



Search Light Inc. Annual Report 2013-14



Our Vision

Enriching lives, empowering people, fulfilling potential.

Our Mission

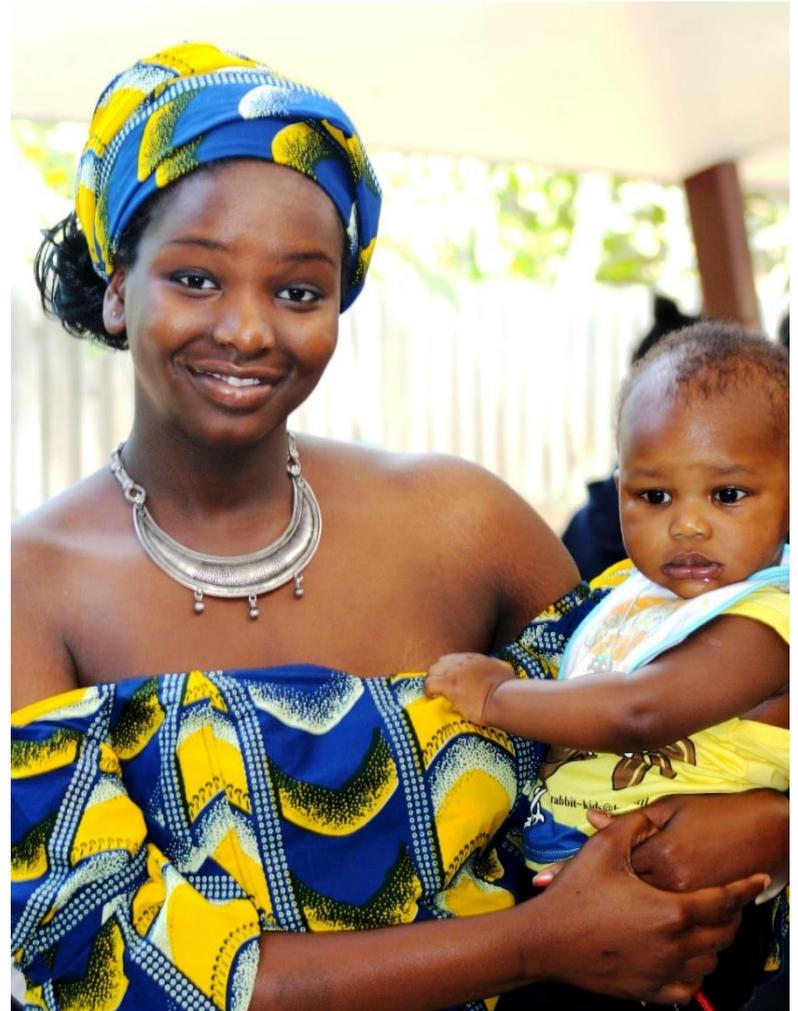
Search Light, through support and education, nurtures and enhances the lives of children, young people and families enabling them to participate fully in the social, cultural and economic life of the community.

Our Crèche

The Southside Family Centre and Crèche provides a multicultural and safe environment where every child is respected and valued. Through a play-based program and family support services we provide education to young mothers attending school and their children which will encourage them to develop a love of lifelong learning.

Our Committee

Jenny Medland	Chairperson
Nicola Free	Treasurer
Elizabeth Mackenzie	Secretary
Vicki Lomax	Deputy-Chair
Deb Ribinskas	Executive Committee member



Financial Summary

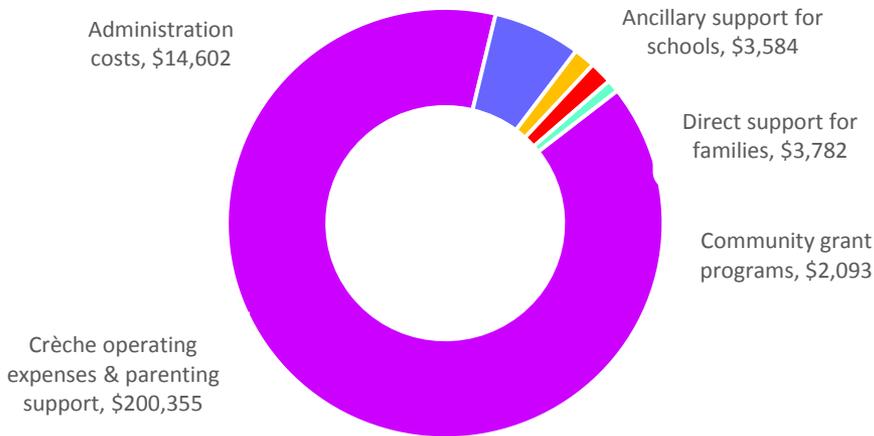
Treasurer, Nicola Free



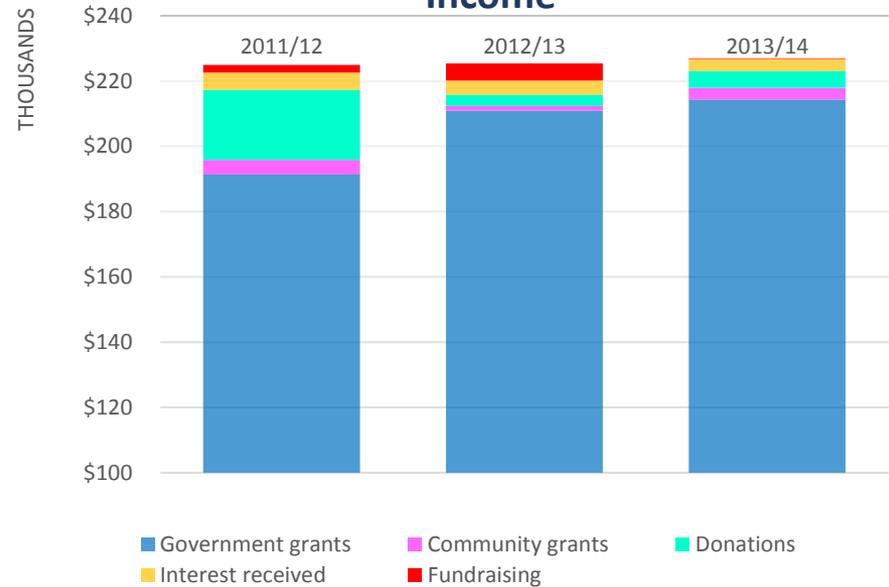
Financial sustainability is one of our key strategic goals. We strive to be financially sustainable so we can continue to deliver quality services to our clients in a challenging economic environment.

We are continually seeking new opportunities and partnerships to ensure we can provide the right support, at the right time, to the people that need it the most.

Expenditure 2013/14



Income



The financial result for 2013/14 returned a small surplus of \$2,567.

Our cash position continues to be strong and our income levels have remained consistent.

Expenditure relating directly to the operation of the crèche and the delivery of the Parenting Program accounted for 89% of our total expenditure for the year. Administration costs represented 7% of our total expenditure.

We spent \$3,782 providing direct support services to families in crisis and a further \$3,584 on ancillary services for the two schools we support.

\$2,093 was allocated to community grant funded projects.

Chairperson, Jenny Medland



This year has been a very busy and exciting one for Search Light. We celebrated the arrival of two new babies at the crèche, born to staff members Kylie Tappin and Nikki Williams. Congratulations to Kylie, Nikki and their families.

One of our young mothers at the crèche welcomed a fourth daughter just 3 weeks before graduating year 12.

Graduation is always a time of great celebration and we feel privileged to play a part in helping these young women achieve their goals and move on to the next stage of their life with confidence and hope for the future.

This year we have provided support and emergency relief to the students and families of Carinity Education Southside and Hymba Yumba Community Hub in Springfield.

We have also donated funds to both schools for fundraising events, Christmas gifts, graduation and award ceremonies. We are very grateful to our generous supporters for their contributions this year that have allowed us to support the schools in this way.

We are eagerly anticipating the move to our new crèche premises located on campus at Carinity Education – Southside. The works are nearing completion and we plan to move in during the September school holidays.

Lastly, a very big thank you to the hard working Search Light Inc. committee members who commit so much of their time, expertise and passion to our organisation.



2013/14 activities and key outcomes

14 pregnant students and young mothers participated in the Parenting Program

Activities included:

- Facilitated group discussions about child development, sexual health, healthy relationships, nutrition, pregnancy, contraception, budgeting, alcohol and drug abuse
- First Aid training
- Reboot mental health program
- Kidsafe – child restraint fitting
- Mother and baby swimming lessons

Key Outcomes

- ✓ 6 young mothers graduated Year 12 in 2013
- ✓ 2 young mothers reported that they would never have been able to complete Year 12 without the services provided by the Southside Family Centre and Crèche
- ✓ 1 young mother in a domestic violence situation received assistance with emergency accommodation and then permanent housing
- ✓ 100% of clients reported they felt better equipped to meet their child's needs
- ✓ 100% of clients reported improved family, community and economic engagement



2013/14 activities and key outcomes

16 babies and young children attended the crèche

Activities included:

- Early education program
- Nutritious meals daily
- 'Sing and Grow' music classes
- 'Calm for Kids' - relaxation classes for children
- Drumming performance by Sound Synergy
- 'Out of the Box' performances – School Holiday program
- Swimming lessons
- Flag Ceremony – Australian, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags presented by Graham Perrett, MP Federal Member for Moreton

Outcomes

- ✓ 14 babies and children achieved important developmental milestones
- ✓ 2 children were referred for early intervention services
- ✓ Immunisation schedules were brought up to date for 4 children
- ✓ Staff observed improved parent-child relationships

Key projects:

- **Sewing project** **Funded by the QUT Staff Guild**
 - 6 young mothers participated in a sewing project during the school holidays where they learnt new skills, including the art of millinery and produced beautiful hand made hats and clothing
- **New brochure project** **Funded by the Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund**
 - The Search Light committee worked with Brisbane Circle magazine to create a new brochure promoting the wide range of child care, education and family support services available free of charge, to young mothers through the Southside Family Centre and Crèche

What else did we do?

We donated \$1,000 so a group of students from the Flagstone Community College could participate in an Indigenous cultural dance program with Bangarra Dance Troupe.

We registered our organisation with **GIVIT** and one wonderful person donated a brand new washing machine for an Indigenous single parent family with 5 children

We were nominated for an Award

The Southside Family Centre and crèche was nominated for Mission Australia Communities for Children 2014 Child Friendly Excellence awards for the category of Early Childhood Services.

We participated in NAIDOC events at Inala, Acacia Ridge & Musgrave Park

We trained our people – staff members completed 609 hours of training

We provided grocery vouchers for families in need at Christmas

We provided warm clothing and paid for emergency accommodation for a homeless student

We provided financial assistance to several families in crisis

Thank you to our supporters

- Australian Government Dept. of Education
- Australian Government Dept. of Social Services
- Indigenous Professional Support Unit
- Brisbane City Council
- Lord Mayor's Community Trust
- Anglicare
- Inala Indigenous Health Clinic
- Foodbank
- National Council of Women, Qld
- Justice Berna Collier
- Brisbane Circle
- Opportunet
- GIVIT
- Helen Ashdown

For more information about Search Light Inc.

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