennessy	Spencer McGill	Tobin Saunders	
Phillip Jones	Roni McGarrigle	Stacy Hughes	Toby Armstrong	
Phillip Suitor	Rose Linich	Steen	Toni Hazel	
Pip Crooks	Rose Weingarth	Stefan Jamal	Toni Malligan	
Pip Upcroft	Roseanne Linich	Stefanie Greenshields	Tony Brooks	
Prasad Ganesan	Rosemary Bristow	Stephane Hemmerter	Tony Jiang	
Priscilla Schwartzman	Ross Feenan	Stephen Frendo	Torrie Ryan	
Rachel Sandford	Ross Jacobs	Stephen Jobson	Trevor Slattery	
Radda Jordan	Roy Christopher	Stephen Lunny	Troy Sinkovic	
Ray Sarsin	Roy Starkey	Stephen Scott	Tuomo Marttala	
Raymond Holmes	Russ Gluyas	Stephen Wilcox	Tzach Maya	
Raymond Webb	Russell Porteus	Steve Ball	Ulo Klemmer	
Rebecca Bennallack	Russell Westacott	Steve Frendo	Un-Ai Jo	
Rebecca Miers	Sally Rutherford	Steve Jones	Valerio Pradella	
Rebecca Nash	Sam Duncan	Steve Ostrow	Veronica Eulate	
Reece, garden and theatre	Sam Harper	Steve Thorne	Vesna Butkovic	
Regina Gryc	Sam Rodriguez	Steven Blair	Vicky Coumbe	
Renia Gryc	Sam Said	Steven Krinitzky	Victor Fenech	
Ricci Lewis	Sam Vescio	Steven Wiggins	Vincent McLean	
Richard Cammies	Samantha Fieldes	Stevie Clayton	Vivian Thoman	
Richard Faithfull	Samantha Lim	Stuart O'Brien	Vivian Wallpaper	
Richard Goldspink	Sarah Hunt	Sue England	Warwick Huggert	
Richard Heystraten	Sarah Morgan	Surianto Koean	Wayne Bidey	
Rima Mazloum	Saysana Sirimanotham	Susan England		

Sponsors, Partners and Supporters

{also} foundation	Allsorts Queer Collective	Australian Society of HIV Medicine	Brendan Bolger	Claire Beckwith
357 Sauna	Allsorts Queer Collective (University of Wollongong)	Australian Wallabies	Brendan Moar	Clarence Valley Regional Integrated Support Service
Aaron	Amanda King	Avant Card	Brendan Quinn	Clinic 145 Tweed Heads
Aaron Allegretto	Amanda Roxburgh	Avenue Q	Brennan Lynch Foundation	Clinic 16
Aaron Reichelt	Amber McBride	Awabakal Aboriginal Medical Service	Brett Stevens	Clinic 229 Grafton
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sexual Health Network	Amelia Britton	Awabakal Land Council	Brian Walsh	Clinic 468
Aboriginal Medical Service (Redfern)	Amnesty International	BA&D / Vicente Burton	Bridge Housing Limited	Coastal Castaways
Aboriginal Reference Group Hunter	Anchor Men's Hostel	Bankstown Womens Centre	Bridget Fair	Coffs Harbour City Council
Aboriginal Sexual Health Workers Network	Andrew Creagh	Baptist Community Services	Bridget Haire	Coffs Harbour Sexual Health
Aboriginal Women's Refuge	Andrew Davies	Barry Daly	Bristol-Myers Squibb Australia Pty Ltd	Colin Jowell
Accenture	Andrew Duckmanton	Bart Cummings	Bruce Pollack	Colin MacArthur
Accommodation Crisis Group	Andrew Grulich	Beagle Music	Caddies Coffee	Colin Malzard
ADAHPT	Andrew Kemp	Bean Bar	Cancer Australia	COMAG (Newcastle)
Adam Buxton	Andrew Mercardo	BeGay	Carers NSW	Come Out NSW
Adam Fitzpatrick	Andrew Miles	Belinda Reynolds	Carrie Bickmore	Commonwealth Carelink
Adam Joseph	Andrew Potts	Ben Bristow	Carrie's On High	Commonwealth Dept of Health and Ageing
Adam Stankevicius	Andrew Purchas	Ben Huxter	Cassandra Goldie	Community Action
Adam Sutton	Andy McIntyre	Benjamin Keats	Castros Nightclub	Against Homophobia
Adam Yeomans	ANEX	BetterMost, Wyoming & Brokeback Mountain Forum	Catering Specialists	Community Health for Adolescents In Need
Adelaide Crows Football club	Angela Bishop	Bev Lange	Cec Busby	Community Wheels
Adrian Lovney	Angelus Morningstar	Bfriend	Central Coast Coastal Connections	Community Youth Development Project (Newcastle)
AFAO	Anita Villa	Bigge Park	Centre for Community Welfare Training	Competitive Edge Graphics
AIDS Action Council ACT	Anna Okunev	Bill Bowtell	Centrelink Aboriginal Liaison Officer	Coopers Arms Hotel
AIDS and Infectious Diseases Branch NSW Health	Anne MADEW	Bill McCully	Centrelink Outreach Team Hunter	Corey Irlam
AIDS Council of South Australia	Anousha Victoire	Birch Carroll and Coyle Lismore	Charlie Brown	Corey Zerna
AIDS Dementia & HIV Psychiatry Service	Ansell Condoms	Blacktown Community Transport	Charlie Pickering	Council on the Ageing NSW
Housing Coordinator	Anthony Carthew	Blacktown Needle Syringe Program	Charlie Vitiaranee	Country Awareness Network
Alan Hough	Anthony Hillis	Blacktown Women and Girls Health Centre	Charlotte Buckton	Courtney Act
Alan Maurice	Anti-Violence Project of Victoria	Bobby Goldsmith Foundation	Chee-Wee Seow	Craig Corr
Albury Community Health	Antonia Rivasi	Body Line	Chevron	Craig Mason
Alcohol and Other Drugs Service	Aordon Sarkardi	Boehringer-Ingelheim Australia	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service	Craig Renshaw
Aldo Spina	Area Health Service	Bondi Vet	Chris Gratton	Cristina Huesch
Alison Molloy	ARQ	Bongo Prints	Chris Lamb	D J Fitzgerald
All Gay Cruises	Assoc. Prof. Garrett Prestage	Book Shop Darlinghurst	Chris Pantan	Damian Castles
All Seasons Tamworth	Atari Metcalf	Boulevard Partners Pty Ltd	Christ Church Cathedral	Dan Stubbs
Allan Cumming	Aunty Jax Florist	Bourke St Bakery	Christine Senediak	Danebank Anglican School For Girls Senior School
Allens Arthur Robinson	Aurora	Bradley GRAY	Christine Wilkinson	Daniel Dodds
	Australia-India Council		Ciara Kellt	
	Australian Federal Police		City of Sydney	
	Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations		City of West Torrens	
	Australian Human Rights Commission		City Voice	
	Australian Manufacturers Workers' Union		Civic Bikes	

Daniel Kowalski	Dr Chris Brown	Medical Service	Headland Press	Illawarra Healthy Cities
Daniel Lemesle	Dr Cindy Pan	Gareth Hooper	Healthy Cities Illawarra	Illawarra Legal Centre
Daniel Wilson	Dr Jo Harrison	Garrett Prestage	Heath James	Illawarra Sexual Health Providers Network
Danies Banor	Dr John Howard	Gary Stocks	Helen Gates	Illawarra Women's Health Centre
Danny Hales	Dr Julie Mooney Sommers	Gateway Hotel	Hepatitis NSW	ING
Darcy House	Dr Kerry Phelps	Gay & Lesbian Counseling Service	HH Prince Manvendra Singh Gohil	Inner City Legal Centre
Darlinghurst Business Partnership	Dr Matt Dunn	Gay & Lesbian Immigration Taskforce	High Schoolers Against Homophobia	Inspire Foundation
Darwin Community Legal Centre	Dr Samuel Friedman	Gay & Lesbian Rights Lobby	Hills Australia	Interrelate Newcastle
Dave Hughes	Dr Sev Ozdowski OAM	Gay Men's Health ACSA	HIV Community Team	iOTA
David Armstrong	Dragonfly Cafe	Gay Men's Health Centre	HIV/AIDS Legal Centre	Ivan Van Tonder
David Beards	Drew Lambert	GayMatchmaker.com	HNEAH Dental Services	Jackie Braw
David Buchanan	Duncan Holmes	Gel Works	HNEAHS Substance Abuse Services	Jackie Stricker
David Chan	Dykes on Bikes	Gender Centre	Holdsworth House Medical Practice	Jacqui Lemon
David Davies	East Sydney Doctors	Generation Q	Home and Away	Jade Muratore
David Finimore	Ed Silins	Genevieve Hoey	Home Care Service	James Fletcher Hospital
David Libter	Edwina Pickering	Geoff ANNABEL	Homelessness NSW	Jamie Kaldor
David Marr	Elizabeth Ann Macgregor	Geoff Field	Hon. Ian Hunter M.L.C.	Jane Flemming
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Delia Quigley	Evolution Publishing	Goldman Sachs	Hunter Headspace	Jenny's Place
Department of Aboriginal Affairs	Family Drug Support	Governors on Fitzroy	Hunter Health Aboriginal Liaison Officer	Jess Darianzo
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Department of Health and Ageing	Fitness First	Grant Gillies	Ian Down	Jim Bahr
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Diana Van Bell	Fort Street High School	Greg Adkins	Ian Macdonald	Jody Houston
Diarmuid Hogue	Four Seasons Condoms	Greg Jones	Ian Rogan	John Bennett
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NSW Cancer Council
NSW Council of Social Services
NSW Department of Community Services
NSW Department of Corrective Services
Aboriginal Client Services Officer
NSW Department of Education and Training
Student Wellbeing and TAFE Diversity units
NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, Office for Women's Policy
NSW Federation of Housing Associations
NSW Health
NSW Health (AIDS and Infectious Diseases)
NSW Health (Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol Office)

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NSW Office for Women's Policy	Peter Bollard- Migration Lawyer	Prof. John de Wit	Robyn Tantau	Simon Moore
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NSW Police Gay & Lesbian Liaison Officers	Peter Grutt	Queensland Association of Healthy Communities	Roderick Lander	Simone Maciel
NSW Police Service	Peter Hutley	Queer Collective (Newcastle University)	Rodney Junga-Williams	Sir Ian McKellen
NSW State of Origin Association	Peter McKee	Queer Screen	Roelo Barnardo	Siri May
NSW Teachers Federation	Peter McVie	Rachel Deacon	Roger Deveau	Sitback Solutions
NSW Users and AIDS Association (Newcastle)	Peter Sammut	Rachel Wilson	Rohan Faulkner	Sky News
Oliver Simpson	Peter Todaro	Rainbow Visions	Ron Nelson	Slide
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OnTrack (Lismore)	Peter Tribelco	Randwick Waverley Community Transport	Royal Prince Alfred Hospital	South Australian IDAHO Committee
Optus	Peter Walton	Raw Hair	Ruby Rose	South East Sydney & Illawarra Health Service
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OzHarvest	PhysioFit Studio Kingscliff	RedBubble.com	Salvation Army West Lakes	Southgate Inn (Tamworth)
Pacific Clinic Sexual Health	Pine Street Creative Arts Centre	Redfern Community Health Team	Sam Boustani	St Vincents Hospital Social Workers
Pacific Friends of the Global Fund	Pip Ditzel	Reg Domingo	SAM I AM	St. Cathages Community Care Lismore
Paddo RSL	Play Communication	Regional Strategies Officer-Violence Prevention	SameSame.com.au	Stanford House
Panic Productions	Pleasure Chest	Regional Youth Development Officers Network	Sandra Sully	Star City
Parramatta Sexual Health Centre	Poh Ling Yeow	Regional Youth Support Services	Sarah Schinckel - Brown	Stephen Godley
Partridge Partners Structural Engineers	Pollys	REPIDU	Sass Hunt	Stephen Walker
Pathama Suranudpreda	Population Health Team	Resolution	SAX Healthcare	Steve Duggan
Patrick Fair	Porntep Kunpitukwattana	Respecting Equality Amongst Lesbians	Scarlet Alliance	Steve Maw
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Paul Marsh	Portia Turbo	Richard L Hampton	Senthorun Raj	Streets
Paul Wide	Positive Central	Richard Mitchell	Seungho Byeon	Stuart Fenton
Pauley Perrette	Positive Life NSW	Richmond River High School	Seymour Centre	Stuart Hearne
Penny Sharpe MLC	Positive Support Network (Gosford)	Riverina Pride	SGLBA	Stuart Loveday
Penrith Panthers	PozHets	Rob Lake	Shad Danesi	Stuart O'Brien
Penrith Women's Health Centre	PRA on King	Robert Sloneker	Shane Jenek	Sue Luscombe
Pet Shop Boyz	Price Waterhouse Coopers	Robert Stirling	Shannon Alexander	Sue Willis
	Pride History Group		Shellharbour City Council	Suicide Prevention Australia
	Prince of Wales Hospital		Shelter NSW	Suncorp
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ACON Presidents

Notes

Lex Watson	1985 - 1986
Greg Tillett	1986 - 1987
Don Baxter	1987 - 1988
Gray Sattler	1988
Levinia Crooks	1988 - 1989
Rolf Petherbridge	1990 - 1991
Levinia Crooks	1991 - 1992
Peter Grogan	1992 - 1993
Bruce Meagher	1994 - 1995
Chris Gration	1996 - 1998
David Stone	1998 - 2000
Adrian Lovney	2000 - 2007
Mark Orr	2007 - now

ACON CEOs

Bill Whittaker	1986 - 1990
Don Baxter	1990 - 1997
Bernie Coates	1997 - 1998
Robert Griew	1998 - 2001
Stevie Clayton	2001 - 2009
Nicolas Parkhill	2009 - now

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1985 - 2000

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



2000 - 2007

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



2007 -

This year, we're proud to be commemorating 25 years of service to the GLBT community and people affected by HIV/AIDS.

Over the last quarter of a century, ACON has made a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of our community and so we offer our heartfelt gratitude to the thousands of people who have been a part of this process as clients, volunteers, members, supporters or staff.



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