

2022/2023

ANNUAL REPORT

**PREPARED BY
DEB TOUGHER**



YP SPACE acknowledges the Dunghutti and Birpai people as the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and live.

We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and all Aboriginal People.

We acknowledge the land was never ceded and therefore always was and still is Aboriginal land.





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OVERVIEW

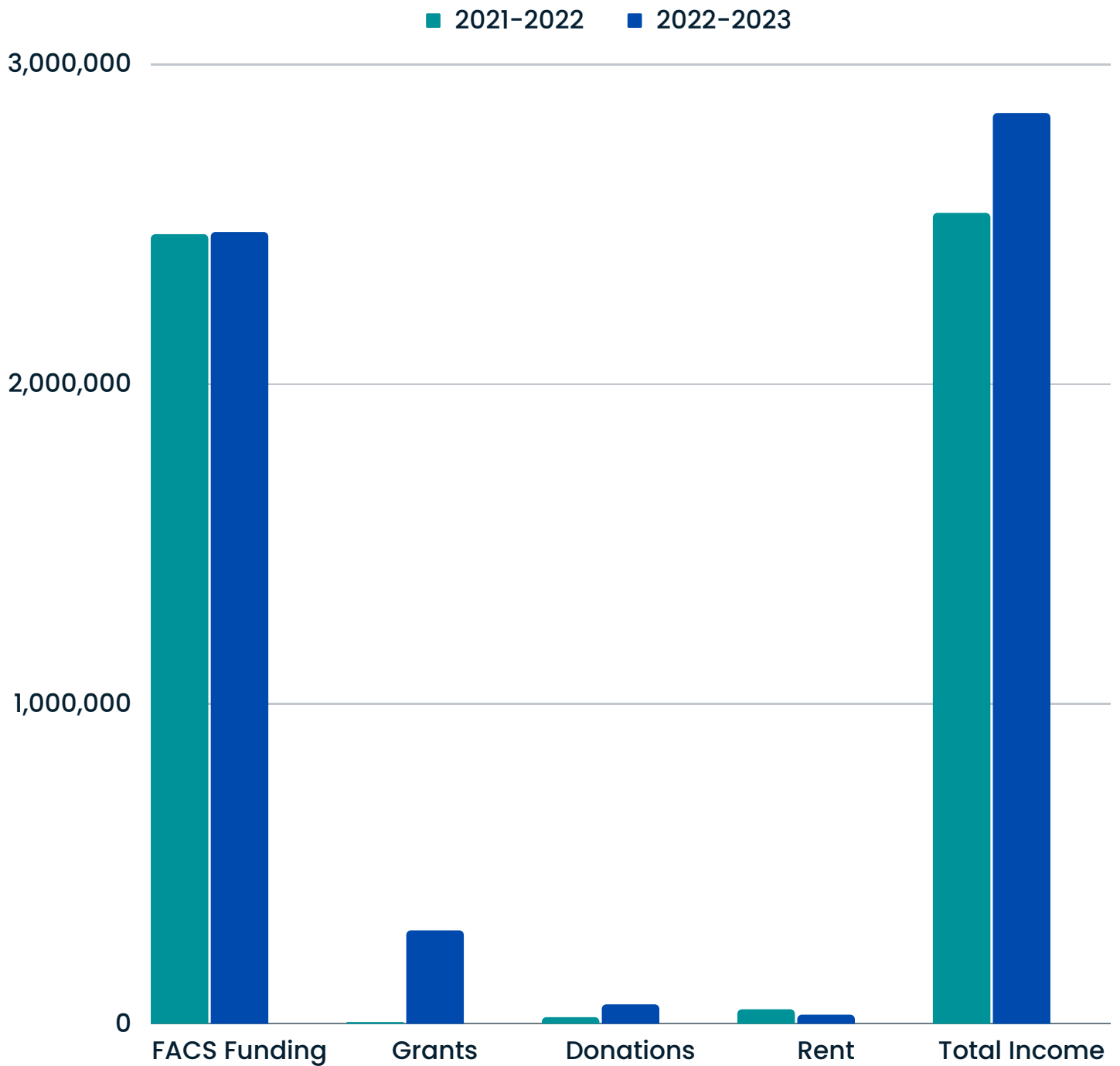
YP Space MNC ("YPS") is a Specialist Service for Youth Homelessness, catering to Children and Young People aged 12 to 25 who are experiencing homelessness across Dunghutti (Kempsey) and Birpai (Port Macquarie) lands. Our services include crisis accommodation, housing support, outreach support, training, and case management.

In addition to providing support to Children and Young Adults, we prioritize helping them develop their own individual skills, with a specific focus on fostering independence.

Upon completion, the Ngurra Youth Housing Project will offer up to 25 additional beds to accommodate young people aged 16-25 who are experiencing homelessness. Since June, three cabins have been used as Temporary Accommodation(TA) and have been occupied almost every night. The Ngurra Housing Project aims to provide more than just shelter; it offers rental history, skill development, and a chance to live in a supportive community.



FUNDING SOURCES



Please note: Rent will increase over the next financial year as income from TA commenced June 2023.



DIRECTORS

President

Katrina Cameron

Vice President

Kate Moulton

Secretary

Kirsty Atkins

Treasurer

Debbie Gampe

Board Member

Megan O'Neill

Board Member

Kellon Beard

Board Member

Steve Robinson

CEO

Caleb Rose



PRESIDENT REPORT

Hi Community and the YPS team,

It is once again my pleasure to write a President's report.

We continue to look for ways to maintain and build partnerships to meet the needs of young people and wholeheartedly thank those who contribute any way they can. We have had in kind donations from small and larger organisations, demonstrating their commitment to the cause, along with people spending their time and skills to help at the Park. It is heart-warming to know how the community cares about young people and homelessness!

While we have had some challenges in the during the year, YPS continue to work solidly towards creating solutions for young people in our footprint. The Park is moving along nicely, having created three new cabins for young people, with another three imminent. The rest are currently being planned and by our next annual report, I would anticipate we can report the Park is fully functional. The entire team are excited by this!



Speaking of the team, they continue to work together to provide education and support for young people. I hope you can acknowledge with me that this isn't always an easy job and I sincerely thank them for the work and dedication they demonstrate each and every day.

Once again, on behalf of the Board of Directors, we are confident the next year will bring even bigger and better things and we look forward to the year ahead.

**Katrina Cameron
YP Space MNC President**



CEO REPORT

Dear YP Space MNC Members, Staff and Community,

2022-2023 has been an exciting year for YP Space that has seen a number of new initiatives come to fruition. Most excitingly, our Youth Housing project at Ngurra has started to take shape.

Following our purchase last year of “Ngurra” (formerly “Central Caravan Park”) in Kempsey, YP Space was successful this financial year in obtaining grant funding of over \$480,000 through the Regional Youth Initiatives program (Department of Regional NSW). This funding has enabled real progress at Ngurra, most recently including the opening of our first 3 cabins for Young People, which opened in June 2023.

These cabins have been dedicated to Temporary Accommodation(TA) and have already seen consistent occupancy since their opening, providing shelter and safety to vulnerable Young People in the Kempsey area.



In addition, the allocation of these cabins to TA has already begun generating revenue for YP Space that will be used for further development and to meet operating costs at Ngurra into the future.

The next step will be the completion of at least 7 residential cabins, with the first 3 of these already in place (commencing refurbishment in late 2023) and 4 more to follow once the first 3 are completed. Work has also commenced on renovating the existing amenities block, which will eventually include updated laundry facilities and a brand new drop-in space for Young People to use, both recreationally and for training and learning. Once opened to the public, the drop-in will also support the Homeless Community more broadly by providing a Hub for regular access to meals, clothing and other support, in partnership with a growing number of collaborating services in Kempsey and beyond.

As this is my final report for YP Space as the CEO, I wish to take the opportunity to thank the amazing team of staff and dedicated board of directors, all of whom work tirelessly to improve the lives and opportunities of Young People in our region. I also sincerely thank the community for the support they have shown while embracing and actively participating in the many activities, events and celebrations we have been fortunate to be a part of along the way.

I look forward to staying connected with YP Space as I take up my new role with Youth Action in Sydney, advocating on behalf of Young People to address the many challenges they continue to face across NSW. A priority for me in my new role will be to uphold and amplify the voices of Young People in Regional NSW which has been home to me for most of my life,

Yours Sincerely

Caleb Rose

YP Space MNC CEO



OPERATIONS REPORT

Specialist Homelessness Service (SHS) and Homeless Youth Assistance Program (HYAP) report.

The year has flown past!

YP Space MNC (YPS) saw an overwhelming demand from Children and Young People (CYP) in need of intensive case management, crisis accommodation and medium and long-term housing supports. This has been due to the ongoing housing crisis that has affected the nation.

The leading reasons CYP are seeking support while experiencing homelessness from YPS are relationship/family breakdown, housing affordability and mental health.

All CYP who engage with our homelessness service are allocated a caseworker who then works with them to develop an individualised case plan. The caseworker then works with the CYP and collaborates with external service providers to achieve the CYP's case plan. Caseworkers attend many appointments with the CYP they work with so that the CYP feels supported.



Positively, our CYP feedback reflects that the majority of CYP are happy with how we connect with them and how they were connected to their external supports. Some feedback from CYP:

- **I felt heard and that my case plan was mine and it could change if I changed my mind.**
- **My caseworker made me feel safe so I could open up about what I had happen to me.**
- **I want to become a caseworker now so I can give back.**
- **I felt safe for the first time in years when I was at the refuge.**
- **I got my first job because my caseworker took me around to hand out my resume.**

YPS received very positive feedback from external stakeholders who stated the following:

- **High staff retention – always great to continue working with the same faces.**
- **YPS offers total holistic support for YP.**
- **YPS is always eager to support and do what we can.**
- **YPS's communication is consistent.**
- **All staff go above and beyond what is expected.**



YPS Team excel in the residential space along with our outreach work. YPS respond quickly to vulnerable CYP with assessments completed in a timely manner. YPS then follow up with CYP until they are allocated to a caseworker. This allows the CYP to be supported from their initial referral to YPS.

YPS staff are supported in their roles through supervision, mental health days, EAP, ongoing training, daily debriefing sessions as a group and an annual staff retreat. The work they do on a daily basis can be very rewarding but can also be very confronting so it is very important to practice good self-care.

I want to congratulate the YPS team on the fantastic support they give to the CYP they work with but also to their colleagues.

**Andrea Davidson
YP Space MNC Operations Manager**



2022-2023 IMPACT (16-25)



**Children &
Young People
supported**



**Total support
days**



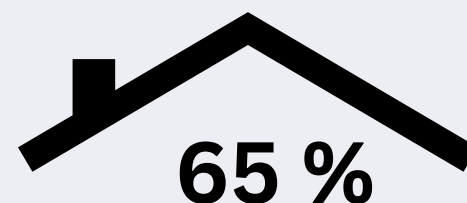
**Average days
support period
per CYP**



**Nights in crisis
accommodation**



**Nights in
medium
/transitional
accommodation**



**CYP achieved
goals created in
their case plan**

2022-2023 IMPACT (12-15)



Children &
Young People
supported



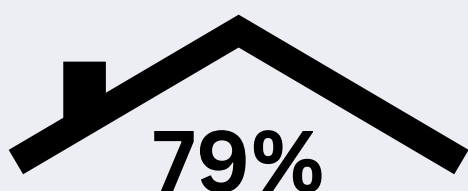
Total support
days



Average days
support period
per CYP



Nights in crisis
accommodation



CYP achieved
goals created in
their case plan




CYP started
study or
training

GOOD NEWS STORIES


Homeless Couple Find Stable Housing and Employment:

After living in their car for an extended period, a couple sought assistance from YPS. With our help, they now have a private rental, access to additional support services, and are on the path towards employment.




Future Youth Worker:

We are pleased to inform you that the young person living at the refuge has now secured a transitional property outside the area. They are currently attending university and studying community services while also working part-time.




Young Person accepted into University pursuing a Bachelor of Nursing: awarded one year of complimentary accommodation scholarship.



Successful Private Rental Secured for young family:

Thanks to the help of their caseworker, a couple and their two children have secured a private rental and made it their home. Now that they're settled, they're focusing on their studies and planning to join the workforce.



OUTREACH REPORT

The YP Space Outreach program has made significant progress in increasing our brand and presence within the community, particularly in addressing the critical issue of homelessness among Children and Young People.

Through strategic Outreach initiatives, we've worked to ensure that Children, Young People, and the broader community are aware of our mission, role, and commitment to supporting those experiencing homelessness.

This year, our accomplishments speak to the substantial impact of our efforts. We've more than doubled the number of skill development workshops provided to young people and play an integral role in the management of "Our Place" Homeless Hub, which is set to expand into 2024. Additionally, our active participation in conferences has kept us abreast of the latest issues surrounding Child and Youth homelessness, enhancing our networking and advocacy capabilities.

The Hike for Homeless Warrumbungles Challenge was a huge success with 4 YP Space staff attending the gruelling 6 day hike through the majestic Warrumbungles National Park.



Macleay Options and TAFE NSW were not only major sponsors but they actively participated in the Hike. Both organisations sent dedicated staff members on the trip. This hands-on involvement not only demonstrated their commitment to the cause but also contributed significantly to the overall success of the Hike.

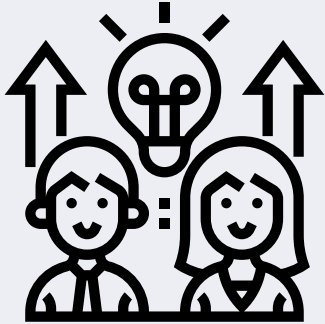
In our pursuit of providing the best care possible for Children and Young People facing homelessness, we've attracted philanthropic support by showcasing our impactful work via our social media presence. By continuing to build our presence we aim to attract more donors who share our vision and values.

As we reflect on the past year, we acknowledge the challenges faced and the lessons learned. Looking ahead, our commitment remains unwavering, and we are poised to continue building on our successes, expanding our outreach, and making a lasting difference in the lives of Children and Young People experiencing homelessness.

**Deb Tougher
YP Space MNC Outreach Manager**



ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Number of YP attending workshops

Reality Rentals 41 (LFY 12)

Money Minded 28 (LFY 11)



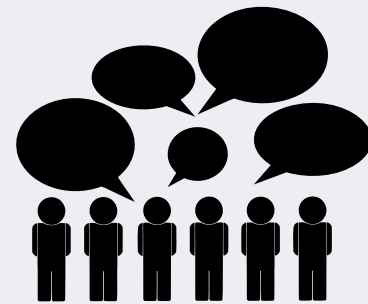
Community Events

19



“Our Place” sessions

16



Conferences Attended

5



HIKE FOR HOMELESS

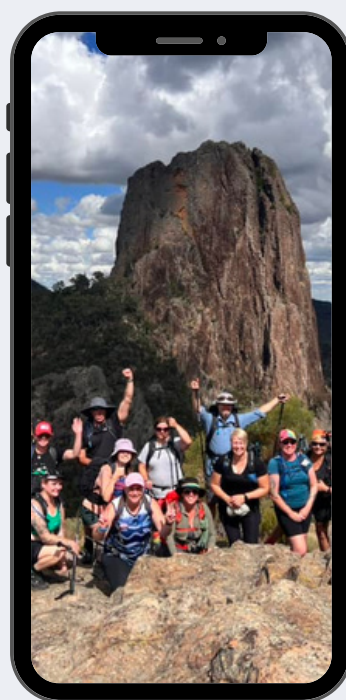
WARRUMBUNGLES CHALLENGE

SUMMARY



12 hikers

6 days



Total steps

177,153

Nearly 70km



Funds Raised

\$38,000

Water consumed each
day (group)



70L



DONATIONS

The invaluable support from clubs and individuals through their generous donations is the cornerstone of our ability to provide exemplary service to the Children and Young People under our care. These contributions play an important role in enhancing our programs, ensuring that we can offer not just assistance but a comprehensive and impactful support system. Without the benevolence of these clubs and individuals, our capacity to provide a high-quality service would be significantly constrained. Their commitment not only speaks to the collective responsibility we share for the well-being of our community's youth but also serves as a testament to the power of collective compassion in fostering positive change.

We are immensely grateful for the generosity of the following clubs, groups, and individuals that allows us to make a meaningful difference in the lives of the Children and Young People we support.

Kempsey Council: 12 \$20 Gift cards

4Life Care: 8-man tent

Debbie Loveday: Cot, toys, jackets

Mackillop College: quilts, pillows, blankets

Hastings Co-op: Grocery supplies



Rotary Club of Port Macquarie \$6500
 Rotary Club of Port Macquarie Sunrise \$3000
 Rotary Club of Port Macquarie West \$1500 + winter woolies
 Jayne Vale \$2000
 Greater Bank \$2000
 Geoff Graham \$600
 MISC Online via website \$2915.37
 Ride the Wave (M.A.D) \$381.20
 Commonwealth Bank \$500
 St Columba Anglican School \$100
 Donation bucket at events \$36.29
 Gladstone CWA Kitchen appliances for 10 cabins
 Yarns and Yarns Gold Coast: Knitted winter woolies
 New Horizons: 11 fridges and a washing machine
 Slade Refrigerated Transport: Shipping Container
 Rotary Club West Kempsey: 10 upright ovens + blankets
 Calvary The Marina: 20 backpacks full of toiletries
 Share the Dignity: Feminine Hygiene Supplies
 Thread Together: New Clothing
 Sovereign Hills Sales: 40 \$50 gift cards
 Aldi: Box of Christmas lollies
 The Local Grocer IGA Kempsey: Christmas lollies
 Big W Kempsey: Christmas lollies
 Street Smart Australia: 98 sets of sheets and towels





FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YP Space MNC

ABN: 53 796 715 437

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2023

Samantha Buchanan

Finance Manager YP Space MNC

