



**Search Light Inc.
Annual Report 2014-15**

Our Vision

Enriching lives, empowering people, fulfilling potential.

Our Mission

Search Light Inc., 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

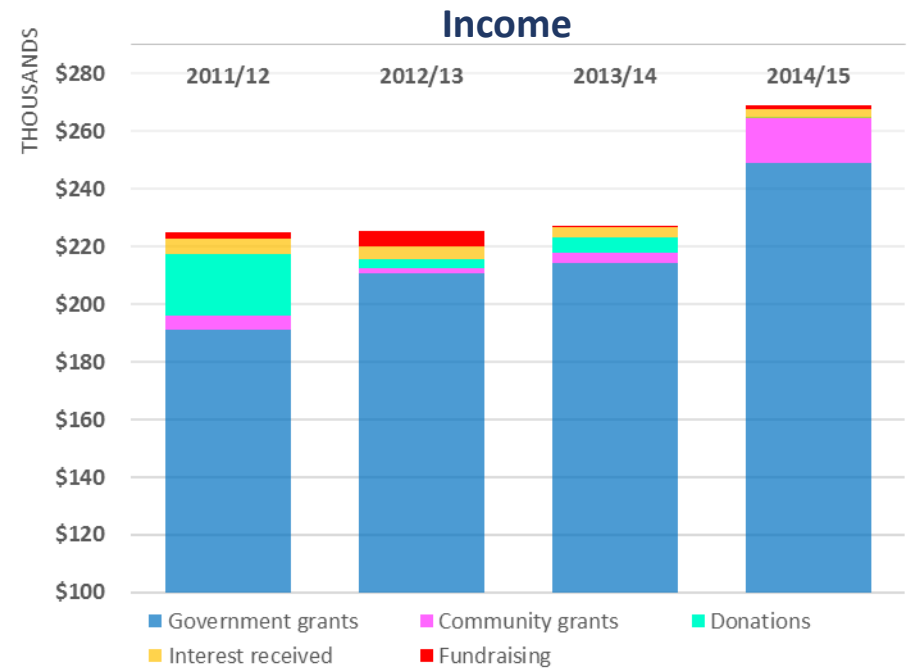
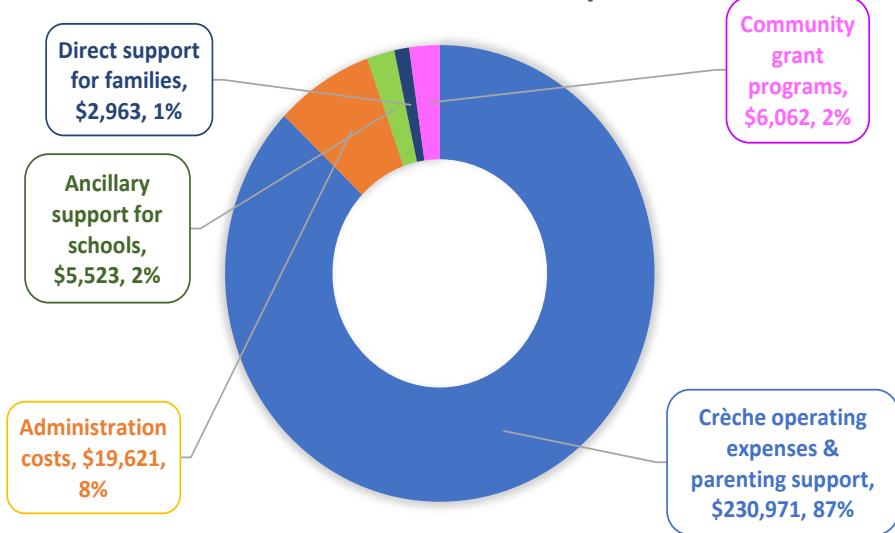
Treasurer, Nicola Free



In 2014/15 we were very pleased to learn that our grant application for the Parenting Education Program had been approved by the Australian Government Department of Social Services. This included funding to develop a new website providing access to a wide range of parenting information and resources.

We received additional funding from the Australian Government Department of Education and Training for repairs and maintenance and to purchase new educational resources for the crèche. We are very grateful to these two government agencies for their support.

EXPENDITURE 2014/15



The financial result for 2014/15 returned a small surplus of \$3,912. This is mainly due to community grant funding received at the end of 2014/15 that will be expensed in 2015/16.

Our cash position remains strong. We are currently realising around \$3,000 per annum from interest on our investments.

Expenditure relating directly to the operation of the crèche and the delivery of the Parenting Program accounted for 87% and Administration costs represented 7% of our total expenditure.

\$6,062 in community grant funding was used to install shade sails over the playground at Hymba Yumba.

We spent \$2,963 providing direct support services to families and a further \$5,523 on ancillary support for schools.

Chairperson, Jenny Medland



The crèche has finally moved to our new home at 153 Lister Street Sunnybank, under the same roof as Carinity Education Southside.

The children love it. The spaces are so airy and bright and we have so much more indoor and outdoor space for the children to play. The mothers also love it because their classrooms are under the same roof so they are able to see their babies any time they wish.

Because we are located on the school grounds the crèche is now categorised as Adjunct Care which allows us to enrol more children. As a result we have enjoyed high enrolment and attendance levels this year.

We have many calls on our time and money. This year, we took advantage of Bunnings Sausage Sizzle on December 14th to refill our coffers. We spent the whole day there from 8 am to 5 pm and made in excess of \$1300. Thank you to all who participated in that event. We had a great time.

Search Light Inc. Treasurer Nicola Free attended the Carinity Seniors Formal this year on board the Kookaburra Queen and really enjoyed the event. 20 young women have successfully completed their senior studies and will now either continue wither education or look for work. Whichever path they take, their lives will have been enriched by their time spent at Carinity.



2014/15 Parenting Program activities & key outcomes

18 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
- Mother and baby swimming lessons
- Personal Training sessions
- Yoga classes
- School Holiday program
- RSA accredited training
- We joined the Australia Young Pregnant and Parenting Network



Outcomes

- ✓ 8 young mothers in Year 12 graduated from High School in 2014
- ✓ 1 young mother with 2 children received budgeting assistance and financial support
- ✓ 100% of clients reported they felt better equipped to meet their child's needs
- ✓ 100% of clients reported improved family, community and economic engagement

2014/15 Crèche activities and key outcomes

22 babies and young children attended the crèche

Activities included:

- Early education program
- 'Boppin Babies' music therapy program
- 'Fins and Feathers' – excursion at Southbank
- Drumming performance by Sound Synergy
- Healthy Eating Program
- School Holiday program – Mother and Baby and activities
- Swimming lessons

Outcomes

- ✓ 22 babies and children achieved important developmental milestones
- ✓ Immunisation schedules were brought up to date for 6 children
- ✓ Improved access and interaction between mothers and children as a result of the crèche moving onto the school premises



2014/15 Key Projects

Key projects:

- **Strategic Planning**

- Search Light Inc. developed a new strategic plan for 2015 – 2017 in consultation with key stakeholders, management and staff. The new strategic plan sets out goals and objectives for the organisation and an action plan to achieve these.

- **New website**

- We developed a new website www.searchlightinc.org.au promoting the work of our organisation and providing access to a wide range of parenting information and resources. We have received a lot of positive feedback about the website, especially the 'Where to go for Help' page that includes links to a comprehensive list of support organisations for young people and families.

- **Playground improvement project** **Funded by the Gambling Community Benefit Fund & Search Light Inc.**

- The playground improvement project included the installation of shade sails over the children's playground at Hymba Yumba.
- We also arranged for the children's play fort at our old crèche premises in Gager St, Sunnybank to be removed and installed in the junior school playground at Hymba Yumba in Springfield.



What else did we do?

We donated \$2,700 to Carinity Education – Southside and the Hymba Yumba Community Hub to purchase graduation and Christmas gifts for students.

We held a Bunnings Fundraising BBQ and raised over \$1,300 to support families in crisis

We provided support and financial assistance for an Ipswich family who lost their home in a fire

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

We developed a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for the crèche

We invested \$6,000 in professional development for our staff

Our staff participated in an Indigenous Education exchange program

We provided grocery vouchers for families in need at Christmas

We provided financial assistance and support to several Indigenous families

Thank you to our supporters

- Australian Government Dept. of Education
- Australian Government Dept. of Social Services
- Brisbane City Council
- Arabon Accounting and Financial Services
- Lord Mayor's Community Trust
- Anglicare
- Inala Indigenous Health Clinic
- Gambling Community Benefit Fund
- National Council of Women, Qld
- Tony Free Photography
- Justice Berna Collier
- Brisbane Circle
- Opportunet
- GIVIT
- Helen Ashdown
- Sidney Myer Fund

For more information about Search Light Inc.

Visit our website www.searchlightinc.org.au

Email us: searchlightinfo@gmail.com

Call us: ph: 0402 504 279

Search Light Inc.

153 Lister St,

Sunnybank, Qld 4119

ABN: 89 730 493 681

